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January 2022

## ANNUAL CIRCULAR No 139

Dear Sir and Brother,

This Annual Circular comprises a report on the activities of the Order since 1st January 2021, notices of forthcoming events, announcements of administrative changes, reminders about certain Rules and guidance and instructions on relations with foreign jurisdictions.

### MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

Membership of the Supreme Council 33° stands, with effect from 1st January 2022, as follows:

M.:P.:Bro G D A Elgood 33°	Sovereign Grand Commander
V.:P.:Bro D K Williamson 33°	Lieutenant Grand Commander
M.:Ill.:Bro the Rt Hon the Lord Wigram MVO 33°	Grand Marshal
M.:Ill.:Bro R E Furber 33°	Grand Captain General
M.:Ill.:Bro John Boyington CBE 33°	Grand Treasurer General H.: E.:
M.:Ill.:Bro J A F Thom QC 33°	Grand Chamberlain
M.:Ill.:Bro N G I Bosanquet 33°	Grand Chancellor
M.:Ill.:Bro the Revd Dr S A Thorn 33°	Grand Prior
M.:Ill.:Bro Dr G R E Shilson 33°	Grand Secretary General H.: E.:

### SUMMARY OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

During the period under review Members of the Supreme Council held three meetings of the 33° at which eight candidates were promoted, conducted five meetings of the Higher Degrees (during which 258 Brethren were invested), installed six Inspectors General, re-presented patents to eight Inspectors General (seven by proxy and one in person) and visited the Districts of: Baldwyn, Cambridge & Isle of Ely, Devonshire, Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire, Somerset, South Wales & Monmouthshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire and the St James and St Matthew Groups of London Chapters. One visit to foreign jurisdictions was conducted, for the inauguration of the Sovereign Grand Commander for Finland in Helsinki. During the year, Members of the Supreme Council for Germany and India and the Grand Master of the Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemasons attended meetings at Duke Street. Since July 2021 the Council has once again been meeting physically rather than virtually.

### 33RD DEGREE

The Supreme Council records with great regret the death of the following members of the 33°:

M.:P.:Bro G L Tedder 33°	Past Sovereign Grand Commander
V.:Ill.:Bro G M Cooper 33°	Past Inspector General for Lincolnshire
V.:Ill.:Bro Graham Aitken 33°	Past Inspector General for Nottinghamshire
V.:Ill.:Bro F J Rademan 33°	Past Inspector General for South Africa, Eastern Natal

The 33rd and last Degree was conferred on the following Brethren:

V.:Ill.:Bro D R Jarvis 33°	Inspector General Designate in Charge, Berkshire
V.:Ill.:Bro M P Penny 33°	Inspector General, St James Group of London Chapters
V.:Ill.:Bro M T Penny 33°	Inspector General, Devonshire

V.:Ill.:Bro R J Hopkinson-Woolley 33°	Inspector General, St Matthew Group of London Chapters
V.:Ill.:Bro Darryll Robertson 33°	Inspector General Designate in Charge, South Africa, Western Natal
V.:Ill.:Bro D C van Vuuren 33°	Inspector General Designate in Charge, South Africa, Central
V.:Ill.:Bro A S McLaren 33°	Inspector General Designate in Charge, North East Lancashire
V.:Ill.:Bro J R Hubbard 33°	Inspector General Designate in Charge, South Essex
V.:Ill.:Bro W N C Hale 33°	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies 33°
V.:Ill.:Bro the Revd Dr S A Thorn 33°	Grand Prior Designate

The Supreme Council has been pleased to extend the following patents for a further period:

V.:Ill.:Bro M A F Ribeiro 33°	Ghana
V.:Ill.:Bro C N Burn 33°	South Africa, North East
V.:Ill.:Bro Ian Clark 33°	South West Lancashire
V.:Ill.:Bro Wg Cdr P N I Harborne 33°	Buckinghamshire
V.:Ill.:Bro J A Carey 33°	Bahamas & Turks
V.:Ill.:Bro W D O Ookok 33°	East Africa

## OFFICIALS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

The Supreme Council is pleased to announce the following promotions and appointment:

Ill.:Bro A R Brumwell JP 32°	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
Ill.:Bro J D A Smithdale 31°	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
Ill.:Bro G A Cowley 32°	Deputy Grand Organist

## STAFF

In November 2021, we welcomed Mr Mark Wheeler to the team as Front of House and Deputy, Buildings.

## CHAPTERS

No Warrants were granted for new Chapters.

Centenary Warrants were granted to Faith Chapter No. 210 (Hampshire & Isle of Wight, Wessex) and Pontypridd Chapter No. 227 (South Wales & Monmouthshire).

The following Chapters surrendered their Warrants to the Supreme Council during 2021: George Harradon Chapter No. 330 (South West Lancashire); Gethsemane Chapter No. 382 (South West Lancashire); Rufford Chapter No. 689 (Nottinghamshire); Eighteenth Milestone Chapter No. 727 (Middlesex); Canon Francis Paton-Williams No. 781 (North East Lancashire); St George at Chertsey Chapter No. 984 (Surrey); and Trireme Chapter No. 1047 (North Essex).

## HIGHER DEGREES MEETINGS OVERSEAS

Higher Degrees Meetings were held in Ghana and Nigeria.

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Owing to Covid-19, just 45 candidates were Perfected in the year to 30th June 2021 compared with 696 in the previous year and 972 in 2019. The number of subscriptions received fell by 1,587 to 23,821. The number of extant Chapters on 30th June 2021 was 899 with an average membership of 27. The average age of candidates for Perfection was 52.

## RELATIONS WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS

The Supreme Council is currently in amity with the following jurisdictions:

- a) The Supreme Councils for the United States of America (the Southern Jurisdiction and the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction), Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Haiti, India, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mauritius, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Spain, South Africa, Switzerland, Togo, Turkey, Uruguay and Venezuela;

b) The Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish Orders of Freemasons.

For the avoidance of doubt, please note that relations with any body styling itself the Supreme Council for Greece are currently suspended.

If you intend to visit a Chapter of a jurisdiction with which we are in amity, other than Scotland or Ireland, please obtain your Inspector General's approval in advance. **This is particularly important in the case of territories, such as France, in which there are several Supreme Councils of which only one is considered regular.** The same applies if you wish to invite a member of another jurisdiction to visit your Chapter. If you wish to visit a Chapter under the Supreme Council for Ireland, you must contact the office of the Grand Secretary General beforehand.

Communications between Supreme Councils are normally conducted by Grand Secretaries General. Brethren should therefore not attempt, without the Grand Secretary General's prior permission, to make direct contact with another jurisdiction.

## FINANCE – YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2021

	2021	2020
<b>Balance Sheet:</b>	£	£
Fixed assets	1,048,490	1,054,914
Investments	1,251	1,251
Net current assets	<u>1,098,359</u>	<u>849,729</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>2,148,100</b>	<b>1,905,894</b>
<b>Capital Fund</b>	<b>2,148,100</b>	<b>1,905,894</b>
<b>Income and Expenditure Account:</b>		
<b>Income from:</b>		
Members	520,759	651,045
Rent/hire of rooms	176,349	187,270
Investments & deposits	158	512
Other income	<u>117,828</u>	<u>18,399</u>
	815,094	857,226
<b>Expenditure:</b>		
Staff costs	372,368	392,981
Building admin./maintenance	125,630	167,067
Office administration	66,583	98,339
Council activities	<u>8,307</u>	<u>97,289</u>
	<u>572,888</u>	<u>755,676</u>
Surplus for the year before		
release of provisions	242,206	101,550
Release of provisions	0	324,536
Capital Fund brought forward	<u>1,905,894</u>	<u>1,479,808</u>
<b>Capital Fund carried forward</b>	<b>2,148,100</b>	<b>1,905,894</b>

The above is extracted from the accounts audited by haysmacintyre LLP, Chartered Accountants. If any member of the Order wishes to view the audited accounts, he may do so with prior notification to the office. Please note that owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, which once again greatly affected the financial year, the accounts show a surplus in funds, owing largely to: income from the Coronavirus Job Retention ('furlough') Scheme, grants from Westminster City Council, a rates holiday, committed (but deferred) expenditure and curtailed Council activities.

## ANNUAL DUES AND FEES

The Supreme Council has decided that the Annual Dues payable on 1st July 2022 will once again remain at £20.00 (plus VAT where applicable) for every subscribing member of each Chapter during all or part of the preceding year. Districts overseas (except where special arrangements apply) will continue to remit £16.00 per subscribing member, retaining the balance of £4.00 to help defray District costs.

## DISTRICT/GROUP LEVIES

The maximum levy that each Inspector General is authorised to make on each subscribing member in his District/Group to help defray District/Group costs remains at £2.00.

## QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Brethren are reminded that all candidates for membership of the Ancient and Accepted Rite under our jurisdiction must profess the Trinitarian Christian faith and have been Master Masons **for at least one year** as set out in Rule 36(a)(ii) of the Rules of the Order. Proposers and seconders must check that their candidates are duly qualified.

## BRETHREN MOVING TO ANOTHER DISTRICT

Any member moving home to another District is strongly encouraged to advise his current Inspector General in order to receive assistance with an introduction to the Inspector General of his new District and to a Chapter near his new home.

## DUAL ALLEGIANCE/AFFILIATION

Brethren are reminded that except in Cyprus, New Zealand and India, where specific arrangements are in force, allegiance to more than one Supreme Council is not permitted. Enquiries about this subject are to be submitted to the Grand Secretary General.

## THE 2022 YEAR BOOK

The Supreme Council requires that a copy of the Year Book be given to every new member on his Perfection.

The Year Book provides information that cannot be included in Annual Circulars, such as detailed lists of members of the South African Branch Council, the 33°, Districts, Groups and Chapters. It also contains an Historical Section, with chronological lists of Members of the Supreme Council (and the offices they have held) and of other members of the 33°. It should also be noted, that in the light of recent data protection legislation, it has been decided that the contact details for Chapter Recorders will no longer be shown in the Year Book. Any member seeking to contact or visit a Chapter should do so through the relevant District or Group Recorder. A copy of the Year Book, the cost of which is £12, is sent to each Chapter Recorder. You may order copies of the 2022 Year Book through your Recorder or purchase one in person from Reception at 10 Duke Street St James's.

## KING EDWARD VII CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT – DEMONSTRATIONS

In 2022, by permission of the Supreme Council, demonstrations of the 14° will be given on: Monday 25th April at Freemasons' Hall, London; Saturday 11th June at the Royal Assembly Rooms, Great Yarmouth; Saturday 18th June at Saxon Hall, Southend-on-Sea; Saturday 2nd July at Brookfield Hall, Bolton; and Saturday 16th July at the Masonic Hall, Nottingham.

In 2023, demonstrations of the 15° and 16° will be given on: Monday 24th April at Freemasons' Hall, London; Saturday 3rd June at Sindlesham Masonic Centre, Berkshire; Saturday 10th June at Langstone Cliff Hotel, Dawlish Warren, Devonshire; and Saturday 24th June at the Masonic Hall, Rochdale.

The Members of the Supreme Council take this opportunity to thank all members of the Order for their continued support at this challenging time, and send their very best wishes for 2022.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,



Dr G R E Shilson 33°

Grand Secretary General H.:E.: