



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSET

Thursday 8th February 2018

Dear Lodge Secretary

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

You and your members have probably been aware of recent reports in the press about Freemasonry. The Board of General Purposes and the CEO, Dr David Staples, have issued the following statement and full page national press ads published today.

Dr David Staples, Chief Executive of UGLE commenting says:

“This is a first for us, but necessary under the circumstances. For too long we have been unjustly singled out. We are an organisation whose whole tenet is about helping individuals become better people, with values of honesty, integrity and service to others. Membership of Freemasonry is not only positive for them as individuals, but also for society at large.

“Sadly, too many Freemasons have to exercise caution in response to prejudice and discrimination they fear they will face. We want the day when every Freemason can proudly declare themselves a member of our great and historical organisation without fear of retribution, suspicion or damage.

Headlined ‘Enough is Enough’, the ad is a personal letter from Dr David Staples, Chief Executive Officer, which reiterates the organisation’s values and highlights how throughout its 300 year history when people have suffered discrimination, Freemasonry has welcomed them into lodges as equals.

Such is the frustration amongst members about the level of prejudice, Dr Staples has also written to the Equality and Human Rights Commission to make its case.

“We’re open and happy to talk about anything and today we are announcing a series of sessions up and down the country too and to answer any questions people may have. I am also welcoming any queries from individuals myself.”

A copy of the ad is attached and is published in the Thursday 8 February 2018 editions of the Times, Telegraph and Guardian newspapers.

Our Provincial Grand Master, C A Stuart Hadler, has accepted an invitation to be interviewed on BBC Radio Somerset between 10.00 and 10.30 am this morning.

Can you please pass all this information on to your members.

Yours faithfully and fraternally

Richard J Ellis

[UGLE Press Ad](#)

[UGLE Letter of complaint to the Guardian](#)

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