# About our District

The East Midlands District Grand Council was Constituted at Derby on Saturday August 19th, 2000.

Our District Grand Prefect is R.W. Bro. Steven Graeme Barratt who was Installed by the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Thomas Firth Jackson on August 20th 2022.

The East Midlands District is made up of 5 counties, so is large geographically. The counties are Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Rutland and Northamptonshire

Our councils are spread over the entire District

**Nottinghamshire Council No 63**
Freemasons Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham
3rd Fri June (I), 3rd Fri September

**Grange Council No 94**
Masonic Hall, Littleover, Derby
3rd Thurs May (I), 2nd Wed July,1st Mon September

**Dunston Pillar Council No 101**
Masonic Rooms, Sleaford
3rd Sat March, 1st Mon June (I), last Thur October

**Bradley Haverstoe Council No 106**
Masonic Hall, Kings Road, Cleethorpes
1st Fri May, 3rd Monday June 4th Friday August (I)

**Ratae Council No 124**
Masonic Hall. London Road, Leicester
1st Thurs June, 3rd Wed November (I)

**Rose of the Shires Council No 152**
Masonic Hall, Wellingborough Rd, Rushden
3rd Thurs March 3rd Friday October (I)

**Mowbray Council No 178**
Masonic Hall, Scunthorpe
1st Tues June, 1st Mon July, 1st Mon August (I)

**The Golden Jubilee Council No 179**
Masonic Hall, George Street, Lutterworth
4th Thurs May, 4th Tues September (I)

**The Maun Council No 215**
The Masonic Hall, Nottingham Rd, Mansfield
1st Thurs May, 3rd Mon September (I)

**Cleve Council No 231**
Masonic Hall, Elm Avenue, Long Eaton
4th Thurs March, 4th Thurs July (I)

**Kimbolton Council No 237**
Masonic Centre, Bretton, Peterborough
1st Fri February, 4th Monday June (I)

**Earl Howe Council No 257**
Masonic Centre, Orchard St, Loughborough
3rd Mon February, 2nd Thurs June (I)

**Spire Council No 283**
Masonic Hall, Saltergate, Chesterfield
3rd Wed June (I), 3rd Wed December.

# The Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees

## District of East Midlands

**A wonderful and captivating advancement in your Masonic Knowledge**

# An introduction to the Allied Masonic Degrees

Once a Brother has been Exalted into the Royal Arch Chapter, and Advanced into the Mark Degree, there are many other Degrees that he can become a member of, but one of the nicest and friendliest is the Allied Masonic Degrees.

The Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees was founded in 1879 to bring under its jurisdiction all Lodges of various orders who recognised no central Authority and were not regulated by the other major governing bodies.

Initially the degrees of Grand High Priest, St Lawrence the Martyr, The Red Cross of Babylon and Knights Of Constantinople placed themselves under the control of this body and by 1897 the degrees of Grand Tilers of Solomon, one degree of the Secret Monitor and the Order of Holy Wisdom (Knights Templar Priest grades) had also been included.

Eventually however in 1923, a Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests for England was erected at Newcastle and the Grand Council accordingly disclaimed control of this large group of degrees.

Following this in 1931, the Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees agreed to cease working their single degree of the Secret Monitor and so today, Private Councils of the Order are therefore empowered to work the degrees of

St Lawrence the Martyr
Knights of Constantinople
Grand Tilers of Solomon
Red Cross of Babylon
Grand High Priests

In 1972 the title of this body changed to the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degree and today there are more than 250 Councils that range under its banner.

# Structure of the Order

In a Council of Allied Masonic Degrees, we find that ‘Office’ structure varies from degree to degree.

The degree of St Lawrence the Martyr is **always** the first degree a new candidate must take, and it is in this degree in which all administrative work is undertaken, and the Installation of the Worshipful Master of the Council takes place.

All other degrees can be taken in the Brother’s ‘Mother Council’ or in any other Council, and in any order.

The five ceremonies are very different, are dramatic, and involve a lot of role-playing making them enjoyable to perform yet despite this, each degree contains serious Masonic lessons to captivate and enthral all involved and will leave a lasting impression on every candidate.

**The Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr** must be taken first. It explains how Lawrence gave his life rather than betray his principles and responsibilities. Integrity and fortitude are the lessons to be learned here. The other four degrees may be taken in any order.

**Knights of Constantinople** concerns the relationship between the Emperor Constantine and his subjects. The ceremony is entertaining and amusing but at the end, the candidate is left in no doubt of the importance of humility.

**Grand Tilers of Solomon** is a very dramatic degree set in the secret vault beneath the Temple. It teaches us to reflect on the danger of hasty judgment.

**Red Cross of Babylon** covers the gap between the Craft and the Royal Arch, Zerubbabel obtaining permission to commence the rebuilding of the Temple. The lesson is the supreme importance of truth.

**The Order of Grand High Priest** sees the candidate anointed, consecrated and set apart to the service of God in the High Priesthood. This is a special and uplifting ceremony, which many believe should be the last degree to be taken.

Once all 5 Degrees are complete, your Mother Council Secretary will apply for your Grand Council Certificate.

If you are interested in joining this wonderful Order, please contact the District Secretary, V.W. Bro. Philip Aitken either by telephone (07747622989) or by e mail (p.aitken2@ntlworld.com) who will put you in contact with your preferred Council Secretary.

Our Grand Master is Most Worshipful Brother Thomas Firth Jackson

# COME AND JOIN US!