



Sussex Freemasons - West Group
The West Wing
(Beginn, Chichester, Clapham, Littlehampton,
Midhurst, Pulborough, Steyning and Worthing)

The West Wing Learning and Development Team

'The West Wing'



Masons Notebook

April, '26

Issue 20

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Introduction.

An opportunity to make your own collection of 'Masonic Gems' that will enhance your knowledge of the ritual and its meaning.

Every month you will receive some 'Masonic Gems' that will build into an amazing notebook that will last a lifetime.

The 'Gems' are sourced from a variety of authors that will give you, the learner, a balanced outlook on Masonic ritual and symbolism.

Start your collection and your journey today.

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Lesson 8

The Charge After Initiation

Lesson Aim

Explain the Charge After Initiation

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson the student will be able to:

- Explain the origins of Freemasonry.
- Analyse and understand the meaning of the Charge after Initiation.
- Follow the writings of Rev. Neville Barker Cryer, "What do you know about the ritual?"

Commentary on the Charge after Initiation.



In order for us to understand the Charge after Initiation I feel it is important to know a little of our Masonic origins. Let us therefore have a brief look at craft "Guilds"

A guild is "an association of craftsmen or merchants formed for mutual aid and protection and the furtherance of their

professional interests". (Britanica.com)

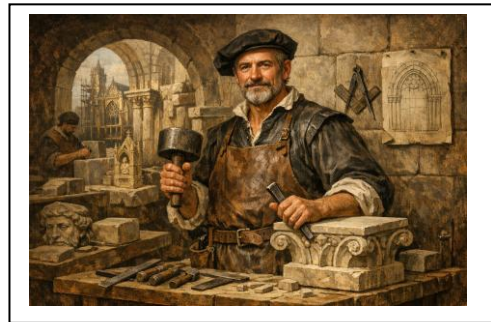
Guilds were at their height in Europe between the 11th and 16th centuries. Of the two types of Guilds, Merchant and Craft, we will be looking more specifically at the Craft Guilds. The Craft Guilds would consist of Master Craftsmen in a town or city coming together to regulate the standard of work, pay and conditions for that industry. Each industry would have their own Guild of artisans and craftsmen. For example, Guilds of weavers, dyers and fullers in the wool trade, and masons and architects in the building trade. Other Guilds included; blacksmiths, butchers, bakers etc. The Guilds became very influential in local government and in the local economy. They were also very heavily into helping their members, improving their community and philanthropy.

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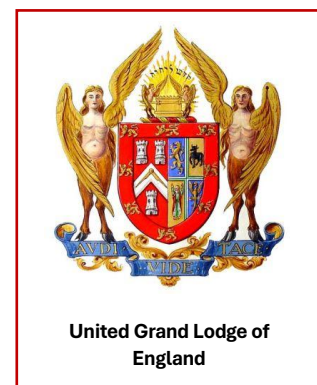
A Master Craftsman would have apprentices who would learn the secrets of their trade. The apprentices would be in early adolescence, about 14 years of age, and would complete an apprenticeship of between five and nine years. They received no pay but were given food and lodgings. In fact some families paid the Master Craftsman for their son to serve an apprenticeship with them.

Maintaining a good reputation as a man as well as a Master Craftsman meant there was work. Living with the Master Craftsman the apprentice was taught to respect the Master's wife, his daughter and his maid. He would be dressed appropriately at the meal table and be prompt. He would treat all the Master's clients courteously for that would bring in the work. If he did not keep to this professional and personal standard he was sent back to his own family, unqualified.

After completing their apprenticeship the qualified craftsman would then become a journeyman, travelling from job to job, Master to Master, following the work and honing his skills. To become a Master himself he must produce a "masterpiece" which would be judged by established Masters in the Guild. If successful he could then open up a workshop of his own with his own apprentices working to the high standard set by the Guild not only in the work produced but also as a citizen, ensuring that they did not bring the Guild into disrepute. The Guilds held their own professional courts to investigate complaints in order to maintain their high standing in the community.



It is at the heyday of the Guilds (or in London the Livery Companies) that Freemasonry has been alleged to originate. If we look at the Coat of Arms of the United Grand Lodge of England you will see, on the left as you look at it, three castles a chevron and compasses. This was also that of the "Moderns" and the Coat of Arms of



the Worshipful Company of Masons registered with the College of Arms in 1472, April, '26

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but with a sable (black) field and not gule (red) field as in that of the UGLE Coat of Arms, which itself was registered in 1919.

At the time the Guilds were developing in Europe, Europe was going through religious turmoil. It was a time of pilgrimages and the Crusades of the Middle Ages. The English monarchs from Henry VIII to William III were changing between Catholicism and Protestantism. A period known as the Reformation which began in 1517 and culminating in the Act of Settlement in 1701 stating that the Monarch had to be a Protestant. England during this period was very religious to the point that employers, members of the Guild's, insisted their employees attended church.

The reputation of the Guilds (or in London the Livery Companies) became such that honourable and established Freemen of the town or city wanted to be associated with them and so these honourable men were accepted as social or 'speculative' members, hence the phrase "Free and Accepted or Speculative".

Now let us compare the Charge after initiation with what we have learned from the above information.

Ritual

Bro. AB, as you have passed through the ceremony of your initiation, let me congratulate you on being admitted a member of our antient and honourable institution. Ancient no doubt it is having subsisted from time immemorial, and honourable it must be acknowledged to be, as by a natural tendency it conduces those so who are obedient to its precepts. Indeed, no institution can boast a more solid foundation than that on which Freemasonry rests - the practice of every moral and social virtue. And to so high an eminence has its credit been advanced that in every age monarchs themselves have been promotors of the art, have not thought it derogatory to their dignity to exchange the sceptre for the trowel, have patronised our mysteries and joined in our assemblies.



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The fact that there is a 'ceremony' of admittance indicates that you are entering something which is quite special and not a job. It is special because the people in the Institution make it so. They have a code of moral conduct which they put into practice that makes them deserving of respect - being 'honourable'. "Words have to become deeds" (Rev. Neville Barker Cryer: What do you know about Ritual?) The Rev. Neville Barker Cryer argues that 'Antient' refers to the fact that it is old and its precepts can be traced back to the Guilds.

The word 'immemorial' means "originating in the distant past" again, he argues, referring back to the Guilds and not to the Egyptians or the Greeks. In the original make up of a Freemasons Lodge the newest member would be given an apron and trowel and act as the Inner Guard. He would prick the chest of the



Initiate with the trowel to test one of the five senses on the Initiate's entrance to the Lodge. The Initiate would then become the newest member and take on that role. We now use a poniard in place of the trowel. Monarchs have "exchanged the sceptre for the trowel" referring to the likes of Edward VII (as Prince of Wales) and George IV (as the Prince of Wales and Prince Regent) taking the

humblest of positions, the Inner Guard, as the newest Lodge member.

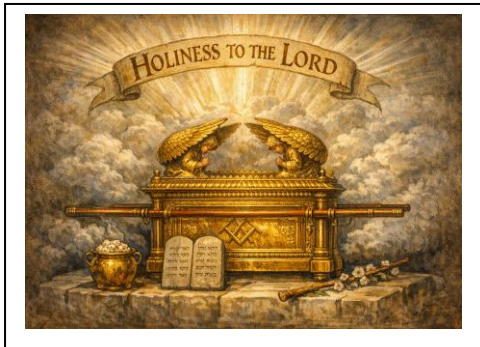
Ritual

As a Freemason, let me recommend to your most serious contemplation the VSL, charging you to consider it as the unerring standard of truth and justice and to regulate your actions by the divine precepts it contains. Therein you will be taught the important duties you owe to God, to your neighbour and to yourself. To God, by never mentioning his name but with that awe and reverence which are due from the creature to his Creator, by imploring His aid in all your lawful undertakings, and by looking up to Him in every emergency for comfort and support.

It is in the VSL, which in English Lodges must be the whole Bible and must be open in order to make the Lodge 'regular', that we find the precepts that

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"regulate our actions". Books of other faiths may lay upon or alongside the Bible in English Lodges if it is requested of the candidate but not replace it. It signifies the unity of faiths. The Bible is not just a gesture to religion it is the "unerring guide" to our actions and so it must be present and open to enable it to be read by the Master when he "employs and instructs the Brethren in Freemasonry".



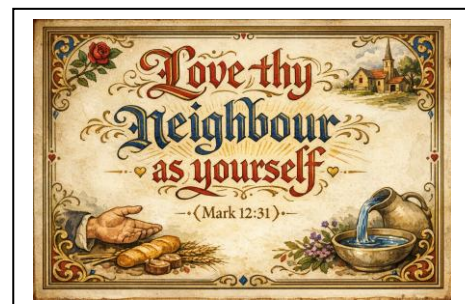
In the ceremony of Initiation you are asked "In all cases of difficulty and danger in whom do you place your trust?" A question that must be answered truthfully to fulfil a requirement of entry into our Institution. Above the Ark of the Covenant on the Coat of Arms of United Grand Lodge of England is written in Hebrew "Holiness to the Lord" and on the Coat

of Arms for the Worshipful Company of Masons is written the motto "God is our guide"

Ritual

To your neighbour , by acting with him on the square, by rendering him every kind office which justice or mercy may require, by relieving his necessities and soothing his afflictions, and by doing unto him as in similar cases you would wish he would do to you.

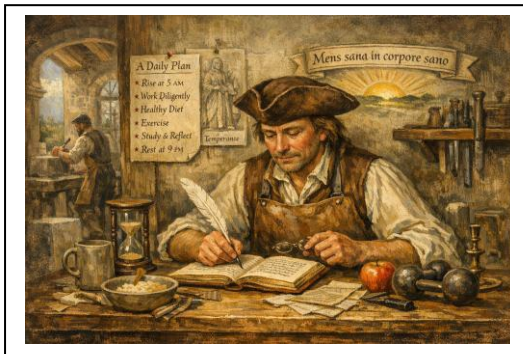
By "acting with him on the square" that is to say by acting with reverence and high morals both practically and emotionally, as well as financially to help your fellow man. Bible quote: "Love your neighbour as yourself" (Mark 12:31)



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Ritual

And to yourself, by such a prudent and well-regulated course of discipline as may best conduce to the preservation of your corporeal and mental faculties in their fullest energy, thereby enabling you to exert those talents wherewith God has blessed you, as well to His glory as the welfare of your fellow creatures.



To set yourself "a course of discipline", a daily routine, which looks after your mental as well as physical health. At the time of the Guilds if you were not at your best mentally and physically you were not able to do the work that will enable you to provide for your family or be in a position to help others. There are not many

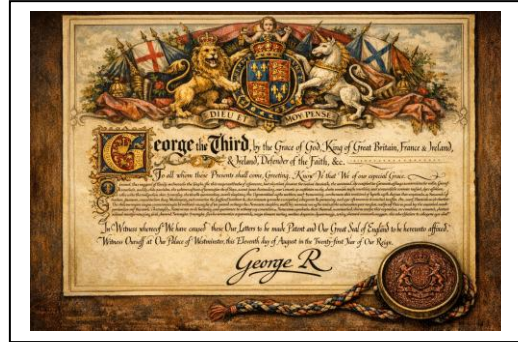
Institutions that encourage the use of memory to express knowledge. A great benefit to mental wellbeing.

Ritual

As a citizen of the world, I am to enjoin you to be exemplary in the discharge of your civil duties, by never proposing or at all countenancing any act that may have a tendency to subvert the peace and good order of society, by paying attention to the laws of any State which may for a time become the place of your residence or afford you its protection, and above all, by never losing sight of the allegiance due to the Sovereign of your native land, ever remembering that nature has implanted in your breast a sacred and indissoluble attachment towards that country whence you derived your birth and infant nurture.

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Early Guilds existed by a Warrant or Charter signed by the Monarch and so the allegiance of Guild members was to the Crown. Within our ranks over the years we have had future kings and our present Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, is of Royal blood and the cousin of Queen Elizabeth II. The civil wars of the 17th century brought disorder through the land but the Guilds pledged to the monarch to be peaceful and law abiding and so it is today



Ritual

*As an individual, let me recommend the practice of every domestic as well as public virtue: let **Prudence** direct you, **Temperance** chasten you, **Fortitude** support you and **Justice** be the guide of all your actions. Be especially careful to maintain in their fullest splendour those truly Masonic ornaments, which have already been amply illustrated - Benevolence and Charity.*



What you do in both your public and private lives will have an effect on your reputation and consequently on that of the Institution. Operative Masters in the past had to look after their apprentices, aged between 14 and 21, so they demanded respectful, polite and virtuous behaviour, to be a good man and uphold a good reputation so that the

Master Craftsman's business continued to prosper.

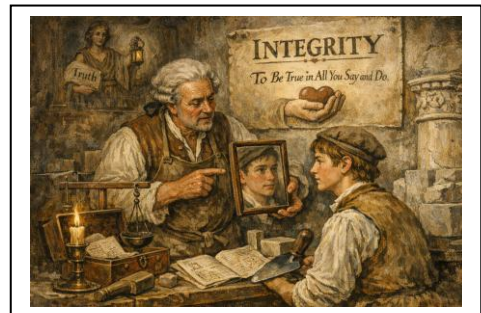
To follow the dictates of **Prudence**, **Temperance**, **Fortitude** and **Justice** to be a credit to yourself and of benefit to your trade or calling.

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Ritual

Still, as a Freemason, there are other excellences of character to which your attention may be peculiarly and forcibly directed: amongst the foremost of these are Secrecy, Fidelity and obedience. Secrecy consists of an inviolable adherence to the obligation you have entered into - never improperly to disclose any of those Masonic secrets which have now been, or may at any future period be, entrusted to your keeping, and avoid all occasions which may inadvertently lead you so to do.

The Master Craftsman would convey a way of producing an item that is unique to his trade to his apprentices, a trade secret. He would not want that secret to be conveyed to people outside of his craft for that would have a very strong effect on his business, his livelihood and his reputation. The only secrets we have in



Freemasonry are the manner in which we recognize each other. In conveying those secrets to people outside of the "Craft" would endanger the reputation of our members. A reputation that has been built up over three centuries. It is a test of your integrity.

Ritual

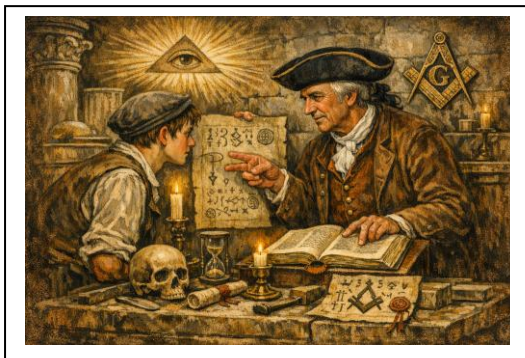
Your Fidelity must be exemplified by a strict observance of the Constitution of the fraternity, by adhering to the ancient Landmarks of the Order, by never attempting to extort or otherwise obtain the secrets of a superior degree, and by refraining from recommending anyone to a participation of our secrets unless you have strong grounds to believe that by a similar fidelity he will ultimately reflect honour on your choice.

Fidelity means "faithfulness to a person, cause, or belief, demonstrated by continuing loyalty and support." It is, therefore, important that you take time to read our Constitution for therein you will be "instructed in the duties you owe to the Craft in general" and from our By-laws "the duties you owe to this Lodge in particular"

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With regard to the "antient Landmarks of the Order" it must be noted that Freemasonry does not have a controlling authority over individual Grand Lodges so the "antient Landmarks" may vary around the world. However these are six of the most common:

1. Belief in a Supreme Being or monotheism
2. Belief in the immortality of the soul
3. A book or volume of the sacred law as an indispensable part of the "furniture" of the Lodge.
4. The Legend of the third degree
5. The secrets of Freemasonry. The modes of recognition and the symbolic ritual of the Lodge
6. That a Mason be a man, freeborn, and of lawful age.



It is easy enough, nowadays, to find the secrets of a superior degree but why would you want to? It would take away the mystery and drama of the ceremonies and make them less of a learning experience. It would also bring into question your own integrity, for being pressed further you would soon fall and identify yourself as

someone not entitled to the rank, a "cowan", one who works as a Mason without having served a regular apprenticeship.

A whole debate can be had on the recommendations of candidates. Who really knows another? What goes on behind closed doors? When Master Craftsmen selected their apprentices they would go on word of mouth, recommendations and the reputation of the prospective candidate's family, but it is not until the apprentice works through the skill sets set by the Master Craftsman that a true indication of worth can be gained. What can be established is the character of the candidate by references from reputable sources and face to face time, both of which can be an act. His true character will be tested thoroughly during his apprenticeship.

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The Revd. Neville Barker Cryer writes "imagine that person (the prospective candidate) standing where the recipient of this Charge would stand and ask the question, is he someone who will happily respond to this list of requirements or do they not fit his character?"

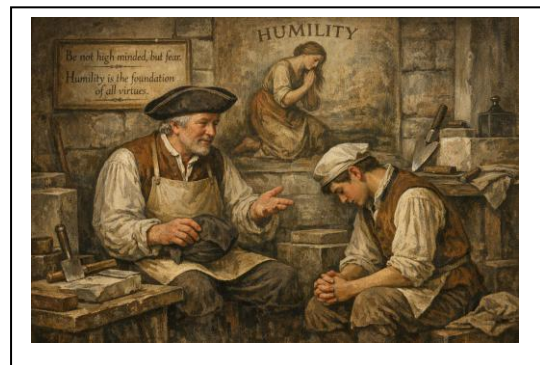
Ritual

Your obedience must be proved by a strict observance of our laws and regulations, by prompt attention to signs and summonses, by a modest and correct demeanor in the Lodge, by abstaining from every topic of political or religious discussion, by a ready acquiescence in all votes and resolutions duly passed by a majority of the Brethren and by perfect submission to the Master and his Wardens whilst acting in the discharge of their respective offices.

You can only know our laws and regulations by reading the Constitution and By-laws. It doesn't have to be done in one chunk. Read little and often.

Make a habit of replying to summonses sent by the Secretary the same day. He has a lot of work to do putting a meeting together. Put the dates of Lodge meetings in your diary so that you can plan ahead.

Lodges are places of safety for many of our members. It must therefore be a place of conviviality and concord, not a place where a member may feel embarrassed or angry. There is enough of that in the world. It is a place where a man of any religious background, political persuasion or cultural difference may feel he is safe and among friends.



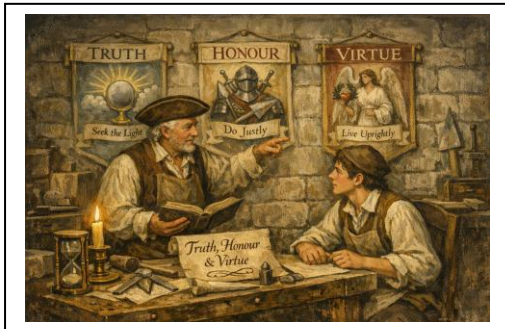
In the "address to the brethren" we talk about the teachings of humility. It goes on to explain that our "association has been formed and perfected with unanimity and concord" that is by the will of the majority and in harmony.

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Ritual

And as a last general recommendation, let me exhort you to dedicate yourself to such pursuits as to enable you to be respectable in life, useful to mankind, and an ornament to the society of which you have this day become a member; to study more especially such of the liberal arts and sciences as may lie within the compass of your attainment, and without neglecting the ordinary duties of your station, to endeavour to make a daily advancement in masonic knowledge.

It is here that the Charge makes an intrusion into your private life by asking you to make your hobbies and pastimes such that they do not bring you or our Institution into disrepute. It encourages you to continue your personal development and without detriment to yourself, your family and your work learn more about our Institution which in itself is a pathway of personal improvement.



From the very commendable attention you appear to have given to this charge, I am led to hope you will duly appreciate the value of Freemasonry, and indelibly print on your heart the sacred dictates of **Truth, Honour, and of Virtue.**

I hope you now realise that Freemasonry is a way of life and not just a social gathering.

Stephen J. Goulding. ProvSGD, SLGCR.

'The West Wing' Learning and Development Lead.

Article in *The Square Magazine*. 07/21

Video

www.thesquaremagazine.com/mag/article/202107commentary-on-the-charge-after-initiation/



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Knowledge Check - Questions.

1. According to the source material, what was the primary purpose of a medieval Craft Guild?

- A.
To act as a branch of the central government's tax office
- B.
To provide a purely social club for local merchants
- C.
To regulate standards of work, pay, and industry conditions
- D.
To train soldiers for the Crusades

2. Which requirement was necessary for a journeyman to transition to the rank of a Master Craftsman?

- A.
He had to recruit at least ten new apprentices
- B.
He had to pay a significant fine to the local monarch
- C.
He had to produce a 'masterpiece' to be judged by established Masters
- D.
He had to serve a secondary five-year apprenticeship

3. How does the Coat of Arms of the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) differ from the 1472 Worshipful Company of Masons?

- A.
The 1472 version featured three castles, while the UGLE version features four
- B.
The UGLE field is red (gule) while the original was black (sable)
- C.
The UGLE version removed the compasses and replaced them with a sword
- D.
The UGLE version added the motto 'God is our guide'

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4. In the context of Masonic history, what does the term 'Speculative' refer to?

- A.
Members who invested money into cathedral building projects
- B.
Members who joined for social or philosophical reasons rather than trade work
- C.
Apprentices who failed their initial training period
- D.
Architects who specialized in futuristic designs

5. What is argued to be the true meaning of 'Antient' and 'immemorial' in the Charge after Initiation?

- A.
That the rituals have remained unchanged since the dawn of man
- B.
That the institution's precepts can be traced back to the medieval Guilds
- C.
That the organization is only open to people of noble birth
- D.
That Freemasonry was founded in Ancient Egypt or Greece

6. In modern Masonic practice, what object has replaced the trowel used in the historical initiation ceremony?

- A.
A poniard
- B.
A square
- C.
An apron
- D.
A gavel

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7. Which of the following is NOT one of the 'six common antient Landmarks' listed in the document?

- A.
The Legend of the third degree
- B.
Belief in a Supreme Being
- C.
That a Mason be a man, freeborn, and of lawful age
- D.
A strict requirement to belong to a specific political party

8. The Charge instructs a Mason to regulate his actions toward his neighbour by 'acting with him on the square.' What does this primarily entail?

- A.
Ensuring all financial transactions are strictly for profit
- B.
Acting with reverence, high morals, and relieving his necessities
- C.
Competing against neighbours to improve the local economy
- D.
Using physical squares to measure the property of neighbours

9. What is the Masonic definition of a 'Cowen' according to the source?

- A.
A Master Craftsman who has retired from the trade
- B.
One who works as a Mason without having served a regular apprenticeship
- C.
An apprentice who has recently completed his first year
- D.
A person who provides the stone for building projects



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10 Why does the Charge forbid the discussion of religion and politics within the Lodge?

A.

Because Masons are required to be atheists and apolitical

B.

Because the Grand Master makes all religious and political decisions for members

C.

To prevent the Monarch from feeling threatened by secret meetings

D.

To ensure the Lodge remains a place of safety, conviviality, and concord

Answers

1. C

2. C

3. B

4. B

5. B

6. A

7. D

8. B

9. B

10. D

Royal Arch Corner.

The Seasons that explain 'Pure Ancient Freemasonry'.



The North East corner is where an Entered Apprentice starts his journey in Freemasonry. The first or foundation stone is laid where the rays of the sun first enters the building. The building being a Freemason's personal inner temple, trying to be the best man he can be.

According to the ritual he follows the direction of the sun which "rises in the East, attains 'Meridien Splendour' in the South and sets in the West thereby diffusing light and lustre to all those within its influence."

On the journey to the South the apprentice passes through the Spring Equinox, signifying new birth. When he reaches the South the sun is at its

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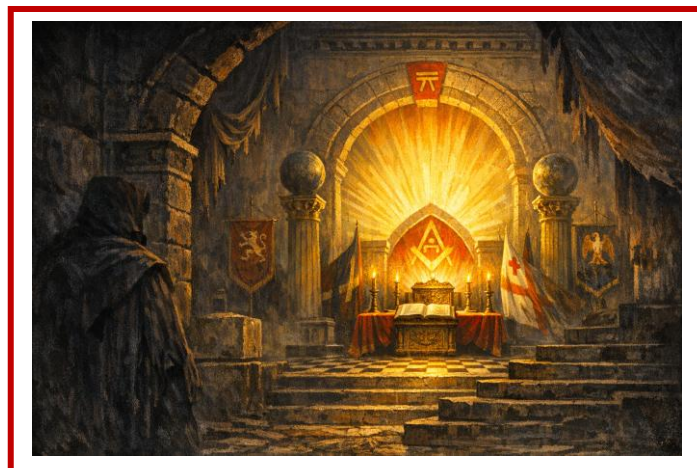
highest and so the JW calls the Brethren for labour to refreshment. The apprentices work is done and now he must rest before taking on new tasks.

From the South, to qualify as a 'Craftsman', he continues his search for perfection, travelling from the Summer Solstice in the South towards the Autumn Equinox in the West. On this journey the Freemason hones his skills as he works on Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian and Composite styles of architecture. Each requiring a higher level of skill. He is also studying the seven liberal arts and sciences to be a more educated man along with the Trivium and Quadrivium.

The 'journeyman' or 'craftsman' is now entering the autumn of his life as he reaches the West and the Autumn Equinox. He looks towards his son, a Lewis, to help him with the more arduous work, teaching the Lewis his skills ready to pass on the baton of life, the baton of Freemasonry.

In the West, the Third Degree of life where he is moving towards darkness, the shortest days of the Winter Solstice and reflection. He contemplates his life and as he looks towards the future he sees "darkness visible". All through his journey he has carried the strength given to him on his initiation. The strength of the Volume of the Sacred Law, the Square and the Compasses. He has his 'Faith' and he has 'Hope'. He can see his future and 'Light'.

From his position in the North he can see the 'Light' in the East and by means of the Royal Arch he is able to complete his journey. A circular journey returning from whence he came. The circle of life. The journey through 'Pure Ancient Freemasonry'.



Provincial Learning & Development Team News

L&D education for new members - Solomon Academy

If you are new to freemasonry, have you been wondering where to find out more about the ceremonies you went through, or the ritual and history of freemasonry? **Solomon** is an online learning platform developed by the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE).



The team has launched the Solomon Academy which is specifically for the needs of new members from Entered Apprentice onwards. It comprises four "Welcome" modules:

- **Welcome Apprentice**
- **Welcome Fellowcraft**
- **Welcome Master Mason**
- **Welcome Companion**



Each module covers the core elements of each degree. They are easy to follow, and you work at your own pace. Once you have completed a Welcome module, you can take a short quiz based on the material covered. If you score 100%, you will receive a Solomon Academy Certificate for that module (the quiz can be taken as many times as needed).

It really is a quiz, not an "exam"; the aim is to ensure you have covered all the essential elements necessary for being awarded a Certificate. On successfully completing all four Certificates, you will be awarded the Solomon Academy Diploma, signed by both an Assistant Grand Master of UGLE and the Third Grand Principal of Supreme Grand Chapter. You will need to register on Solomon to complete the online modules.

The website link is <https://solomon.ugle.org.uk/>

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When you are registering, please remember to give your regular email address used by your Lodge Secretary to send information to you. You should also select the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex as your "region".

Once you have registered, if you are not taken directly to the modules, simply click on the Learning Library and search "Welcome".

I hope you enjoy these modules and the many other learning opportunities available to you on Solomon.

Provincial Guest Speakers.

L&D support for Lodges - **Provincial Guest Speakers Service** There are often occasions when Lodges are looking for a Guest Speaker:

- To fill a gap when the Lodge does not have a candidate - and does not want to do yet another rehearsal
- To learn more about the history, ritual and ideas of freemasonry
- Just for fun
- To give an interesting talk at a White Table event

We have more than twenty-five experienced Provincial Speakers who can give presentations covering virtually any Masonic topic - and beyond. If you have meetings coming up where you would like to have a Guest Speaker, it just takes five minutes to complete the online request form. The longer notice you can give then the larger number of speakers likely to be available, and the wider the range of topics offered. But we can do short notice as well.

The link to the request form is - [Sussex Provincial Guest Speaker Programme Lodge request for Guest Speaker - Fill in form](#) If you are looking for a speaker for your Lodge, this really is a "one-stop shop"

If you would like more information about the Solomon Academy or our Guest Speakers service, please contact me on the email below.

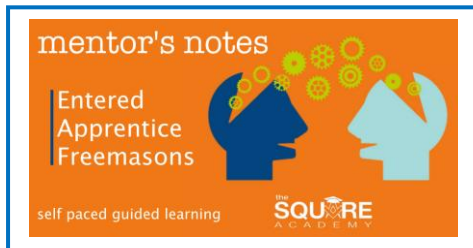
W Bro John Bell

Provincial Learning & Development Officer
Email: landd@sussexmasons.org.uk

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In addition to **Solomon** you can view **The Square Academy** which will give you an international flavour of Freemasonry.

<https://www.thesquaremagazine.com/mentorsnotes/>



Mentor's Notes | Entered Apprentice Freemasons

This course is designed for newly made Entered Apprentice Freemasons who have been initiated into craft freemasonry.

This is a self-paced guided learning syllabus.

The aim of mentor's notes is to provide a series of learning programs for all freemasons to appreciate how the lessons taught in the allegories of freemasonry, can be used for personal development, applicable to; private, public and commercial life.

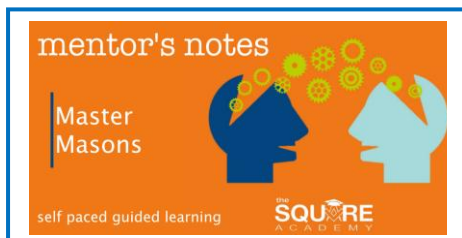


Mentor's Notes | Fellowcraft Freemasons

To understand how the lessons learned in the second degree can be applied to personal development in private, public, and commercial life.

To understand the symbolism in the answers to the questions leading to the Third Degree.

To understand the meaning of the allegories and symbols in the second degree of freemasonry.



Mentor's Notes | Master Masons

To understand how the life lessons learned in the third degree can be applied to personal development in private, public, and commercial life.

To understand the meaning of the allegories and symbols in the third degree of Freemasonry

To develop an enquiring mind and enthusiasm to

continue to learn life lessons taught in Freemasonry



Mentor's Notes | Royal Arch Companion

To understand how the life lessons learned in the Royal Arch Chapter can be applied to personal development in private, public, and commercial life.

To understand the meaning of the allegories and symbols in the Royal Arch Chapter of Freemasonry

To develop an enquiring mind and enthusiasm to

continue to learn life lessons taught in Freemasonry

The West Wing Learning and Development Team

Help us help you.

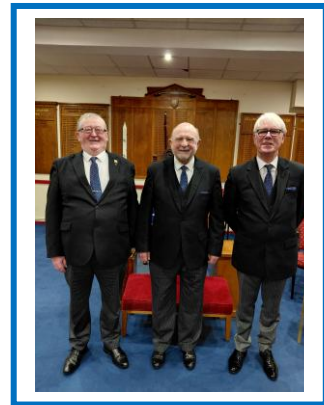
The Purpose of Freemasonry, Brethren, is 'to instruct'. (William Preston).

- **Chichester Chapter of Improvement .**
For ALL RA Masons.
Chichester. 25thth April, 2026.

To Enrol please contact:

W. Bro. Stephen J. Goulding. ProvSGD, SLGCR.

Email: stevegoulding@sussexmasons.org.uk



The West Wing Learning and Development Team

Cornerstone (Miscellaneous bits)

Learning Programs:

Learning and Development Web Page.

ALL West Group Masons and particularly Lodge and Personal Mentors please note - Contents of the Learning and Development (L&D) section of the West Group Web Page. (www.wgsm.co.uk).

Members: PW 357Steps?!? L&D Tag

Contents.

Solomon and Mentors Notes Courses on:

- The Entered Apprentice Program.
 - The Fellowcraft Program.
 - The Master Mason Program.
- The Holy Royal Arch Program.

The West Wing Learning and Development (Video) program.

Royal Arch Representatives Program.

'The West Wing' Masons Notebooks.

Lodge and Personal Mentors Program.

The West Wing Lodge of Instruction Program.

The West Wing Chapter of Improvement

"Ask and will be given. Seek and ye shall find. Knock and the door shall be opened unto you," Mathew 7:7

The West Wing Learning and Development Team

'The West Wing' Learning and Development Programs.

Freemasonry is a Lifestyle Choice. Learn more through your Lodge Mentor, the West Group web page or the L & D Team.

Solomon <https://solomon.ugle.org.uk/>

Mentors Notes: <https://www.thesquaremagazine.com/mentorsnotes/>

West Group Web Page: <https://www.wgsm.org.uk>

ONLINE LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT



Start your journey
<https://solomon.ugle.org.uk>

mentor's notes



self paced guided learning

the **SQUARE**
ACADEMY



The West Group
Web Page
www.wgsm.org.uk

'The West Wing' Learning and Development Team.

Facebook.

Sussex Freemasons - West Group - 'The West Wing'

<https://www.facebook.com/share/Tx388jyGJiYKfd4q/?mibextid=K35Xfp>

West Sussex Light Blues Club



<https://www.westsussexlbc.org/>

Are you a new Mason in the West Group of Sussex? Click on the QR Code and enjoy your journey into an exciting aspect of Freemasonry.

Membership Benefits

- Monthly Social Events Across The Province
- Curated masonic events, just for club members
- Learn more about the craft in a relaxed setting
- Access to a private Facebook page & WhatsApp group
- Socialise with & meet likeminded Freemasons in your area
- Future planned benefits including a masonic passport, lapel pins, a role within the club and more...



The WSLBC currently has two vacancies on their team. One to cover Social Media & Administration and a second to coordinate Lodge Light Blue Ambassadors. If you are interested why not contact Chairman Matt Prior and Deputy Chairman Lewis Strötten at lightblueclubwestsussex@gmail.com

The West Wing Learning and Development Team



The Chichester Royal Arch Chapter of Improvement

A different approach to teaching the mysteries of the Royal Arch has been adopted in the Chichester Chapter of Improvement. It combines education of both the philosophical meaning and the personal development application of the ritual alongside traditional teaching methods of the Royal Arch ceremonies.

"Tell me I will forget. Show me I will remember.

Involve me I will understand".

Part 1 Royal Arch Course

Saturday, 25th April, 2026 10am – 12 noon

Chichester Masonic Hall, 7 South Pallant, Chichester,
PO19 1SY

Prospectus

The Vaulted Chamber

Saturday, 25th April, 2026

To Enrol or if you would like a prospectus please contact the Chichester Chapter of Improvement Secretary Ex. Comp. Stephen J. Goulding, SLGCR:

.Email: stevegoulding@sussexmasons.org.uk

The West Wing Learning and Development Team



Sussex Royal Arch Masonry launches new BLOG <https://www.sussexroyalarch.co.uk>



The **BLOG** is a standalone communication platform which operates separately but in conjunction with the Sussex Royal Arch Website. The **BLOG** is *updated daily* and is easily accessible, simply visit <https://www.sussexroyalarch.co.uk>

A One Journey – One Organisation BLOG



Conveying information about

Royal Arch Masonry and how to join.

Future *Exaltation and Installation Ceremonies* taking place local to you.

Royal Arch Events taking place in Sussex Chapters and beyond.

Royal Arch Articles and *Announcement's*.

Membership and *Mentoring*.



Archway Support


UGLE- Solomon Royal Arch Virtual Learning Platform Guidance

The West Wing Learning and Development Team

West Group Notices

FREE PUBLIC PROSTATE SCREENING

& DIABETES SCREENING SERVICE



Sponsored by Sussex
Mark Masons

Saturday 6th June 2026
Chichester Masonic Hall, 7 S Pallant,
Chichester PO19 1SY




Who's at higher risk

- Family History of Breast, Ovarian or Prostate Cancer
- Slow or difficulty Urinating
- African Caribbean Heritage

If your 45-80 and want a
Prostate Screening - PSA test
must be Booked Online
(link below)

PSA Testing & Events – PCaSO



Diabetes Test
Walk in on the day

**For more information
contact:**
 John Hickman
john.hickman9@sky.com

Chichester Masonic Hall
 Provided by the PCaSO
 Reg'd charity 1170536
<https://pcaso.org>




Sussex Freemasons - West Group
www.wgsm.co.uk
 'The West Wing'
 (Bognor, Chichester, Clapham, Littlehampton,
 Midhurst, Pulborough, Steyning and Worthing)

Sponsored by
Sussex Mark Master Masons
<https://sussexmark.org.uk>

Early Detection and Diagnosis saves lives!



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The West Wing Learning and Development Team

CHICHESTER MASONIC CENTRE

Black Tie Dinner & Dance


A glamorous evening of dining, dancing & celebration

In aid of the Building Fund


SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2026

Arrival 6:15pm • Dinner 7:00pm

Carriages at 10:45pm

 Luxury three-course dinner with menu choices

 Live music & dancing with **The Vincents**

 Elegant charity raffle in aid of the Centre Building Fund

 Wives, partners & non-masonic guests warmly welcome

£47 per person

RESERVE YOUR PLACES

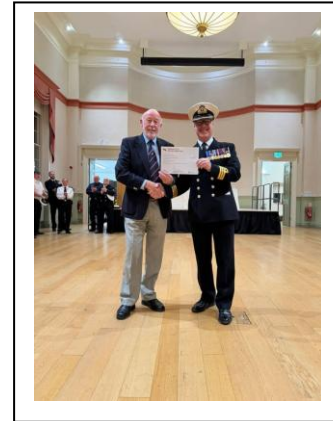
bes.squareevents.org

Black tie • ballroom glamour • tables available for groups

Actions Not Words.

W.Bro. **Graham Watson** of Felpham Lodge receiving a 12 year voluntary service certificate as Chairman of the Chichester Sea Cadets.

Well done Graham.



A huge thank you from Bognor Regis Family Support Network to **Bro Dean Lancaster** and the members of Felpham for donating £500. FSN provide comprehensive and specialised support for children with disabilities

West Group Ambassador visits The Martlets

Another fantastic Hospice visit with **Sam Weber** today, this time to The Martlets. After a tour of their facilities we discussed Sam's upcoming Yukon 1000 Challenge and joint promotion.

In yet another extreme fundraising challenge Sam is supporting four of our local hospices: St Wilfrid's Chichester, Chestnut Tree House Arundel, St Barnabas Worthing and The Martlets. Hove **Go for it Sam!**



The West Wing Learning and Development Team



On 2nd May 2026, **W. Bro. Simon Fyfe** will be taking part in the **Stonepillow Trek**, supporting the fantastic work of Stonepillow.

Stonepillow provides vital support for people experiencing homelessness across West Sussex, helping individuals rebuild their lives and find stability again. Events like the Trek are not just about fundraising, they're about community, awareness, and showing that people care.

For those of us involved in Freemasonry, taking part in initiatives like this is a powerful way to engage with our communities and demonstrate the core Masonic values of charity, compassion, and service.

Stonepillow are currently looking for volunteer stewards for the Trek, so if you're able to help out on the day it would be greatly appreciated. Supporting events like this benefits the charity, strengthens community connections, and highlights the positive impact Freemasonry can have locally. Every bit of help makes a difference.

Volunteering at Sage House

Following the hugely successful painting and decorating weekend at Sage House Dementia Hub in Tangmere last summer, Bro Merrick Eames returns to tackle the cafeteria. Sage House provides vital dementia support services and The West Group are proud to offer our help to one of our five Strategic Charity partners. Well done Merrick, fantastic work!





The West Wing Learning and Development Team

Watch this Space.

Any Brother wishing development in any area of Craft or Royal Arch Masonry that we have not covered please let us know. We will try to put a learning plan together for you.

**Tell me I will forget
Show Me I will remember
Involve me I will
understand**

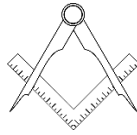
'The West Wing' L & D Team

Enquiries: stevegoulding@sussexmasons.org.uk



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The West Wing Learning and Development Team



If you are not willing to
learn no one can help
you.

If you are determined
to learn, no one can stop
you.

'The West Wing' L & D Team.



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The West Wing Learning and Development Team Notes.