

The Arms of the United Grand Lodge of England

The Arms are a combination of the coats of the 'Modern' and 'Ancient' Grand Lodges.

The former, founded in 1717, adopted the Arms granted in 1473 to the Freemasons' Company of London (the three castles and compasses). The 'rival' Grand Lodge formed in 1751, known as 'Atholl' or 'Antient', adopted arms (the man, lion, ox and eagle) which are alleged to have been designed by one Jacob Jehudah Leoni, who flourished towards the end of the 17th century.

The two coats of arms were combined, by impalement, at the union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813, with the addition of the Crest (the Ark) and the Supporters (two Cherubs) which were adopted from the Armorial Bearings of the 'Ancients'.

The representation of the Arms became very diverse and at variance both as to design and colours, so that in 1918 the College of Arms was approached to regularise them. His late Majesty, King George V, was graciously pleased to grant the Arms, which up to that time had been used by Grand Lodge without authority, and permission was given to add the bordure of lions, indicative of the Arms of England, to mark the long and close association of the Royal House with our Institution.

Blazon (coat of arms)

Per pale gules and quarterly azure and or; dexter, on a chevron, between three castles argent, a pair of compasses extended of the third, sinister, a cross quarterly of the fourth and vert, between, in the first quarter, a lion rampant of the third, in the second, an ox passant sable, in the third, a man with hands elevated proper, vested of the fifth, the robe crimson lined with ermine, and in the fourth an eagle displayed also of the third: the whole within a bordure of the first, charged with eight lions passant guardant of the third. For the Crest, on a wreath of the colours, a representation of an ark supported on either side by a cherub proper, with the motto over in Hebrew characters 'Holiness to the Lord': and for the supporters, on either side a cherub proper.

The heraldic description may be rendered in ordinary language as follows:

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The Shield - is divided vertically into two halves. That on the left has a red ground, bearing a silver chevron on which is extended a pair of gold compasses: above the chevron are two silver castles, with a third below the right-hand side of the shield is divided into quarters by a cross which is itself also 'quartered' i.e. each arm of the cross is equally divided along its length and coloured in alternately green and silver. The first quarter of this side of the shield has a blue ground on which is a golden lion; the second quarter has a gold ground on which is a black ox; the third quarter also has a gold ground and on it a man, with his arms elevated. His main garment is green over which is a crimson robe lined with ermine. His face, hands and feet are in natural colours. The fourth quarter has a blue ground on which is a golden eagle with its wings outspread.

Around the shield is a red border and on which are eight golden lions in a walking attitude with their right forelegs raised.

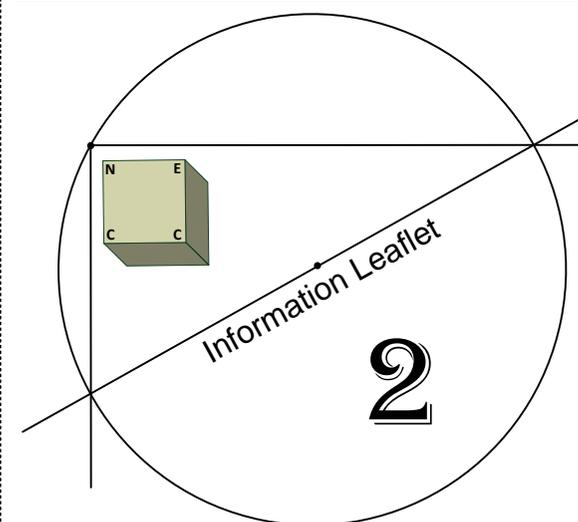
The Crest - consists of a golden ark, supported by two cherubs. These have the upper part of the body in a natural flesh tint, with lower half covered in brown fur. Their wings are golden, and above them in Hebrew is the motto 'Holiness to the Lord'. The background to the crest consists of golden rays of light radiating around the ark. The crest stands on a 'wreath of the colours'. This is depicted as a twisted wreath of two pieces of material, the alternating colours of which are gold and red.

Supporters - are two cherubs coloured similarly to those in the crest.

The Motto - 'AVDI VIDE TACE' translated means 'HEAR SEE BE SILENT' may be shown in gold lettering on a blue ribbon.



PROVINCE OF WEST KENT
MENTORING



The West Kent Provincial Banner

MEN-TOR-ING (vb)

Mentoring is the support and encouragement of people to manage their own learning in order that they may maximise their potential, develop their skills, improve their performance and become the person they want to be.

www.freemasons-westkent.org.uk

The Provincial Banner was designed, made and consecrated in 1992 to celebrate the 275th anniversary of the formation of the first United Grand Lodge of England. That year also marked the fortieth anniversary of the reign of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and the twenty-fifth year His Royal Highness Edward, Duke of Kent had presided as Grand Master over the United Grand Lodge of England.



When the foundation of the Province of West Kent was laid in 1972/73, much had to be done to bring the new Province into being. The then Provincial Grand Master and Executive, obviously had to establish priorities to enable the new Province to work effectively and efficiently, given the facilities, time and money available at the time. All Provinces have a distinguishing banner, and the provision of a new one is an expensive exercise. So, making a new formal banner had to be postponed until time, circumstance and money became available. RW Bro J Hickman Twallin's banner was used in those early years. This has been 'laid up' in the Kent Masonic Library and Museum, Canterbury.

The multiple celebrations in 1992 provided the long awaited opportunity to initiate a new banner project. The Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro S.F.N. Waley, commissioned W Bro W.J. Bryen, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, to lead a small sub committee to investigate the necessary requirements, and initiate the making of a formal application to Grand Lodge, and the College of Arms, to grant the Letters Patent, and, once granted, to commission the new banner.

The Coat of Arms granted to the Province, was designed by RW Bro Sir Colin Cole KCB, PJGW, former Garter King of Arms, and follows the masonic heraldic principles established in the 1920s by the then Richmond Herald W. Bro Gerald Wollaston, MVO., PDepGDC. (Later RW Bro. Sir Gerald Woolaston KCB, KCVO., PJGW).

Suffice it to say, the new Provincial Banner, (manufactured by Toye Kenning and Spencer), was completed and dedicated by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, W Bro Reverend Dr. W.R.S. Payne on 30th June 1992.

The Banner

The banner, measuring 1.15m x 1.45m (3'4" x 4'9") is of Provincial Grand Lodge blue, trimmed with a gold fringe.

In the centre is depicted the Arms of the United Grand Lodge of England, surrounded by a 'bordure' (a band) vertically divided, one half being crimson the other being green.

Within the bordure are devices appropriate to the Province, viz. four acorns representing Bromley (from the Bromley armorial bearings), two lozenges, one either side of the bordure representing Dartford (from the Dartford Arms) and at the bottom, the Saxon crown on a blue and white background, representing Tunbridge Wells, (from that town's Arms). At the top of the bordure is the White Horse of Kent, thus are the boundaries of the Province and County defined.

The Arms are flanked by the ears of corn, familiar to all freemasons, so too are the representations of the all seeing eye and the square and compasses, again, all worked in gold embroidery.

Beneath the Arms is the motto:- Fiat Justitia Ruat Caelum (Let Justice Prevail or May the Heavens Fall), and was commended to the Province by the late Rt W.Bro Sir James Stubbs, KCVO., TD., PG.Secretary, PSGW.



Let Justice Prevail or May the Heavens Fall