

## ANNUAL HEADS OF SOMERSET PROVINCIAL ORDERS DINNER

The Annual Heads of Somerset Provincial Orders Dinner was formally known as 'The Annual Leaders Dinner' although this was not a true reflection of those invited to attend. The idea of a Dinner where the heads of the various Somerset based Masonic Orders, together with their Ladies, could meet once a year for an informal dinner was first suggested by David Palmer when he was Provincial Prior and the first event was organised by Michael Walsingham, who was then David Palmer's Sub Prior, and took place during the early 1980's.

The event is organised on a two year basis by one of the Somerset Based Orders at a location of their choice and means that the event moves around the Province and takes place on the first Friday in August. The invitation list has over the years grown and although it is not seen as a Craft Evening inevitably it is the Craft Provincial Grand Master and his Lady that welcomes everyone. Invitations today are extended not only to the Heads of the Orders and their Ladies but also to their Deputies and their Ladies. Courtesy invitations have traditionally been extended to Past Heads and Deputies together with their Ladies.



The 2013 Dinner was organised by The Royal Arch Province and took place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2013 at The Commodore Hotel at Sand Bay near Weston super Mare. The event was attended by approximately 50 Guests who started to arrive at 7pm at on a beautiful and warm Summer evening. The conversation was soon flowing freely and very quickly it was time for everyone to be seated.

The Provincial Grand Master, Stuart Hadler, welcomed everyone and made particular reference to those who were attending for the first time.



Grace was then given by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Provincial Grand Principal from the Royal Arch, Clive Hennessey.

Guests then resumed their seats and enjoyed their chosen meal that was served in a very efficient manner by the staff at The Commodore Hotel.





Wendy Cowley & John Morgan (Mark)



Pam & Geoff Nash (Mark)



Vanessa & Ray Johnstone-Smith (Ancient & Accepted Rite)



Shirley & David Hartlet (Royal & Select Masters),  
Reg Fern (Ancient & Accepted Rite)



Barry Burrige (Knights Templar),  
Wendy & John Massey (Royal Order of Scotland)



Mary & Michael Walsingham (Knights Templar)



Bill Lloyd (Order of the Secret Monitor),  
Susan & David Palmer (Red Cross of Constantine)



Trish & Adrian Jones (Red Cross of Constantine)

The evening concluded at 10.30pm when everyone found that it was pouring with rain and the gentlemen were then manoeuvring cars to be as near to the entrance as possible so that the ladies only had a short walk.

Event Co-ordinated by D John Bennett & Robert H Moore.