

Provincial Newsletter

Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall

HAPPY TO MEET AGAIN?: A Message From W Bro David G Maskell PSGD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master



Throughout this difficult time, the Provincial Executive continue to hold regular Zoom meetings and it is encouraging to see many other Lodges and Masonic groups also now having regular Zoom get togethers. It is a great way of keeping in touch and also allows us all a good laugh at everyone's lockdown hair style!

When we are able to return to our temples, the meetings will unfortunately not be as we remember them. There will be no contact, no singing, no festive board. Our beautiful ceremonies have been adapted by UGLE to try to comply with COVID regulations but many will feel that with the modifications made, the ceremonies have lost some of their magic. This is especially so with the ceremony of initiation and Lodges may decide to delay bringing in new members until their candidates can experience the true nature of the ceremony.

Brethren, whilst we have been away from our Lodges, the 2024 Festival rolls on. When presiding at Installations, the Executive are often presented with very generous cheques towards the Festival. We have now missed some 18 Installations and I would urge Lodge Charity Stewards to please send any monies they are holding to the Provincial Office.

Our Provincial Grand Master has been very pleased to continue to honour those brethren achieving their 50 and 60 years service in Masonry. Unfortunately, the Executive haven't been able to present the certificates at a Lodge meeting as before but our PGM has been able to personally write to the recipients, congratulate them and send them their certificates.

Brethren, as we now move into another new phase of this pandemic, please think very carefully before attending any gatherings and only do so when you feel it is right and safe to do so.

Brethren, today is the 17th July, the day from which UGLE have informed us that we can resume Masonic meetings subject to compliance with the Government guidelines on COVID secure gatherings.

Whilst I am sure that you have all greatly missed our meetings over the past few months and have been looking forward to getting out and about around the Province once again, we have to ask ourselves a simple question; yes, we are now legally able to hold our meetings, BUT is it really safe to do so?

Our Provincial Grand Master wrote to all Lodges last week explaining the extensive work that will be required at all our temples before they could allow meetings to resume and for many the cost of meeting these legal requirements will prohibit their reopening. The owners and trustees of the buildings also need to consider their personal responsibilities and liabilities. As you are aware, I hold responsibility for advising on the buildings within our Province and if any additional advice is required then please contact me.

Please consider the words we so often hear;

Happy to meet, Sorry to part - but are we as yet Happy to meet again?

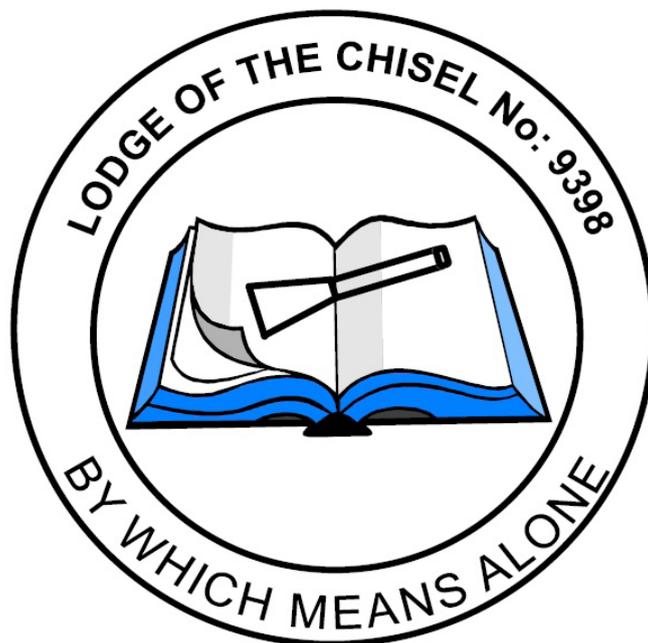
W Bro David G Maskell PSGD

Assistant Provincial Grand Master



THE LODGE OF THE CHISEL, THE UNIVERSITY SCHEME

LODGE OF THE PROVINCE OF CORNWALL



The Lodge of the Chisel No. 9398, the University Scheme Lodge of the Province of Cornwall are still attracting potential members for when they re-open, despite the fact that many students have gone home due to the CV19 pandemic.

The Lodge of the Chisel had a huge amount of momentum coming off the back of a quadruple passing ceremony in February where nearly 100 members packed into the Falmouth temple. Whilst that in itself was a special event, the occasion was added to as the lodge were also honoured to host Right Worshipful Brother Sir David Wootton, the Assistant Grand Master and President of the Universities Scheme, as well as our own Provincial Grand Master, our Deputy Provincial Grand Master, all three Assistant Provincial Grand Masters and an incredible number of Grand and Provincial Officers for what will be an event remembered by all who were in attendance.

That was February and how times have changed in the months since, the momentum the Lodge of the Chisel were enjoying off the back of this historic meeting was cut short just a few weeks later following the government announcement that the country was to go into full lockdown – this resulted in 95% of the students studying in Cornwall making the decision to go back home, effectively cutting off the lodge's primary membership feed.

However that hasn't stopped the members of the Chisel promoting their lodge. Chisel Worshipful Master and Prov. Grand Mentor Eugene Clemence commented: 'With the University Lodge in Cornwall being only four meetings old we were delighted to have hit the ground running, having been able to initiate five candidates and pass four of them over our first two regular meetings.

We were looking forward to the coming year as we were planning our activity for Fresher's intake in September and our DC W.Bro. Simon Taylor was hard at work planning how to pull off a quadruple raising ceremony, which we think would have been a first in the Province of Cornwall.

The global pandemic has obviously put a certain amount of uncertainty on all of this - we don't yet know when we'll be able to meet again, we don't know what Freshers will look like this year (or if indeed there will be one) but when setting up the Lodge under this new format in 2019, we as the founding members were keen to ensure that the lodge wasn't just for university students, and we wanted to welcome anyone who worked in or had an interest in education. As such, and despite us not actually meeting, the lodge is hoping to propose at least four new candidates who work or are involved in education in Cornwall when we are able to meet again. This has been as a direct result of our members actively talking about the lodge, what it offers and what we aim to achieve, including our newly passed Fellowcrafts. Freemasonry doesn't have to stop because we can't meet.

This ongoing activity will mean that when we do return to meetings we will have at least four candidates to propose, a quadruple raising ceremony, a passing ceremony and if their proposals are successful another quadruple initiation to carry out. We only meet 4 times a year so we're effectively booked up for the next 12 months before we even start'

The Lodge of the Chisel meets four times a year (once a term) at the Falmouth Masonic Hall - If you would like to know more about the University Scheme in Cornwall, if you would like to get involved or if you know a student or someone who might like to be involved in the Lodge of the Chisel you can email:

W Bro. Eugene Clemence, Provincial Grand Mentor
ecclemence@pglcornwall.org.uk

HOT OFF THE PRESS

As of publishing, please note the following Masonic Centres confirmed as closed:



Bodmin	Penzance
Bude	Perranporth
Calstock	Redruth
Callington	Saltash
Camborne	St Agnes
Chacewater	St Austell
Falmouth	St Columb
Helston	St Day
Launceston	St Ives
Liskeard	Tintagel
Looe	Tywardreath
Newquay	Wadebridge
Millbrook	



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dgleaity@pglcornwall.org.uk

PENWITH LODGE SUPPORTING ST MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL, HAYLE



L-R: Shelley Jackson, Sam Stark, Chloe Parr, W.Bro Tim Miller

Brethren of Penwith Lodge No. 8538 in Hayle are pleased to support the Trauma and Orthopaedic, St. Joseph and St Michael Wards at St Michael's Hospital, Hayle.

The Worshipful Master, officers, and brethren of Penwith Lodge meeting in Hayle have kept in contact, as many have, through telephone conferences and zoom meetings these past few months.

The subject of one call was, understandably, charitable donations made by Freemasonry in general and the province of Cornwall in particular. As a lodge it is great to be part of such a large charitable organisation which has been especially forthcoming with its efforts during the current pandemic. A question presented to the brethren by Mike Trevorrow, Almoner, was - are there any Hayle area specific causes we could become involved with as an individual lodge which could serve to support our own local area, highlight the local lodges to the community in such a way as to grow links and goodwill, and maybe even attract new members who would like to join us in our endeavours?

Tim Miller, Worshipful Master, requested brethren to think on this and come up with ideas to be discussed.

Many ideas have been floated and some are works in progress, but one member, Anthony Wilkins, the lodges Junior Warden and newly appointed Charity Steward, saw a social media request by Hayle Hospital for assistance with items needed. Discussion with staff at the hospital provided a list of desired and much needed items. Anthony purchased all the items on the list, consisting of radios, toiletries and activities to provide entertainment whilst patients are at the hospital. Delivered to the hospital on the 15th July, where a socially distant but warm welcome greeted the brethren in the form of Chloe Parr, the general manager, Shelley Jackson, ward manager and Sam Stark the ward physio tech who is also the originator of the social media request for assistance.

All three staff thanked Tim and his lodge for the kind donation and look forward to a continued relationship as time progresses.

Anthony Wilkins said "We have been looking for a number of local initiatives, and this seemed perfect. We were able to add the square and compasses, the symbol of Freemasonry, to act as a visual reminder of the good Freemasonry does in the community".

Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Cornwall



The first banner of the Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Cornwall was unveiled and dedicated in Falmouth on Saturday the 28th September, 2019.

The design incorporated a map of Cornwall with the Isles of Scilly to the south west and a crest embossed in the centre showing the newly adopted Cornish Craft Coat of Arms, underlining the strong link between Cornish Craft Masonry and Cornish Royal Arch Masonry and at the bottom in a scroll “Onen Hag Oll”, Cornish for “One and All”.

On accepting the banner on behalf of the Provincial Chapter the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, Excellent Companion David Pascoe, thanked the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Excellent Companion Stephen C Pearn for allowing use of the new Craft Crest.

Banners are often associated with Roman Legions, but well before then they were used by the Chinese to denote clan and rank. Given that banners feature so much in the furnishings of a Royal Arch Chapter it is surprising that a Provincial Banner had not been designed and manufactured previously. As the Order here in Cornwall approaches its 230th anniversary in 2021, it has finally arrived!

The first Grand Superintendent for Cornwall, the well-known Freemason R W Bro Thomas Dunckerley was appointed in 1791. That same year, on 15th July he issued a “warrant of dispensation” for Companions John Knight (Mercer), Peter Pender (Attorney of Law) and Phillip Trevena (Gentleman) to be Z, H and J respectively of the Druid’s Chapter of “Love and Liberality” at Redruth. The first Royal Arch Chapter in the Province.

Druids Chapter exalted over 100 candidates in the following 35 years but appears to have ended with the failing health and death of John Knight in about 1828. However, through his energetic and enthusiastic promotion of the Order, E Companion Knight was instrumental in the formation of Chapters in Penryn (in 1795) and Falmouth (in 1810), the latter still in existence today.

There were a further 11 Grand Superintendents before Excellent Companion David Pascoe was appointed in 2014. It is in no small measure due to his enthusiasm and commitment that the Province finally has a banner to display at the Provincial Annual Convocation and other important ceremonial occasions.

Tony Evans, Deputy Grand Superintendent

ajeans.fal@btinternet.com



CORNWALL 2024 FESTIVAL NEWS – #FEST2024



A statement was issued recently from United Grand Lodge, Supreme Grand Chapter and Mark Masons Hall on the resumption of Masonic activity, I know most of us were hoping for some sort of return to Masonic Activity. However, by now I'm sure you are all aware that there are a number of Masonic Halls that will remain closed due to the issues involved in making them "Covid Secure Environments". This continuing closure will obviously have an impact on all Masonic activity not least our charitable efforts.

As of 16th July, the Masonic Charitable Foundations "Freemasons' COVID-19 Community Fund" has raised £958,384.40 and as I stated previously, the MCF will match all donations up to the value of £1 million. If any Brethren in Cornwall wish to contribute to this fund, donations to the MCF COVID-19 Appeal will also count towards our own 2024 Festival and your individual Festival honorifics, in no way detracting from the efforts we are all putting towards the 2024 Festival.

Without the regular income into the 2024 Festival from Lodge donations at Installations, (we have missed 18 Installations so far) plus the generous donations at Provincial Grand Lodge, we have had to look at innovative ways to raise money to support our Festival and the MCF.

My wife Rosie had planned to run the London Landmark Half Marathon for the 2024 Festival on 29th March, however due to the pandemic this, of course, was cancelled. Once some of the restrictions were lifted Rosie and her Dad Dave, decided to run the Bodmin Landmarks Half Marathon, around the landmarks of Bodmin and the surrounding area on 27th June.

Initially Rosie had hoped to raise £500 but her Everyday Hero page currently stands at £793.50 with people also pledging an additional £132.25 in gift aid.

Rosie's route took in 10 landmarks in Bodmin, a trip out to Respryn, Lanhydrock House and then on to Lanivet, along the Saints' way and back home. For those runners out there, having checked Strava, Rosie has let us know that the run incorporated over 1,600 feet of climbs, (Brown Willy is only 1,378 feet above sea level!) the official time was 2:53:20!

Rosie wishes to thank all those members and their families who supported her, you can see the highlights of her trip on the One and All Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/OneandAllLodge330/events/admin/>

Her Everyday Hero Page can be found here:

<https://fest2024mcf.everydayhero.com/uk/london-landmark-half-marathon-for-2024?fbclid=IwAR1VgkYdWpcPGuZx1Tj7Ixxk7rdjNauPsnOQWuy-phb-spYnIrd2yuyT5bk0>

If any member or their family wishes to undertake a Charity Challenge please do check out the Cornwall 2024 Festival page on the MCF Website where you can set up your own Everyday Hero page and allows the funds to be immediately attributed to the Festival.



There has been a further 1 to 2024 draw this month, the lucky winners were:

First Prize (£75) Phoenix Lodge of Honor and Prudence

Second Prize (£50) Meridian Lodge

Third Prize (£25) Mount Edgcumbe Lodge

As mentioned in previous editions, if you do wish to make a single donation or set up a regular payment plan to qualify as a Festival Steward please visit:

<https://mcf.org.uk/donate/?festivalId=1263>

For information on how you can support the 2024 Festival, the 1 to 2024 club or the MCF in general, please do not hesitate to get in touch emailing me at:

fest2024@pglcornwall.org.uk

- W. Bro. David Trevains



PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARY

W Bro Graham D Jones PPJGW ProvGSec



L To R: W Bro Graham D Jones PPJGW ProvGSec, W Bro Barry Williams, Past ProvGSec, PAGStdB

Only a Lodge Secretary will understand the processes involved in the smooth running of a lodge. Only a Provincial Grand Secretary knows the difficult challenges in the smooth running of a Province.

My name is Graham Jones. My Mother Lodge is Trevaunance Lodge No. 4668 in St Agnes. I was Initiated, Passed and Raised in the year of 2004 and was Installed as Worshipful Master in 2011. The following year I took up the position of Lodge Secretary and I did this to the best of my ability for the next few years, utilising a private Facebook page and Messenger group for communication within the lodge.

In 2014 I volunteered my services in helping create a new Provincial website and was part of a team chaired by the Provincial Grand Master, Stephen Pearn and included Jon Garrod, Russell Dickson and John Chandler, each of us fulfilling varying roles and tasks that suited our abilities. This updated site brought the Province in line with the then current website requirements and gained an official Charter mark from UGLE.

In 2016 I was honoured to be chosen along with seven others to become the first Fast Track Stewards for the Province of Cornwall. The role involved supporting the Province in various ways but also paved the way for a future I was not expecting.....

To my surprise I was offered and, after much deliberation, accepted the position of Provincial Grand Secretary in 2017. I was invested in April 2018 at the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting that spring. I had a few questions for my predecessor W Bro Barry Williams about many things, but his calm approach set me at ease.

How does the Provincial Grand Secretary assist you and the Province?

The main role of ProvGSec is to act as a conduit between UGLE, The Province of Cornwall Executive and Lodge Secretaries. This is done by communication via the office in Truro, with the assistance of Cheryl and Debbie who deal with day to day enquiries, together with my most competent and friendly Assistant, Simon Copas. He deals with 50/60-year certificates, Active Officer visits, and liaising with Newquay Tretherras during our Provincial meeting in April.

Most of the information shared with Lodge Secretaries is available to read via my pages on the even newer improved website of which I have also had a smaller hand in populating under the leadership of Philip Lakin.

<https://pglcornwall.org.uk/provincial-grand-secretary/>

<https://pglcornwall.org.uk/secretary-resources/>

The first link is general information for Secretaries and the second link is for downloadable forms required for Registration, Leavers, Grand Lodge Certificates and many others.

I'm here to assist with queries connected with the Book of Constitutions, or issues with members (which of course we don't have). If I don't have the answer, I'll try and find out.

The ProvGSec also represents us on visits to other Provinces where we share stories and ideas about how we may do things better. These are most enjoyable occasions, but they also help create strong links between our neighbouring Provinces.

My time as Provincial Secretary has coincided with recent changes within the Executive (new DepPGM and two new APGM's), new Data Protection legislation (GDPR), Project Hermes (due in 2021), a new University Scheme Lodge, revitalised biker themed lodge and now sadly, the Coronavirus pandemic, all coming with their own particular challenges, sets of spreadsheets, certificates and guidelines.

You can rest assured that 100% effort is put in by myself and my team. But if you feel you would like to take over, please send me an email, the first recipient gets the job!

In my work and leisure life, I manage 5 Star eco holiday lodges in Porthtowan (Rosehill Lodges), have a small gardening business and as some of you know, I have a background in the music industry and still produce music to this day. I have also attained a 4th Dan in Shotokan Karate.

To conclude, I have made some very good friends during the relatively few years I have been in the craft, visited some wonderful venues, and seen some extraordinary ceremonies, acts of kindness and generosity from members. I'm sure this spirit can get us through the next few months.

W. BRO ARTHUR FRAZIER'S 100TH BIRTHDAY



UPDATE

Last month we told you of W. Bro Arthur Frazier's 100th Birthday. We actually published the newsletter on his birthday so were not able to include any photographs of the special day.

So within this page you can see the presentation made by the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Paul Stephens and other representatives of Peace and Harmony Lodge.



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WHEN EAST MEETS WEST TO OVERCOME PLANNING POLICY

Freemasonry has for many years been veiled in secrets and mystery, but little did the Freemasons who meet in St Ives, realise that this extended to other Freemasons.

This realisation came when a Freemason from another Lodge, who enjoys one of the most rewarding aspects of Freemasonry by visiting other Lodges, attempted to attend a meeting at Trenwith Lodge for the first time. Unfortunately, he could not find the Lodge.

This peculiar situation of the Lodge effectively getting lost, came about by accident a few years ago, when the Masonic Hall in St Andrews Street, St Ives, underwent a refurbishment. This included changing the front rooms downstairs initially into a retail outlet, then a Dining Club before once again becoming a retail outlet.



The Lodge building on St Andrews Street, showing the alley to the left



The Masonic front door knocker

In doing so, the entrance of the Lodge was repositioned from the front of the building, to a door situated down the small alleyway which is to the left of the building. The front door knocker was likewise moved and thus any form of identification that the building is still the meeting place of the St Ives Lodges, was erased from the front aspect of the building.

This problem was further compounded by the fact that the building is listed, so simply placing a new sign on the building was out of the question. Although Masonry has taken several steps in becoming transparent since its 300th Anniversary in 2017, this secret of the lost Lodges in St Ives needed to be remedied as a matter of urgency.



The solution of circumventing this planning policy came from one of the members of Trenwith Lodge, who had spent a few years travelling in South East Asia.

On his travels in Indonesia he enjoyed several 'Wayang' shows. Wayang is where the silhouettes of intricate puppets are made on a screen by a back light.

Employing these principles, a set of Masonic Symbols were produced from black vinyl and laid on a transparent board. This was then hung in the one of the upstairs windows of the Lodge, facing the street.

Now when the Lodge has a meeting, the light is switched on and the sign, like that of the Wayang, casts a silhouette of the image through the window, and in doing so, once again identifies the building as the St Ives Masonic Hall.

This simple yet effective idea has dispelled any doubt of where Freemasons meet in St Ives



The Masonic Sign



Before and After the Sign Was Put in Place

THE TRELAWNY CLUB



TRELAWNY CLUB

As featured in last month's Newsletter, the Trelawny Club committee, despite only taking office a few weeks before lockdown, are keeping very active. Along with tentatively planning some events for later in the year, they are also running a series of profiles via their facebook page on members of the committee who have taken up office this year, as well as introducing members of the provincial team who support the running of the club. This will hopefully give everyone an idea of who does what and who you can speak to. Members also continue to get out and about visiting vulnerable brethren and assisting lodges in donating items to local causes. A couple of weeks ago Chairman Callum Gardner was a guest speaker at the most recent 'Young Masons Virtual Inter-Club Social' – a high profile national event that brings together light blue clubs from around the country to talk about their club, what they are doing, and to give help and advice to other clubs as well as inviting other guest speakers to talk on various subjects.

Following the AGM in February the new committee decided to go in a slightly different direction and set up the Area Coordinator roles. This new initiative, designed to tackle the geographical issues many members may face when trying to organise visits or smaller social events, has been successful in other provinces where they have split their club into cluster groups with a member in each patch as the main contact for the area.

The committee feel that the main goal of any light blue club should be to bring members and their partners together from all parts of the province. In Cornwall the reality is that many members cannot travel across the province on a regular basis for a group visit or social event. To overcome this, the Trelawny Club will be announcing three mass visits during the course of a year – once in Central, one in West and one in East Cornwall along with the larger 'province wide' social events. They will then encourage the cluster groups to support the lodges in their own patch (particularly lodges who might be struggling to attract visitors) and arrange smaller social get-togethers.

The aim of doing this is twofold:

First, by reducing the number of mass visits, the committee hope it will encourage more people to attend when they do happen thus making them special events for both the club and the lodge being visited. Secondly the implementation of specific areas and visits within that patch will hopefully build goodwill for the club and increase social networks as well as support the lodges locally.

Over the coming weeks the Area Coordinators will be in touch with the secretaries of the lodges they will be operating in to introduce themselves personally, but are delighted to officially introduce in this month's newsletter, the area coordinators and the patches they will be involved with going forward.

Bro. Sam Johns – Penzance, Hayle and St. Ives

Bro. Ben Hart – Helston, Mullion, Camborne, Redruth, St Day, Chacewater, Falmouth and Penryn

Bro. Adam Barbary – Truro, St Agnes, Perranporth, Newquay, St Columb and Wadebridge

Bro. Nathan Gambie – St Austell, Bodmin, Looe, Tywardreath and Liskeard

Bro Dan Wykes – Saltash, Callington, St Germans, Torpoint and Milbrook

W.Bro Phil Venning – Calstock, Tintagel, Bude and Launceston

As always the Trelawny Club committee are keen to remind everyone that whilst the committee facilitates the running and organising of the club they represent all members as points of contact - the club belongs to everyone - so if you have an idea, thought or suggestion, please feel free to put it forward and get involved.

Anyone for Cricket?



At the recent Trelawny Club zoom committee meeting members were discussing some ideas for events they could perhaps put on whilst still adhering to social distancing requirements.

Being Cornwall the initial thought was a game of rugby.....but they quickly decided that cricket might be a safer option!

Before the committee get into looking at the details they are keen to make sure there is enough preliminary interest to make it worthwhile - initial thoughts are for a day in late August or September?

Of course there would be a lot of planning to make sure all the right equipment was in place, a suitable location was sourced and the various risk assessments were completed etc. but the Trelawny committee thought it could perhaps be a fun opportunity for us to get together in an outdoor environment and perhaps raise a bit of money for the 2024 festival if enough people were interested.

No age limit, no ability limit, just an opportunity to meet up and enjoy a day together.

If you would be interested in this, head over to the TC Facebook page and comment, or email:

trelawnysec@pglcornwall.org.uk

Bro Nick Annear

CORNWALL PROVINCIAL SHOOTING SOCIETY



On a wet and windy night in Wadebridge back in January 2007 a small group of Masons from all over the Province of Cornwall, all of whom were enthusiastic clay pigeon shooters, held the inaugural meeting of the Cornwall Provincial Shooting Society (CPSS).

The then Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro James Kitson enthusiastically supported the formation of the CPSS and was its first President. When R W Bro Peter G George succeeded him as PGM in 2008 he was invited to become our President, an offer he kindly accepted, and remained in that post until 2016 when our current PGM, R W Bro Stephen C Pearn, graciously agreed to take over the Presidency.

The society was the brainchild of W Bro Vic Marsh PAGDC who took the office of Secretary at that first meeting and continued to serve us faithfully as Secretary for twelve years, only stepping down in January 2019 in favour of W Bro Martin Bywaters PPGStwd. The on-going success of the society is in no small part due to Vic's hard work and tireless dedication over the years.

Now into its 13th year the CPSS has remained true to its stated aims, which are:

- i) to arrange competitions between members and other Provincial Clay Shooting Societies;
- ii) to actively encourage newcomers to the sport;
- iii) to provide an introduction to shooting in a convivial and safe environment; and,
- iv) to maintain support of Masonic and non-Masonic charities.

Membership of the society is open to all subscribing members of Cornish Craft Lodges, and the annual subscription is £10. We hold an AGM each January, usually at a pub in Fraddon as this is reasonably central to our Province-wide membership.

The society has its own distinctive logo, designed by W Bro Lou Powderly PPGReg, comprising two shotguns and two clay 'pigeons' arranged to emulate the square and compasses, with the shield of the Duchy of Cornwall in the middle. This logo (as modelled by some of the team) has proved very popular amongst our own members as well as those of other Provinces that we've competed against, and it now adorns our polo shirts, sweatshirts, baseball caps, and our own lapel badge.

We try to meet once a month to shoot amongst ourselves, alternating between venues in the east and west of the Province. These meetings generally involve a pre-shoot cup of tea and a bacon roll and a chance to catch up on the latest gossip, followed by either an 80 or 100 'bird' shoot.



After the shoot there'll be another cup of tea during which members can swap tales of glory or, more often than not, share horror-stories of their shooting on a particular stand.

Over the years the CPSS, through the generosity of our members, guests and sponsors, have been able to make many charitable donations to such worthy causes as Children's Hospice South West, St.Julia's Hospice, Penlee Lifeboat, Cornwall Air Ambulance, Prostate Cancer and, most notably, £3685 to the 2013 Festival.



The CPSS looks forward to making many more charitable donations in the years to come, we are saving hard and will be donating a sum towards the 2024 Festival.

As one of the stated aims of the CPSS is to encourage newcomers to the sport, if any Mason reading this would like to try their hand at clay pigeon shooting then please do get in touch with our Secretary, W. Bro. Martin Bywaters at secretary.cpss@gmail.com full details are in the Cornwall Masonic Year Book. He will be pleased to make arrangements for you to attend one of our shoots. It is not necessary to own a shotgun at this stage as one of our experienced members will lend you their gun and show you how to use it safely, we also have qualified shooting instructors and safety officers within our fold. Any Brother that already owns a shotgun but doesn't shoot much these days is also very welcome to come along and see what the society is all about.

For those who are unfamiliar with clay pigeon shooting it comprises several disciplines, all involving using a 12 bore shotgun to shoot fast moving clay targets, usually black or orange in colour; these disciplines include Sporting, English & Olympic Skeet, Down-the-Line (DTL), and FITASC, amongst others.

Most CPSS meetings concentrate on Sporting layouts, which typically involves walking around fields and woods in squads of 5 or 6, stopping at various pre-arranged 'stands' where traps have been set up to fire clays in differing directions, either singly or in pairs, with up to 10 targets being offered to the shooter at each stand. The traps are adjusted to fire the clays to simulate birds in various types of flight, including 'going-away', 'incoming', 'crossing' (left to right or vice-versa), 'looping' (arching across the sky before dropping steeply) and can even be made to represent rabbits scuttling across a field.

In addition to our monthly informal shoots we also shoot against other Provinces whenever possible, typically once or twice a year, with the Provinces taking turns hosting the meetings. Generally these inter-Province shoots comprise the Masonic Provinces of Cornwall, Devonshire, Somerset, Bristol, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire but over the years we've probably shot against every Provincial shooting society in the country.

These inter-Province shoots are always great fun and give us an opportunity to meet familiar faces from other Provinces that we've shot against before, as well as to make new friends; there is much friendly rivalry on the day.

This year has been a very different year, as we were going to travel up to West Lancashire for the 16th National shoot, however COVID-19 put paid to that, but there will always be next year !

Some of our members are farmers and once a year, usually in the summer, we will hold a 'Fun Shoot' on their land where members, their wives, partners and children can all 'have a go' at shooting various layouts, or just bask in the sun and watch the rest of us. This is followed by a very nice buffet, during which there's prize giving for the male and female 'high-guns' and a raffle.

The CPSS have represented the Province of Cornwall at national competitions held annually all over the country. The very first of these we attended was in August of 2007, just a few months after our inaugural meeting; the event was held at the world-famous Bisely shooting grounds in Surrey and to everyone's surprise (not least the members of the CPSS) the new kids on the block, Cornwall, won the trophy! As a fledging Provincial shooting society we couldn't have asked for a better way to launch ourselves onto the wider Masonic shooting fraternity.

In 2012 the CPSS had the honour of hosting the national championships here in Cornwall. It was held at the Cart Ridge Shooting Ground near Landrake and attracted Provincial teams from all over the country. Even though we didn't manage to win on home ground a great day was had by all. Our then Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro Peter G George, graciously attended the event and handed out the 'high gun' prizes at the post-shoot buffet. It was at this event that he was invited to 'have a go' at clay pigeon shooting and to his credit he accepted....little did we, or he, know that this seemingly harmless distraction had sowed a seed that was to grow into a love of clay pigeon shooting that continues to this day; Peter is now a stalwart member of the CPSS and regularly attends our gatherings throughout the year.

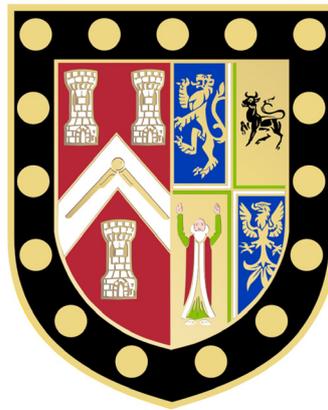


Provincial Newsletter

Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall

If you have a story you would like to submit for consideration to The Provincial Newsletter
Please email Worshipful Brother David Leaity PSGD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master:

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