



Robert I Frankl
Most Excellent Grand Superintendent



EComp Prof Tony Freemont
2nd Provincial Grand Principal



EComp David Hudson
3rd Provincial Grand Principal



EComp Paul Bowen
Deputy Grand Superintendent

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Foreword from the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent

Companions,

As I write this foreword in early March, I am looking forward to our Annual Meeting on the 21st, where I will have the privilege of appointing, reappointing and promoting over 100 companions. I hope all recipients will have had a memorable and enjoyable day, and wish all a very happy and healthy time in your new ranks and offices.

The Annual Meeting also brings a number of changes to our Executive. I don't have the space in this foreword to pay adequate tribute to EComp Harvey Basger who is retiring as Deputy Grand Superintendent, and a heartfelt thank you will have to suffice.



I also want to thank EComp Aubrey Oldham who has completed his term as Assistant to the Provincial Grand Principals.

I know you all join me in congratulating EComps Paul Bowen, Deputy Grand Superintendent, Anthony Freemont, Second Provincial Grand Principal, and Andrew Taylor, Assistant to the Provincial Grand Principals on their appointments, and will give them your support.

A short time ago, we all received a communication from EComp Freemont pointing us to Archway, a very important initiative from Supreme Grand Chapter. I urge you all to look at it, and then you can subsequently delve into it at your leisure. It is a tremendous resource, which can assist in shaping and growing our Chapters, and I commend it to you.

You notice I use the word 'assist'. It is not a silver bullet, not a magic wand, and is not a substitute for the need for all of us to encourage membership to our brethren in the Craft, welcoming to our fellow companions, particularly those newer to our Order, and ensure our Chapters are enjoyable, happy and harmonious.

East Lancashire Royal Arch freemasonry rightly has a proud and long history. I am grateful for all that you do, which will ensure future generations enjoy our beautiful Order, as we do today.

I give you my warmest fraternal greetings,

Robert I Frankl

Grand Superintendent





Congratulations to all the Acting Officers of the year

ProvGSE	HOLLAND Andrew	C37 Concord Deane
ProvGSN	HOYLE David James	C5712 Aldwyn
ProvGTreas	COWEN David Joel	C6005 Good Comp of Commemoration
ProvGReg	MCMILLAN Gordon	C462 Bank Terrace with Leopold
ProvGDC	PROCTER Andrew	C9640 Red Rose of Lancashire
ProvGSwdB	DERBYSHIRE Brian Hastings	C462 Bank Terrace with Leopold
ProvDepGDC	BASGER Jonathan	C2447 Palatine
ProvDepGDC	Evans Andrew	C367 Probitry and Freedom
ProvGAlm	STEPHENSON Tony	C5041 Vis Unita
ProvGChStwd	TAYLOR John	C266 Naphtali
ProvGMO	SPIBY William	C3788 Kitchener
ProvGSoj	DURING Sylvester	C6005 Good Comp of Commemoration
Prov1stAGSoj	Mullins Fraser	C152 Chapter of Virtue
Prov2ndAGSoj	YATES John Albert	C3788 Kitchener
ProvGStB	DALLEY Simon James	C286 Chapter of Strength
ProvGStB	SHIELDS Allan Martin	C999 Robert Burns
ProvGStB	SMITH Timothy Mark	C8798 Pennine
ProvGOrg	WILSON Brian James	C3336 Samaritan
ProvGStwd	COATES Timothy Stephen	C2891 Lord Stanley
ProvGStwd	ENTWISTLE Martin John	C62 Social
ProvGStwd	GRIDLEY Lee James	C9640 Red Rose of Lancashire
ProvGStwd	SHARP Stephen Andrew	C274 Chapter of Fidelity
ProvGStwd	SPENCE Walter McNeil	C268 Union
ProvGStwd	WHITLOW Robert Adam	C277 Tudor
PPGSwdB	CARROLL Clive	C462 Bank Terrace with Leopold





Every year we also see exceptional contribution to the work of Provincial Grand Chapter recognised by appointment to, and promotion within, Supreme Grand Chapter. The following Companions have been so recognised this year:

New Appointments

- EComp Peter Faulkner - Past Grand Standard Bearer
- EComp John A Griffin - Past Grand Standard Bearer
- EComp Gareth R Jones - Past Grand Standard Bearer

Promotions

- EComp David Basger – Past Assistant Grand Sojourner
- EComp Barry Jameson – Past Assistant Grand Sojourner

We congratulate all these Companions and also those Companions who are being appointed to and promoted within the United Grand Lodge of England

New Appointments

- WBro R Derek Calrow – Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
- WBro John Lees - Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
- WBro Douglas Smith – Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

Promotions

- WBro John A Griffin –Past Grand Sword Bearer
- WBro Malcolm T Roberts – Past Junior Grand Deacon





Congratulations to all newly appointed officers of Provincial Grand Chapter

PP1stAGSoj	CHALMERS Cameron Mark	C325 St John's
PP1stAGSoj	GREEN David	C1055 Derby
PP1stAGSoj	LAW David	C3317 Ben Brierley
PP2ndAGSoj	NAYLOR Michael Gay	C78 Imperial George
PP2ndAGSoj	WHITEHEAD John	C128 Prince Edwin's
PPGStB	ALLEN Kenneth Arthur	C221 Maritime
PPGStB	BEAUMONT Philip	C7814 Cathedral
PPGStB	BROWN Stephen William	C274 Chapter of Fidelity
PPGStB	COLLINSON Robert Michael	C37 Concord Deane
PPGStB	FORKGEN James Edward	C116 Cana
PPGStB	HANKINSON Peter	C344 Chapter of Beauty
PPGStB	MADEN Brian	C3787 Chapter of Remembrance
PPGStB	MCEVOY Paul	C6575 Portland
PPGStB	ROSBOTHAM Gordon Edward	C1723 St George's
PPGStB	WALLACE Stephen	C6005 Good Comps of Commemoration
PPGStB	MACMILLAN Stuart Jonathan	C4130 Unanimity
PPAGDC	FIELDING Derrick	C462 Bank Terrace with Leopold
PPAGDC	FOYNES Aidan John	C3615 Reddish
PPAGDC	PYKE Thomas Michael	C9640 Red Rose of Lancashire
PPAGDC	QUINN Brendan Dennis	C3867 West Salford
PPAGDC	WHITTAKER David John	C462 Bank Terrace with Leopold





Newly Promoted Officers of Provincial Grand Chapter

Congratulations to all those promoted within Provincial Grand Chapter

PPGSN	ASHTON Geoffrey	C37 Concord Deane
PPGSN	HEALEY Walter	C78 Imperial George
PPGSN	HEGARTY Peter	C815 Blair
PPGSN	HUNTER Michael Adrian	C1723 St George's
PPGSN	MCGOVERN Alan	C4828 Audenshaw
PPGSN	PAUL Roger	C3615 Reddish
PPGReg	BAILLIE Geoffrey Neville	C5041 Vis Unita
PPGReg	BIRCHENOUGH Brian George	C152 Chapter of Virtue
PPGReg	CALROW Robert Derek	C62 Social
PPGReg	HARGREAVES John	C462 Bank Terrace with Leopold
PPGReg	HUGHES Kai	C9659 Internet
PPGReg	KING John Byron	C8763 Tonge Hall
PPGReg	MORGAN Peter James	C128 Prince Edwin's
PPGReg	PRICE Philip John	C8763 Tonge Hall
PPGReg	RAWLINSON Graham Frank	C8763 Tonge Hall
PPGReg	TAYLOR Melvyn Lazarus	C1055 Derby
PPGReg	WILSON Henry Roy	C1219 Renaissance
PPGSwdB	ARMSTRONG Christopher Ian	C6005 Good Comp of Commemoration
PPGSwdB	BAXENDALE Frank William	C7224 Fairfield
PPGSwdB	BYROM Christopher Edward	C1055 Derby
PPGSwdB	FLANAGAN Steven William	C42 Chapter of Unanimity
PPGSwdB	HALFORD Andrew John	C3317 Ben Brierley
PPGSwdB	JOHNSON Nigel Martin	C3615 Reddish
PPGSwdB	LINDSAY Peter Stuart	C2891 Lord Stanley
PPGSwdB	LISTER Stephen William	C6594 Ark and Menorah
PPGSwdB	MOORE Anthony Robert	C815 Blair
PPGSwdB	NESBITT John Douglas	C78 Imperial George
PPGSwdB	PARVIN Trevor Edward	C993 Alexandra
PPGSwdB	SMITH James Arnold	C348 St John's
PPGSwdB	TATTERSALL Raymond	C462 Bank Terrace with Leopold
PPGSwdB	WILD Denis	C6163 Werneth
PPDepGDC	FEELEY Lawrence Alexander	C42 Chapter of Unanimity
PPDepGDC	GALVIN Thomas Joseph	C226 Chapter of Benevolence





Newly Promoted Officers of Provincial Grand Chapter

Congratulations to all those promoted within Provincial Grand Chapter

PPDepGDC	GORST Charles Arthur	C815 Blair
PPDepGDC	GREEN John Edward	C1723 St George's
PPDepGDC	HOLMES Duncan	C462 Bank Terrace with Leopold
PPDepGDC	KERSHAW John	C226 Chapter of Benevolence
PPDepGDC	LEATHER Richard	C348 St John's
PPDepGDC	MACDONALD Ian Robert	C2529 Abbey
PPDepGDC	MAGUIRE Peter James	C1083 Townley Parker
PPDepGDC	MARSH Andrew William	C286 Chapter of Strength
PPDepGDC	MUNTON Howard Geoffrey	C78 Imperial George
PPDepGDC	RAWES Phillip Thornborrow	C219 Loyal Todmorden
PPDepGDC	READER Terence Mark	C2185 Ardwick
PPDepGDC	REANEY Kevin Michael	C221 Maritime
PPDepGDC	ROSENTHAL Melvyn Henry	C6594 Ark and Menorah
PPDepGDC	SHARP George Whitehurst	C854 Albert
PPDepGDC	STUBBS Michael	C116 Cana
PPDepGDC	WHITAKER Norman	C116 Cana
PPDepGDC	WHITEHEAD Ian	C3867 West Salford
PPGSoj	CHAPMAN Robert Gamble	C8763 Tonge Hall
PPGSoj	COX Gordon Leslie	C78 Imperial George
PPGSoj	CRICHTON Alan	C8798 Pennine
PPGSoj	DUGDALE Ian Anthony	C54 Chapter of Hope
PPGSoj	JONES Dennis Percy	C2185 Ardwick
PPGSoj	LIDDLE Roy	C9211 Rochdale Chapter of First Principals
PPGSoj	PORTER Michael Leon	C2185 Ardwick
PPGSoj	RAINFORD David George	C1723 St George's
PPGSoj	STEVENS Brian Neville	C3336 Samaritan
PPGSoj	STRUDWICK James Augustine	C999 Robert Burns
PPGSoj	TYLER Jason Paul	C37 Concord Deane
PP1stAGSoj	ASHTON Leon	C854 Albert
PP1stAGSoj	CLEWORTH Anthony Edward	C219 Loyal Todmorden
PP1stAGSoj	CORBRIDGE Roy	C1504 Red Rose of Lancaster
PP1stAGSoj	HAIGH Norman Barlow	C6577 Mossley
PP1stAGSoj	MACEY Lionel James	C6575 Portland
PP1stAGSoj	ROWE Mark Vincent	C152 Chapter of Virtue
PP1stAGSoj	TURNER Phillip John	C1504 Red Rose of Lancaster

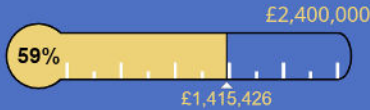




THE PGLEL 2026 FESTIVAL APPEAL

So far we have a Pledged Amount of £1,415,426 towards our £2,400,000 target!

Festival Newsletter
May 2023



The total Cash received to date, plus Gift Aid is £1,008,208 representing 42% of the total collected so far against our target figure

Set Up A Monthly Donation

Set Up A One Off Donation

Lodges Click Here

Festival 2026 News And Events

If you haven't been to the PGLEL 2026 Festival Appeal web site recently, you've got to visit.

There is so much happening, and it's all fun in a serious cause. The link: <https://eastlancashirefreemasons.org/the-pglel-2026-festival-appeal/>

Over this and the next 2 pages there are adverts for just some of the exciting activities to participate in and enjoy. And best of all there is still lots more money to find so you haven't yet missed out on the opportunity to donate to the Festival.

You can even donate foreign money! (see below right).

Please consider making regular donations through a Direct Debit no matter how small. Regular donations make a real difference..

2024 QUIZ NIGHT

For the start of the Masonic season for 2023/2024 the Festival Appeal Committee are challenging the Areas, once again, to organise Quiz Nights. The winning teams, and runners up from each Area, will be invited to participate in the "Provincial Grand Final Quiz" arranged for Wednesday 22 May 2024 at Stanley House, Audenshaw Masonic Hall.

The 2023 winners from 'Zion Menorah Lodge' have the Lodge name engraved on the silver salver - will your team be able to beat them this year?

Do you have teams to enter? Then we can come and support you at your local hall, please let us know by emailing julie.ward@hewlettcourt.org.uk or calling 01204 887531 - WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL SOON! & GOOD LUCK

GRAND FINAL WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY 2024

Area Quiz nights in support of 2026 Festival - Grand final to follow

by Darren Michael Kennedy | Aug 25, 2023 | Festival upcoming events, Upcoming Events

Organise your Area Quiz nights to support the 2026 Festival

EAST LANCS MASONIC PROVINCE FOREIGN CURRENCY INITIATIVE

Have you been on holiday abroad?

We'd bet that you've got a few odd coins in that "bits & pieces" drawer at home?

We can turn any coins or notes into funds for our Masonic Charities.

Any current, or even obsolete notes and pre-decimal coins, can be turned into real resources.

Only postage and insurance deducted, proceeds go to the charity fund!

In aid of 2026 Masonic Charitable Foundation
Charity No 1164703

Please send to:
East Lancs Masonic Province
Foreign Currency Initiative
119 Singleton Road,
Salford,
M7 4LD
Or call 07831 402 799 to arrange collection.





You've Got To Read This!!

Good Afternoon Brethren and all, it's been a while since I last emailed everyone on my mailing list but having met with the Area Charity Stewards earlier this week there are just so many things in the pipeline I've simply got to tell you about.

Always a popular event and it's back again this year. Yes, it's our quiz and your chance to Represent Eastern Area in the Grand Final – unless you prefer the wooden spoons of course!



Sunday 16th June



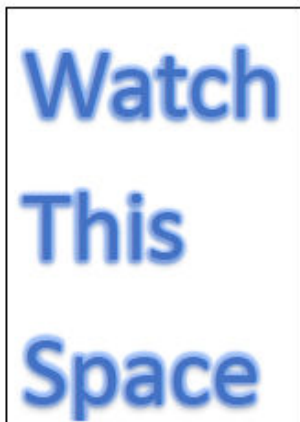
Are you ready for the challenge?

I know I am and it will be great if some of our lodges can sponsor an obstacle and enter a team or two.

We need teams from all over the **Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire** to take part in this event to help raise funds for the **EL2026 Festival** in aid of the **Masonic Charitable Foundation**. Get involved; it's an all-inclusive, family fundraising event, including a Father's Day competition.

To register, please get in touch with Karen Hall at 01204887531 or email karen.hall@eastlancsmasons.org.uk

Talking Heads



This is something completely new and hot off the Press!! We are developing our own Talking Heads Presentation about the Festival, ELMC and our Charitable Giving.

Are you confused about how it all works?

Do you know where your donations go?

Do you know how much of a difference we make to those around us?

All of your questions and more will be answered in our Talking Heads events.





Of course, our festival direct debits are crucial if we are to meet our £2.4M target. To date only 23.93% of our brethren have signed up – please consider doing so if you haven't done yet. If you need any help Russ Perks, Chris Henthorne or myself will help you do it.

Our very own **Joe Galvin** has put his best foot forward once more and donated another gallon of spirits and so, Galvin's Gallon is up for grabs again this year – of course, you've got to be in it to win it though. From now until the end of the calendar year whichever Area increases their percentage of Direct Debits the most will win the gallon.

Another amazing donation Joe,
Many, Many Thanks 🍷🍷🍷

Galvin's Gallon



Relief Chest Envelopes

Did you know we can increase our charitable donations by 25% without donating anything extra?

It's true, we can do it simply by filling in the gift aid envelopes and 25% will be added for all taxpayers and the extra money will be credited to your Lodge too, making it easier to achieve patronage status. I made sure our Area Charity Stewards all left the meeting with lots of them and this is something all lodges should consider doing when donations are collected.

Do you remember when we walked The District? Well, Things have grown and this year we are

Walking The Province!!

Not the Whole Province of course but each area has been invited to take part and each walk can be as long or as short as you want. We will all meet up afterwards for a well-earned drink and a bite to eat.

The date hasn't been fixed but it is likely to be a Sunday in September.

It's time to dust off those walking boots and help us promote Freemasonry in the community.

Walk The District

Are You Up For a Challenge?
Want to Raise Money for Good Causes?
Then Join Us on
as we Walk The District



Rochdale to Bacup
Bacup to Todmorden
Todmorden to Rochdale



We want Every lodge to come with us even if it's just for one mile.

Could you be a member of our support team on the day

Kindest Regards to All and look forward to seeing you soon,

JT
Provincial Grand Charity Steward
07961976641





Those exalted 50, 40, 30, 20 and 10 years ago.

Congratulations to all those celebrating 50 and 40 years in the Royal Arch in 2024

With thanks to EComp Peter Faulkner, APGP, Western Area for compiling this list

50 years		
Henry Roy	Wilson	22 Jan 74
Michael Geoffrey	Boden	23 Jan 74
Eric	Cropper	4 Apr 74
Ian	Warrington	10 Oct 74
Derek Allen	Burrows	12 Dec 74
40 years		
Stanley	Bibby	15 Mar 84
Robert Edmondson	Heap	22 Mar 84
David	Winstanley	16 Apr 84
Brian George	Birchenough	30 Apr 84
Barry Edward	Bainbridge	17 May 84
Royston	Matthews	26 May 84
Derek Alfred	Barclay	2 Jul 84
David James	Haworth	6 Sep 84
David Nicholas	Entwisle	17 Sep 84
Christopher	Noble	18 Sep 84
David Harold	Starbuck	27 Sep 84
Brian John	Hutton	4 Oct 84
Trevor	Thomas	5 Oct 84
William Raymond	Waite	16 Nov 84
Donald	Bright	11 Dec 84





Those exalted 50, 40, 30, 20 and 10 years ago

Congratulations to all those celebrating 30 years in the Royal Arch in 2024

With thanks to EComp Peter Faulkner, APGP, Western Area for compiling this list

30 years		
Victor Ernest	Murphy	4 Jan 94
Arthur	Halliday	11 Jan 94
Gareth Royston	Jones	11 Jan 94
Keith	Buckley	18 Jan 94
Geoffrey	Ashton	20 Jan 94
David Donald	Coulson	20 Jan 94
Colin John	Rowling	20 Jan 94
Keith	Hatton	26 Jan 94
Michael Joseph	Brotherton	1 Feb 94
Robert Geoffrey	Prestwich	8 Feb 94
David	Rothwell	21 Feb 94
Terry Marsh	Smith	23 Feb 94
David Anthony	Mullin	24 Feb 94
David	Williams	17 Mar 94
Chad Antony	Northcott	22 Mar 94
Michael Peter	Birks	28 Mar 94
Royston	Morris	13 Apr 94
Edwin	Cheadle	26 Apr 94
Stewart Harland	Poulsom	6 May 94
Clifford Charles	Jewell	11 May 94
Leon	Ashton	13 May 94
Christopher Edward	Byrom	16 Sep 94
Shaun	Higson	19 Sep 94
Aubrey	Oldham	3 Oct 94
Peter	Sellers	6 Oct 94
Stephen Allan	Taylor	6 Oct 94
Gregory John	Casson	11 Oct 94
William	Garside	24 Oct 94
Robert John	Waddington	24 Oct 94
Philip John	Lawton	15 Nov 94
Alan Thomas	Imm	18 Nov 94
Ian Mark Suffield	Hunter	21 Nov 94
Paul	Easterbrook	2 Dec 94
Colin Walter	Firth	5 Dec 94
Jack	Best	6 Dec 94





Those exalted 50, 40, 30, 20 and 10 years ago

Congratulations to all those celebrating 20 years in the Royal Arch in 2024

With thanks to EComp Peter Faulkner, APGP, Western Area for compiling this list

20 years		
Alan	Cavanagh	14 Jan 04
Michael John Robert	Isherwood	15 Jan 04
Peter	Banks	19 Jan 04
John Michael	Greenhalgh	27 Jan 04
Stephen	Whitelegg	9 Feb 04
Jonathan	Jacobs	10 Feb 04
David	Wood	10 Feb 04
Jonathan Niall	Perry	16 Feb 04
Steven John	O'Leary	22 Mar 04
Malcolm Robert	Large	6 Apr 04
Christopher	Henthorn	19 Apr 04
David	Bleackley	30 Apr 04
Andrew William	Marsh	4 May 04
Stephen John	Lord	6 May 04
Michael David	Stubbs	6 May 04
David	McGurty	16 Sep 04
Garry	Bradbury	20 Sep 04
Harry Alban	Charnock	27 Sep 04
Jonathan Stephen	Forshaw	27 Sep 04
Martin David Edward	Horan	1 Oct 04
William Ormerod	Green	6 Oct 04
Richard John	Kenyon	7 Oct 04
Clifford Ashley	Hayman	12 Oct 04
Jason Paul	Tyler	13 Oct 04
Ian Robert	MacDonald	21 Oct 04
Andrew	Procter	29 Oct 04
Brian Hastings	Derbyshire	18 Nov 04
Brian	Maden	26 Nov 04
Anthony	Bardsley	30 Nov 04
Edward Lee	Ralston	2 Dec 04
Christopher	Prax	19 Dec 04





Those exalted 50, 40, 30, 20 and 10 years ago

Congratulations to all those celebrating 10 years in the Royal Arch in 2024

With thanks to EComp Peter Faulkner, APGP, Western Area for compiling this list

10 years		
Alexsander Paul	Capewell	23 Jan 14
Philip	Beaumont	27 Jan 14
Robert Christie Craig	Boyd	3 Feb 14
Ian Joseph	Ferrier	6 Feb 14
Timothy Stephen	Coates	21 Feb 14
Christopher Noel	Hegarty	26 Mar 14
David Adrian	Kyme	12 May 14
Nicholas John	Bebb	15 Sep 14
Ernest George	Smith	15 Sep 14
Ritesh	Mehta	17 Sep 14
Philip Edward	Howarth	24 Sep 14
Andrew John	Parkin	25 Sep 14
Craig David	Wood	25 Sep 14
Salvador	Tiangson	13 Oct 14
Christopher Ian	Armstrong	14 Oct 14
Russell John	Harwood	16 Oct 14
Stephen Charles	Rowen	28 Oct 14
John Edwin	Friend	10 Nov 14
Harry Duncan	Walsh	8 Dec 14
Matthew Simon	Phillips	9 Dec 14





The Craft and the Royal Arch, a seamless progression: The new UGLE Strategy for Freemasonry is an integrated one that reinforces the fundamental connection between the Royal Arch and the Craft. It promotes participation in the Royal Arch to provide new, relevant dimensions to a Master Mason's Masonic experience and a more complete understanding of what it means to be a Freemason in England today.

By reinforcing the message that the Royal Arch is the completion of Ancient Freemasonry it follows that joining the Royal Arch is as least as important to our understanding of ourselves in a Masonic sense as is progressing from the 2nd to the 3rd degree. Each step from initiation to passing through the chairs in a Chapter takes us closer to the goals to which Freemasonry aspires.

That the Royal Arch is a separate order makes it seem more distant from the 3rd degree than the 3rd degree does from the 2nd. A big problem has always been explaining this to Master Masons, mainly because the answers to the questions "Why should I join the Royal Arch?" and "What will I get out of it?" can seem nebulous, maybe even wishy washy. Even once you have joined the Royal Arch the ritual does not define the direction of travel in the same way as the ceremonies in the Craft. This can be both exciting and scary. You are expected to figure things out for yourself, yes with the help of your Companions, but without a clear framework. It is a little like going from studying at School to studying at College or University, you're on your own, you're told to go away and think about things for yourself, and it can be very difficult, particularly when distractions come at you from all directions.

What is ARCHWAY and how does it help?: UGLE recognises the issues raised in the paragraph above as Constitution-wide. Following considerable research UGLE has developed a solution called Archway. Archway isn't prescriptive, it's a resource for individual Companions and Chapters. It is primarily there to help you get more out of the Royal Arch, by giving you access to a framework and readily accessible material that you can use to guide your Masonic experience and explain the Royal Arch to others.

Many of the challenges that Chapters face are different to those of Lodges. Archway is therefore not a translation of the Members' Pathway into the Royal Arch – it has been developed separately with advice and guidance specifically from and for Companions, Chapters and Royal Arch Representatives within Craft Lodges. However, as some of the challenges are like those in Lodges, references to excellent resources within the Members' Pathway and on Solomon are provided where relevant.

Archway aims to help Chapters become more vibrant, so that every Companion looks forward to their next meeting with enthusiasm. It contains resources to enhance understanding of the Royal Arch and for sharing the work so that more members are involved and don't feel sidelined.





It also provides advice for making meetings more varied whilst maintaining relevance, assistance in attracting members to the order you find so inspiring, and support for every member of the Chapter.

Is Archway complete?: Archway is not static, and therefore will never be complete. It is designed to be an evolving resource with more examples and case studies of good practice added over time. So, if your Chapter has good ideas about what works well then adopt them, but please also share with the wider Royal Arch community through your RAAO, APGP and me as UGLE’s single point of contact for Archway with our Province.

There is no ‘one size fits all’ solution to the challenges each Chapter faces, but the resources and options Archway offers highlight what is possible to achieve if Chapters wish to innovate and embrace change to make Royal Arch Freemasonry even more enjoyable and germane.

How can my Chapter and I experiment with Archway to find out what there is that might be of value to us?: You have already been sent a guide tailored to our needs in East Lancashire. Just in case it didn’t reach you for whatever reason it is reproduced below.

Enjoy your Royal Arch Freemasonry and give Archway a go. I promise it is a revelation.

EComp Prof Tony Freemont. PGStB, 2nd Provincial Grand Principal

The East Lancashire Guide to ARCHWAY and its use

What is ARCHWAY?: ARCHWAY is designed to help Royal Arch Chapters to grow their membership and enhance the experience of their Companions. It is an online resource of material on the UGLE website that can be accessed by all Royal Arch Masons and Chapters.

The development of ARCHWAY has followed a period of extensive research based around individuals’ experiences and drawing on the experiences of thriving Chapters. Although based on similar principles to the Craft’s Pathway the developers of ARCHWAY recognise that Chapters face different challenges to Lodges. ARCHWAY is therefore geared towards the needs of Chapters and Companions and is not an extension of Pathway; nevertheless when needed it references resources within the Members’ Pathway and Solomon.

ARCHWAY also recognises that Chapters vary markedly in their needs. It has therefore been designed so that Chapters can structure their use of ARCHWAY to derive the most benefit for them.

What does ARCHWAY offer members of the Royal Arch in the East Lancashire? The basic premise is that ARCHWAY exists to help Chapters in being vibrant and enjoyable, so that every Companion looks forward to their next meeting with enthusiasm. ARCHWAY offers materials and advice to enhance Companions’ understanding of the Royal Arch, attract new members and support every member of the Chapter. It is not a static resource and will evolve with time to further meet the needs of Chapters across the Constitution.

Our Most Excellent Grand Superintendent is encouraging all of us to embrace and use ARCHWAY.





The Royal Arch and Craft masonry – one journey, one organisation: Both United Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Chapter function in many areas as one organisation with a shared leadership and common values—the new UGLE Strategy for Freemasonry is therefore an integrated one that reinforces the fundamental connection between the Royal Arch and the Craft.

Participation in the Royal Arch provides a new dimension to a member’s experience and a more complete understanding of what it means to be a Freemason in the United Grand Lodge of England. It is an established fact that those who progress into the Royal Arch are far more likely to remain engaged with Freemasonry in general than those who limit their experience of what Pure Antient Masonry has to offer.

So how can ARCHWAY help you and your Chapter: The practical advice offered in ARCHWAY directly addresses the main challenges our Chapters face. But it recognises that to progress towards the type of Chapter you desire there may be a need to make necessary changes, such as trying something new or stop doing something if it isn’t working for your Chapter.

The first principle of ARCHWAY: We are rightly proud of our Royal Arch Masonry, but as the years pass, certain ‘traditions’ often accumulate, which can become outdated or unhelpful.

The first principle of ARCHWAY is the recognition of a need to approach the future with a “YES IF” mindset, not “NO BECAUSE...” ARCHWAY is based on believing that when something new is discussed, it should be considered from a perspective that says “if we adopt this how can we make it work, what would it require, and what would a positive outcome look like?”. That is not to say that everything new that is discussed will pass this scrutiny. However, ARCHWAY does encourage us to set goals to help enhance our Chapters, and then examine how we might reach those goals from a positive perspective.

The aim is that by employing the resources in ARCHWAY we will all be able to face the future with redoubled enthusiasm and measure our success in terms of increased member satisfaction.

How are the ARCHWAY materials accessed?

ARCHWAY resources are easy to access online from all devices – desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone. However, some functions are limited when viewed on a very small screen.

How are the ARCHWAY materials accessed?

ARCHWAY resources are easy to access online from all devices – desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone. However, some functions are limited when viewed on a very small screen.

Simply click on the link below to reach the bUGLE membership platform:

<https://b.ugle.org.uk/membership/ARCHWAY>

How is ARCHWAY structured?

As the name suggests, the materials have been built around an arch. It contains four themed stones:



Shape - Grow - Involve - Enjoy





Where to start and who should be involved?

The second question is the easier. Everybody from the youngest to the oldest and from the newest to the most experienced should be involved in the process of enhancing our Freemasonry in the Royal Arch. You may however decide that the process needs a co-ordinator or a driving force within your Chapter; that is down to you and your Companions.

There are two answers to the question: “where do to start?”

- Explore: Just sit down with a cup of tea or something a little more potent and browse the site. My view is it's even better than YouTube!
- Approach in a structured way:
 - Once you have a sense for how ARCHWAY works the best place I have found to start is with **Shape**. <https://b.ugle.org.uk/membership/archway/shape> This page is key.
 - Once you've got to grips with this page click on the top left-hand box. You come to this page. <https://b.ugle.org.uk/membership/archway/shape/use-a-review-tool-to-understand-your-chapter-and-its-challenges> And you are off!

There are some apparently jargony words (e.g. “review tool”, “alternative chapter review”...) but once you take a “YES IF” approach you can see just how useful these terms are (particularly if you try to come up with a more succinct way of describing what they represent!!!).

Last few words:

ARCHWAY is for you to use as much or as little as you want. Its primary function is to give you resources to help you on your Masonic journey of self-discovery and enlightenment. It is full of useful “things” but most of all it helps us think about our Royal Arch Freemasonry, in fact all of Freemasonry. After all, the Royal Arch is the completion and pinnacle of our entry into Antient Freemasonry.

If you need any help, your Royal Arch Area Officer is your first point of call. I am always available to help him, and through him, you. I am very happy to come with your RAAO and/or your APGP to visit your Chapter or to meet in a less formal environment to help you get the most from ARCHWAY.

I wouldn't make that offer if I didn't think that ARCHWAY is one way for preparing ourselves for a future in which Freemasonry is a “go to” place for enhancing the lives of men (and women) and our communities in an increasingly demanding and stressful world.

Enjoy ARCHWAY - discuss it in your Chapters - and above all use it to enhance your Masonic experience.



The Chapter of Friendship being numbered 44

Friendship Chapter No 44 is the home of the Royal Arch Presentation Team. You are very welcome to join us at either of the 2 meetings we hold each year.

This short article marks a momentous event in which C44 was indirectly involved. In March 2023, a most unusual Masonic event took place. A team from Supreme Grand Chapter went to Denmark to consecrate the Supreme Grand Chapter of Denmark.



The Chapter of Friendship's indirect involvement came from our having exalted Danish Masons into the Royal Arch over a period of years, mainly double exaltation ceremonies, although there have been triples. We even turned the obligation into Danish to make its solemn meaning more accessible. Our exaltations, together with the move of 4 Chapters from Hertfordshire to Denmark, allowed the Danes to practice RA Freemasonry under the English constitution whilst generating the critical mass of Danish Royal Arch Masons to allow them to form their own Supreme Grand Chapter. On the 11th March 2024 the Supreme Grand Chapter of Denmark celebrated its 1st anniversary.



Thirteen Danish Companions (including the Pro 1st Grand Principal, 2nd Grand Principal, and Grand Treasurer of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Denmark) are members of Chapter 44. Every year in October Danish members of the Chapter come to the UK with their spouses to participate in our non-installation meeting, traditionally held at Audenshaw Masonic Hall.

This year, 5 Companions attended. On the Friday morning preceding the meeting, aided by Barry Leach and "guided" by Tony Freemont, the 5 went to two attractions they had pre-selected.



Friendship Chapter 44

They were: The Imperial War Museum North; and the Theatre of Dreams, Manchester United's ground at Old Trafford.

The morning was completed, as every morning should be, with a fish and chips lunch at Harry Ramsdens in Salford Quays, again by special request of the Danish Companions.

The evening meeting, as ever, had a Danish theme, and was wonderfully hosted by John Cavanagh on behalf of the Chapter. The staff at Stanley House really pushed the boat out to make this a fantastic masonic evening of international Friendship.



The 3 Principals with our Danish Companions



Not quite your normal Danish pastries



Nigel Johnson ensuring the wine with the meal was of the quality expected by the Chapter members.

And finally:

If you enjoy thespian activities and aspire to become more involved in Royal Arch Masonic Learning and Development, please come to one of our meetings as a guest of the Chapter to find out just what we do.

You never know, with enough interest we could stage a Masonic version of Hamlet, just for our Danish Companions!





Musings from the editor

There are some Freemasons whose departure from high office “leaves a gap”, “ends an era”, etc., etc., etc.

Looking at this from below, so to speak, I see EComp Harvey Basger as one such person. Through warranted promotion Harvey was installed as 2nd Provincial Grand Principal in March 2017. Through circumstance, towards the end of his time as 2ndPGP, he occupied what must have been a unique position in Freemasonry, that of 2nd Provincial Grand Principal in Charge (of the Royal Arch in the Province of East Lancashire) and in March 2022 he was promoted to Deputy Grand Superintendent, there could have been no other choice.



He steps down at this Provincial Grand Chapter meeting to be replaced by EComp Paul Bowen.

So, what has Harvey done and achieved as 2ndPGP and DGS? He was once described as one of the great Masonic managers. I am not sure what was meant by that but when I recently amended the script for Talking Heads, I added the following:

Mason 1: What's more I've just found out the brass are coming.

Mason 2: What like the Deputy Grand Superintendent?

Mason 1: Just like that. I've been trying to console myself with the hope that he might not know the words of the presentation, but a bad thought keeps crossing my mind – he knows everything and a bit like mad eyed Moody from Harry Potter he sees everything too. Mad eyed Harvey – like it!

Those lines encapsulate everything I think needs to be known about Harvey.

As DGS he did know everything that was needed about Royal Arch Freemasonry in East Lancashire. He has the memory of an elephant. I can't think how many times I was the subject of an email (or copied into a similar one sent to another) which asked why X or Y hadn't been done yet or was told this or that needed initiating.

He can be fierce at times, as befits a past Provincial DC. I recently received an email that started, *I can't believe we are having such a bizarre conversation....* But he can always take a joke at his expense (and give one back at yours).

This is beginning to sound like a eulogy and of course it isn't, far from it. I am sure Harvey will be there for advice when needed, and will proffer it if asked, and maybe even initiate the dialogue.

I thought it might be interesting to share with you the script that Harvey put together to finish the Talking Heads presentation. It encompasses the reasons why he believes that every Master Mason should join the Royal Arch





Masonry – Its Origins and Raising to Exaltation:

Looking back to when Masonry was established, in 1717, it was made up of just two degrees, the Initiation and the Passing ceremonies. Yes, originally, Masons were content with only the two degrees, at a time when Masons' Lodges met less frequently and would generally convene in varying locations and at different times.

At the inception of Masonry, membership of Masonic Lodges consisted of working craftsmen, wood carvers, stonemasons and the like. Within a short period of time, popularity in the Order started to gain momentum and the growth in membership saw the demographic broaden to include more professionally trained people such as bankers, lawyers, accountants, architects etc.

With the growth in popularity, Masonry became more regularised, Lodges began to meet more frequently, at set dates and times and in established regular locations, as it does today.

It was soon deemed necessary to increase the content of the meetings, to provide the brethren with more to occupy themselves and so **two** additional ceremonies were written: notably the Raising ceremony and the ceremony of Exaltation and what is evident, is that the ritual for both, were integrated and were written by the same author at the same time. That came about as follows.

In and around 1720, the 3rd Grand Master Dr Desaguliers, came across a passage in a 4th century book which told of the discovery of a cave beneath the ruins of King Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem. Dr Desaguliers saw how this could form the basis of the story for a new degree in Masonry, telling of the discovery of some long-lost secrets.

But in order to rediscover something, it had to have been lost in the first place.

And so therefore, Dr Desaguliers set about creating the story of how, by the untimely death of our Master HA, the secrets of a Master Mason were lost and that certain substituted secrets were to be used until time or circumstance should restore the genuine. This is what we now know and understand to be the "Hiram legend", which is in essence the 3rd Degree ceremony, the Raising.

Time and circumstance did restore the genuine in the form of the Exaltation ceremony, in which it is told that the secrets were rediscovered.

So historically the Third Degree and the Royal Arch were created at the same time by the same author. One describing the loss of the secrets (the Raising) and the other, just how those secrets were rediscovered, within the cavern below the ruins of King Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem (the Exaltation).





There you have it my dear Brother, these two additional ceremonies are inextricably linked and totally relate and align to each other.

By being Initiated, Passed and Raised you are only three quarters of the way through your Masonic journey. At that stage the secrets of a Master Mason are lost and that clearly is not where the story ends.

By taking that forth and most important step, the secrets are discovered, all is revealed and by doing so you are completing the story and your Masonic journey.

Becoming a Companion of the Royal Arch is a rich, colourful and beautiful experience, please I urge you, to experience it for yourself.

"One Journey, One Organisation"





Royal Arch Upcoming and Future Events

ROYAL ARCH EVENTS 2024		
21 March (Thurs)	Provincial Grand Chapter of East Lancashire	Blackburn
28 March (Thurs)	Palatine Chapter: Visit of the Third Grand Principal.	Warrington Masonic Hall
9 April (Tues)	Craft 250th. Prudence Lodge 219.	Todmorden Masonic Hall
24 April (Weds)	Dinner in London for RA Cabinet (evening)	London
25 April (Thurs)	Supreme Grand Chapter Investiture meeting (11.15am)	Great Queen Street
29 April (Mon)	Archway / RAOs / LRAR / Mentors meeting. MEGS in attendance.	Rochdale
9 May (Thurs)	3747 Chapter - half-yearly	Manchester Hall
16 May (Thurs)	Provincial Grand Chapter of Cumberland and Westmorland	Carlisle
20 May (Mon)	Joint Convocation - MEGS in attendance.	Bury
21 May (Tues)	Grand Officers' Reception (with ladies)	Manchester Hall
8 June (Sat)	Royal Arch Banquet	Bridge Street
10 June (Mon)	RA Cabinet. 12.30pm lunch, 1.00pm start	Ash Day Lea
20 August (Tues)	Grand Officers' Briefing, evening.	Salford
21 August (Weds)	Grand Officers' Briefing, lunchtime	Ash Day Lea
16 Sept (Mon)	Prestonian Lecture, Silent Temple Lodge.	Manchester Hall
1 Oct (Tues)	Union Chapter Bicentenary.	Ashton
10 Oct (Thurs)	3747 Chapter - installation	Manchester Hall
13 Nov (Weds)	Supreme Grand Chapter	London
16 Nov (Sat)	Provincial Grand Chapter - Yorkshire West Riding	Bradford
19 Nov (Tues)	Provincial Grand Lodge	Blackburn
28 Nov (Thurs)	Royal Arch Cabinet Mess	Manchester Hall
30 Nov (Sat)	Tie and Tinsel Dinner (TBC) (with ladies).	Holiday Inn, Bolton
2 Dec (Mon)	8408 Chapter (half yearly)	TBC
8 Dec (Sun)	Provincial Carol Service	St Ann's Church, Manchester

There are some real highlights here. Picking out two:

- Palatine Chapter with the Third Grand Principal attending at the end of April
- Union Chapter's bicentenary at Ashton in October

And although not a Royal Arch event per se, as the Royal Arch is the completion of Antient Freemasonry, how about attending the Prestonian Lecture at Silent Temple Lodge on the 16th September.



I make no excuse for using this again. It's such fun.



“Who needs Indiana Jones, the truth is more exciting than fiction. The true secrets are there to be discovered. Are you Mason enough to unravel the mysteries and uncover what awaits? Or are you from a menial tribe!?”

Coming to Masonic Halls near you from now”

OVER 400 YEARS LATER - WHAT SECRETS AWAIT REDISCOVERY BENEATH THE RUINED CITY?

DISTANT TRAVEL

ANCIENT MYSTERIES

HIDDEN DANGERS

UNDERGROUND ADVENTURE



Published by Spencer & Co.

