



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE
OF HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT

Coronavirus Bulletin 2

3rd April 2020

Dear Bro Secretary,

I trust that you and your family are keeping safe and well under the current lockdown and that you are giving and receiving adequate support to and from your lodge. Hopefully, the following notes will be useful to you in keeping abreast of the latest developments and ideas across the Province:

1. Feeling Isolated and Alone?

Does anyone need any practical help of any kind or does anyone feel isolated and want a telephone call and a chat?

Please don't be bashful; if we can help each other in any way at all we must give support to our brethren. If I can help personally, please let me know by return. The Provincial Office telephone system has a direct line to all the Provincial Team – just call 02380 261555.

2. Innovative Ideas and Actions from around the Province

- a) In support of the national initiative, many Lodges have arranged a 9 o'clock toast on pre-arranged day when brethren join each other via a video app and toast 'absent brethren'.
- b) Brethren are making extensive use of WhatsApp - sharing comments and amusing videos between lodge members – all helping to keep up the morale.
- c) A significant number of brethren have signed up to the NHS call for volunteers. In addition, I would ask your lodge to consider deploying younger and fitter members to support those brethren who may be older, have an underlying medical condition, or are simply living alone. I am sure that this would be well received.
- d) Secretaries may consider sending out a 'mock summons' at the time the Lodge Summons would usually be issued - but rather than the details of the meeting, the document can include other interesting items such as historical facts and anecdotes about the lodge.
- e) Many lodges have organised on-line video LOIs where members get together and practice their ritual (please bear in mind that masonic passwords or tokens should not be spoken or acted out – see the Grand Secretary's note attached to the previous bulletin). There are several video conferencing apps available including 'Zoom', which is simple to use and free for the first 40 minutes. Brethren can use their mobile phone, laptop or tablet providing it has a camera and microphone.

3. Quiz

If you and your brethren have done all the chores, washed the cars, mowed the lawns, sorted out all the painting and decorating or any other "little jobs" presented by certain parties then you might find it a pleasant diversion to see how many of the questions you can answer in the attached quiz without having to look at the Blue Book (Courtesy of Andy Hare and the Province of Isle of Man).

4. Q&As

UGLE have issued their own list of Q&As for Lodge Secretaries and these have been included in the attached updated Provincial Q&As (items 10 to 21 inclusive). A 'red Q' can identify new items. You will also see an additional Q&A from the ProvGSuptWks (item 33).

Bulletins will be issued on Fridays going forward – either weekly or fortnightly depending on available content.

Fraternal Regards
Frank Milner
Provincial Grand Secretary