

## **PAST MASTERS FROM OTHER CONSTITUTIONS**

The situation of members of English lodges who are Past Masters from other recognised constitutions, *but who have not gone through the Chair of an English lodge*, is not simple, and caution should be exercised, particularly if it is proposed that they be installed into the Chair of one of our lodges.

If their *bona fides* as Installed Masters has been established, they can clothe and conduct themselves in our lodges as Installed Masters and be generally considered as such, but there are restrictions on what they can do by way of participation in our ceremonies. (*Note: once members of an English lodge they must wear English regalia, regardless of any seniority in their home constitution; they are entitled to wear levels on their aprons, but not to wear a Past Master's collar.*)

Except as mentioned in the next paragraph, no member of an English lodge who is a Past Master only of another constitution may preside in an English lodge (*ie* occupy the Chair). He can undertake, from the floor, certain elements of an English degree ceremony (for specific details contact The Province), *but he may not (except, again, as mentioned in the next paragraph) confer a degree.*

However, if (but only if) he is an Installed Master under the Grand Lodge of Ireland or Scotland, then by virtue of a mutual concordat between our three Grand Lodges, he is allowed (a) to take part, if requested by the Board of Installed Masters, as Installing Master (for the Inner Working only) in an English Installation ceremony and (b) *if no Installed Master under our Constitution is present*, to confer a degree to the extent that the ceremony cannot be performed by the Warden ruling the Lodge. *Past Masters from any other constitution may do neither*, though they can be present in the Board of Installed Masters.

*No Installed Master of any other recognised constitution whatsoever* can be elected to the Master's Chair of an English Lodge, whatever his seniority, unless he has or will have served *a full year as Warden* in an English lodge at the time of his installation, as required by Rule 105 of the Book of Constitutions. It is not possible for a dispensation to be issued to render eligible a Brother who has not served as a Warden in a Lodge under UGLE.