

MIDDLESEX GRAND OFFICERS' AND PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS' CLUB

Secretary's Jottings

At our Annual General Meeting on 6th April 2016 we were pleased to have in attendance our President R.W.Bro. Alastair Mason, Deputy President W.Bro. Simon Thoday, Past Deputy Presidents V.W.Bro. Peter Baker and V.W.Bro. John Kemp. There were three AProvGMs from the Craft and from the Royal Arch the Deputy Grand Superintendent E.Comp. Martyn Farrell, the 3rd Provincial Grand Principals and three APGPs.

After dinner the President, R.W.Bro. Alastair Mason, ProProvGM, addressed the members following which he introduced W.Bro. Bill Stanton who gave a short presentation entitled "*End2End – A challenge on behalf of the R.M.T.G.B.*" (both are attached or enclosed). The direct link for the End2End fundraising page is:

<http://www.everydayhero.co.uk/event/E0180>

**The date of our next meeting is
Thursday 20th October 2016
at the Imperial College Heston
(formerly the B.A. Concorde Club Cranford, Middlesex.)**

S & F,
Andrew Elliott (MGO & PGO Club Sec.)

April 2016



Minutes of the AGM of the MGO & PGO Club held at the Imperial College Heston, Middlesex on Wednesday 6th April 2016 at 6.00 p.m.

1. **Apologies:** The secretary, Andrew Elliott, reported that 158 apologies had been received, most notably from Past Presidents R.W.Bro. Gordon Bourne, R.W.Bro. David Cons and R.W.Bro. Roger Croome, QPM.
2. **The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting:** Held at the Imperial College Heston, Middlesex on Thursday 19th March 2015. The minutes were circulated with the Secretary's Jottings in April 2015. No amendments were received and the minutes were passed as a true and accurate record by the members present.
3. **Secretary's Report:** The secretary's report was as follows:

Bro. President and Members

At our meeting on 19th March 2015 the President, R.W.Bro. Alastair Mason, addressed the members.

He covered a number of subjects including:

- A review of his first year as our Pro Provincial Grand Master which had been an amazing experience. It had been a very steep learning curve but he had received a terrific amount of support and encouragement throughout the Province and he thanked every member for that.
- He particularly wanted to offer his thanks to his two deputies, Simon in the Craft and Martyn in the Royal Arch for their fantastic support and wise council. He also thanked Nigel, his Director of Ceremonies, for his great assistance throughout the year.
- The announcement of forthcoming changes in the Executive and appointments to Grand Rank in both the Craft and Royal Arch. He also congratulated brethren and companions who were to be appointed or promoted in Provincial Grand Lodge or Provincial Grand Chapter.
- Falling membership within the Province was an ongoing problem and was impacting on the number of Active Provincial Officer appointments that could be made.

After dinner the President gave a fitting introduction to the launch of the 2020 Festival. This was followed by addresses from W.Bro. David Allan, the 2020 Festival Chairman and W.Bro. Les Hutchinson, Chief Executive of the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys which will be the beneficiary of the appeal.

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At our Meeting in October 2015, The President, V.W.Bro. Alastair addressed the brethren:

- He highlighted the communications problems that had resulted from the recent database changes at Grand Lodge and particularly the difficulties in distributing information regarding the forthcoming Cathedral Service at St. Albans.
- He encouraged members to prepare and submit Masonic Research papers to the competition which was being organised by the Temple of Athene Lodge (our research Lodge). Not only were there cash prizes to be won but the winner would receive the Provincial Grand Master's Regius Meritorious Award which will be presented at Provincial Grand Lodge.
- He then conducted a Question and Answer session based on a few written questions that had been submitted prior to the meeting.

After welcoming our guests from a number of charities, he introduced W.Bro. Peter Hyde, who gave an informative talk entitled "The Middlesex Grand Family Fete" after which W.Bro. John Lill gave a brief talk entitled "Marathon Man – Ultra running preparation and competing".

At the start of this year the club's membership was 1,311, an increase of 15 on last year. Some 993 members, approximately 76% (2014 = 72%) of the membership, are receiving the club's communications via email. This is gradually improving but we are still having to use the postal services for over 320 members. Given the costs and time involved, I would again ask any member who has not already done so, to let me have their email address.

Now a few thank you's.

I wish to thank those brethren who continue to give up their free time to help with the mail outs, four times last year. During the past year, I had considerable assistance from my small but willing band of helpers Gordon Richardson, Geoff Hawkins, David Keene, Tony Marks, Rupert Phillips and the late John Puttock. On behalf of myself and the Club, I genuinely and sincerely thank them for all their time and effort.

I must also thank the Craft and Royal Arch Executives, who I know are very supportive of the Club, the APGPs, the V.Os and brethren who promote the Club throughout the Province. I would also like to thank Bro. President and Bro. Deputy President for all their help.

Finally, I must again offer my sincere thanks, to our Provincial Grand Secretaries, Tony Jones and David Pearson. They together with Janet and Mike Ross in the Provincial office have given a great deal of the assistance throughout the year.

Bro. President and members that concludes my report.

5. **Presentation of the Accounts to 31st December 2014:**

The Treasurer W.Bro. Warren Gell presented the annual accounts. The two auditors, W.Bro. Mike Foxwell and W.Bro. Mervyn Setchell both fully endorsed the accounts and congratulated W.Bro. Warren on his presentation of them after which it was proposed by W.Bro. David Allan and seconded by W.Bro. David Wareham that the accounts be adopted. This was carried with a vote of thanks to the Treasurer.

6. **The elections were as follows:**

Secretary: W.Bro. Andrew Elliott was proposed by R.W.Bro. Alastair Mason and seconded by W.Bro. Simon Thoday. This was carried by the members.

Treasurer: W.Bro. Warren Gell was proposed by R.W.Bro. Alastair Mason and seconded by W.Bro. Simon Thoday. This was carried by the members.

Auditors: W.Bro. Mike Foxwell and W.Bro. Mervyn Setchell were proposed by R.W.Bro. Alastair Mason and seconded by W.Bro. Simon Thoday. This was carried by the members.

7. The secretary reported that there were no 'Any Other Business' items.

The meeting was closed at 6.20 p.m.