

## Introduction

May we extend a sincere and fraternal welcome to you on behalf of the Brethren of West Kent

The purpose of this leaflet is to provide you with some basic information to enable you to obtain the best possible experience from joining the craft.

This leaflet also aims to demonstrate that Freemasonry is an organisation which endeavours to care for those less fortunate and provide help for those in need

If you would like more information about our objectives and priorities for the future, please visit our Provincial website: [www.westkentmasons.org.uk](http://www.westkentmasons.org.uk) or contact the Lodge Mentor

## Your Lodge Contacts

Lodge Name:	
Lodge No:	
Lodge Mentor:	
Personal Mentor:	
W.M:	
Almoner:	
Charity Steward:	
DC:	
Secretary:	
Treasurer:	
Meeting Dates:	
LoI: Day:	Time:

## Message from the PGM

“What is Freemasonry?” Put simply, Freemasonry is one of the world’s oldest and largest non-religious, non-political, fraternal and charitable organisations.

However, in my experience, Freemasonry means different things to different people. For some of our members it is a chance to meet new people, make new friends, and enjoy social events. For others, it’s about taking an active part in supporting deserving causes. But for most, it is an enjoyable hobby.

In 2015, the West Kent Freemasons donated over £3.25m towards the Masonic Samaritan Fund, which supports both Masonic and Non-Masonic Charities. Over the next few years, we will be supporting a range of other charitable causes, both as a Province, and through individual local Lodges.

Our aim is to “Make a Difference” in all of our activities - whether this is through individual Lodges, our interaction with each other as members, or our relationship with the community as a whole.

We are proud of the achievements of the Province of West Kent - and whilst we strive for excellence, we also enjoy our Freemasonry - and hope to encourage others to share that experience with us.

I wish you well in your Masonic Journey

**Mark Estaugh**

**Provincial Grand Master for West Kent**

This leaflet has been designed and produced by:



The Masonic Province  
of **West Kent**

Oakley House

Bromley Common

Bromley

Kent

BR2 8HA

Tel: 0208 462 9249

[www.westkentmasons.org.uk](http://www.westkentmasons.org.uk)



The Provincial Grand Master for West Kent

RW Bro M D Estaugh

## Entered

Let us begin by defining the term "**Entered Apprentice.**" As an Entered Apprentice Freemason, your first step in your journey to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason has been taken. We hope that you found your initiation an experience you will never forget. Of course there will be certain parts of the ceremony of which you may be unsure or that now appear to be a little „unclear“ to you. Our hope now is that your Lodge Mentor and fellow Lodge Brethren will be able to assist you to understand more clearly the ceremony in which you have participated, to enable you to demonstrate your proficiency in this degree.

Quite simply a degree in masonry is not an isolated experience (undertaken on the night and as such completed), but is an ever-enduring privilege. We hope to be able assist you with your endurance.

You can now sit in an Entered Apprentice Lodge to observe, to participate in, and to study its ceremonies. Your possession of the degree is a life-long possession which you can continue to enjoy and to enter into as long as you live.

As an Entered Apprentice Freemason you therefore are a learner, or beginner, in „Speculative Masonry“. You have taken the first step in the mastery of our art. Certain things however are expected of you.

First, you are expected to show a certain humility. As a learner, you must have guides and teachers, and you must be willing to have them lead you.

Second, you must learn the Questions and Answers of the Degree, so as to prove your proficiency in open Lodge.

## Apprentice

The purpose of learning is for you to master the content so thoroughly that its lesson will remain with you for life.

Third, you must study to improve yourself in Masonry in all other possible ways. Your Lodge will not be content merely to receive your dues; it will require that you become a real and active member.

Fourth, this will help you learn the rules and regulations that govern an Entered Apprentice Freemason.

As you stood in the northeast corner of the Lodge, you were taught a certain lesson concerning a foundation stone. From that lesson, you should know that you are a foundation stone of the Craft. It is our hope and prayer that you will prove to be a solid foundation as you proceed to the Fellow Craft Degree and then to the Master Mason Degree. Our great Fraternity depends on new members like you to conduct its work in the years to come.

As an Entered Apprentice Freemason you are expected to maintain the secrets entrusted to you at your initiation. You should also conduct yourself properly at all times and seek to learn as much as possible about the Craft. Your Lodge Mentor will be able to assist you with any questions you may have.

The symbols, emblems and allegorical ceremonies of the First Degree each have a meaning, which each Mason can learn if he applies himself. For example consider the meaning of: -

The “Hoodwink, Poignard, Cable Tow & the Lodge” itself.

## Freemason

The interior of a Lodge is composed of:

**Ornaments** - The Mosaic Pavement, the Blazing Star and the Indented or Tessellated Border,

**Furniture** - The Volume of the Sacred Law, the Compasses and the Square,

**Jewels** - (movable); – the Square, the Level and the Plumb Rule and (immovable); - the Tracing Board, the Rough Ashlar and the Perfect Ashlar.

All of these have a symbolical meaning and should be studied further to find out what they conceal or what they might reveal.

There are other areas for you to contemplate when you are good and ready; - The Rite of Circumambulation (also referred to as “Squaring the Lodge”), the Altar, Obligations, the three Great though emblematical Lights, the Rite of Salutation, the Apron, the Lesson of Charity, the Working Tools, the Northeast Corner, the Entered Apprentice himself and the Tyler who guards the avenues approaching the Lodge.

Over the years you may be given many explanations of the meanings of the symbols and ritual. It is fair to say that they may all be either accurate or inaccurate. It is up to you to consider each explanation and come to your own conclusion. In many respects Freemasonry, the symbols and ritual are what you want them to be.

All of these things need further investigation. Ask your Lodge Mentor, Masonic Friend and the members of your Lodge to assist you with your studies.