

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF VICTORIA



SUPREME COMMITTEE

REVIVE RESTORE REBUILD

REPORT OF SUPREME COMMITTEE

HELD THURSDAY, 17 JUNE 2021

by ZOOM

1. Finance

The Supreme Committee approved the payment of accounts totalling \$33,545.00 for the period 23 March – 17 June 2021.

2. Freemasons Melbourne – Office Accommodation

Supreme Committee noted with pleasure that the Office of the Joint Secretariat (Grand Mark and Supreme Grand Chapter) were now in occupation of office accommodation on Level 2, 288 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. The Grand Scribe Ezra reported that he is more than happy with the office arrangements. The actual office address of the Joint Secretariat is now:

Level 2
288 Victoria Parade
East Melbourne Vic 3002

The postal address remains:
PO Box 553
East Melbourne Vic 8002

All telephone numbers remain unchanged as does the Email address.

3. Websites – Supreme Grand Chapter, Mark and Ark Mariner

The Grand Scribe Ezra advised that progress was being made in setting up a new website to service Supreme Grand Chapter, Grand Mark and Royal Ark Mariners. Content is being downloaded onto the site. It is hoped that the new site will be operational as soon as possible.

4. Membership Statistics

Membership of the Order as at 1 June 2021: 1018

The Committee spent some time discussing membership generally and the need to properly 'market' the Royal Arch to our Brethren in the Craft. A special meeting of various members

of Supreme Committee will be held as soon as possible to further consider this ongoing dilemma. The continuing Covid-19 incursions in Victoria have impacted heavily on membership of the Royal Arch.

5. Grand Convocation

The First Grand Principal advised Supreme Committee that a Grand Convocation will be held on Wednesday, 21 July 2021 at the Bayside Masonic Centre. The exact format of this Grand Convocation will be dependent on any Covid-19 restrictions then in force. Further details will be issued in due course to all Chapters.

6. Grand Installation 2022

Supreme Committee again noted that arrangements have been made for the Grand Installation 2022 to be held at the Pullman Hotel, Queens Road, Melbourne on 8 – 10 April 2022. This event will be in conjunction with Grand Mark. All Companions are urged to particularly note the dates, 8 – 10 April 2022.

7. Deceased Companions

Supreme Committee observed a minute of silent reflection in memory of all those Companions who had Passed to the Celestial Grand Chapter since the last meeting of Supreme Committee held 25 March 2021. A copy of the list will be forwarded to all Chapters.

8. Grand Representation and Fraternal Relations

Supreme Committee, on the advice of the Fraternal Relations Co-Ordinator (MEmComp P E Crick, PGZ) made a number of recommendations to the First Grand Principal concerning the appointment of Grand Representatives at Sister Jurisdictions. In all, 12 appointments were made and accepted by the First Grand Principal.

9. Vision 2020 Committee

The Vision 2020 Committee submitted a number of recommendations for consideration by Supreme Committee. These recommendations related to the actual composition and workings of the Supreme Committee itself. These recommendations form part of an ongoing process of constitutional reform. Further advice to Chapters will be issued in due course.

10. Supreme Grand Chapter Banner

Supreme Committee approved the design of a new Grand Chapter Banner to replace the current banner which has, for some years, been in storage. John Hiatt of RRJ Products has agreed to manufacture the banner and Supreme Committee looks forward with great expectation to its final completion.

11. Royal and Select Masters of Victoria

The First Grand Principal addressed Supreme Committee at some length about the relationship between the Royal Arch and those degrees conferred by the Royal and Select Masters under the authority of the Grand Council. He pointed out that the degrees of the Royal and Select intertwine with the Mark and the Chapter and enhance the understanding of

Pure Antient Masonry. REmComp R Redman, PGH (himself a PGM of the RSM) said that historically and chronologically the order of the Degrees should be as follows:

- Entered Apprentice
- Fellow Craft
- Mark Master Mason
- Select Master
- Royal Master
- Master Mason
- Most Excellent Master
- Super Excellent Master
- Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch

The First Grand Principal advised that for all future Grand Convocations of Supreme Grand Chapter, a formal invitation would be extended to the Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Victoria to attend the Grand Convocation and be seated in the East alongside the Grand Master of the Craft and the Grand Master of Grand Mark.

R S Marsden, PGSN
President Supreme Committee

Scribe Ezra:

Please circulate a copy of this Report to all Companions of your Chapter



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