

V.Dist.Comp. Gerald C Colwell – Craft Golden Jubilee

Tuesday the 2nd April proved to be a bright, Spring morning as a goodly crowd of Freemasons, including Grand Officers and Acting Officers of the Province of Cheshire, gathered at Cheshire View for the 11am meeting of The Wythenshawe Lodge No.2688.

Among those present was our own Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, attending as WBro. William Anthony Stringer PProvJGW.

The main business of the day was to celebrate the 50 years in Freemasonry of WBro. Gerald Charles Colwell SLGR, in the presence of WBro. Christopher Renshaw PSGD, Assistant PGM in the Province of Cheshire.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting having been approved and signed, the APGM accepted the gavel from the WM and assumed the Chair.

Although a major part of the APGM's oration quite rightly concentrated on the Celebrant's long and distinguished service in the Craft and Royal Arch, mention was made of Gerald's important contribution over many years to the Orders of The Secret Monitor and The Scarlet Cord.

Secret Monitor

Past Grand Std Bearer 1999, Grand Visitor 2004, Past Grand Guide 2009

London

Supreme Ruler Conclave No.123 (2004 – 2019)

Lewis Conclave No.487 Founder (2005 – 2019)

Province of Essex

Provincial Grand Recorder 2002 – 2007

Upminster Conclave, London. Inducted 24th June 1992

Installed Supreme Ruler 29th November 1994 (now Honorary member)

Other Conclaves in Essex

Edwin George Gregory White Conclave (now Honorary member)

Essex Prov.Officers Conclave No.360 (2003 – 2011)

Benaiah Conclave No.460 Founder (2001 – 2011) (now Hon. member)

Province of Cheshire and North Wales

Provincial Grand Recorder 2007 – 2014

Seal of Solomon Conclave – Founder 2002 and currently Secretary

Chester Conclave No.155 (2000), Provincial Officers Conclave No.302 (2004 – 2018)

Maen Achwyfan Conclave No. 514 (now Honorary member)

The APGM read out the content of a Certificate signed and sealed by the RW Provincial Grand Master, in commemoration of Gerald's Golden Jubilee in Freemasonry, the presentation of which was received with acclamation from all present.

The APGM expressed his regret as being unable to promote WBro Gerald from his rank of Senior London Grand Rank, but immediately delighted the assembly by Appointing Gerald to the rank of PPrJGW in the Province of Cheshire

The Master of Wythenshawe Lodge, WBro. Terence Oke PPrJGW, on resuming his Chair, presented Gerald with an inscribed whisky tumbler as a further memento of the occasion from the brethren of the Lodge. (this was supplemented at the Social Board with a bottle of Scotch, also from the brethren)

The meeting was followed by a most enjoyable Social Board where WBro. Sam Keery, to whom Gerald had referred earlier as his great friend and mentor since moving to Cheshire, proposed Gerald's health in fine style.

Altogether a great occasion to celebrate the 50 years' service of a most worthy mason.

Report by Barrie Billinge. Photos courtesy of WBro Peter Weber LGR, LGCR



Gerald, flanked by the Asst.PGM and the WM with Acting Officers of the Province of Cheshire. (WBros Tony Stringer & Barrie Billinge seated, left)



Gerald with the AsstPGM and the WM and Brethren of Wythenshawe Lodge.



Gerald responds to his Toast.