



Frequently asked questions

Is it a secret society?

Not at all! Our meeting places are clearly signposted, our membership is a matter of personal pride, and our charitable work is entirely public. Our "secrets" are simply specific elements of the ceremony.

Is it a religion?

No. Freemasonry requires a belief in a Supreme Being, but its members come from many different faiths and backgrounds. Religion and politics are never discussed at our meetings to ensure harmony.

How much time does it take?

Most Lodges meet between four and eight times a year, plus a few informal rehearsals and social events. Your family and your career must always come first.

Are there any social events?

Absolutely! Many lodges get together for regular social events, and there are many events run across Hampshire and Isle of Wight for freemasons, their families and friends.

Is it true only men can join Freemasonry?

No. While UGLE oversees male Freemasonry, there are two separate Grand Lodges exclusively for women.

More information:

owf.org.uk

hfaf.org

Take the next step

If you are looking for genuine friendship, a place to grow, and a way to support your local community, we would love to hear from you.

The best way to find out more is simply to ask!

- **Did a friend give you this leaflet?**

Ask them why they enjoy being a Freemason.

- **Met us at a local event?**

Have a chat with our team today.



Scan to Register Your Interest / Speak to someone near you



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF
HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT

Discover Freemasonry

Building friendships

Supporting our communities

Discover your potential in Hampshire and Isle of Wight

Step inside and see for yourself



hantsiowfreemasons.org



UNITED GRAND LODGE
OF ENGLAND

FRIENDSHIP • INTEGRITY • RESPECT • SERVICE

More than just a tradition

Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest and largest fraternal and charitable organisations. But at its heart, it is simply about good people supporting each other to become better versions of themselves, united by our four **Guiding Principles: Integrity, Friendship, Respect, and Service.**

In a fast-paced, digital world, Freemasonry offers something rare: genuine, lifelong friendships with people from all walks of life. Whether you are a young professional, a student, serving in the Armed Forces, or enjoying retirement, you will find a welcoming community built on mutual respect.

Why Men Join Today

True Camaraderie: A place to build lasting bonds and a supportive network.

A Natural Home for the Armed Forces:

With our deep military roots, Freemasonry provides serving personnel and veterans a familiar environment of shared values, structured traditions, and enduring brotherhood.

Personal Growth: Building confidence through public speaking and shared traditions.

A Sense of Purpose: Giving back to the local community in a meaningful way.



What is a Lodge? A Lodge is your local "home base" within the organisation – a group of Freemasons who meet regularly. In Hampshire and Isle of Wight alone, we are a thriving community of over 8,000 members meeting across more than 250 Lodges in towns and cities across the Province.

What Happens at a Lodge Meeting? Our meetings typically consist of two distinct parts...

The Formal Meeting. We handle the administration of the Lodge, plan our charitable initiatives, and perform our traditional ceremonies. These ceremonies are short plays, based upon historic stonemasons' tools as symbolic guides for morality. There are also opportunities to learn more about freemasonry and its history.

The Formal Meal. After the formal proceedings, we sit down together for a meal. This is where the true social side shines – it is a chance to relax, listen to speeches, raise money for charity, and enjoy great company.

One Journey:

Your Masonic journey begins in the Craft (Lodges) and naturally progresses into the colorful and historical Royal Arch (Chapters).

Making a difference in our community

Freemasons are incredibly proud of our charitable record, but we believe in service. We donate our time and skills, not just our money.

Nationally, Freemasonry is one of the largest charitable givers in the UK. Locally, the Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight actively supports hospices, air ambulances, youth groups, and community projects right on your doorstep.

Proud Supporters of Armed Forces

We are immensely proud to hold the **Armed Forces Covenant Gold Award**, reflecting our deep ties to the military community across the region and our commitment to supporting veterans and serving personnel.

