

HUNGERFORD CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS No 4748

The Consecration Ceremony of the Hungerford Royal Arch Chapter No 4748 took place at the Masonic Hall, Clarendon Gardens, London Road, Newbury on Thursday 1st April, 1965 at 3.30pm.

The ceremony had been preceded by luncheon for the consecrating officers and the founders of the new Chapter, at The Chequers Hotel, Newbury.

The companions assembled in The Temple, followed by the consecrating principals and the Grand Officers.

Present

M.E. Comp. Lt. Col. R.H. Ingham Clark, M.E. Grand Superintendent - Consecrating Z.

E. Comp. C. Atwell, J.P., P.A.G.D.C. Prov. Grand H.

E. Comp. R.R. Cheyney, P.G.Std.B. Prov. Grand J.

E. Comp. F.A. Wilson, P.P.G.J., P.G.Std.B., Prov. G. Scribe E.

E. Comp. S.H. Collins, P.P.G.J., P.G.Std.B., as consecrating Scribe N.

E. Comp. J.E. Bignal, P.G.Std B. Prov. Grand D.C.

Comp. H. Jakeman, P.P.G.Jan., Janitor.

Ten MEZs, thirteen founders and fifty visitors - also six Grand Officers - as recorded in the attendance book.

Opening

The Grand Superintendent then opened the Chapter and assisted by the other Consecrating Officers, performed the very beautiful Consecration Ceremony.

The choir, consisting of E. Comp. K.H. Thorpe, P.G. Organist, E. Comp. J.E.L. Blay, PGStdB, Comps C.D.G. Severn, E.A.L. Edwards and R.W. Gale carried out the musical part of the ceremony with sincere melodic charm and feeling.

Following the Installation of E. Comp. W.W.G. Norman, P.P.G.J., P.A.G.D.C. as First Principal, MEZ then invested his Officers as follows:

H - E.Comp. G.A. Jessett, P.P.G.A.D.C

J - E. Comp. M.G. Tanner, Prov. 1st Ass. G. Sojourner

H then proposed and J seconded a proposition that the declaration of the Ballot be left in the care of MEZ.

MEZ then invested:

Comp. J.C. Watson as Scribe Ezra.

E. Comp. J.J. Vallis as scribe Nehemiah

Comp. R.H.E. Bond as Treasurer

E. Comp. G.E. Hedges as D.C.

E. Comp. G. Elgood as Prin. Sojourner

Comp. J. Bancroft as 1st Ass. Sojourner

Comp. J.W. Patterson as 2nd Ass. Sojourner

E. Comp. E.W. Franklin as A.D.C

Comp. R.C. Unwin as Organist

And Comps. C.H.W. Howlett, L.R. Squire, G.G. Haslam, and C.F.

Day as Stewards

Owing to the unavoidable absence, through illness of E. Comp. E.L. Carr MEZ agreed to invest him as IPZ at the First Regular Convocation.

It was proposed by MEZ and seconded by H. that the Consecrating Officers be made Honorary Members of the Chapter. This was carried unanimously.

It was proposed by MEZ and seconded by H that Bro. Peter Norman be the first Exultee of the Hungerford Chapter.

E. Comp. H proposed and Ex. Comp. J. seconded a proposition that the draft By-Laws, as circulated, be adopted at the First Regular Meeting of the Chapter - this was agreed.

When the Collection Box was circulated, it realised a sum of £13.15.6 which was donated to the Newbury Masonic Hall Building Fund in appreciation of the kindness of the Management Committee in making the Temple available to the Hungerford Chapter for the Consecration Ceremony.

Risings

Nothing was offered from Supreme Grand Chapter.

On the Second and Third Rising, Comp. Scribe E announced that Provincial Grand Chapter would meet under the banner of Abbey Chapter No: 945 at Abingdon on June 4th 1965.

On the Fourth Rising E. Comp. J. proposed and E. Comp H seconded a vote of thanks to the Chair for their services at the ceremony, and to those two Companions from Winchester who had so kindly assisted Comp. Bancroft in making some of the furniture for the Chapter.

The Chapter was closed in due form and with solemn prayer at 5.30pm.

August 5th 1965