

Brethren all, welcome to the latest edition of the Mark Times, I hope that once again you will find it informative and interesting.

We are all obviously in a very new situation with our masonry suspended for a period of time and with this comes some new challenges for us.

Can I please ask you all to keep in touch with your lodge members, either by setting up a Whatsapp group or other media platform so you can post messages to each other (but please remember to adhere to and comply with the UGLE Media Policy at all times) and for those not on the internet please make regular telephone contact, especially to those who may not be able to get out or who are self isolating. The Provincial Almoner has also sent out messages to all Lodge Almoners.

If you do become aware of a brother in distress please contact Roy Kaye in the first instance, as he will be the first port of call to access local welfare funds or MBF funds.

I am also aware that through UGLE statements have been made about the MCF so lets make sure no one suffers during this time.

Please also remember to read the provincial website and Facebook pages to see what is happening and helping to keep us informed so please add a post when you can.

As there are no lodge meetings at the moment, the charity donations made to the welfare fund will obviously be greatly reduced, which has the potential knock on effect of helping others. If you can it would be greatly appreciated if you would consider buying bonus balls or provincial key rings/shopping trolley tokens via the website (www.essexmark.co.uk) to ensure charity monies continue to trickle in.

Could I also ask that Lodge Secretaries, Scribes and Treasurers please take this down time to ensure all Lodge documentation is in order, updated and submitted. Please check Keystone online to ensure the records of the members is correct, that Installation returns have been submitted and can you please ensure copies of lodge accounts have been submitted to the Province.

On other matters

To those who should have received PrRAMGR on the 17th March and those who were going to be appointed and promoted at Felsted on the 28th May, I say congratulations for the support you have shown to your lodges and to the Province. I do hope we can congratulate you in a more personal manner later in the year. You are of course



promoted/appointed from the date of the meetings and entitled to wear your new regalia or badge of office.

I am very pleased and proud to inform you our membership continues to grow compared to last year's figures. So I thank you for your hard work and support in making this happen.

Our new media team have now settled into place and I am sure you will have seen a real improvement in the dissemination and publication of news and events around the Province. I am particularly proud and pleased with the on-going Teaser campaign and the involvement of many of the Masonic centres around the Province allowing us to advertise in those centres. We have received many positive comments and some new recruits as the direct result of this campaign. So well done to the media team and Media Liaison Offices

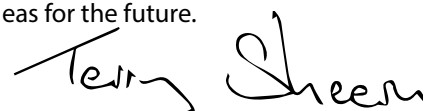
Can I also thank all those Lodges that have taken on board the suggestion of including the QR codes on Lodge summons's. For those of you who are still unaware of their purpose, by scanning the codes on your phone you are taken directly to either the Provincial Facebook group or the Provincial website where you can be kept up to date with all that is happening around the Province and further afield.

As you may have seen I had the privilege to present a cheque for £92,548 to Haven's Hospice on behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund, of which you all contributed. This money enabled the Hospice to purchase 17 top of the range electronic beds and top of the range mattresses (which help prevent bed sores). And as I said at the time your contributions to the MBF have once again shown to the public at large how we as proud Masons support local communities.

This year's golf day is taking place at Langdon Hills Golf Club on the 31st July and the Officers Mess will be held at Hutton Masonic Hall on the 27th November 2020.

Can I once again thank the Active Provincial Officers for their wonderful support they give on my visits to your Lodges, I really do believe their attendance adds so much to the meetings they attend.

Thank you for reading this edition and please remember without you there is no Province and we always welcome ideas for the future.



Provincial Grand Master



question MARK

by David Wilson PGSwdB.

"I order you to return to the quarries..."

We all remember that time in our Advancement when our stone is rejected and the WM gives us a telling off. So we shall return to the quarries. But where were those quarries?

We know that the highly prized Lebanese Cedar was cut and taken to Tyre where they were floated to Joppa a distance of approx 80 miles. They were then dragged to Jerusalem a distance of 40 miles. This type of Cedar was free of knots and easy to shape with little shrinkage and a sweet fragrance.

The quarries however were much nearer. In fact they are underneath what is now the North Wall of the Old City and

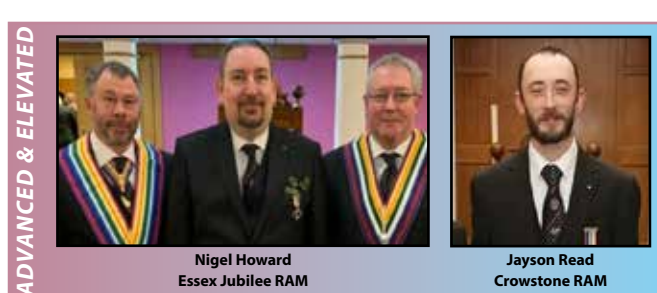
sit on the rock escarpment of Mount Moriah. The quarry was concealed during the Ottoman Empire in 1540 and only rediscovered by chance in 1854. It is also known as Zedekiah's Cave after his escape from the Babylonians. It contains many tunnels linking the Royal Palace of David to the Temple Mount and extends to Jericho some 13 miles away. The quarry itself is 330 feet wide by 650 feet deep.

There are 3 types of stone found here and clear evidence of stone cutting and removal of Ashlars can be found. The 'wailing wall' is comprised of this stone. This quarry may also have been where Solomon constructed the hiding place underneath his Temple and within the Mount Moriah to protect the Ark of the Covenant during times of upheaval.

At least now the Deacon will be able to tell the Advance 'where to go'!



Ranjit Bhogal Prov GJW with David Garston and John Chambers during a recent visit to Beaconsfield Lodge



Nigel Howard
Essex Jubilee RAM

Jayson Read
Crowstone RAM

The Essex Mark Charity Golf Day 2020

Venue

Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club
Lower Dunton Road, Bulphan
Upminster, Essex. RM14 3TY.
01268 548444
www.langdonhillsgolfclub.co.uk



Date

Friday 31st July 2020

Arrival time

10:30am - Tea/Coffee & Bacon Rolls

Evening Meal

3 Course Evening Meal
Raffle/Charity/Fund Raising

Prizes

Singles & Team Competition
Nearest Pin on all Par 3 holes
Nearest the line on 11th hole
Beat the Pro 14th hole (prize if shot is bettered)
Putting Competition



Cost per person
Whole Day - £60
incl. Breakfast, Golf and
Evening Meal
(Evening Meal Only) - £27

Contact Event Coordinator: Tony Latham
07940 913463 Abmlatham@aol.com

Northern Star Lodge

The first meeting of the Lodge after consecration took place at Harwich Masonic Hall on Saturday 14th March 2020 with a superb pre meeting breakfast not quite up to our PGM's standard as there was only one sausage, as this is a morning meeting the WM John Stannard and his wardens along with the very first initiate Russell Cole all dressed in their pyjamas for the breakfast where good humour was bantered around. The usual toasts were taken but without any firing in-between the reason for this was explained and demonstrated later in open lodge by the DC Jeffrey Hierons.



The ceremony was conducted in an excellent manner by all the officers who had had little practice and none at all at this centre which is quite different for many around, (you will need to visit us at Harwich to see why) before the closing of the lodge Richard Stephens presented our new candidate with a copy of the Lodge history so far. This is an interesting read for such a very young Lodge and contains many photographs of the pre consecration meetings as well as a group photograph of the founders and photographs at the festive board.





Essex Mark Bonus Ball Game 2020

The Essex Mark Bonus Ball Game was launched at the Essex Mark Provincial meeting at Felsted 2018 and is now almost two years old, and in that time has produced funds for the Essex Mark Welfare Fund in excess of £3,000. It has proved very popular with many individuals regularly purchasing numbers for themselves, and also many MMM/RAM Lodges purchasing a number under that unit's name. There have been many multiple winners and many individuals that have not yet won, but as a wise man once said "You have to be in it to win it".

The cost is £10 for a single number in a single game running for 10 weeks on consecutive Saturdays, and every weekly winning number will receive £30, so good odds for just £10 a week. The Bonus Ball popularity has caused many members to ask how they can buy more numbers, and in the last two years we have run a New Year and Christmas Eve Special Bonus Ball game which attracted a great deal of interest and paid out £200 to each of the winners.

We are now hopeful that more individuals and MMM/RAM

Lodges in Essex will consider purchasing a number, and perhaps purchase a number on a regular basis as many have done already. £50 will purchase a number for 10 weeks in 5 consecutive games, which will be the best part of a year, and 2 wins over that period would see the entrant's money returned with £10 to spare. Please contact us for more information.

Purchasing numbers can be done via the Mark website at www.essexmark.co.uk or by sending an email to emwfbonusball@gmail.com requesting a number, where one of the team will deal with the request. In both instances you will receive a return email with your allocated number. And remember if you would like to purchase a number for the year costing £50 which would run for 5 consecutive games of 10 weeks each, this is possible. The QR Code shown here will take you direct to the Bonus Ball page on the Mark website.

Thank you for your continued support.

Richard Goodwin
Essex Mark Bonus Ball Game
Coordinator



Essex Mark Media Team 2020

The Essex Mark Province continues to be a busy hub of activity, and the Media Team are always there to capture a story behind an event. The Media Team is ever evolving and has changes of personnel at periodic times during the year, and there have been a few changes since Felsted 2019. The province continues to be covered by 4 MLO's (Media Liaison Officer) who have around 12 MMM & RAM Lodges each to look after.

The relationship with secretaries/scribes is very important and the Media Team try to make sure this is in place, and arrange for information and photographs to be sent in about Advancements, Elevations, Installations and Anniversaries that occur at any of the MMM/RAM meetings. The stories are then published on the Essex Mark website and the Facebook/Twitter social media platforms, thus promoting the news and events from the MMM & RAM Lodges, and twice a year selected stories are published in the editions of the Mark Times.

As well as the hard working MLO's there are other members of the Media Team that get involved, and the MCC's (Masonic Centre Coordinators) continue to put up posters and promotion of events on notice boards at many masonic centres. There are more interviews planned for 2020 with prominent members of the province, and other masonic stories of interest concerning the Mark degree.



Richard Goodwin

Dave Todd

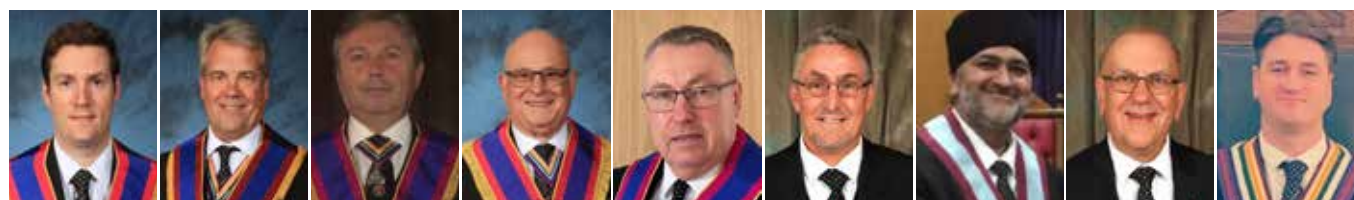
Geoff Newman

Mick West

The members of the Media Team, all with their own responsibilities, has changed slightly since 2019 and the team is now made up as follows:

- Media Communications Team Lead – Richard Goodwin**
- Media Communications Administrator & Facebook/Twitter Controller – Dave Todd**
- Media Liaison Officer MLO (North) – Parmjit Bansel**
- Media Liaison Officer MLO (South) – Brent McMurray**
- Media Liaison Officer MLO (East) – Steve Joslin**
- Media Liaison Officer MLO (West) – Dave Hook**
- Masonic Centre Coordinator – Steve Bannington**
- Masonic Centre Coordinator – Alan Wood**
- Masonic Centre Coordinator – Paul Snoad**
- Website Webmaster – Mick West**
- Graphics/Mark Times – Geoff Newman**
- Surveys/Twitter – Dave Todd/Jack Saunders**
- Media Team Photographer – Peter Nason**

If you would like to get involved with the Media Team and the work it carries out in the province, contact Richard Goodwin on richard-goodwin@virginmedia.com.



Paul Snoad

Steve Bannington

Alan Wood

Dave Hook

Brent McMurray

Steve Joslin

Parmjit Bansel

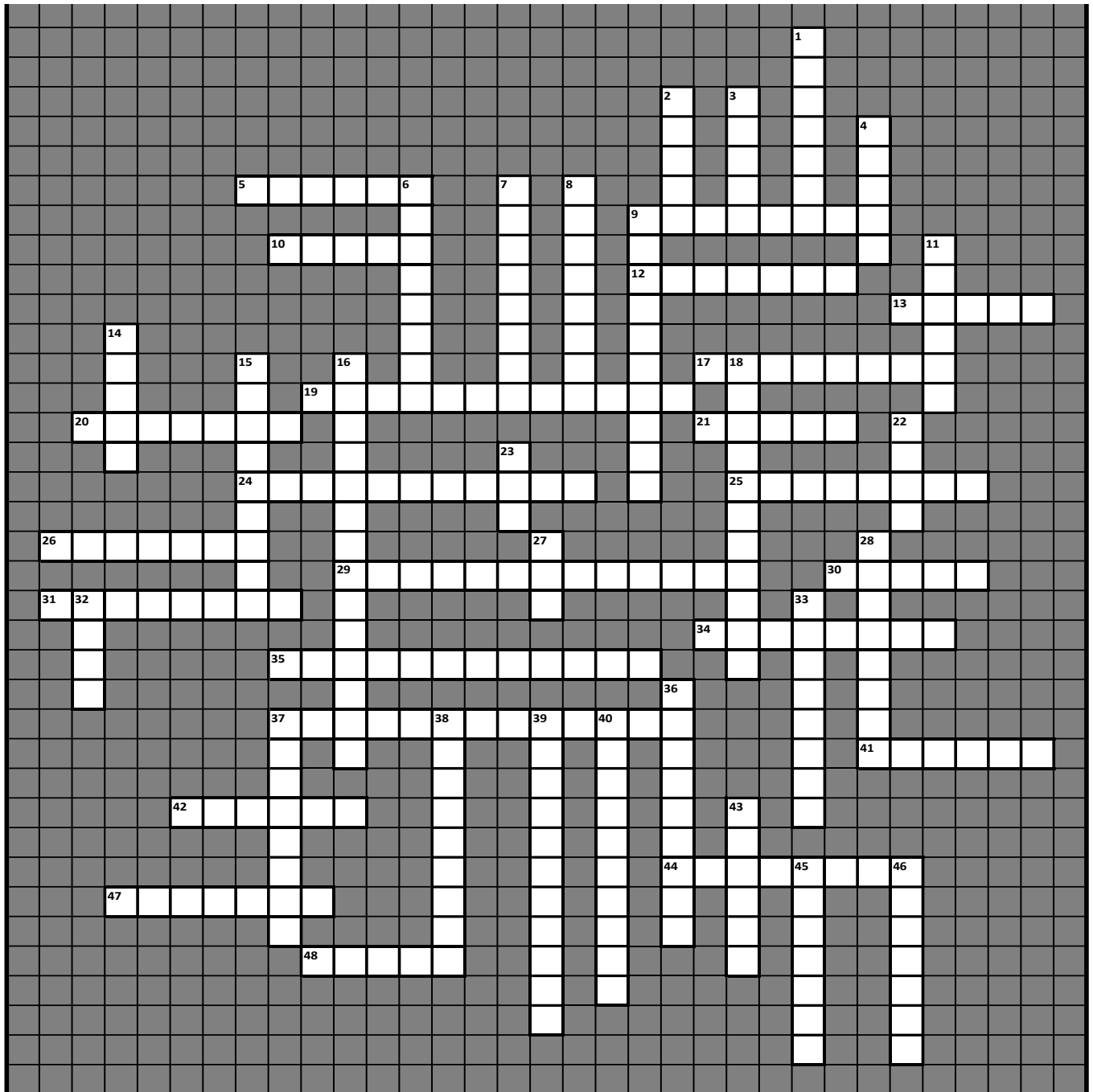
Peter Nason

Jack Saunders



We are the friendly degree - and there is never a "Cross Word" in the Lodge but we thought you might like a little entertainment.

Answers, if needed can be found on page 5.



Across

- 5 SD does this with his wand. 6
- 9 Chosen Mark lines are. 8
- 10 IG announces this before a degree. 5
- 12 Workman from the quarries are this. 7
- 13 Collected by the SD. 5
- 17 Important item in the Mark degree. 3,5
- 19 Name of third sign. 12
- 20 Can be given on the Tracing Board. 7
- 21 Brothers Mark is chosen this way. 5
- 24 Signed before admitting. 11
- 25 WM declares lodge open in this name. 8
- 26 Open for candidate to see. 7
- 29 Such ingenuity deserves this. 13
- 30 The King of Tyre. 5
- 31 Mark the sun at. 8
- 34 Chaplain reads this. 4,4
- 35 SD and Candidate do this around lodge. 12
- 37 Used during the Advancement. 8,5
- 41 Number of the Heave-Over sign. 6
- 42 Usually found in red. 6
- 44 Candidate accused of this. 8
- 47 There are two of in the Advancement. 7
- 48 Part of sign given before discharging. 5

Down

- 1 Type of apron worn by Deacons and Candidate. 7
- 2 Apron worn by Candidate. 5
- 3 Password of the passgrip. 5
- 4 Time of the hour and day in the degree. 5
- 6 Portions of the ritual are. 8
- 7 Approved work was passed to these. 8
- 8 Working Plan is placed on each one. 8
- 9 Work is reported to be at this status. 10
- 11 Used to tap the stones. 6
- 14 SW sees them distributed. 5
- 15 Stationed on the plains of. 9
- 16 Prize for he who succeeds in finding it. 6,8
- 18 MO demands this of the JO and SO. 11
- 22 Candidate chooses this. 4
- 23 Number of Principal Officers in the lodge. 3
- 27 The father of the daughters. 3
- 28 Candidate worked in this as an EA. 8
- 32 Gate of the MO. 4
- 33 Hebrew characters are this. 8
- 36 SD and Candidate move this way. 9
- 37 Ancient word. 8
- 38 SW says ancient punishment must be this. 9
- 39 JW discharges this. 7,4
- 40 Taken on kneeling stool. 10
- 43 Start of degree. 6
- 45 Type of Craftsmen who prepared it. 7
- 46 Stone was disposed of amongst this. 7



Crowstone Mark Lodge No. 945

are holding a fundraising event at:



123-125 Hamlet Court Rd, Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 7EW

Menu

Mixed Hors d'oeuvres
*Capital Ribs, Seaweed, Satay Chicken on Skewers,
 Mini Spring Rolls, Prawn on Toast, Crispy Won Ton*

Second Course
Crispy Aromatic Duck

Main Course
*Fillet Steak Cantonese Style
 Breast of Chicken in Chilli Black Bean Sauce
 Sweet & Sour Pork
 King Prawns with Seasonal Vegetables
 Plain Fried Noodles
 Egg Fried Rice*

only
£17.50
 each

Tables seat up to 10 people

TUESDAY 6th OCTOBER 2020 at 7.00 for 7.30pm

In aid of

The Essex Mark Benevolent fund.

Contact: Peter Steele on
 petersteales@aol.com or 07447 941205

ADVANCED & ELEVATED



Stephen Finch
 Constantine RAM



Erick Harding
 Tudor Lodge

ADVANCED & ELEVATED



Stefan Lenyk
 St.Nicholas Lodge



Robin Sudlow (l) & David Weightman (r)
 Beaconsfield RAM

ADVANCED & ELEVATED



Barry Bridgen & James Kier
 Potters Clay RAM



Parmjit Bansel
 Forest of Waltham Lodge

Mark Awareness Evenings

The Province of Essex held two very successful Mark Awareness Evenings held at Hutton Masonic Center and Colvin Memorial Temple, Clacton on Sea.

The Hutton evening was hosted by Ilford St. Mary Lodge, and the Executive Lead was by VW Bro Richard Bowyer DPGM, and Clacton was hosted by Aurelius Lodge and WBro John Finlay APMG was the Executive Lead.

The evenings attracted a combined total of 25 Craft Master Masons from various Lodges in Essex.

The format of the evening proved to be a great success at both venues, with a lot of hard work and explanation of both the Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges given by VW Bro Richard Bowyer and WBro John Finlay.



After the official part of the evening, all those present retired to the bar for a buffet and an informal chat with members of our "Friendly Degree". Both evenings proved to be very successful with a number of application joining forms completed.

Further Awareness Evenings are being planned and details will be published at a later date.



The explanation of the Overseers was found to be one of the most interesting parts of the evenings, especially when the Craft members were told that they would have to join to find out exactly what the Overseers roles are in the Ceremony of Advancement.

Crossword puzzle answers

| Across | Down |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 5 Knocks | 1 Working |
| 9 Straight | 2 Craft |
| 10 Alarm | 3 Joppa |
| 12 Anxious | 4 Sixth |
| 13 Plans | 6 Portions of the ritual are. 8 |
| 17 Key Stone | 7 Builders |
| 19 Discorsolate | 8 Pedestal |
| 20 Lecture | 9 Standstill |
| 21 Aptly | 11 Mallet |
| 24 Declaration | 14 Wages |
| 25 Adonirum | 15 Zaradatha |
| 26 Warrant | 16 Richly Rewarded |
| 29 Encouragement | 18 Explanation |
| 30 Huram | 22 Mark |
| 31 Meridian | 23 Six |
| 34 Holy Writ | 27 Dan |
| 35 Perambulates | 28 Quarries |
| 37 Kneeling Stool | 32 East |
| 41 Second | 33 Synonyms |
| 42 Rubric | 36 Clockwise |
| 44 Imposter | 37 Kebrath |
| 47 Wickets | 38 Inflicted |
| 48 Third | 39 Special Duty |
| | 40 Obligation |
| | 43 Report |
| | 45 Skilful |
| | 46 Rubbish |



New Fair Havens Hospice Update

The PGM and colleagues were recently invited to the new Havens Hospice building in Southend on Sea, to formally present the donation made via the MBF, the total donation being a magnificent £92,548.

A wonderful result for Essex Mark Master Masons and, we hope, a real difference to the quality of care that can be offered to those at a time of most need.

This sum is for the purchase of 17 specialist beds, at an individual cost of £5,300, for the new premises in Southend on Sea. That is a full donation for a bed in each and every one of the 16 in-patient rooms in the new hospice building.

Andy Smith, Chief Executive of Havens Hospices, says, "Thank you so much to Bob and to all his Provincial Colleagues; especially Roy Kaye and your Provincial Grand Master RW Bro Terence D. Sheern. Securing the funding we need to purchase all 16 beds is phenomenal. We are proud that The Mark Benevolent Fund has recognised the value of the care we provide, and we will work hard to ensure we make The Mark Benevolent Fund and the Essex Mark Province proud in the new Fair Havens Hospice.

The provision of 17 new beds is really transformative. For the first time our patients will be able to have the latest design in beds, not just 'riser/recliner' but the very best technology supporting patients to be comfortable, and reducing the risk of bed sores throughout their time with us. It is genuinely humbling to know that local Masons stand with us in providing excellent care to those who need it most."

This staggering and significant donation came about following a request at a meeting of Essex Installed Mark Masters Lodge by our Provincial Almoner, W Bro Roy Kaye. Having attended an Almoners Seminar at Mark Masons Hall, Roy heard of a similar donation having been made in another Province and that the MBF were looking to support other valuable and worthy charitable causes.

W Bro Bob Harvey was at the meeting and, he and his wife Margaret having been volunteers at the hospice for a combined total of 43 years between them, he approached Roy afterwards and raised the possibility of support for Havens.

Havens Hospice has, as many are no doubt aware, moved to a brand new and bespoke building on Priory Crescent, Southend opposite the Priory Park. The new premises, as well as having day care facilities has 16 in-patient rooms where complete, respectful and superlative care is offered to those needing the full facilities and support of the hospice.

The Provincial Grand Master is proud of the efforts made by Roy and Bob in securing the grant for such a worthy and worthwhile Essex Charity, as well as the assistance from Darren Coleman the Charities and Communications Coordinator at Mark Mason's Hall.

This is a real example of how your kind and generous donations are used.

