



# Mark my Words

Volume 1 Issue 5

May 2006

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## Our Summer season is upon us ...

The 'friendly degree' summer season starts following the Provincial Mark Convocation on Sat 6th May at York Racecourse where the majority of our brethren will receive this Newsletter.

A week later we start with the Theatre Royal Gala Evening in York, and Gourmet dinners are planned for the East and South of the Province. There then follows a Clay Pigeon Shoot followed by the Annual Golf Competition.

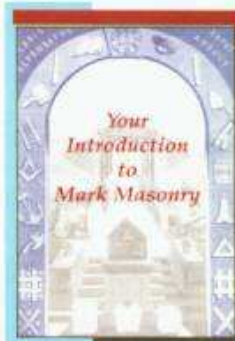
The summer schedule of events is continued by the Provincial Garden Party held at the Forest and Vale Hotel, Pickering on 15th July. All the Lodges should be represented for it is a great way to improve the Funds for your own Lodge as well having fun and meeting friends.

At this event the lucky person finds out if he has won any of the £100 prizes in the Keystone Club draw. Remember, you must be in it to win it.

You can also Wine and Dine whilst you cruise down the River Ouse in York and attend the Hog Roast and Barn Dance and the excellent Variety Evening at Middlesborough.



A typical Gourmet meal presentation



During the Summer it is planned that we will also receive copies of the new Mark Booklet designed and produced by V.W. Bro. Francis G Woolgrove, Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

This booklet outlines the traditions of our Mark Degree, an explanation of the symbolism we incorporate into our ceremony together with much detail regarding the cost, commitment of joining, and 'friendliness' of the degree.

It is hoped that we can all use this booklet to show Craft Brethren what they are missing. There is a list of all the Mark and RAM Lodges in the Province for their guidance and full details of how to join this wonderful Degree.

## MARK MEETS THE CRAFT

All of you will have witnessed a 'Mark meets the Craft' presentation first introduced over 10 years ago when we invited Craft brethren to a Mark Lodge for an introduction to our Order.

These meetings had some success but like all good things we need to expand and have introduced a new presentation put together by the Assistant Provincial Grand Master. The difference with this presentation is that we can take it to the Craft Lodges within the Province of Yorkshire North & East Ridings and we are extremely grateful to the Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Bro. Richard Anderson for allowing the Mark access to his Lodges. We would hope to give up to six presentations a year but this will be down to the brethren to approach their Craft Lodges to persuade them to invite this Province to attend their Craft meetings where there is a suitable slot in the diary.

Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Eric Roy Gare-Browne,



The Royal Hotel, Scarborough

'An  
overcrowded  
Lodge'



## ARK MARINER NEWS

Last year's Royal Ark Mariners Convocation at Scarborough was so successful with 120 members crowded into the Lodge building that it has been decided to change the venue so that this marvellous event is available to those brethren who were unable to attend.

The meeting on November 4th will be held in the Ballroom of the Royal Hotel,

Scarborough which will be specially arranged to suit the occasion. The meal afterwards to which our ladies are invited will be held in the same hotel.

The Masonic Hall across the road will be open throughout the day for brethren who require liquid refreshment at reasonable cost.

Provincial Royal Ark Mariner honours will be presented for the following year at the meeting.

Traditionally the PGM has received the RAM Treasurer's and Charity Steward's reports at the annual Mark convocation in May at the York Racecourse but this year the presentation of these reports will take place prior to the meeting.

The ritual in the Lodge is to be entirely re-vamped and should prove to be very interesting for all Royal Ark Mariners.

'Around the  
Festive Boards'

## SNIPPETS

Posh and Becks are sitting in front of the Television watching the six o'clock news. The main story is a man threatening to jump off the Clifton Suspension Bridge on to the busy road below.

Posh turns to Becks and says: "David, I bet you £5,000 that he jumps!" To which Beckham replies: "5,000? Done! I bet that he doesn't." So they shake hands on the bet and continue watching. Sure enough, the man jumps and hits the road below with a

loud thud. Beckham takes 5,000 out of his back pocket and hands it to Posh.

But she refuses.

"I can't take your money, David," she says. "The truth is, I was cheating. I saw the five o'clock news, so I knew he was going to jump."

"No, babe, fair's fair" says David: "that money is yours fair and square I was cheating just as you were."

I saw the five o'clock news, too. I just didn't think he would do it again!"

New photo just issued from the US trip to the moon.....



'Mark helping  
Charities'

## CHARITY NEWS

Ken Lacy, Master of **Beacon Centenary Lodge of Mark Master Masons**, accompanied by his wife Marie, presented a



cheque for £400 to Mrs Pat Levison, Charity Chairman of York against Cancer. The money was raised at the Lodge Christmas Party. Mrs Sheila O'Shea, singer and harpist, provided entertainment for the evening and waived her fee as a donation in support of this Charity.

When **Hovedon Lodge of Installed Mark Master Masons** found out that a local pre-school was trying to raise £8000 to build an outdoor play area they were successful in raising £500 to help their venture.



Pictured presenting the Cheque to Sarah Nichols are Mark Masons Bill Cross (left) and Douglas Wood.

**LODGE NEWS**

It is a pleasure to report on a Mark event which has had the commitment of Craft lodge members and non-Masonic persons.

The event materialised after John Dobson of Victory Mark Lodge proposed that the Lodge hold a Carol Service.

The event went off very well indeed. They ended up with 58 guests including, 5 guests with no Masonic interests.

Ken Allanson as head chef did an excellent job of the meal of sausage and mashed (beautifully creamed but not good for the health) potatoes and peas followed by Ken's apple and bramble pie.

They pulled in Harold Wilson, a Pickering Craft member who 'M.C'd' so brilliantly, he being an old (or 'Ex') amateur dramatic, Jack Jowsey as organist (ex dance-band) currently

organist in a few Scarborough Craft lodges all making a terrific evening entertainment. Aply assisted by head potato donators, peelers and washer - persons' Dorothy and Andrew Halsworth.

By cutting right down with expenses they profited by just over £300.

Another event is being planned for December this year.



**'A great meal with a difference'**

**WARDENS WANDERINGS**

The year is drawing to a close and it is time to reflect. I have had the privilege of joining the rulers at 3 away trips to other Provincial meetings. The first was to Nottinghamshire for their Festival celebrations in aid of the Mark Benevolent Fund. The Friday night at the Masonic Hall enabled us to renew friendships and on the Saturday at the East Midlands Conference Centre, a packed auditorium delighted in the banquet, with the

entertainment and the news that the Festival produced a record result for the Fund.

The other two were to Northumberland and Lincolnshire for their annual convocations, held in local school halls and dining rooms. We were made very welcome as befitting the Mark degree and it was enjoyable seeing how other Provinces conduct their meetings. Brethren, in N&E, we are lucky to have the Racecourse to hold our

meetings - long may it continue!

Finally, returning to our Province, I take this opportunity to thank all the hard working Secretaries, DCs and WMs for the warmth and friendly reception given to me on my representative visits this year. It is great to travel "abroad", but there's nowt like a Yorkshire welcome to warm you thru' and thru'. Thanks to every one of you.



Michael Graham

**'Thanks to You all'**

**HINTS OF NEW EVENTS**

A few events brought to the attention of the Editor ;

**River Trip and Buffet Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006**

What nicer way to spend a summer's evening than sailing down the River Ouse with good company, wonderful food and excellent wine. The River Prince has been privately booked and therefore only Mark Brethren, ladies and friends will be on board.



The boat sets sail at 19.30 hours from King's Staith

returning at 22.30hrs.

Demand for this evening is expected to be great but has a limit of 90 persons on capacity therefore an early booking is recommended as it will be on a first come first served basis.

Tickets at £22.50 pp, from Clive Copley, Woodlands, Highfield Lane, Nawton, York. YO62 5TU

The popularity of Gourmet evening continues to gather pace with **Gourmet Nights** planned for the Scarborough and Hull areas in the coming months.

The Hull Gourmet Nights are held at the Hull College "Charlottes" Restaurant.

The Scarborough Gourmet dinner is held at "Fledglings" Restaurant at the Scarborough College.

If you fancy taking part in a **Clay Pigeon Shoot** contact Chris Tindall on 01377 241 300. There is an event taking place at Brandsburton Shooting Ground on 2nd July at 1.00pm.



**'Eat, Shoot and Swing!'**

For all you Golfers. The annual **Provincial Mark Golf competition** is to be held at the Malton & Norton Golf Club on 11th July at 10.30 am. Chris Bird 01909 772 528



8th Sept is the date for the next **Hog Roast and Barn Dance** At Harlthorpe Hall, Harlthorpe, Selby This is an excellent chance to do something different. Contact Clive Copley 01439 771793

