

**REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND GUIDE TO THE
PROVINCIAL CONCLAVE OF WEST YORKSHIRE 2025**

Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler and Brethren all, I have the honour to present my report at the end of my second year of Office as the Provincial Grand Guide for the Province of West Yorkshire.

Once again, it is my most pleasant duty to thank the Provincial Grand Visitors of the year, Wy Bros Andy Daly, David Sunderland, Jim Reece and Geoff Smith. All but one meeting has had either a Visiting Deacon or myself in attendance. Two are retiring in rotation, Wy Bro Sunderland and Wy Bro Smith and I thank them for the way they have carried out the duties of their Office exactly as required and in the best traditions of the Order. Wy Bro Reece is to be promoted to my office, which is a well-earned reward for all his work during the last two years. On many occasions they have stood in for Officers of the Conclave whilst managing to perform their Provincial Duties diligently.

The average attendance during the year has marginally decreased to an overall average of 18 (2024:19) with 19 the average for Inductions, Princes Degrees and Installations, whilst Lectures and Business Meetings continue to have an average of 15. There has been a dramatic increase to 94 % (2024 :79%)of attendees staying to the Festive Board, showing the importance that the Festive Board continues to play in demonstrating the fellowship of the Order.

The Overall Average Number of Visitors was 7, (2024 : 7) analysed as follows -

	Inductions	Princes	Installations	Other
Average Past/Current SR's	6 (8)	7 (6)	6 (6)	3 (4)
Average Other visitors	1 (1)	1 (1)	1 (0)	1 (0)
Average Number Of Visitors	7 (9)	9 (7)	7 (6)	4 (4)
AVG No Current SRs Attending	1 (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)

I still think that not all of the current SRs attending are identifying themselves as such in the register, something I have discussed with my successor. I would emphasize that this is a way to support each other during your time in the Chair, as well as a chance of attending a most useful “dress rehearsal“. Visitors continue to be fundamental to the Order and to each Conclave, often assisting in the ritual whenever there is a shortage of members for various reasons.

The Average Score for Ritual for Supreme Rulers has increased to 4.22 (2024 : 3.73), still with variations across ceremonies. The increase does however reflect the effort put into the ceremonies and bodes well for the Order. The score for those taking part in the ceremony is also higher at 4.31 (2024 : 4.2) as there are some excellent ritualists in our Conclaves, many of whom are hopefully on their way to being SR. Overall, there continues to be improvement in the quality of the ritual in all areas.

The Visiting Deacons need to be kept aware of the importance of their Role. This is the only Order with this role, and it must not be taken lightly or be reduced to just a last minute phone call. This continues to be an area we can still improve upon as it is very important in maintaining the Order’s membership and principle of friendship whilst providing a constant update on the welfare of our brethren.

Total Membership stands at 262, a slight increase from last year. There have been 14 Inductees in the year, but I also have to report that sadly there have been 3 deaths during the year and these Brethren will be missed by their Conclaves and by us all. Almost all resignations have been due to ill health or are age related.

Right Worthy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, both you and your Deputy Provincial Supreme Ruler, V Wy Bro Alan P K Webster, continue to set examples which inspire the full support of your brethren and especially your Provincial Officers. Your Provincial Team Visits continue to make it a special evening at the Conclave visited, with your team showing you good support. Your positive response to assist Conclaves who may be struggling reflects your full commitment to the Order and its members. For these reasons, I believe the Province is in good health and I am certain that we can continue to look forward to a bright future with many a successful year under your leadership.

May I finally thank you for giving me the opportunity to carry out the role of Provincial Grand Guide over the last two years and I look forward to continuing to support you and the Province in the future.

Provincial Grand Guide. February 2025