

MIDDLESEX GRAND OFFICERS' AND PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS' CLUB

Secretary's Jottings

At our Annual General Meeting on 5th April 2017 we were pleased to have in attendance our President R.W.Bro. Alastair Mason, Deputy President V.W.Bro. Simon Thoday and Past President R.W.Bro. Roger Croome, QPM. There were five AProvGMs from the Craft and from the Royal Arch the Deputy Grand Superintendent E.Comp. Martyn Farrell, the 2nd Provincial Grand Principal, the 3rd Provincial Grand Principal and three APGPs.

After dinner the President, R.W.Bro. Alastair Mason, ProProvGM, addressed the members (attached or enclosed) following which the Deputy President, V.W.Bro. Simon Thoday launched The Graham Fulford Trust (attached or enclosed) and introduced Mr. Rick Popert, consultant urologist from the London Bridge Hospital, who gave an excellent and detailed presentation on the concerns and benefits of PSA Testing.

The date of our next meeting is

Tuesday 14th November 2017

at Brunel University, Uxbridge.

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

May 2017



Minutes of the AGM of the MGO & PGO Club held at the Brunel University, Uxbridge on Wednesday 5th April 2017 at 6.00 p.m.

1. **Apologies:** The secretary, Andrew Elliott, reported that 189 apologies had been received, most notably from Past Presidents R.W.Bro. Gordon Bourne and R.W.Bro. David Cons together with Past Deputy Presidents V.W. Bro. John Kemp and V.W.Bro. Peter Baker.
2. **The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting:** Held at the Imperial College Heston, Middlesex on 6th April 2016. The minutes were circulated with the Secretary's Jottings in July 2016. 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 6th April 2016 the President, R.W.Bro. Alastair Mason, addressed the members.

He covered a number of subjects including:

- A review of the first year of the Middlesex 2020 Festival in aid of the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys which had already exceeded the sum of £1,500,000. He was extremely proud of the amazing generosity of the brethren and the fact that 4 lodges had already achieved Grand Patron status.
- He mentioned the continued efforts of the Middlesex Grand Family Fete committee who were working so hard in organising some fantastic social events and raising enormous amounts of money for charity
- Plans for celebrating the tercentenary of the formation of Grand Lodge were in hand and details of the major events would be issued in due course.
- In addition, the 150th Anniversary of the Province of Middlesex will occur in 2020 and he had requested our own club to assist with arranging the Province's celebrations.
- He was looking forward to presiding over his first meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge albeit that this clashed with his wife's birthday.
- 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.

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- The terrific spectacle of the parade of lodge banners at the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge had met with much admiration from visiting Provincial Grand Masters and will certainly continue.
- One small gripe “well you have to have one”. To make the arrangements for the banner parade some 193 lodge secretaries had been emailed with invitations to attend. Of those only 74 had replied. The fact that 119 hadn't even bothered to reply was extremely frustrating.
- He thanked Simon, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Martyn, the Deputy Grand Superintendent for their brilliant support over the last two years.
- He also gave a special thankyou to W.Bro. Chris Connop who was stepping down after 5 years as an Assistant Provincial Grand Master.

After dinner, W.Bro. Bill Stanton gave a short presentation entitled “End2End – A challenge on behalf of the R.M.T.G.B”.

At our Meeting in October 2016, The President, V.W.Bro. Alastair addressed the brethren:

- He reported on the progress of the Middlesex 2020 Festival which had now passed £2,000,000 with many lodges and chapters achieving Festival Honorifics.
- He highlighted some of the forthcoming Grand and Provincial Lodge events and, in particular, the Service of Thanksgiving at St. Albans.
- The problems that had resulted from the recent database changes at Grand Lodge which had delayed the production of the much missed Middlesex Provincial Yearbook had finally been overcome.
- Some good news. After many years of declining Royal Arch membership numbers, we have recently had a slight increase and it is looking that the same may hopefully be said of the Craft in the near future.
- It was a delight to announce that a new Lodge, The Middlesex Armed Forces Lodge No. 9940, will be consecrated in December 2016 and 2 or 3 potential lodges are in the pipeline.
- He presented W.Bro. Chris Connop with a paperweight as a small “thank you” for his services to the Province as an Assistant Provincial Grand Master. He also thanked, E.Comp. Paul Huggins for his services as 3rd Provincial Grand Principal.
- Sport was the theme of today's meeting and as part of that he reviewed the many inter province sporting events that were taking place during the tercentenary celebrations. Middlesex will be participating in most and although taking part is great, winning is what we want.

After dinner, the President introduced W.Bro. John Lill who gave a brief, interesting and amusing update on his recent “Marathon Man” adventures. John was then presented with The Provincial Grand Master's Award of Merit which had been announced at the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge on the 10th May this year. This was followed by a presentation entitled “Middlesex Masonic Sports Association – What's it all about” which was introduced by W.Bro. Sanjiv Shah and presented by R.W.Bro. Roger Croome.

At the start of this year the club's membership was 1,290, a decrease of 20 on last year. Some 1,010 members of the membership are receiving the club's communications via email. This is getting better all the time but there remains an ever decreasing number for whom we are still having to use the postal services. 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. Over the years, I had considerable assistance from my small but willing band of helpers Gordon Richardson, Geoff Hawkins, David Keene, and Rupert Phillips together with my wife Katherine, who amongst the tremendous support she had provided was delighted to spend the morning of her birthday stuffing envelopes in the provincial office. On behalf of myself and the Club, I genuinely and sincerely thank them for all their time and effort.

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I must also thank the Craft and Royal Arch Executives, whom 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 Secretary, David Pearson. He together with Janet and Mike Ross in the Provincial office have given a great deal of assistance throughout the year.

Bro. President and members that concludes my report.

5. Presentation of the Accounts to 31st December 2016:

The Treasurer, W.Bro. Warren Gell, unfortunately being absent, the Secretary read his detailed report on the status of annual accounts. W.Bro. Mervyn Setchell (auditor) 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 6.30 p.m.