

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas celebrate the formation of the first Grand Lodge

The culmination of the United Grand Lodge of England's Tercentenary was held at the Royal Albert Hall in London, on Tuesday 31st October 2017. Grand Master Wilbert M. Curtis was delighted to attend this historic occasion, where over 3,900 Freemasons from Provinces, Districts and other Grand Lodges from around the world were present.



It's been 300 years since four lodges met at the Goose and Gridiron Tavern in St Paul's Churchyard on St John's Day, 24th June 1717, to establish the world's first Grand Lodge. In 2017, the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) is celebrating the Tercentenary of this date.

The Tercentenary celebrations at the Royal Albert Hall were the high point of a year-long programme of varied events which have taken place throughout the Provinces and Districts. This gala event included addresses and processions, professional musicians and performers and a lavish theatrical extravaganza which showcased the history and heritage of Freemasonry.



Attendees included UGLE's Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, HRM Otumfuo Osei Tutu II and HE John A. Kufuor.

The event was also live-streamed to wider audiences at UGLE's headquarters at Freemasons' Hall in Covent Garden, London. Around 2,000 of those attending the Royal Albert Hall then proceeded to Battersea Evolution in Battersea Park for the Tercentenary Dinner.



Brigadier Willie Shackell, Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, said:

"2017 is a year to look forward as well as back. Throughout these 300 years we have continued our strong traditions of friendship, openness and charity and our Tercentenary celebrations have been very much about highlighting the values of Freemasonry that we all hold dear.

"We were delighted to be in the company of so many Freemasons from around the world at this grand event to mark an historical moment celebrating 300 years of Freemasonry. I feel that our role and

relevance in society today could not be stronger and we now look forward to our journey through the next 300 years.”



The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas was constituted in Brenham, Texas, June 15, 1875 at a convention of five subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of the King Solomon Grand Lodge of Kansas. It traces its lineage back to the United Grand Lodge of England thru the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas' Grand Master also had the distinguished honour of being invited to the Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall on 30th October where, dressed in their formal Regalia, they were introduced to UGLE's Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent.





There are around six million Freemasons worldwide and over 200,000 in the UK.

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For further information, please contact:

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Texas

Visit <https://www.mwphglotx.org/> for further information or email pha@flash.net

About the United Grand Lodge of England

The United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) is the governing body of Freemasonry in England, Wales, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands (plus a number of Districts and groups overseas), formed in 1717 and has a membership of over 200,000.

Freemasonry is one of the world's largest non-religious, non-political, fraternal and charitable organizations, and its symbolic origin lies in stonemasonry.

Visit ugle.org.uk for further information.

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