



Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons West Yorkshire

1st December 2025

R.W.Bro Brian Morris Batty, Past Provincial Provincial Grand Master

It is with profound sorrow that we announce the passing of R.W.Bro Brian Morris Batty, Past Provincial Grand Master. Born on 25 April 1941, R.W.Bro Brian devoted over five decades of his life to the service of the Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Degrees, leaving a legacy of leadership, commitment, and fraternity that will be remembered for generations.

He was advanced into Brighthouse Lodge No. 753 on 13 October 1969, commencing 56 years of distinguished service in the Mark, serving as Master in 1979 and again in 2009. He was elevated into Hipperholme Lodge No. 715 on 28 September 1984, giving 41 years of dedicated service in the Royal Ark Mariner Degree, becoming Commander in 1988.

R.W.Bro Brian's leadership within the Province was exemplary. He served as Provincial Grand Master from 1999 until 2007, guiding the Province with wisdom, integrity, and vision. Even after his tenure, he remained a steadfast presence, holding honorary membership in five Lodges and acting as the presiding officer at the installation of our current Provincial Grand Master in 2023.

His influence extended far beyond West Yorkshire. He was a founder of The Mark Provincial Grand Secretaries Lodge No. 1641, serving as Master in 1997, and held the office of Worshipful Master in The Lord Swansea No. 1892 in 2017, where he was also a founding member. He was Worshipful Master of The Grand Master's Lodge from 2019 to 2022, Commander of The Grand Masters Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners in 2017, and in 2024 became Worshipful Master of The Grand Stewards' Lodge.

R.W.Bro Brian Batty combined distinguished service with warmth and generosity of spirit. He was a mentor and friend to many, always ready to offer guidance, encouragement, and support. His steadfast example of dedication, humility, and fraternity enriched all who had the privilege of knowing him and strengthened the bonds of our Order.

He will be remembered not only for the offices he held and the achievements he realised, but for the integrity, cheerfulness, and camaraderie with which he served. R.W.Bro Brian Batty's passing is a profound loss to the Province, the Mark, and the Royal Ark Mariner Degrees. His legacy will endure in the lives he touched and the lodges he served so faithfully.

R.W.Bro J Trevor Bolton

Provincial Grand Master