



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST KENT

Brethren and Companions

Following the successful Charity Stewards' briefing meeting held on 30 September, in advance of the launch of the West Kent 2026 Festival, I thought it would be useful to share with you a summary of the proceedings, so that you are all fully briefed on its aims and the means of donating to the 2026 Festival.

We have agreed that our financial objective for the Festival will be **£2,502,026** and the significance of the last four digits of the target will not be lost on you. This objective will be comfortably within our grasp if we work together – with each member committing to a modest but regular gift aided donation.

I am encouraging each of you to qualify for a 2026 Festival Breast Jewel, which will be available to those who have pledged to donate £600 during the course of the Festival, with Patron and Grand Patron honorifics available to those who pledge £1,200 and £1,800 respectively.

Roland Stokes' team will begin the distribution of the new Festival jewels as from 1 October to those who have achieved the qualifying criteria. Our new jewel can be worn as soon as the Festival launches on 1 January 2020, and which will replace the previous 2015 Festival jewel, which should no longer be worn. Once the 2020 Festival is in full swing, we will announce the honorifics which Lodges and Chapters can aspire to at the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting in May 2022.

I am pleased to confirm that our Provincial website will contain details of the 2026 Festival together with a link to our 2026 Festival microsite at www.westkent2026.festivalappeal.org

I am most grateful to W. Bro Amrit Fox-Bharry, PProvGStwd, who has created the microsite and which contains a wealth of information regarding donation methods, necessary documentation (which is readily available to download), 2026 Festival events and a wealth of merchandise available for purchase through the new online shop.

In addition, we now have the opportunity to make donations to the 2026 Festival by sending a simple text message from your mobile devices to 70500, quoting "WestKent2026" and an amount between £5 and £20.

I very much hope that your Lodge or Chapter was represented at the meeting and your representative will be able to provide you with any further information you may require to enable you to participate in the 2026 Festival. It goes without saying that all monies raised toward the 2026 Festival will transfer to the MCF which, in turn, will distribute the proceeds to Charities and good causes, including the many individual beneficiaries and their families.

I know that I can count on your support for this very special initiative and wish you well in your fund-raising endeavours.

Yours sincerely and fraternally

R. W. Bro Mark Douglas Estaugh, Provincial Grand Master

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