



Prospective Candidates: What's Required Before Your 1st Degree

- Dress Dark Suit, White Shirt, Plain Black Tie, Black Shoes and socks, White Gloves. There are two black-tie events during the year when Dinner Suits are worn.
- Before the entrance into the First-Degree Ceremony the Treasurer or Secretary is asked if the Candidate has signed the required documents and paid the necessary fees. These are Grand Lodge, Provincial Lodge and the Lodge annual fees the latter being pro rata, all paid yearly from 1st May and is currently £298:00 in Abbey Lodge. There is an Alms (charity) Collection in Lodge Meetings of £1/ £5 or more if you want.
- Entered Apprentice Aprons (1st Degree) are owned by the Lodge. If you are visiting another Lodge, Abbey Lodge will loan you an apron and the same applies for the Fellowcraft (2nd Degree) Apron. You will need to obtain your own Master Masons (3rd Degree) Apron by buying new or secondhand (we can advise nearer the time).
- The Social Board (meal after Lodge meeting) ranges from in cost from free to about £20, depending on the event. If you are visiting a Lodge, your meal may be covered by your host but remember to return the favour by inviting them to Abbey Lodge and covering their meal.
- At The Social Board there are toasts so a drink either alcoholic or non-alcoholic is required, also there is usually a raffle of sorts, usually £5 or less if with raffle tickets it is up to what you can afford, raffle prizes are donated to the Charity Steward by members.
- For your Information there are local Masonic Halls in Whalley, Clitheroe, Padiham, Burnley, Colne, (which I regularly go to) Accrington, Darwen, Clayton-le-Moors amongst others.
- You can visit any Lodge in a Masonic Hall if you hold the required degree or higher; if attending The Social Board, it is customary to book a meal. Telephone or email the Secretary of the Lodge you are going to, OURS INCLUDED.
- Each Lodge hosts different social events throughout the year, and you are encouraged to participate in your Lodge's activities—sometimes with your partner, and sometimes with your children, usually on weekends.
- You will be given literature which explains the ceremony after each Degree with short passages to learn for the next Degree Workings. Do read the information.
- We meet as a Lodge on the 2nd Thursday of each month from October through to May inclusive, with practice meetings on the 2 Mondays before the Lodge meeting.
- Finally, the members of Abbey Lodge are looking forward to seeing you join and wish you many years of fellowship amongst us.

Welcome to Abbey Lodge 2529