



Week 22, 17th August 2020

Brethren, Week 22. On a sombre note we remember the effective ending of the Second World War with the marking of the 75th Anniversary of VJ day on the 15th August.

Some interesting facts on the number 22 - "catch-22" comes from the 1961 novel of the same name by author Joseph Heller. There are 22 letters in the Hebrew Alphabet and during creation God created 22 things. Gliese 22 is a staggering 22 light years away from our planet, it is a red dwarf star and has a surface temperature of 5,030°F, nearly as hot as my back garden felt last week.

But back to reality – are you taking advantage of the “eat out to help out” scheme with your 50% discount? Clearly our border restrictions are changing very rapidly, and so foreign travel in the near term is still quite risky. But with some good news, rugby returns to our screens!

Keep strong, keep positive and stay safe

The Ed

EComp John Phenix, MEGS



Click here to LISTEN



Only TWO sessions remain!
18th August for Stourbridge lodges
20th August for Kidderminster lodges

Email invitations are being sent just in advance of each. If you haven't received yours or want to join one of these sessions, please contact the Provincial Office immediately.

Alms Collections

It would be helpful if Secretaries added another labour to the summons 'To Collect Alms' thereby alerting the brethren that there will be a Charity Collection at the end of the Lodge/ Chapter Meeting.

Clearly with short Meetings or Proclamations you would not want the opportunity of a Charity Collection to be missed.

Please remember to like and share our posts, and we will do the same with yours! #Freemasons #Sharethelove
www.worcspgl.org

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The Provincial King of the Keyboard.....

David Lane – Worcestershire’s Provincial Grand Organist – agrees that attending a meeting without music is like having fish and chips without salt and vinegar.

The first Grand Organist, Samuel Wesley, was appointed in 1717 and he was also the organist at Hereford Cathedral. So David is following a Grand tradition. By the age of 14, David was the very young organist at a Derbyshire church! He went on to the Birmingham School of Music and took his PGC to become a music teacher at the Birmingham Conservatoire and has been a freelance teacher ever since. As you might imagine, David is in demand. He has been the regular organist at St Agatha’s Church in Sparkbrook for 26 years and other Parish Churches; the Birmingham crematoria, and occasionally at St Martins in Birmingham’s Bullring. But, he adds: “While I’ve played in several Cathedrals, I’ve never played in Grand Lodge – and it’s something I’d dearly love to do!” (Ed – me too!).

David was initiated into Arter Lodge no. 2654. However, despite his musical talent he was not immediately called on to fulfil the role of Arter’s Lodge organist as one was already in situ – but he did play at other Lodges both in Worcestershire and Warwickshire; and he still does. And he is now Arter’s Organist!

However most of us will know David for his playing at Provincial functions. He was appointed Provincial Grand Organist in 2012, a task he jumped at and hugely enjoys. “I love playing at Provincial functions, not least the annual service at Worcester Cathedral (where Elgar once played) and the Carol Service at Pershore Abbey”

“It is true that organ music has been declining – fewer people master the instrument and there are Lodges that struggle to find an organist for their meetings, notwithstanding the current shut down”. But David isn’t pessimistic. “This doesn’t mean that there aren’t people who have musical talent and want to express it - and can make the transition to the organ. “We as organists need new blood and we must encourage young people, by say acting as a deputy to an organist who will mentor and encourage them.”

And his message for anyone who fancies a try at the organ? “Ask any organist for advice. We are a very approachable bunch and I don’t know an organist not keen to encourage others. Anyone interested is also welcome to ask me – I love talking about my favourite instrument and how to play it!”

Look out for any talk that David gives about Masonic organ music – it is an entertaining evening by the undoubted Provincial Grand ‘Master of the Organ’!

(Article with thanks from Ian Crowder)

Mayflower continues her journey...

Following on from the original Mayflower Covers, issued on the 2nd July at £10 (Ed note; there are a few left in stock), the producers have gone one stage further, with production of TWO new limited editions designs (a run of 50 only) at a special price of £25 :

- Signed by the 5 Rulers
- Signed by the 3 Designers who designed Stamps, Covers and Cancels for IM IOManx



Any brother requiring further details please feel free to email John Chapman at chapdjan@gmail.com, or ring 07850 239923



Candidates Welcome Address....

The Welcome Address to the Candidate is very special - don't forget that it can be given in the Lodge room at the end of his initiation to welcome him into your lodge and give him the opportunity to say a few words in response. Thereby keeping this important part of the initiation maintained.



Here are the lucky winners who matched the lottery ball no 41 in the August Draw

T R Barnes	Frankley Beeches No. 5846
A J King	Avon Lodge No. 3569
S N Middleditch	St Nicholas Lodge No. 4846
N R Plotnek	Lodge of Hospitality No. 8325

We may be locked down but that does not mean you cannot be a winner. Raising money for a good cause has been our aim since the Provincial lottery started. So download an entry form from the Provincial website, and who knows, you too could be a lock-down lottery winner!

This week's podcast is courtesy of
The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent
E Comp **John Phenix**

John, a Freemason for over 32 years has been the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent for the Royal Arch Province of Worcestershire since April 2019.

Hear how he remembers his installation into that role, and the time and challenges he has faced since then.



Solomon
What's the origin
for the word
'Lodge'?

Want to know the answer?
Check out Solomon to find out !



Brother Mentor - Let's Get Ready.

It is especially important as we face the Autumn that we practice the Mentor's task to ensure that our new Brethren are committed and guided into the aims and ideals of Freemasonry - that is why your lodge has appointed you as a lodge Mentor.

If you need any help in preparing for the season ahead please contact me. Keep safe.

Chris Overall, Prov G Mentor Email: Mentor@worcestershirepl.org.uk