



UNITED GRAND LODGE
OF ENGLAND

Province of Mercia celebrates leadership, legacy, and growth in the Masonic Order of Athelstan

Expected read time: 2 minutes

Posted: 24 March 2026

Provincial Grand Court

At the annual Grand Court meeting of the Province of Mercia in the Masonic Order of Athelstan, Worshipful Brother Stephen Pritchard-Jones was invested and installed as Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The Province was further honoured by the presence of the Grand Master-elect, Most Worshipful Brother Charles J. Aspinell, whose attendance made the occasion particularly memorable for members.



A 1,100-year commemoration at Grand Court in Leicester

At the Grand Court meeting of the Order, held at Leicester Masonic Hall, members assembled to commemorate the 1,100th anniversary of the coronation of Æthelstan as King of Mercia and Wessex in September 925.

During this historic event, and before installing his successor, Most Worshipful Brother Paul W. Johnston, together with Worshipful Brother Graham Smith, Provincial Grand Secretary of the Province of Mercia, unveiled a remarkable commemorative stone that will be permanently displayed at Leicester Masonic Hall within the Provincial Grand Court of Mercia.

The stone itself tells a story spanning centuries. More than 200 years old, it was quarried from the same source as the stone used in the construction of the Palace of Westminster. The stonemason carefully preserved the original craftsmen's markings, ensuring a visible link between past and present for future generations.

This powerful symbol beautifully encapsulates the spirit of the Order — honouring heritage, celebrating the present, and inspiring the future.



Looking ahead: new Courts for Mercia

In further encouraging news, the Province of Mercia is pleased to announce plans to consecrate a new Court in New Mills, Derbyshire. The initiative has already attracted 30 founding members who are not currently members of the Order, reflecting growing interest in the values and fellowship of the Masonic Order of Athelstan.

A dedicated working party has also been established to expand the number of Courts across the Province, with ambitions to establish new Courts in Leicestershire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire.



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