



# The Kent Gridiron



Issue 5 – Winter 2025

## A Message from our District Grand Prefect

I am delighted to invite you to read the Christmas edition of the Kent Gridiron. I hope it helps to remind you of some of the wonderful highlights we have shared together over the last few months in our District. Please do share it with brethren, who have yet to join our wonderful order, encourage them to read it and consider joining the Allied Masonic Degrees, at the same time assuring them of a cordial and enthusiastic Kent Allied welcome. **Enjoy!**



## The Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees Annual Meeting

On Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup> October the Most Worshipful Brother Thomas Firth Jackson, Grand Master for the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils overseas, presided over the Annual Meeting of the Allied Masonic Degrees at Freemasons Hall. In excess of 30 brethren from the District of Kent attended the meeting to support four brethren who were receiving either promotion or first appointments to Grand Rank.



Grand Council in all its splendour

## Grand Council Continued



W. Bros Clare, Whale, Coxon and Dodd who Received Grand Council Honours



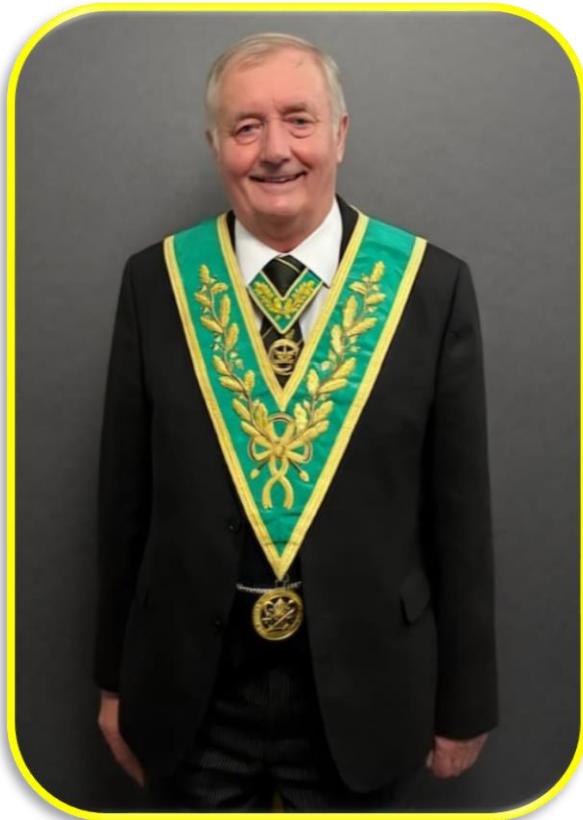
Some of the brethren from the District of Kent who attended Grand Council



## Congratulations to Clive and Peter



2025 has proved to have been a fabulous year for two of our most respected and well-known Allied brethren in the District. R.W.Bro. Clive Manuel, P.Dep.G.M., has been appointed as the Deputy Grand Master in the Masonic order of Athelstan and W. Bro. Peter Williams, P.G.St.B., has been appointed as the Assistant Grand Master in the Mark Degree. We offer them both our heartly congratulations.



On the left R.W.Bro. Clive as the Allied Mason we all know and, on the right, he is seen sporting his new regalia as Deputy Grand Master in the Masonic order of Athelstan



On the left, W.Bro. Peter as the Allied Mason we all know and, on the right, he is seen sporting his new regalia as Assistant Grand Master in the Mark Degree





## Very Warm Welcome to our Newest Members of the District



On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August the District Grand Prefect was delighted to welcome Bro. Gavin Crickett into the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees and also as a member of the Paddock Wood Council 88



On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November the District Grand Prefect was delighted to welcome Bro. Ian Gallehawk into the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees and also as a member of the Hartley Council 74



On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November the District Grand Prefect was delighted to welcome Bro. Simon Baker into the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees and also as a member of the Hartley Council 74

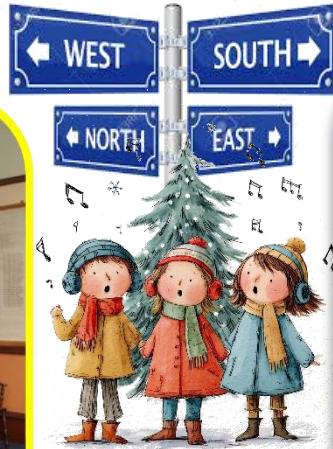


On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November the District Grand Prefect was delighted to welcome Bro. Rudi Degeest into the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees and also as a member of the Hartley Council 74

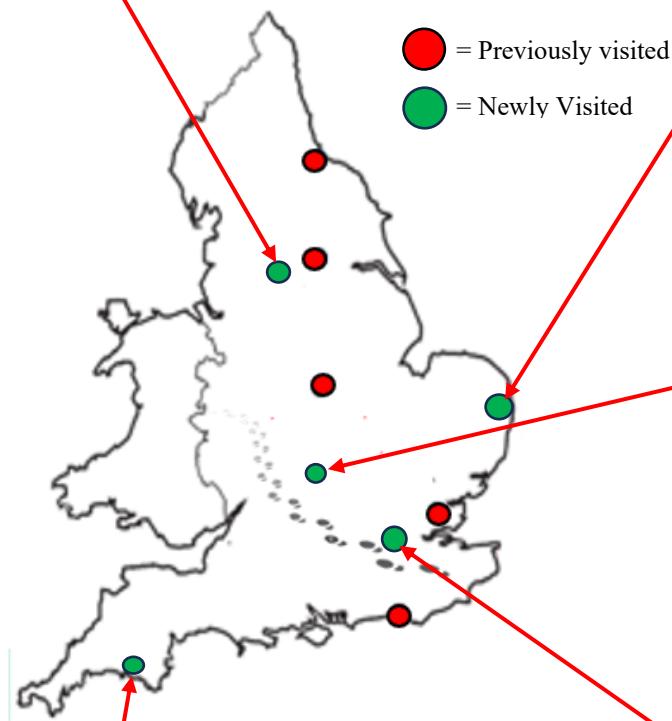
# On Tramp



R.W.Bro. Graham Newton the D.G.P. for East Lancs welcomes R.W.Bro. Brian Ward the D.G.P. for Kent to their District meeting



R.W.Bro. Geoff Keer the D.G.P. for East Anglia welcomes R.W.Bro. Brian Ward the D.G.P. for Kent to their District meeting



R.W.Bro. Bob Chevin the D.G.P. for Thames Valley welcomes a contingent from Kent to their District meeting



The D.G.P. for Devon and Cornwall, R.W.Bro. Barry Slade, and his Deputy, W.Bro. Clive Penraze, welcome W.Bro. Geoff Whale Dep. D.G.P. for the District of Kent to their District



The new D.G.P. for the District of London, R.W.Bro. Scott Cargill, welcomes the D.G.P. for the District of Kent, R.W.Bro. Brian Ward, to their meeting



## Another “Wow” for our District



Hearty congratulations to W. Bro. Howard Doe of the Invicta Council 54, who was presented with a 50-year Certificate for service to the Allied Masonic Degrees by the District Grand Secretary, W.Bro. Derek Wilkins



The Worshipful Master of the West Kent Council 66, W.Bro. Paul Gillingham, was delighted to accept a Mark Benevolent Fund Vice Patron Certificate on behalf of the brethren of the Council which was presented by the District Grand Prefect, R. W. Bro. Brian Ward, on behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund



## What a Lovely way to Spend a Sunday Afternoon



On Sunday 5th October the Paddock Wood Council No. 88 held its Annual Sunday Lunch (Carvery) at the Wrotham Masonic Centre. The event which was organised by W.Bro. Nigel Cash and Bro. Peter Hayler was enjoyed by thirty attendees including the District Grand Prefect, R.W.Bro. Brian Ward, and his wife Toni as well as the Deputy District Grand Prefect, W.Bro. Geoff Whale, and his wife Joy. Not only did the event prove to be a huge success it also raised £240 which will be used to support worthy causes.



# Installation Meetings



The newly installed Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Paul Gillingham, with the brethren of the West Kent Council 66



The newly installed Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Christian Doll, with the brethren and visitors of the Invicta Council 54

## Up and coming Events

# The District Grand Council of Kent



We will meet at the  
Franklin Road Masonic Hall, Gillingham  
on  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2026  
Meeting commences at 11am

**Please come along and support your District**



## Up and coming Council Meetings

28 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Paddock Wood Council 88	Regular meeting
31 <sup>st</sup> January 2026	Hartley Council 74	Installation meeting
16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Invicta Council 54	Regular meeting
18 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	West Kent Council 66	Regular meeting
21 <sup>st</sup> February 2026	District meeting	
23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2026	White Cliffs of Dover Council 210	Installation meeting
31 <sup>st</sup> March 2026	Ashford Council 99	Regular meeting
27 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Paddock Wood Council 88	Regular meeting
30 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Hartley Council 74	Regular meeting
5 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Canterbury Council 65	Regular meeting
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Invicta Council 54	Regular meeting
10 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	West Kent Council 66	Regular meeting
22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026	White Cliffs of Dover Council 210	Regular meeting



## Roy Albert John Williams Council 273



On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December at the Franklin Road Masonic Centre in Gillingham the brethren of the Roy Albert John Williams Council pulled together and made history. No less than 14 candidates were introduced as Knights of the illustrious Order of the Red Cross of Babylon.



The Candidates from left to Right; Bros. Gavin Crickett, Fred Ayling (London), Simon Baker, Bob Hadlow, Keith Beavers, Mark Greatorex (London), Phil Gurney, Alan Camkin, Didier Hannaert, David Lucas (London), Tony Chrisholm, Norman Playford (Surrey), Adrian Grant and Ian Gallehawk



On the left the Principals for the first part of the ceremony, W. Bros. Wilkins, Doe and Woolcott

On the right the Principals for the second part of the ceremony, W. Bros. Jackson, Green and Whale



The Officers and Brethren of the Council with their guests, visitors and candidates

# Year-end Exec Meeting and Active Officers Lunch



Members of the Exec and the active officers for 2025-2026 enjoy a wonderful lunch together prepared by Toni Ward, the District Grand Prefect's wife.



In a clockwise direction;



Derek Wilkins, Ivor Spencer, Ray Johnson, Alan Coxon M.B.E., Geoff Whale, Paul Hutchinson, Adrian Grant and Royston Hartley, Peter Hayler, David Barden, Alan Wilson-Storey, Jody Townsend, Brian Ward, Fred Brown,