



### LEVEL 3: UNIT RESOURCES

Respond > Alternative Futures > Creating Efficiencies in a Unit

Changing the Ceremony in the Savage Club Chapter, No. 2190 [support material]

As part of the process of reviewing your Chapter you may discover that some members find the meetings too long, do not understand what is happening and find the sequence of events in the Exaltation ceremony difficult to follow.

The Savage Club Chapter was brought back from the verge of collapse as a result of adopting a more progressive attitude to running their meetings and also a new version of the Royal Arch Ritual. They are now one of the most successful Chapters in London attracting a wide range of members—and have a long queue of keen young Master Masons wanting to join.

This new version of the ritual has also been adopted by other Chapters around the Country and overseas, all of which are growing fast as a result.

Changing the ritual used in a Chapter is clearly a big decision that all the members need to be consulted about. But those who have seen the Savage Club Chapter perform their ceremony of Exaltation rarely fail to be impressed by its dramatic, less repetitive and more logical sequence that involves both the candidate and Sojourners more in the events that take place.

The Savage Cub Chapter conduct their ceremonies efficiently and their ritual is of the highest standards. When this is applied to their new ritual, a whole meeting that involves opening, regular business and a ceremony of Exaltation, including a version of the Mystical Lecture and a 'long closing', lasts only just over one hour—this allows much more sensible start times for those involved and maintains member interest throughout.

Despite these apparent differences, the main sections of ritual are very similar to several standard versions, especially the Aldersgate working on which it is based. It can therefore be easily adopted by those more familiar with other versions. For those new to learning any version of the Royal Arch ritual, such changes are almost irrelevant.

Such a change is unlikely to be popular everywhere, nor solve every Chapter's problems. But if your Chapter is in a position where changing the ritual may be possible and you are interested in trying the ritual, please contact the Savage Club Chapter of Instruction which administers the ritual on behalf of the Chapter, and grants permission for other Chapters to adopt it.

Their contact details and the ritual itself is available for anyone to access from their website: <https://www.savageclubchapter.com/>

There are occasional demonstrations in London and elsewhere, and it is already proving popular—a recent report of a demonstration in Somerset can be found [here](#) and at least one Province is currently reconfiguring a version of their own ritual into the format and sequence of events found in the Savage Working.

The attached article from the Summer Edition of *Freemasonry Today* in 2021 profiles several members of the Savage Club Chapter who explain why they were happy to embrace change. They also describe the success it has brought to the Chapter and their



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new found enjoyment of the Royal Arch.

Other ways of modifying an existing ceremony to make it more efficient, understandable and enjoyable for those present are also covered in this section of INVOLVE.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Grand Chapter and the Committee of General Purposes do not generally involve themselves in matters of ritual. Their comments are normally restricted to matters of principle only. However, before any Chapter considers making substantive alterations to their ritual they are advised to consult their Grand Superintendent or Provincial Office **before** adopting any such changes.

*An archive article featured in FMT from the summer of 2021 can be found here and provides some more information about Savage Club Ritual:*

[https://issuu.com/freemasonrytoday/docs/fmt\\_summer\\_21\\_combined\\_pdf\\_low\\_res/48](https://issuu.com/freemasonrytoday/docs/fmt_summer_21_combined_pdf_low_res/48)







