



Sol y Compás

The Newsletter of the
Provincial Grand Lodge of Valencia



Issue Number 1 - January to June 2025



Foreword by the R.W. Provincial Grandmaster, Rodney Charles Bignell



Welcome to our Newsletter which chronicles a few of the things that have happened in Freemasonry in Valencia in 2025.

The first half of 2025 has been a busy and incredibly successful period for Freemasonry in this Province. I want to express my deepest gratitude to everyone for their hard work and unwavering commitment in laying the groundwork for the future success of Freemasonry here in Valencia.

As I travel throughout the Province, I am continually impressed and inspired by the camaraderie displayed in all our Lodges. I am also humbled by the generosity of spirit that you consistently demonstrate for noble causes, while simultaneously investing in the purchase of a Temple in the Marina Alta.

This newly created Newsletter serves as a reminder of some of the exciting highlights that promise to make this year a remarkable one for Freemasonry. Interest in our fraternity is on the rise across Spain, and in Valencia alone, the number of Masons has increased by 9.1% so far this year. Well done to the Membership Committee for their outstanding efforts.

The second half of the year promises to be even more exciting! On November 8th, we will be hosting the 19th Provincial Lodge of Instruction at the Bon Alba Hotel in Mutxamel. This year, the event will be hosted by the Puerto de Xàbia Lodge No 58 and will feature junior brethren from eight different Lodges. I eagerly anticipate seeing as many of you as possible attend this most enjoyable gathering.

On December 6th, we will be celebrating our Annual Provincial Ladies Night at the Grand Hotel Bali. It's always a fantastic event, and I hope to witness a resounding turnout to commemorate what I believe will be a momentous year for Masonry.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

R.W. Bro. Rodney Charles Bignell
Provincial Grandmaster of Valencia



Masons give a 3 Kings Surprise

Masons from the Provincial DANA Relief Committee were thrilled to visit the 3 families we are helping and deliver toys and gifts ahead of the 3 Kings celebrations.

We presented gifts and toys to the seven children from the three families in advance of the Three Kings' Day celebration. These gifts were generously donated by friends and families of Old Tower Lodge No. 49. The children, aged two to seventeen, reacted with genuine delight with tears of joy at their unexpected presents, a heartwarming experience for all present.





Arenal Deportiva Lodge No 65 celebrate Chinese New Year



On Saturday the 20th January, 65 Brethren, Partners and friends of Arenal Deportiva lodge No 65 met at Sabores II restaurant in Moriara to celebrate (an early) Chinese New Year 2025.

It was a cold wintry evening outside, but inside the restaurant, a warm convivial atmosphere ensured that the party got into full swing.

The menu had been specially selected by Florence (Li Fung Ha) Johnson to suit all tastes and requirements, and with a fabulous raffle draw and the auction of a hand made Dragon (soft toy) over €800 was raised for lodge and charity funds. Each guest received a "Lai See" packet containing a lucky coin – albeit of the consumable variety, it truly was a case of "Kung Hai Fat Choi" – A Happy New Year for everyone.

Hiram Abif Lodge No 80 - New banner dedication



On Friday 17th January, the Hiram Abif Lodge No 80 banner dedication ceremony was held. The Provincial Grandmaster led the Provincial team in a highly successful ceremony.

Hiram Abif's warm, welcoming, and generous hospitality was unparalleled, and we were all truly grateful. We sincerely wish Hiram Abif Lodge No 80 every success under their new banner.



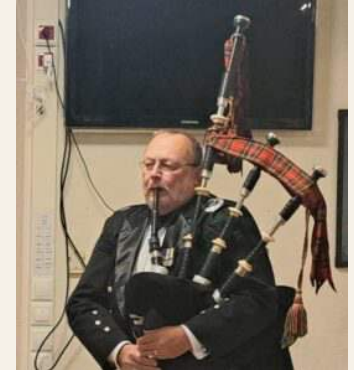


R.W. Brother Philip Arthur Gibson-Daw 1945 -2025



It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of the Right Worshipful Brother Philip Arthur Gibson-Daw, who was currently serving as Grand Inspector of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Valencia and was Past Grand Inspector of the Grand Lodge of Spain – Grande Oriente Español. His passing leaves us with great sadness, but his example as a dedicated and honourable Mason will remain with us.

Santa Faz Lodge No 48 - Burns Supper



Like thousands of Scots and their friends worldwide, The Santa Faz Freemasons Lodge No 48, hosted a party attended by over 50 brethren, family, and friends, to celebrate the 266th Birthday of Robert Burns. Every year on the 25th of January, haggis is eaten and whisky drunk to a background of 'Sangs, Tunes and Clatter', and this was no exception.

Held at the International Club, El Campello, Brother Hamish McConnachie, ably supported by Sue Parks McConnachie, along with Pipe Major Brian Day kept the festive atmosphere alight with renditions of great Scottish ballads, epic poems, and 'The Immortal Memory'.

However, following the disaster that devastated the villages around Valencia, those attending, also raised around 400€ to continue supporting those affected.

As Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Greg Hustler, reminded everyone, all of our enjoyable activities also help us continue Freemasonry's aim of Charity and Brotherhood.



Bonded by Friendship and Brotherhood: W. Bro. Alex Wilkins Installed as Worshipful Master at Jávea Lodge No 40



Left to right – Rod Hales, Rodney Bignell, Alex Wilkins, David Allan and David Wareham

On Wednesday 26th February, Worshipful Brother Alex Wilkins was duly installed as Worshipful Master of Jávea Lodge No 40. Not only was the Ceremony attended by the Provincial Grandmaster, R.W. Bro. Rod Bignell and the Deputy Provincial Grandmaster R.W. Bro. Rod Hales, Alex was also delighted to welcome two special guests from England.

The Pro Provincial Grandmaster of Middlesex, R.W. Bro. David Allan and the Past Assistant Provincial Grandmaster of Middlesex, W. Bro. Dave Wareham are Alex's best friends from his days at school and college in England.

Alex has known both of these worthy Brothers as friends and fellow Masons for many years (more than he cares to remember!) and he was honoured that they had insisted upon travelling from England to support him at his Installation.



The members of Jávea 40 with the PGM and the Deputy PGM



Alex in the Chair of King Solomon, the PGM and members of the Provincial Executive and Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge

And, to complete the glittering array of distinguished guests, Past Provincial Grandmaster R.W. Bro. Michael Shilan was also present to support Alex on his big day.



Oliva La Safor 112 installs Bro. David Clarke as Master



The PGM and members of the Provincial Executive congratulate W. Bro. David Clarke on his Installation.

On 25th February 2000, a group of ten Masons established a new Lodge in the LaSafor Comarca of Valencia Province, which includes the town of Oliva.

Among the Provincial Officers pictured above is one of the original Consecrating Officers from that inaugural day. Can you guess who? (Answer below)

The first Worshipful Master, installed 25 years ago, was W. Bro. James Newsham. Since then, the Lodge has had 22 other Worshipful Masters. On Tuesday, February 25th, Bro. David Clarke was installed as the 23rd Worshipful Master of Oliva La Safor Lodge No. 112, in a ceremony attended by over 50 brethren at the Costa Nova Masonic Centre in Jávea.



W. Bro. David Clarke with the members of Oliva La Safor Lodge No 112



W. Bro. David Clarke with Provincial Officers and members of the Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge, of which David is also a member.

After a splendid Installation ceremony, ably conducted by outgoing Worshipful Master W. Bro. Edward Childs, the brethren repaired to the El Campo Restaurant in Jávea for a sumptuous and thoroughly enjoyable Festive Board. The Provincial Grandmaster, R.W. Bro. Rodney Bignell congratulated David on his Installation and the whole of Oliva La Safor Lodge No 112 on their 25 years of service to Masonry in Valencia.

And the original Consecrating Officer from 2000? - R.W. Bro. Rodney Hales!



2025 Provincial Grand Assembly



The 2025 Provincial Grand Assembly was a resounding success, attracting over 180 Brethren and numerous dignitaries from Spain and other countries.

The Assembly adhered to established ceremonial protocols and demonstrated the precision observed in prior Assemblies, with Provincial officers exhibiting exemplary performance.

Let us remember the investiture of the Provincial Officers for the year 2025/2026. Congratulations to those who have been promoted.

The current Worshipful Masters and Entered Apprentices had the great honour of being presented to the Provincial Grand Master.

It was an honour to recognize those brethren with distinguished long service with the presentation of their certificates.

The Provincial Grand Master presented the Mason of the Year award to W. Bro. Peter Johnson and W. Bro. Ian Bullock.

Approximately 130 brethren gathered for the festive board, enjoying excellent food, wine, and most importantly, wonderful company, with the Provincial Grand Master formally recognising our newest member with taking wine with him.

The Provincial Grand Master offers his sincere gratitude to all attendees and eagerly anticipates welcoming everyone again next year.



Santa Faz 48 Charity Beach Walk and BBQ

The Santa Faz Lodge held their annual Beach Walk and BBQ on Saturday 15th March with over 80 Lodge members and guests in attendance.



The fantastic sum of 2380 Euros was raised for the Lodge's annual charities.

The Worshipful Master Greg Hustler thanked all those who participated with special thanks to our Chefs Nick Carter, Brian Green, Bob Alchin, and Nick Liddicoat and also to the day's organiser Barry and Helen Hovell who produced some fantastic cakes.

Not only did the Lodge raise a fantastic sum, but the weather took pity on us so that everyone had an enjoyable day.



The Chefs at work!



New Initiate and Master Elect at Puerto de Xàbia 58



Members of Puerto de Xàbia 58 with Initiate, Bro. Stuart Wall

On 8th April, Puerto de Xàbia Lodge No 58 welcomed a new Initiate to its ranks. In front of 24 Brethren, including visitors from Jávea 40, Arenal Deportiva 65 and Oliva La Safor 112, Bro. Stuart Wall was initiated into the Fraternity by the Worshipful Master John Young.



L-R – W. Bro. John Young, Bro. Stuart Wall, Bro. Rafe Parker

Our newly made Brother was also delighted to have a photograph for posterity with fellow Masons, W. Bro. Nick Coates, Bro. Carl Channing (initiated in December 2024) and Bro. Rafe Parker, all of whom he has known and worked with for over 20 years.



L-R – W. Bro. Nick Coates, Bro. Carl Channing, Bro. Stuart Wall and Bro. Rafe Parker

New Master Elect

Earlier in the evening, the Brethren unanimously elected W. Bro. Nick Coates as Master Elect. He will be installed into the Chair of King Solomon in October for the second time, having previously served as Worshipful Master in 2016-17.



Inaugural Provincial Piano Recital thrills the audience in Moraira



W. Bros. Peter Johnson and Malcolm March congratulate István and his fellow performers on their performances

On Saturday 12th April, Espai De La Senieta in Moraira played host to the inaugural Provincial Piano Recital with almost 50 guests in attendance. Led by Professor István Székely and his talented students, the evening was a fantastic celebration of classical music.

István is an internationally renowned figure in the world of music and holds Professorships at the Katerina Gurska Superior Conservatory in Madrid and the Franz Liszt Centre for Special Talents in La Nucia. He is also a valued member of Santa Faz Lodge No. 48.

Despite the relatively modest turnout, guests were treated to an extraordinary performance, showcasing timeless works from Mozart, Liszt, Debussy, and Chopin. The recital reached a breathtaking finale with a "Four-Hand Duet," performed by student Anna and her teacher Carla, which left the audience captivated. The evening proved to be an enchanting experience, delighting even those less familiar with classical music.



Bro. Istvan Székely

Such was the success of the event that the organiser, Provincial Grand Charity Steward, Peter Johnson hopes to make these concerts an annual fixture in the Provincial Charity event programme. All who attended expressed the hope that this concert marks the beginning of a cherished cultural tradition in the Provincial Masonic community.

Commenting, Peter Johnson said "I want to thank István and his team for giving their time free of charge tonight. Charity remains at the heart of what Freemasons hold dearly and, not only have we all had a wonderfully entertaining evening, we have also raised €940 for charitable causes".



Jávea 40 welcomes a new Initiate

Last night at the Costa Nova Masonic Centre, Jávea Lodge No 40 welcomed a new Initiate, Bro. Valentin Mudava.

Assistant Provincial Grandmaster W. Bro. Terry Whitehead and over 30 Brethren were present to see the Jávea 40 Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Alex Wilkins conduct a most enjoyable ceremony of Initiation.



L-R – W. Bro. Kevin Hamilton, Assistant Provincial Grandmaster W. Bro. Terry Whitehead, Bro. Valentin Mudava, W. Bro. Alex Wilkins, W. Bro. Paul Nichols, W. Bro. Peter de Graaf, W. Bro. David Johnson.



Over 30 Brethren from 7 different Lodges were present

For Bro. Mudava, the ceremony was made very personal and even more special by being conducted around the Temple by his friend and proposer, Jávea 40's Junior Deacon, Bro. Max Heinrich.



Afterwards, brethren from Jávea 40, Puerto de Xàbia 58, Oliva La Safor 112, Armonia de Ifach 46, Euromason 55 and the Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge 154 all celebrated at a most convivial Festive Board.

Over recent months, Jávea 40 has organised a raffle at their Festive Board where the prize is a Unit in the *Asociacion Unidad Fraternal*. Perhaps quite appropriately, our newly made Brother also became our newest Unit holder in *Unidad Fraternal* when he drew his own winning ticket from the hat!



Assistant Provincial Grand Master W. Bro. Terry Whitehead Honours Provincial Golf Champions of 2024

The 2024 Provincial Golf Tournament saw the overall victory of Alex Henderson of Oliva La Safor Lodge No. 112 and Nigel Parker of Jávea Lodge No. 40.

During the Jávea 40 Regular Meeting held last night at the Costa Nova Masonic Centre in Jávea, W. Bro. Terry Whitehead, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, proudly presented Alex and Nigel with the John William Harvey Masonic Memorial Trophy.



L-R – Assistant Provincial Grandmaster, W. Bro. Terry Whitehead, W. Bro. Nigel Parker (Jávea 40), Bro. Alex Henderson (Oliva La Safor 112)



Their exceptional achievement was warmly celebrated on the evening, with W. Bro. Alex Wilkins, Worshipful Master of Jávea Lodge No. 40, and W. Bro. David Clarke, Worshipful Master of Oliva La Safor Lodge No. 112 among the first to offer heartfelt congratulations.

The trophy itself carries profound significance. It honors the late W. Bro. John Harvey, a dedicated member of Old Tower Lodge No. 49 and one of the founders of the Provincial Charity Golf Tournament. His legacy lives on through this annual event, with the trophy kindly donated by his widow following his untimely passing from cancer.

Alex and Nigel now look ahead to defending their title at this year's Provincial Golf Tournament. The event stands as a cornerstone of our charity fundraising efforts, aiming to raise significant sums again for worthy causes.



Jávea 40 - St George's Day



On Saturday evening, Jávea witnessed an unforgettable adventure as the courageous

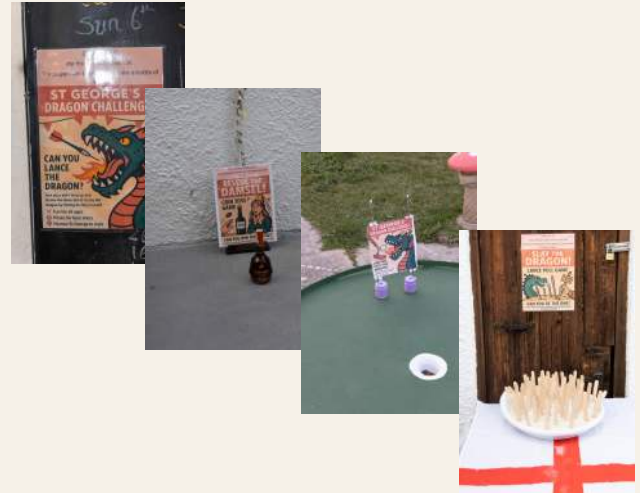
heroes of Jávea 40 took on their very own dragon-slaying quests. Armed with lances in the spirit of Saint George, over 60 Masons and their guests gathered at Kawana Bar for a Saint George's Day celebration full of fun, laughter, and charity.

The weather couldn't have been kinder, and the venue rolled out a feast of traditional English favourite—fish and chips, steak pie and chips, and curry with rice. Add plenty of beer and wine to the mix, and it's safe to say everyone was well-fed and watered!



Musical entertainment came courtesy of Dave Manhatten, who serenaded the crowd with timeless classics. His smooth tunes soon had a few guests dancing their hearts out by his stage, adding to the lively atmosphere.

To spice up the evening, the organisers arranged four fun-filled challenges for the intrepid dragon-slayers:



- **Lance the dragon:** Hit the bullseye on the dartboard.
- **Rescue the damsel:** Toss a euro coin closest to a bottle of brandy.
- **"Putt" out the dragon's fire:** Score a hole-in-one at Crazy Golf.
- **Pull a lance from the sand pit:** Unearth the prize-winning stick.

At the end of the night, the Worshipful Master, W. Bro Alex Wilkins, expressed his gratitude, "Thank you all for joining us for our very first St George's Day celebration. Seeing the joy and camaraderie of everyone here is proof of a wonderful evening! A special thank you to Mike Tullett, Malcolm and Margaret March, Barry Rowe, and Peter Farrell for organising this splendid event."

Alex added, "Our aim was to celebrate Saint George with good company, great food, and plenty of laughter. Your smiles are the biggest reward! Plus, raising €400 for charity is the icing on the cake. The proceeds will be divided between the 2026 Festival and Balcon al Mar Volunteer Firefighters."



Masonic Membership grows by 9% in the Province of Valencia

This week, R.W. Bro. Shaun Parsons-Herrera, the Deputy Grandmaster of Spain, wrote an excellent editorial in *El Oriente* about the increase in Masonic membership in Spain. The article is below.

I would also like to take this opportunity to commend the dedicated efforts of the Brethren of the Province of Valencia, whose significant contributions have resulted in a notable increase in our membership. The Provincial Membership Committee has diligently implemented strategies to attract new members, a crucial objective.

We have streamlined inquiry processes by directing them directly to lodges on a case-by-case basis. Furthermore, we maintain active and engaging social media platforms, ensuring timely responses to all messages. We've also included contact information in all press releases to enhance accessibility.

These initiatives have yielded positive results, with a 9% membership increase this year alone. This success is largely due to everyone's commitment to promoting our fraternity, a commendable effort we hope will continue.

Faternally

Article which appeared in El Oriente – the magazine of the GLE in May 2025

**W. Bro. Matthew James GADC, ProvGSec –
Provincial Grand Secretary**



R.W. Bro Shaun Parsons Herrera – Deputy Grandmaster of Spain

Growth in Spanish Masonry

The Grand Lodge of Spain is growing, and we are all witnessing it. Our email inboxes are being filled with decrees for the reactivation of lodges, the raising of columns, and the creation of triangles—a formation that has become possible once again after the constitutional reform—in a steady, continuous stream.

In my case, as I travel throughout Spain to participate in or direct ceremonies in my capacity as Deputy Grand Master, I have firsthand evidence of this phenomenon. I am delighted to see the enthusiasm among our brethren as they begin their work under newly issued or reinstated charters.



I requested the exact figures from the Grand Secretariat to confirm this impression, and here they are: since April 2022, 15 Respectable Symbolic Lodges have been reactivated or consecrated throughout Spain. That is to say, 8% of the lodges currently active in the Grand Lodge of Spain have initiated or resumed operations over the past three years. It is particularly interesting to note an explosion of rites that had previously been less established but are now growing, some with remarkable vigour: five of these lodges are working in the Modern French Rite, one in the Rectified Scottish Rite, one in the German Rite, and one in the York Rite. There is also one new lodge operating under Emulation, while the remaining six function under the most widely established rite in Spain, the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Furthermore, 13 of these lodges operate in Spanish, one in Catalan, and one in German.

Does this translate into new membership in the Grand Lodge of Spain? The truth is that it does. From April 2022 until the writing of this editorial, the total number of registered members in the Grand Lodge of Spain—including those uninitiated who “see the light,” as well as the *“planchas de quite”* (a distinguished membership category), alongside new affiliations, regularisations, and brethren who have passed to the Eternal Orient—has increased by 11.6%.

In respect of triangles, it is not possible to calculate percentages since this option was only resumed in 2024. In less than 18 months, no fewer than eight new triangles have been established across six Masonic Provinces in our Obedience, reflecting a genuine passion for regular masonry in towns and locales that previously did not have a lodge and now have the opportunity to create one. In this case, six of the triangles work under the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and two under the York Rite, all operating in Spanish. Every time I see these figures, I remember—and honour — our Respectable Brother Andoni Fuentes de Cia, who has managed this task with an admirable spirit of service and, without a doubt, tremendous efficiency.

It is, of course, legitimate to ask what the reasons for this growth are. There must undoubtedly be both internal and external factors. I would like to briefly analyze the internal ones, as they depend on us and likely reflect a strength and interest that is now being projected outward. The constitutional reform approved at the Grand Assembly in Fuengirola in January 2024 is, of course, fundamental for the triangles.

The attention given to media outlets that have approached the Grand Lodge of Spain—with whom we have always been willing to engage, provided that the approach is respectful—has been extensive, reflecting the new forms of communication. This includes interviews in newspapers and on radio, as well as in podcasts and on YouTube channels, both national and international. The increased availability of direct information from the official channels and networks of the Grand Lodge of Spain across a multitude of platforms helps create a solid and proactive image of the institution and its values.



I must also underscore the Grand Master's commitment to linking his work with the recovery of the Memory of those masons (and families of masons) persecuted during the Franco regime—a discourse to which public opinion has proven very receptive once the details are fully known and prejudices are set aside. Parallel cultural and research initiatives, such as the comic *"El Águila y el compás"* (crafted by Worshipful Brother Juan Cantero of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Balearic Islands) or the scholarly study of documents housed in what was formerly known as the Archive of Salamanca, have contributed significantly to the persistent, albeit challenging, task of restoring the name and honour of the Order in our country.

You can see that all this work does not go unnoticed: it represents an investment that, in the medium term, will help us grow, strengthen our columns, and enable us to look forward to a more secure future.

R.W. Bro. Shaun Parsons-Herrera - Deputy Grandmaster of Spain

The original article in Spanish can be accessed [HERE](#)



Jávea Lodge No. 40 presents a €3,000 donation to the Asociación Autismo de Jávea



Last night, at a dinner to mark the farewell of charity Todos Juntos, Jávea Lodge No. 40 presented a cheque for €3,000 to the Asociación Autismo de Jávea. The dinner at Salones Carrasco was attended by over 100 guests including the Mayor of Jávea, Rosa Cardona.

Jávea 40 Lodge Secretary, W. Bro. Malcolm March formally presented the donation to Rubén Sánchez Perucha, Director of the Asociación Autismo de Jávea.



Malcolm remarked, "Charity is at the very heart of what Freemasonry stands for. The members of Jávea Lodge No. 40 are honoured to support the Asociación Autismo de Jávea in its efforts to enhance the lives of autistic children."

Rubén expressed his sincere gratitude for the generous contribution and explained that the funds will be used to modernise the equipment used for the Summer School outdoor activities. He noted, "For autistic children, continuity is vital; it is essential to minimise any lengthy breaks in their education and therapy and this money will help us achieve that."

This donation underlines Jávea Lodge No. 40's ongoing commitment to the local community and supporting initiatives that make a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals with autism and their families.



Summer Lodges of Instruction at Quesada and Costa Nova

Brethren are cordially invited to attend a series of Lodges of Instruction throughout the Summer months. These events have been organised by the Torrevieja Installed Masters Lodge No 108 (at Quesada) and the Marina Alta Installed Masters Lodge No 144 (at Costa Nova).

The Summer Lodges of Instruction are designed to be informative, interactive and entertaining. The objective is for participants to have the opportunity to expand their Masonic knowledge and to better understand the symbolism and practice of Masonic Ritual.



Torrevieja Installed Masters Lodge 108 at Quesada

- 19th June 2025 – **The First Degree** – What's it all about? (Open to all)
- 3rd July 2025 – **The Second Degree** – The allegories behind the words (Open only to FCs and above)
- 17th July 2025 – **The work of the Provincial Secretariat** (Open to all)
- 31st July 2025 – **The work of the Provincial Almoner** (Open to all)
- 14th August 2025 – **The Building of King Solomon's Temple** (Open to all)
- 28th August 2025 – **The work of the Provincial Charity Steward** (Open to all)
- 11th September 2025 – **Preparing for the Chair** – A Warden's Seminar (Open to all)

All Quesada Summer LOIs start at 5.30pm. Each LOI will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to ask questions on any Masonic subject.

Additionally, any Brother who wishes to practice ritual or a part of any Ceremony is very welcome to come along and get help and assistance from our Installed Masters. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, **please send a WhatsApp to +34 711 07 03 19.**



Marina Alta Installed Masters Lodge 144 at Costa Nova

The Summer LOIs start on Saturday 12th July 2025, starting at 1.00pm. They then continue every Saturday at 1.00pm until 23rd August 2025. As at Quesada, the LOIs will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to ask questions on Masonic subjects.

The Costa Nova Summer LOIs follow a well established pattern which will focus very much on the individual needs of the attendees.

Whilst the focus is firmly on practicing for Masonic Ceremonies, we have had sessions in the past which have looked at the theory and practice of the Festive Board. This included a live Festive Board with the opportunity to practice as the Master, the DC and the Wardens including doing a sample Toast and Response to the Visitors.

In addition, Brethren who are taking part in the Provincial Lodge of Instruction on November 8th are more than welcome to come along where they will be encouraged to practice the role they are delivering at the Provincial LOI.

Dovre Lodge No 184 donates €1,000 to Alimentos Solidarios



Treasurer Stig Magnar Jensen and newly elected Worshipful Master Morten Holm Gundersen with Maria-Angeles from Alimentos Solidarios.

Dovre Lodge No 184 has donated €1,000 to Alimentos Solidarios in Torrevieja.

Alimentos Solidarios provides daily meals or groceries to over 200 local people, all prepared by volunteers in a facility offered rent-free by the local Council. This arrangement ensures that every Euro raised directly supports those in need, and the organisation also offers laundry services for the less fortunate.

Members and visitors to Dovre Lodge have given over €2,400 in charitable donations during the past six months, including €1,400 to support flood relief efforts in Valencia and €1,000 aiding the most vulnerable people in Torrevieja.



Santa Faz 48 think pink and raise funds for the fight against cancer



Brother Bob Lovell of Santa Faz Lodge No 48 proudly presenting a donation of €200 to the Alicante Association for the Fight against Cancer (also known as the Pink Ladies), an organisation dedicated to promoting awareness of cancer and the importance of early detection.

The contribution was made possible through the generosity of the brethren of Santa Faz Lodge No. 48 who took part in a Grand National sweepstake and made personal donations to support this vital cause.

Throughout May, the Pink Ladies helped by organising Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) tests for several brethren, underscoring the importance of proactive health screenings. Early detection can be life-saving, particularly when symptoms remain unnoticed.

This initiative highlights the necessity for both brethren and their good ladies to prioritize regular health checks.

The brethren of Santa Faz 48 extend their deepest gratitude to the Pink Ladies for their unwavering support and dedication, as well as to all those who contributed to this meaningful effort.

The generosity of the brethren in Santa Faz No 48 continues to make a difference in the community.

THINK PINK AND GET A PSA TEST!

In the Province of Valencia, PSA tests for prostate cancer screening and diagnosis are available via most hospitals, clinics and doctor's surgeries. These tests are typically performed by healthcare professionals, including urologists and other specialists, and can be part of a larger health check or requested specifically.



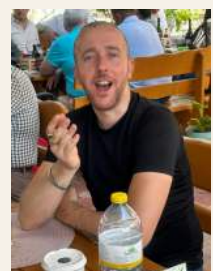
Gathering together for a good cause: Hiram Abif's Annual BBQ supports those in need

On Saturday 24th May, the annual charity barbecue organised by the Respectable Lodge Hiram Abif No 80 was held in Benidorm, this time at the Gusto Mayna restaurant.

Now a traditional event, the barbecue was designed to support the San Gabriel soup kitchen in Alicante, an institution dedicated to assisting those most in need.

The event was marked by an atmosphere of deep fraternity and camaraderie, reflecting the longstanding traditions of Hiram Abif—a Lodge that has now proudly completed 30 years of dedicated service within both the Provincial Grand Lodge of Valencia and the Grand Lodge of Spain (GLE).

During the celebration, a significant amount of money was raised, all of which will be donated to the San Gabriel soup kitchen in support of this worthy cause.



The initiative was presided over by Worshipful Brother Marco Antonio Vidal Bellón, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and attended by esteemed brethren, as well as family and friends.



Puerto de Xàbia Lodge No 58 raise over €4,000 for charity at a glittering Ladies Night



On Friday, May 30th, Salones Carrasco played host to a glittering evening as 100 guests gathered for the Puerto de Xàbia Lodge No 58 Ladies Night. The sun was shining, setting a perfect stage for a Cava reception on the terrace. Guests sipped Cava while nibbling on an assortment of delicious canapés.

The lively chatter in the dining room gave way to warm applause as guests rose to greet their hosts, Worshipful Master John Young and his wife Jenny.

A sumptuous three-course dinner followed, paired with plenty of wine, beer, and soft drinks that kept the conversation upbeat and the smiles wide.

After dessert, anticipation filled the air as the Entertainers—one of Costa Blanca's premiere acts—took to the stage. They delivered a captivating performance that had everyone swaying, clapping, and singing along.

The formal part of the night kicked off with W. Bro. Ray Pease delivering a charming and amusing Toast to the Ladies. Then, W. Bro. Ken Cornforth, ably assisted by Senior Warden W. Bro. John Beavis and Junior Warden, Bro. Rafe Parker, performed the Ladies Song to the delight of the audience.

Responding to the formal toast on behalf of the Ladies, Mrs. Jenny Young said, "I want to thank everyone involved for making the evening so special. In particular, I must mention the local Freemasons who have given so generously, the Entertainers for their brilliant performance, and all the guests who have joined us tonight."

And the night's festivities carried a serious purpose beyond the music and merriment.

Soon after, Worshipful Brother John Young presented Jenny with a beautiful bouquet and made an important announcement. He said, "Thanks to the evening's collective efforts—from the event itself, the Auction, and the Prize Draw—the total funds raised tonight are more than €4,000, a sum to be shared equally between Help of Marina Alta and Cancer Care Jávea".



The Festival of Saint John: A Celebration of Light and Brotherhood in Freemasonry

The Festival of Saint John is a significant event in the Masonic calendar, observed with reverence and enthusiasm by Freemasons around the world. This festival, celebrated twice a year, honors Saint John the Baptist on June 24th and Saint John the Evangelist on December 27th. Both saints hold special significance within Freemasonry, symbolizing the balance of opposites and the pursuit of enlightenment.

Historical Significance

The association of the two Saint Johns with Freemasonry dates back to the early days of the fraternity. Saint John the Baptist is seen as a symbol of morality and righteousness, heralding the light that dispels darkness. His feast day, coinciding with the summer solstice, represents the height of light and is a time for Masons to reflect on their own moral compass.

Saint John the Evangelist, celebrated around the winter solstice, signifies the triumph of light over darkness, wisdom over ignorance. As the author of the Gospel that begins with "In the beginning was the Word," he represents the pursuit of knowledge and the spreading of enlightenment, a core Masonic principle.

Masonic Celebrations

Masonic lodges worldwide commemorate the festivals with various ceremonies, rituals, and gatherings. These celebrations are marked by a spirit of brotherhood, reflection, and renewal of Masonic vows.



Saint John the Baptist's Day (June 24th): On this day, Masons often gather for festive banquets, parades, and special lodge meetings. The ceremonies focus on themes of renewal and purification, aligning with the summer solstice's symbolism of light and growth. It is a time for Masons to recommit to their ethical principles and the betterment of themselves and their communities.

Saint John the Evangelist's Day (December 27th): Celebrations during this period are characterized by introspection and the contemplation of wisdom. Lodges may hold candlelight ceremonies to symbolize the return of light after the longest night of the year. This festival encourages Masons to seek knowledge, both in their personal lives and within their Masonic journey, and to share that wisdom with others.

Symbolism and Ritual

The dual celebration of the two Saints John encapsulates the Masonic belief in balance and duality. Just as the sun reaches its peak and lowest point during the solstices, Masons are reminded of the cycles of life, the importance of inner balance, and the perpetual quest for truth and enlightenment.

Rituals during these festivals often include readings from Masonic texts, the lighting of symbolic candles, and the reaffirmation of Masonic obligations. These acts serve to reinforce the connection between individual Masons and the broader fraternity, highlighting the timeless values that unite them.

Community and Charity



In addition to the internal rituals, the Festivals of Saint John also emphasize the Masonic commitment to charity and community service. Many lodges use these occasions to organize charitable activities, such as fundraising events, food drives, and community outreach programs. This outward expression of Masonic values underscores the fraternity's dedication to making a positive impact on society.

Still celebrated today

The Festival of Saint John, with its rich history and profound symbolism, is a cornerstone of Masonic tradition. By honoring Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist, Freemasons celebrate the principles of morality, wisdom, and enlightenment.

These festivals are more than mere commemorations; they are opportunities for Masons to renew their commitment to personal growth, brotherhood, and the betterment of humanity. As such, the Festivals of Saint John continue to be cherished and celebrated by Masons across the globe, shining a light on the enduring values of Freemasonry.



Golf, Brotherhood, and Charity: The Annual Masonic Golf Tournament



On Thursday, 29 May, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Valencia held the Annual Masonic Golf Tournament at Bon Alba Golf Resort in Mutxamel, Alicante. Over 80 golfers in 21 teams from across Valencia tackled the challenging course under beautiful blue skies with its many trees, lakes, fountains, and bunkers.

A key event in the Masonic calendar, the tournament combined enjoyment with fundraising for Masonic charities. The competition was a Texas Scramble format, and the teams also vied for extra prizes awarded for the longest drive on hole 2 and for hitting nearest the pin on holes 4, 8, 11, and 14. Prizes included golf balls, champagne, and vouchers for the Bon Alba Restaurant, hotel, and green fees.

As the final putts dropped and our golfers headed to the 19th hole, the winners were announced:

- Nearest the Pin – Hole 4: Derek Cruickshank
- Nearest the Pin – Hole 8: Stewart Charlton
- Nearest the Pin – Hole 11: Dave Isaac
- Nearest the Pin – Hole 14: Steve Thorpe
- Longest Drive – Hole 2: Nick Panter
- Best Handicap Team: The Tartan Lions (51 points)
- Best Scratch Team: Green Parrot Tourism (44 points)
- Best Masonic Team: San Juan De España 28 (50 points)

By tradition, the best Masonic team receives the John William Harvey Masonic Memorial Trophy in honour of Worshipful Brother John Harvey of Old Tower Lodge No 49, a founder of the tournament. This year, Provincial Grandmaster Rodney Bignell presented the trophy to the winning San Juan De España Lodge No 28 team—Jason Fowler, Ian Makin, and Rob Baxter.

In addition to the entry fees, fundraising efforts included a Golden Ticket draw (sponsored by Green Parrot Tourism, raising €1,480) and a raffle that collected €750.

Organiser W. Bro. Peter Johnson remarked, “Thanks to the generosity of our players, Lodges from across the Province of Valencia, our sponsors C&M Plumbing, Green Parrot Tourism, Golden Leaves International and Bon Alba Golf, we have raised more than €6,000 for Masonic charities”.



Santa Faz 48 – Saddle up 'n Farmers Party



We are thrilled to announce that our event raised a net charity sum of €3,165.00 – simply amazing!

Guests began arriving at 14:00 on a very warm and sunny day in the outskirts of Castalla. A coach picked up attendees from Alfaz del Pi/Albir, El Campello, and Castalla International.

We were nearly 90 strong – truly magical. A special thank you also goes to Bro. Hamish McConnachie for managing communications, guest reservations, and collecting donations from Castalla International.

Special thanks to the Provincial Grandmaster Rodney Charles Bignell and his wife Jeanette for their attendance and for presenting the specially produced Green Parrot Tourism S.L. Golden Ticket gift draw.

Lastly, we must acknowledge all the volunteers whose assistance made this large-scale event a success. The fantastic catering provided by Mr Jordan Ramsey, a genuine Texan BBQ specialist, was the icing on the cake, along with live music from singer Kim and a performance by the cover band Defcon4.

Without every one of you, our event simply would not have been possible. My wife and I enjoyed a fabulous day and feel very honoured to have supported such a worthy cause – MABS Cancer Support Costa Blanca. Our W. Bro Michael LePeuple carried out the role of event treasurer, diligently monitoring the financial aspects (and even navigating the occasional wobbly steps). I am grateful to have him as both a friend and a mentor on my Masonic journey. It was our pleasure to be of service.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of lodges Santa Faz 48 and San Juan 28, as well as non-Masonic friends, neighbours, and family for their wonderful support.

Report by Bro. Haakon Ellingsen - Charity Steward





Arenal Deportiva Lodge No 65 salutes a new Worshipful Master - en Español!



The Lodge was honoured to have the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. David Wynn, along with his Official Escort, R.W. Bro. Wynn congratulated the lodge and its members on an excellent installation ceremony, especially in a second language, and hoped that this landmark will encourage more Spanish speaking candidates to consider joining what have been primarily English speaking Lodges in Valencia.

On Tuesday 17th June, Arenal Deportiva Lodge No 65 saw its first native Spanish speaking brother, W. Bro. Ricardo Estornell Canet, installed in the chair of King Solomon. This is a milestone for the lodge as it is primarily an English-speaking lodge. The installation ceremony was conducted in Spanish to great aplomb by W. Bro. Philip Bowick (outgoing Master) and W. Bro. Ian Brown (Secretary) who were ably assisted by other Officers of the Lodge.

W. Bro. Ricardo has been a stalwart member of Arenal Deportiva Lodge No 65 for over 10 years and has progressed admirably through all the offices in the Lodge. He is one of the Lodge's most loved brothers.



Oliva La Safor 112 celebrates the Summer Solstice in style



21st June marks the beginning of astronomical summer. Commonly known as the Summer Solstice, the name derives from the Latin words "Sol" (Sun) and "sistere" (to stand still) referring to the Sun's apparent pause at the peak of its northward journey across the sky.

For thousands of years, cultures across the globe have observed the Summer Solstice with festivals and rituals - often involving bonfires. These celebrations are traditionally associated with the Feast Day of St John the Baptist, held on 24th June. Historically, this date aligned with the solstice on Roman calendars.

Along the Mediterranean Coast, the occasion is marked with vibrant parties, fireworks and fires in honour of Sant Joan - and the Brethren of Oliva La Safor Lodge No 112 certainly embraced the spirit of the season.

More than 40 members and their guests gathered at La Bresca Restaurant in Els Poblets to enjoy a Solstice Dinner beneath the Jacaranda trees in the garden's charming surroundings.

Live entertainment was provided by Dave Manhattan who serenaded the crowd with classic hits from the 60s, 70s and 80s. A few adventurous guests even set aside their fans to take to the dance floor.

Despite the heat, the spirit of charity remained at the forefront. A well supported raffle raised €300 for the Lodge's charity fund. Worshipful Master David Clarke offered thanks to all those in attendance, remarking:

"We are truly grateful to you all and we hope you've had a wonderful time. I can assure that every Euro raised will be used by the Lodge to support good causes in this area."



Dave Manhattan (L) and W. Bro. David Clarke (R)



Forthcoming Events - July to December 2025

July

Date	Event	Venue
9th	Jávea 40 Race Night	Casa de La Pizza, Jávea
13th	Provincial Sponsored Swim	Las Marinas Beach, Denia

September

Date	Event	Venue
13th	San Juan de España 28 Ladies Night	Albir Playa Hotel, Alfas del Pi
19th	Jávea 40 Ladies Night	Salones Canor, Teulada
28th	Arenal Deportiva 65 Garden Party	Jávea

October

Date	Event	Venue
4th	Oliva La Safor 112 Ladies Night	Restaurante Molí Canyar, Villalonga



November

Date	Event	Venue
8th	Provincial Lodge of Instruction	Hotel Bon Alba, Mutxamel

December

Date	Event	Venue
5/6th	Provincial Ladies Night	Grand Hotel Bali, Benidorm
11th	Oliva La Safor 112 Christmas Lunch	The Black Flame, Pedreguer
13th	Las Salinas 79 Festive Christmas Evening	Stan and Ollie's, Guardamar

For further details, please go to the Provincial Events Calendar which can be accessed [HERE](#).

To add your Lodge event to the Provincial Events Calendar, please email full details to calendar@glpvalencia.com.



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We are always glad to publish Lodge News and
stories: Send your stories to Bro. Steve Young at
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