

Priory Lodge 6913

March 26 to June 26 Spring Newsletter



Somerset Mark Masons Lodge.

The 2026 Provincial Annual General Meeting was a significant day for Somerset Mark Masonry, as W.Bro Tony Guthrie was installed as the 17th Provincial Grand Master for Somerset by the Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro Prof. Denovan K. Wilson.

“I look forward to visiting every Lodge throughout the Province over the next year, meeting brethren across Somerset.” Tony Guthrie.

There was a real sense of pride at the meeting, with the presence of the Deputy Grand Master and accompanying Grand Officers, including both Wardens and the DC, adding to the atmosphere of the day. It was also made particularly special by the presence of Tony’s father, R.W.Bro Ray Guthrie, Provincial Grand Master for Somerset in the Craft and Most Excellent Grand Superintendent for Somerset in Royal Arch Chapter.

In his closing remarks, R.W.Bro Tony Guthrie thanked the brethren for their support and spoke about the year ahead. He said he was looking forward to visiting every Lodge in the Province over the next year, meeting brethren from across Somerset in both the Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Degrees.

Mark Masons Website for Somerset www.somersetmarkmason.co.uk



Regular donations for the new Somerset Freemasons 2031



Website QR Code

Brethren on behalf of our Lodge Charity Steward, WBro George Pittaway, please complete the regular donation form to donate a small amount to charity every month towards the Somerset Freemasons 2031 Festival.

In Freemasonry, millions of pounds are given away every year to local groups, good causes, individuals and research for the NHS and for equipment. The Somerset 2020 Festival raised £2.8Million, but what are Festivals for in Freemasonry? Well in Somerset around £300,000 every year is given away from the central pot in London and to replace that money, Freemasonry goes in to Festival. £10 a month direct debit by every member who can afford it will qualify you for a festival jewel as soon as you sign up. Somerset Freemasons are now in the 2031 Festival to help groups, Freemasons and good causes across Somerset by the 3000 current members. Freemasons raise £1million every week to give away. There are 200,000 members in England and Wales. Please ask WBro George Pittaway for a festival flyer or visit:
<https://www.somersetfreemasons.org/somerset-2031-festival/>

The Royal Arch is the final part of the four stage journey from Initiation to Exaltation that is known as 'Pure Antient Masonry'. Every Master Mason of at least four weeks standing is eligible to join.

www.somersetfreemasons.org/royal-arch

Priory Lodge dates for Lodge of Instruction

SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2026

9TH SEPTEMBER - LOI 7PM TO 8.30PM
23RD SEPTEMBER - LOI 7PM TO 8.30PM
7TH OCTOBER - COMMITTEE/REHEARSAL 7PM TO 9.30PM.

25TH NOVEMBER - LOI 7PM TO 8.30PM
2ND DECEMBER - LOI 7PM TO 8.30PM
9TH DECEMBER - COMMITTEE/REHEARSAL 7PM TO 9.30PM.





Priory Lodge Freemasons Skittles Night

High Littleton
19th June



All welcome — come join the fun!



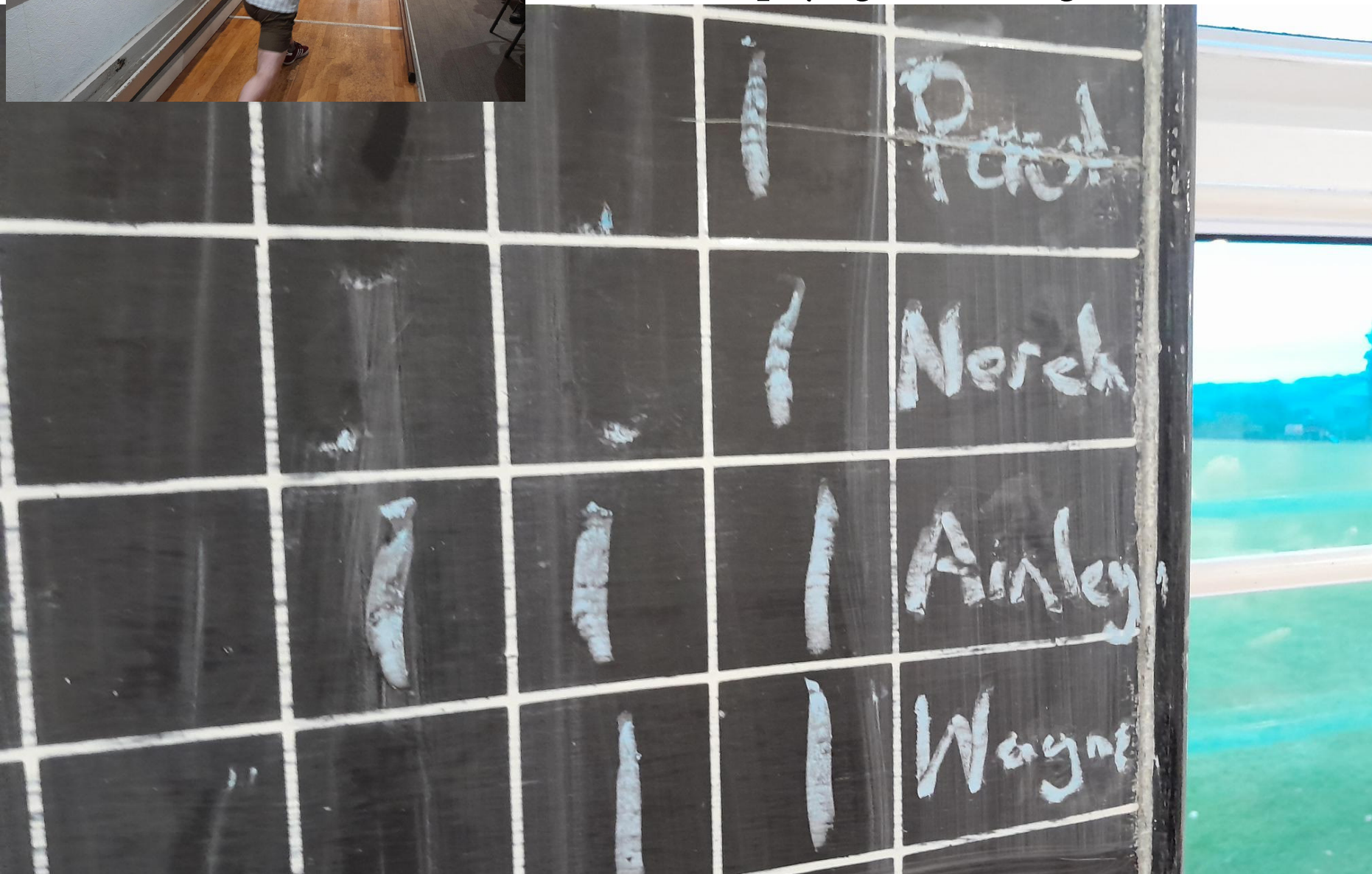
Our Priory Lodge 6913 annual annual skittles evening was very enjoyable again this year and the largest participation for 15 years. Well done to Ainsley who helps to run the High Littleton Social Club for winning at Killer, his wife won in 2025. In four turns Ainsley had a single pin left and still knocked them down. RW Bro Ray Guthrie who was two times back to back winner in 2023 and 2024 only missed out by a single skittle in 2025 and could have still won in 2026 but it all went wrong in the final round with a score of five, he needed eight for the playoffs.

Three finalists all with a score of 21 went to the playoffs, W Bro Graham Howell (Somerset and Bristol Mason) and his wife Mrs Howell and W Bro Richard Irwin (Somerset and Gloucester Mason). A lucky score of 7 for Richard with a skittle doing a back spin and reappeared (disbelief that had happened and a few chosen lucky words of banter from W Bro Howell) and Richard won again in 2026 and after only getting the trophy engraved two days ago for 2025, plus making a hactric of wins with 2010 as well and coming nowhere for years after 2010. A fun and brilliant evening was shared by everyone.

£342.10p was raised for Children's Hospice South West, this is donated every year by Hazel Guthrie who kindly organises the skittles evenings and always for this chosen charity.



Ainsley won the Killer in 2006 and Richard won the Trophy again making a hactric.





It's with great sadness that **W Bro Richard Dredge** who joined Priory Lodge about 18 years ago and was Lodge Secretary for many years until he became very unwell, sadly died. He was a great man who was MD of a large company in Frome during his career and alongside Freemasonry, he was very active in Frome Rotary where for years he organised the Frome Half Marathon.

PGM for Somerset and very good friend to Richard, RW Bro Ray Guthrie shared the following:

"Richard had suffered from several serious health issues over the past twelve months or so and was taken into the RUH on Tuesday. We will all miss him, he was one of life's organisers, always willing to help and to get involved".

W Bro Dredge also ran the Somerset Freemasons social media for several years including throughout lockdown and when it was a friend to many and after the position was officially created, bringing it all together from about 2013 and the role has evolved ever since.

A true Freemason at heart, W Bro Dredge also took a struggling Freemason to one side during the 2010s and who was caring for his family and offered to pay for him to be the WM of his lodge and to invite some guests during his year in the Chair as well. Something that wasn't taken up in the end but as the Mason he said, something that will never be forgotten and always remembered with gratitude.

W Bro Dredge loved his Mark Freemasonry as well, he worked hard for Somerset Craft Freemasonry, arranging the dining plans for the AGM at the Webbington Hotel for years and for Mark Freemasonry and he never slowed to work hard for Priory Lodge.

RIP W Bro Dredge.

And thank you for everything that you did for our lodge and for Freemasonry in general.



PRIORY LODGE *Ladies Night*

MENU

Please send your selections to,
paulw.marshall@blueyonder.co.uk

STARTER

1. Roast tomato & red pepper soup & basil oil
2. Ham hock & pea terrine & red onion chutney with olive oil & sea salt toast
3. Prawn & crayfish salad with Bloody Mary dressing

MAIN

1. Roast chicken breast, button mushrooms, smoked bacon lardons & roasted potatoes with red wine jus
2. Slow cooked pork belly, gratin potatoes with red wine & thyme jus
3. Baked salmon fillet, gratin potatoes with tomato & basil sauce
4. Butternut & lentil Wellington with tomato & basil sauce

DESSERT

1. Banoffee tort with toffee sauce
2. Lemon tart raspberry coulis
3. Sticky toffee pudding with clotted cream ice-cream

TEA & COFFEE

Thank you
 FOR SUPPORTING THIS EVENT.



Priory Lodge Ladies and Partners Night
 November 2026
 Holiday Inn Filton
 Filton Road, Hambrook,
 Bristol BS16 1QX
 Price: £48.00 per person (includes gifts)
 Ask Paul Marshall for full details.
paulw.marshall@blueyonder.co.uk



www.lghhm.com/hotel/holiday-inn-bristol-filton/

Brethren please remember to note the following for our 2026 meetings.

Dining arrangements - Please try to book guests in 5 days before our meetings and please always try to pay by BACS. Please contact Bro Steve Metcalf - details as per summons.

Alomoner - Please contact Bro Steve Jones with any news relating to health and wellbeing. The lodge is here to support you where we can.

Director of Ceremonies - Please contact ADC W Bro Richard Irwin with anything which you would like to learn and deliver during our lodge meetings. There are lots of parts which we need people to learn for the five year plan. Lodge DC W Bro Paul Marshall will then arrange for you to deliver those parts.

Secretary - Please write to W Bro Jon Watts with any news which you feel should be shared with the lodge or any changes in your circumstances.

Treasurer - Please contact W Bro Andy Purchase with any financial related matters.

Charity Steward - Please contact W Bro George Pittaway to ask about charity and regular giving so that you are ready for the 2031 Somerset Freemasons Festival.

Candidates - Please contact W Bro Paul Marshall who can help with new candidates and joining members.

Lodge roles - Please ask lodge DC W Bro Paul Marshall about the five year plan.

Please email W Bro Jon Watts if you would like to attend the AGM at the Webbington Hotel and to book a meal in April 2027.

Please try to support RW Bro PGM Ray Guthrie by attending the annual church service at Wells Cathedral in December

Website and Newsletter. Please contact Richard Irwin the Lodge Communications Officer with pictures and content and stories.

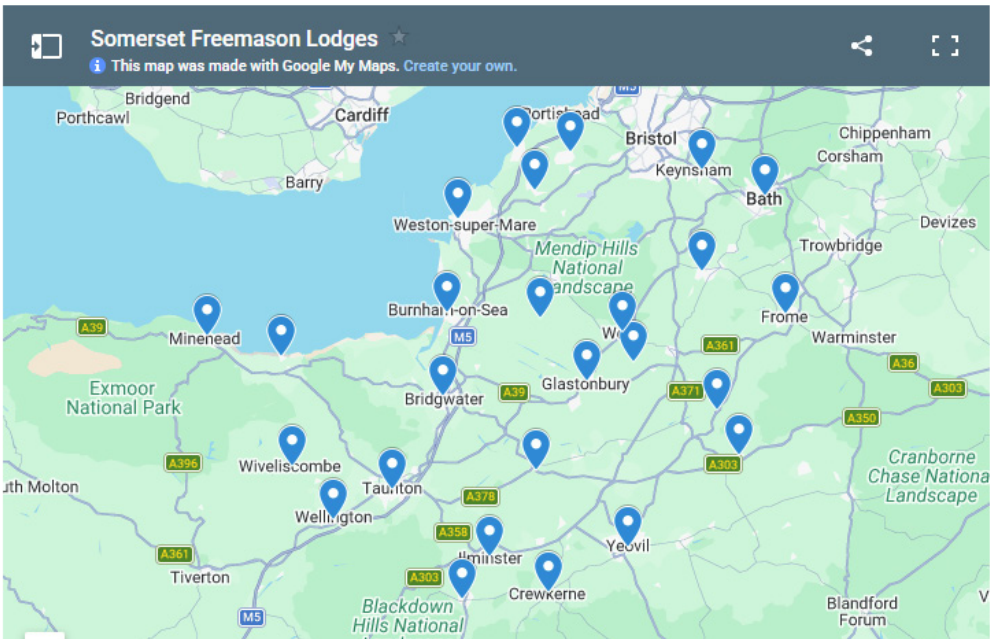


Building Together harmonises the Members’ Pathway (Craft) and Archway (Royal Arch) member journey support models into one programme designed to operate from the point of enquiry to join Freemasonry to active engagement in Royal Arch membership whilst signposting mitigation plans and resources along the way.

www.somersetfreemasons.org/building-together

Find a Lodge or Chapter

www.somersetfreemasons.org/find-a-lodge



Ask RW Bro Ray Guthrie about visiting a lodge anywhere in Somerset.

The more we visit and support other lodges, the more enjoyment you will get out of Freemasonry.

There are 84 Craft Lodges and 30 Chapters meeting across Somerset at 26 venues

Dear W Bro Jon (Lodge Secretary)

Priory Lodge No 6913 – Provincial Fraternal Visit – Friday 8 May 2026

Following a most enjoyable visit last evening, I write to express my thanks for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to the Provincial Team and I whilst attending your regular meeting. The deeper look into the language used in “The Charge to the Initiate” was most interesting and a great example of what is available via the Solomon website. Congratulations to the three brethren that delivered the presentation. To secure the future of our wonderful organisation, we need to build on the foundations laid in 2024 and 2025 as we embarked upon our Membership Challenge. There is excellent guidance on how to approach this in Building Together. I recommend that every member visit the site and looks at the wealth of relevant information and support it contains, and in particular explore the chat GPT facility Ask Hiram. Please do click on the links. Being an Ambassador for Freemasonry and part of our local communities will be crucial to our future success. It was pleasing to hear of your three potential candidates, and I am sure with the use of the resources available in both Building Together and Solomon, the Lodge will be able to prosper. On behalf of the Masonic Charitable Foundation, I thank the members of the Lodge for their support of the Somerset 2031 Festival with £5,300 donated to date. Since the conclusion of our 2020 Festival, Somerset has received an average of £300,000 a year from the MCF. In order that this level of support can continue, the aim is to raise £2.5million from across the Province over the next 5 years – approximately £10 per month, per member plus 25% gift aid - please do discuss your regular giving commitment with W Bro George. The Festive Board was excellent with both good food and company. Please do circulate this letter to all the Lodge members and thank you once more for an enjoyable evening.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

Graham
W Bro Graham Puddy, PAGStB
Assistant Provincial Grand Master



Sign up to Solomon and learn about the meanings of Freemasonry, such as The Charge after Initiation.

<https://solomon.ugle.org.uk>