



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVONSHIRE

MENTOR'S



CORNER

Number 5

June 2024

As we head into what is the summer recess for most Lodges it provides a convenient opportunity to tackle those jobs which seem to have passed us all by. It is important that we keep all our Brethren involved within the Lodge. We are of course all different and we must cater for all, whether they enjoy performing ritual, administration within the Lodge or organising the social functions. Some activities which may be undertaken at this time are:

Ritual

Some Lodges have Brethren only to pleased to perform ritual, others suffer the problems of only one person does a particular piece or they have no one to perform a piece. It may be that someone (i.e. the DC looks after the ritual) have you considered does he need a hand in the organisation do you have a list of who performs what piece. Attached is a **Ritual Plan** (pdf format) so that you can identify any short falls. Also attached is an excel version which you may find easier to use. It should be noted that it also contains a **Succession Plan** so that you can manage the progression of the Lodge officers effectively and manage expectations.

The summer recess is a good time for Brethren to take a longer period of time to learn a large piece. It should be remembered that there is nothing to stop you splitting the ritual into parts. For example, if you are fortunate to have plenty of light bules (or past masters) with no office you could split a large piece of ritual for example the First Degree Antient Charge into several parts to ease the burden of learning and keep more Brethren involved.

It should be remembered that we are all equal, whilst a Brother may adopt the stance that I always deliver the secrets or some other ritual, ask yourself, is this fair to all, why should someone else not be given the opportunity?

Attachments: Succession-Ritual Plan v1.0.xlxs & Ritual Plan v1.0.pdf

Lost Brethren

Hopefully you have Personal Mentors (or some other Brother or Almoner) assigned in your Lodge to keep a track of Brethren that are missing meetings. Do you know who is keeping an overview of the situation? Please check why Brethren are missing meetings and then try to remove the reason why they are not attending, is it transport, health, they feel they are not valued or some other reason. Please remember it is better to have tried and failed rather than just wait and see what happens.

I am aware that in some Lodges this would be an onerous task for a single Brother to chase all the Brethren, have you considered forming a small group to perform this task.

The big question the Lodge needs to ask itself is: How many people have joined the Lodge in the past years and how many have resigned or been excluded? If the leavers exceed the joiners what happens next!

Involvement

As we move forward it is vitally important that we keep people involved with the Lodge and that we All enjoy of Freemasonry. Please remember we are here to help you.

Should you require any help or wish to help the Province in their Mentoring activities or future topics for Mentor's Corner please contact W Bro Chris Bird mentoring@devonshirefreemasons.org.uk