

**ORDER OF THE SECRET MONITOR**

**Province of Suffolk**

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND CONCLAVE OF SUFFOLK

Held at Ashlar House, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023 at 11.00.

There were present:

Members of Suffolk Conclaves

Wy Bro Steve Bye Etheldreda 311	Wy Bro Anthony Allgood St Edmunds 352
Wy Bro Martin Culverhouse Etheldreda 311	Wy Bro Des Bliss St Edmunds 352
Bro Stephen Martin Halls Etheldreda 311	Bro David Bowman St Edmunds 352
Wy Bro Tim McCormick Etheldreda 311	Wy Bro Bob Chapman St Edmunds 352
Wy Bro Stuart Moorse Etheldreda 311	Bro Berwyn Clarke St Edmunds 352
Wy Bro John Rowell Etheldreda 311	Bro Roger Florey St Edmunds 352
Wy Bro Bryan Short Etheldreda 311	Wy Bro Tony France St Edmunds 352
Bro Peter Thomas Etheldreda 311	Wy Bro Bob Goodall St Edmunds 352
Wy Bro Brian C Thrower Etheldreda 311	Wy Bro Robert Heavisides St Edmunds 352
Bro Steve Girling Ipswich 327	Bro Les Nunn St Edmunds 352
Bro John Howes Ipswich 327	Wy Bro James Orlopp St Edmunds 352
Wy Bro Kelvin Larcombe Ipswich 327	Wy Bro Stuart Warner St Edmunds 352
Wy Bro Keith Mcully Ipswich 327	Wy Bro David Williams St Edmunds 352
Rt Wy Bro Paul Norman Ipswich 327	Wy Bro Steve Williams St Edmunds 352
Wy Bro Peter Pryke Ipswich 327	Wy Bro Tom Blackett Southwold 353
Wy Bro Mike Staff Ipswich 327	Wy Bro Chris Bowles Southwold 353
V Wy Bro Richard Strutt Ipswich 327	Wy Bro Robert Dakin Southwold 353
V Wy Bro Tom Auber Landguard 348	Wy Bro Chris Dearing Southwold 353
Wy Bro Colin Birkbeck Landguard 348	Wy Bro John Edmonds Southwold 353
Wy Bro Bob Champkin Landguard 348	Bro Steve Roberts Southwold 353
Bro Albert Denty Landguard 348	Wy Bro Brian Sinfield Southwold 353
Wy Bro Bill Hagggar Landguard 348	Bro Richard Turner Southwold 353
Wy Bro Chris Norman Landguard 348	
Wy Bro Wy Bro Kostas Pavlides Landguard 348	
Wy Bro Chris Seston Landguard 348	
Wy Bro Alec Spall Landguard 348	
Wy Bro John Downie Landguard 348	

Guests

Bro	Paul Busby	G Sent	Grand Conclave
Rt Wy Bro	Paul Crudge	Grand Guide	Grand Conclave
Rt Wy Bro	Raymond Ellis	GDC	Grand Conclave
Rt Wy Bro	Keith Ferguson	DGSR	Grand Conclave
Wy Bro	Tony Jacobs	GSwd Br	Grand Conclave
Wy Bro	Paul King	GSt Br	Grand Conclave
Wy Bro	Seirios Kokkalis		Grand Conclave
Rt Wy Bro	Stewart Middleton	Grand Counsellor	Grand Conclave
Wy Bro	Martin Preece		Grand Conclave
Wy Bro	Philip Purves	DGDC	Grand Conclave
Wy Bro	Steve Sampson		Grand Conclave
V Wy Bro	Rabbi Zvi Solomons	Grand Chaplain	Grand Conclave
Wy Bro	Richard Spicer	G Guard	Grand Conclave
Wy Bro	Wy Bro David Ursell		Grand Conclave

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Wy Bro	Roger Bathurst	PGStwd	Bed, Cambs, Herts
Wy Bro	Peter Brindle	PGSwdB	Bed, Cambs, Herts
Wy Bro	Vincent Fatturoso	PGV	Bed, Cambs, Herts
Wy Bro	Mike Gerschel	PGRec	Bed, Cambs, Herts
Rt Wy Bro	Howard Markham	PGSR	Bed, Cambs, Herts
Wy Bro	Chris Base	PGRec	Channel Isl
Wy Bro	Geoffrey Keer		DGM Allied
bro	Geoffrey Spencer		DGM R&S
Wy Bro	Laurie Brookes	PPGSR	Dorset & Wiltshire
Wy Bro	Allan Shields	Prov Gr Chan	East Lancashire
Wy Bro	Pat Elwick	Dep Com AOS	East Midlands
Wy Bro	Gary King	DPGSR	East Midlands
Rt Wy Bro	Uddayan (Uri) Patel	PGSR	East Midlands
Wy Bro	Paul Fell	DPGSR	Essex
Wy Bro	Matthew Gibbs	PDPGSR	Essex
V Wy Bro	Barry Hurst	PGRec	Essex
	Ralph Robertson		IG Rose Croix
Wy Bro	Scott Dunn	PGRec	Kent
Rt Wy Bro	Kevin Johnson	PGSR	Kent
V Wy Bro	Jon Wallis	DPGSR	London and Middlesex
Wy Bro	Alan Brown		Norfolk
Wy Bro	Richard Callaby	PG Couns	Norfolk
Rt Wy Bro	Peter Coles	PG Chan	Norfolk
Wy Bro	Andrew Cooke		Norfolk
Wy Bro	Dennis Doman		Norfolk
Wy Bro	Mick Erskine	PG Chap	Norfolk
Wy Bro	Steve Frankland	PG Guide	Norfolk
Rt Wy Bro	Robin Habbitts	PGSR	Norfolk
Wy Bro	Brian Hallard		Norfolk
Wy Bro	Ralph Masterson	PGRec	Norfolk
Wy Bro	Edmund Moore	PGSwdB	Norfolk
Wy Bro	Stuart Offord	DPGSR	Norfolk
Wy Bro	Robert Riches		Norfolk
Rt Wy Bro	John Warne	PDPGSR	Norfolk
Wy Bro	Roy Woodhouse	PrGr Chan	Norfolk
Rt Wy Bro	Colin Hume	PGSR	Northumberland
Wy Bro	Reece Valentine	DPGSR	Northumberland
Wy Bro	Paddy Watters	PG Couns	Northumberland
Wy Bro	Ivor Hawkins	DPGSR	Oxon, Berks and Bucks
Rt Wy Bro	Bernd Wegerhoff	PGSR	Oxon, Berks and Bucks
Bro.	Alexander Allan		PGM Athelstan
	Ian Yeldham		PGM Craft
Bro	David Boswell		PGM Mark
Rt Wy Bro	Colin Beerling	PGSR	Surrey
Wy Bro	Ian Bloodworth	DPGSR	Surrey
Rt Wy Bro	Dries van der Burgh	PGSR	Sussex
Rt Wy Bro	Denzil Kelvin Bartlett	PGSR	West Wales
Wy Bro	Stephen Ascott		Guest of PGR
Wy Bro	Phil Cuff		Guest of PGR
Bro	Melvyn Eke		Guest of PGR
Wy Bro	Reg Rivett		Guest of PGR
Rt Wy Bro	Dr Joseph Fahmy Khalil Marzouk	PGSR	Worcestershire

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With the Brethren assembled, the Presiding Officer R. Wy Bro Paul Anthony Norman opened Provincial Grand Conclave in due and antient form.

There was an alarm and the Grand Director of Ceremonies was admitted and announced that the Installing Officer, Right Worthy Bro Keith Berwick Ferguson, was at the door of the Conclave and demanded admission. The Presiding Officer replied that he would be delighted to receive him.

The assembled Brethren stood to order to receive the Installing Officer as, Rt Wy Bro Keith Berwick Ferguson, entered in procession. The Presiding Officer R. Wy Bro Paul Anthony Norman, welcomed Rt Wy Bro Keith who accepted the gavel and conduct of the Conclave

The Installing Officer then appointed his Officers:-

Grand Counsellor	R. Wy Bro Stewart Middleton
Grand Guide	R Wy. Bro Paul R Crudge
Grand Chaplain	V Wy. Bro Rabbi Zvi Solomons, Dep G. G.Chap
Grand Recorder	Wy Bro Mike Staff P.G.B.B. Prov G Rec
Grand Director of Ceremonies	R. Wy. Bro Raymond S. Ellis
Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies	Wy. Bro Phillip J Purves
Grand Sword Bearer	...Wy. Bro Tony M. Jacobs
Grand Standard Bearer	Wy Bro Robert Goodall Prov G Std Br
Grand Organist	Wy Bro Colin Jackson Prov G Org
Grand Guarder	Wy. Bro Richard Spicer
Grand Sentinel	Wy. Bro Paul Busby

Under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies the Installing Officer was saluted with nine by the assembled Brethren The Installing Officer addressed the assembled Brethren and asked the Recorder to call the roll of Conclaves in the Province, this was done and representatives from all Conclaves in the Province were in attendance.

The Installing Officer directed the Grand Director of Ceremonies to ascertain if the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate was in attendance. The Grand Director of Ceremonies stated that the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate was in attendance and requested admission in order to be Obligated, Invested and Installed.

The Installing Officer directed the Grand Director of Ceremonies to form an escort and introduce the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate. The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate Wy Bro William George McColl and his escort entered in procession.

The Installing Officer addressed the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate. to enquire if he was ready, willing and able to accept the Office and to undertake the duties and responsibilities thereof. The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate replied that he was indeed ready.

The Installing Officer then requested the Grand Recorder to read the Patent of Appointment after which the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate knelt for the benefit of prayer by the Grand Chaplain. The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate was obligated invested and installed by the Installing Officer

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler was proclaimed by the Grand Director of Ceremonies and saluted with Seven by the assembled Brethren and the thanked them for their fraternal salutations.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate unobtrusively left the Temple.

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler announced the appointment of Wy Bro. Robert Charles Dakin, Provincial Grand Visitor, as Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler and requested the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies ascertain that he was in attendance. The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler requested the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies to form an escort and introduce the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate. The Assembled Brethren then stood to order as the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate and his escort then entered the Temple.

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler addressed the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate. to enquire if he was ready, willing and able to accept the Office and to undertake the duties and responsibilities thereof. The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate replied in the affirmative.

The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler then requested the Grand Recorder to read the Patent of Appointment after which, the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate knelt for the benefit of prayer by the Grand Chaplain. He was then duly obligated invested and installed by the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler.

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The Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler was proclaimed by the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies and saluted with Five by the assembled Brethren and the thanked them for their fraternal salutations

The Grand Director of Ceremonies enquired of the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler if it is his pleasure to confirm in office those Brethren appointed at the last meeting of Provincial Grand Conclave.

The Provincial Grand Officers resumed their duties :-

Provincial Grand Counsellor	Wy Bro. John Rowell
Provincial Grand Guide	Wy Bro. Brian Sinfield
Provincial Grand Chaplain	Wy Bro. Stuart Moore
Provincial Grand Recorder	Wy Bro. Michael Staff
Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies	Wy Bro. Alec Spall
Provincial Grand Sword Bearer	Wy Bro. Robert Goodall
Provincial Grand Standard Bearer	Wy Bro. Robert Champkin
Provincial Grand Bow Bearer	Wy Bro. Alan Mayle
Provincial Grand Organist	Wy Bro. Colin Jackson
Provincial Grand Guarder	Wy Bro. Anthony France
Provincial Grand Sentinel	Wy Bro. Thomas Blackett

Grand Director of Ceremonies presented the By-Laws of the Province to the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for confirmation. Which was accordingly done. The Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler thanked the Installing Officer and his team for all their hard work.

The Brethren stood to order as the Installing Officer and his Assisting Officers retired from Provincial Grand Conclave.

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of Provincial Grand Conclave held on Monday 21st March 2022.

In Memoriam.

The Minutes of the thirty-third Annual Meeting, having been issued to all brethren and on display since 9.00a.m. on the day, were taken as read and confirmed.

There were no matters arising.

The Provincial Grand Recorder advised the Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler that he had received many letters and e-mails of apology which also contained good wishes for a happy and successful meeting.

The DPGSR read the names of those brethren who had departed to the Grand Conclave above :

Wy.Bro Joseph Frank James Faulkner	327 Ipswich Conclave	30/10/2022
Wy.Bro Ernest John Hutton.	416 Suffolk Conclave 1	9/07/2022
Wy.Bro John Travis.	352 Saint Edmund's Conclave	01/07/2022
Bro Adrian Martin Haste.	327 Ipswich Conclave	29/06/2022

The Brethren stood to order to honour the memory of Brethren who had departed this life during the year.

The Provincial Grand Chaplain offered a prayer.

To congratulate the Brethren of the Province honoured by the Grand Supreme Ruler:-

Wy.Bro. Brian Sinfield P.G.SWD Br.

Wy.Bro. Timothy John McCormick P.G.St.B.

The Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022 were presented by the Wy Bro Peter Pryke Provincial Grand Treasurer, Wy Bro Mike Staff proposed and Wy Bro Brian Sinfield seconded that Accounts be adopted with grateful thanks to Wy Bro Pryke and the auditors for their hard work in completing the Accounts This was approved by the members of the Province on a show of hands.

The Treasurer gave notice of motion that he may have need to increase the Annual Subscriptions but the increase will be limited to no more than £2.00 per capita.

The Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Pursuant to a Notice of Motion given in writing proposed that £ 350.00 be donated to the Children's Hospice at Ipswich. (This was afterwards Match Funded, making a total of £700.00). The Proposal was seconded by the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, and approved by the assembled Brethren by a show of hands

There being only one nomination for Provincial Grand Treasurer, Wy Bro Peter Pryke was declared duly elected by the Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler.

There being only two nominations for auditors Wy Bro K Larcombe and Wy Bro A.C. Page were declared duly elected by the Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler.

The Provincial Grand Guide, Wy Bro Brian Sinfield stated that his report had been circulated by email to all members and also available on the website since 17.00 hrs on the 17<sup>th</sup> March and as he had not received any comments or corrections could the report be taken as read. This was accepted by the PGSR. The Treasurer, Wy Bro Peter Pryke proposed the adoption of the Report and Wy Bro Mike Staff seconded, the report was approved by the assembled Brethren by a show of hands

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The Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler thanked Wy Bro Sinfield for the hard work which he appreciated had been done.

The Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler appointed and invested the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year viz:-

Provincial Grand Chancellor	Wy Bro. Bryan Short
Provincial Grand Counsellor	Wy Bro. John Rowell
Provincial Grand Guide	Wy Bro. Brian Sinfield
Provincial Grand Chaplain	Wy Bro. Stuart Moore
Provincial Grand Treasurer	Wy Bro. Peter Pryke
Provincial Grand Registrar	Wy Bro. Timothy McCormick
Provincial Grand Recorder	Wy Bro. Michael Staff
Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies	Wy Bro. Alec Spall
Provincial Grand Almoner	Wy Bro. Kelvin Larcombe
Provincial Grand Visitor	Wy Bro. Christopher Norman
Provincial Grand Visitor	Wy Bro. Martin Culverhouse
Provincial Grand Visitor	Wy Bro. Robert Heavisides
Provincial Grand Visitor	Wy Bro. Christopher Seston
Provincial Grand Sword Bearer	Wy Bro. Robert Goodall
Provincial Grand Standard Bearer	Wy Bro. Robert Champkin
Provincial Grand Bow Bearer	Wy Bro. Alan Mayle
Provincial Assistant Grand Recorder	Wy Bro. Anthony Allgood
Provincial Grand Organist	Wy Bro. Colin Jackson
Provincial Grand Guarder	Wy Bro. Anthony France
Provincial Grand Sentinel	Wy Bro. Thomas Blackett

The Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler then appointed (or reappointed) the Commander, Deputy Commander and Members of the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler's Arch of Steel.

Provincial Commander Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. John Downie
Provincial Deputy Commander Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. Albert Denty
Provincial Deputy Commander Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. Anthony France
Provincial Recorder Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. Stephen Martin-Halls
Provincial Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. Richard Turner
Provincial Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. Stephen Martin-Halls
Provincial Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. Albert Denty
Provincial Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. Christopher Price
Provincial Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. David Bowman
Provincial Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. Michael Robinson
Provincial Arch of Steel	Wy Bro. Alan Mayle

The Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler gave his address to the Provincial Grand Conclave.

### Supreme Ruler's Address to the Province

The next item says that I am to address Provincial Grand Conclave, I am sure you will understand my brevity on this occasion as although I have just taken an obligation to the Order; I am actually answerable to a higher authority ... and that is my Chef if we do not sit down on time!

Seriously though I must say a very big thank you all our guests attending today especially those that have travelled a great distance to be with us and even more so given that it is a daytime meeting. It is wonderful to see so many of the friends I have made on my visits to other Provinces. I am also very pleased with the support I have received from our members here in Suffolk, and it is great to see our Conclaves so well represented.

Unfortunately, we have lost a few attendees today as we continue to struggle with the knock-on effects of Covid and its related ailments. I wish all those that have been unable to join us a speedy recovery and a return to their Conclaves, when their health permits it.

It would be remiss of me not to mention my predecessor, R Wy Bro Dr John Elmore, who has guided our Province so well over the last 14 years. He phoned me yesterday to wish me all the best for today and has been a constant source of support over the last few months. I could not have asked for a better teacher and role model, and I know it is a cliché, but he will be an extremely hard act to follow. He passes on to me an extremely strong Province, and I will be forever grateful for the opportunity he has given us and along with my new Deputy, look forward to taking this Order and the Province forward in the years ahead.

## **ORDER OF THE SECRET MONITOR**

As we all know meetings like this do not just happen and I would like to thank my executive team for all the hard work they have put in to get me into this position today and I also congratulate all those officers appointed and reappointed a few moments ago and look forward to working with them in the coming year. I also look forward to visiting my Conclaves in the coming months in my new role and am sure you will extend to Wy Bro Rob the same warmth of welcome and support that I have received over the last four years.

Finally brethren, I would just like to say that there is one person missing today who unfortunately passed to higher service last year; Wy Bro Ben Bullen was my proposer into Secret Monitor and I am sure that he is looking down and would be very proud of me, but still pick me up on any mistakes I have made!

Thank you

William

The Provincial Grand Recorder announced the date of the next meeting of Provincial Grand Conclave as Monday 18th March 2024 at Bury St. Edmund Masonic Centre, Ashlar House 23 Eastern Way, Bury St. Edmunds, IP32 7AB.

Provincial Grand Conclave was closed in due form, at 12.45pm.

The Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler accompanied by Grand Officers and Honoured Guests, and attended by Provincial Grand Officers retired in procession.

Alms were collected on exit and amounted to £415.00

Signed

18<sup>th</sup> March 2024