

Carreg yr Wyddfa Conclave No 633 - March 2022 meeting



It was a cold frosty morning in Bangor with the sun glinting off the snow on the mountain tops when Carreg yr Wyddfa Conclave No 633 members met for the first meeting of the Conclave since its Consecration meeting on 18th November 2021.

Carreg yr Wyddfa Conclave meets at Bangor Masonic Hall. For those who have not yet been to the Masonic Hall at Bangor it is a new building on the edge of Menai Business Park. Inside is impressive, with a large modern lodge room.

The meeting was held on 17th March and the main item of business was to induct six new candidates. With the officers in place the Supreme Ruler, WyBro Martin Jones opened the Conclave and the first meeting of the conclave was underway.

When the standard items of business had been completed it was time for the secretary, WyBro Colin Lewis, PPrGStBr, to read out the names of the six candidates who were to be balloted for. All six received a positive vote. It was then time for the Sentinel WyBro Malcolm Orr, PGSwdBr, to knock and inform the Guarder that five of the candidates were in attendance and the ceremony was underway. It was then down to the Guarder WyBro Derek Gaskell, PrGV to announce that Bros; Luke Bidder; John Bird; Robert Birnie; Bill Munro and Damien Thompson wished to join the Order.

All five candidates were met in the usual manner among Brothers of David and Jonathan when they entered the Conclave. They then they were marshalled by the deacons, WyBro John Owen, PrGV and Provincial Organist WyBro Derek Whatling who was acting as third deacon. NB. This was a relief to some of us who had been

at a recent Provincial Team visit at Runcorn when an electrical fault caused smoke to suddenly appear from the lodge room organ and Derek had to abandon his post as Provincial Organist!).

A first class ceremony then followed showing all the hard work that the Supreme Ruler, WyBro Martin Jones had put in. The Supreme Ruler was ably assisted with parts of the ceremony by WyBro John Thomson, PPrGGuide and WyBro John Owen.

WyBro Paul Burton, PrGDC; GStwd presented the weapons to the candidates. I will not mention that he broke the bow! (Editors note - he needed a stringer to replace the string!)

WyBro Paul Stefan Richards, PGSwdBr gave the address to the candidates.

Mention must also go to WyBro Graham Bradshaw, PGBB the Conclave Chaplain, who delivered the various passages and blessings upon the candidates.

With the ceremony complete the five candidates were welcomed into The Order of the Secret Monitor by the Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler WyBro Tony Stringer, Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate.



During the risings, WyBro Tony Stringer rose to congratulate the Supreme Ruler, WyBro Martin Jones and the offices for a very enjoyable ceremony. He also pointed out that whilst the founders of the Conclave sat around occupying the offices, the five new candidates represented the foundation of the future on the Conclave, and he trusted that future would be strong.

As Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler designate WyBro Tony said that he had to choose his own Deputy and he had asked WyBro Paul Burton and Paul had accepted the position. This announcement was met with spontaneous applause by the members.

With the Conclave closed in due form it was then time for lunch. Apart for those who were dashing off to other meetings that evening. All in all it was a very successful meeting. It is hoped that some of the new candidates will take their second degree at Dewi Sant Conclave No 514 in April.

WyBro Tony Stringer will be invested at the Provincial Conclave to be held at Cheshire View, Masonic Hall, Christleton, on Wednesday 15th June.

At this same meeting WyBro Paul Burton will be promoted to Deputy PGSR.

We wish Luke; John; Robert; Bill and Damien a long happy time in OSM and Carreg yr Wyddfa Conclave No 633 in particular.



Congratulations also go to Tony and Paul on becoming the leaders of our Province.

Words and Pictures by Derek Gaskell