

# Grand Standard Bearers Report

## Consecration of the Hibernia Conclave No.637

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024, I had the pleasure of attending the Consecration of the Hibernia Conclave No.637 at Mark Masons Hall, St.James's Street London.

Setting off from a sunny Prestatyn before 7.00 in the morning, the train journey was straight forward and a pleasurable affair.

Arriving at Euston station on time, I made my way through the warm streets of London to reach St. James's for the ceremony.

With the usual pleasantries of catching up with those you met very recently and those who, it had been some time, you could feel that it was going to be a momentous day.

Rehearsals had already taken place by the petitioners followed by a quick rehearsal for the Grand team.

At eleven o'clock prompt, the deputation of Grand officers was announced, processed in and seated.

The Grand Supreme Ruler, M.Wy.Bro.Andrew Christopher Sweeney, took his rightful seat in the East and invited the Grand officers to carry out their respective duties.

Salutations were offered to the consecrating officer and afterwards he addressed the brethren on the object of the meeting.

The consecrating officer carried out the ceremony of consecration in an impeccable fashion with assistance from Chaplain, Grand Counsellor, Grand Guide, Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies and the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.

On conclusion of the consecration, the Consecrating officer called upon the Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler, R.Wy.Bro. Keith Berwick Fergusson to carry on with the ceremony of installing the Primus Supreme Ruler Wy.Bro.Scott A.J.Cargill.

R.Wy.Bro. Keith Berwick Fergusson asked all those below the rank of a Supreme Ruler were asked to retire so that a Conclave of Supreme rulers could be formed. The ceremony was carried out impeccably by R.Wy.Bro. Keith Berwick Fergusson.

The appointment of Conclave officers was then conducted by the Primus Supreme Ruler, Wy.Bro.Scott A.J.Cargill.

An election took place to honour all Grand officers present at the consecration as honorary members which was not expected but humbly received by all.



The Grand team retired for refreshments and awaited the remainder of officers and visiting brethren to join them after the conclave was closed.

Representation from several other provinces was made by the presence of the respective Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers with Cheshire and North Wales by myself as Grand Standard Bearer and Wy.Bro Paul Crudge who is the Grand Guide.

In all, 12 Grand officers attended the consecration with some twenty-one petitioners, circa fifty brethren attending the meeting and then remaining for the meal afterwards.

Customary toasts were given by dignitaries at the top table and ably organised by the Deputy Grand Director of ceremonies. Afterwards, we said our goodbyes and made our way home with a feeling of a long, but enjoyable day.

Regards

John Thomson, Grand Standard Bearer

