

## **Provincial Grand Master's Address, 8th July 2010**

My address to you today will be short, following advice, and will centre on saying thank you for such a wonderful day.

It is a great honour to have been installed as the Provincial Grand Master for this wonderful Province of Warwickshire and I should start by thanking Sandra for her full support in encouraging me to take on this role.

My especial thanks go to the MW The Pro Grand Master for his kindness and re-assurance throughout last night and all of today. His calmness and personal encouragement have helped enormously to assuage my nervousness and to enable me to fully enjoy the day. Thanks too to the Grand Secretary VW Bro Nigel Brown for his hard work and advice in enabling today to happen and for being with us to ensure that it went well. The ceremonial aspect of today has been especially memorable and for that we must thank W Bro Sebastian Madden, Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, W Bros Rupert Bull and Michael Correa, both Assistant Grand Directors of Ceremonies, and to W Bro Malcolm Brooks, the Grand Tyler.

Today we have been supported by so many visitors who have travelled great distances to be with us. Thank you in today's advised abbreviated format, to the twelve RW Brethren from the Provinces of Shropshire; Herefordshire; Bristol; Berkshire; Staffordshire; Worcestershire; Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire; Derbyshire; Nottinghamshire; Monmouthshire; Gloucestershire; and Leicestershire and Rutland, together with the other distinguished brethren who have accompanied them from their provinces or indeed have joined us from other provinces including our own. Your presence today has encouraged us all and added to holding a special memory for me personally.

My greatest thank you is to you all for attending today in such large numbers to give us your encouragement and support. It illustrates very clearly to me just how vibrant Freemasonry is within this Province and long may that continue.

I congratulate all of the Provincial Officers who have been re-appointed today and look forward to working with them throughout the forthcoming year. It also enables me to announce that I have appointed W Bro Trevor Sturt as the new 2012 Festival Director with immediate effect. Trevor will have the task of guiding our festival through the last two years and I am certain that his enthusiasm and steely determination will ensure that we shall reach our target.

I can also today announce that it is my intention to appoint W Bro Eric John Rymer as the fifth Assistant Provincial Grand Master. W Bro Eric will be installed at the next meeting of the Warwickshire Installed Masters' Lodge on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010. We congratulate Eric and also thank the RW Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire for allowing me to lure him back to his rightful home in Warwickshire.

A final thank you to all of those who have worked so hard in ensuring that today went so smoothly and so well.

David F Macey