

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF WARWICKSHIRE

**R.W. Bro. David John Frederick Rawlins,
Provincial Grand Master**

Original letter of invitation sent to Lodge Secretaries, November 2009:

Dear Bro. Secretary,

The Provincial Grand Master has invited me to organize a **Provincial Support Group** to lend a helping hand to those Mark and RAM Lodges in the Province, who for various reasons, are experiencing difficulties in recruitment and retention. I am aware that similar schemes operate in other Orders successfully.

It is not uncommon for a visiting brother to be asked to fill an office at short notice to assist in the opening or even in a formal ceremony. I know the Provincial Grand Master is keen to cut down on brethren reading ritual whenever possible, but if you get an office on the evening of the meeting, most brethren will need a book.

The way I envisage The Group operating is to assemble a group of enthusiastic Mark and RAM masons, who are willing, at reasonable notice, to attend those Lodges in need of their help. Many Provincial Officers feel a distinct void when they come out of acting office, and this scheme could be the very niche for them to continue to be involved. I do not, however, wish to preclude any member of the Province from participating.

Support can be given in two ways, firstly to boost numbers attending a meeting, and secondly by taking an office when a brother is unable to attend for any reason. This does mean that in addition to enthusiasm, **a good knowledge of the ritual to be performed by a Brother is required.** The final qualification is of course the brother's ability to afford these few extra meetings, as if he wishes to stay to dine, he would be expected to meet his own costs of doing so.

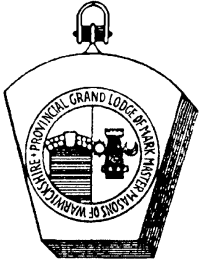
I would ask that this letter be read out at your next regular meeting, and the attached form be handed out to any brother willing to participate as part of the team. This will achieve two immediate objectives;- I will know who is willing to help, and secondly, from yourself, I will be able to receive your requests for help and begin to put the wheels in motion.

The list must include a Brother's Masonic and Social commitments, so that time is not wasted trying to contact those already obligated elsewhere.

Lastly, this scheme will only be as good as the effort we put in, so please brethren help me, to help you, to help others, and in so doing helping the Provincial Grand Master in the continued smooth running of his Province.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

**W. Bro. Roger W. Sargent, P.A.G.I.G., P. Prov. G. M. O.,
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Provincial Grand Master**

PROVINCIAL SUPPORT TEAM

I am willing to be a member of The Warwickshire Mark Support Team. I have read the letter outlining the conditions under which it will operate and

I am willing to do Offices up to and including the Office of:-_____in The Mark Degree.

I am willing to do the first/second half of the Chair work in the Mark

I am willing to do the working tools in the Mark

I am willing to do the "In conclusion", in the Mark

I am willing to do Offices up to and including the Office of:-_____in The RAM.

I am willing to do the first/second half of the Chair work in the RAM.,

I am willing to do the working tools in the RAM.

**** Please delete any of the above work you are NOT prepared to do.**

Name:_____ Rank:_____

Mark Lodge(s), name and number:_____

Ram Lodge(s), name and number:_____

Contact Details:

Home Phone:_____ Office:_____

Mobile:_____ E. Mail:_____

I have the following dates to be avoided (e.g. first Thursday in October , December etc):

**Please Return to W. Bro. Roger Sargent, 9, Buckley Close, Measham, SWADLINCOTE, Derbys,
DE12 7LX, Tel: 01530-273971, E. Mail: sargentrw@btinternet.com as soon as is practicable.**