Provincial Grand Lodge of Herefordshire
Provincial Grand Chapter of Gloucestershire & Herefordshire

https://herefordshiremasons.org.uk
https://gandhroyalarch.org.uk

15th December 2025

Dear Brethren of Herefordshire and Companions of Gloucestershire & Herefordshire,

It is that time of year again when I am delighted to thank you for the support that you have shown to your Lodges and Chapters, as well as to myself and the respective Craft and Royal Arch Provinces in 2025.

During the last year, I have been proud of the enthusiasm and vibrancy I have witnessed in numerous Lodges and Chapters, and the efforts many of you are making to deliver the seven year Strategy for Freemasonry. We are now entering our fourth year and whilst we still have challenges to overcome, I am pleased with the way that many of you are engaging with the "One journey, one organisation" message, as we look to harmonise the relationship and grow our membership in both the Craft and the Royal Arch.

Earlier this year I had the pleasure to install VW Bro/ E Comp Stuart Jones as Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Herefordshire and VW Bro / E Comp Mark Smith as Deputy Grand Superintendent of Gloucestershire & Herefordshire. Both have taken on their new roles with aplomb and have introduced several new initiatives, which I am confident we will see the benefit of in the years to come.

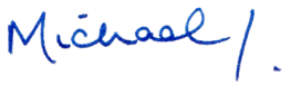
This coupled with the appointment WBros / E Comps David Hedley and Richard Myatt as Assistants to the Provincial Grand Principals, and the appointment of WBro / Comp Des Watkins as a VO in Herefordshire; further strengthens our commitment to deliver the joint strategy. I am indebted to those members of the Provincial Executives who have retired from office in 2025 for their significant contribution over many years, as I am to the current members for their ongoing and future support.

Another highlight of the year was being honoured by the visit of the Second Grand Principal / Past Deputy Grand Master, Sir David Wootton to our annual Convocation in September. Then to welcome him again to the Loyal Hay Chapter Centenary Celebration in October. His visits were relaxed, informative and a lot of fun and he left with a very favourable opinion, expressing a desire to return, should he be invited.

In summary, I believe we have had a productive and I would like to think a happy and enjoyable year, which is what Freemasonry should be about. I do hope you feel the same way, and I look forward to being with you and to your further support in the future.

Before closing, may I thank you for the numerous Christmas cards and messages my wife and I have received; this year we have chosen to make charitable donations in lieu of sending so many ourselves. Christine and I are pleased to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones, a joyous and peaceful Christmas, and a very happy and healthy new year.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,



Michael T Holland
Provincial Grand Master & Most Excellent Grand Superintendent