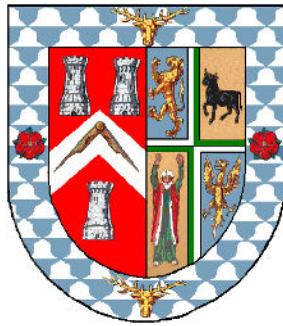


PROVINCE OF EAST LANCASHIRE



BANNER DEDICATION

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE

Procedure for a Banner Dedication

1. The Lodge should write to the Provincial Grand Secretary, enclosing the relevant designs and documentation for the Banner approval.
2. The Provincial Grand Secretary will correspond with the Grand Secretary and the Lodge Secretary.
3. Once the approval to the Banner design has been given, via the Provincial Grand Secretary, the date of the celebration will be determined by the APGM, after consulting the Lodge.
4. The District Secretary emails the Provincial Grand Secretary to confirm the date and to request inclusion on the Provincial Calendar.
5. The Provincial Deputation will be led by the Assistant Provincial Grand Master for the area and will also include:
 - The Assistant Provincial Grand Principal [patch]
 - The Area Chairman
 - The Provincial Senior Grand Warden
 - The Provincial Junior Grand Warden
 - The Provincial Grand Chaplain
 - The Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies
 - The Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
 - The Provincial Grand Organist *[if required]*
6. The Lodge will need to decide whether a donation to the ELMC or to another Charity, will be made to mark the event. The cheque should be presented to the Assistant Provincial Grand Master during the Lodge meeting.
7. A draft Agenda is available on the Secretariat website.
8. No other Ceremony should normally be held at the same meeting.
9. The Lodge Secretary should email a Summons to each member of the Deputation.
10. An Order of Proceedings should be produced and copies be available on the night.
A word version of this document is available from the Secretariat, if required.
11. The Lodge needs to provide a Brother to carry the Banner. The Worshipful Maser, the Donor[s] of the Banner and the Lodge Deacons will be involved in the Ceremony.

12. The Lodge should send a copy of the Lodge history / Banner history, and any other useful information concerning the Lodge, to the District Secretary, who will pass the information onto the Assistant Provincial Grand Master and the Provincial Grand Chaplain if required.
13. Other than the requirements given above, all communications should be via the Lodge Secretary to the District Secretary.
14. The Assistant Provincial Grand Master occupies the Worshipful Master's Chair and the Provincial Grand Wardens will take the Warden's Chairs.
15. The Banner Dedication Procession will comprise:-
 - The Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies
 - The Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
 - Two Lodge Deacons
 - The Banner Bearer
 - The Donor[s] of the Banner
16. Please advise the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, as soon as possible, the date of the practice meeting. Either he or his Deputy will attend this practice and outline the proceedings. It is **essential** that the following Officers [or the substitute for the Ceremony] attend: Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Director of Ceremonies, the Banner Bearer and Banner Donor[s].
17. In addition, a practice will be held at least one hour and fifteen minutes before the Lodges Tyles.
18. The Lodge Organist will be required to play the Processional Hymn [Tune: "St Anne"] and the Closing Hymn [Tune: "Nun Danke"].

NOTES ON LODGE AND CHAPTER BADGES

- 1.1 The following notes are intended to help Lodges and Chapters in preparing designs for their badges before submitting them to the Provincial Grand Secretary or Provincial Grand Scribe E [for onward transmission to Grand Secretary / Grand Scribe E, for the approval of the MW The Grand Master / the ME The First Grand Principal].
- 1.2 The principles explained in the notes apply equally to designs, which also require approval, for Founders' Jewel, Past Masters' Jewels and Banners etc.
- 1.3 However, it is not possible to foresee every problem that might arise, and it should therefore be noted that adherence to every point in the notes does not guarantee that the design will be approved.

LODGE BADGES

2. **Arms of Armorial Bearings, and Badges.**

- 2.1 Lodges are recommended to adopt Badges in preference to Arms. Arms are heraldic devices borne on a shield. A Badge consists of some object or objects combined to form a design without the use of a shield.
- 2.2 The grant of Arms, which carries the right to bear them, is a Royal Prerogative. Lodges which wish to design and assume arms must consult [and pay a fee to] the College of Heraldry.
3. **Arms**
- 3.1 No part of the Royal Coat of Arms may be assumed by a Lodge without the express consent of the Sovereign, or other Royal Person whose Arms are concerned.
- 3.2 No private Lodge is permitted to use the Arms of the United Grand Lodge.
- 3.3 No Arms of an individual or Corporation may be adopted without the written consent of such individuals or Corporations, and in the case of consent being given the Arms must be used in their entirety.

NB: *Even when such consent is obtained, it may not be appropriate for the Lodge to use Arms which have been designed to represent an individual or public body, and therefore approval may be withheld.*

- 3.4 No Lodge may adopt as Arms a portion of an existing Coat of Arms, even if permission be given by the holder, since such adoption would amount to the assumption of a new Coat of Arms.

- 3.5 Designs may not be approved if they are heraldic in character or attempt to avoid the Laws of Arms by using a corruption of a shield outline.
- 3.6 Arms that have become extinct cannot be used.
- 3.7 A small shield carried by a Knight as part of the design of the badge is permitted, since this is only coincidental to his accoutrements; in most cases the shield is seen in perspective, and thus cannot be regarded as Arms in the ordinary sense.

4. General

- 4.1 Design for Lodge Badges are sometimes submitted with the Petition for a new Lodge, but they cannot be approved until a Warrant has been granted. However, if the matter is urgent, the design may sometimes be approved subject to the grant of a Warrant.
- 4.2 Symbols foreign to the Craft, for example interlaced triangles [which are Royal Arch] should not occur. Most Craft badges have a square and compasses incorporated, but these are not essential.

5. Religious Symbols

- 5.1 Symbols associated with one particular religion or religious denomination, for example the Cross, must not be included as a predominant part of the design. If the Lodge is named after a Saint who is depicted in the badge, then a small cross may be carried by the Saint.

6. Imperial Crown

- 6.1 The Imperial Crown is one shown on Government documents and publications [for example, British passports, United Kingdom Driving licences and top right corner on obverse of £5 Sterling bank notes]. These vary slightly but are intended to be the same Crown, and will not be approved as part of a badge. A Saxon crown or a nondescript one [such as is shown in Plate 31 of the Royal Arch Regulations] may be allowed.

7. Corn and Acacia

- 7.1 A wreath composed of corn and acacia [as shown in the jewels of Grand Officers] is not allowed, since these emblems are symbolic of Grand Rank.

CHAPTER BADGES

- 7.2 Rules on Lodge badges apply mutatis mutandis to Chapter Badges. Most Chapter badges are based on those of the Lodges to which they are attached, with some Royal Arch allusion in place of the square and compasses – for example interlaced triangle, the triple tau, etc. The Lodge's title must be changed to the Chapter's.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE

Draft layout for the Business Agenda for the
Lodge Banner Dedication Ceremony.

A G E N D A

- 1) To Open the Lodge.
 - 2) To read the Dispensation [if necessary].
 - 3) To read and confirm the Minutes of the last Regular Meeting [if necessary].
 - 4) WBro will propose that in commemoration of the Lodge Banner Dedication, the sum of £..... be donated to.....
[If required and not voted upon at a previous Meeting]
- [Note: If the Meeting is held on a Regular Meeting date other items of business may need to be included before the next item]
- 5) To receive the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, WBro together with members of a Provincial Deputation.
 - 6) The Assistant Provincial Grand Master will Address the Lodge.
 - 7) To Dedicate the Lodge Banner.
 - 8) The Worshipful Master will present to the Assistant Provincial Grand Master a donation to [ELMC / Festival].
 - 9) To take a collection.
 - 10) The Assistant Provincial Grand Master and the Provincial Deputation will retire.
 - 11) To Close the Lodge.

Banner Dedication – Extended Agenda

1. To receive the Assistant Provincial Grand Master and a Provincial Deputation.

2. The Worshipful Master offers the Gavel to the Assistant Provincial Grand Master. The Gavel is accepted and the Assistant Provincial Grand Master occupies the Chair.

3. The Assistant Provincial Grand Master addresses the Brethren on the purpose of the Meeting and introduces the Provincial Deputation.

4. A Banner Escort is formed, comprising:
The Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.
The Lodge Deacons.
Banner Bearer
Banner Donor(s)

5. The Brethren sing the Processional Hymn whilst the Deputation enters and passes around the Lodge displaying the Banner.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast
And our eternal home.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the Same.

A thousand ages in Thy Sight,
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night,
Before the rising sun.

O God our help in ages past,
Our help for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

SO MOTE IT BE
(all remain standing at close of hymn)

6. The Donor asks the Assistant Provincial Grand Master to receive the Banner for Dedication.

7. Bearer places the Banner in its stand.

8. The Provincial Grand Chaplain offers the Banner Dedication Prayer. (Reverence)

O Lord our Heavenly Father, Architect and Ruler of the Universe, who dost from Thy Throne behold all the dwellers upon Earth, we beseech Thee to bless and hallow this Banner, which we here dedicate as a

symbol of our Masonic Fellowship, and to the honour and glory of Thy Holy Name.
Grant to all who gather beneath its shadows wisdom to each, humility to learn and grace to fulfill their obligations. Pour down upon them, and all the members of our Fraternity, the continual dew of Thy Blessing, that we may daily increase in love of Thee and of each other, and when Earth's fitful day is past, grant us a glorious entry into Thy Holy Temple, where, amid the company of Thy faithful people, we may shine as the stars for ever and ever.

SO MOTE IT BE

9. The Assistant Provincial Grand Master delivers the Lodge Banner into the safe keeping of the Master.
(Both hold Banner)

10. The Worshipful Master accepts the Banner.

11. The Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies recites a passage of Scripture.

12. The Provincial Grand Chaplain Dedicates the Banner. (Brethren, to order for dedication)

13. The Provincial Grand Chaplain delivers an Oration.

14. CLOSING HYMN

Now thank we all our God,
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom the world rejoices;
Who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way.
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts.
And blessed peace to cheer us.
And keep us in His grace.
And guides us when perplexed.
And free us from all ills.
In this world and the next.

SO MOTE IT BE
(all remain standing at close of Hymn)

15. The Provincial Grand Chaplain pronounces the Patriarchal Benediction. (Reverence)

16. WBro ***** to present to the AProvGM a donation

17. To take a collection

18. The Provincial Deputation will retire