

## **Provincial Grand Scribe Ezra's Report 2016/2017.**

The 2016 Annual Convocation, held here again in the Webbington Hotel, proved to be as successful as in previous years. There was an unfortunate incident just after the Obituaries had been read out, when a visiting Companion collapsed, and the Convocation had to be called off. With the assistance of various Companions administering first aid, the patient was soon able sit up whilst awaiting the ambulance. The Convocation was then called on, and resumed normal service. I'm glad to be able to report he has made a full recovery. I can also report that at this Convocation, we are lucky enough to have the services of the St. Johns Ambulance personnel should there be another similar occurrence.

The Provincial Team were then able to meet, socialise and get to know one another soon afterwards at the Commodore Hotel, Sand Bay, where the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent held sway over his latest flock!

The team were soon in action, with visits to Brotherly Love Chapter No. 135 on 16<sup>th</sup> June, a full team visit to Quantock Chapter No. 4446 on 21<sup>st</sup>. June with a Tracing Board ceremony, and Royal Cyrus Chapter No. 285 on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

A highlight was on 23<sup>rd</sup> September with a full team visit to Vale of Jehoshaphat Chapter No.291 where a Ceremony of the Veils was performed, together with a celebration of E.Comp. Reg Ferm's 50 years in Freemasonry, complete with him being presented with his certificate.

With the Masonic season in full swing, October saw a total of 9 partial visits to various Chapters, and November saw an incredible 14 visits in total, which included 6 Installations.

At the end of November I learnt that, due to personal reasons, E.Comp. Patrick Haxell, Provincial Grand Scribe E, wished to relinquish his duties. The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent then asked me, to my astonishment, if I would be prepared to become the new Provincial Grand Scribe E, and so it transpired! The duties attached to the post are many and varied, and it is with my sincere thanks to E.Comp. Patrick Haxell that the transition took place without a hitch. We continue to keep in touch, as E.Comp. Patrick is continuing as Scribe E for Connaught Chapter No. 3573.

My thanks also must go to E.Comp. Alan Holton, past Provincial Grand Scribe E, who has been such a help, and without whom I neither would nor could do the job. His promotion to Deputy Grand Superintendent is a just reward for not only the amount of work he does, but also the quality of that work, and we are lucky to have him as part of the team.

Christmas and the New Year came and went, with more visits to various Chapters, and so February arrived, with the Provincial Weekend at Bideford.

Another outstanding success, with the hotel and dining room full to bursting. I could not be there as I had an outstanding commitment, and it remains the social highlight of Provincial Chapter. Much credit must go to E.Comp. Keith Fisher and his wife Margaret for their continued hard work in organising the event. There is no doubt it will continue to be successful with the support of all Somerset Provincial Chapter Companions.

The month of March saw another 14 visits, including a very successful team meeting at Royal Sussex Chapter No.53 at Bath and 4 Installations.

The Quadripartite Meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March was hosted by Wiltshire this year, with a very successful meeting in Chippenham, followed the day after by the first of the seasons Provincial Convocations at Oxford. Neighbouring Provinces will be holding their own Convocations throughout the year, and rest assured that Somerset will be represented by at least one or more Companions at Gloucs and Hereford, Wiltshire, Berkshire, Monmouthshire, Bristol, Hants and Isle of Wight, South Wales, Dorset, Cornwall and Devon. Representatives of those Provinces will be present at our Convocation, a chance for everyone to socialise and exchange views and ideas.

My sincere thanks to all the Somerset Chapter Scribe E's for their continued support, consideration, hard work and commitment they have shown me and their respective Chapters. It is to their credit, amongst others, that the system works so well, and that we have such a comprehensive database of detail of every Chapter.

Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, I look forward to working with you and the various other members of Somerset Provincial Grand Chapter for another year, and I am sure that with your continued support and enthusiasm the Province will flourish and grow to even greater heights.

Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, I submit my report for your approval.

E.Comp. A. J. Beaumont  
Provincial Grand Scribe Ezra.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Carols and Readings for Christmas.

(For R.A. Companions Family and Friends)

Venue: - **St John's Church, Glastonbury.**

Contact: - E Comp Keith Fisher Provincial Events Organiser

Date: - Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017

Times: - 3.30pm Carols and Readings.

Complimentary Refreshments in the Church Cafe.

Finish approximately 5.00 pm.

### Annual Provincial Weekend

(For R.A. Companions, Family and Friends)

Venue: - **Durrant House Hotel, Bideford**

Contact: - E Comp Keith Fisher Provincial Events Organiser.

Dates: - Friday & Saturday 2/3 February 2018

Times: - 7pm Friday 2nd February - Buffet

7pm for 7.30pm Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February – Dinner.