THE PORTSMOUTH LODGE NO 487

Lodge Membership Officer
W.Bro Roger Barnard
52 Beacon Way
Park Gate,
Southampton
Hampshire SO31 7GL
Tel: 07482 919369
Home Tel: 01489 575362
E-mail: roger.barnard487@gmail.com

Lodge Membership Officer Report – SEPTEMBER 2026

WM and Brethren,

I have an update on the new prospective candidates, To date we will have two new members who are, Mr Stephen Burt who is due to be initiated in September, and we have a joining member Bro Josh Watkins who is based at HMS Collingwood and has attended many of our social functions. It is planned to join us hopefully in the Autumn 2026.
Mr Mark Smith has decided not to become a member of 487 for personnel reasons.

We are due to interview three prospective candidates on the 15th of October, and they are Mr Robert Tee who has been put forward by W Bro Chris Ford, Mr Steve Daniels who answered our 487 Web page and Mr John Milner who is sponsored by W Bro Gareth Manson.

Unfortunately, we have two resignations of W. Bro Gary Young and Bro Nick Bryan.

The “Dine A Friend“ event for the Fareham area was held on 6th May 2026 at “Gosport Masonic Centre” where W Bro Gareth Manson brought his friend John Milner and I invited Mr Stephen Burt. Both are keen to join 487 and Stephen is being initiated this month with John Milner hopefully in January 2027. W Bro Bob Cullen also attended the Dine a Friend evening.

Just a friendly reminder that “Retention” is equally important as “Recruitment “and following our Membership survey to ensure we are still going in the right direction as a lodge; it is essential we ask the right questions of our brethren, for example; -

- Are we enjoying our Freemasonry? if not why? let me know.
- What`s prevents you from attending? Do you require a lift in?
- Is the Festive Board suited to your modern lifestyle? any changes you would like to see happen?

Finally, I have been sent a “Initiate” communication template for both the pre and post initiation so that the new candidate is fully aware of what is expected on the night and thereafter, so if a member of 487 has a prospective candidate please let me know and I can send it to you.

W. Bro Roger Barnard
Lodge Membership Officer.