



ON THE MOVE

## Membership Events Team Newsletter

April 2017

Issue 4, Number 1

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**In the next issue: TV or not TV?** A review of the independent enquiries received via events or the JA1 website following the end of the documentary series on Sky TV. What effect did it have on the number of enquiries received?

**If you would like to make a contribution to our next issue please contact David King at:**

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### We are not alone in the galaxy!

I am sure that you, like me, have asked the question; "Are we the only Province that goes out to meet the public?" Well the answer to that question is "No." As far as I have been able to research, every province has a programme of events that reaches the public in some way. There are some Provinces who have their own mobile display units whilst others rely on centre open days and other planned events.



The Province of Cornwall (*pictured left*) use a compacted trailer for transportation but the display unit is a series of framed structures that need to be assembled and demounted at the end of the event. I would imagine that the erection and break down is quite a lengthy process?



Hampshire has a demountable trailer unit, (*pictured left*) similar to ours prior to the MDU renovation. I am led to understand that they are out meeting the public at least once a month.

# EAST KENT FREEMASONS

Freemasonry - Worthwhile, Relevant, Inclusive



The Province of North Wales has a large Gazebo, I am guessing that it is the 6 metre unit. If you look closely at the picture, there does not appear to be a ground bar system so, I would assume that the unit is used for grass events only. I intend to ask them and will report in the next issue.



Somerset, on the other hand, have a Gazebo which is the same size as ours but our new gazebo unit is the heavyweight version of the one pictured left. I understand that the volunteers use folding tables and banners to dress the unit and they do have some sails that are placed on each side.

What I am hoping to do over the next few months is to open a forum with every Province and their respective events teams so that we can share our experiences and processes with a view to passing on our operational strategies and thereby learning from each other. This should enable us all to develop 'Best Practices.' I will be asking our newly appointed Provincial Grand Secretary; W.Bro. Phil South if he can circulate our Newsletter to all the other provincial secretaries throughout the country for onward transmission to their membership team leaders.

## “Don’t ask a man to multi-task!”



A lesson learnt during our first presentation to the Invicta Chamber of Commerce Business Networking club a couple of weeks ago is: “Don’t go alone!” We had seven interested enquirers but, the 5 minutes allotted for questions turned into an hour and a half and resulted in yours truly running out of time to process the enquiries!



## A Message from our leader



**Assistant Provincial Grand Master W.Bro. David Graeme (pictured left) writes:**

"It was a delight to be asked to write an article for the Newsletter having taken over the management fully and officially from the end of April. The partnership between the Events' Team and the Membership Advisers' Team has blossomed in ways we had not envisaged and the cooperation has never been so good. This can only prove to be beneficial to us all and, in particular, will enhance the team's success in recruiting the right men into the right lodges.

I am sure that you will have seen the refurbished MDU, the new marquee and the pop up display - all of which are modern and provide much better visual impact. We are extremely grateful for everything that David King has done to bring us into the twenty first century and for his vision of the future. As you know, he is very ably supported by Ron Carter and Ian Ireland and yourselves, the Events' Team. Barry Devereese continues to work tirelessly heading the Membership Advisers' Team which completes the process.

We are currently half way through the Sky production of Inside The Freemasons and it is too early to say whether the series has had any effect on the recruitment side but we are hopeful that it will make us more visible and, with luck, the applications will increase.

I particularly wish to thank everyone who is involved in the Recruitment Team for the time that you generously give to making this a success. Without your hard work, effort and commitment we would not be the Province that everyone is talking about and trying to emulate. I know that East Kent is much better placed to deal with the added enquiries that are being generated by the publicity of, not only the TV series, but of the wider publicity as a result of the Tercentenary Celebrations of the United Grand Lodge.

I consider it an honour to be in charge of such a dedicated team of volunteers and I know that the PGM is extremely happy with the successful merge of the two units into one and would also like to express his grateful thanks as well."





## 2017 events diary updated

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>Hythe Imperial Hotel</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>Canterbury at Canterbury College</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>Birchington</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Tenterden &amp; Open day</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Tenterden &amp; Open day</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Ashford Conningbrook Hotel</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Harrietsham Community Centre</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Rochester Gandulf Square Open Day</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Maidstone The Business Terrace</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Sittingbourne The Wild West Carnival</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Quex Park</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Cobham Hall Gravesend</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Quex Park</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Sittingbourne Armed Forces Day</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>Capel Fete</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>Sheerness Fete</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>Paddock Wood</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>Folkestone Burlington Hotel</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>New Romney</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>Hythe Venetian Fair</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>Maidstone Coniston Hotel</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>Hythe Hythe Carnival</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>Biddenden Tractorfest</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>Biddenden Tractorfest</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>Dover Regatta</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>Hythe Imperial Hotel</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>Ashford County Square</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>Ashford County Square</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>Ashford County Square</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>Brands Hatch Cycle Race</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>Sittingbourne Medieval Mops Fair</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>Ashford Conningbrook Hotel</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>Cranbrook Apple Fair</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>Gillingham Tree Planting picnic</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>Hollingbourne Mercure Hotel</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>Chatham Dockside Outlet Centre</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>Canterbury Whitefriars Centre.</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>Dover De Bradleigh Wharf</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>Gravesend Thamesgate</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>Medway Hempstead Valley</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>Thanet Westwood Cross</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>Gravesend Thamesgate</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>Gravesend Thamesgate</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>Gravesend Thamesgate</b>



## The 'Widows Sons' Join us for a visit or two!



I am sure that many of you like me have been following the Sky TV programme; 'Inside Freemasonry' ? In the third episode you will have seen a section concerning the masonic motorcycle association "The Widows Sons" The 'Widows Sons Masonic Bikers Association' is a group of Freemasons that have reached the stage of Master Mason and who share a common interest in motorcycling.

Members meet for a 'natter' once a month and organise occasional outings on their bikes, with friends and family members. The association was established in the UK in 2004 and its membership has grown steadily since then. In 2007 several members from Kent, London, Essex and Sussex grouped together to form the South-East Chapter of the national association.

I am pleased to advise you that a few months ago we arranged for them to join us at two events: Quex Park and The Armed Forces Day at Sittingbourne. They will be bringing several motorcycles and these will be on display at the MDU on each of the days. We are hoping that this display will add interest to our unit and will help dispel the commonly held belief that Freemasonry is only for old gentlemen that wear bowler hats. If you have not already volunteered for these events and would like to spend the day with them, put your name down.

**Editor's message: "Please keep volunteering, your support is so important in enabling us to continue to reach the community in East Kent"**