

THE SUPREME COUNCIL 33°
OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES
AND ITS DISTRICTS
AND CHAPTERS OVERSEAS

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January 2017

ANNUAL CIRCULAR No 134

Dear Sir and Brother,

This Annual Circular comprises a report on the activities of the Order since 1st January 2016, notices of forthcoming events, announcements of administrative changes, reminders about certain Rules and guidance and instructions on relations with foreign jurisdictions.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

Membership of the Supreme Council 33°, with effect from 1st January 2015, remains as follows:

M.: P.:	Bro A J Englefield 33°	Sovereign Grand Commander
V.: P.:	Bro Sir Frederick Crawford DL 33°	Lieutenant Grand Commander
M.: Ill.:	Bro A W Hanbury-Bateman 33°	Grand Marshal
M.: Ill.:	Bro G D A Elgood 33°	Grand Treasurer General H.: E.:
M.: Ill.:	Bro the Revd Dr J R H Railton 33°	Grand Prior
M.: Ill.:	Bro the Hon Andrew Wigram MVO 33°	Grand Chamberlain
M.: Ill.:	Bro D K Williamson 33°	Grand Chancellor
M.: Ill.:	Bro R E Furber 33°	Grand Captain General
M.: Ill.:	Bro Dr G R E Shilson 33°	Grand Secretary General H.: E.:

SUMMARY OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES

During the period under review Members of the Supreme Council held four meetings of the 33°, conducted twelve meetings of the Higher Degrees (during which 627 Brethren were invested), installed eight Inspectors General, re-presented patents to four Inspectors General and visited the Districts of Berkshire, Channel Islands, West Cheshire, Cumberland & Westmorland, North Essex, Gloucestershire & Herefordshire, North West Lancashire, South East Lancashire, South West Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Middlesex, Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire, Staffordshire & Shropshire, Suffolk, Surrey, North Wales, South Wales & Monmouthshire, Wiltshire, South Africa North East and South Africa Western Natal. Visits were made to the Supreme Councils for Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Luxembourg, Russia, Scotland (for the Tripartite Meeting) and Romania, to the Icelandic Order of Freemasons and to the Swedish Order of Freemasons. During the year, Members of the Supreme Councils for Romania, Germany and Côte d'Ivoire attended meetings at Duke Street.

33RD DEGREE

The Supreme Council records with great regret the death of the following members of the 33rd Degree:

V.: Ill.:	Bro J A Q Blukoo-Allotey 33°	Past Inspector General, Ghana
V.: Ill.:	Bro D L Kirton 33°	Inspector General, South Africa Western Natal
V.: Ill.:	Bro P E Holland 33°	Inspector General, South Essex
V.: Ill.:	Bro M L Clewer 33°	Past Inspector General, Zimbabwe
V.: Ill.:	Bro Maj Gen R G E Green CD OER 33°	Past Inspector General, Jamaica & the Cayman Islands

The 33rd and last Degree was conferred on the following Brethren:

V.: Ill.:	Bro D L Kirton 33°	Inspector General, South Africa Western Natal
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V.: Ill.: Bro R J Wileman 33°	Inspector General, Surrey
V.: Ill.: Bro H A Crook 33°	Inspector General, West Cheshire
V.: Ill.: Bro T Clingan 33°	Inspector General, Lincolnshire
V.: Ill.: Bro I Clark 33°	Inspector General, South West Lancashire
V.: Ill.: Bro P W Tarrant 33°	Inspector General, South Essex
V.: Ill.: Bro J A Carey 33°	Inspector General, Bahamas & Turks
V.: Ill.: Bro Wg Cdr P N I Harborne 33°	Inspector General, Buckinghamshire

The following Inspectors General were re-presented with their patents for a further five years:

V.: Ill.: Bro P J Hodcroft 33°	Derbyshire
V.: Ill.: Bro M J Green 33°	St James Group of London Chapters
V.: Ill.: Bro W D O Oookok 33°	East Africa
V.: Ill.: Bro R N Hoare 33°	Worcestershire

OFFICIALS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

The Supreme Council is pleased to announce the following appointment:

Ill.: Bro Dr J D Lippiat 31°	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
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CHAPTERS

Warrants have been granted for the following Chapters: Dunmail Chapter No. 1211 (Cumberland & Westmorland) and Dorchester Chapter No. 1212 (Dorset).

Centenary Warrants were granted during the year to City of London Chapter No. 186 and Stoke-on-Trent Chapter No. 187.

The following Chapters surrendered their Warrants to Supreme Council: Abbey of Etone Chapter No. 500, Twickenham St Alban Chapter No. 578, Bramble Chapter No. 964, Justice and Peace Chapter No. 1006 and Ituni Chapter No. 1185.

HIGHER DEGREE MEETINGS OVERSEAS

Meetings of Higher Degrees were held in Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa North East, South Africa North West and South Africa Western Cape.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

1,006 18° certificates were issued in the year to 30th June 2016 compared with 1,055 in the previous year. The number of subscriptions received this year fell by 523 from last year to 27,483. The number of extant Chapters on 30th June 2016 was 911 with an average membership of 30. The average age of candidates for Perfection was 54.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS

The Supreme Council is in amity with the following jurisdictions:

- a) The Supreme Councils for the United States of America (the Southern Jurisdiction and the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction), Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Haiti, India, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Spain, Switzerland, Togo, Turkey, Uruguay and Venezuela.
- b) The Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish Orders of Freemasons.

If you intend to visit a Chapter of a jurisdiction with which we are in amity, other than Scotland or Ireland, please obtain your Inspector General's approval in advance. The same applies if you wish to invite a member of another jurisdiction to visit your Chapter. If you wish to visit a Chapter under the Supreme Council for Ireland, you must contact the office of the Grand Secretary General at 10 Duke Street beforehand. Communications

between Supreme Councils are normally conducted by Grand Secretaries General. Brethren should therefore not attempt, without the Grand Secretary General's prior permission, to make direct contact with another jurisdiction.

FINANCE – YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2016

	2016	2015
	£	£
Balance Sheet:		
Fixed Assets	1,073,125	1,080,038
Investments	1,251	1,251
Net Current Assets	<u>426,846</u>	<u>335,116</u>
	1,501,222	1,416,405
Provisions	(131,421)	(71,421)
Net Assets	<u>1,369,801</u>	<u>1,344,984</u>
Capital Fund	<u>1,369,801</u>	<u>1,344,984</u>

Income and Expenditure Account:

Income from:

Members	606,798	582,059
Rent/Hire of Temples	184,624	176,852
Investments & Deposits	<u>1,411</u>	<u>1,589</u>
	<u>792,833</u>	<u>760,500</u>

Expenditure:

Staff Costs	368,100	431,849
Building Admin/Maintenance	166,538	161,157
Office Administration	72,589	78,506
Council Activities	<u>100,789</u>	<u>104,712</u>
	708,016	776,224
Charges to Provisions	60,000	(2,250)
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	<u>24,817</u>	<u>(13,474)</u>
	<u>792,833</u>	<u>760,500</u>

The above is extracted from the accounts audited by Haysmacintyre, Chartered Accountants. If any member of the Order wishes to view the audited accounts, he may do so with prior notification to the office.

ANNUAL DUES AND FEES

The Supreme Council has decided that the Annual Dues payable on 1st July 2017 will increase to £20.00 (plus VAT where applicable) for every subscribing member of each Chapter during all or part of the preceding year. Districts overseas (except where special arrangements apply) will remit £16.00 per subscribing member, retaining the balance of £4.00 to help defray District costs.

Please be aware that the fee for Registration, for a Replacement Certificate and for an Enthronement Certificate will each increase to £30 (+ VAT where applicable) from 1st January 2017.

DISTRICT/GROUP LEVIES

The maximum levy that each Inspector General is authorised to make on each subscribing member in his District/Group to help defray District/Group costs remains at £2.00.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Brethren are reminded that all candidates for membership of the Ancient and Accepted Rite under our jurisdiction must profess the Trinitarian Christian faith and have been Master Masons **for at least one year** as set out in Rule 36(a)(ii) of the Rules of the Order. Proposers and seconders must check that their candidates are duly qualified.

BRETHREN MOVING HOMES TO ANOTHER DISTRICT

Any brother moving home to another District is strongly encouraged to advise his current Inspector General in order to receive assistance with an introduction to the Inspector General of his new District and to a Chapter near his new home.

DUAL ALLEGIANCE/AFFILIATION

Brethren are reminded that except in Cyprus, New Zealand and India, where specific arrangements are in force, dual allegiance is not permitted. Any enquiries about this subject must be submitted to the Grand Secretary General.

THE 2017 YEAR BOOK

The Supreme Council requires that a copy of the Year Book be given to every new member on his Perfection.

The Year Book provides information that cannot be included in Annual Circulars, such as detailed lists of members of the South African Branch Council, the 33°, Districts, Groups and Chapters, including the name of the current Sovereign and the name and address of the Recorder of each Chapter. It also contains an Historical Section, with chronological lists of Members of the Supreme Council (and the offices they hold) and of other members of the 33°. A copy, the cost of which is £12.00, is sent to each Chapter Recorder. You may order copies of the 2017 Year Book through your Recorder or directly from the Grand Secretary General's office (enclosing a cheque for £12.00 payable to 'Supreme Council').

WEBSITE

The Supreme Council website is available for viewing at www.sc33.org.uk.

HANDLING OF CHARITY MONIES

When a private Chapter intends to disburse its charitable monies, it is advised to ensure that this intention is circulated to all members of the Chapter prior to any disbursement. Chapters are reminded that Relief Chests may be set up with the Grand Charity to benefit from Gift Aid.

THE KING EDWARD VII CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT – DEMONSTRATIONS

In 2017, by permission of the Supreme Council, demonstrations of the 9th and 10th Degrees will be given: on Monday 24th April at Freemasons' Hall, London; on Saturday 10th June at Masonic Hall, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham; on Saturday 17th June at Freemasons' Hall, Plough Lane, Christleton, Chester; and on Saturday 22nd July at Queens' College, Cambridge.

In 2018, demonstrations of the 11th and 12th Degrees will be given: on Monday 30th April at Freemasons' Hall, London; on Saturday 19th May at Novotel Hotel, Southampton; on Wednesday 6th June at Freemasons' Hall, Birmingham; and on Saturday 15th September at Freemasons' Hall, Isle of Man.

The Members of the Supreme Council take this opportunity to wish all members of the Order a very happy new year and best wishes for 2017.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,



Dr G R E Shilson 33°
Grand Secretary General H.: E.: