

## Provincial Grand Mentor

### Report for Provincial Grand Lodge – November 2024

It is my pleasure to present my first report as Provincial Grand Mentor. Over the past year, the Mentoring Team has focused on several key initiatives aimed at strengthening both individual Lodges and the Province as a whole.

#### **Building on Progress:**

Our work as a Mentoring Team has been driven by a commitment to ensure that mentoring is fully embedded in every Lodge. The momentum we've gained across the Province has been encouraging, with mentoring being a key part of our Lodge Meetings and Masonic engagement.

#### **Members' Pathway and Solomon:**

A major area of focus has been the continuing promotion and integration of the **Members' Pathway** and the use of **Solomon** within our Lodges. These are ever-evolving tools that are vital for supporting the development of every Brother, and we are actively encouraging their use.

The **Members' Pathway** provides a structured approach to welcoming, engaging, and retaining members. We are emphasising the mentoring aspect of the Pathway, ensuring that Lodge Mentors:

- Support new Members by understanding their individual needs and goals.
- Encourage regular attendance and participation in Meetings and social events.
- Foster engagement in visiting other Lodges to expand Masonic experience.
- Ensure that Meetings are enjoyable and rewarding for all Members.

We continue to push the use of **Solomon**, the online learning platform, as an invaluable resource for personal growth. We are working hard to make access to Solomon as straightforward as possible, encouraging all members, both new and long-standing, to register and utilise its educational materials. The role of learning in enhancing Meeting enjoyment and engagement has been evident, with more Members reporting an increase in their sense of fulfilment through the Craft.

#### **East Lancashire Levels Club (ELLC):**

Another exciting development has been the formation and creation of the **East Lancashire Levels Club (ELLC)**. The ELLC will look to provide newer members with opportunities to connect, share experiences, and further their Masonic knowledge. The ELLC will play an important role in engaging and retaining our newer Brethren, ensuring they feel part of a welcoming and supportive community from the outset. Mentors will be championing the ELLC throughout the Province.

**Retention and Engagement:**

Our focus also remains firmly on retention, both of new and existing Members. The figures show that the Mentoring Team's efforts are having a positive impact. Through personal development and a focus on engagement, we are creating a more vibrant and enjoyable Masonic experience for all. It is clear that learning, growth, and participation are key to maintaining long-term interest and involvement.

**Communication and Collaboration:**

we have established clear and efficient communication channels within the Mentoring Team, including regular meetings, both in person and via Zoom, and a dedicated WhatsApp group for the quick sharing of information. This has enabled us to stay connected and responsive to the needs of our Lodges and Members, ensuring that Mentoring continues to be a proactive force across the Province.

The Mentoring Team is also working closely with the Membership Team to help with the transition of Brethren from Candidate to Initiate and beyond.

**Looking Ahead:**

As we move forward, the Mentoring Team will continue to promote the use of the Members' Pathway and Solomon, ensuring these tools are widely adopted and used to their full potential. We will also maintain our focus on mentoring at every level, with the aim of retaining and engaging Members, fostering a deeper sense of belonging and purpose within our Lodges.

I would like to thank all of our Area Mentors for their hard work and dedication. Together, we are making significant strides in enhancing the Masonic journey for our Brethren, and I am confident that we will continue to strengthen our Province in the months and years ahead.

Rob Ashton  
Provincial Grand Mentor