

# Congratulations

To all the Brethren who received honours:  
At Grand Mark Lodge 12th June 2007

### Appointments

WBro Frank Baxendale	GJD	WBro Ian Brookes	GStwd
WBro Phillip Conn	GStwd	WBro Joao Fernandes	PAGStdB
WBro Malcolm Fletcher	PAGSwdB	WBro Keith Lavender	PAGDC
WBro Bill Livesey	PAGStdB	WBro Peter Messum	PAGDC
WBro Graham Newton	PAGDC	WBro Alan Ward	PAGSwdB
WBro Gary Williams	PAGDC		

### Promotions

WBro David Gallear	PGJD	WBro Roderick Geeson	PGJD
WBro Peter Hargreaves	PGJD	VWBro Barry Slater	PGSO

### At Grand Royal Ark Mariner Lodge 11th December 2007

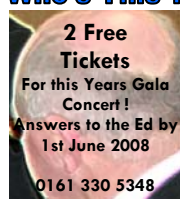
WBro Geoff Bleackley	WBro Ian Brookes	WBro Bob King
WBro Gerard Meade	WBro Derek Pilling	WBro Jack Price
WBro David Russell		

All Mark Masons, particularly those new to our Order will be especially welcome to attend the Provincial Mark Meeting on Wednesday 4th June 2008

## Diary Dates

- 11th Jan 08: Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge No. 1272, Rochdale
- 14th Feb: De Lacy Mark Kinship Meeting, Clayton-Le-Moors
- 11th Mar: Grand Mark Lodge, London
- 13th Mar: Roberts T.I. 24, Bible Dedication
- 26th Mar: Ardwick Mark No. 1222 50th Celebration
- 28th Mar: 6th Annual Mark Masters Dinner, Audenshaw Masonic Hall
- 31st Mar: Prov Grand Officers RAM Lodge No. 990, Installation
- 4th April: Bolton and St John's TI Kinship Meeting, Bolton
- 7th April: Thomas Sharples Barlow Mark Lodge No. 1383
- 20th April: Grand and Provincial Officers 2007 Reception
- 29th April: Provincial Grand Officers Lodge No. 990
- 12th May: Perseverance No. 403 Provincial Charity Event, Blackburn
- 4th June: Prov Grand Mark Lodge Annual Investiture, Bolton
- 10th June: Grand Mark Lodge Investiture, London
- 30th July: Leslie F Hiles Golf Trophy, Worsley Golf Club
- 24th Aug: Mark Fellowship, Family Fun Day, Middleton
- 5th Sept: Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge No. 1272 Installation
- 29th Sept: Prov Grand Officers RAM Lodge No. 990, Investiture
- 28th Oct: Provincial Grand Officers Lodge No. 990 Installation
- 3rd Nov: Thomas Sharples Barlow Mark Lodge No. 1383, Installation
- 9th Nov: Mark Fellowship Cabaret Evening
- 8th Dec: Grand Stewards Lodge, London
- 9th Dec: Grand Royal Ark Mariners Investiture, London.
- 14th Dec: Mark Carol Service, Perseverance Mark Lodge, Blackburn

**Ferrets Corner  
Who's This ?**



2 Free  
Tickets  
For this Years Gala  
Concert!  
Answers to the Ed by  
1st June 2008  
0161 330 5348



# The Keystone & Ark

## Welcome

At the beginning of a new year, it is a



good time to reflect on our achievements in Mark Masonry. Over £30,000 has been donated to 8 different charities; two very successful Kinship meetings and a Provincial Charity evening

raising over a magnificent £1000 for the ELMBF.

I feel, for this year ahead, we shall continue the momentum already established to promote the Royal Ark Mariner Degree and I encourage you all to join this charming, meaningful and engrossing order. Just ask any member with the Royal Ark Mariner rainbow ribbon jewel.

I also encourage your support of and the good work of our Mark Fellowship in providing family themes for the

events they organise.

This year we are launching "The Mark Fellowship Club". For just £1 a month, you will be entered into eight monthly draws for prizes up to £20 and an annual draw of up to £1000 depending slightly on the membership numbers. I ask you all to consider this, as all proceeds will of course go to our Mark good causes.

Work is progressing well and growing in momentum for the Provinces' Centenary Celebrations in September 2010. Ideas for the days activities, include Banner Dedications followed by an evening celebration banquet, 2010 may seem a time away but to plan and organise an event of this scale must be planned early.

I take this opportunity, as always, to thank you all for your hard work, dedication and commitment to this wonderful degree of ours.

Please continue to enjoy your Mark masonry.

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pecial points of interest:

New "Mark Fellowship Club" £1 per Month

## Sailing on the Canals

The "Community Spirit", a 53ft long steel canal narrow boat, launched in March 1997, was in danger of being grounded until the East Lancashire Mark Benevolent Fund came to the rescue. The boat berthed at Ashton basin on the Huddersfield Canal, provides an educational and fun-based activity for children and adults who are disadvantaged. The heated boat is fully equipped to accommodate disabled groups along with wheelchair users, for all who enjoy a cruise, at no cost. We have sponsored a seat and more importantly, after a major sponsor pulled out, we now have committed to cover the financial cost of the annual license fee until 2011.



**Frank Baxendale**  
Provincial  
Grand  
Secretary



# Who's Who

**Full Name** *Francis Regis Baxendale*

**Earliest Memory** *My grand mother's kitchen and dining room*

**Worst Habit** *late nights or early mornings*

**The Last White Lie** *look love - I am sure that this is the way I went looking*

**Biggest Regret** *I wish I had not to have regrets - all experiences are*

**Favourite Sport** *lessons*

**Most Prized Possession** *my family - but not a "possession"*

**Favourite Food** *Whatever Miriam decides to cook!*

**What would you spend your last Tenner on** *my family*

**Your ideal day off** *in the country - a warm day + a picnic*

**What annoys you** *Mans inhumanity to others,*

**Most admirable quality** *commitment*

**Ambitions to fulfil** *to live long and die peacefully + happy.*

## Your Help Needed

Keith Clayton, the Provincial Grand Almoner, wishes to bring about a change in emphasis. He is asking us all to be more pro-active, as opposed to being reactive. In the past we have been exceptionally effective and diligent when a difficulty has arisen.

However, he is suggesting that we actively seek out any Mark Mason, his widow or dependent who may need help. He can help in many ways, with short or long term material of financial problems.

Through him, the Mark Province, is able to offer relevant advise and point them in the appropriate direction of the ELMBF, ELMC, Samaritan Fund, including disability equipment and Home Care advice.

In the case of an urgent need he can write a cheque there and then, and has already done so.

It's all well and good, Mark Masons supporting outside Charities and it's very necessary that we do. He is there to make sure our own Brethren, widows and dependants are also well looked after and that's where we can help him.

Keith said "Please help by being active and we shall live up to our claim of a caring friendly degree with a caring attitude towards others."

**Keith Clayton.**  
**Tel: 0161 370 1433**



## Mark Golf Tournament



Over the next couple of holes my deficit reduced to one point but then I made a bit of a mess and suddenly I was back to 3 points down.

Coming to the par 5 fifteenth hole, all three of us had two good shots, well clearing the stream across the fairway. My third shot however was probably my best of the day, with a seven iron the ball finished four feet from the pin. A birdie put, successfully completed, gave me four points and the gap was back to one point.

No change over the next two holes, so it all depended on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Here I had the advantage of a shot over Mark, this proved critical, giving me one point more than Mark at that hole. Our total points were equal at 39

The Leslie F Hiles Golf Competition was played out on 2nd August this year at Worsley Golf Club. The Champion for 2007 Royce Batters tells his story.

"I arrived at Worsley for a light lunch before teeing off with my playing partners Harold Pendlebury and Mark Davis.

Mark was a previous winner of the Competition.

The weather was good and the golf course looked fine after the heavy rain only days before.

We all started well; after two holes Harold, playing off 16 handicap, and I (17 handicap) had five points each and Mark (12 handicap) had six points.

Over the next few holes, Mark increased his lead but Harold and I kept him well in sight.

We turned after nine holes 3 points down.

each, with Harold a couple of points behind. On a count back my back nine score was better than Mark's and it was only when they announced, at the end of a wonderful dinner that he was the runner-up. I suddenly realised I had won the competition.

After accepting the trophy from the Provincial Grand Master, it was rapidly be taken away to be presented at the Provincial Meeting in June.

My thanks go my playing partners for a most enjoyable day and to all those involved in its organisation. Thanks also to the Deputy PGM for the winner's prize. It was a great day of golf and Mark Fellowship".



## Mark Fellowship Fun Day



accompanied by his Lady Mayor Helen, attended and thanked all the Mark Masons for their support, and the generous donations of £10,000 annually to the Macmillan Nurses and Cancer Research UK.

Our Provincial Grand Master said "Thousands of people are helped in Britain today thanks to these two organisations"

This years Mark Fellowship fun day on August Bank holiday Sunday was once again bathed in glorious

sunshine and attended by over 300 Mark Masons their friends and family.

His Worship the Major of Rochdale, Peter Evans



## Celebrations Canon's Close Style

On Tuesday 22nd May 2007, one of our residents, Ann Murray, was 90 years young. She celebrated her birthday with friends and neighbours within the complex. We provided a birthday cake, not however large enough to hold all the candles. Ann happily blew out the candles and



everyone sang happy birthday.

Ann reminisced about her early life in Bolton, her 20 years in India, where her husband worked for a British Company and her subsequent life on her return to Bolton.

Although not yet a spritely 90, Ex Olympian (1948 games) Joe Smith celebrated his 88th Birthday party with friends at Bridge Street.



## Mark Fellowship Club - £1000.00 Annual Prize

With an annual draw prize of up to £1000 and eight monthly prizes, drawn by our Provincial Grand Master at a Lodge meeting each month during the Masonic season, all for just £12 paid annually by standing order.

This equates to one ticket costing £12 per annum, members may of course purchase more than one ticket.

The Mark fellowship Club will be open to Mark Masons, their families and friends with an annual

draw with, what is hoped, a main prize of £1,000.00.

Shortly the Mark Fellowship Representatives will be offering you this opportunity, or you may contact your Fellowship Representative direct. The Club will be administered by the members of the East Lancashire Mark Fellowship Committee.

All surplus funds will be presented to RWBro Keith Schofield at the Provincial Meeting in June each year to be applied to good and needy causes.

## Mark Charity Evening



Provincial Deputation attended the meeting in a full Lodge room at Middleton Masonic Hall.

A power point presentation of the Myths & Legends of the Rosslyn Chapel was presented by Philip Atkinson and enjoyed by all, hot on the heels of the "Da Vinci Code" book.

The packed social board was preceded by a chip gaming board and Tombola.

The generosity of all present raised a magnificent sum of over £1,000.00.

The second Mark Charity evening, which now will be an annual event, was hosted by the Provincial Grand Charity Steward, Bryan Goodwin and held at Friendship Mark Lodge on 23rd January in aid of the ELMBF. The Provincial Grand Master accompanied by a



# Mark Celebrations 2007



139th Mark Benevolent Fund Festival, Staffordshire & Shropshire



Golf Dinner at Worsley

Gawthorpe Mark, Kinship Meeting



Mark Fellowship Fun Day  
August Bank Holiday Sunday



Alan Benson's 50th Anniversary in Mark Masonry



Billinge Mark 908, 75th Lodge Anniversary



Keep Mark 911, 75th Lodge Anniversary