



THE SCARLET ARROW

OSM AND SCARLET CORD NEWSLETTER FOR THE PROVINCE OF KENT



ISSUE No 1 JUNE 2023

Dear Brethren

Welcome to the first edition of the new Scarlet Arrow, the new electronic newsletter for both the Kent OSM and Scarlet Cord.

Many of the “older” members of the province will remember fondly “the Arrow” which was for many years the printed periodical for the Order of the Secret Monitor in Kent and which I know, has been greatly missed by a number of brethren. Unfortunately, whilst the printed newsletter was popular and had many benefits the costs of printing and distributing it by mail would now be prohibitive.

Therefore, the Provincial team have decided to recreate the publication electronically, for the benefit, information and hopefully entertainment of the members of the OSM and our sister Order, the Scarlet Cord.

I wish it every success and hope that by providing news, articles and updates across the province it will serve to strengthen the ties that bind us to each other and to these unique and very special Orders.

Therefore, as this will be used to disseminate information, I would like to take the opportunity to clarify the various rumours and speculation regarding my moving out of the province and standing down as your Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler.

Many of you will already know that Fiona, my wife, has Parkinson’s Disease which was diagnosed almost seven years ago. She also has acute osteo-arthritis in both knees which are now effectively bone on bone with no remaining cartilage between them. Not only is this proving to be painful, the combination of both conditions has made her most unsteady.

It was last November when she had her first fall and it happened whilst I was at work. I decided after very little deliberation that I was going to retire early and give my wife the care that she required and which I took a vow to do all those years ago. However, this means that we will have to sell our home and move somewhere which reflects our new “financial reality”.

In time, yes, I am moving out of Kent, and it will ultimately shorten my tenure as your Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, but not just yet. I’ve briefly outlined my intentions to the Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler and I shall be continuing in post for at least another year which will enable me to further build and strengthen the province that I might hand it over in the very best of order to my eventual successor, whoever that may be.

Until then I look forward to meeting up with all of you over the coming weeks, enjoy your Secret Monitor Masonry, enjoy the care and company of your brethren and enjoy the Scarlet Arrow.

Yours, Semper Fidelis

Kevin.



Conclave Meetings

Date	Conclave	Installation	Location
12/6/23	Knole	Yes	Bromley
14/6/23	Paddock Wood		Chatham
14/6/23	Golden Arrow	Yes	Ashford
28/6/23	Maeides Stana	Yes	Sittingbourne
3/7/23	Channel		Deal
15/7/23	Invicta Pride of Kent		Sittingbourne

Consistory Meetings

Date	Consistory	Inst	Location
25/08/23	Kent Consistory	Yes	Chatham
25/10/23	Man of Kent Consistory		Sittingbourne
28/10/23	The Kentish Man Consistory		Welling
17/11/23	Kent Consistory		Chatham

New Supreme Ruler for Medway Towns Conclave No 333



The resurgence of the Medway Towns Conclave No 333 continued on Friday 10th March 2023. When 26 brethren including the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, R Wy Bro Kevin Johnson and the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Wy Bro Dan Unthank accompanied by a good number of Provincial Officers gathered to witness the installation of Bro John Wood into the chair of Supreme Ruler.

The ceremony was conducted by Wy Bro James Howard, the outgoing Supreme Ruler, with warmth and sincerity and I suspect a little relief after occupying the chair for three years.

Nothing was more clear to me both during the Meeting and the Festive Board than that this was a Conclave full of Friends, and I came away feeling like one of them.

The conclave, which until August last year had just 11 subscribing members, has been invigorated by no less than five joining members in August 2022 and another joining member at this meeting in the person of Wy Bro David Barden.

The conclave boasts three Right Worthy, three Very Worthy and nine Worthy Brethren and the next target in the Conclave's plans is to add one or two Brothers to this august membership.

So if you have a candidate who would like to meet in March, August and November at Manor Road and enjoy the finest food the Province has to offer why not get in touch with the Secretary, Wy Bro Scott Dunn on scott_dunn@hotmail.co.uk



Forthcoming Events OSM and Scarlet Cord

Date/Time	Title	Description	Location
10/6/23 08:30	OSM & SC Provincial Officers Mess	Breakfast followed by an enlightening and humorous talk by Capt. Stratton Richey. Stratton was a Capt., instructor and examiner for BA, Orion and British Air Ferries as well as a pilot for HM Coastguard. He is the Chief commentator for the Farnborough and Bahrain air shows as well as being the Chair of the London Freemasons Charity and an ex Metropolitan Inspector	Chatham
20/8/23 12:30	The Big Sunday Lunch	Returning after his successful appearance last year, West-End Star Chris Gillingham Till will once again sing and entertain us before, during and after lunch. Everyone welcome	
29/9/23 19:30	Friday Night Live	Benidorm Tom will be belting out all of the Welsh crooner's best hits and shaking his hips for the girls whilst we all enjoy a fish and chip supper. BT is that good that you could easily mistake him for the real Tom Jones ☺ check him out online	Gillingham
14/10/23 11:00	Kent Provincial OSM	Join us in supporting our PGSR Kevin Johnson as he enters his 3rd year leading Kent	Gillingham
10/12/23 10:00	Sunday with Santa	Bring the "little-uns" to meet the big guy. There will be lots of entertainment, fun and games and a few prezzies too!.	Gillingham

Provincial Grand Senatus of Kent

It was a lovely sunny day for the Annual Provincial Grand Meeting of the Provincial Grand Senatus of Kent at Chatham Masonic Hall.

All visitors were welcomed by a free bacon and sausage bap and coffee.



It was a most enjoyable fourth meeting for R.Dist. Comp. Phil Clare as the Provincial Grand Summus for Kent and he oversaw the proceedings with great confidence.

He welcomed all the guests from around the country most warmly, especially R.Dist. Comp. Ray Clare who was attending his penultimate meeting as the Provincial Grand Summus for Essex and Phil Clare wished him a very Happy Retirement and thanked him for attending most of the Provincial Grand Meetings since he had become the Provincial Grand Summus for Essex. He will miss jokingly referring to him as his father which for many years a lot of the Companions really thought was the case.

He invested his Deputy Provincial Grand Summus Dist. Comp. James Trevillion and his Assistant Provincial Grand Summus Dist. Comp. Kevin Bampton and apart from investing as well 21 officers, the Province of Kent for the very first time had its very own Tzaddikim which the Provincial grand Summus received with great enthusiasm, inspected and invested them with their brand new collarettes.

An excellent meeting followed by an excellent festive board which is undoubtedly one of the best in Kent with the Companions enjoying a fine Tomato and Mozzarella starter followed by a Steak and Lobster main course and Eton Mess for dessert.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Summus in his speech to R.Dist. Comp. Phil Clare spoke about his excellent long distance cycling achievements in raising many thousands of pounds for worthwhile causes that Phil supports.

Everybody left the meeting in good spirits and all stated how much they were looking forward to the next Annual meeting in 2024 was a Conclave full of Friends, and I came away feeling like one of them.



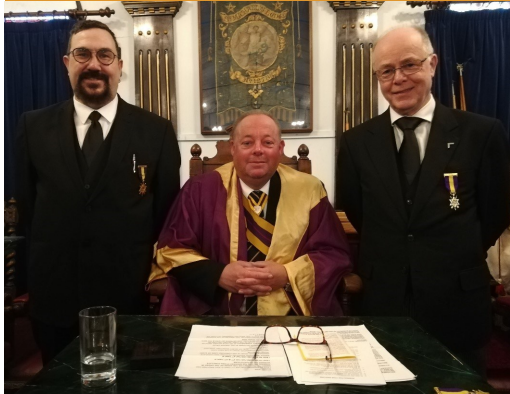
Maeides Stana welcomes two new Brothers

Maeides Stana Conclave No 341 met at Sittingbourne Masonic Centre on Wednesday 19th April 2023 to welcome two new Brothers into the order and into the Conclave. W.Bro Kevin Hill, current Worshipful Master of Lodge de Wydemere and W.Bro Michael Cook, current Worshipful Master of Gillingham Lodge of Friendship.



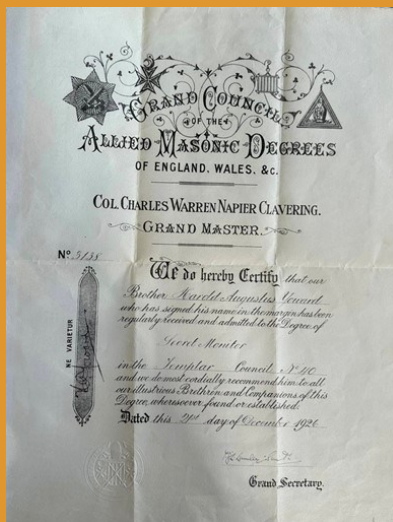
The Conclave were delighted to welcome V Wy Bro David Burgess, Grand Visitor, for his first official visit from his home county of Essex across the water into the Garden of England.

An unfortunate car accident on the way to the centre for our Guide and soon to be Supreme Ruler elect Bro Ian Sullivan and a hospital appointment for our Counsellor Bro Alan Wilson-Storey left us without two key officers. The IPSR, Mike Roberts, stepped into the office of Guide and as luck would have it Wy Bro Scott Dunn, Grand Steward and Provincial Grand Recorder arrived as the Secretary was attempting to fill the vacant Counsellor office and he was asked to cover which he was obviously happy to do.



All of this happily effected the Supreme Ruler, Wy Bro Bill Pennell, proceeded to induct Brothers Hill and Cook into the Order in fine style ably assisted by his officers and acting officers

On to the second order of business and Wy Bro Scott Dunn was pleased to present certificates to Bros David Merrick and Paul Nolan in his usual sophisticated style with references to the origins of the Order and using various Certificates ranging from the 1920s to the present day. These certificates were made available at the Festive Board and generated a lot of interest. The Supreme Ruler thanked Wy Brother Dunn on behalf of the Conclave for presenting the certificates.



Finally and in his absence Bro Ian Sullivan was declared Supreme Ruler elect for the ensuing year and will be installed at the meeting on Wednesday, 28th June 2023 to which you are all of course invited to book in please contact the Secretary, Wy Bro Paul King paul@kinghome.co.uk

Eric Norman Le Fre and Kentish Man Scarlet Cord

Off to Welling for Eric Norman Le Fre Conclave No. 304 and an Induction ceremony on a Saturday morning. The Supreme Ruler of the Conclave, Wy Bro Nick Coletta, contracted COVID-19 the day before the meeting. Fortunately our Grand Steward and Provincial Grand



Recorder, Wy Bro Scott Dunn stepped in as Supreme Ruler and with the assistance of the Officers conducted the candidate into our order and the Conclave.

After the morning OSM meeting it was on to Kentish Man Scarlet Cord Consistory for Dist Comp Scott Dunn's last meeting as President

Our Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Kevin Johnson, was installed as Scott's successor with his Deputy, Daniel Unthank, as his Primus L.

With the Provincial Grand Summus, Phil Clare, in attendance the support and close links between our orders was for all to see.



GOT A STORY? WANT TO PROMOTE A MEETING?

**SEND YOUR COPY TO BRO IAN SULLIVAN
(COMMS@KENTOSM.ORG.UK)**

FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF

THE SCARLET ARROW

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Useful Contacts

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Prov G Rec	Wy Bro Scott Dunn	recorder@kentosm.org.uk
Comms	Bro Ian Sullivan	comms@kentosm.org.uk

Websites

OSM	http://kentosm.org.uk/
Scarlet Cord	http://kentscarletcord.org.uk/

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