

ADDRESS 1

Companions first I would like to thank you all most sincerely for your attendance this morning.

Today is a very special occasion in my Masonic Life and I am extremely grateful to be able to share it with you and to have your support this morning.

I must of course first thank the High Court for calling off the rail strike, our Distinguished Guests for preferring Birmingham to Aintree and the few remaining Aston Villa fans who have not travelled to Wembley for the F A Cup semi-final. Let's hope their journey is not in vain.

Today the Province of Worcestershire owes a great debt of gratitude to Ex Comp Jonathan Spence, the Past 2nd Grand Principal and his colleagues for travelling up to Birmingham to officiate at this Meeting. I thank Ex Comp Jonathon for giving of his valuable time, especially on a Saturday and on a day when it appears Spring has arrived.

We must also thank

The M E Grand Superintendant in and over the Province of Devon
Ex Comp C J Pengelly

And The M E Grand Superintendant in and over the Province of
Staffordshire
Ex Comp D Hampson

For acting as 2nd and 3rd Grand Principals respectively.

To Ex Comp Oliver Lodge, the Grand D of C
Ex Comp Graham Redman, the Assistant G Scribe E
Ex Comps James Long and Dr Giles Shilton, the Deputy G D C's
And to Ex Comp Malcolm Brooks the Grand Janitor.

We thank you all for making this a day to remember in the history of Royal Arch Masonry in Worcestershire.

We are also privileged to have with us this morning Guests from far and wide and I ask you to refrain from showing your appreciation until I have introduced them all.

We welcome you all and hope that you have a very happy day.

I congratulate the Officers I have appointed this Morning and will have another opportunity to share my other thoughts with you this afternoon.

Companions I must express my great pride and delight in being installed as M E G S. I promise you that I will do my utmost not only to maintain the fine traditions of this wonderful Province but will use all my energies to ensure that Royal Arch Masonry flourishes in the Province of Worcestershire.