## Royal Ark Mariner Lodges In West Yorkshire

## **Meeting at**

Clecheaton

West Vale

Sheffield

Halifax

Sheffield

Otley

Barnsley

Lindley

**Bottoms** 

Wetherby

Haworth

Dewsbury

Rotherham

Pudsey

Uppermill

Hipperholme

Knaresborough

**Pontefract** 

**Thorne** 

**Bingley** 

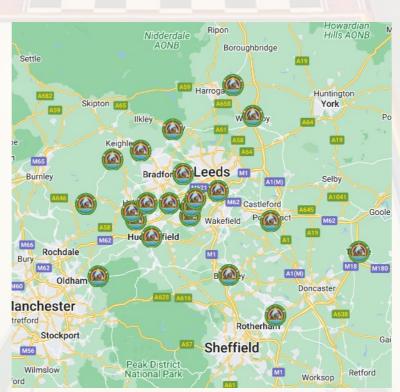
Batley

Morley

Most Royal Ark Mariner Lodges meet three or four times annually, creating a vibrant and active community. Each of these lodges is attached to a Mark Lodge, sharing not only the same number, but often the same name as well.

Within our Mark Lodges, it is easy to spot the Royal Ark Mariners, who are distinguished by their captivating Rainbow Jewels or collarettes. These brethren, true to the essence of their Order's name, exude approachability and warmth, and are more than delighted to enlighten you about the intricacies of the order and the Lodges situated in your vicinity.

Engage in conversation with these remarkable individuals and allow yourself to be captivated by them and the wonderful order of Royal Ark Mariner. Seriously consider the extraordinary opportunity of joining this illustrious degree, which promises to expand and enrich your Masonic journey.





The Ancient & Honourable
Fraternity of
Royal Ark
Mariner

## The Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner

The Royal Ark Mariner degree is an extraordinary and captivating aspect of Freemasonry, operating under the esteemed authority of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariners. While it may not be directly affiliated with Mark Masonry, it is overseen by the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council, effectively extending the influence of the Mark Grand Lodge in London.

Drawing inspiration from the biblical tale of Noah and the great flood, the Royal Ark Mariner degree possesses a rich history that sets it apart from Mark Masonry. Its concise yet profound message exudes an elegance that is seldom matched within the realm of Freemasonry. The degree's ritual is truly distinctive, offering a brief yet profound experience that delves into the depths of traditional Freemasonry, providing fresh perspectives and new insights.

It is important to note that, according to our Constitution, this degree is exclusively accessible to those who have attained the Mark Degree. The ritual itself is rooted in the Old Testament narrative of Noah's Ark, emphasising the Creator's covenant with the faithful and the values upheld by the Noachide faith. Symbolically, the rainbow, which also adorns the regalia of the Order, represents this covenant, serving as a powerful reminder of its significance. Moreover, the Royal Ark Mariner degree presents an innovative perspective on the fundamental moral qualities that have long been cherished within Freemasonry.

While the ritual we practice today was developed during the 19th century, it retains elements reminiscent of the Freemasonry of the early 18th century and even earlier, before the Hiramic legend took centre stage in the Craft as it does today. Within the degree, one can discover a multitude of symbols that are shared with other Masonic degrees, all of which are beautifully depicted in the vibrant and captivating Tracing Board.

A meticulous examination of the various elements within the Royal Ark Mariner degree offers a profound and enlightening insight into the Masonic tradition. It unveils a deeper understanding of the Craft that surpasses anything one could have imagined.

The Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner, also known as Royal Ark Mariner, has been proudly under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons since 1871. Governed by the esteemed Grand Master's Royal Ark Council, this fraternity holds a special place in the hearts of its members.

In the past, the Royal Ark Mariner Degree was exclusively practiced within Freemasons' Craft Lodges, Mark Master Masons' Lodges, and other sacred spaces. However, it has now become the natural progression for many Mark Master Masons in their Masonic journey. It is no wonder that over half of all Mark Master Masons find themselves as members of their cherished Royal Ark Mariner Lodge.



The ceremony of Elevation, which is the gateway to the Royal Ark Mariner Degree, is a truly enchanting experience. It is during this ceremony that a Mark Master Mason is admitted to the Order, embarking on a path of enlightenment and growth. The Elevation ceremony is filled with unique features that captivate the senses and leave a lasting impression. It beautifully teaches us that the virtuous and industrious will always prosper. Moreover, it presents the story of the Flood as an allegory of cleansing and rebirth, symbolising the timeless virtues of wisdom, strength, and beauty.

To be eligible for the esteemed title of Royal Ark Mariner, one must first become a Mark Master Mason. This prerequisite ensures that only those who have already demonstrated their commitment to the Masonic journey can embark on this extraordinary path.

The regalia of a Royal Ark Mariner is truly a sight to behold. It includes an apron adorned with a vibrant rainbow ribbon, accompanied by matching rosettes. The jewel, a symbol of utmost significance, portrays a dove gracefully carrying an olive branch. This precious emblem is suspended from a rainbow coloured ribbon, representing the harmony and unity that the Order holds dear.

Scan here to watch a video about The Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner

