

UNITED GRAND LODGE
OF
**Antient Free and Accepted
Masons of England**

HRH THE DUKE OF KENT, *KG, GCMG, GCVO, ADC,*
MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER

FREEMASONS' HALL
GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON
WC2B 5AZ

20 February 2023

Sir and Brother,

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge will be holden at the above address on Wednesday, **8 March** next at **12.00 noon** (for which purpose the doors will be opened at **11.15 a.m.**). Those eligible to attend the Grand Lodge are hereby requested to do so.

Brethren eligible to attend the Grand Lodge are Grand Officers (present and past) and the Master, present Wardens, and the Past Masters (if qualified under Rule 9, Book of Constitutions) of every Lodge under the English Constitution.

All Brethren attending must wear the Craft tie, or plain black tie, and the appropriate Aprons and Collars. The Royal Arch Tie and Provincial Ties are not to be worn. Qualified Brethren should wear the Royal Arch Breast Jewel (or Grand Superintendent's Jewel and Collarette). Brethren, including Grand Officers, are expected to wear the Tercentenary Jewel and it is hoped that Masters of Lodges will wear the Tercentenary Collar Ornament. White Gloves are worn in Grand Lodge.

Detailed instructions for those attending are given on the back page.

By command of the MW The Grand Master.

A.R.T. MARSH
Grand Secretary

RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN GRAND LODGES

Grand Orient of Italy

4.3 This Grand Lodge recognised the Grand Orient of Italy in September 1972 as being the predominant Masonic organisation in the whole of Italy and as satisfying the Basic Principles for Grand Lodge Recognition accepted by the Grand Lodge in 1929.

4.4 The Grand Lodge withdrew its recognition of the Grand Orient of Italy in 1993 as in its opinion the Grand Orient no longer satisfied those Basic Principles. Later in the same year, the Grand Lodge recognised the newly-formed Regular Grand Lodge of Italy. The majority of regular Grand Lodges recognised by this Grand Lodge did not share that opinion and have continued to recognise the Grand Orient.

4.5 The Grand Orient has requested that recognition be restored. The Board has reviewed the situation and has concluded that the Grand Orient now again satisfies the Basic Principles for Grand Lodge Recognition. The Board takes the view – there being no reason to believe that the Grand Orient will not continue to maintain a regular path in future – that the restoration of recognition to what is by far the largest body of regular Freemasonry in Italy would be in the best interests of the English Craft, and it therefore recommends that recognition be restored. A resolution accordingly appears at item 5 of the Paper of Business.

4.6 The Grand Orient accepts the Grand Lodge's current practice of not recognising a second Grand Lodge in a territory without the consent and agreement of both Grand Lodges concerned, and has already indicated that, if recognition is restored, it will consent and agree to this Grand Lodge's continued recognition of the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy. The Regular Grand Lodge of Italy has given a similar consent and agreement in respect of the Grand Orient of Italy.