

2nd REPORT OF PROVINCIAL GRAND GUIDE JOHN MORITZ DELIVERED AT 2026 ANNUAL MEETING OF PROVINCIAL GRAND CONCLAVE.

RWy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler

I have much pleasure in delivering my 2nd Report as Provincial Grand Guide.

Firstly, I must place on record and thank the Team of Provincial Grand Visitors for the year. These are Wy Bros, Gary Oates, Graham Kirby Tim Knowles and Kevin Atherton They have visited the majority of the Conclaves during the course of the year and have willingly stood in for each other where the assigned Provincial Grand Visitor could not make a particular meeting. This was particularly important during the Autumn of 2025 when they took on extra work covering for one of The ProvGV's who was recovering from surgery. The Reports to me and the Executive of the Province are very important in passing on information about the health and welfare of the Conclaves and the Conclave Members.

It is also important that I thank all the Acting Officers and Visitors that regularly attend Conclave Meetings. They willingly take on jobs and fill gaps so that the individual Conclave's have very enjoyable meetings and Festive Boards.

This year I want to thank Gary Oates who is retiring to become Counsellor and Tim Knowles who will be succeeding me to become Provincial Grand Guide. My thanks also go to Graham Kirby who is continuing for a 3rd year and to Kevin Atherton continuing in his 2nd year.

During the 2025/2026 season there have been 12 new Inductions and 24 Princes degree ceremonies. Some of those 2nd degree ceremonies have involved 2, 3 or even 4 candidates. A notable feature has been candidates from one Conclave in the Province being admitted to the Princes degree in another Conclave alongside that Conclave's own Members at the same ceremony. It has made for particularly enjoyable meetings and it brings the various Conclave members together both in the Conclave and in the Festive Board.

In addition, a number of Conclave's have had joining Members. This shows growth in Membership although on a modest scale, even allowing for resignations and some notable death's during the Year.

I am reliably informed that the OSM in Cheshire and North Wales has grown from 175 Members to 187 Members. This is evidence of growth at more than modest scale, and it is very pleasing to see given the overall environment and comparison to other Orders.

Sir, last year I commented on you bringing back Friendship Meetings. These are a means of publicising the OSM to Masons who have not yet joined the Order. I know in the forthcoming season you are planning on a Friendship Meeting on Thursday 19th November 2026 at Bangor hosted by Carreg-yr-Wyddfa Conclave.

The Province continues to support and promote our sister Order of the Scarlet Cord and to that end all Conclaves have Scarlet Cord representatives.

I believe that the Province is in good health and there is enthusiasm at all levels for exploring all the various ways in which we can attract new candidates. I am certain that we can look forward to the future with confidence.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you, Sir, for giving me the opportunity of carrying out the role of Provincial Grand Guide over the last two years. I have enjoyed the office very much. I look forward to continuing to support the Province in a new role during the coming year.

That, Sir, completes my Report.

Wy Bro John Moritz PGBB Provincial Grand Guide

17th June 2026