

THE SUPREME COUNCIL 33°
OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES
AND ITS DISTRICTS
AND CHAPTERS OVERSEAS



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ANNUAL CIRCULAR No 140

Dear Sir and Brother,

This Annual Circular comprises a report on the activities of the Order since 1st January 2022, notices of forthcoming events, announcements of administrative changes, reminders about certain Rules and guidance and instructions on relations with foreign jurisdictions.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

Membership of the Supreme Council 33° stands, with effect from 1st January 2023, as follows:

M.:P.:Bro John Boyington CBE 33°	Sovereign Grand Commander
V.:P.:Bro D K Williamson 33°	Lieutenant Grand Commander
M.:Ill.:Bro G D A Elgood 33°	Grand Treasurer General H.: E.:
M.:Ill.:Bro J A F Thom KC 33°	Grand Chamberlain
M.:Ill.:Bro N G I Bosanquet 33°	Grand Chancellor
M.:Ill.:Bro the Revd Dr S A Thorn 33°	Grand Prior
M.:Ill.:Bro Gareth Jones OBE 33°	Grand Captain General
M.:Ill.:Bro H I Sabin FRCS (Ed) FRCS (Eng) 33°	Grand Marshal
M.:Ill.:Bro Dr G R E Shilson 33°	Grand Secretary General H.: E.:

SUMMARY OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

During the period under review Members of the Supreme Council held four meetings of the 33° at which eight candidates were promoted, conducted twelve meetings of the Higher Degrees (during which 576 Brethren were invested), installed nine Inspectors General, re-presented patents to three Inspectors General (one by proxy and two in person) and visited the Districts of: Berkshire, East Cheshire, Derbyshire, Durham, South Essex, Gloucestershire & Herefordshire, Hampshire & Isle of Wight (Solent), Hampshire & Isle of Wight (Wessex), North East Lancashire, North West Lancashire, South West Lancashire, Norfolk, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Somerset, Staffordshire & Shropshire, Sussex, South Wales & Monmouthshire, Yorkshire West Riding, the St Paul Group of London Chapters, East Africa, South Africa Central and South Africa Western Natal. Five visits to foreign jurisdictions were conducted, to the Supreme Councils for Brazil, France, Ireland, Paraguay and Scotland. During the year, Members of the Norwegian Order of Freemasons and the Supreme Councils for Belgium, Cyprus and Finland attended meetings at Duke Street.

33RD DEGREE

The Supreme Council records with great regret the death of the following members of the 33°:

M.:Ill.:Bro T J Lewis 33°	Past Grand Treasurer General
V.:Ill.:Bro Cdr M B S Higham CVO RN 33°	
V.:Ill.:Bro J D McKee 33°	Past Inspector General for Norfolk
V.:Ill.:Bro A J H du Boulay 33°	Past Inspector General for the St James Group
V.:Ill.:Bro the Revd Curwen Rawlinson MBE QHC 33°	
	Past Inspector General for Gloucestershire & Herefordshire
V.:Ill.:Bro A R Gregory 33°	Past Inspector General for Hampshire & Isle of Wight, Solent
V.:Ill.:Bro A J Wellan 33°	Past Inspector General for Warwickshire

The 33rd and last Degree was conferred on the following Brethren:

M.:Ill.:Bro Gareth Jones OBE 33°	Grand Captain General
M.:Ill.:Bro H I Sabin FRCS (Ed) FRCS (Eng) 33°	Grand Marshal
V.:Ill.:Bro Darryll Robertson 33°	Inspector General for South Africa, Central
V.:Ill.:Bro D C van Vuuren 33°	Inspector General for South Africa, Western Natal
V.:Ill.:Bro M S Shaw 33°	Inspector General for Durham
V.:Ill.:Bro Bernd Wegerhoff 33°	Inspector General for Oxfordshire
V.:Ill.:Bro D S Hannan 33°	Inspector General for Hampshire & Isle of Wight, Solent
V.:Ill.:Bro M E Worne 33°	Inspector General Designate in Charge, Dorset

The Supreme Council has been pleased to extend the following patents for a further period of five years:

V.:Ill.:Bro Christopher van Gaalen 33°	South Africa, North West
V.:Ill.:Bro A G de Pontes 33°	South Africa, Eastern Cape
V.:Ill.:Bro A J Evans 33°	Cornwall
V.:Ill.:Bro R H Clarke 33°	Derbyshire
V.:Ill.:Bro H G Rebeiro 33°	Guyana
V.:Ill.:Bro R N Westerdale 33°	Zimbabwe
V.:Ill.:Bro Paul Kelvin Smith 33°	South Wales & Monmouthshire
V.:Ill.:Bro Henry Kukiewicz 33°	Leicestershire & Rutland
V.:Ill.:Bro R N Howarth 33°	Nottinghamshire

OFFICIALS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

During the year, Ill.:Bro Bob Helliard OER 32° retired after 23 years' service to the Supreme Council as Grand Outer Guard. His outstanding contribution to the Order is hugely appreciated by all and the Supreme Council wishes him well in retirement. Further, Ill.:Bros J F Sacré 32° and J MacK Hamill 32° retired as Honorary Librarian and Honorary Historian respectively, and the Supreme Council wishes to thank them most sincerely for their work on behalf of the Order over many years.

The Supreme Council is pleased to announce the following promotion and appointments:

Ill.:Bro A J Townsend 32°	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
Ill.:Bro K J Alexander 31°	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
Ill.:Bro Dr D K Selwood 30°	Honorary Historian
E.:&P.:Bro M K Wheeler 29°	Grand Outer Guard

STAFF

There were no staff changes during the year.

CHAPTERS

Warrants were granted for Tanganyika Chapter No. 1219 (to meet in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania) and Heritage Chapter No. 1220 (to meet in Corby, Northamptonshire).

Centenary Warrants were granted to Shakespeare Chapter No. 15, Rose of Lahore Chapter No. 128, True Light Chapter No. 232, Landale Johnston Chapter No. 234 and Portsdown Chapter No. 237.

Harte Chapter No. 282 (Durham) surrendered its Warrant to the Supreme Council during 2021 (not previously reported). The following Chapters surrendered their Warrants to the Supreme Council during 2022: Gild of the Holy Trinity Chapter No. 621 (North Essex), Theodore of Tarsus Chapter No. 708 (Surrey), Greyfriars Chapter No. 967 (Suffolk), Temple Balsall Chapter No. 979 (Warwickshire), Amphibious Chapter No. 995 (Yorkshire, West Riding), Cleopas Chapter No. 1003 (Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Solent), Cliffdale Chapter No. 1007 (Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Solent), St George at Ripley Chapter No. 1038 (Derbyshire) and Wenceslas Chapter No. 1144 (Worcestershire).

HIGHER DEGREES MEETINGS OVERSEAS

Higher Degrees Meetings were held in East Africa (Kenya), Ghana, Nigeria and South Africa.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

734 candidates were Perfected in the year to 30th June 2022 compared with 45 in the previous year (heavily affected by the Covid pandemic) and 696 in 2020. The number of subscriptions received fell by 960 to 22,907. The number of extant Chapters on 30th June 2022 was 887 with an average membership of 26. The average age of candidates for Perfection was 52.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS

The Supreme Council is currently in amity with the following jurisdictions:

- a) The Supreme Councils for the United States of America (the Southern Jurisdiction and the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction), Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, India, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mauritius, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Spain, South Africa, Switzerland, Togo, Turkey, Uruguay and Venezuela;
- b) The Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish Orders of Freemasons.

If you intend to visit a Chapter of a jurisdiction with which we are in amity, other than Scotland or Ireland, please obtain your Inspector General's approval in advance. **This is particularly important in the case of territories, such as Brazil, Cyprus, France and Greece, in which there are several Supreme Councils of which only one is considered regular.** The same applies if you wish to invite a member of another jurisdiction to visit your Chapter. If you wish to visit a Chapter under the Supreme Council for Ireland, you must contact the office of the Grand Secretary General beforehand.

Communications between Supreme Councils are normally conducted by Grand Secretaries General. Brethren should therefore not attempt, without the Grand Secretary General's prior permission, to make direct contact with another jurisdiction.

FINANCE – YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2022

	2022	2021 (restated)
Balance Sheet:	£	£
Fixed assets	1,044,942	1,048,490
Investments	326,265	6,095
Net current assets	<u>850,985</u>	<u>1,098,359</u>
Net assets	2,222,192	2,152,944
Capital Fund	2,222,192	2,152,944
Income and Expenditure Account:		
Income from:		
Members	587,610	520,759
Rent/hire of rooms	213,046	176,349
Investments & deposits	4,157	158
Other income	<u>12,573</u>	<u>117,828</u>
	817,386	815,094
Expenditure:		
Staff costs	377,706	345,968
Building admin./maintenance	84,299	125,630
Office administration	58,770	52,037
Council activities	130,900	8,306
Other expenses	<u>96,463</u>	<u>36,103</u>
	748,138	568,044
Surplus for the year	69,248	247,050
Capital Fund brought forward	<u>2,152,944</u>	<u>1,905,894</u>
Capital Fund carried forward	2,222,192	2,152,944

The above is extracted from the accounts examined by haysmacintyre LLP, Chartered Accountants. If any member of the Order wishes to view the accounts, he may do so with prior notification to the office.

ANNUAL DUES, FEES AND LEVY

The Supreme Council has decided that the Annual Dues payable on 1st July 2023 will yet again remain at £20.00 (plus VAT where applicable) for every subscribing member of each Chapter during all or part of the preceding year. Districts overseas (except where special arrangements apply) will continue to remit £16.00 per subscribing member, retaining the balance of £4.00 to help defray District costs. The maximum levy that each Inspector General is authorised to make on each subscribing member in his District/Group to help defray District/Group costs remains at £2.00.

CHAPTER TREASURERS

All Chapters are asked to give careful consideration to the consequences that may arise should their Treasurer become indisposed. In particular, Chapters should avoid having only one signatory on their bank accounts and should ensure that a second responsible person has access to the online banking details.

BRETHREN MOVING TO ANOTHER DISTRICT

Any member moving home to another District is strongly encouraged to advise his current Inspector General in order to receive assistance with an introduction to the Inspector General of his new District and to a Chapter near his new home.

DUAL ALLEGIANCE/AFFILIATION

Brethren are reminded that except in New Zealand and India, where specific arrangements are in force, allegiance to more than one Supreme Council is not permitted. Enquiries about this subject are to be submitted to the Grand Secretary General.

THE 2023 YEAR BOOK

The Supreme Council requires that a copy of the Year Book be given to every new member on his Perfection.

The Year Book provides detailed lists of Districts, Groups and Chapters. It also contains an Historical Section, with chronological lists of Members of the Supreme Council (and the offices they have held), of the South African Branch Council and of other members of the 33°. A copy of the Year Book, the cost of which is £12, is sent to each Chapter Recorder. You may order copies of the 2023 Year Book through your Recorder or purchase one in person from Reception at 10 Duke Street St James's.

KING EDWARD VII CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT – DEMONSTRATIONS

In 2023, by permission of the Supreme Council, demonstrations of the 15° and 16° will be given on: Monday 24 April at Freemasons' Hall, London; Saturday 10 June at Langstone Cliff Hotel, Dawlish Warren, Devonshire; Saturday 24 June at the Masonic Hall, Rochdale; and Saturday 1 July at Sindlesham Masonic Centre, Berkshire.

In 2024, demonstrations of the 17° will be given on: Monday, 29 April at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London; Saturday, 8 June at Gateshead Masonic Hall (hosted by Durham and Northumberland); Saturday, 15 June at Maidstone Masonic Centre (hosted by East Kent); and Wednesday, 17 July at Moseley Masonic Hall (hosted by Midlands Chapter of Improvement).

The Members of the Supreme Council take this opportunity to thank all members for their continued support of the Order and send their very best wishes for 2023.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,



Dr G R E Shilson 33°

Grand Secretary General H.:E.: