

THE



PORTSMOUTH LODGE NO 487

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Almoner Report – October 2026

Worshipful Master, Brother Wardens, and Brethren all,

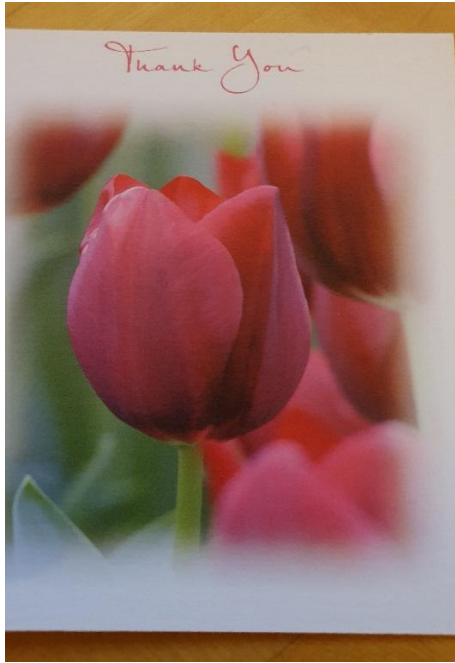
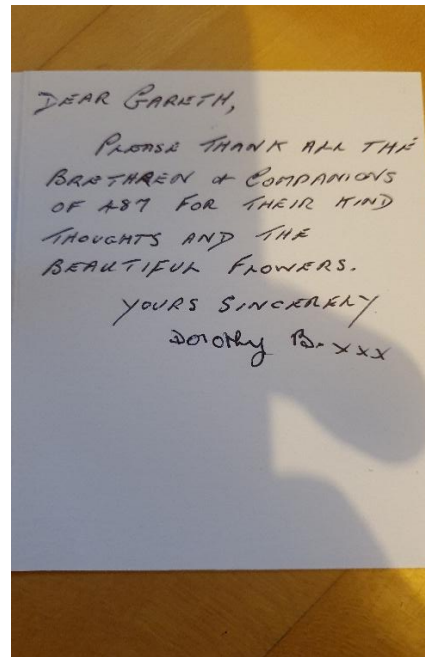
There are only a couple of matters that I need to bring before you this evening.

Firstly, W. Bro Barry Filer has had yet another stay in QA Hospital over the summer due to a bout of pneumonia. Thankfully, he has made another miraculous recovery and I'm sure I speak on behalf of everyone, when I say how great it is to see him back with us at our meetings.

I paid a visit to W. Bro Howard Bowne's and his wife, Dot, to pass on a card and some flowers on behalf of the Lodge to show we are all thinking of her, and wishing her speedy recovery from her op. She was very cheerful, besides still being in a bit of pain, but she is having visits from the Physio to help with her recovery. I informed W. Bro Howard, we all miss him at our meetings, but always thinking of him, and we can't wait to welcome him back when he can. He passed on his regards to everyone in the Lodge and looks forward to seeing us all again soon. A Thank You card from Dot is shown below.

I've received some very sad news from our secretary, that Bro Ed Watkin unfortunately passed to the Grand Lodge Above on Monday 5th October 2026. I will be sending a card on behalf of the Lodge to Ed's wife to show we are thinking of her and offer any help she may be needed during this sad time. Ed was regularly seen at our meetings, despite health issues, and was always happy and jovial, and a pleasure to be around. I'm sure you all agree that he will be very sadly missed. I, or our secretary, will keep you all informed on funeral plans in the coming weeks.

The following day, I was also informed of yet another sad passing of one of our well-respected Brothers, W. Bro Chris Russell. Unfortunately, again due to ill health, W. Bro Chris was unable to join us over the last few years, but during his time in 487, he done various jobs, and was admired by all. He passed to the Grand lodge above, with his beloved wife Carol, and children by his side, and the Grandchildren also got to say there goodbyes the night before too. I have spoken with Carol, to ask if there was anything I could do, and I will also be seeing her this weekend, so again I will give her a Card on behalf of all the brethren and offer our services if she may need anything at all. Again, I will update you all with any funeral/celebration of life that is planned, and I'm sure you all agree, he will also be very sadly missed but never forgotten.



Worshipful Master, that concludes my Almoner's Report this evening.

Thank you, Brethren.

Gareth

Almoner

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