

THE VICTORY CHAPTER No 3509

A BRIEF HISTORY

Early in December 1924, several members of the Victory Lodge No 3509 met at the Masonic Hall, Lake Road, Portsmouth under the direction of the Worshipful Master, W Bro A E McCarthy, to discuss the feasibility of forming a Royal Arch Chapter in connection with the Lodge.

After much discussion, the proposal was unanimously carried, and a petition was sent to Supreme Grand Chapter via the Provincial Office for consideration. Twenty-six members of the Victory Lodge signed the petition agreeing to become founder members of the Chapter. The petition having been approved by Supreme Grand Chapter, the Chapter was consecrated with 'much pomp and splendid ceremony' on 22nd May 1925.

The Chapter has had a few homes since its consecration. It was unable to meet at Lake Road during the war years due to enemy damage to the building and received a dispensation to move to Derby Road, North End where it remained until 1972 before returning to Lake Road. The stay there was, however, short-lived and it moved to Commercial Road, Portsmouth in 1974 before relocating to its current home at Cosham in 1978.

Roll on one hundred years and the Victory Chapter is still going strong. Indeed, it celebrated its centenary at the regular meeting held on Friday, 16th May 2025, at which the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E Comp Jonathan Charles Whitaker, accompanied by many officers of Supreme Grand Chapter and Provincial Grand Chapter rank, presented the Centenary Charter.

The Convocations are held on the third Friday in January, March, May, July and October, the latter being the installation meeting. The members enjoy their Royal Arch Masonry and welcome warmly new members into this most interesting of companion orders and one that supplements the learning to date in Craft Masonry.