

**Calder Vale
Consistory No 19 TI**

The Masonic Hall
Blenheim House
Batley Field Hill Lane
Batley
WF17 0BG

Meets on:

1st Monday in March,
August and October (I) at
11am

Contact:

Distinguished Companion
Joseph Simon JP V

Tel:(m) 07550 09954
(h)0161 2805350
joe@simonsden.co.uk

**South Yorkshire
Consistory No 92**

The Masonic Rooms
Rotherham Golf Club
Doncaster Road
Rotherham
S65 4NU

Meets on:

1st Thursday in February,
June and August (I)

Contact:

R Distinguished Companion
John Marrison V

Tel: (m) 07707706784
(h) 01427 875142
johnrosecot@outlook.com

**White Rose
Consistory No 95**

The Masonic Hall
Westbourne House
Westbourne Grove
Otley
LS21 3LG

Meets on:

3rd Monday in May (I) July
and October.

Contact:

Distinguished Companion
Ian A Parsons V

Tel: (M) 07973 218962,
(H) 01274 207852
recorderwsc95@ianparsons.net

**Maurice Bendig
Consistory No 165**

The Masonic Hall
Deighton Road
Wetherby
LS22 7SZ

Meets on:

2nd Wednesday in May
and September (I).

Contact:

Distinguished Companion
Timothy Crawshaw IV

Tel: (M) 07905757098
(H) 01924 440767
rigelnx01@hotmail.co.uk



**THE PROVINCE OF
WEST YORKSHIRE**

(Constituted 8th May 2014)

Provincial Grand Summus

Right Distinguished Companion
Alan P K Webster V

Deputy Provincial Grand Summus

Right Distinguished Companion
David C Staniforth V

Assistant Provincial Grand Summus

Distinguished Companion
Stephen Rhodes IV

Provincial Grand Recorder

Right Distinguished Companion
John Marrison V

Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies

Distinguished Companion
David Spivey III



**THE ANTIENT AND MASONIC
ORDER OF THE SCARLET CORD
IN THE BRITISH ISLES AND ITS DISTRICTS AND
CONSISTORIES OVERSEAS**

(Inaugurated July 2010)

Most Distinguished Companion

Ian S. Currans
Grand Summus

Right Distinguished Companion

Francis C. Spencer
Deputy Grand Summus

Right Distinguished Companion

Howard S. Markham
Assistant Grand Summus

**Increase and improve your Masonic
knowledge by reading this introduction
to this interesting and informative Order.**

Provincial Website: www.oscwestyorks.com

A Brief History of the Order

Although the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord is the most recent Masonic Order to become widely accessible to brethren in the United Kingdom, the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord, as it was then known, was first introduced into this country in 1910 as an extension to the Order of the Secret Monitor and ceased to exist in 1929.

The origins of the Scarlet Cord degree itself, based on the biblical story of Rahab, go back much further, probably to Ireland in the late eighteenth century, and it was certainly in America by the early 1800s. The other five degrees were written by two of the new Order's founding members, Adolphus Philbrick and William Spratling. Between 1889 and 1910, the story of Rahab featured briefly in the ritual of the second degree of the OSM. The six degrees were only conferred upon the most senior members of the major Masonic Orders and other very distinguished brethren, at the behest of the Grand Summus. Consequently, it was known to only a limited number of high-ranking freemasons.

The records and rituals of the Order were placed in the Archive of Mark Masons' Hall and were rediscovered during the late 20th century. In due course a decision was made to revive the Order under the leadership of the then Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor, Right Worthy Brother Peter Glyn Williams, and this eventually occurred in 2006. The rituals for the six degrees currently in use are largely based on those of the original Order, with some simplification and other changes.

Scarlet Cord Conclave No 500 in the Order of the Secret Monitor was consecrated in 2006, with the authority to transpose itself into a Consistory and confer Grades of the Scarlet Cord upon senior members of the Order of the Secret Monitor.

Between 2006 and 2010, the Order's popularity developed rapidly, and 62 Secret Monitor Conclaves, dedicated to become Scarlet Cord Consistories, were consecrated throughout the United Kingdom. By 2010, the Order had developed sufficiently to warrant its separation from the Order of the Secret Monitor, to form an independent Sovereign Order.

The inauguration ceremony took place at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London on 21st June 2010 when all the Scarlet Cord Conclaves were erased from the register of the Order of the Secret Monitor and were constituted, dedicated and consecrated as Consistories of The Order Of The Scarlet Cord.

The new Consistories were formed into 16 Provinces, each with three or more Consistories, and 12 Inspectorates, all with less than three Consistories.

The Ritual

As can clearly be seen, the Order was derived from the Order of the Secret Monitor, and it remains very closely associated with it.

Only Princes of the Order of the Secret Monitor are eligible to join, and there are three initial Grades in the Order – equivalent to the three degrees on Craft masonry.

Upon their Induction, Companions initially become Ostiarii or Doorkeepers within the Order and thenceforth may designate themselves as Companions of the Scarlet Cord.

The Second and Third Grades are also conferred in a Consistory, when the candidates become Lectors and Fellows respectively. An unusual feature of the Order is that a Companion may be elevated to a higher Grade in any Consistory, so long as there are 28 days between his respective ceremonies.

Further preferment within the Order is only conferred upon candidates at the invitation of the Grand Summus. Like most Masonic Orders, the Order of the Scarlet Cord has ceremonies which are based upon biblical allegory, centred around incidents found in the Old Testament.

Each inspiring ceremony is derived from a different, and at first an apparently unrelated biblical incident, which are ultimately bound together in an informative and dramatic climax in the Third Grade. All the ceremonies involve participation by a relatively large number of Consistory members, and whilst there is every opportunity for keen ritualists to shine, there are also many possibilities for less practiced Companions to participate in a rewarding and meaningful manner.

Each Consistory is presided over by a President who is elected annually. Uniquely, the aspiring President must first be "prepared" for the Office in a Preparation Ceremony, following which he becomes an Eminent Companion. After Installation, he becomes a Distinguished Companion.

As there are currently only four Consistories in the Province, membership is small but exclusive and inevitably forms strong bonds of friendship.

Visiting is also a strong feature of the Order, and visitors are always very warmly welcomed. Visiting other Provinces is also encouraged, and much reciprocal visiting takes place, thus forming lasting friendships.

The Regalia

Regalia in the Order, like that of the Order of the Secret Monitor, is minimal. The Badge of the Order is a tasselled Scarlet Cord, initially worn around the waist, and in the Third Grade, worn as a sash over the right shoulder.

Together with the position of the sash, the status of each member is indicated by the wearing of either a jewel suspended from the neck by a Scarlet Cord, as in the First and Second Grades, or alternatively by a breast jewel in the Third Grade.

The Consistory usually provides jewels for the First and Second Grades, as these are both progressive Grades, but the Third Grade jewel and tie are both usually provided by the Candidate himself, similar to that of a Master Mason in the Craft.

The Provincial Website gives further detail.
www.oscwestyorks.com

Province of West Yorkshire

West Yorkshire currently has four Consistories and is, therefore, a Province that the Grand Summus constituted in May 2014 at Westbourne House, Otley.

The four Consistories are:

Calder Vale Consistory No 19TI – Batley
(Consecrated on 20 October 2009)

South Yorkshire Consistory No 92 - Bawtry
(Consecrated on 31 October 2013)

White Rose Consistory No 95 - Otley
(Consecrated on 8 May 2014)

The Maurice Bendig Consistory
(Consecrated on 25 October 2025)

The suffix "TI" after a Consistory's number, refers to "Time Immemorial", and indicates that it was one of the original 62 "Scarlet Cord" Secret Monitor Conclaves which existed prior to the inauguration in 2010. Consistories consecrated after the inauguration are not entitled to bear this suffix.

For Brethren interested in joining the Order, contact details for each Consistory in the Province of West Yorkshire are shown overleaf

(Rev Nov 2025)