



A Message from our District Grand Prefect

I am delighted to invite you to read the second publication of the Kent Gridiron. I hope it helps to remind you of some of the wonderful highlights we have shared together over the last six months in our District.

Enjoy



A new Banner for West Kent Council 66

Wednesday 12th June 2024 will be recorded in the history of the West Kent Council 66 and be forever remembered by the brethren of the Council, for this was the day that their Council banner was dedicated and unfurled for all to see.

The Worshipful Master of the Council W. Bro. Raymond Johnson welcomed the District Grand Prefect. R. W. Bro. Brian Ward on behalf of the brethren of the West Kent Council and was duly offered the gavel which he readily accepted. The District Grand Prefect firstly thanked the brethren of the Council for their warm welcome before he introduced the full team of Active District Officers who had accompanied him on this auspicious occasion.

The ceremony of dedicating the Banner then commenced under the direction of the District Grand Director of Ceremonies W. Bro. Jody Townsend who ensured that the ceremony ran like clockwork. A splendid oration was given by the District Grand Chaplain W. Bro. Howard Pashley before the Banner was dedicated by the District Grand Prefect. The banner was then delivered back into the hands of the Worshipful Master who accepted it with thanks on behalf of the brethren of the Council.



Members of the West Kent Council Proudly Displaying their new Banner



The Worshipful Master of the West Kent Council W. Bro Raymond Johnson with the District Grand Prefect R. W. Bro. Brian Ward



A Very Warm Welcome to our Newest Members of the District



On the 29th June 2024 Bro. Adrain Grant was introduced, admitted and received as a brother of St. Lawrence the Martyr into the Hartley Council 74. Seen below with Worship Master W. Bro. Phil Clare and the District Grand Prefect R.W. Bro Brian Ward and the Deputy District Grand Prefect W. Bro. Geoff Whale



On the 7th June 2024 Bro. Karl Bowman was introduced, admitted and received as a brother of St. Lawrence the Martyr into the Canterbury Council 65. Seen below with the Worshipful Master W. Bro. Alan Wilson-Stanley and the District Grand Prefect R.W. Bro. Brian Ward



On the 29th August 2024 Bro. Peter Walkden was introduced, admitted and received as a brother of St. Lawrence the Martyr by the Worshipful Master of the Ashford Council 99 W. Bro Roy Skelton. Peter is shown below being congratulated by the District Grand Prefect R. W. Bro. Brian Ward



On the 31st August 2024 W. Bro. Phil Clare, the Worshipful Master of the Hartley Council 74 introduced, admitted and received Bro. Didier Hannaert as a brother of St. Lawrence the Martyr Bro. Didier is seen below with the Worship Master W. Bro. Phil Clare.





A Very Warm Welcome to our Newest Members of the District



On the 21st February 2024 W. Bro Jody Townsend standing for the Worshipful Master of the West Kent Council 66 introduced, admitted and received Bro. Neil Sceeny as a brother of St. Lawrence the Martyr. Bro Philip was welcomed into the order by the District Grand Prefect R.W. Bro. Brian Ward



On the 17th October 2024 W. Bro Jody Townsend standing for the Worshipful Master of the West Kent Council 66 introduced, admitted and received Bro Philip Gurney as a brother of St. Lawrence the Martyr. Bro Philip was welcomed into the order by the District Grand Prefect R.W. Bro. Brian Ward

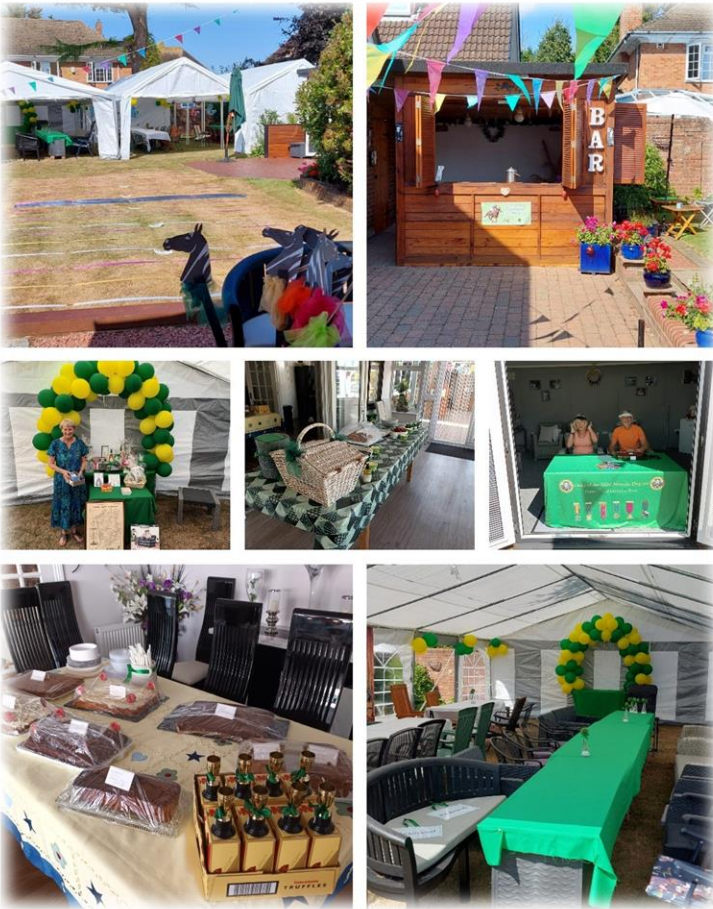


Bros Neil Sceeny and Philip Gurney are the two newest members for the West Kent Council 66. Pictured with their newly installed Master W.Bro. Martin White-Peart and the District Grand Director of Ceremonies W. Bro. Jody Townsend who introduced, admitted and received both of them into the Allied Masonic Degrees.



A Sunny Afternoon in Folkestone for the Annual Race Afternoon

All prepared and ready to go



And we're off



On Saturday 17th August the District Grand Prefect R. W. Bro. Brian Ward and his wife Toni welcomed 105 guests to their home in sunny Folkestone where they hosted an afternoon at the races. During the afternoon 7 races were run, each race being sponsored by one of the seven Councils in the District. The day itself was sponsored by the Past Masters Lodge of the district, "The Roy Albert John William Council". At the end of the fourth race a substantial ploughman's lunch, prepared by Toni was served to all of the race goers followed by a vast selection of homemade cakes, also baked and decorated by Toni.

At the end of the seventh race all of the day's winners were presented with a certificate, a medal, a small winners cup, chocolates and an Allied pen.

When all of the monies from the raffle, the tote and proceeds from the ticket price had been counted up the District Grand Prefect was delighted to announce that the event had raised the amazing total of

£2,080

The following day Toni was absolutely delighted to receive a lovely Bouquet of flowers from members of the Allied Executive with grateful thanks to her for all of her hard work and lovely food. (especially the cakes)



The Roy Albert John Williams Council

The Roy Albert John Williams Council 279 was consecrated on the 30th September 2016 as a Past Masters Council. The prime aim of the council is to undertake the two longer ceremonies of the order, namely the Grand High Priests and the Red Cross of Babylon. The Council meets twice a year at the Franklin Road Masonic Centre in Gillingham and is open to any Past Master wishing to join. Please contact Lew Finnis for details.



The latest meeting of the R.A.J.W. Council on the 22nd July saw Bros. Doll, Lawlor, Laker, Bowman, Norcott, Baker and Neve admitted, Anointed, Consecrated and Set apart to the office of Grand High Priest.



The principal officers for the Ceremony of the Grand High Priests with the candidates



The brethren of the Roy Albert John Williams along with their guests and candidates

The Annual General Meeting of the Allied Masonic Degrees

On the 22nd October the Most Worshipful Grand Master Thomas Firth Jackson presided over the annual general meeting for the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees at Grand Lodge. The meeting was attended by many distinguished brethren from all corners of the globe. Amongst those distinguished brethren were twelve brethren from the District of Kent, attending to either receive Grand Honours or just to support those brethren receiving preferment. We offer our hearty congratulations to the following brethren who received Grand Honours. Seen pictured on the right with the District Grand Prefect R. W. Bro. Brian Ward and his Deputy District Grand Prefect W. Bro. Geoff Whale.



W. Bro. Roy Skelton
W. Bro. Derek Wilkins
W. Bro. Jody Townsend
W. Bro. Howard Pashley

G.I.G.
P.G.J.D.
P.G.J.D.
A.G. Chap

First Appointment
Promotion
Promotion
Reappointment



The Contingent from Kent all resplendent in their regalia supporting those brethren receiving preferment



Finally, a wonderful lunch to celebrate a memorable day for those brethren from Kent who attended Grand Lodge

On Tramp



These informal pictures capture the many travels made around the country by Messrs Ward, Wilkins, Whale and occasionally Woolcott visiting other Allied districts. It would be delightful to have other brethren join us on these travels preferably with a surname that doesn't start with a "W"

These are some of the formal pictures taken of Messrs Ward, Wilkins, Whale and Woolcott when they represent the District of Kent on their travels around the country.



The Paddock Wood Annual Sunday Lunch

On Sunday 13th October the Paddock Wood Council 88 held their annual family Sunday lunch at the Masonic Centre at Wrotham jointly organised by W. Bro. Nigel Cash and Bro. Peter Hayler. A total 31 guests enjoyed a traditional Sunday lunch together which consisted of a very tasty prawn cocktail to start, followed by a magnificent carvery with a section of Beef, Gammon, Turkey or Pork to choose from all accompanied by a huge selection of vegetables. This was rounded off with a delicious Vanilla Pannacotta and Strawberries. The raffle was organised by Bro. Peter Hayler and W. Bro David Barden raised a magnificent sum of £150.



Members of the Exec and Active officers dine together at the D.G.P.'s Home

On Wednesday 4th December members of the Allied Exec, W. Bros Barden, Whale and Wilkins met with the D.G.P. at his home in Folkestone to review the years objectives and make new plans for 2025. Following the meeting many of the active District officers for the year joined members of the Exec for drinks followed by a lovely lunch prepared by the D.G.P.'s wife Toni. This consisted of a homemade salmon mousse dressed with a lime and coriander avocado topping; followed by roast loin of pork with a spicy herb crumb and a vast selection of seasonal vegetables. A trio of homemade desserts then followed consisting of tiramisu, sherry trifle, and lemon posset. A selection of cheese and biscuits with homemade pickle completed the meal.



Members of the Exec and District Officers enjoying lunch

Spot light on W. Bro. David Cantlon a Member of Invicta Council 54



W. Bro David Cantlon is widely known throughout our District and is involved in many Masonic orders. Currently David holds the active office off District Grand Senior Deacon in the Allied Masonic Degrees within the District of Kent. However, when David is not out on Masonic business, he devotes a great deal of his time to helping young adults develop their leadership potential by building their confidence and helping them learn new skills. This



is all done within the framework of a

National Youth Organisation known as the Army Cadet Force (A.C.F.) but more generally referred to as the Army Cadets.

The A.C.F. is a Charitable Trust which also receives sponsorship from the Ministry of Defence but is not part of the British Army. The organisation can trace its beginnings back to 1859 when it was formed to counter an invasion threat by the French. It now boasts over 38,000 members nationally with 1,600 detachments supported by just over 8,000 volunteer instructors. The motto of this youth organisation is ***"To inspire to Achieve"***. For further information on this organisation please follow this [LINK](#).

David was inspired to join the organisation 6 years ago as an instructor, primarily to assist and help young people and give something back to his community. He is now the

Detachment Commander and holds the rank of Sergeant Instructor with three adult instructors under his command. During his time as an instructor, he has found that whilst having enormous fun and many adventures, he was able to develop his own skill set whilst constantly challenging himself to achieve more. However, and above all, his greatest reward is to watch the confidence levels grow in young cadets as they work within teams developing new skills to achieve shared goals and ultimately become self-sufficient and self-reliant members of the community with a sense of pride in what they are doing.

