

The Drayton Chapter

No 8832

Date of Charter
25th April 1996



Date of Consecration
1st June 1996

Address

Cosham Masonic Centre, Albert Road, Cosham. Hampshire PO6 3DD

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We meet the 3rd Wednesday February, April, September, November

Membership is open to: All Master Masons

Officers for 2025 – 26

MEZ	E.Comp. Andrew F Martin
H	E.Comp. Len Kimber
J	E Comp. Archie Dickie
Scribe E	E.Comp. Neil D. Tiffin
Scribe N	E Comp. William Dick
Treasurer	E.Comp. Barry Cockings
D of C	E.Comp. Ron Emery
Almoner	E.Comp. Anthony C. Spencer
Charity Steward	E Comp. Roy Goring
Principal Sojourner	E.Comp. Duncan Heritage
1 st Asst Sojr	Comp. Derek Rustell
2 nd Asst Sojr	Comp. Len E. Harbert
Asst D of C	Comp. Trevor Thompson
Organist	E.Comp. Frederick Bryson-Bassett
Steward	E Comp. Keith Toomey
Janitor	E Comp. Dai Rees
IPZ	E.Comp. Martin Cambridge

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Profile

Welcome to one of only Two Daytime Chapters in the province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight. We meet at 10.30 in the morning then after the meeting, we have lunch. So NO nighttime driving and a possible extra night in with your partner.

The formation of Drayton Chapter had long been uppermost in the thoughts of E.Comp "Matt" Dillon who was an original founder and first Master of Drayton Lodge No 8832. Alas, his first attempt proved fruitless when advice indicated that there was little need for another Chapter at Cosham and a new Chapter could well affect Membership of Chapters already established there. In any event the Drayton Lodge Brethren had 'adopted' Portsdown Chapter No 4356 in which many had been exalted and others would continue to follow. Some years elapsed before the possibility of a 'daytime' Chapter, together with the encouragement of E.Comp. Brian Rooke and Charles Reed, resurrected his idea to form the Drayton Chapter. Brian and Charles agreed to be Foundation Secretary and Treasurer respectively and events started to happen.

A meeting of Prospective founders, arranged for Sunday 24th September 1995, at Cosham Masonic Hall, resulted in 26 enthusiastic Companions pledging their support and this number later increased to 30. The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent was then requested to grant permission to form Drayton Chapter and the Drayton Lodge were requested to agree that the chapter be attached to the Lodge. With both requests granted we were on the way, and a prayer was submitted to Supreme Grand Chapter for a Charter to be granted.

At the Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter on 25th April 1996 our Charter was approved and the efforts of all concerned culminated with the Consecration and first Installation of Drayton Chapter No 8832 on Saturday 1st June 1996. "A truly Glorious Day".

The Drayton Chapter Crest

The Chapter Crest is similar to that of the Drayton Lodge with the exception that the 'Square and Compasses' of the Craft are replaced by the 'Triple Tau' of the Royal Arch.

The Crest was designed by WBro Stanley Bettesworth, an original Founder and Foundation Secretary of Drayton Lodge. It was his intention to represent the three original founders on the Crest. For himself, as a member of St Thomas, our Mother Lodge he chose the 'Spire of the Cathedral' from their lodge Crest. For W.Bro. "Matt" Dillon, the 'Keys of Drayton Manor', because of his living close to the Manor and having first suggested the formation of Drayton Lodge for WBro "Bill" Batterbury, he had hoped to use the Star and Crescent from the Crest of Portsmouth Lodge No 487, but permission to use the City Crest was refused. However, as a true and worthy Mason he is well represented by the 'Square and Compasses'.

To enquire about joining our Chapter, no matter where you do your Craft Freemasonry, please drop an email to [Neil Tiffin Scribe.e@draytonchapter8832.org.uk](mailto:Neil.Tiffin.Scribe.e@draytonchapter8832.org.uk) or Mobile 07980 866118. He'll be pleased to hear from you, and all the members will look forward to welcoming you amongst our number.