

# The Square and Compasses.

A newsletter for the Grand Lodge of South Africa. No. 43 August 2015



*Most Worshipful Brother Geoff Edwards OSM.*

## Masonic Recognition

While Freemasonry is certainly not about the glorification of individuals, we do like to recognise Brethren who have met or surpassed expectations. Hence we have Past Master's jewels and awards for such roles as Secretary, Builder or Charity Fund Raiser. Above them all, however is the OSM.

The Order of Service to Masonry is the highest honour which a Grand Master of any Grand Lodge in amity with the Grand Lodge of South Africa, can award to any of its members. It was first introduced by the United Grand Lodge of England in 1945 and it was duly adopted by the Grand Lodge of South Africa on their establishment in 1961. It is a personal award, which can only be given by the Grand Master for exceptional service to Freemasonry in general and to the Grand Lodge of South Africa in particular.

Under the Grand Lodge of South Africa, the OSM is limited to 11 living Brethren at any one point in time. It is therefore a very special and unique award and cannot be purchased or negotiated. The holder of the award is entitled to place the letters OSM after his name and to be addressed as such and it precedes any other awards which a Brother may ever hold.

The OSM is represented by a breast jewel with a light blue ribbon on which are the letters OSM and from which hangs a 5 pointed star, symbolising the 5 points of fellowship. Upon this star is superimposed the badge of the Grand Lodge of South Africa.

While the Grand Master is entitled to make this award at any time during his term of office, it is done sparingly and only after much deliberation. It will usually be awarded at a special event, such as an Annual General Meeting, where local, national and international Brethren are present to witness this exceptional achievement and bear witness thereto.

## RW Bro Dave Duncan awarded OSM

At the Annual General Meeting of the GLSA which was held at Orange Grove on 18 July 2015, I was delighted to be able to present our Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Dave Duncan, with an extremely well deserved Order of Service to Masonry in recognition of the years of dedicated and impressive service that he has rendered to our Grand Lodge.

RW Bro Dave Duncan OSM's Masonic career started in 1993 when he joined Lodge Friendship. He was elected as their Worshipful Master in 1999 and served 5 years as such over the course of the next few years. Having identified a need for his assistance, he has subsequently joined and served as Worshipful Master of Lodges Flaming Star and Prins Frederik and has also joined and served as Most Excellent Zerababel of the Fidelity Royal Arch Chapter.

In 1999, Dave was appointed as a Provincial Grand Lodge Officer of the Northern Division and made rapid progress. He was appointed as an Assistant Provincial Grand Master in 2002, Deputy in 2004 and Provincial Grand Master in 2006. Over the next 5 years Dave's leadership skills were apparent to all with whom he came into contact.

In 2011 MW Bro Armiston Watson OSM, appointed Dave as an Assistant Grand Master and, once again, he excelled. In 2014, on my election as Grand Master, I had no hesitation whatsoever in appointing Dave as my Deputy and make no secret of the impact his efforts have on our ongoing progress. Dave is knowledgeable, committed and organised. Above all, he is a "doer" and is always ready to get involved in taking action when needed.



*MW Bro Geoff Edwards OSM; RW Bro Dave Duncan OSM*

Dave's other Masonic contributions include having spent several years as Editor of the GLSA Year Book, initiating and driving the extremely well received Square and Compasses monthly newsletter, participating in the Lyceum Lodge of Research and having been their 2011 Vielerian Lecturer. He has chaired the Inter-Constitutional Masonic Services

Committee and the TIMC Finance Committee, lectured in all Constitutions and built strong and meaningful relationships with our Sister Constitutions.

RW Bro Dave Duncan OSM is a credit to the Grand Lodge of South Africa. May he and his charming wife, Louise, long be a part of us.

**MW Bro Geoff Edwards OSM  
Grand Master**

### **Bevestigings Funksie Losie Senekal 6 June**

Die bevestiging van Losie Senekal wat gehou is op die 6de Junie 2015 is gevier met 'n funksie wat die formaat van 'n buite spitbraai aangeneem het.

Die Losie vergadering was bygewoon deur 30 vrymesselaars waarvan 8 lede van Groot Losie was.



*Senter: Agb Br Carel Meyer.*

Die Assistent Grootmeester SV Br Victor Muhlenbeck het die bevestiging seremonie behartig. Dit is luisterryk en met groot trots gedoen. SA Br Schalk Stapelberg en Tannie Liz was weereens in alle glorie teenwoordig. Hierdie is reeds die vierde agtereën volgende jaar wat oom Schalk die bevestiging van losie Senekal bywoon.



*Die Dames*

Dit word opreg waardeur. Ons wasook vereer met die bywoning van SV Br George Schuitemaker en die PGM van Natal SV Br Frans Roodt en sy hele gesin. Verskeie van die broers het soos gebruiklik in Senekal oornag om sodoende ook Senekal losie se tradisionele Sondagoggend ontbyt by die losie by te woon.

Die bevestigings ete is bygewoon deur ongeveer 50 mans en dames wat hartelik saamgekuier het tot die vroeë oggendure.

Meeste van die ouer-garde en dames het verkies om in die eetsaal om die kaggel te kuier. Die meer avontuurlustiges het om die vuurput area buite



*SV Br Alf Brönner, Agb Br Carel Meyer,  
SV Br Victor Muhlenbeck, SV Br Frans Roodt*

gekuier waar die tente en vuurput langs die losie ingerig was, dit het gesorg vir 'n heerlike saamkuier atmosfeer. Die temperatuur het gewissel tussen -4 en 16° en het veroorsaak dat almal spontaan om die vuur kuier.

Saam met die skaap en gebakte bees borsstuk is agt tradisionele geregte voorgesit om almal se hongerpyn te lawe. Al hierdie het bygedra dat almal gesellig en in broederliefde gekuier het, tot 2uur die volgende more.

Ons hoop is, om almal wat hierdie skrywe lees, volgende jaar by die bevestiging van Losie Senekal te sien.

**Agb Br M de Kock.**

### **Installation of Losie Central Free State No 35**

Bro Jack Coetzee was installed into the Chair of the Lodge in the presence of The Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Vic Muhlenbeck and 7 Grand Lodge Officers on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2015 in Kroonstad on the Lodges 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. 14 PGL Officers were present, led by the PGM; RW Bro Alf Brönner.

The Installation ceremony was impressively conducted by Wor Bro Frans Appलगryn.

The festive board was typical of our Country Lodges. They always go out of their way to make their visitors welcome and the ladies of the Lodge did just that. Brethren; if you ever get the chance to visit on one of these occasions, you will be amazed at the warmth of the hospitality that you will be shown.

### **Losie Vaalrivier No 84.**



Op die foto is Die Hoof van Tuinrand Laerskool Kobus van Dyk, die dame wat broodjies maak vir kinders Arina van Vuuren en Agb Br Sarel Mulder wat as skakelbeampste tussen Losie

Vaalrivier en die skool optree.

Sedert 2014 voorsien Losie Vaalrivier brood vir die skool se Broodjie projek.

Die kinders wat gevoed word het van 25 tot by 80 vermeerder. Lede en oud lede van Vaalrivier het dadelik reelings getref vir die daaglikse lewering van vars brood aan die skool. Blue Ribbon Bakkerij in Hermanstad voorsien daagliks 8 vars brode

### Stand with Stan Golf Day

On Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> June, PGL Northern Division sponsored a hole at the "Stand with Stan" golf day, a PBO committed to providing prosthetics to those in need. The event took place at Glendower golf course.

Not only did the Brethren manning the hole, VW Bro Brandon Topham, Wor Bro Alex Ndubuisi and Bros Wesley Welthagen and Nicholas Mulligan, raise R5000 for this worthy cause by selling extra holes to the golfers, they also raised Masonic awareness and caused several golfers to register to attend a "What is Freemasonry" presentation in the near future.



At the prize giving the PGM, RW Bro Alan van der Vyver, made a short speech about Freemasonry and presented Stan Andrews not only with the R5000 that was raised at the hole, but he also committed Northern Division to donating a further R2500 to this very worthy cause.



*Stan displays a great sense of humour about his disability!!*

GLSA's presence was very well received by everyone there and along with many golfers sharing their associations and connections with the Order; we certainly made inroads into finding new candidates.



*RW Bro Alan van der Vyver hands the donation to Stan Andrews. Supported by Bros Welthagen and Mulligan. The MC for the event was Michael Scholtz, a well known golfing trick shot artist.*

### Lodge Bellville Installation

On 1 June 2015 at the Phiroze Gorvalla temple in Cape Town, Bro Henri Mafoumba was installed as the new Worshipful Master of Lodge Bellville. The Installation ceremony was performed by Assistant PGM, Wor Bro Len Kingsley, and met the usual high standards set by the Officers of the Southern Division.



*The Lodge Secretary, Bro Estienne Cilliers being invested by Wor Bro Henri Mafoumba*



*Wor Bro Len Kingsley, Wor Bro Heinz Smekal, Wor Bro Henri Mafoumba, Wor Bro Louis van der Linde,*

### The Jock of the Bushveld No. 130 Installation.

Presiding Master, Wor Bro J Hattingh was reinstalled into the Chair of the Lodge on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at the Nelspruit Masonic Centre.



*Wor Bro Jan Hattingh*

The Lodge has been going through hard times recently with a concerted attack on Freemasonry by a local Minister of Religion. Having no sooner overcome the negativity created by these attacks, they found that the Temple in White River in which they have met for many years, had been sold and closed.

This could have been devastating, but the Brethren, under the leadership of Wor Bro Jan Hattingh, refused to be beaten and simply relocated to Nelspruit. This move is seen as a new start for the Lodge and an opportunity to grow their membership in one of the fastest growing Metropolitan areas in the South Africa. The ceremony was attended by Senior Representatives of



Wor Bro Jan Hattingh with RW Bro Alan van der Vyver and various Lodge members and visitors

our Sister Constitutions, with representatives from the local English and Scottish Lodges.



Senior Brethren from Lodges Nelspruit United SC, White River EC and Sabie SC.

### Almoner's Corner.

The cold weather is taking its toll and we are sad to report that we have lost 3 Brethren in the last month. Wor Bro Allen Webster (Westerford), Bro Clinton Smiltneek (Marina) and Wor Bro Jacques Blitz (de Goede Hoop) have all passed to the Eternal East. Wor Bro Louis van der Linde (Jacob de Mist) has also lost his father. We open our hearts and wish the families of the deceased our most sincere condolences on their losses. Words are never enough; but we hope that they will take strength from our prayers, best wishes and support at this difficult time.

Wor Bro Lionel Pithey (Marina), VW Bro Johan Haasbroek (Jacob de Mist), Wor Bro Billy Benadie (Simon van der Stel), Wor Bro Martin Kotze (Libertas) and Wor Bro Willie Heyns (Jacob de Mist) have all had recent sojourns in hospital and, in some cases are still under treatment. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope that they will soon be back in action and working with us upon the square.

Family members of Wor Bro Arie Meiring (Central Free State) and VW Bro Heimo Schaum (Germania) have been in hospital recently and we hope that they will soon be back to full health.

### Grand Almoner

Brethren, the Grand Almoner is only as effective as the information he receives. Please, if anything is known about a Brother in distress, be sure to phone RW Bro Neville Klein OSM at 071 4148869 or send him an email to:

[kleinneville@gmail.com](mailto:kleinneville@gmail.com)



### Modelling Life on Facebook Principles

Presently, I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook whilst applying the same principles.

Every day, I go onto the street and tell passers by what I have eaten, how I feel, what I have done last night and what I will do for the rest of the day, the following day and the rest of the week. I give them pictures of my family, my dog, and myself gardening and spending time in my pool. I also listen to their conversations and I tell them that I love them; and it works !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I already have 3 persons following me:  
2 Policemen and a Psychiatrist.

### GRAND LODGE REGALIA ITEMS

*"Wear them with pride".*

The following items of regalia of the Grand Lodge of South Africa are currently available from the Grand Lodge Office.



The price of the tie is R100.



The cufflinks cost R140.

Both of these items are only available whilst the current stocks last.