Coronavirus Update 3

Dear all

So this is what three weeks without a meeting feels like! I do hope you are able to keep safe and well.

Unfortunately we have lost two of our members this week, Steven Ayres and Stuart Jacobs. Both were loyal long standing members of the mark and this province and they will both be sadly missed.

You will by now hopefully received the latest survey questions, as I look ahead to a time of normality I need to think about how the Province resumes its normal duties and carries out the necessary administrative functions. Hence the two questions asked in the survey. I do understand it is still up in the air and may have to change again and there are other permutations, but I just wanted to get a feel of what you the members preferred. If you haven't replied to the survey please try and do so.

As we try to keep you all informed of Provincial matters the latest version of the Mark Times will be sent out any day now. The publication on this occasion for obvious reasons will be an electronic one only. If you know of a member who is not on email please consider printing a copy off for him. I would also ask Lodge Secretaries and Scribes to consider any member of your lodge that does not have email and try and get a copy of these updates and other circulations to them if possible. We hope you find the publication interesting, worse case it will give you something to read!

Looking ahead again I assume many Lodges may have candidates for both the Mark and Royal Ark Mariners as well as Installation meetings. This period is of course an ideal time to make sure our ceremonies will be of a high standard. You may want to ensure all your Officers are clear on what the content of your next meeting will consist of and what their individual role may be. You can hold electronic Lol's via video conferencing to help each other learn as well as just staying in touch. There are various apps out there to help e.g. Zoom, House party, Facetime etc.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you our welfare income has been substantially reduced and so apart from supporting the bonus ball and key ring sales we would be very pleased to receive any personal donations, perhaps on re or two you may have made to the usual charity donations you would have made in your lodges. If you would like to make donations these can be done directly to the welfare account. The account details are 40-45-31 11446673, please include your surname and initials as your reference.

Lastly can I give a big thank you to those of you who are continuing to work. Thank you for your support and for helping to keep the country functioning as normal as possible.

Please keep safe and well

