



Order of the Secret Monitor

for the Sovereign State of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory

Office of the Grand Supreme Ruler

Mot. Worthy Brother Stephen Charles Hayne

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Brethren,

Our Monitor year 2024-2025 commenced on the twelfth day of October 2024 when many members of our Order, distinguished friends from sister jurisdictions, and guests from other Masonic orders once again gathered in Sydney. On this occasion, it was to witness my Proclamation as Grand Supreme Ruler for the second year. I can say that the memory of those proceedings will remain with me forever, and I received very many favourable comments on the ceremony and the associated events. The Installation weekend and every event were most successful and thoroughly enjoyed by those present.

In my second term as Grand Supreme Ruler, my priorities will be:

- Focusing on the **Standards of Practice and Presentation** within our Conclaves.
- Paying close attention to the virtues of **Caring and Communicating**.
- Providing **support and encouragement** to strengthen our Conclaves.

Reflecting on the Monitor year 2023-2024, the 12 months have flown by. I extend my gratitude to the Grand Officers for their unwavering support. Together, the Grand Officers attended 26 Installations across New South Wales, from Lismore Conclave in the North, Narooma in the South, and Riverina Conclave in the West.

During this first quarter, I have attended Installations at the following Conclaves:

- **The Parramatta Conclave:** Bro John Morton was installed as Worthy Supreme Ruler.
- **The Sydney Conclave:** Bro Peter Gourlie was installed as Worthy Supreme Ruler.
- **The Brothers Cooma Conclave:** Worthy Bro Bernard Alcock was re-installed as Worthy Supreme Ruler.
- **The Springwood Conclave:** Worthy Bro Peter Figg was re-installed as Worthy Supreme Ruler.
- **The Illawarra Conclave:** Worthy Bro Russell Shore was re-installed as Worthy Supreme Ruler.

The meeting of the Cootamundra Conclave had to be rescheduled to 28th February 2025 due to the passing of V.Wthy.Bro. Ross Reid. Both Judyth and I attended his funeral service at Junee to pay our respects.

On 28th September 2025 I and many Members of the OSM attended the Grand Installation of MW Bro B Khristianne S Albano as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. This event, held at the Sydney Town Hall, was a grand

occasion marked by an outstanding ceremony, with MW Bro Lesley H Hicks officiating. It was a weekend to remember, with all attendees deeply impressed by the setting and the remarkable proceedings.

At my Proclamation, I addressed the Grand Master, emphasizing the bond between the Order of the Secret Monitor and the Grand Lodge of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. This bond is a testament to unity, brotherhood, and mutual respect. Through our concordat, we share a commitment to the highest ideals of Freemasonry: truth, charity, and fellowship. May this harmony continue to flourish, serving as a beacon of unity and brotherly love for all.

On 12th November, I represented the OSM at the Heads of Order Meeting at the Sydney Masonic Centre, chaired by MW Bro B Khristianne S Albano. This meeting provided a unique opportunity for members of various Orders to come together as brothers and sisters within Freemasonry.

On 26th October, Judyth, Rt Wthy Bro Kevin Allen DGSR, his wife Connie, and I attended the Annual Assembly and Installation of Grand Officers of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Appendant Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist for New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. Held at the Cardiff RSL Club, this significant event marked the enthronement of their new Grand Sovereign, Right Illustrious Knight John Whitehouse. Congratulations to V.Wthy Bro John Whitehouse PGDC on this honour. It was an enjoyable and memorable event.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to the President of the Executive Committee, Most Worthy Bro Lynden Norgate, for his unwavering support and friendship, which have been instrumental in maintaining stability within our Order. To the Most Worthy Brethren, I deeply appreciate the guidance and support you have provided over the past year and look forward to your continued counsel over the next 12 months. Your enthusiasm and dedication inspire confidence in the future of our Order.

Our heartfelt thanks to the DGSR, Rt. Wthy. Bro. Kevin Allen, and his wife, Connie, for their invaluable support in representing the Order of the Secret Monitor at the Annual Celebration of this Grand Conclave, scheduled to take place at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, on Thursday, 14 November 2024.

The Order of the Secret Monitor derives much of its symbolism and teachings from the biblical story of David and Jonathan. This story resonates profoundly within our Conclaves, where brethren work together as a family, supporting one another.

The love between David and Jonathan was not just a temporary bond but a covenant extending beyond their lifetimes. Jonathan's request for David to show kindness to his descendants after his death, which David honoured, is a testament to their enduring loyalty and brotherhood. The OSM's use of this story serves as a timeless reminder of the power of genuine connection, built on trust, care, and unwavering support. In a world where relationships can often be transactional, our Order stands as a bastion of selfless friendship

and care. May this spirit continue to guide us as we uphold the lessons of loyalty and brotherhood exemplified by David and Jonathan.

Fraternally yours,
Stephen Hayne.

Grand Supreme Ruler
Order of the Secret Monitor

Caring and communicating