



Province of Yorkshire West Riding



Building Together - Introduction

As an Officer within your Lodge or Chapter, it is important that you develop a working knowledge of **Building Together**. This guidance is designed to support you in understanding what BT is, why it matters, and how it applies to your role.

What is Building Together?

Building Together harmonises the former *Members' Pathway* and *Archway* programmes, combining their strengths into a single, clear, and practical approach. It supports both the **Craft** and the **Royal Arch**, while fully respecting the unique identity and traditions of each.

Building Together is now the **UGLE standard Membership platform**, providing a framework for guiding members throughout their Masonic journey.

The Purpose of Building Together

The core aim of Building Together is to help every member enjoy a **smooth, fulfilling, and well-understood progression through Freemasonry** — from initiation in the Craft through to completion in the Royal Arch.

Central to Building Together is the principle that a candidate joins **Freemasonry as a whole, not simply an individual Lodge**. This journey comprises four elements:

- Three within the Craft
- One within the Royal Arch, at a Chapter of the member's choosing

Building Together reinforces the understanding that the Royal Arch is the natural and final completion of the journey as a Free and Accepted mason.

How Does Building Together Work?

Building Together is far more than a strategy or policy document. At its heart lies a comprehensive toolkit and practical guide - **The Quick Start Guide** - containing proven ideas, case studies and examples of best practice drawn from successful Lodges and Chapters across recent years.

Also built into Building Together is a helpful and focused Digital Assistant, designed to help grow and strengthen your Lodges and Chapters. It is called **AskHiramGPT**, is very easy to use, and is proving very useful. It could quickly become your first 'go to' solution when you need answers.

By all means explore Building Together as much as you wish, every section is interesting and informative - but take care not to feel overwhelmed. While Building Together contains a significant amount of detail, it is important to remember this key point: it is best used as a reference manual**you do not need to know everything!**

As an Officer, your responsibility is simply to understand **how to access and apply the sections relevant to your role**.



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The Hub is your starting point for **BUILDING TOGETHER**. Everything begins here.

It's made up of five sections. **SHAPE, ENGAGE,** and **RESPOND** are shared across both the Craft and the Royal Arch, so the guidance works for everyone.

ATTRACT and **CONTINUE** focus on the journey into membership. **ATTRACT** covers the step from first enquiry to joining. **CONTINUE** picks up from there, following the journey from Brother to Companion.

They almost mirror each other in how they work, but not in how they speak. Someone new to a Lodge won't know the traditions yet. A Master Mason joining a Chapter will — and that experience shapes the language and examples used.

All users accessing the Quick Start Guide for the first time should read the Contents pages at the start to gain a fuller understanding of what is included. Like any reference manual some hubs will be more relevant to your specific office than others. When you use the guide, you should focus primarily on the hub most relevant to your role, though not to the exclusion of the others.

The management team in each unit (Lodge or Chapter) normally consists of the following officers: WM / MEZ, Secretary / Scribe E, LO, Membership Officer (MO), Mentor, Almoner (AL), and (for Lodges only) the Royal Arch Representative (RA Rep).

The table below provides **broad guidance** on which officers relate to each hub. For clarity, the WM, Secretary, and LO maintain an overall watching brief across all hubs, without the need to become involved in detail until required.

HUB	MAIN PURPOSE	OFFICERS
SHAPE	Helps units review their current situation and lay the foundation for a plan to shape the future.	All officers and members of unit
ATTRACT	Promoting Freemasonry in general to encourage membership; to manage enquiries; advice on interviewing prospective Members.	MO, Membership Team
CONTINUE	How to attract future companions; expectation management.	RA Rep, Mentor, MO
ENGAGE	Supporting the new member; guidance and learning while fostering fun and satisfaction; re-engaging inactive members.	Mentor
RESPOND	Care and welfare of members; understanding reasons for poor engagement; managing resignations and retrieval.	Almoner, MO, LO