

*95% OF CofE DEANS RESPONDED
(42 out of a total of 44)*

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SURVEY REPORT 2006

CATHEDRAL LINKS WITH THE FREEMASONS



MFRFM

Movement for a Register of Freemasons

*wishes to thank Mr. David Williams, the Clerk to the General Synod of the Church of England,
for his courtesy during the preparation of this report,
all the Deans and Cathedral Officers for their remarkable generosity and goodwill,
and a most highly respected member of MFRFM for valuable additional research and providing a
copy of
The United Grand Lodge of England Year Book 2003-4*

MFRFM

Movement for a Register of Freemasons

10.7.06

The Very Revd The Dean,

Dear Dean,

Following my Submission to Members of the General Synod, I learn that Wells Cathedral (complete with its own in-house Lodge Room) held a Freemasons' Service in the Cathedral on 4.6.06 and am aware of some other Cathedrals that have links with the Freemasons. My research depends on accuracy and I would be glad if you could let me know:

1. Has your Cathedral held any Service to which the Freemasons, or members of a particular Lodge of Freemasons, have been invited or which they attend by custom, in the past two years?
2. Does your Cathedral receive Masonic Choral Bursaries?

The courteous response that I have received in recent months from within the CofE has been appreciated. I trust that you will, in like spirit, help me with this part of my research.

Every good wish,
Yours sincerely,

*The Masonic Antient Charges state that "you are .. to prefer a poor Brother, that is a good man and true **BEFORE** any other poor People in the same Circumstance." This obligation binds all Freemasons - including clergy, lawyers and public servants - of every degree.*

MFRFM seeks to argue for a public register of Freemasons.

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Press self-censorship limits the reporting of matters Masonic so if appropriate please consider forwarding the contents of this letter to others.

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'Masonic bias' in police job move

A police officer was discriminated against because he was not a Mason, an employment tribunal has ruled.

Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve Constable Joseph Gibson was moved from the motor transport depot in 1999 during staff cutbacks.

Another reservist who was retained was not as well trained as Mr Gibson but was a member of the Masonic Order.

The Fair Employment Tribunal held Mr Gibson was unlawfully discriminated against on grounds of religious belief.

It also held that the constable retained was a member of the Masonic Order, as was at least one other person involved in the selection process.

In a ruling the tribunal declared: "The respondents did not provide a neutral working environment. As a result, those officers who did not belong to the Masonic Order felt uncomfortable and excluded because of the actions of those who did."

The tribunal will reconvene to decide upon the appropriate remedy.

The tribunal said membership of the Masonic Order is a religious belief for the purposes of the Fair Employment and Treatment (Northern Ireland) Order 1998. The tribunal concluded "the decision to transfer the claimant from the RUC Motor Transport Depot was unlawful discrimination on grounds of religious belief".

Mr Gibson brought the case before the tribunal, with the assistance of the Equality Commission.

Judgement studied

Eileen Lavery, head of legal services in the Equality Commission, said people could not be discriminated against because they were not Masons. "The ruling of the tribunal is clear - that in the workplace it is unlawful to discriminate against someone because they are not a Mason," she said. "It does not say that membership of the Masonic Order is incompatible with any particular employment, but rather that taking decisions in the workplace which favour one person to the detriment of another, based on Masonic membership, is unlawful."

Mr Gibson, now 67, originally from Belfast, took the case against the RUC - which has since become the Police Service of Northern Ireland - and the now defunct NI Police Authority after being among the officers selected for transfer.

The staff reduction followed a decision to switch prisoner escort duties to the Prison Service. A spokeswoman for the Police Service of Northern Ireland said the force was studying the judgement closely.



The tribunal ruled Masonic Order membership was a religious belief

| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST TWO YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT <i>MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES</i> IN 23 OF THE 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
|----------------|---------------------|---|---|---|
| BATH AND WELLS | YES | The Cathedral holds a service for the Somerset Freemasons once every two years. | None at present. | <p>(i) RMTGB eg. 1998 (Formerly MTGB. Perhaps <i>Royal</i> was added in 2003 to avoid confusion with MTGG)</p> <p>(ii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: BATH ABBEY: FREEMASONS' CHORAL EVENSONG 30.6.02. Church Services: CHARD, CREWKERNE, & ILMINSTER, 23.6.02. BACKWELL, MINEHEAD, NAILSEA & WESTON SUPER MARE: Church Services on 30.6.02. Minehead church tower to be illuminated. All week: Grand Charity poster display in St John's Church, YEOVIL [the Rev. Ivor G. Hughes]. Support to St. Mary's Church TAUNTON Fabric Fund [the Rev. Nicholas R. Maddock].</p> <p>(iii) Biennial Service for the Freemasons held at WELLS CATHEDRAL on 4.6.06. It has its own in-house Lodge Room. The Freemasons of Wells meet in THE MASONIC ROOM WITHIN THE CATHEDRAL (above the West Cloister, access from within via the Cloister.)</p> <p>(iv) Services for Masonic Knights Templar at WELLS CATHEDRAL.</p> |
| BIRMINGHAM | NO | <u>{1ST REMINDER SENT</u> | <u>ON 7.7.06</u> <u>2ND</u> | <u>REMINDER SENT ON 4.9.06}</u> Association of Medical, University and Legal Lodges The Sixth Festival of this Association will be held on Saturday 16 September 2006 at The Council House Birmingham and St Philip's Cathedral. The MW Bro the Most Hon the Marquess of Northampton, Pro Grand Master, will be present. The whole proceedings are open to Brethren, their ladies and other guests. Details are available from John Harvey on 07802 357432 or jh@no5.com This is the first occasion that the Festival has been held outside London and the organising committee hope that it will be enthusiastically supported.posted 3/7/2006 |
| BLACKBURN | YES | NO | NONE | <p>(i) On 11.11.2002, the Freemasons were invited to attend Sung Family Eucharist Service at St. Anne's Church, WOODPLUMPTON [The Rev. James V. J. G. Watson]. THE BISHOP OF BLACKBURN, THE RIGHT REVEREND NICHOLAS READE, conducted service and consecrated new Parish Room to which West Lancashire Freemasons gave £1000. This room will be used by parishioners of St Anne's Church and the Woodplumpton community at large.</p> <p>(ii) 16.2.2005: William Seddon, Assistant Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire Freemasons gave £1000 to the Rev. John Francis, Rector of St Wilfrid with St Saviour's Church, RIBCHESTER (Blackburn dio), once owned by the Order of St John of Jerusalem.</p> <p>(ii) Gift by <i>de Grey & Ripon Lodge 837</i> to <i>Balderstone Church</i> for a memorial window (Blackburn dio.) £500</p> |
| BRADFORD | YES | NO | NONE | |

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| BRISTOL BRISTOL contd | YES | Local Lodge attends occasionally. | In the past, yes: one. At present, none. In the future, possibly. Bursaries are paid to the family, but Cathedral may facilitate contact. "With best wishes" | (i) RMTGB eg. 1999 (ii) "Freemasonry in the Community" Week of Action June 2002: supporting St. Bartholomew's Church CORSHAM [the Rev. Canon Roger G. Clifton]. (iii) The Rt. Rev. Richard F. Cartwright formerly Hon. Canon of Bristol Cathedral, Suffragan Bishop of Plymouth, Assistant Bishop of Truro and from 1988 ASST. BP. OF EXETER , is listed in the <i>United Grand Lodge of England Year Book 2003-4</i> * as Grand Chaplain 1973-4. |
| CANTERBURY | YES | No services in last 2 years. The only group with a connection to Freemasonry which comes from time to time to worship in one of the Chapels (as do many other groups and denominations) is the local branch of the Order of St. Thomas of Acon. | NONE "with all good wishes" | (i) On 9.8.2002, I received a letter from the present Archbishop of Canterbury, From his office, assistance was requested and received by The Independent in preparing a front-page article published on 15.11.02 under the head-line "New Archbishop: Masons have no place in the Church." A CofE spokesman was quoted as upholding the drift of the Archbishop's supposed views. On 27.4.05, the Archbishop's Office 'instructed' me to refrain from quoting that head-line in future. (ii) Masonic Centre and Museum at St. Peter's Place just a few hundred yards west of the Cathedral. |
| CARLISLE | YES | No regular service for Freemasons by invitation recently but "a number of Freemasons did attend Evensong on a Sunday in the course of 2005. No pattern of such services is established here." | "Not aware of any Masonic Choral Bursaries having been received here." "With good wishes" | (i) "Freemasonry in the Community" Week of Action June 2002: CATHEDRAL SERVICE held for THE FREEMASONS on 23.6.02 at the behest of the Dean. Church services at KIRKBY LONSDALE, MILLOM, & WINDERMERE. (ii) The Revd Canon William Forster Roan (Hon. Canon, Carlisle Cathedral 1972-86) was listed in the <i>United Grand Lodge of England Year Book 2003-4</i> as Grand Chaplain from 1996-8 and Grand Superintendent of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Cumberland & Westmorland (Royal Arch) from 1985 to 1996. (iii) GIFT OF £24,135 GIVEN TO CATHEDRAL by the Freemasons. |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF THE 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| CHELMSFORD | YES | YES. Chelmsford Cathedral holds an annual service for the Order of the Temple, and in addition most years the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex attends an ordinary Sunday Evensong. | NONE AT PRESENT | (i) RMTGB eg. 1998 (ii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: choral concert at St Andrews Church, HALSTEAD Essex 22.6.02 [the Rev. John F. Blore]; Evensong at St Peter and St Paul, CHINGFORD, Essex [the Rev. Nicholas J. Edwards]; (iii) CATHEDRAL SERVICE: Freemasons in regalia from Chingford, Walthamstow & Epping and across Essex attended Choral Evensong Service with families on 19.11.02, joined by Dean of Chelmsford, the Very Revd Peter Judd as guest of PGM, Col. Sir Neil Thorne OBE TD DL. Readings by PGM and deputy. Sermon: PGL Chaplain. Tea in Shire Hall. |
| CHESTER | YES | No service at Cathedral specifically relating to Freemasons in last 2 years. | (i) NONE (ii) Donation received "recently from a Masonic Source" | (i) 7.7.06: Over 70 MASONIC KNIGHTS TEMPLAR from Cheshire and North Wales, members of Provincial Priory of Cheshire, attended, in regalia, annual Evensong service, this year at St James and St Paul's Church, MARTON, nr Congleton. Knights, from 21 |

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| CHESTER contd. | | | <p><i>"I trust that this information will be of use to you."</i></p> | <p>priorities in Province, were joined at the service by wives/friends/members of other Masonic Orders. Welcomed by incumbent, the Rev Paul Moulton, who referred to antiquity of the Order and of the church, built in 1343. Service started with Templars' Hymn, <i>Onward Christian Soldiers</i>. The Provincial Prior and Sub-Prior gave readings from Bible. Collection shared between the church/a charity chosen by Provincial Prior. Tea after service at Marton Golf Club.</p> <p>(ii) May 2000: The REV CANON RICHARD TYDEMAN addressed over 1,000 people in CHESTER CATHEDRAL for a CHORAL EVENSONG SERVICE of thanksgiving as part of 275th anniversary celebrations of Freemasonry's oldest Province, Cheshire. He quoted a story about "our Brother Sir Christopher Wren" building St Paul's Cathedral. The two lessons read by the PGM, RW Bro Richards, and Canon Tydeman. Addressing the DEAN OF THE CATHEDRAL, THE VERY REV. STEPHEN SMALLEY, who led the service, the PGM presented a cheque for £10,000 to the CATHEDRAL'S appeal for the new Song School..</p> <p>(iii) The Rev. Bruce David Harry JP Cert.Ed, NSM All Saints, New Brighton from 1998, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as Deputy Grand Superintendent of Cheshire Provincial Grand Chapter (Royal Arch). [Also PAGChap 1994]</p> <p>(iv) The Rev. Michael Graham, Rector of Mobberley, rtd 1999, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as 3rd Provincial Grand Principal of Cheshire Provincial Grand Chapter (Royal Arch). [Also PAGChap 1991]</p> |
| CHICHESTER | YES | <p>Connections with Freemasonry are informal. The Sussex Provincial Grand Lodge attends Evensong once a year.</p> <p><i>"With every good wish for your research."</i></p> | <p>In the past, yes. Also, predecessor accepted a generous gift of Sanctuary silver from the Sussex PGL, "but," writes the Dean, "Chapter has not permitted this to confer any favours or special relationship."</p> | <p>Lancing College : 17.12.2006 Freemasons' Carol Service</p> |
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| COVENTRY | YES | <p>No service in past 2 years</p> | <p>NONE</p> <p><i>"I trust that this is helpful to your research."</i></p> | <p>(i) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: Annual Warwickshire Provincial Grand Lodge Thanksgiving Service at the Collegiate Church of St Mary WARWICK on Sunday 30.6.02 at 3.00pm. A particular feature this year was the procession by the Provincial Grand Master and many other senior Masons in full Masonic regalia from the Masonic Rooms at 23, High Street, Warwick to the Church. The Church and Freemasonry have links going back to the start of the 18th century. A Lodge (no longer in existence) was formed in Warwick in April 1728 and its first Master was the Reverend Greenwood, then Vicar of the Church. The Freemasons of Warwickshire donated the beautiful pulpit in 1897. [St. Mary's Church, Warwick: Team Rector 1994-2002: the Very Rev. David Brindley, b. 1953, Diocesan Director of</p> |

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| COVENTRY contd | | | | <p>Training, Leicester 1982-86; Director of Ministerial Training, Gloucester dio. 1987-94; Hon. Canon Gloucester Cathedral 1992-94; DEAN OF PORTSMOUTH – vide - from 2002. Patron of living: Lord Chancellor/DBP] Also, Annual Church Service, STRATFORD UPON AVON, 30.6.02.</p> <p>(iii) Royal Arch Service held at COUGHTON Parish Church nr. Alcester on 12.1.03. ?"£10,000 given at last year's tea at Kings Court Hotel"? [the Rev. James H. Symonds CF 1971-90, CF (R of O) 1990-96]</p> <p>(iv) Warwickshire PGL Gift for Church Roof : Stanley Lates, Warwickshire's PGM and head of some 6,400 masons attended morning service at THE CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, TEMPLE BALSALL, Knowle, Solihull, with his wife Rosemary, on Sunday 5 March at the invitation of REV DR JAMES WOODWARD THE VICAR OF THE CHURCH FROM 1998. Freemasons had responded to the appeal launched by the vicar for the restoration and repair of the roof to this fine church, a wonderful example of Giles Gilbert Scott's work. The PGM presented a cheque for £1000 to James Woodward at the service. THE REV. DR WOODWARD said: "This substantial donation is a great boost to our appeal, and I CANNOT BEGIN TO THANK ENOUGH THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER AND THE FREEMASONS OF WARWICKSHIRE FOR THEIR GENEROSITY. WE OFTEN HEAR ADVERSE CRITICISM ABOUT FREEMASONS, BUT I FEEL THAT THE CONGREGATION AND THE PUBLIC SHOULD APPRECIATE THE GOOD WORK THEY DO. WE WERE ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTED THAT THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER AND HIS WIFE WERE ABLE TO ATTEND OUR SERVICE." Stanley Lates said: "I am grateful to the Freemasons of Warwickshire for their unending and generous support which enables me to make donations of this nature from time to time each year to non-masonic charities. It is particularly fitting on this occasion that we should be helping this church to be restored to its full glory once again, since Freemasons trace their origins to those early masons who built the magnificent cathedrals of medieval times."</p> |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF THE 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| DERBY | YES | No service in last 2 years | In the past, yes, some 4 years ago, but none since then. | <p>(i) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: Display in CHESTERFIELD Church.</p> <p>(ii) Gift from Derbyshire Provincial Grand Lodge in 2003 to St. Michael's Church, BREASTON [Rector from 1992: The Rev. G. K. G. Griffith] of £250 in memory of Canon W. Pemberton (Fairfield Lodge 224)</p> <p>(iii) Rev. Harry Callaghan AKC (perm. to offic, Derby, from 1999) listed in UGLE Year Book 2003-4 as Assistant Provincial Grand Master, West Lancashire Provincial Grand Lodge (513 lodges). [Also PAGChap 1993]</p> |
| DURHAM | YES | Masonic Carol Service 2005 at request of the Freemasons | Information withheld. "With my good wishes" | <p>(i) RMTGB eg. 1999</p> <p>(ii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: Church Service at St Andrews, BISHOP AUCKLAND, Durham [Rev. John Marshall]; repair to</p> |

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| ELY | YES | "The Cathedral has no formal connections with the Freemasons." | | <p>church clock RYTON, Durham [the Rev. Thomas L. Jamieson];</p> <p>(i) RMTGB eg. 2000: KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE. And NB The King's School Ely: "All choristers are boarders at. Half fee bursaries towards the Junior School fees are awarded to successful candidates. Extra help is sometimes available, and our aim is to exclude no worthy applicant for financial reasons. The King's School offers bursaries of at least one-third fees to former choristers who choose to continue their education in the Senior School on leaving the choir, and who are prepared to maintain a continuing musical commitment." No further data available.</p> <p>(ii) The living of the parish church of St. Margaret, CLENCHWARTON, Norfolk is in the patronage of the Ely Diocesan Board of Patronage. The present incumbent, the Rev. Andrew J. Davey, is a high-ranking Freemason, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as Assistant Grand Chaplain 1995 and holding high office in Royal Arch. He was instituted to the living by the then Bishop of Ely, the Rt Revd Professor Stephen W Sykes, now Principal of St. John's College, Durham aka Cranmer Hall, listed in <i>Crockford's</i> as a Theological College. Professor Sykes has never met any evidence that Christian Freemasons "suffer from divided loyalties."</p> <p>(iii) The Rev. Canon Hugh R. Barker is listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as AGChap 1985 and Provincial Grand Superintendent Cambridgeshire 89-94.</p> <p>(iv) Freemasonry in the Community Week 26.6.2002 to 2.7.2002: the Provincial Grand Lodges of Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire organised events to widen public knowledge of the part which Freemasonry has played in the Community for over 300 years and how it intends to continue to play its part. Programme of Events: 30.6.02: CHURCH SERVICES included: St. Mary's Church, ST. NEOTS, Cambs [the Rev. Roger H. W. Arguile LLB MA]. Freemasonry in the Community Week of Action June 2002 was also celebrated in Huntingdonshire.</p> |
| EUROPE | YES | <i>Service for Masonic Lodges at Cathedral, Gibraltar, held 10/2005</i> | <i>No information given</i> | . |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES (IN 23 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB)) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| EXETER | YES | Exeter is glad to welcome members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire "to join us for Evensong once every two years. This is very much an Anglican Evensong with Masons attending, and not a Masonic service." | Currently in receipt of one Masonic Choral Bursary for a chorister. | <p>(i) RMTGB 2002 (ii) "Freemasonry in the Community" Week of Action June 2002: CATHEDRAL SERVICE FOR ALL FREEMASONS and their families 22.6.02. Regalia to be worn. Procession into CATHEDRAL. CANON NEIL COLLINGS, Vice-Dean & Treasurer of EXETER CATHEDRAL, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as GRAND CHAPLAIN 1999-2002 moves to become Dean of St. Edmundsbury in 9/2006. Also Church Service at Holy Trinity Church, SALCOMBE [the Rev. R. A. Owen, RD]. Provide new notice board for St. Margaret's Church, TOPSHAM [the Rev. Richard W. C. Jeffery].</p> |

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| GLOUCESTER | YES | Annual Evensong Service for the Freemasons of the County every May or June usually at 6pm on a Sunday, organised by the Freemasons: a great number attend. | The Cathedral has benefited from a Masonic Choral Bursary. | (i) RMTGB eg 1999 (ii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: SERVICE AT GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL - to be used as springboard to launch FIC. Guests from all walks of local life. (16.6.02) |
| GUILDFORD | YES | The Surrey Freemasons hold an annual service, whilst the Middlesex Freemasons hold a service every other year. | We have received a Masonic Choral Bursary | (iii) Pinnacles restored by the Freemasons: commemoration brass plaque in CATHEDRAL . (i) ANNUAL CATHEDRAL SERVICE for all Surrey Freemasons. The previous Dean, the Very Revd. Alexander Wedderspoon was organiser of Christian/Druid Reconciliation Conference . (ii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL SERVICE 7.7.02 . |
| HEREFORD | YES | Each June, "Grand Provincial Lodge" Freemasons attend Evensong | One Masonic Choral Bursary <i>"I do hope that this information is of help. With all good wishes"</i> | (i) RMTGB 2002 (ii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: Annual Church Service in Herefordshire (9.6.02) ; Provincial Grand Lodge Church Service at WELLINGTON, Shropshire 30.6.02. Church Service at St Michael's Church, TENBURY WELLS [the Rev. Preb. Duncan S. Dormor] 30.6.02 . (iii) CATHEDRAL SERVICE to present MASONIC SCHOLARSHIP MEDALLION to Patrick Donachie. Present: HRH The Duke of Kent (Grand Master); the Lord Lieutenant and Lady Dunne; the High Sheriff; and the CE of Herefordshire Council. THE DEAN, THE VERY REVD MICHAEL TAVINOR , in the address referred to the long association between THE CATHEDRAL and THE FREEMASONS . Later, the Grand Master returned to THE CATHEDRAL to view the windows of the Lady Chapel, restored by English Heritage with support from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Herefordshire 5.6.2003. (iv) The Rev. David J Bowen, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as AGChap 2003, is the RD OF HEREFORD |
| LEICESTER | YES | The Annual Carol Service in the Cathedral is attended by 400 to 500 Members of Masonic Orders of Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland. Sermon by member of Cathedral Clergy | The Cathedral does not receive Masonic Bursaries. | (i) The Carol Service is THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE CATHEDRAL SERVICE . In 2002, there was a special <i>Service of Thanksgiving</i> in THE CATHEDRAL attended by over 300 Freemasons/families/friends as part of <i>Freemasonry in the Community</i> week. Address by Provincial Grand Master, Mr. Derek Buswell, thanking the Freemasons and their ladies. (ii) Big Boost to LEICESTER CATHEDRAL Funds: LEICESTER CATHEDRAL'S appeal fund has benefited with grants of £15,000 from masonic charities handed over to BISHOP BILL DOWN FNI (rtd. 2001). There was £10,000 from The Grand Charity and £5,000 from the Leicestershire and Rutland Provincial Grand Charity. The object of the cathedral appeal is to provide a new visitor centre as well as to extend the work of the church into both schools and the community generally. |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES (IN 23 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB)) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| LICHFIELD | YES | YES | YES | (i) RMTGB eg. 2000 (ii) LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL Wednesday 30.9.1998 5.30pm EVENSONG sung by the STAFFORDSHIRE MASONIC CHOIR God is a spirit <i>Sterndale Bennett Archer Responses Psalm(s) 147 Corfe</i> in E flat Non nobis Domine <i>Quilter</i> |

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| LICHFIELD contd. | | | | <p>(ii) LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL 'THANKSGIVING CATHEDRAL SERVICE' <i>Written: 4/6/2006:</i> All Freemasons, their ladies and families are invited to Lichfield Cathedral for a Thanksgiving Service for Freemasons on Sunday, June 25, at 6.30pm. Brethren not in the processions are requested to be seated in the Nave no later than 5.45pm. An organ recital will be given at 6pm. The recently appointed DEAN OF THE CATHEDRAL, THE VERY REV ADRIAN DORBER, will address the congregation and the sermon will be given by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, W Bro Rev Stephen Cooke, PAGChaplain, [Sub Chaplain HM Prison Drake Hall 1989-95] who will take as his theme Vocation, linked to the call of Jeremiah. There is no reserved car parking in the Cathedral Close and the nearest car parks are in Bird Street, the Friary, Lombard Street, Sandford Street and the Frog Lane/Birmingham Road multi storey. A circular regarding clothing and robing has been issued by the Provincial Grand Secretary, W Bro Colin B Denne, PAGDC. Past Provincial Officers, Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren are advised to bring their regalia in a suitable fold away cover (as regalia cases will cause obstructions) and robe up in their Nave seats.</p> |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES (IN 23 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB)) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| LINCOLN | YES | The Lincolnshire Preceptory of the Knights Templar hold annual October service in Cathedral and also attend Evensong "in 'civvies'" on a couple of occasions each year. Open to the public. | ONE <i>"I hope this gives you the information you require."</i> | <p>(i) 6.8.05: KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EVENT - CATHEDRAL and Showground</p> <p>(ii) 13.9.05: Christian Degrees service at St. Nicholas Church, Lincoln and Assembly Rooms dinner</p> <p>(iii) 18.9.05: Battle of Britain Service and Provincial Grand Lodge Lunch, CATHEDRAL, LINCOLN, and County Assembly Rooms (<i>aka the Masonic Hall</i>), Bailgate. Lincoln</p> <p>(iv) RMTGB eg. GREAT GRIMSBY Parish Church 1999</p> <p>(v) The Rev. John R. D. Scarborough BA, with permission to officiate in Lincoln dio, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as Grand Superintendent of Lincolnshire Provincial Grand Chapter (Royal Arch). [Also DepGChap 2000]</p> <p>(vi)) Freemasonry in the Community Week 26.6.2002 to 2.7.2002: Service at LINCOLN CATHEDRAL (buffet for invited guests from groups with special relationship) 29.6.02. The Provincial Grand Lodges of Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire organised events to widen public knowledge of the part which Freemasonry has played in the Community for over 300 years and how it intends to continue to play its part. <u>Programme of Events</u>:: 30.6.02: CHURCH SERVICES included STAMFORD, Lincs.</p> |
| LIVERPOOL | YES | Some links with Merseyside Freemasons but no Service for the Freemasons in past 2 years. | NONE | <p>(i) The Bishop of Warrington, THE RT REV DAVID JENNINGS, gave the address at 27th Annual Service of Rededication at WARRINGTON Parish Church for over 200 Warrington Freemasons, in Masonic regalia, who, with families/friends, attended St Elphin's Church (9.5.05). The Rector is the Rev. Michael Finlay. The Bishop said "It was a pleasure to be at the service." After it, the Bishop was shown</p> |

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| LIVERPOOL contd | | | | <p>round Warrington Masonic Hall including Lodge Rooms. In 2004/5, Warrington Freemasons gave £1,000 to St Barnabas Church..</p> <p>(ii) THE RT. REV. DR RUPERT HOARE, THE DEAN OF LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL, gave address at annual church service on 8.5.06, for over 200 Warrington Freemasons, dressed in Masonic regalia, WARRINGTON Freemasons have given £1,000 each to Christ Church, PADGATE, St Barnabas Church, Warrington and St Elphin's Church, Warrington and £250 to St Oswald's Church, WINWICK.</p> <p>(iii) The Rev. Harry (aka Henry?) E. Ross listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as Assistant Provincial Grand Master, West Lancashire Provincial Grand Lodge (513 lodges). [Also PAGChap 1987]</p> <p>(iv) The Rev. Canon John Sharples BSc HON CANON LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL 1997, rtd 1997, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as Assistant Provincial Grand Master, West Lancashire Provincial Grand Lodge. [Also PAGChap 1994]</p> <p>(v) The Rev. John Michael Burgess ALCD Area Dean of North Meols 1995-2000 listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as AGChap 2000</p> <p>(vi) Freemasonry in the Community Week of Action June 2002 was celebrated in Lancashire.</p> |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES (IN 23 OF THE 43 CATHEDRALS) (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| LONDON | YES | ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL HAS NOT HELD A SERVICE TO WHICH THE FREEMASONS OR MEMBERS OF A PARTICULAR LODGE HAVE BEEN INVITED OR WHICH THEY ATTEND BY CUSTOM IN THE PAST 2 YEARS. | ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL DOES NOT RECEIVE MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES. "I hope this is helpful" from The Treasurer, The Revd Canon Philip Buckler. (The Dean retired at the end of the summer.) | <p>(i) ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL Service for 1700 Freemasons held in 18.6.02. THE DEAN, THE VERY REVD JOHN MOSES "stressed the importance of the Masonic precepts, Brotherly love, Relief and Truth." Canon Neil Collings, Treasurer of Exeter Cathedral, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as Grand Chaplain 1999-2002, helped compose the service. TRH Duke of Kent and Prince Michael of Kent attended.</p> <p>(ii) "Freemasonry in the Community Week of Action Begins with ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL SERVICE — Photographic Exhibition at Freemasons' Hall — East Lancashire — Devonshire — Suffolk — Yorkshire West Riding — Dorset — Bristol — Hertfordshire — Durham — London — Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire ..."</p> <p>(iii) From 1996 to 2001, according to the <i>United Grand Lodge of England Yearbook 2003-4*</i>, THE REV. DAVID ROBERT BONNER (Priest-in-charge, Twickenham 1984-1991, rtd with permission to officiate in London from 1991) was PRO PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER, MIDDX and GRAND SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER FOR MIDDX (ROYAL ARCH). [Also PAGChap 1985]</p> <p>(iv) The Venerable Peter Anthony Delaney AKC MBE, from 1999 ARCHDEACON OF LONDON (c/o The Archdeacon of London's Office, 43 Trinity Sq., London EC3N 4DU), is listed as member of the Diocesan Synod from 1995, Vicar of <i>All Hallows</i></p> |

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| LONDON contd | | | | <p><i>Barking by the Tower</i> from 1977 and KNIGHT COMMANDER, SMO OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR (this last detail omitted from CofE Year Book 2006 and Crockford's)</p> <p>(v) The Rev. Basil Alderson Watson OBE MA, Rural Dean The City of London 1976-79, Vicar St Lawrence Jewry, Guildhall, London 1970-86, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as DEPUTY GRAND CHAPLAIN 1990.</p> <p>(vi) The Rev. Prebendary Clarke Edward Leighton Thomson, PREB. ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL 1986-1992, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as MEMBER OF GRAND MASTER'S COUNCIL. [GChap 1983]</p> <p>(vii) The Rev. Peter Hemingway, Vicar of St. Alban's Church, N. HARROW from 1987, listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as MEMBER OF GRAND MASTER'S COUNCIL. [GChap 1988-9]</p> <p>(viii) The Very Revd Derek Watson, AD CHELSEA 1994-96, was photographed addressing 1200 invited Freemasons at a CATHEDRAL SERVICE in SALISBURY on 30.6.02 as DEAN.</p> |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES (IN 23 OF THE 43 CATHEDRALS) (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| MANCHESTER | YES | No services for Freemasons in past 2 years | Affirmative ie. the Cathedral presently benefits. | <p>(i) Freemasons' Carol Service, eg. at St. Ann's Church, MANCHESTER 9.12.01</p> <p>(ii) RMTGB eg. 1998</p> <p>(iii) OLD CHORISTERS' ANNUAL REUNION AT CATHEDRAL on 2nd Saturday of September followed by Reunion Dinner at Freemasons' Hall, Bridge Street, Manchester "dress code casual, speeches hilarious".</p> <p>(iv) The Rev. Harry Callaghan AKC (permission to officiate, Manchester, from 1998) listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as Assistant Provincial Grand Master, West Lancashire Provincial Grand Lodge (513 lodges).</p> <p>(v) The Venerable Dr John Mark Meredith Dalby MA, ARCHDEACON of ROCHDALE in 1991-2000, is listed in the United Grand Lodge of England Year Book 2003-4 as PAGChaplain 1993. In MQ MAGAZINE January 2006 Issue 16, he wrote a lengthy article in praise of the Craft, "Freemasonry and Religion: United in Diversity": "Masonry lifts us out of our narrow ruts... Ours is a more secular age, but perversely (and I find it very perverse), Masonry is attacked nowadays not so much by unbelievers, as by those believers who have adopted a sort of 'back-to-the-wall' or siege mentality and who have become more and more exclusive."</p> |
| NEWCASTLE | YES | NO | NONE <i>"With best wishes"</i> | <p>(i) 1999: 14th Anniversary of RMTGB held at Newcastle Civic Centre, presided over by Rt. W. Bro George Usher. Northumberland Freemasons raised almost £2.8 million.</p> <p>(ii) Northumberland Provincial Grand Lodge made grants in 2004-5 to: Churches Acting Together £1000</p> |

| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
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| <p>NORWICH</p> <p>NORWICH contd</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>Norwich Cathedral has a cordial and ongoing relationship with local Freemasons...A service for local masons is being planned.</p> | <p>Over the years they have provided practical and generous support for the Cathedral, including the Choral Foundation.</p> <p><i>"I hope that this is of assistance to you. With all good wishes."</i></p> | <p>LOWICK & KYLOE PCC £ 500</p> <p>(i) CATHEDRAL SERVICE held for 275th anniversary of the United Grand Lodge of England in June 1992, led by the late BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH, THE RT. REV. BILL WESTWOOD, one time Vicar of ST PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH, who dismissed mounting criticism as "foolish talk". The Dean, the Very Revd Paul Burbridge, said Jesus was "<i>the sort of chap</i>" who included everybody in. The Revd Jan McFarlane (23.11.04) said the Bishop of Norwich doubted if the Service in 2002 was "celebrating Freemasonry".</p> <p>(ii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: Church Services at St Nicholas Church, BLAKENEY, 23.6.02 [Rector: the Rev P. G. F. Norwood, Archbishop's Dom. Chaplain 1969-72]; ST PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH [the Rev. Peter Warwick Nokes, see (iii) below]; DISS [the Rev. Anthony C. Billett]; THETFORD [Rector: the Rev. Charles J. Hall JP and RD]; HUNSTANTON [Rector & RD: the Rev. Lawrence H. Campbell], 30.6.02; St Mary's Church, Diss 7.7.02.</p> <p>(iii) The prestigious CHURCH OF ST PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH has a present and historical link with the Mancroft Lodge of Freemasons. (The church magazine referred to a service for the Lodge held by the Rev. Canon Hereward Cooke, Hon. Curate, who in 2005 was Deputy Leader of Norwich City Council.) The church choir used to sing carols at the Lodge's Christmas Dinner. The Lodge gave generously to the major appeal fund of the church in the early 1980s. The previous vicar referred to an annual service in October for the Lodge. Members of the Lodge were "openly welcomed" to the church and the Worshipful Master read the 1st lesson.</p> <p>(iv) RMTGB eg. 2002</p> |
| <p>OXFORD</p> <p>PETERBOROUGH</p> | <p>YES</p> <p>YES</p> | <p>"No. Christ Church Cathedral has not held any service to which the Freemasons, or members of a particular Lodge of Freemasons, have been invited or which they attend by custom, in the past two years."</p> <p><i>The Very Revd Michael Bunker retired 31.3.06. Canon Bruce Ruddock is Acting Dean.</i></p> <p>Carol Services for Freemasons of Provincial Grand Lodge held in the Cathedral in December 2004 and 2005.</p> | <p>"Christ Church Cathedral does not receive Masonic Choral Bursaries."</p> <p>Replies received from the Dean of Christ Church, Oxford - and the Registrar of the Diocese: "I hope that this is of some help. Thank you very much."</p> <p>"One chorister receives a bursary from the Royal Masonic Trust for which we and the family in question are most grateful."</p> <p><i>"I trust this now deals adequately with the questions you raised."</i></p> | <p>(i) RMTGB (eg. ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR 1998)</p> <p>(ii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: SINDLESHAM: Multi-denominational Service in conjunction with PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF BERKSHIRE 30.6.02.</p> <p>(i)The late Rt. Rev. Bill Westwood led Freemasons at SERVICE AT NORWICH CATHEDRAL in 2002.</p> <p>(ii) RMTGB eg. 2002</p> <p>(iii) the Masonic Province of Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire gave £5000 on 23.11.01 towards repairs following fire at CATHEDRAL on 22.11.01.</p> <p>(iv) Close Masonic links go back to 1924 when the Provincial Grand Lodge paid for a new buttress on the North Wall of the Choir Aisle.</p> |

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| <p>PETERBOROUGH contd.</p> | | | | <p>(v) Province's Freemasons have held ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES IN THE CATHEDRAL, attended by over 1000 Freemasons & their families. Each year, substantial donation to Cathedral funds. (2003 report)</p> <p>(vi) SERVICES FOR MASONIC KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AT CATHEDRAL</p> <p>(vii) Freemasonry in the Community Week 26.6.2002 to 2.7.2002:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Mary the Virgin Church, KETTON, Northants: Musical Evening +Masonic Choir, 28.9.02. • The Provincial Grand Lodges of Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire organised events to widen public knowledge of the part which Freemasonry has played in the Community for over 300 years and how it intends to continue to play its part. The Programme of Events included: 30.6.02: CHURCH SERVICES: 3 pm All Saint's Church, NORTHAMPTON [Rector: the Rev. Simon H. M. Godfrey]; Holy Cross Church, DAVENTRY [Team Rector: the Rev. Owen Page, RD Daventry from 2000]; OUNDLE [Rector: the Rev. R.J. Ormston RD Wootton 1996-2001] 7.7.02: KETTERING - St. Peter & St. Paul's Church [Rector: the Rev. Gordon Fisher]. |
| <p>CATHEDRAL</p> | <p>DID THE DEAN REPLY?</p> | <p>WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS</p> | <p>WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB)</p> | <p>WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS</p> |
| <p>PORTSMOUTH</p> | <p>NO</p> | | | <p>(i) 2006: The Freemasons' National Grand Charity recently made a 'Small Grant' of £5000 to the PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL Capital Appeal. This was followed by another grant of £10,000 from the Thomas Bennett Langton Fund of the Province of Hampshire and IOW. The Provincial Grand Master Brian Bellinger presented the cheque on behalf of the 13,500 Hampshire and IOW Freemasons at a small gathering of Freemasons and fund raisers at the Cathedral, to THE DEAN OF PORTSMOUTH, THE VERY REVEREND DAVID BRINDLEY. The Provincial Grand Master has made this Appeal a focus of fund raising within the Province of Hampshire and IOW for 2006 and already many of the 256 individual Lodges, in the Province, have responded with donations. The £2m Appeal, launched by the Cathedral in May 2006, is seen as relevant for support from Freemasons as much of the money is needed to repair the Medieval part of the building, with the remainder being used to develop Cathedral House providing therein among other things a Music Centre, Education Centre and a refectory, all facilities which will benefit the Community. Supporting this project has the joint benefit of demonstrating that Freemasons are actively helping preserve our Heritage together with supporting non-Masonic activities and charities.</p> <p>(ii) HAMPSHIRE & I of W MASONIC GRAND CHARITY: 1989 St Cuthbert's Church Organ Fund, COPNOR £100; 1989 RYDE Parish Church</p> |

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| RIPON & LEEDS | YES | No Freemasons' Service since 2002. | Yes: the Cathedral is in receipt of a Masonic Choral Bursary. | <p>Restoration Fund £500:00; 1992 St Thomas's Church, NEWPORT, I.O.W. £500:00; 1998 St George's Church Bell Refurbishment Fund £500.00; 1999 St. Mary the Virgin Church, ROWNER £500.00 [the Rev. John W. Draper]; 2002 Holy Trinity Church, PENTON MEWSEY £500.00 [the Rev. Raymond E. Whettingsteel]; 2002 Church of the Holy Spirit, SOUTHSEA Centennial Appeal (the Rev. Simon P. Rundell]</p> <p>(iii) HAMPSHIRE & I OF W MASONIC GRAND CHARITY grants made in 2002 : St. Michaels Church, ALDERSHOT (from Lodge 723) £1,000 to purchase wardrobes [priest-in-charge: the Rev. Haydon H. Wilcox]; St. Peter's Church, BOURNEMOUTH (2158) £1000 for Renovation of Church Cross [Team Rector: the Rev. J. J. Richardson]</p> <p>(iv) The Rev. Dr. Michael Morgan, permission to officiate, Portsmouth dio, from 1998: listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as Grand Chaplain 1984-5 and Grand Superintendent of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Provincial Grand Chapter (Royal Arch) from 1989.</p> <p>(i) CATHEDRAL SERVICE FOR THE FREEMASONS held on 23.6.02. Defended by the Bishop who was opposed to "exclusiveness". Another note describes the Multi-Faith Service for Freemasons as being conducted by THE DEAN, THE VERY REVD. JOHN A. R. METHUEN MA.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Gifts by de Grey & Ripon Lodge 837 to churches</u> eg.: <i>Heptonstall Church</i> (Wakefield dio.) £250 <i>Balderstone Church</i> memorial window (Blackburn dio.) £500 <i>St. Paul's Church</i> £500 <i>St. Andrew's Church</i>, Burnt Yates £250 <i>St. James' Church</i>, Slaithwaite (Wakefield dio.) £250 <i>Luddenden Parish Church</i> Choir, (Wakefield dio.) £250 <i>St. Chad's Church</i>, Saddleworth (Manchester dio.) £250</p> |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| ROCHESTER | YES | Freemasons of East and West Kent are welcomed to a service of Evensong in Cathedral on a biennial basis. | In the past, yes. None now. <i>"All the very best with your research."</i> (The Dean) | <p>(i) RMTGB eg. 2002</p> <p>(ii) FRIEZE WITHIN THE CATHEDRAL has been presented by the Freemasons. Masonic gift for the fresco reached £77,000 by September 2001. The Dean accepted an invitation from the Provincial Grand Master to attend the Provincial Officers' Mess at the Winter Gardens, Margate as Guest Speaker on 18.10.2001. Provincial Lodge and Royal Arch Chapters were represented.</p> <p>"On Thursday, 24 June, a special service was held in THE CATHEDRAL to celebrate its foundation by Bishop Justus in 604AD. As part of the celebration a magnificent fresco, largely FUNDED BY THE</p> |

ROCHESTER
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FREEMASONS OF KENT as a millennium gift, was dedicated. It will form a magnificent backdrop to the new Baptistry being set up in the north nave transept. The special service was led by THE ACTING DEAN, CANON JONATHAN MEYRICK, supported by THE BISHOP OF TONBRIDGE, THE RT. REV. DR. BRIAN CASTLE, the College of Canons, the Honorary Priest Vicars and other clergy from the Diocese and included a specially commissioned anthem by John Taverner. The Acting Dean, on behalf of the Chapter, expressed their gratitude for the generous gift. The packed congregation was headed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Kent, Allen Willett, and included the Vice-Chairman of Kent County Council, Cllr F. Gibson, and several mayors from the county. The Freemasons of Kent were represented by RW Bro William Bryen, Provincial Grand Master for West Kent and RW Bro John Bonomy, Provincial Grand Master for East Kent, together with members of the two Provincial Executives and many individual Freemasons. At a second service three days later on Sunday 27th June, several hundred Kent Masons, their families and friends, packed THE CATHEDRAL, and led by the two Provincial Grand Masters, united in a Service of Thanksgiving. THE VERY REVEREND EDWARD SHOTTER, DEAN EMERITUS OF ROCHESTER preached the sermon."

(iii)) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE CHURCH SERVICE AT ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

(iv) THE REV. DAVID FRANCIS PRESTON MA, listed in UGLE Year Book 2003-4 as 3RD PROVINCIAL GRAND PRINCIPAL of East Kent Provincial Grand Chapter (Royal Arch). [Also AGChap 1991]

(v) 16.12.2005: ROCHESTER DISAGREEMENT OVER FREEMASON FRESCO: A row has been raging at ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL now for months over the thorny issue of Freemasonry. THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER, THE RT REV MICHAEL NAZIR-ALI and THE DEAN, THE VERY REV ADRIAN NEWMAN, are at loggerheads over whether the Freemasons of east and west Kent who donated money towards A FRESCO IN THE CATHEDRAL should be acknowledged in a plaque next to the painting. Funds for the fresco were raised partly by the Dean and Chapter, but the Freemasons also made a substantial contribution to a picture with considerable artistic significance. It is the first medieval-inspired fresco of a baptism to be completed in an English cathedral for 800 years. Work finished on the painting in November of last year, which is situated in the north transept. Despite its cultural importance, BISHOP NAZIR-ALI remains adamant that no mention of this notoriously secretive organization should exist inside THE CATHEDRAL. He told The Church of England Newspaper: "I fully appreciate the sensitive position which the new Dean is trying to resolve, and support him in his efforts to find a way forward in recognizing the contributions of individual donors to the fresco. When it comes to Freemasonry as an institution, however, I base my views on a Church of England report, Freemasonry and Christianity, endorsed by General Synod, which found that Freemasonry is incompatible with Christianity." However, DEAN NEWMAN disagrees and feels all

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| | | | | donors should be recognized. Appointed in January of this year he has the task of settling an old dispute that was running before he became Dean. He said: "I want to acknowledge the contribution of all donors to the fresco. I fully respect the Bishop's position and I am trying to find a mutually acceptable way to acknowledge the generous contribution of all donors to the cost of the fresco, including the Freemasons." |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| ST. ALBANS | YES | The Dean says "there have, I think, been 2 occasions over the past two years..." | NONE <i>"I hope this helps. With all good wishes"</i> | <p>(i)</p> <p>2000 Duke Humphrey's Chantry restored by the Freemasons of Hertfordshire to commemorate the Millennium.</p> <p>2000 Archbishop Lord Runcie buried in the North Churchyard.</p> <p>2002 Five Year programme of conservation of the Presbytery Ceiling completed</p> <p>2002 A bone believed to be of Saint Alban and the gift of the Roman Catholic Church of Saint Pantaleon, Cologne, Germany placed within the Shrine Pedestal</p> <p>2003 Visit of HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh (14 March)</p> <p>2004 Completion of eleven year programme of wall painting conservation and cleaning by the Perry Lithgow Partnership</p> <p>2004 Jeffrey John installed as 9th Dean of St Albans (2nd July)</p> <p>2006 Lady Chapel Stonework cleaned and wheelchair lift to Saint's Chapel installed</p> <p>2006 New stained glass window depicting Our Lady and St Columba installed in the south nave aisle. The gift of St Columba's College</p> <p>(ii) CATHEDRAL SERVICE for the Order of St. John in May 2002: an ambulance was handed over by the Freemasons who "have nothing in particular to do with the Cathedral." (The Bishop, 16.1.03)</p> <p>(iii) "Freemasonry in the Community" Week of Action in June 2002 was celebrated in Hertfordshire.</p> <p>(iv) 2002: A CHORAL CELEBRATION OF FREEMASONRY BY THE ABBEY CHOIR in the CATHEDRAL AND ABBEY CHURCH OF ST ALBAN was attended by 600 Freemasons, family and friends. HERTFORDSHIRE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE (Fleet House, St. Albans) applied to the MTGB who granted £6000 towards the choir's trip to Fano Cathedral, Italy.</p> |
| ST ALBANS contd. | | | | |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| ST. EDMUNDSBURY | YES | Knights Templar hold annual ser-vice. Also "a major service took | NONE | (i) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002 was celebrated in Suffolk. NB. FREEMASONS' EVENSONG CATHEDRAL SERVICE at 7pm on 2.7.02 |

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| SALISBURY | YES | <p>place in April '06 at which the Dean of York [the Very Revd Keith Jones MA, b. 1944, formerly Dean of Exeter] preached."</p> <p>Last Service was 4 years ago but an Evensong is now planned for 1.10.06.</p> | <p>Three</p> <p><i>"I trust that these replies meet your needs."</i></p> | <p>organised by Suffolk Provincial Grand Lodge.</p> <p>(ii) From The Times 20.2.06: WOMEN CLERGY VETO: The Ven. Geoffrey Arrand, Archdeacon of Suffolk, defended the refusal by the parochial church council of BARSHAM to accept a woman priest. He said, "I understand why they are doing it, but that is not the same thing as saying I agree with them." The vacancy is advertised for men only. (Reported also in The Daily Telegraph.) MFRFM has discovered that one priest in the same group of parishes is the Rev. Norman Harold Simister. Simister is an unusual surname. A Norman Harold Simister holds several ranks of high office in the United Grand Lodge of England, Craft & Royal Arch.</p> <p>(i) RMTGB eg. 2002</p> <p>(ii) A former DEAN, THE VERY REVD DEREK WATSON, AD Chelsea 1994-96, was photographed addressing 1200 invited Freemasons at a CATHEDRAL SERVICE on 30.6.02. A collection in excess of £2000 was made towards Cathedral funds and the Provincial Grand Master presented a cheque for £2500 to the Dean for the Cathedral Girls Choir. The Masonic Lodge is opposite the Diocesan office.</p> <p>(iii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002: Service at St. Thomas Church, TROWBRIDGE [the Rev. James A. Coutts]; presentation of floral basket display for WAREHAM in Bloom at St. Martin's Church [the Rev. William G. Blakey].</p> <p>(iii) BRIG. THE VEN. JOHN BLACKBURN OHC, M.O.D CHAPLAINS PEWSEY, is listed in <i>UGLE Year Book 2003-4</i> as AGChap 1999.</p> |
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| SHEFFIELD | YES(?) | <p>The Dean, The Revd Peter E. Bradley MA FRSA [b.1944] writes: <i>"I am afraid I am not able to help you</i></p> | <p><i>with your project (sic). I suggest that you pursue your enquiries by contacting the local Freemasons' Lodges in Sheffield."</i></p> | <p>(i) Joint Christian Orders Church Service hosted 9/2005 by Knights Templar at St. Nicholas Parish Church, THORNE, in the Sheffield dio, followed by lunch next door at Thorne Masonic Hall. Worshippers welcomed into the church by the parish priest, the Rev. Peter Boulton-Lea (RD Doncaster 1995-96). The service was led by W. Bro Rev. Frank A. Chappell, Acting Provincial Grand Chaplain (<i>listed in UGLE Year Book 2003-4 as AGChap 1999</i>), W. Bro Rev. Peter Miall, Assistant Provincial Grand Chaplain (Hon. Canon of Bolsterstone 1988-98 Sheffield dio.) and the Rev. Canon Howard Garside, Assistant Div. Prelate of West Yorkshire Division of the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, <i>listed in UGLE Year Book 2003-4 as PAGChap 1985 and PJGD 1997, and PGStB 1986 and PAGSoj 1995 in Royal Arch. (Hon. Canon Ripon Cathedral 1978-1989, RD Harrogate 1983-88)</i></p> <p>(ii) Only 8 out of 23 Deans have acknowledged current Masonic Choral Bursaries. Since information is not made public by UGLE or by the Dean of Sheffield, people must keep an open mind. 15 Cathedrals have not been accounted for.</p> |
| SODOR AND | YES | The Freemasons | NONE | |

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| MAN | | attend services in the Cathedral and parish churches. No regalia worn. All such services open to the general public. | | |
| SOUTHWARK | YES | Data withheld by Dean | Data withheld by Dean | Masonic Lodge attended Carol Service at St. Michael's & All Angels, CROYDON in 2004. |
| SOUTHWELL | YES | Regular annual service for families of Freemasons | "We do receive Masonic Choral Bursaries. Various boys over the years have received one." | (i) RMTGB 1997 (ii) 22.5.06: <u>New Choral Bursary for SOUTHWELL MINSTER:</u> the Provincial Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire held its Annual Service at SOUTHWELL MINSTER, during which the Prov. Grand Master, RW Bro Robin Keith Wilson, presented a cheque for £2,000 to THE DEAN, THE VERY REVD DAVID LEANING, on behalf of the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys, to fund the first year of a new Choral Bursary at the Minster. Southwell was one of the first Cathedrals to receive a Bursary. Since 1997, six choristers have been supported at a cost of more than £62,000. Photo published with caption: THE VERY REVD DAVID LEANING, DEAN OF SOUTHWELL, RW. Bro. Robin Wilson, Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire and Paul Hale, Rector Chori (sic) |
| TRURO | YES | "Truro Cathedral might not have been built but for Masonic money. There are Masonic symbols around in abundance, and the final window telling the story of Church history (in the Jesus Chapel at the North West of the Cathedral) includes a panel showing the then Prince of Wales laying the Cathedral foundation stone in full Masonic regalia. There is rarely a service to which Freemasons are specifically invited. The Freemasons come en masse probably about once every ten years or so. The last occasion was when the Altar* was given, and they came to Evensong. (The dedication was performed by the Bishop on a later occasion, with just a couple of Freemasons present.) On all these occasions no deviation from the regular liturgy is permitted, and none expected by our guests." | "We have not in the past received Masonic Choral Bursaries but have been granted one beginning this year. It will enable a boy to be a Cathedral chorister whose family could not otherwise afford the educational fees." "A few years ago we received a grant from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall for a new altar* in St. Margaret's Chapel." | (i) Freemasonry in the Community Week of Action June 2002 was celebrated in Dorset. CATHEDRAL SERVICE FOR FREEMASONS, including dedication of new furniture for St Margaret's Chapel, was led by THE DEAN, THE VERY REVD MICHAEL MOXON, formerly Chaplain to Queen and Canon of Windsor, on 23.6.02. Crotchety letter (11.12.02) received from Bishop's former Domestic Chaplain, the Revd. Robert Sellers. (ii) In 1880, "Truro was bedecked to welcome HRH the Prince of Wales" who had come to lay the foundation stone of the CATHEDRAL WITH FULL MASONIC HONOURS. (iii) Masonic pew-end (?) at St. Keveran Church, ST. KEVERNE |
| TRURO contd. | | | | |

| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
|-------------------|---------------------|--|---|--|
| WAKEFIELD | YES | Service for York-shire Freemasons 7 or 8 years ago. "...Our local Masonic Chapter has an annual service in the Chantry Chapel on the bridge at Wakefield .." | Small Masonic grants for educational matters but no Choral Bursary. <i>"I hope that you will find this information useful."</i> | THE DEAN, THE VERY REVD. GEORGE NAIRN-BRIGGS, defended the EXHIBITION HELD AT THE CATHEDRAL by the Freemasons on 28/29.6.02. "We try to be open to all groups represented by members of the Church of England." |
| WINCHESTER | YES | Our Chapter has allowed the Freemasons to hold services – eg 16.10.05. | NONE | <p>(i) Freemasons attended PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE SERVICE AT THE CATHEDRAL on 1.10.2000. The Provincial Grand Chaplain gave an address, stressing the benefits that "more Masonry into men" would achieve.</p> <p>(ii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002 : Masonic Service at Town Church, GUERNSEY & ALDERNEY (30.6.02); Service of Thanksgiving at BOURNEMOUTH (30.6.02); Service of Thanksgiving, Royal Garrison Church, ALDERSHOT (30.6.02);</p> <p>(iii) HAMPSHIRE & I of W MASONIC GRAND CHARITY: 1986 St Clements Church, BOURNEMOUTH £500:00; 1989 St Marks Church, HIGHCLIFFE £500:00; 1990 Christchurch Priory Restoration Appeal £1,000:00; 1991 St. Michaels Church, ANDOVER £500:00; 1992 All Saint's Church, MUDEFORD, CHRISTCHURCH £500:00; ; 1992 All Saints Church, BASINGSTOKE £500:00 [the Rev. Philip Peter Welsh]; 1992 Alamein Memorial Church, Andover £500; 1992 St Barnabas Church, WEEKE, Winchester £500; 1996 CHRISTCHURCH PRIORY Church Pipe Organ Appeal £1000 [the Rev. Hugh Martin Williams]; 1996 St. Peter's Church, ROPLEY £350 [the Rev. Royston J. Such, Solicitor]; 1996 St. Nicholas Church, LONGPARISH - Building Appeal £600; 1996 St.Martin's Church, ELLISFIELD - Roof Fund £500; 2001 St. Mary's Church, Twyford £250.00 [the Rev. Mark D. Bailey]</p> <p>(iv) The Rev. Robert Gibson Nelson ALCD (permission to officiate, Winchester, from 1986) is listed in UGLE Year Book 2003-4 as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Guernsey & Alderney Provincial Grand Lodge.</p> |
| WINCHESTER contd. | | | | |
| WORCESTER | YES | Annual July Service for Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcester-shire eg. 9.7.06 (pm). | Annual contribution for one chorister of £1300 (= 30% of Cathedral award to each of other 17 boy choristers) paid by "the Worcester Lodge", rising by £100pa. <i>"I hope this information is of help."</i> | <p>(i) MASONIC ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR connection exists (with Service/s) at CATHEDRAL. Bishop Selby claimed (18.12.02) to be "not acquainted at all with the modern Knights Templar".</p> <p>(ii) Large Window with Masonic symbols in north transept of CATHEDRAL endowed by the Freemasons.</p> <p>(iii) 'Freemasonry in the Community' Week of Action June 2002:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE CATHEDRAL SERVICE 7.7.02. |

| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church Services at DUDLEY, HALESOWEN (with contributions to Church Restoration Fund), STOURBRIDGE 30.6.02. • Freemasons from the Lodge of Hope and Charity, KIDDERMINSTER, presented a cheque for £2,001 to the Friends of St Mary and All Saints Church, Kidderminster, at Evensong in the Whittall Chapel for repairs to the west window of the church. The lodge has been meeting in Kidderminster for almost 180 years and has a long association with the church. The foundation stone for the Whittall Chapel was laid in 1921, when the lodge was opened in the chantry and 156 Freemasons took part in the ceremony. [The Rector is the Rev. Canon David Owain Bell, Hon. Canon of Worcester Cathedral from 1996.] |
|-------------|---------------------|---|---|---|
| CATHEDRAL | DID THE DEAN REPLY? | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT SERVICES WITHIN LAST 2 YEARS | WHAT THE DEAN SAID ABOUT MASONIC CHORAL BURSARIES IN 23 OF 43 CATHEDRALS (RMTGB) | WHAT RESEARCH SHOWS |
| YORK | YES | <p>(i) A special Service for the Masonic & Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre & of St John the Evangelist was held on Saturday 3.6.06 to mark the 1700th Anniversary of the Proclamation in York of Constantine as Emperor of Rome in 306AD.</p> <p>(ii) The Alcuin Lodge of Freemasons are invited to the Annual Founders' and Benefactors' Service. The attended the first service on 14.10.2005.</p> | <p>"York Minster is unfortunately not in receipt of a Masonic Choral Bursary."</p> <p><i>"I hope this information is of assistance to you."</i></p> | <p>(i) "Freemasonry in the Community" Week of Action June 2002 celebrated in Yorkshire. Church service at BRIDLINGTON.</p> <p>(ii) 2005: Annual Charity Information Day at Escrick: presentation to North and East Yorkshire Freemasons by Secretary to the Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys Council.</p> <p>(iii) The Rev. Edwin Chapman, RD Bulmer & Malton (York dio.), from 1991-97 is listed in UGLE Year Book 2003-4 as AGChap 1992 and PJGD 2000. He has been promoted recently to PAGSoj (Royal Arch).</p> <p>(iv) The Rev. Michael S. Snowball Vicar of Brompton with Deighton from 1991 (York dio.) is listed in UGLE Year Book 2003-4 as PAGChap 2003.</p> <p>(v) Note: Annual Provincial Grand Lodge Church Service at United Reform Church, York 23.10.2005</p> <p>(vi) 2002 report: The Cornerstone Society held their 2nd Northern Conference at Christleton in Cheshire, on Saturday 9 November, hosted by PGM for Cheshire, Timothy Richard. THE REVD. NEVILLE BARKER CRYER, GEN. SEC. BFBS 1970-86 (PERM. TO OFFICIATE, YORK FROM 1990) delivered a fascinating talk, The Restoration Lodge of Chester, describing a Freemasons' Guild in Chester around 1688.</p> <p>(vii) THE RT. REVD. DAVID GEORGE GALLIFORD, ASSISTANT BISHOP OF YORK, is listed in the UGLE Year Book 2003-4 as GRAND CHAPLAIN, UGLE, 1990-92.</p> <p>(viii) 2002: "A small village church is ringing the changes, thanks to help from Freemasonry. For many years, Kirkby Malham in the Yorkshire Dales possessed three very old church bells set in a decrepit oak frame badly in need of urgent attention. So, after 'ringing in' 2000, the three bellringers decided on an ambitious plan to purchase a new steel frame and three more bells. A fund-raising committee was formed and</p> |
| YORK contd. | | | | |

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| | | | | <p>Freemason David Humphreys was appointed secretary. The fund began with a £500 contribution from the Provincial Grand Master's Fund, then the Clavis (bellringers') Lodge, No. 8585 among others. Thanks to these, plus fund-raisers such as suppers, quizzes and a gourmet dinner, the success was such that five new bells could be added at one time. The culmination was a service of dedication, attended by more than 300 people - including between 25 and 30 Freemasons headed by Neville Parkinson representing the Yorkshire West Riding Provincial Grand Master - in October when THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK, DR. DAVID HOPE, blessed the bells. On 16.3.2005, DR. DAVID HOPE informed MFRFM in a very tetchy letter that he was not a Freemason but DECLINED TO STATE HIS VIEWS ON FREEMASONRY.</p> <p>(ix) 3.6.06: SERVICE AT YORK MINSTER FOR THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE MASONIC ORDER: Quire 11.00 Admission at 10.15</p> <p>(x) There is a long tradition of Masonic generosity to the Cathedral. (Details provided to MFRFM.)</p> |
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Postscript: the Chair of the Salisbury Diocesan House of Laity

MFRFM wishes to acknowledge the kindness, courtesy and goodwill with which so many Deans of the Church of England have responded to this Survey. Their patience and their willingness to commit time and trouble to providing information has been remarkable. Thanks are also due to Mr. David Williams, the Clerk to the General Synod, who earlier this year provided a list of Synod Members upon payment of the requisite fee of £25 and who, always courteous and helpful, confirms that he has shared the Report with members of the Central Secretariat. All praise is due to Brigadier CMG Elcomb OBE who as Chapter Clerk to Salisbury Cathedral has extended every courtesy to MFRFM, sending two very detailed answers to the questionnaire. By contrast, an e-mail dated 19.9.06 from the Chair of the Salisbury Diocesan House of Laity – the Diocesan Office is directly opposite the Masonic Hall - appears rude and (in the light of the fee paid for a list of the Synod membership) inconsistent. It reads: *"Please remove my name and email address from your database immediately. Your email [copy of Report] is an unsolicited and unwanted communication which if repeated will lead to my reporting the matter to the Information Commissioner."* James Humphery is a senior member of the Synod, a former member of the Diocesan Board of Finance; he sits on the Clergy Discipline Commission and on the panel of diocesan chairmen. He publishes his e-mail address in the Church of England Year Book 2006. He ignored (without demur) an earlier Submission in 2006, itself circulated by arrangement with Mr. Williams, calling for a register of Masonic clergy. (NB: *Caroline Windsor's 2005 "Attitudes to and Experiences of Freemasonry within the Church of England."* Ms Windsor is a member of Truro Diocesan Synod. To the question "Do you believe that Freemasonry is compatible with the Priesthood?" 65.6% of Archdeacons/Area Deans/Rural Deans and 67.7% of Deliverance Ministers replied "No". Also note Dr. Rowan Williams' letter to me dated 9.8.02 describing his own misgivings as to compatibility.) The hostile e-mail backed up by a little bit of threatening will do little to dispel the perception of the Church of England among some of its critics as a private members' club ceding too much control to white, middle-class males who do not welcome transparency. Independent rational observers will be left in perplexity as to how a process which has received the courteous attention of the Clerk to the General Synod of the Church of England and been generously assisted by the Chapter Clerk to Salisbury Cathedral (on behalf of the Dean) can be treated with contempt by a representative elected to represent the same Diocese of Salisbury. James Humphery is not the only citizen of Salisbury whose behaviour seems inconsistent. On 24.7.03, the Revd Canon June Osborne, then Acting Dean of Salisbury, wrote that "it is not our intention to repeat" the kind of Masonic Service held in June 2002. Now she is Dean of Salisbury and we learn that there has been an EVENSONG FOR FREEMASONS on 1.10.06.

We are grateful to the Registrar of the Diocese of Oxford for a follow-up letter dated 22.9.06 supplementing the much earlier e-mail from the Dean of Christ Church, Oxford. What a welcome contrast with Mr. Humphery's manners. Other Deans have replied recently.



Footnotes

- (i) There are many clergy holding office in Grand Lodge: a sample only has been included in the table.
- (ii) The 2 Silent Cathedrals (Birmingham and Portsmouth) were sent at least 3 reminders.

HUGH SINCLAIR
4.11.06