



District Grand Council of Kent

District Grand Secretary's Report 2016

Right Worshipful District Grand Prefect and Brethren, it is my pleasure to present my eighth, and final report as District Grand Secretary for the District of Kent.

Like last year - I will start with an on this day fact. On this day, Saturday 20th February 1986, it was announced that a channel tunnel would be built by France and Britain. This underground travel path was commonly referred to as the "Chunnel" which combines the words tunnel and channel.

As usual, I shall start again with the Statistical Report for this District. During the last twelve months the District has seen four new members Introduced, Received and Admitted into our Order. This is a decrease on recent years – however may I again quote at this point – as I do every year, a very well known saying "Quality – not quantity". Sadly our number was reduced by the death of four of our members, W.Bro's. Roy Albert Pike, John Alfred Edmondson, Malcolm Cheeseman and Bro. Edwin John Tunbridge, along with ten resignations and two exclusions. In 2015 - I reported the Order in Kent had remained static for the last two years. The Order in Kent, this past year has sadly reduced in numbers by 15. We now stand with a membership figure of 165 the same as 2011/12.

The District website continues to grow, something our District Grand Prefect is very happy about. The gateway is shared with the Royal and Select Masters for Kent. The address remains as www.amdandrms.co.uk it can also be found if Googled. It is now updated on a quarterly basis.

The Councils within the District are still promoting their stock of, cufflinks and lapel badges. A new batch of ties will be available later next month. If you would like to be properly dressed at our Allied meetings in Kent – then please see your Council Secretary.

My personal continued gratitude and thanks again go to the seven Council Secretaries within our District for their assistance and prompt responses to my requests. Their attention to submitting the annual returns back to me by the due date again this year was very much appreciated not only by me, but by the Grand Secretary as well.

Again this year, heartfelt thanks must also go to my Assistant District Grand Secretary, W.Bro. Jody Townsend for his help and assistance, not only with

this meeting but throughout the year. I wish him good luck in his new position of District Grand Secretary. My thanks are also given to W.Bro's Trevor Harrison, David Raymond and Derek Edwicker for their assistance at the last five District meetings.

Visiting other Districts across the country remains an important and great duty for the District Grand Prefect, the Deputy District Grand Prefect and the District Grand Secretary. Between R.W.Bro. Brockbank and W.Bro. Apperley - the District of Kent has been represented at 15 of the 19 other Districts within the Order.

Again, as in previous years, my thanks at this point also go to the District Grand Secretaries of the other Districts. I was reminded that, for the last year; I have been the most senior District Grand Secretary in the Order, a mantle I now pass to my great friend W.Bro. Geoff Keer, the District Grand Secretary of East Anglia. I have seen many, many changes across the other Districts. But still their support and friendship remained an added comfort and, again; I thank them all for that.

I submit my great personal appreciation for the large number of Kentish Brethren that attended Grand Council last October. Congratulations must also go to those Brethren who received Grand Rank appointments, re-appointments and promotions: R.W.Bro. Clive Manuel re-appointed as Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Kessick Jones re-appointed as President of the Executive committee, W.Bro. David Jordan appointed to Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, W.Bro. Trevor Harrison promoted to Past Grand Junior Deacon, W.Bro's. Peter Torres and Derek Wilkins both appointed to Past Grand Standard Bearer and W.Bro's. Peter Abbott and Roy Pike both appointed to Past Grand Inner Guard. My congratulations also to the Brethren receiving promotion, appointment; re-appointment and first appointments in District Grand Rank today.

The first of two Founders meetings of the Roy Albert John Williams Past Masters Council will take place in early March. Along with the District Grand Prefect and Deputy District Grand Prefect, we are very excited about the birth of, not only a new Council in the District – but a Past Masters Council which will conduct the degrees of Red Cross of Babylon and Grand High Priest. It will meet twice a year.

Finally, I thank both the Past and present District Grand Prefects, and Deputy District Grand Prefects for the working relationship and friendship I have enjoyed over my eight year term as the District Grand Secretary for the District of Kent.

W.Bro. Jason Cameron-Potter. P.G.Swd.B.
District Grand Secretary for Kent.