



## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE MARK MASTER MASONS SOMERSET

21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

Dear Sir and Brother,

Accompanying this letter is a letter from the Provincial Grand Secretary which sets out clear guidance for each Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodge to conduct their business during the remainder of 2020. Whilst it is a great shame that we are not able to meet together, it is with great pride that I write to you on the achievements of the Mark Degree in Somerset with support to the various food banks in Somerset. We are currently working to support the charities that were detailed in the Spring edition of the Keystone magazine and more information on this will come from the Provincial Grand Charity Steward. I would ask each of you to give careful consideration to my request for charitable contributions which will be detailed in his letter.

I would ask all Lodge Almoners to make an extra effort to keep in touch with all Lodge members during this time when we shall not be meeting and the Provincial Grand Almoner is always available to assist Lodge Almoners in assessing individual cases. To date, I am pleased to say that from the 'Keeping in touch' initiative, whilst we have had several members who have had Covid 19, no one has succumbed to this dreadful disease.

I would remind you to keep taking wine at nine in support of our 'Together we are stronger' and as a reminder of those Brethren whose fellowship and friendship we are presently missing.

The Provincial Executive have been working very hard behind the scenes on your behalf and have adapted to the current situation. As well as now having a Provincial Zoom account, the next issue of the Keystone magazine will be an on-line version only and we have also set up an e-mail birthday card for all Brethren to receive on their birthdays via the Jacque Lawson cards website.

In addition to holding virtual business meetings, I would encourage Lodges to hold a Zoom meeting on their intended meeting night which I think would be a nice way to keep in touch with members during the coming months.

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Brethren, we will work on your behalf to keep the Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Degree interesting and engaging in the absence of meaningful meetings but for now, we must change our emphasis from brotherly love, relief and truth to health, health and health.

With kind fraternal regards,



Philip C. Noveck