

The CHAPTER

Scribe

The Provincial Chapter Newsletter • Autumn 2005 Issue 9

Issued by the Masonic Province of Yorkshire, North and East Ridings

Points from the Grand Superintendent's address to Provincial Grand Chapter

The reason for the change of venue to York Racecourse was because of very large rental and meal cost increases at York University. Rental costs at the Racecourse are higher than previously enjoyed at the University though meal costs were lower.

He was grateful for the ready agreement of the Inspector-General of the Ancient and Accepted Rite to change the date of his Divisional meeting to October 15th when it was discovered that September 10th was the only available date this year.

Our colleagues in the Mark Master Masons degree had provided tremendous support and the benefit of their experience at the Racecourse in planning and executing the meeting.

The Grand Superintendent felt it was time to review the conduct of after proceedings to reduce the numbers of toasts and responses and wine takings to enable the flow of Fellowship to flourish during the meal. He also felt it

was unnecessary to furnish four and five course meals late in the evening and commended the practice of St Cuthbert's Chapter 630 at Howden for taking the meal before the meeting and coffee plus a limited number of Toasts afterwards. He pointed out that it was not a Supreme Grand Chapter recommendation that a large number of formal toasts are to be given at every meeting.

He welcomed the M.E. Second Grand Principal, Companion Iain Ross Bryce to the meeting commenting that it was fitting that at the end of his distinguished period of service to Supreme Grand Chapter he should choose to attend Provincial Grand Chapter in his own Province. At the luncheon the M.E. Grand Superintendent made a presentation of a suitably inscribed tankard to Companion Bryce together with a selection of North Yorkshire brewed beers.

Accompanying Companion Bryce as Director of Ceremonies was Companion George Pison Francis who

will replace Companion Bryce as M.E. Second Grand Principal.

Chapters are imposing unnecessary burdens upon themselves by producing over long minutes. It is the wish of Supreme Grand Chapter that minutes should be severely pruned to be simply bare statements of fact. SGC also desire that Chapters cease the practice of written ballots for Principals and Treasurers in circumstances where only one nomination is received. In such cases the MEZ can simply declare the nominee elected having first asked if there are any other nominations.

The Grand Superintendent asked for a final push by all Chapters in support of the Provincial Grand Master's Festival for RMTGB. He said that a few Chapters had already made impressive contributions of £3000+ whilst others are still languishing in the low double figures.

Letter

One of many of the letters received with regard to the Provincial Meeting

"I should like to take the opportunity of thanking yourself and your colleagues for the warmth of the reception on Saturday last. As a new member of Chapter having spent 25 years in Freemasonry before taking the plunge I really felt that people were going

out of their way to be welcoming.

I should also like to congratulate yourself and the 'top team' for the way the ceremony was performed. I have only attended one Chapter ceremony before attending the racecourse and it obviously is quite new to me. It was interesting to meet many Masonic friends who belong to other orders and it is slightly reassuring to know so many others are involved."

OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to Companion David Alderson of Alcuin Chapter 6300 who has been appointed as Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies of the Order of Allied Masonic Degrees. He understands that the last two official duties of his predecessor took him to the West Indies and Honolulu!

It is good to see that many Chapters have been holding demonstrations of the various optional variations now permitted by Supreme Grand Chapter consequent upon the Strategic Working Party Report. This enables the membership to make up their minds upon the selection of options their Chapter will employ.

David Burnett, Charity Steward of Burlington Chapter 3975 at Bridlington, will again be collecting games and toys for distribution to children in local Hospitals at Christmas according to the excellent Chapter Newsletter.

Marwood Chapter's Banner will be dedicated on November 7th in the presence of members of the Marwood family. George Marwood was the first active Grand Superintendent of the Province from 1858-1866.

Chris Connop, Media Manager to United Grand Lodge, gave an interesting talk to Roseberry Chapter of Installed Principals 8571 on October 3rd.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENT'S VISITS

The ME The Grand Superintendent proposes to attend the following Chapters.

23rd September 2005

Alcuin Chapter No.6300

17th October 2005

St Saviour Installed Principals Chapter No 8433

7th November 2005

Marwood Chapter No.602

17th November 2005

Constitutional Chapter No.294

23rd March 2006

Burlington Chapter No.3975

11th April 2006

Royal Chapter No.643

14th April 2006

Ferrum Chapter No.1848

25th May 2006

Falcon Chapter No.1416

1st September 2006

Ashbrooke Chapter No. 9619

19th September 2006

Handside Chapter No.1618

The Tenth Provincial Grand Chapter Dinner

This Annual Dinner for all Provincial Officers, Present and Past, together with their Ladies, will once again be held at the New Dante Suite, York Racecourse.

So make a note in your diary NOW!

Saturday 4th March 2006

