



Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons West Yorkshire

R.W.Bro J Trevor Bolton – Provincial Grand Master

18th May 2026

Armed Forces and Emergency Services Month

Last year, the Craft introduced Armed Forces Month and we were pleased to support the initiative throughout our Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges.

I am pleased to say that the Craft have now circulated details of this year's Armed Forces and Emergency Services Month, which has been expanded to also recognise and honour members of the Emergency Services for their dedication and service to our communities.

We are very happy to continue supporting this initiative within our Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges across the Province.

The event will run throughout the month of June annually and reflects Armed Forces Week, which is a national celebration of the Armed Forces community in the UK, from 21 June culminating with Armed Forces Day on 27 June 2026. Whilst Emergency Services Day falls on 9 September, many Lodges may not yet have returned following the summer recess and therefore both occasions will be recognised during June.

Accordingly, during the month of June, veterans and current serving personnel may wear regimental ties at Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodge meetings within the Province and may wear medals at the Festive Boards, although not during the Lodge meeting itself. Those former or current members of the Emergency Services may likewise wear appropriate ties and decorations where suitable.

Worshipful Masters and Worshipful Commanders are encouraged to take wine with any past or present member of the Armed Forces and Emergency Services during the Festive Board as a mark of appreciation and recognition of their service.

Any additional events arranged throughout the month, either by the Province or at local Masonic Hall level, will be publicised separately.

Sincerely & Fraternally

J Trevor Bolton

Provincial Grand Master

