

**KING EDWARD VII ROSE CROIX CHAPTER  
OF IMPROVEMENT**

**Founded 19<sup>th</sup> October 1904**

Under the Authority of the Supreme Council 33° for England and Wales and its Districts  
And Chapters Overseas

**1356<sup>th</sup> REGULAR MEETING.**

**SATURDAY, 31<sup>st</sup> MAY 2003 at 4.00 p.m.**

**The OXFORDSHIRE MASONIC CENTRE, OXFORD.**

**BY THE KIND PERMISSION OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL 33°**

Most Puissant Brother R.S.E. SANDBACH, 33°  
*Sovereign Grand Commander*

**AT THE INVITATION OF**

Very Illustrious Brother A.M. BRACE, 33°  
*Inspector General for the District of Oxfordshire*

**DEMONSTRATION**

**15° KNIGHT of THE SWORD or of THE EAST**

**and**

**16° PRINCE of JERUSALEM.**

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**CHAPTER of IMPROVEMENT**

V. Ill. Bro. E. BENTLEY, 33° Chairman and Festival Preceptor

Ill. Bro. J. TUCKEY, 32° Deputy Chairman and Preceptor

Preceptors: Ill. Bros. J. ORR, 32°, R. BATHURST, 31°, C. PRESTON, 31°  
and B. MEGSON, 30°

Treasurer: Ill. Bro. J. GEDGE, 31°. Recorder: Ill. Bro. B. TAN, 31°.

Assistant Recorder: Ill. Bro. D. YORK, 32°.

Regular meetings of the Chapter of Improvement are held at 10 Duke Street, St James,  
SW1Y6BS on the First Thursday of each month at 5.30. p.m. for 5.45. p.m. All Rose  
Croix Masons are welcome. Regalia is not worn at these meetings.

TABLE	PLACE No.
A	10.

**WHITE H J**

**THE COUNCIL OF PRINCES OF JERUSALEM  
15<sup>th</sup> DEGREE**

***KNIGHT OF THE SWORD, or of the EAST***

***HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF CYRUS AT BABYLON***

Cyrus	Ill. : Bro. R. Bathurst	31°
Minister of State	Ill. : Bro. B. Tan	31°
Keeper of the Seals	Ill. : Bro. J. Tuckey	32°
Master of Ceremonies	Ill. : Bro. J. Orr	32°
Conductor	Ill. : Bro. P. Brockbank	31°
Treasurer	Ill. : Bro. G. Craig	30°
General	Ill. : Bro. B. Megson	30°
Captain of the Guard	Ill. : Bro. C. Preston	31°
Inner Guard	Ill. : Bro. P. Hunt	30°
Candidate	Ill. : Bro. D. York	32°
Outer Guard	Ill. : Bro. J. Gedge	31°
Organist	E&P Bro. R. Stevens	

The Intermediate Degrees demonstrated so far, have portrayed the confusion caused by the death of Hiram and the steps taken by King Solomon to complete the building of the Temple followed by the 13th and 14th degrees with the legend of the Sacred Vault and the finding of the "Lost Word"

The Degrees under the heading "The Council of Princes of Jerusalem" cover the time period from the destruction of King Solomon's Temple in 588 B.C. through to the writing of the writing of the Book of Revelation in about 100 A.D.

The story in the 15° relates to the trial of the Hebrew captives in Babylon and their efforts to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the City and Temple. Cyrus, King of Persia receives one called Zerubbabel who pleads that the Jews return for this purpose. The second temple is built in 535 B.C. In the 16° Zerubbabel is received by King Darius in Babylon and eventually promoted to Prince of Jerusalem.

*Reference in the V.S.L. to the 15°.*  
NEHEMIAH Chapter 4.

17. They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought with the work, and with the other hand held a weapon.
18. For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded. And he that sounded the trumpet was by me.

## 16<sup>th</sup> DEGREE

### PRINCE OF JERUSALEM

#### HELD IN THE AUDIENCE ROOM AT THE PALACE OF DARIUS IN BABYLON

Darius.	III. : Bro. J. Gedge,	31°
Minister of State.	III. : Bro. C. Preston	31°
Keeper of the Seals.	III. : Bro. G. Craig,	30°
Master of Ceremonies.	III. : Bro. J. Tuckey	32°
Conductor.	III. : Bro. B. Megson	31°
Treasurer.	III. : Bro. P. Brockbank	31°
General.	III. : Bro. J. Orr	32°
Captain of the Guard	III. : Bro. D. York	32°
Inner Guard.	III. : Bro. P. Hunt	30°
Candidate.	III. : Bro. B. Tan	31°
Outer Guard:	III. : Bro. R. Bathurst	31°
Organist.	E&P. Bro. R. Stevens	

#### *References in the V.S.L. relating to the 16° Degree.*

EZRA, Chapter 4.

23. Now when the copy of King Artaxerxes' letter was read before Rehum, and Shimshai the scribe, and their companions, they went up in haste to Jerusalem unto the Jews, and made them to cease by force and power.

24. Then ceased the work of the house of God which is in Jerusalem. So it ceased unto the second year of the year of the reign of Darius, King of Persia.

EZRA, Chapter 6.

1. Then Darius the King made a decree, and search was made in the house of the rolls, where the treasures were laid up in Babylon.

2. And there was found at Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of Medes, a roll, and therein was a record thus written:

3. In the first year of Cyrus the King the same Cyrus the King made a decree concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, Let the house be builded, the place where they offered sacrifices, and let the foundations thereof be strongly laid; the height thereof threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof threescore cubits;

4. With three rows of great stones, and a row of new timber: and let the expenses be given out of the Kings house.

5. And also let the golden and silver vessels of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took forth out of the Temple which is at Jerusalem, and brought unto Babylon, be restored, and brought again unto the temple which is at Jerusalem, every one to his place, and place them in the house of God.

6. Now therefore, Tatnai, governor beyond the river, Shethar-bosnai, and your companions the Apharcasathites, which are beyond the river, be ye far from thence:

*The building of the temple was finished and dedicated in 516 B.C. in the sixth year of the reign of Darius.*

**MENU***Brie and Roasted Pepper Salad**Braised Beef and Seasonal Vegetables**Apple Crumble**Cheese Board**Coffee*

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**TOAST LIST****Her Majesty The Queen****The Supreme Council 33°****The Inspector General for the District of Oxfordshire****The King Edward VII Rose Cross Chapter of Improvement  
and Demonstration Team**

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**District of Oxfordshire Organising Committee**

Chairman:	V. Ill. Bro. A.M. BRACE, 33°	Inspector General
Treasurer:	Ill. Bro. R.W. RAYER, 31°	District Recorder.
Secretary:	Ill. Bro. F.E.W. MINCHINGTON, MBE, 31°	Bicastrian Chapter.
Catering:	Ill. Bro. J.H. HOLTOM, 31°	Terra Sancta Chapter
Stewards:	Ill. Bro. D.R.A. WINTERBONE, 30°	Thames Chapter,
Ticketing:	E&P Bro. C.J. REENAN	St John the Baptist Chapter
D.C.:	Ill. Bro. B. B.W. Grace, 30°	Bicastrian Chapter
Organist:	E&P Bro. R.A. Stevens	Wykham Chapter
Outer Gd:	E&P Bro. B. Wegerhoff,	Wykham Chapter

**DEMONSTRATIONS of 17<sup>th</sup> DEGREE in 2004**

15 <sup>th</sup> May	WREXHAM
5 <sup>th</sup> May	TWICKENHAM
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	LEYLAND
12 <sup>th</sup> June	NORTHAMPTON
30 <sup>th</sup> October	GUERNSEY