



Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland
Provincial Grand Lodge of Down

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8 August 2016

To All Lodge Secretaries,

Annual Return of All Lodge Members

As you will be aware, the actual membership of The Order within the Province of Down has been quoted at around 4,840. However, it is a well-known fact that of recent years, membership has been in decline and is now probably somewhat significantly lower.

To complicate matters further, the annual returns made by Lodges each year provide a “total” figure, which encompasses an element of multiple membership for Affiliated Brethren and therefore does not reflect the “actual” number of Masons in The Order.

The Provincial Grand Master and his Council have decided to utilise a computerised system to manage the Province’s membership, and it is hoped this will allow for better management of the membership database.

The attached Form will now need to be completed and returned to the Provincial Grand Secretary. In subsequent years the form will only require editing to highlight changes from the previous year. Please note that this Form is in addition to and not a replacement for the Annual Return of Officers.

The computerised database will be subject to the Principles of the Data Protection Act and will only be used for the purposed for which it is intended.

It is preferable that the Form be completed electronically and submitted electronically. Guidelines for completion are on the Form.

The form when completed should be submitted to the Provincial Grand Secretary’s Office, at the above address, by 31st October 2016 or as soon thereafter as possible.

Yours sincerely & fraternally,

Brian W Gardner
Provincial Grand Secretary