

Dear Sir & Brother,

Supera Moras No.49 Conclave (The Internet) is a peripatetic Conclave that holds its Installation meeting in January at Mill House, Lancashire and its October meeting at Tipton Hall in Sheffield. The April meeting is generally at a location decided by the Supreme Ruler, in conjunction with the President of Ribbles Valley 'The Internet' Consistory No.138 (Scarlet Cord), who also meet on the same day.

Plans are in place that Bro./Comp. Vincent Pouchain will be installed into both chairs in January 2024, which so happens to be the 80th Anniversary of the World War II D-Day Landings. Vincent is a resident of Normandy, France and wishes to hold the two meetings in Normandy.

I have made enquiries with the Grand Secretary, who confirmed that since we are again in amity with France, that there should not be a problem in obtaining the relevant dispensations to allow the meetings to take place.

The meetings would be on Saturday 27th April 2024, along time off I hear you say, but with the logistics of holding two meetings in another Country to sort out, then the travel plans and accommodation, the time to start planning is now.

Because of Vincent's contacts, he is in a position to source accommodation, but he will need to know numbers before that can be finalised. He also has the contacts to make available transport to the various places planned to visit if needed.

Vincent is currently in talks with DFDS (Newhaven to Dieppe crossing) and is waiting for tariff proposals if this mode of travel suits. Brittany Ferries is also available, but they do tend to be a bit dearer.

As an example, at the current prices, to travel to Newhaven – Dieppe by DFDS (and return) at the end of April 2023 for a car plus two passengers is £107, and the ferry journey time is 4 hours.

With the spread of the membership and possible attendees, I am sure that with car sharing, these costs can be reasonable and will enhance the weekend.

With regards to coach travel, I have initially contacted a brother who owns a local coach firm with a view to prices, for travel to France and possibly accommodation using their knowledge and expertise. Unfortunately, They are reluctant to do so at the moment due to the fluctuation in various costs and uncertainty in establishing a realistic price so far in advance.

That then comes back to the main question "for how many"..... That's a question I cannot answer until I have advertised the event, and as soon as I advertise the event, the first question you will ask is, 'how much is it going to cost?' -I am in a situation a little like the chicken and the egg,..... which came first.

The Masonic meetings will be taking place near Arrowmanches, a town that is in the middle of Gold Beach, the English sector of the D Day Landings.

The itinerary, although not yet finalised could look something like.....

Friday 26 th April 2024	Arrive in France / Arrowmanches, local sightseeing / visit Gold Beach etc
Saturday 27 th April 2024	Men- Masonic Meetings / Ladies- will visit somewhere Ladies Night in the evening at the Hotel
Sunday 28 th April 2024	AM - Wreath Laying at a local Cemetery / PM -Visit local Calvados Distillery
Monday 29 th April 2024	Travel home

Basically, at this stage, I need to know if such a trip would interest you and would you like to come along with us, wives and partners included.

Would you

- a. Prefer to make your own travel arrangements and use the accommodation once sourced.
- b. Prefer to travel by coach and use the accommodation provided once sourced, that is if a price can contractually agreed, but at this stage that it is unsure.

The trip is not only for members of Supera Moras OSM / Ribble Valley SC, but to **ALL Members** of the_OSM / OSC from any Province.

As well as using the opportunity to pay tribute to the English War Veterans of WW2 involved in the D Day Landings 80 years ago, I am sure that somewhere buried in Normandy is a soldier related to a Brother, a soldier who was a Freemason and a Secret Monitor Mason, but there are plenty who gave their lives unselfishly for what we enjoy today.

Having checked, Easter Sunday 2024 is 31st March, so should not affect the meeting dates.

Please let me know via eastlancsprovrecorder@gmail.com

Kindest fraternal regards
Wy.Bro. Paul A. Joynson P.G.Stwd.
Provincial Grand Recorder
East Lancashire.