

Inspector General's Installation Address

Installation Meeting, 24th November 2015

Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, Most Illustrious Members of Supreme Council and Princes All.

I'm greatly honoured to have been appointed your Inspector General and would like to take this opportunity to place on record the gratitude that I personally, and all of us in this District owe to V.:Ill.: Bro David Hawkins for the 33 years of service he has given to the Order. The warmth of the huge round of applause you gave to David earlier says it all.

I am under no illusions about the challenges which lie ahead; while some Chapters in the District are thriving, others are considering their futures, and to repeat what I stated in my obligation, I promise to devote myself to the interests of the Chapters under my jurisdiction.

I believe the key to our future success and the wellbeing of the Order can be encapsulated in the words of Dr Stephen Hawking from the British Telecom commercial:

*Mankind's greatest achievements have come about by talking, and its greatest failures by not talking. It doesn't have to be like this. Our greatest hopes could become reality in the future, the possibilities are unbounded. All we need to do is make sure we **keep talking**.*

We need to **keep talking** to the Brethren in our Craft Lodges, especially in halls where there is no resident Rose Croix Chapter and therefore an untapped potential source of candidates, to attract good quality candidates to our Chapters;

We need to **keep talking** to absent Brethren; our Almoners need to maintain contact with the Brethren who are not attending their Chapter meetings; not only to show that we care for those indisposed through sickness but also to ensure that we are doing everything possible to avert the loss of members who find other reasons for not attending;

We need to **keep talking** to each other, and particularly our newer and younger members, to ensure that our Chapter meetings and festive boards are vibrant and fulfilling occasions, so that members and visitors alike leave with a feeling of satisfaction of an afternoon or evening well spent and the desire to come again.

Thank you for your support today, and for your patience in listening to my address, and I look forward to serving this District for many years to come.

V.:Ill.: Bro David J Biggs, 33°
Inspector General
District of North East Lancashire