

Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler V.Wy.Bro Stephen P Holcroft Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler R.Wy. Bro Christian A Givvons Provincial Grand Recorder Wy. Bro Paul A Joynson

6<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## Very dear Brethren

With Christmas creeping upon us very quickly and before the festivities overtake us, I would like to take this opportunity to pass on to you all, my personal compliments of the season and to wish each and every one you, a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your friendship, and companionship, over this past 12 months. Your hard work and enthusiasm to this wonderful Order is felt whenever I have visited the Conclaves, and this is testament to your commitment.

Christmas is a time for families, and I know that for many, there will be a spare seat at the table on Christmas Day. I lost my mother, and Julie her brother earlier on in the year, and although they won't be with us physically, their memories will always be there. Please cherish those memories, remember the happy times, and make sure that they are not forgotten.

As we enter 2026, new challenges will be presented, with two Team Visits planned to Bury Conclave No.80 on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 and to Roses in Concord No.185 on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026, to which everyone is invited to, and encouraged to attend. Some Conclaves will face some difficult decisions in the coming year, but I am confident that the members will work together to a positive conclusion.

I will offer my apologies now for my absence at some of the early Conclave meetings, due to being admitted to hospital on the 8<sup>th</sup> January for my left knee being replaced, and the recuperation period afterwards. Once done, two new knees and looking forward to a pain free 2026.

We have all much to look forward to, and on behalf of Julie and myself, we both wish you and your families a happy and a prosperous New Year

Yours in the Friendship of the Order

June

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