

Most Worshipful Grand Master,

It was a great honour to receive the invitation to be the District Grand Prefect of the District of Yorkshire, something that was not on my radar at all. I immediately accepted it with pride and humility. This was quickly followed by a feeling of self doubt and trepidation, but then recalling the many words of encouragement I had received recently whilst doing my best to keep things ticking along, it was then made clear to me, that I would continue to get that same sort of help and support during my tenure.

Having accepted the invitation and realising the time restraints of today, due to the amount of ceremonial involved, I asked our District Secretary to circulate a short letter to the brethren, containing my hopes and aspirations for the future, which I hope the members were able to read.

We are still experiencing strange and difficult times, and I fear that this will continue for some time yet, I would therefore appeal to everyone to do their best to attend, and support their Councils and their neighbouring Councils. The extra attendance can only improve the atmosphere of the meetings and increase the enjoyment for everyone, and that has got to be a good thing.

At a recent meeting with the Provincial Grand Master of Yorkshire West Riding RW Bro James Newman it was clear that all Orders are in a similar situation, but they were confident, that with time, we will all succeed in returning to something like we were before Covid. I am pleased to report that the PGM was determined that the West Yorkshire Craft Province would be giving every support to all the other Orders in Freemasonry, and it was hoped that we in turn would give support to them, as without Craft, Chapter and Mark, the other Orders would not exist. To have a Craft Provincial Grand Master supporting us as he intends, can only be good, and bodes well for the future.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, the District of Yorkshire has a strong heart and a solid foundation to build on, and we will be doing our utmost to take it forward and make it a District for everyone to be proud of. This District can only progress and flourish with the support of its dedicated members.

Brethren, this District is your District, and you, make it what it is, and what it will be, lets all pull together and and make the Allied Masonic Degrees the HAPPY Order that everyone wants to be a member of. Brethren I have enjoyed every minute of today and I hope you have too, it is certainly something I will never forget. You have created an atmosphere here today second to none, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Fellow District Grand Prefects, many thanks for your attendance, I can't guarantee that I will make all your annual meetings, but you can rest assured that I will be making every effort to attend as many as I am able. And if I don't get to you this year, God willing I'll get to you in the next.

Thank you everyone for your support today, and may the Great Disposer of All have you in his keeping.