

Sutton Court Lodge 7826

Taking Pride in Our Lodge!



Winter Newsletter 2020

www.suttoncourt7826.org.uk

All Things Website – Taking pride in Our Lodge - 1

Our new website is more than a website, it's fast becoming the "must go to" place information and documents.

Not only are there links to **Middlesex Province** and **United Grand Lodge of England**, including the very latest 2020 edition Book of Constitutions, complete with our own By-laws ready for you to access. We have uploaded the 2020-21 Province Yearbook, published only just a couple of weeks ago. There are many more useful publications for you to access, and we will be adding to this library throughout the year.

We have a dedicated **Membership Page** full of essential information for anyone seeking to join our Lodge, including a Q&A section, and including our fees plus an on-line enquiry form. We have included a dedicated **Ladies Festival** update page – complete with an on-line booking form. This is just a start with more to come.

We are building up a library of essential documents as well as recreating our history starting with our consecration on 29th May 1962, together with building up a photo gallery – *please send us your Lodge photos!*

In the members secure area, you will not only find over 100 back copies of summons, but also copies of past minutes, audited balance sheets, application forms to join Sutton Court Lodge, and back copies of newsletters,

But our most impressive part, which has received high acclaim is the "**Latest News**" scrolling bar on the front page keeping you informed of the latest developments.

Special congratulations to our new initiate, Karl Sherlock, who has only been in the Lodge a year, for his expertise and commitment to the website. Thank-you Karl. Likewise, to W/Bro Nick Reay at Province who has given sterling support and advice through the development stages. A real team effort by all involved!

All of this has been achieved for no more than £33.00 for the year, with the website registered in the ownership of Sutton Court Lodge 7826!

All Things Website and Province – Taking pride in Our Lodge - 2

What A WOW! Moment for Sutton Court Lodge!

In early November, W/Bro Tony Ashford was contact by Province in connection with the Lodge's new website.

It was viewed as very impressive, user-friendly, and with the "human face" especially for those Masons not at used to using websites, that it was not just a website, but a point of reference and information for all things Masonic.

The APGM W/Bro Robert Rough asked would Sutton Court Lodge be interested in helping another Lodge set up their own website?

Discussions have now taken place, and on Monday evening, 16th November, a ZOOM meeting was held with Heston Lodge 4888, and APGM W/Bro Robert Rough, with W/Bro Paul Tredgett, W/Bro Tony Ashford (assistant Webmaster), and Bro Karl Sherlock (Webmaster).

As a result, and for a "generous donation" to Sutton Court Lodge funds, it has been provisionally agreed that this project will commence before Christmas, with both Lodges working in close harmony. We have also offered to support Heston 4888 Lodge with an ongoing support for a further year, with training for some of their members, in order they can maintain and update their website going forward. There is a wider wish for both Lodges to work far more closely with each other going forward, for the wider benefit of masonry.

Naturally, those of us who have worked on the new website over the last six weeks are proud of what has been achieved, but this accolade from the APGM is something well beyond our dreams, and all achieved in just under six weeks.

Banner Working Party – *Taking pride in Our Lodge - 3*

Great News!

We are on track to making our vision of a new banner come true.

Following invites to design our banner against a rigorous specification, we have elected to work with **Southern Regalia** in Bognor Regis to design and manufacture our banner.

Meetings have taken place between Southern Regalia and W/Bro Tony Ashford between lockdowns at Bognor, resulting in designs now being prepared which should be ready late November – early December.

Once the designs have been submitted, there will be a special ZOOM meeting where all Brethren can vote on the design of choice.

This will then be submitted in early January for approval through Province. Currently Province is working closely with us to ensure a smooth passage so we can then place our order and agree the final points of detail, which will be undertaken by the Banner Working Party.



Banner Dedication & Re-union Ceremony – September 2021

– *Taking pride in Our Lodge - 3*

Preparations are well under way to make our September 2021 meeting even more special.

In order everyone can attend we will be holding a **REUNION MEETING** on Friday 24th September 2021.

We will be combining this event with our **BANNER DEDICATION CEREMONY** to make this special meeting even more memorable for everyone, and especially our Country Members and guests, many who live a distance from Twickenham and who we haven't seen for some time.

Between now and September 2021 there is a lot of hard work and preparation to be undertaken. Ideas are developing at a fast rate of knots and our website www.suttoncourt7826.org.uk will keep you all updated.

We will be:

- Reserving rooms at the Premier Inn close by so those who need to travel can stay overnight
- Special dining arrangements, including a special menu, and favorable terms for our Country Members
- A meeting of somewhere between 60 - 100 attendees, including Heston Lodge 4888

This is quite an ambitious venture. We do not want any member, past or present, or Friends of Sutton Court Lodge 7826 to miss out on this special occasion.

If you have any ideas to offer please contact W/Bro Tony Ashford, Treasurer, or W/Bro Geoff Duff, Secretary, who are part of the 6-man working party helping to co-ordinate the various events and ideas.

Follow our updates on our website – www.suttoncourt7826.org.uk

Taking Pride in Our Lodge – 4

Lodge Gloves

*Sutton Court Lodge Gloves
are now available*

*Embroidered with the Square and Compass
and incorporating the Lodge number 7826*

These quality white woven linen gloves are available in Large and Xtra-Large.

Price £10/pair (by post add £2.99pp)

Available at Lodge meetings from September 2020 from W/Bro Tony Ashford, Treasurer

You can pre-order for collection at the next meeting on 25th September



Weekly ZOOM Meetings working with our Sutton Court WhatsApp Group Keeping Everyone Connected!

Within a week of our Lodge of Instruction being postponed with the closure of Cole Court, we established our very own **WhatsApp Sutton Court Group** to keep in contact with everyone.

Not only did we make it available to all Brethren within the Lodge, but we also opened it up to all our Masonic friends who join us on a regular basis at our normal meetings.

By early April, Sutton Court Lodge established regular **ZOOM** meetings, held every Wednesday evening from 7.00pm – 9.00pm not just for members of Sutton Court Lodge but, by invite to those masonic friends who have regularly attended and supported our meetings and activities over the years.

To our surprise, many of our Country Brethren, some of whom we haven't seen for some time, have joined us and, hopefully renewed their interest in the Lodge.

From 7.30pm until about 8.00pm our **ZOOM ROOM** is for general chit-chat, catching up with the gossip from around the country and generally having a friendly interaction. After that selected Brethren stay in the room for discussing Masonic business including regular GP meetings, where the minutes are then posted on our website – www.suttoncourtfreemasons.org.uk.

Lodges of Instruction are not able to be held at Cole Court until early 2021. Sorry Guys.

Sutton Court Ladies Festival Postponed to 2021

..... But 2020 Prices Held for ALL!

By early February this year, it became obvious that our much-heralded Ladies Festival at the Langham Hotel would not be able to go ahead.

Bookings had been made and much of the money paid into the Lodge's Festival Fund. Having sounded out the views of various members, including of course, W/Master Paul Tredgett, and following discussions with Wendy at the Langham Hotel, the Festival Secretaries decided to reschedule to March 2021. Soon this to become apparent that the event would be unlikely to be able to go ahead without crippling restrictions.

Those who had booked were given the option of either cancelling their booking and having a full refund, or carrying their booking into 2021, leaving their money with the Lodge. Those who chose to transfer their booking to March 2021 were "price guaranteed" – in other words there would be no increase for the weekend event. Those who chose to ask for a refund will be subject to the 2021 prices.

Now we can confirm the prices have been held at March 2020 rates for everyone including all new bookings!

The new dates are Friday October 8th – Sunday October 10th

Sutton Court Lodge met at Cole Court on 25th September 2020 – were we the 1st in Middlesex?

We are pleased to have held our first regular Lodge meetings since lockdown, on **25th September** which saw us initiating our **3rd new candidate, Mick Fivey**, into the craft in a year. ***Were we the 1st in the Province?*** Mick has been waiting patiently for this day, albeit the ceremony will be somewhat different and unique on this occasion, as we will be strictly adhering to COVID-19 rules under the supervision of our Health & Safety expert and DC, W/Bro Terry Gray.