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## Guidance for running Q&A sessions at a Chapter Meeting

Running a Q&A session on a quiet night of business in a Chapter is a positive and an excellent way of educating members about the Royal Arch. It also provides the opportunity for members to discuss among themselves their feelings about the Royal Arch in general and their own Chapter in particular.

The success of the evening relies on identifying a Companion to lead the event. This could be the local AtoPrGPs, the Group Royal Arch Lead or a senior and experienced member of the Chapter. Whoever this is, first and foremost they must have the ability to respond to questions from their own background knowledge but also to possess the knack of admitting if they don't know the answer they know a man who does and will therefore get back to them! In addition, the ability to draw on the knowledge of others present is essential.

Experience demonstrates when running such sessions that questions can vary across a broad range of topics: the cost of Freemasonry; Masonic Halls; Ranks and even sometimes questions about the Royal Arch!

In preparing for the session, having some resources to hand is essential. Should the Companions be a little slow in coming forward, having to hand some questions placed by EComp Peter Mason, the DepGSupt of Province of Cumberland & Westmoreland, is advisable (<http://royalarch.cumbriafreemasons.org/companionresources.asp>). A copy of the revised 'Information for New Exaltees' booklet would also be a useful resource.

As suggested above such a session could be a 'one-off' or annual event to occupy what would otherwise be a pure business meeting. In this case up to a 20 minute session would be appropriate. However, if run by a senior Companion it could become a regular feature of any meeting or festive board with the time being limited accordingly.