

# Freemason



## Hi ho Silver

Training, co-ordinating  
and choreographing  
horses and riders

## 3

Great  
Pillars

War-time  
masonry  
in New  
Guinea

Fascinating  
historical  
documents



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# Freemason



The Official Journal of  
The United Grand Lodge of New South Wales  
and Australian Capital Territory

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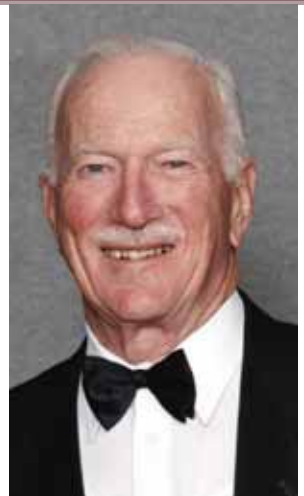


**Cover Image:**  
Mounted Police in a Sydney park



# Participate in life

**Do you believe that life owes you a free ride?** Are you one of those people who think you should start at the top, that others should wait on your demands or that everything has to be prepared for you?



**T**hink of those whose circumstances are not as fortunate – the elderly without movement, the young without movement, people in wheel-chairs and those with missing limbs.

It's usually those who are handicapped who have the best moments of life... the memory of a sunset or the enjoyment of it, children laughing, a smile.

Think for a moment about the life cycle of a mayfly. The mayfly starts in the egg which hatches into a grub, which in turn develops into a nymph. As the nymph grows, it sheds its skin a number of times, anywhere from 12 to 20 before it comes time to hatch into its terrestrial form.

The adult mayfly has no functional mouthparts so they do not feed, their sole purpose is to mate and their life is over. The males tend to hatch first and on evenings they can be seen hovering in columns to attract the attention of the females. After mating, the male will often drop to the ground and die.

So the life of a mayfly lasts just one day.

Humans however, have 365 days in a year to achieve a purpose. But at the same time we should realise there are two days in every week which should be kept free from fear and apprehension. One is yesterday with its mistakes, its faults and its blunders. Yesterday has passed forever beyond our control. We cannot undo a single act we performed, we cannot erase a single word we said. Yesterday is gone.

The other is tomorrow with its large promise and usually poor performance. Tomorrow is also beyond our immediate control. Tomorrow's sun will rise, either in splendour or behind a mask of clouds – but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in tomorrow for it is as yet unborn.

This leaves only one day – today. Any person can fight the battles of just one day. It is only when you and I add the burdens of those two worries – yesterday

and tomorrow – that we break down. Should we be like the mayfly and live but one day at a time.

Most unhappiness comes from living in the past or the future whereas contentment comes from observing the moment. Suffering is infectious and anger is simply a conditioned response to someone else's problems. But knowledge and planning can enable you to politely hand back the anger and its problems to the donor.

It's a recognized fact that people are not always nice to each other, sometimes hurtful, sometimes rude and at times without even realizing what we are doing. Actions speak louder than words: leading

by example, whether in your business, at home or at lodge, can produce the greatest benefits.

So what is your plan? Do you want to shine for one day, are you looking for that free ride or does your plan include family, friends and associates so that each day of your week becomes something to enjoy and remember? The choice to participate, to be a valuable part of life, is always yours. Choose wisely and well. 🗡️

*The Order of the*  
**Amaranth**

[www.masonsconnect.com/amaranth](http://www.masonsconnect.com/amaranth)



## The Order is Targeting Growth in New South Wales

Truth, Faith, Wisdom and Charity are the Amaranth principles that help us to make a difference in the lives of those who become members.

Ladies with a Masonic qualification and Master Masons are invited to join one of our Courts in New South Wales meeting at:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <b>Gosford:</b> <i>Lillian Holland Court</i></li> <li>✦ <b>Toukley:</b> <i>Central Lakes Court</i></li> <li>✦ <b>Kiama:</b> <i>Sydney Australia Kiama Court</i></li> <li>✦ <b>Turrumurra:</b> <i>North Sydney Court</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <b>New Lambton:</b> <i>Newcastle Court</i></li> <li>✦ <b>Windsor:</b> <i>Hawkesbury Court</i></li> <li>✦ <b>Nowra:</b> <i>Royal Haven Court</i></li> </ul>
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*New members would be made very welcome*

Contact: *Mrs Betty Calvert*  
Ph: 02 9665 7532 Email: [betty@mms.com.au](mailto:betty@mms.com.au)

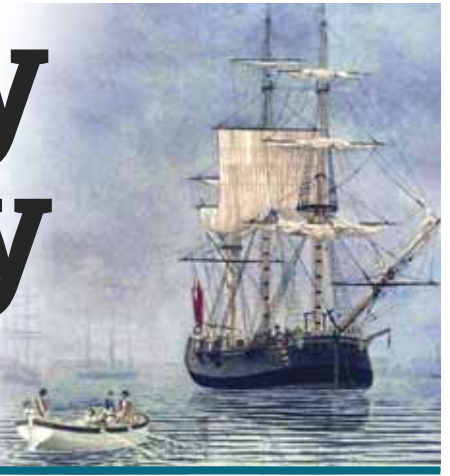
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# Australia Day – the first day

**The First Fleet**, carrying 1,350 people, arrived at Sydney Cove on **26 January, 1788** and its members worked hard for two and a half years until the arrival of the Second Fleet on 30 June, 1790.



**I**n the First Fleet were 13 naval officers, marines and surgeons whose journals described their experiences in those early years.

For instance, did you know that a free settler named James Smith stowed away on the First Fleet? Or that the aborigines, despite popular belief, had substantial huts and villages in particular areas, they buried their dead after a complicated ceremony which included sending the spirit of the corpse to heaven? And that the Kangaroo was not the aboriginal word for the animal which they called 'patagarang'? They were friendly towards the first settlers showing them fresh water streams, good anchorages, sharing fish and fire, singing songs and offering womenfolk to the European men.

But when offended, they were most ferocious and killed many white men caught alone in the bush unarmed. Having offered the hand of friendship to the whites, they were hostile once this friendship, in their eyes, was betrayed.

The thirteen scribes between them provided a fascinating insight into just what happened when the First Fleet arrived and the first settlers rowed their boat ashore and planted a flag – on Australia Day 1788.

Some of the ships were lucky after colliding with each other while leaving Botany Bay for Port Jackson and needed repairing. *Charlotte* almost ran foul of *Friendship* and two strange ships caused more confusion when sighted at 8am off Botany Bay. Captain Hunter sent his first lieutenant for help and the ships sailed in.

They were the *Astrolabe* and *Boussale*, which sailed from France in 1786 under the command of M de la Perouse and

M de Langle. The First Fleet then sailed up the coast the four miles to the now, Sydney harbour.

The *Supply* arrived on 25 January at night, too late to land and the crew spent the night on board. As Phillip King, second lieutenant on the *Sirius* and a good friend of Governor Arthur Phillip wrote: 'At daylight, the English colours were displayed on shore and possession was taken for his Majesty, whose health with the Queen, Prince of Wales and success to the colony was drunk, a volley was fired by the marines and the whole gave three cheers which was returned by the *Supply*.'

The first party to land came from *Sirius* – the Governor, a party of marines, some artificers and convicts.

Governor Phillip said: 'We got into Port Jackson early in the afternoon and had the satisfaction of finding the finest

harbour in the world, in which a thousand sail of the line may ride in the most perfect security. I fixed on the cove that had the best spring of water in which the ships can anchor so close to the shore that at very small expense, quays may be made at which the largest ships may unload. I honoured this cove with the name of Sydney.'

After the ground has been cleared, a full celebration of the arrival was held that evening.

John White, the chief surgeon on the *Charlotte*, wrote: 'In the evening, when all the ships had been anchored, the English colours were displayed, and at the foot of the flagstaff, his Majesty's health and success to the settlement was drunk by the Governor, many of the principal officers and private men who were present upon the occasion.'

Thus ended the first day. 🪓



# Michael is a late starter

W Bro **Michael Scarlett** didn't become a mason until he was about **33 years old** but has made up for his late start by holding various positions in lodge and finally going into the Chair.

**M**ichael was born in Wollongong in 1973, where he lived until he was about seven or eight years old before moving to Sussex Inlet on the South Coast. There, he enjoyed most things that young blokes liked to do – surfing, swimming, motor bikes, soccer, golf – and generally running amok!

'Against my parents' wishes, I left school in year 10 to undertake a trade as a chef. I moved to Mollymook to be closer to work at the Mollymook Golf Club. After working as a chef for a few years at various places, I decided to join the Navy (or early retirement as some would say!)' he said.

'I joined as an electronics technician with no prior experience, apart from



electrocuting myself a few times as a young bloke experimenting with my model railway!! After a couple of years in the Navy, I finally met the woman I wanted to marry. Ann-Louise and I married in 2003, and have since had a daughter, a son, and another daughter due at the end of March. We bought our home in Wattle Grove in 2007, where we intend to settle (or until we win the lotto – and we will move back to the Eastern Suburbs!).'

Michael said he and his wife were at a rug clearance sale in Homebush, and while driving home, 'noticed an old masonic building. We joked about the Simpson's episode "Homer the Great," where Homer joins the "Stone Cutters".

'The only previous knowledge I had of anything masonic was when I escorted a young lady to a debutante ball at the Milton-Ulladulla Masonic Centre when I was 17, and my wife sat one of her HSC exams in the Hamilton masonic building. We actually thought that the masons were a defunct/extinct organisation from the olden days!

'After googling Masonry when we got home, I found it to be a thriving, dynamic and modern organisation promoting ideals that seemed to be a perfect match for the way I wanted to live my life. After about six months attending Souths and various interviews, I was finally initiated into Lodge Horizons 1032 in 2006.

'In Horizons I have delivered various charges and held minor offices. Later that year I affiliated with Lodge Woollahra 341 where I was Secretary for about a year. Being in the Navy, and being a mason has proved to be a great experience. I always take my suit, apron, Master mason Certificate and travelling certifi-



cate when I go to sea. I have been lucky enough to visit lodges throughout the country and overseas.'

Michael said he left the Navy for a year to work as a technician servicing and repairing underwater ROVs (Remotely Operated Vehicles) in Newcastle. This work took him to the UK for a couple of months working at the SAAB Underwater Systems factory in Fareham, England, building commercial ROV systems.

'As a mason, I got to attend heaps of lodges that met at the Fareham Masonic Centre, and have made great friendships – which I still maintain today. In Newcastle, I joined Lodge Merewether-Cardiff and went straight into the position of Senior Warden, but the call of Sydney was too great. My wife and I realised Sydney was the place for us to give our children the best opportunities available. So we packed up and moved back – my wife got her old job back, and I got my old job back in the Navy! Saved us having to look for work!

'Since being back in Sydney, I joined Lodge Victoria Cross 928 – as the lodge meets on a Saturday afternoon, is close to home and is also a service lodge, with predominantly service oriented members (Military, Corrective Services, Paramedic, etc). These days, my spare time is occupied spending time with my family, and in my garden.'



# War-time Masonry in New Guinea

With Anzac Day approaching in April, Bro Ray Goddard discovered **RAAF and masonic papers belonging to his late father** relating to his wartime experiences in New Guinea. Bro Goddard hopes the following extracts of papers, minutes and notes will add to the knowledge and information about **Australian Freemasonry during World War II**.



**R**eginald Joseph Goddard was initiated as a Freemason on 5 June 1937. He was 29, an RAAF aircraftman and lived at Richmond. He painted the Tracing Boards for Lane Cove Masonic Lodge.

On 8 September 1944, he left by train for Townsville and then by flying boat for Port Moresby, arriving at the Aircraft Repair Depot at Port Moresby on 19 September.

Twelve days later he was given a membership card for MING (Masons In New Guinea) before being posted to Northern Command at Madang.

On 10 January 1945, the Ming Lodge of Instruction was held at Madang with W Bro R Brownell of Lodge Cavanbah NSW in the Chair, assisted by W Bro Langford (Qld) as IPM, Bro Burle (NSW SW), Bro Broomhead (SA JW), Bro Hanwell (Vic SD), Bro Hornby (NSW JD) Bro Barkle (NSW DC) and Bro Michele (Vic Chaplain).

Records have not survived of the Madang branch of MING apart from an autographed apron signed by 57 brethren and now held by the UGL of Queensland.

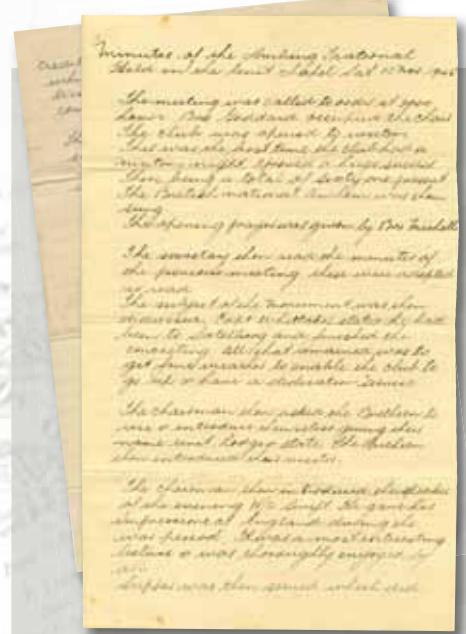
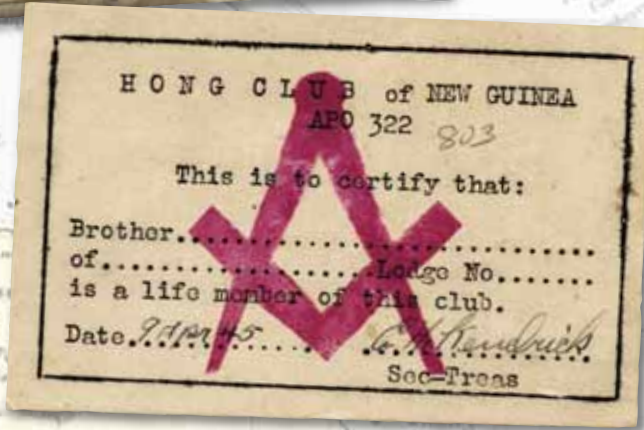
On 16 March 1945, Bro Goddard was posted to Milne Bay and then Finschhafen where he became a member of the HONG Club which was founded on 5 June 1944 with the name derived from Hiram On New Guinea.

On 4 Jan 1946 Bro Reg Goddard completed his tropical tour of duty and returned home. He was discharged on 16 November 1946 and died on 23 September 1980.





All italic text on this page is extracted from the accompanying documents



**M**inutes of the AMBING Fraternal Held in the Unit Chapel Sat 10 Nov 1945.

The meeting was called to order at 2000 hours. Bro GODDARD occupied the chair. The club was opened to visitors. This was the first time the club had a visitors night, it proved a huge success, there being a total of sixty one present. The British National Anthem was then sung.

The opening prayer was given by Bro MICHELE. The secretary then read the minutes of the previous meeting, these were adopted as read. The subject of the monument was then discussed. Capt WHITTAKER stated he had been to Satellburg and finished the concreting. All that remained was to get fine weather to enable the club to go up and have a dedication service. The chairman then asked the Brethren to rise and introduce themselves giving their name, unit, Lodge and state. The Brethren then introduced their visitor. The chairman then introduced the speaker of the evening W/C SWIFT. He gave his impressions of England during the war period. It was a most interesting lecture and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Supper was then served which did credit to the refreshment committee, which consisted of WBro WATT, Bro BREAR, WEST and MACLAREN and they are to be complimented on their great work. The American National Anthem was sung.

The meeting concluded at 2230 hours with the singing of Auld Lang Syne.

**T**he HONG Club was formed at the Naval Base Chapel by a group of about 20 Brothers of the 545 C.B.M.I. on June 5, 1944. By the next meeting of June 12, several of the army Brothers heard of the organisation and were in attendance. Since that time, the club has enjoyed a rapid growth in membership. To date, 841 Brothers are members of the club, representing 48 States and 12 Countries. The activities of the club are administered by an executive meeting of five members and the secretary-treasurer. Meetings are held each Monday evening at 1930 hours. Membership to the club is open to all regular Masons and Demolays. The initiation fee is two shillings (32¢) for a lifetime membership. The Club is building a memorial on a battle ground near Base F in memory of all Allied Masons who lost their lives in New Guinea during the war. During the past year the club has had some very interesting meetings



and talks from members. Recently a sister fraternal, AMBING (Australian Masonic Brethren In New Guinea), was formed on this base. Several enjoyable visits have been exchanged. Honorary membership in the HONG CLUB has been extended [to] Grand Masters in the 48 States and Australia.



# December Communication



The Grand Master, MW Bro Derek Robson, AM, extended a welcome to all members and visitors to the December Quarterly Communication at Goulburn on 17 December. He also thanked the Past Grand Masters, committee members, staff and many others for their contribution to the United Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT.

‘I am pleased that so many lodges and brethren have picked up on my challenge to further engage with our communities. I have made the point that unless Freemasonry is represented in the majority of our villages, towns and cities, we will not achieve our corporate aims nor gain the true benefits of belonging as individuals. Your efforts in this regard are much appreciated,’ he said.

‘There is no doubt we are making inroads in many areas where Freemasonry has waned, and we are reaping the benefits. In leading by example, stepping out into our communities and taking on the challenges, we are increasing the membership enquiries and we are converting these into genuine applications. I am convinced that we must continue down this road, further broaden our horizons and take every opportunity.

‘I regularly hear from the usual suspects that we are not doing anything and that we are sitting back. Please let me assure you that this is not the case. Those that are bothered to be of this view should cast their eye further, take notice of what is happening about them and consider joining with us in some of the very exciting programs which are capturing the imagination of the broader community, and bringing us enormous kudos as individual masons and representatives of the Craft.

‘I have asked the Assistant Grand Master to lead us in these activities

through the STEP program. I am delighted to report that his dedicated teams have produced a range of activities which have each brought tremendous credit to the Craft, given us huge exposure in the involved communities and enhanced the standing of the Craft as an organisation worthy of support.’

Some of these initiatives included a backyard makeover for a family in distress, 27 masonic riders joined over 1,000 motorbikes which assembled at Rouse Hill to support Breast Cancer

**There is no doubt we are making inroads in many areas where Freemasonry has waned, and we are reaping the benefits.**

Research and raise over \$10,000, public presentations at Lithgow, a weekend renovating the Uralla Masonic Centre, the Movember Project to support male related illnesses raised over \$27,000 and the total amount raised by Freemasons across Australia was in excess of \$57,000. The masons were ranked in first place in the Community Group section.

The Grand Master also acknowledged many other contributions made by the Craft to the local community, including fetes, barbecues, Christmas hamper appeals, sausage sizzles, Christmas parties for local children and support for the Masonic Widows Associations.

‘At the last Communication, I announced there were to be several separate reviews into aspects of our management

of masonic function. I am now pleased to report that these have been advanced such that we are now in a position to consider the appointment of our new Grand Secretary. I now look forward to an enhanced stability when the appointment is made early in the new year. I am sure that you are aware that our previous long standing Grand Secretary, RW Bro Kevin McGlenn is improving every day. I want to say how impressed I am that Kevin has maintained control over the corporate functions of the Secretariat during this period and I note that his commitment to his important office could never be questioned.

‘I have recently been involved in Masonicare’s strategic planning day and am very pleased to report that they have recommitted to supporting the activities of the Craft and will particularly look to directly assist some of the STEP program initiatives, wherever possible.

‘Also, I am pleased to report that our many masonic musicians have had another busy year with accompanying, heralding and performing at our festive boards, banquets, fundraisers and recitals.

‘The Grand Director of Music has planned that there will be a web-based Masonic School of Music, specifically designed to give masons the contacts and resources in music and music education they need. And may I add a special plea from the Grand Director of Music. He notes that we do have a goal to cease the silence, we do have a voice that is to be heard, and we have an opportunity to participate in all our meetings.’

The Grand Master had previously announced there would be a review of governance arrangements and said these reviews are nearing completion and are nearly ready for Board of Management consideration.





Photography courtesy of Bruce Davies




‘There is no doubt that we cannot sustain the present numbers of RGCs and DGIWs, and neither can we attract sufficient numbers of interested masons seeking to fill the roles,’ he said.

‘Essentially, the first part of this plan will include an examination of the specific tasks to be undertaken by both the RGC and the DGIW, and it will detail some redefined boundaries. It is hoped that the final arrangement will see the RGC better defined as the field administrator, working through the Operations Manager to the Chairman Board of Management, and with an almost ex-officio role to the Board, while the DGIW will be more proactive and responsive to the lodges. The final recommendation will probably see the number of Regions reduced from thirteen to around four or five, and the Districts reduced from over sixty to around thirty-six to forty. I look forward to the final outcome of this review.

‘Mention should be made of the Remembrance Day Service and Dinner hosted by the Freemasons Association and the unveiling of a Memorial plaque commemorating ex-servicewomen of the Masonic family, the Executive Council has begun the process of revamping the Strategic Plan, the Board of Management is tending to an enhancement of the website, and the membership management system and Masonicare is looking at ways to enhance its service delivery.

‘Brethren, these are exciting times. We have undertaken a range of major initiatives, all designed to improve the experience of membership. Managed together, they will play a most important part in raising the profile of the Craft in the community. I note that we are starting to see a renewed interest in the Craft and a steady flow of membership enquiries. It is important that we capitalise on this interest.

‘To you all, best wishes and Season’s Greetings and both Nicole and I wish you and your families every good fortune for the future. May you all have a safe and most enjoyable New Year.’

The Board of Management reported it has commenced a project to restore the main entrance to the Sydney Masonic Centre in Castlereagh Street and it is hoped to complete the project in 2012. It also reported the Son et Lumiere has now been fully installed in Lodge Room 3 and should be launched for use by the end of February 2012. The Certification of Masonic Buildings program continues to progress through Regions and assistance is available to all who seek guidance and help from the Buildings Committee. And the Board is also seeking the cost of procuring masonic signs suitable for erecting at the approach of a town advising meeting details. 

## I Sat in Lodge With You

*When that is said then I am known,  
There is no questioning or doubt.  
I need not walk my path alone  
Nor from my fellows be shut out.*

*These words hold all of Brotherhood,  
And help me face the world anew.  
There’s something deep and rich and good  
In this – ‘I SAT IN LODGE WITH YOU’.*

RW Bro Peter Scascighini PSGW



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# How to remember ritual

As we get older, we have more time for lodge matters, but sadly our ability to remember decreases. How do we counter this? **Is there a science to make learning easier or is it beyond your ability?**

**W**e all have a different ability to learn; however some secrets from study in other areas do help to learn ritual. The following steps will make it easier:

Step 1 is to get prepared. Visit other lodges and listen intently to as many renditions as possible. It will give you a sense of what you need to say.

When you start to learn, ensure that you fully understand every word and phrase you are trying to commit to memory. Any word you are unsure of, or feel doesn't fit the context needs to be looked up in a dictionary. Words often have many meanings and you may not know them all. The doctrine of the misunderstood (MU) word applies here. This states that whenever you come across a word not fully understood, you will not be able to recall words read after that MU. So understand fully the meaning of every word. Otherwise you will have trouble remembering that word and the words that follow it.

The brain has two types of memory: short-term memory and long-term

memory. To get beyond the short term and into the long term memory requires attention, focus and repetition. You simply need to keep at it until you break through. You know the feeling – you can't seem to recall something, you keep at it, and suddenly it is there. When you break through, it stays there for a long time.

One method is to sit facing a wall at full attention. Start with one line and ensure it is word perfect, then repeat the next line. If you falter look at the correct words, then put your book down and start at the top again. After about two hours you should have the first paragraph committed to memory. But don't worry if it takes longer. Keep at it. Always go back to the first line and add to it. Don't progress until you have the earlier lines learnt.

I find that if I start with one line at a time, eventually I get there. If I need to learn it quickly then the wall is the answer. If not, have your book with you every day. Start at the front and continue to build on what you have learnt. At night repeat the section you are learning. Carry a line

in your head all day. Repeat it whenever you can. Usually out loud is best. It may take one month or six months, it doesn't matter. Give yourself plenty of time.


I joined lodge in 2004 but really didn't attend much until I moved to the NSW Central Coast. I advanced to a Master Mason in January 2006 and became inner guard in July that year.

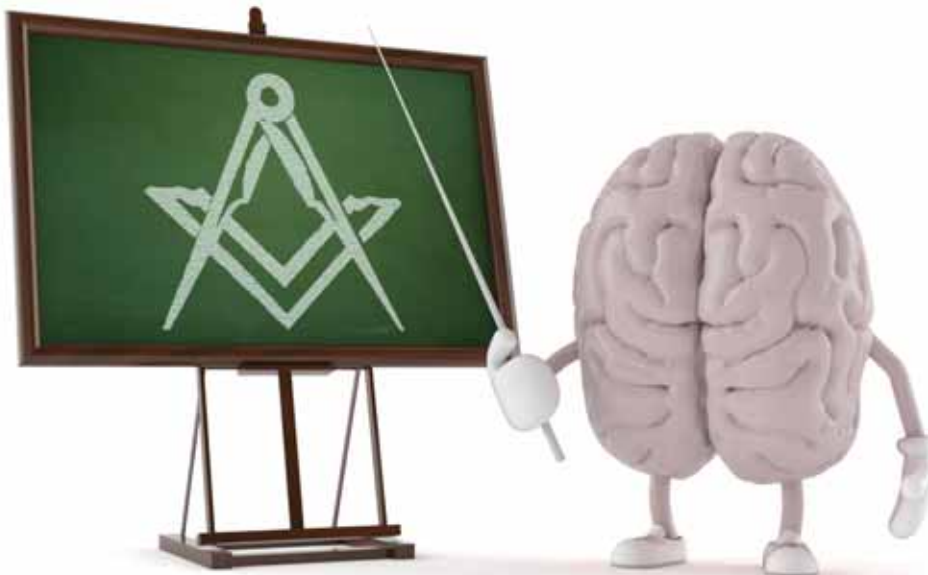
I was extremely green and really didn't know much about Masonry. To be the Master never entered my mind. The thought of being able to learn and then recite the Master's work, not to mention doing degree work, was like being offered a trip to the moon. I actually didn't realise that by being inner guard I was on the ladder to the chair.

I have never been great at ritual, and approaching 60 learning just seemed that little bit harder. I always put my heart into every endeavour and realised that if I was to be Master, I had better get serious. I looked at others who had learnt their work and were role models in our lodge. I figured if they could do it, then surely I could.

From Junior Warden up I started to visit as many lodges as I could. While I don't feel I am as good as my predecessors, I am acquitting myself in the role. To date we have had two first Degrees, two second Degrees, and before my term is over I expect another first Degree and maybe even a third. It will be a full year when I install my successor in July.

I did not think this would be possible in 2006 when I was raised as a Master Mason. But it is possible to learn and advance through office. It is also possible to learn what may seem an insurmountable level of work.

I will always look back on 2011–12 as being my year as Master of Central Coast Lodge 2001. It carries a great sense of achievement. 



# Sydney's masonic streets

The first thoroughfares in Sydney were tracks through the bush from the shoreline to the tents of the First Fleeters.

Governor Phillip defined a street plan but it was ignored and the tracks became narrow, crooked, un-named streets. Later, some were given descriptive names such as Bridge and Spring Streets.

When Governor Macquarie arrived, it was too late to create an orderly pattern and all he could do was a partial straightening and widening.

On 6 October 1810, he ordered that finger boards be erected with street names painted on them. Some streets were named for the first time, others were re-named or the original retained.

Some of the names were those of Freemasons. The Dukes of York, Clarence, Kent, Sussex, Gloucester and Cumberland were masons.

As Sydney grew, other streets were formed and William, Harris, O'Connell, Jamison, Harrington, Lee and Hargrave among others, were named after masons.

Two others, Carrington Street and Rawson Place were named after Grand Masters of the United Grand Lodge of NSW.

In more recent years, the best way to find a street location was to use a Gregory's Directory, first published in 1934 by Bro Cecil Gregory, a member of Lodges Arcadia No 177 and Literature No 500.

(From the book *The Masonic Sites of Sydney* by RW Bro Grahame Cumming OAM PDGM CMH. Copies available from the Grand Library at \$5)



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Easter and Christmas are the two times of the year that most people look to **taking a holiday** although with the increase in leisure time, many people are using different periods to go away.

**P**lans are completed, your tickets are booked, money saved for spending and all you need to do is wait out the time until departure day.

Right? Wrong!

If you want a stress free holiday, it is essential that time be put aside to organise certain details, boring though they may be, to make sure problems don't occur.

If you are going overseas, passports and visas are still needed, even if there is

an agreement between Australia and your touring countries. Most countries will not accept a passport which expires in less than six months from the time of your arrival. To be safe, your passport must be valid for more than six months and remember that children, including babies, must have their own passport.

Some countries may have internal problems which can cause transport delays or accommodation concerns. Check with your travel agent or appro-



prate government authorities on which countries are safe to visit. Better to find out before you leave than be stranded in some strange city while you try to work out the problem.

And if travelling overseas, leave your details with family or close friends so that contact can be made in case of emergency.

Taking out travel insurance is now almost compulsory. If you can't afford it, you shouldn't travel. Any insurance must cover all medical expenses, which can be horrendously high in some countries, as well as the loss of valuables and baggage either through theft or wrong destinations. Cancellation or interruptions to flight plans can also lead to unexpected expenses if forced to stay overnight or longer while arranging alternate transport.

Finally, don't be caught overseas without the means to pay. Think of the trauma if arriving in a city to find the banks are closed, you've lost your credit card or an ATM has swallowed your card. It could turn your dream holiday into a nightmare so always have a back-up or emergency plan to keep financial. There are so many methods today of being 'money safe': purchase foreign cash, traveller's cheques, pay as much in advance (hotels, flights, tours), debit cards – all can help take the worry out of travelling. Be a responsible and smart traveller and have the time of your life.



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# The three Great Pillars

**Pillars** or **columns** have always held a peculiar and important place in Freemasonry and are objects of great interest to the Craft in general.

**E**leven pillars are spoken of in Masonry – two appear in the ‘Old Charges’, two were placed at the porch or entrance to King Solomon’s Temple, two were allotted to the wardens, and five, including the three which support a mason’s lodge, are mentioned in the Noble Orders of Architecture.

As Fellowcrafts, we are directed to study the symbolism mainly of the five Noble Orders of Architecture, but more especially the three original ones – the Ionic, Doric and Corinthian, they being representative of the three pillars on which a mason’s lodge is supported: wisdom, strength and beauty.

The other two are the Tuscan and Composite. Tuscan is the first of the Five Orders but there is no certainty as to its origin. It was not used by the Greeks, it’s unlikely the Romans invented it and it was probably used by the Etruscans. The Composite, also called the Roman and the last of the five, is a combination of the Corinthian and Ionic.

The Doric is the first and simplest of the three Greek Orders. It was evolved by the Greeks of the Western territories at the same time as the Greeks of the Eastern territories were creating the Ionic Order. The true Doric style is found in Greece, Sicily and Southern Italy, the finest example being the Parthenon on the Acropolis at Athens.

This Pillar exhibits the proportions, strength and beauty of the body of a man. It is symbolical of strength and is allotted to the Senior Warden, who in ancient times was responsible for the actual operations of the workmen according to the plan of the Master. The Senior Warden must possess strength to enable him to perform the important duties allotted to him. Strength without wisdom is dangerous, therefore he is directed at his investiture to act in conjunction with the


Master. Every member of the lodge is engaged under the direction of the Senior Warden in building the spiritual temple of his own character, perfect in all its parts and honourable to the builder.

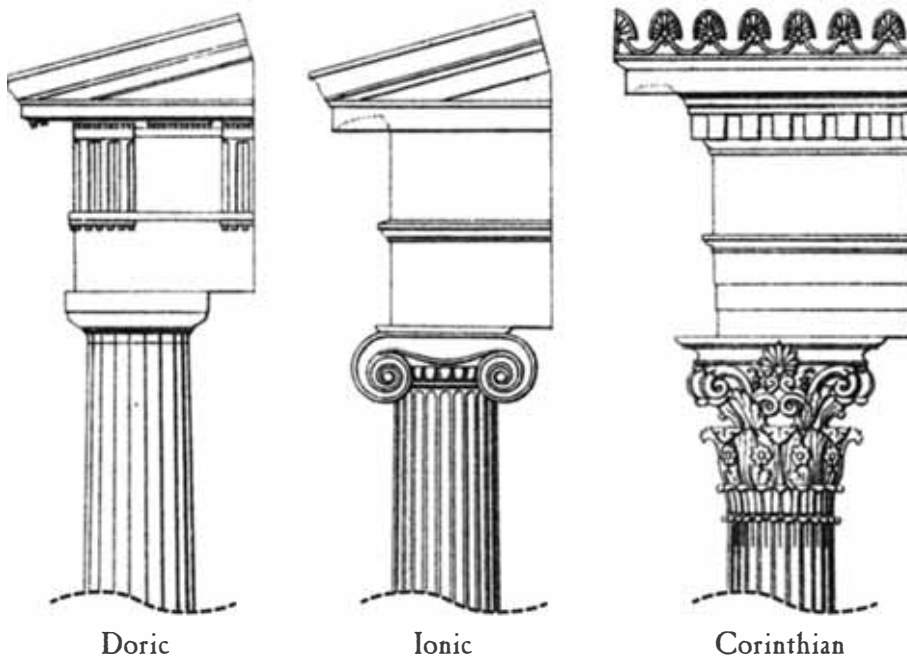
The Ionic is placed second and the Romans adopted it but treated its details with less beauty and refinement. The true home of the Order was in Asia Minor and it is suggested it was fashioned on the proportions of the female figure with a more slender look, scrolls hanging down like curly ringlets and festoons of fruit arranged in place of hair. Symbolic of wisdom, the Ionic is allocated to the Master who must possess that wisdom necessary to rule and govern the lodge efficiently and employ and instruct the brethren in Freemasonry.

The Corinthian is the third of the three Greek Orders and first appeared as a variant of the Ionic and was less used than the other two until fully developed by the Romans. The richness of its

decoration appealed to Roman instinct and they used it more frequently in their buildings than any other Order of architecture.

Symbolical of beauty, this pillar is allotted to the Junior Warden. He is in charge when the sun is at its meridian, when life-giving properties and brightness are at their highest point. At this time of day work ceases for a period and peace prevails with general relaxation of mind and body so that pleasure and profit may be the result. The power to express beauty of thought, word and action is given to man alone of all the living kingdom and every brother must ensure that beauty adorns the inner man.

The next time you attend your lodge, think more about the five Noble Orders of Architecture, but more especially the three original ones, Ionic, Doric and Corinthian, they being the pillars on which a mason’s lodge is supported – wisdom, strength and beauty. 



Doric

Ionic

Corinthian

# Beware of the baboons!

They look happy, playful and appealing and they have taking ways. Very taking ways in fact if you happen to leave any **jewellery or bright objects** visible in your game camp room.

**I**t is the first warning given to tourists who arrive in South Africa for an excursion to a safari camp to see animals in the wild. The advice was timely and needed because the baboons have learned how to open doors and windows if they haven't been securely locked, which is why most cabins have installed double locks as a safety precaution.

They can be playful, look at you with sorrowful eyes as the babies cling to their back or stomach but don't be fooled. They can also quickly bare their teeth, scream and shake their fists if you get too close so it's not all monkey business in the jungle.

The tour started with a flight from Johannesburg to Ngala which was the first private game reserve to be incorporated into the world famous Kruger Park. It consists of 15,000 hectares (37,100 acres) and is well known for its large numbers of elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, rhino and wild dogs. This safari lodge is nestled under a canopy of different trees and the thatched cottages easily portray the romance of a safari.

Despite the days starting with a wake-up call at 5am for the morning tour, there is a timeless unhurried atmosphere mixed

with traditions of a bygone era. In the midst of the African bush, we enjoy meals with silver cutlery, crystal glassware, excellent food and entertainment but are reminded that we are still in the jungle when escorted to our cabin by an armed guard.

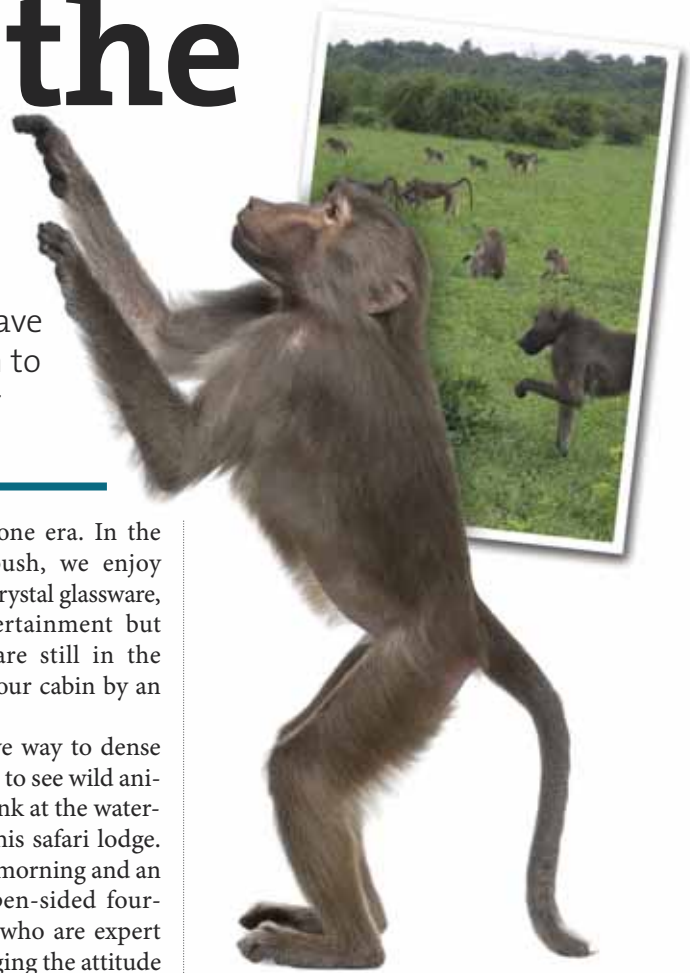
Well tended lawns give way to dense bush and it is not unusual to see wild animals saunter down to drink at the waterhole that forms part of this safari lodge.

Each camp arranges a morning and an afternoon tour in an open-sided four-wheel drive with guides who are expert at reading tracks and judging the attitude of the animals we encountered. On occasions, it was necessary to move the car quickly as some animals showed annoy-

**They can be playful,  
... but don't be  
fooled. They can  
also quickly bare  
their teeth, scream  
and shake their fists  
if you get too close!**

ance at the intrusion. On track, we had a 'close encounter' with a nervous bull elephant who decided he didn't like us but the driver was quick to respond and get away.

Ngala gave us a farewell to treasure. After a long afternoon/evening trip, we arrived back at camp late to be met and



escorted by the manager to our cabin where a table had been set on the lantern-lit patio and dinner was served, with wine, by the staff. It was memorable and romantic.

The second camp we visited, the Chobe Game Lodge in Botswana is the only permanent safari lodge within the Chobe National Park. It was also a luxurious setting, with rooms facing the river, ensuite bathrooms, tea and coffee making facilities and a large swimming pool. Guests wishing to pamper themselves can book an appointment with the in-house beautician or arrange a private gym workout.

In addition, Chobe offers water-based activities in 'African Queen' style boats with drinks and snacks supplied and excellent sighting of elephants, crocodiles and hippos at the water's edge. On one cruise, we saw a group of hippos lazily enjoying the water and the unique experience of an elephant walking to the water's edge and swimming across the river.



Again, early morning and late afternoon game drives are held in open-sided vehicles to ensure maximum visibility of the abundant wildlife. Packs of impala dart nervously across the tracks, giraffes look down at you from their lofty height and troops of baboons abound. There are also good sightings of buffalo and elephant but the elusive lions and leopards are harder to find. One noticeable point is the care taken by the elephants and baboons for their young with the elephants shielding their babies as the vehicle approaches and the baboons putting distance between us while shaking their hands in the air.

Two-way communication between the guides in the park enables us to travel quickly to different areas where game has been seen and ensures a day of variety and great camera opportunities. A stop for afternoon tea, packed in the back of the car, allows time to stretch cramped muscles and look at signs and the never-ending view. One stop gave us hot chocolate and pancakes with all six in the group returning for a second helping.

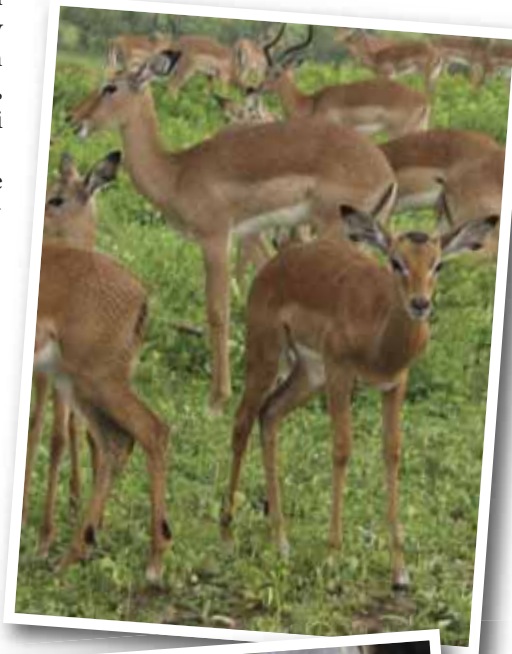
Because the vehicles are open-sided, we took notice of the advice to 'slip, slip and slap' with plenty of cream on exposed skin and a hat with only a poncho to provide cover when it rained. But the weather was so warm, even if you did get wet, it didn't take long to dry out under the African sun. It's a luxury life which includes all meals, refreshments, park entrance fees and laundry services where your clothes are washed, ironed and returned the same afternoon.

Chobe is only 100km west of the world-famous Victoria Falls and a visit to the Falls is not to be missed. The entrance is a short walk from the hotel and set aside two hours to traverse the rim, looking at the mighty cascade of water thundering into space. But make sure you take protective covering and an umbrella, otherwise the mixture of heavy spray and rain will quickly soak through your clothes. And to round off the visit, enjoy an afternoon cruise on the Zambesi River and watch a glorious sunset.

From Cape Town, the Garden Route is an interesting and enticing journey inland and then back along the coast. One of the highlights was a stop at Oudtshoorn and the compulsory visit to an ostrich farm. Big, strong and capable of carrying weights, a short ride on an ostrich is an experience never to be forgotten.

We stayed at the La Plume guest house just outside the town for typical 'Afrikaan' style meals, including ostrich steak or an ostrich omelette and had the benefit of relaxing in one of the biggest old-fashioned baths seen in

years. With visits to Featherbed Nature Reserve, Mossel Bay, Knysna and Hermanus, what could be more natural to end the tour than a stop at the world famous Stellenbosch for a wine-tasting and leave with a pleasant glow.





# Facing the last enemy

'The last enemy to be destroyed is death' – St. Paul

Sometimes a significant happening is related to being in the right place at the right time. In 1991 the Manager of the Independent Cemetery, Rookwood, asked me to take over the duties of Cemetery Chaplain from a fellow trustee who had transferred to Raymond Terrace. Every minister is called upon to take funerals, but I found myself involved regularly in funerals for destitute persons, including unidentified men – I have never taken a service for an unidentified woman, and I believe that this is because women take better care of themselves than men. I remember early in 1991 taking a service for a stillborn baby, with no family attendance. I could understand parents having no money to pay for the funeral, but I could not understand the failure to attend. My manager sensed my discomfort and discussed the situation after the service.

Three years ago I took the service for Baby Nicholas who was dumped in a rubbish bin. His body was recovered from the Narellan garbage depot. In due course the Coroner arranged a funeral which took place in the Independent Cemetery Chapel at Rookwood with interment in the Baby Lawn. I wrote about this in the *Freemason* at the time.

Death and taxes are often referred to as the two certainties in life. Over the past twenty years I have found myself increasingly involved in death and funerals, and much of my ministry has been directed to assisting the bereaved. I have become more and more concerned that one of our great human failures is that of not making clear arrangements for the inevitability of death and the funeral which follows. Your family will appreciate your written instructions and discussion with them prior to death and prior to mental deterioration, so that they can

carry out your wishes as far as possible.

Let me give you a few tips.

Make a will, and spend the money to have it prepared by a professional.

Leave written instructions regarding your funeral arrangements so that your family is left in no doubt about your wishes. These should include place of service, content, people to give eulogies, music, and whether you wish to have a masonic service.

If you have pre-arranged and/or pre-paid your funeral, ensure that your executor is aware of this and has access to the documentation.

Who will conduct the service? Formerly this was the preserve of the Minister, but today funeral celebrants are available. If you prefer a religious service with a religious celebrant, make this clear to your family and executor.

Burial or cremation? Do you already own a family grave? If the service is a cremation, where do you want the ashes interred (or scattered).

Do you wish to be an organ donor?

Talking about death and funeral arrangements is not a sign that you are about to die. It is facing the inevitability of death and helping ease the burden on your loved ones at that time. For those of us who have faith, death is seen as a necessary transition and the coming Passover and Easter celebrations will help many of us to celebrate the meaning of life and the necessity of death.



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# We do it again...

Another **Voyage of Discovery to Israel** has been planned for this year following the successful tour last year.

**R**W Bro Joseph Haffner will again co-ordinate the 'In the Footsteps of Freemasonry' tour which attracted 83 participants, masons and their families last year to the sources of our masonic traditions and the cradle of the three great monotheistic religions.

The Tour will start from Tel Aviv, Israel on Monday 29 October 2012 and ends in Tel Aviv on Friday 16 November.

MW Bro Gregory Levenston PGM said the extensive tour follows in the footsteps of the Patriarchs and Jesus' life and ministry around the Lake of Genezareth, Tiberias, Nazareth, the Golan Heights, the borders with Lebanon and Syria, the Templar stronghold of Acre, Safed the site of the Sanhedrin and the Cabbalists, Caesarea, Tel Aviv-Jaffa and Jerusalem of Solomon's Temple fame.

'We will see the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Nativity Church in Bethlehem and visit the sites of the Dead Sea, Qumran of the Essenes, Beersheba and Eilat on the Red Sea, with its famous King Solomon's Mines. We will cruise in the gulf of Akkaba and dine under the sea level. A supplementary optional module

is offered to visit the ancient city of Petra in Jordan, the pearl of the Nabatheans. Our road back will take us through the Negev desert close to Gaza Strip to visit the Anzac monument erected there by Bro Sir Asher Joel, a member of our Grand Lodge, and supported by Australian Jewry,' he said.


'Together with some of last year's participants, I have decided to join again this highly educational tour during which we will have the unique opportunity to meet with brethren of a very sincere Sister Jurisdiction, the Grand Lodge of the State of Israel who gave us the warmest of welcomes and will host us again. A special highlight of the Tour will be a Twinning Ceremony between an Australian and an Israeli lodge, hosted in the Caves of Zedekiah, the original King Solomon Quarries, reaching under the Esplanade of the Temple in Jerusalem.

It will be a very rare opportunity to live some moving moments in the spirit of our Rituals of the Mark Degree.

'Our group will be representing this time a Pan-Pacific Fraternity of Grand Lodges as we have been requested to admit some participants from the Provincial Grand Lodges of New Caledonia and French Polynesia under the National Grand Lodge of France.'

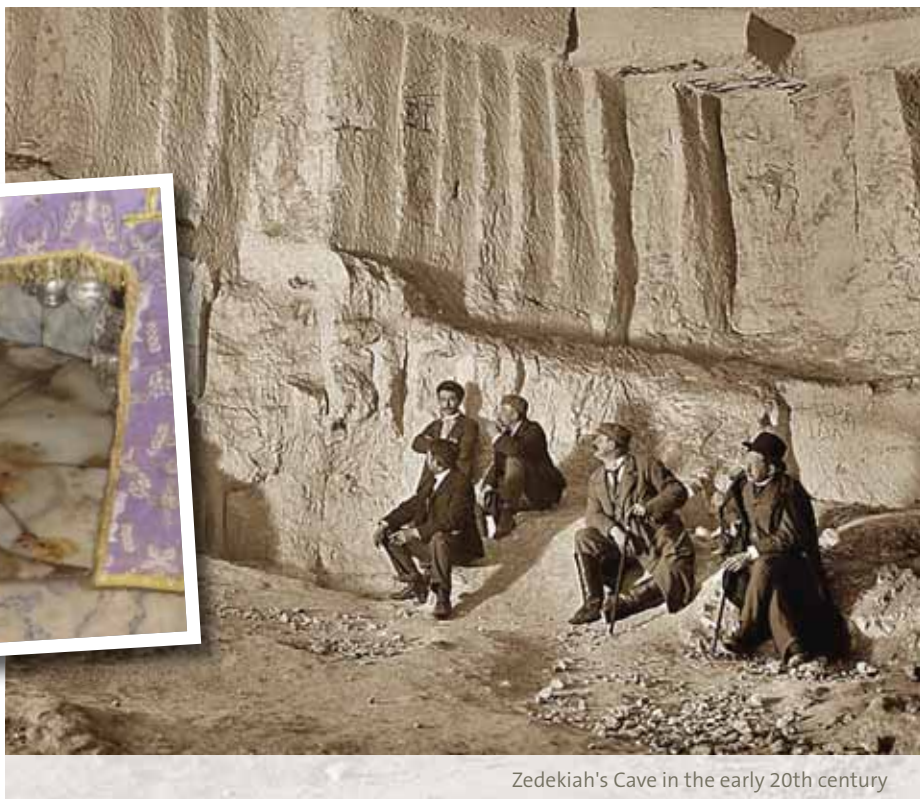
The price is US\$3,500 for the land arrangements and the optional Petra Tour is US\$160. A travel agent is available to arrange air fares.

Expressions of interest should be sent to Tour Coordinator, RW Bro Joe Haffner by email at [cosimex@bigpond.net.au](mailto:cosimex@bigpond.net.au) who will forward to you the Tour Registration Form and details of payment.

MW Bro Levenston said he hoped to see many joining him for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. 



ABOVE: The silver star marks the spot believed to be the Birthplace of Jesus.



Zedekiah's Cave in the early 20th century



# More than a best friend

In 1870, solicitor George Graham Vest of Warrensburg, Missouri, as part of his closing address in a court case in which his client was suing a neighbour for shooting his client's dog, said: 'The one absolutely unselfish friend that a man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him and the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous is his dog.' It is thought that the comment gave birth to the axiom **'A dog is a man's best friend.'**

**A**lthough specific to dogs, the sentiment expressed by George Vest can be applied to all animals that have formed a bond with humans.

Animals/human relationships have existed for thousands of years. In a paper published in 2006, biologist Lisa J. Lehr states that the Egyptians worshipped cats as gods and had their bodies mummified. According to Ms Lehr, cats were instrumental in protecting their owners from the European black plague because they killed the rats. The paper goes on to say that dogs held a similar place in the Egyptian way of life to that of cats and 'were pampered and revered and only royalty was allowed to own purebred dogs.'

Although animals are widely used by humans for commercial purposes in such activities as sport, search and rescue, science, farming and security, by far the most popular relationship is as companions and/or pets.

It is estimated that 12 million Australian households have an animal for a pet.

Recent studies show that pets play an important role in improving the social, emotional



ABOVE: Velma with Honey, Ruby and Sunshine

and cognitive functioning of the elderly and those who are lonely, depressed or disabled. There have also been positive results with those who are deprived of social interaction or suffering from long term ailments. In such cases the treatment is known as Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) and is now widely supported by the medical profession and many mainstream organisations.

The reason that AAT is proving successful is probably best explained by the author George Elliot who said 'Animals are such agreeable friends – they ask no questions, they pass no criticism.'

Mrs Velma Harris is a wonderful example of what can be achieved through Animal Assisted Therapy. Velma suffered a long term illness which involved being immobile for four years and readily admits that her recovery was assisted with the help of her beloved pet poodle, Honey. In Velma's words: 'Honey's constant love and affection not only kept me company during those lonely years in bed, she also kept me sane. I don't know how I would have survived without her.'

When Velma recovered, she worked with the Delta Society on the Pets as Visitors Program and the Residential Pets Program before starting up her own Pet Therapy Programs.



The Delta Society referred to by Velma, is an organization in which volunteers and their dogs visit over 500 hospitals, care facilities and schools across Australia every year. The Society has 14 Therapy Dog Branches nationwide from Adelaide to Townsville.

The Guide Dog Association is another mainstream organisation involved in AAT. Its program 'Pets as Therapy' is coordinated by the Australian Veterinary Association and the Animal Welfare League.

Veterinary Adviser and Dogs NSW Spokesperson, Dr Peter Higgins, was involved with the introduction of the program in 1989 and said: 'I am pleased to see that our political leaders are recognising the therapeutic and soothing benefits of pets. Scientific research has shown conclusively that people benefit both physically and emotionally with dog therapy.'

Dr Higgins went on to say: 'Dogs have a non judgemental relationship and are associated with unconditional love and affection. Life in an institution can often be lonely and isolated, and these problems can disappear in the presence of a canine companion. The long term therapy of regular interaction with pets has been shown to improve confidence and social activity. The presence of a dog can spark memories of a previous time, and rekindle a positive aspect about life. No one is saying that money should be diverted away from nursing and other forms of care, but pet assisted therapy is complementary. It has many positive outcomes and is fully justifiable. Therapy dogs are not a new idea; they are mainstream.'

In a further comment, Dr Higgins explained: 'It is more than just feel good. The human animal bond should never be underestimated. It goes back to the beginning of our species. Studies have shown that surgery patients and stroke victims in hospitals recover better as a result of having therapy dogs.'

Whilst dogs and cats are the most popular animals used in AAT, success has also been achieved using horses, birds,



Velma's Pet Therapy Program in Action

rabbits and other small animals.

Horse riding in particular has been found to provide benefits for patients suffering a wide range of disabilities including cerebral palsy, learning disabilities, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, spinal

cord injuries and for amputees. It is thought that the rider benefits physically from the rhythmic gait of the horse. There are also improvements in a person's wellbeing due to increased confidence, a sense of independence and the satisfaction that comes with being part of a team.

Riding programs for the disabled are conducted by the Riding for the Disabled Association (NSW). The Association's objective is to 'provide most people with a disability, the opportunity to ride and enjoy all the activities connected with horse riding. Riding for people with a disability is both therapeutic and recreational and RDA is in fact one of the few organisations who offer a multi-diagnostic service, catering for people with a wide range of disabilities.'

The Australian Paralympian Jan Pike was born with cerebral palsy which affects her limbs, speech, coordination, spine, and mobility. She began riding with the Riding for the Disabled Association (NSW) and went on to represent Australia at the Athens and Beijing Paralympics in 2004 and 2008. Jan won Silver and Bronze Medals in the Mixed Dressage Freestyle and Championship Grades at the Athens Games. Jan is an inspiration to us all, but more particularly to the disabled.

Jan's motto 'Alone I stagger. Together we glide' is testimony to the bond that can be created in the relationship between animals and humans.

Further information concerning Animal Assisted Therapy can be obtained by contacting Dr Yvonne McIntyre at [yvonnem@freemasonsnswact.org.au](mailto:yvonnem@freemasonsnswact.org.au) or (02) 9280 2844.

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# An inspiring memory

**RW Bro Ronald Gale**, PSGW, still vividly remembers what he describes as his most memorable lodge meeting. This is his story.

I still retain a vivid memory of the most inspiring, enjoyable, and educational masonic meeting I have ever attended in my 60 years of membership of the Craft. It was a meeting of the MacArthur Lodge No 183, in Seoul, Korea on 3 October 1975. The lodge tyled at 5.30pm and my check by three PMs took 45 minutes. It comprised an examination through each of the three degrees, the Installed Master's degree and knowledge of the ritual, perambulations and charges.

The lodge met in the canteen on the 40th floor of the Chamber of Commerce building. It took 20 minutes to convert it into an identifiable lodge room. There was no dais as we know it in Australia. The WM sat in the east with the IPM on his left and the DC on his right.

MacArthur Lodge was constituted under the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, which operated under the Grand Lodge of California. The lodge was mainly United States and Korean service personnel together with civilian members and I believe it had about 1,000 members.

It met once a week and on this visit, raised three brethren with 126 members and visitors present. All service personnel wore shorts and open neck shirts, whilst I and other visitors were the only brethren dressed in long trousers. It didn't take long to remove my tie.

Everyone wore white aprons, either plain, or with two or three rosettes. The WM wore a top hat (common in many North American lodges) and throughout the ceremony, including the obligation, smoked one of the largest cigars imaginable.

At that time I was Junior Grand Deacon in the Ceremonial Team of the UGL of NSW and was able to appreciate the variations from our wording and, by comparison, the many explanatory exten-

sions to the considerably shorter ritual of Australasian constitutions.

Many of the lodge officers were military personnel; you can imagine the correctness of lodge perambulations without being out of character with the ceremony.



In my view the work was perfect – the officers were so confident and competent that they conveyed shades of meanings and subtleties in charges and addresses that I had never previously appreciated – making the storyline of the ritual riveting. I vividly remember nodding my head time and time again as some point or aspect of the ritual suddenly became much clearer.

In Australasia, charges or lectures are traditionally delivered by Past Masters. In this case the ceremony was extended to include and physically portray those charges. We normally deliver the Traditional History after the investiture of a candidate but here, instead of being delivered by a Past Master in the east, it was enacted on the floor of the lodge. I was one of 15 'Craftsmen' invited to take part in enacting the story line to effectively provide a dramatic portrayal to the candidates, of a very important lesson.

As explained, the brethren felt a strong obligation that they were 'actors' in an instructive 'play' – performing for the sole



benefit of an audience of one – the candidate.


Certain officers stayed behind at meeting end to put away the furniture, restore the canteen to its original form and then leave to join their families in time for dinner.

The third degree subsequently took on a completely different meaning and whenever I now witness the ceremony and hear the charges, I cannot help but visualise the portrayal I witnessed and in which I participated.

Visits and contacts to lodges and brethren overseas over the past 30 years, particularly in the USA, Korea and the Philippines, have enabled me to establish a network of brethren with whom I have been in contact ever since.

From these visits, I have been conscious of the manner in which all brethren were treated as equal, not only symbolically, but in the lack of pretension or distinction in dress, regalia and seating in the lodge room.

It also had an emotional meaning as I was to raise my son in Lodge Knox several months later and charges I then delivered had a completely different emphasis. The written report of the meeting in the *Freemason* magazine by the Grand Librarian at that time, (RW Bro John Danks), later testified to the effect of my delivery on those present.

In my 60 years as a Freemason, including ten as a private Lodge Officer and nine as a progressive Ceremonial Grand Lodge Officer, that meeting in Korea was, and still remains, my most vivid, enjoyable, and instructive masonic experience. 



## Tip Card #10 Masonic Presentations

**AIM** – When we decide to host a presentation for any reason, be it an open night to encourage membership enquiries, to make a presentation to a local charity or person, or merely to make our presence known, we are selling ‘our masonic lodge’ to the general public, in particular to the residents and workers in our local town or suburban community. We must do it well!

### Target

The target is to win over our local community, which has for years been living with ‘that’ building around the corner or up the road, which is very rarely open, very rarely used and ‘is full of mysterious objects used in strange rituals “acted out” by old men in dinner suits!’

We masons have been objects of curiosity for too long we need to rise to the challenge and use that curiosity to sell ourselves so that we can make freemasonry more attractive.

### Reasoning

Being secretive over the years has not been very helpful to us. In fact it has done us a great deal of damage. To repair that damage will take time and effort and a very professional approach with polished presentations to win people over. We should not be disappointed if our ‘newfound openness’ doesn’t work the first time. We must be prepared to open our lodge to introduce ourselves and our philosophy to the community again and again and let them get used to us gradually. If that is what it takes for them to accept us and start thinking positively about us and about joining our organisation, just remember – if at first you don’t succeed try, try again.

### Methodology

What we must do each and every time we invite people into our ‘home’ is to ensure that we present ourselves in the very best manner possible.

Every presentation requires the lodge to consider two major matters before even setting a date:

1. ‘Why are we doing this and what do we expect to achieve?’ and;
2. ‘Who is going to be our front man?’

**1** As with any undertaking careful planning will generally result in success; poor planning in failure. When planning we should remember ‘if we increase our expectations we will improve our outcome’. Whatever reason you are doing this for, remain focused on that reason as this will help you achieve your goal. In doing so you should aim to leave no doubt in the mind of the audience that we are a fraternity of excellence and men of high ideals.

**2** Your front man and the job he does can either boost your image or leave it in tatters. How the audience sees him is far more important than how you see him. Is he articulate, a polished speaker who presents well, looks the part and is capable of getting your message over to enhance your standing in the community? If not, call for reinforcements. Help is out there.

Shoot for the stars in the best environment available, hiring a room if the lodge room does not present well. Promote your event within the community and don’t be afraid to spend some money; provide an appropriate repast that will impress so that those who take the time to come will leave with a good, positive impression of you and your lodge. In particular if you are doing this to add to your membership, have a specific segment for the ladies attending. Never forget the part a wife can play in determining her husband’s choices. The future of your lodge could possibly be at stake here, so nothing but ‘the best’ will do; prepare well, choose your presenters carefully, advertise, dine in style and ... follow up curiosity for, perhaps, half a century or more, so inviting the locals in and impressing them with our good looks and smooth talking in one short meeting will be a big ask. But we must rise to the occasion, accept the challenge and start selling.



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# Have your say



## Making a difference

I received a \$5,000 grant in about 2005. It was presented to me by Bro Juan Alvarez. He asked me to stay in touch; however I lost his email address.

I'm now back in Australia for a short period and my grandfather who nominated me for the grant, provided me with this address in order to try to contact Bro Alvarez or the grants committee/Masonicare.

The grant made my life at university remarkably easier than would have been had I not had the grant. After completing my undergraduate I began travelling with work and also completed a master of radiation physics in 2010. I've now spent long periods travelling and working in the Asia-Pacific area with stints in North America and elsewhere.

The life I now lead would have been difficult to achieve without the masonic grant. I used the grant to start a media research and monitoring company that allowed me to pay my way through university in such a way that I was able to balance study and work without worry, as I was ineligible for any government grants or social assistance. Working was my only option to be able to live and study – the grant provided me the foundations on which to ensure that I was financially secure and debt free for my studies.

I would like to thank Masonicare for helping to kick start my career, study and business interests. I'd be happy to come and talk with your members and explain what a difference the grant made.

**ARION WOOD**

## Have you changed your address?

**'No longer at this address', 'Does not live here ...'**

These words have been common after recent issues of the NSW Freemason with the large number of magazines returned because the addressee is no longer there.

This results in members missing the issue because they have moved and have failed to notify their lodge secretary and this change of address has not been notified to Grand Lodge.

It is essential that postal records be kept up-to-date and members are urged to notify any change of address to their secretary or check and update their details in the Grand Lodge members website.



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## Moruya

A 'Fascinating Masonic Fact' published in the 2011 summer edition of the Freemason talks about the Rough and Perfect Ashlars in the first floor Grand Lodge room at the Sydney Masonic Centre being granite quarried at Moruya.

Firstly to expand on that 'fact' is that most of the granite used in early Sydney buildings and monuments came from the same source, including the Harbour Bridge pylons. Many articles have been written about the quarries at Moruya and the ships that transported the granite to Sydney. An old lathe used at the quarry is in the restoration process of being placed on display at the Moruya Historical Society. The Moruya Masonic Centre also has granite from the same source in both Ashlars and the foundations. The probability is many of the early Moruya masons worked at or were associated with the quarry.

Lodge Eurobodalla Daylight No 989 has also demonstrated for the first time a proposed toast to the visitors that recognises the association between the Moruya Masonic Centre and the granite quarrymen.

W Bro Frank Hawdon OAM, a member of Lodge Eurobodalla Daylight, who was born in Eurobodalla but spent most of his life in Sydney, recently developed a visitors toast that honours those stone masons and presented it to the lodge in November.

The honours are in four parts and use the hands to demonstrate as follows:

- 1 Cut the granite by imitating the hammer and chisel action.
- 2 Square the granite by indicating the square with both index fingers.
- 3 Build up the granite by placing the clenched hand progressively one on top of the other
- 4 Apron, heart and hand.

**BRYAN DAVIS**

Secretary Lodge Eurobodalla Daylight

## A Correction

I bring to the attention of the Publication Committee a number of anomalies with respect of the article on the Ryde Masonic Centre Page 43 Summer Edition.

As stated in the article the laying of the hall's foundation stone by the Governor General Vice Admiral Sir Harry Dawson

in 1908, which is incorrect on two counts. Firstly, his correct name and Title is MW Bro His Excellency The Right Honourable Admiral Sir Harry Holdsworth Rawson, CGMG, GCB, KCB, CB, Governor of New South Wales and Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

Secondly, Sir Harry had a distinguished Naval career in the Royal Navy from 1857 becoming Lieutenant 1863, Commander 1874, Captain 1877, Rear Admiral 1892, Vice Admiral 1898 and Admiral 1903.

Sir Harry became Governor of NSW from February 1902–1909. Sir Harry was elected Grand Master on 14 June 1905, then he was required to return to London on Vice Regal matters. Upon his return to NSW he was installed as Grand Master on 24 April 1906 until 1909.

Shortly after his return to London he passed away on 3 November 1909 aged 66 years.

My personal thoughts are what a pity the article does not mention the fact that Sir Harry was the Grand Master. My reason for bringing this to the notice of the Publication Committee is that our younger members have enquiring minds and research all facets of our rich history. therefore we must be as accurate as possible to ensure the high standards of our magazine are maintained.

**RAYMOND B BROOKE JP PGM**

You are absolutely right, it is most important that every article appearing in our magazine is correct. The Editorial Committee strives to check the accuracy of articles supplied to the best of its ability. However, reality dictates that some errors/ omissions will inevitably slip through and we are always grateful to be made aware of these. Thank you.

**EDITOR**

## Australian Facts!

The Purple-neck Rock Wallaby (*Petrogale Purpureicollis*), inhabits the Mt Isa region in Northwest Queensland.

The Wallaby secretes a dye that transforms its face and neck into colours ranging from light pink to bright purple!

[www.convictcreations.com](http://www.convictcreations.com)

# The Peppermint Men

W Bro Paul Broome's wife hails from the Portuguese Island of Madeira and was, not unnaturally, very apprehensive about responding to her **Toast at a Ladies Evening**, so daughter Tania said she would love to do it for her. Not an easy task for a 12-year-old girl with no experience of speaking in public. On behalf of her mother that evening, she delivered faultlessly and without notes, the following poem which will find echoes with many Freemasons' wives.



'I'm going to be a Mason,' said Paul Broome one day just after tea.  
 'It will only mean one evening out, once a month,' said he.  
 One evening quickly led to two, followed by three or four,  
 And pretty soon I asked his name when he walked in the door.  
 He bought a jar of peppermints and he put them in a tin.  
 'I have to hand these around,' he said 'or they won't let me in.'  
 So now when friends come calling and ask 'Oh where is he then?'  
 I say 'You won't see him tonight, 'cos he's out with the Peppermint Men.'  
 He dines out fairly often, superb meals – mainly roast –  
 While I just watch the goggle box and eat my beans on toast.  
 A clean white shirt is needed, his gloves as white as snow,  
 His suit well brushed, his case in hand – I wish he'd hurry up and go.  
 He's started talking to himself, I heard him in the den;  
 I think he's going crackers and I blame the peppermint men.  
 'I'm going in the Chair,' he said, a position of renown.  
 That's nice I thought, with his poor knees he's better sitting down.  
 'I'll be a Master of my Lodge, you ought to be impressed.'  
 'I am dear, take the rubbish out as soon as you are dressed.'  
 'You'll have to make a speech you know, when it's your Ladies Night.'  
 I look at him in horror as fear replaced delight.  
 I scribbled through a pad or two as I tried hard to think;  
 I threw away six ball point pens when they ran out of ink.  
 But now the evening has arrived, no words can really tell  
 That it's the biggest night of my life – I hope it's yours as well.

*Article courtesy of Dorset Masonic Magazine (UK), Issue 15 (Ed. Alan J Hughes).*

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# Hi ho Silver

If you think teaching a child how to behave and talk is difficult, **try training horses.**

**W**Bro Don Eyb has spent what seems to be a lifetime in training, co-ordinating and choreographing riders and horses for a multiple of events such as the Olympic

Games, the Royal Easter Show, the Asian Games, and the Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

Don was the mastermind behind the 'welcome segment' of the Opening Ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games which involved 140 riders and stock horses. He was also responsible for performances at major Australian shows and in 2004 was invited by entrepreneur David Atkins to train horses for the 'Man from Snowy River' spectacular which travelled to all Australian capital cities.

To further add to his reputation, in 2006 he was invited to train 80 Arabian horses and riders (which took three

months) to perform at the Opening Ceremony of the Asian Games in Qatar and in 2007 he was invited to represent the Australian Government to attend Tonga and advise the Government on the feasibility of forming a Mounted Police Unit in Tonga.

'I grew up with horses, learned more and more and with all that experience became a trainer anyway,' Don said.

'You have to understand horses and not expect too much in a hurry. Horses learn by habit so you teach them one or two things at a time. Kids don't learn algebra quickly at school, they are taught slowly. I need to watch reactions and think like a horse.'

'Horses with deliveries such as bread and milk don't stop at every house, they know which one to stop at. Horses are like people, some learn some don't, and I try to work with the ones that will learn.'

Don was initiated into Lodge MacKay in July 1965, installed into the Chair in 1980, affiliated with and is currently Junior Warden of Lodge Kingsford Smith.

He was born in the small farming community of Hilldale near Dungog and began riding when he was six. He had to ride to primary school at Big Creek and also did stock mustering on the family farm. Don joined the Police Force, Mounted Police Unit as a Probationary Constable in 1961 at the age of 19 and retired as an Inspector and Commander of the unit in 2005, having served 44 years.

'Training horses is similar to what you see in a circus with lions and elephants; it's the same principle but different training methods,' he said.

'A horse is a big strong animal and humans have to out-think it and be the master. I talk to the horses and use aids such as hands, reins, legs and seat and a voice which is a very powerful aid. A horse has to learn what a voice means and if you sound angry, they know.'







During his time with the Mounted Police, he provided four mounted escorts for Queen Elizabeth, more than 60 escorts for governors general and Governors, over 300 musical rides throughout the State and in 1997 went to London for two weeks to study training methods of the London Metropolitan Mounted Police to use for the Sydney Olympics.

‘The most interesting task was the Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Sydney and choreographing 140 horses for the Sydney Olympics. It was the biggest number of onlookers and probably the most nerve-wracking and I was relieved and satisfied when it was over,’ he said.

‘The most worrying was in 1970 when the Queen was here. We had to provide a mounted escort and an open coach and

trained horses to pull the coach. You can practice and practice but you can’t rehearse atmosphere. With 30,000 people you’ve got to get through to the horse to stay calm because if you get tense so does the horse.

‘Just think what could have happened if the horses had moved because of crowd noise as the Queen was getting out of the coach.’

He also trained and co-ordinated the Mounted Police, Police Band and Police Pipe Band for the Sydney 2005 Edinburgh Tattoo and was sworn in as a Volunteer in Policing in 2005, giving nearly 2,000 hours of volunteer service to the Police Force over the past six years.

And the list goes on. He has been awarded the Australian Police Medal, received the Royal Agricultural Society Award of ‘Show Legend’, was an executive member of the Australian Tentpegging Association, is currently the chief judge and is also the Vice Patron of the Riding for the Disabled NSW.

Horse training is an arduous activity

which requires loads of patience and commitment. Think of the mounted police in Sydney streets, as escorts when required, and if you attend the Sydney Royal Easter Show next month and enjoy the horse parades, give a thought to the training required.

Apart from his training activities, Don Eyb lectures or talks on Mounted Police operations and history to various groups such as Probus, VIEW and Rotary, advises and assists in special events and protocol, has been involved with the Reserve Forces Day Council for the past 12 years, acts as a judge and as a trainer to various clubs and organisations.

‘It’s only because of the expertise gathered over 40 years that has led to my success,’ Don said.

‘Some people have a natural ability to ride and train horses. I developed that natural instinct and ability to ride and teach from the farm and school and a lot has followed since then.

‘Horses have been a major part of my life and I still enjoy the work.’



# Painting the Masters

**George Frederick Harris** was born on 30 October 1856 in Birmingham, England and followed his father into the family photography business in Merthyr, Wales. By 1880, the name of the firm had changed from Harris and Co to Harris, Son and Co.

**W**ithin the next ten years, George successfully set up his own studio in the centre of Cardiff and also became a talented portrait painter.

George was initiated into Loyal Cambrian Lodge No 110 at the age of 23 on 4 September 1879. When Fforest Lodge was constituted in Treharris in 1896, W Bro George Harris was unanimously appointed the Primus Master. In his masonic career, he was a member of the Provincial Grand Lodge of South Wales, PM of Lodge Cambrian, Foundation Master of Lodge Fforest and a provincial Senior Warden.

He had further built a reputation as a portrait painter with a number of his paintings exhibited in the Royal Academy in London. He was also asked to paint portraits of Past Masters of the Loyal Cambridge Lodge and a number of them can still be seen in the lodge building today.

George married Jemima Bowman in 1882 but it proved unsuccessful and they eventually parted. He later married Rosetta Elizabeth who became the

mother of his nine children. Two of his sons having settled in Perth, the Harris family decided to follow and migrated to Australia in 1920 where they settled in Perth before moving to Sydney the following year. One of the children, Rhona Olive Harris, wrote verses at an early age and later in life when confined to hospital in Australia for the birth of her third daughter, decided to use her talents to paint colourful fairy-style murals for the children to make their stay more pleasant. On the way to Australia, not liking the name Rhona, she adopted the name 'Pixie'. She died on 17 November 1991, aged 88, and the Pixie O'Harris Award is presented annually to a person who has worked consistently in the field of children's literature.

The artistic background influenced many of the Harris family. One of his grandsons is the notable Australian artist and entertainer Rolf Harris, who said during an interview in 2001: 'I always imagined I would be a portrait painter like my Welsh grandfather.'

The history of the Loyal Cambrian



Lodge states that in 1893, a handsome and massive oak chair, carved in the Ionic Order and having a shield carved with masonic and Welsh emblems was formally presented to the lodge for the use of the Worshipful Master. The chair was designed by W Bro George Frederick Harris.

Before coming to Australia, Harris had already won a place of honour in his profession. His first success was at the age of ten years, he was a frequent exhibitor, won many awards and was made a life member of the Art Society of South Wales.

During his four years in Sydney, George Harris received many lucrative commissions for his work including the portraits of prominent public men. Among them were portraits of the NSW Premier, Sir George Fuller, Sir Joynton Smith, former Prime Minister Billy Hughes and MW Bro William Thompson, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of NSW from 1914 to 1924 and founder of the William Thompson Masonic Schools. This portrait is currently exhibited on the third floor of the Sydney Masonic Centre.

Also among his well known paintings in Sydney are 'Golden Wattle' and 'In the Larder' which were included in his exhibits at last year's exhibition of the Royal Art Society.

While in Sydney, he affiliated with Lodge Maroubra No 422 UGL of NSW on 20 December 1922, transferring from the Loyal Cambrian Lodge. Harris died in June 1924 at the age of 68.



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# The Royal Order of Scotland

Freemasonry in Scotland is ages old and has many variations.

Prominent at the Installation of MW Bro Derek Robson as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT was RW Bro Tony Traynor, the Provincial Grand Master of the Royal Order of Scotland Provincial Grand Lodge of NSW.

Elected for a five year term in 2007, RW Bro Traynor will finish his period of service in July this year.

The Royal Order of Scotland, which is controlled from its headquarters in Edinburgh, is presided over by a Deputy Grand Master and Governor with the titular headship being reserved for the hereditary King of Scots.

Every subordinate lodge is a Provincial Grand Lodge, each holding sway over a Province, whether in or outside Scotland. Two degrees are worked, the Degree of Heredom of Kilwinning and the Degree of the Rosy Cross, not to be confused with the 18th Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite.

The Degree of Heredom of Kilwinning is a peculiarly interesting degree and full of instruction to Craft Masons, as in its lectures it explains the symbolism and

teaching contained in the first three degrees of Craft Masonry.

The Rosy Cross tradition takes its origin on the field of Bannockburn on Summer St John's Day 1314 and was instituted by King Robert the Bruce, who in the course of the battle for Scottish independence, received assistance from a body of Knights who may have been original Templars and Freemasons. He conferred upon them as a reward for their services the civil rank of Knighthood. It has been asserted by many that the Degree of the Rosy Cross contains the ceremonial formerly practiced by the Most Ancient Order of the Thistle.


Most of the ritual is delivered in a quaint and rhyming old border verse and question and answer dialogue.

The empty seat reputed to be held vacant for the King of Scots is a reminder of the mysterious empty seat of the Knights of the Round Table, called the Siege Perilous, in which none might sit except he who was successful in his quest for the Holy Grail.

This ancient ritual has been passed down over hundreds of years without



RW Bro Anthony Traynor, Provincial Grand Master of the Royal Order of Scotland, Provincial Grand Lodge of NSW

change, retaining its unique rhyming verses from a period of time that can only be described as antiquity. In fact, it's one of the oldest masonic orders apart from the Craft and the only order, apart from its sister order of the Knights Templar, with a factual history. 

## Dominic plans a fresh start

Dominic De Candia is bringing a fresh set of eyes and a campaign for unity into his new role as Grand Secretary General of the **Ancient and Accepted Rite** for Australia.

Born in Italy, he came to Australia at the age of two when his father decided to bring the family to join their grandfather, who was already in Sydney. Dominic was initiated in Lodge Trinity No 666 and was a foundation member and WM of Lodge Galileo No 1019.

He had just ended a term as DGIW in District 123 and was hesitant about his future but decided he still liked Masonry and has now spent 26 years in the Craft.

'I owned a hardware store at Leichhardt for about 25 years and a friend encouraged me to join the Rite. I closed the business, took time off but was too

young to retire and because of my passion for Masonry took on the role of Secretary General even though I had never been a Secretary, Recorder or District Commander,' he said.

'What I appreciate is that the Rite is Australia's only national masonic body.

*Continued on page 30 ...*



# Reflections of a *travelling mason*



**John Winslow**, PM Lodge Hornsby No 262, was welcomed at lodges worldwide during his travelling years as a Qantas pilot

John's travels took him to some of the world's most fascinating cities including San Francisco with its splendid Bay Bridge, Hong Kong (opposite) and Bombay (inset)

I became a mason in 1978. At that time I was a pilot working for Qantas Airways.

My lodge kindly expedited my transition through the three degrees since I was about to go overseas for a two year posting to England and visiting would become easier for me.

Due to the still prevalent 'secrecy' in the UK, it took me nearly a year before I was able to visit a lodge there. but my flights took me to Bombay (now Mumbai) on a weekly basis. There I contacted Lodge St George where I was made welcome on a regular basis in their magnificent masonic building in Raveline Street. When I first tried to locate the building my cab dropped me in entirely the wrong area. Eventually, after much wandering and enquiring I espied an Indian gentleman approaching who had a distinguished bearing and a certain air about him. I stopped him and asked if he

could direct me to Raveline Street where the Masonic Centre was situated. He said 'That is where I am going, accompany me brother. The trouble is they have changed all the bloody street names here!' In Bombay we met in a lodge room with the classical punkahs whirling in the ceiling to keep us cool, and afterwards repaired to the flat of one of the brethren for the South. This way I got to see life in Bombay beyond the mould, grime and poverty which are so obvious to a visitor's eye.

On my return to Sydney my flights took me to many parts of the world where, when time permitted, I always sought out a masonic meeting. There were many interesting visits and it was a great eye opener, especially in regard to the warmth with which I was received by brethren overseas.

On one occasion I visited a lodge in San Francisco, being picked up at my hotel by an elderly brother. On arrival there was

a particularly warm greeting which somewhat mystified me until I learnt that the brother concerned was known as an atrocious driver and they were surprised that we had arrived at all! That evening they were holding a third degree. It was very different to our ritual and the full meaning behind the phrase 'to give him the third degree' became evident! Another visit in America was to a lodge in Honolulu which was notable for the facts that brethren all wore 'aloha' shirts and they served the worst coffee I have ever drunk. Nonetheless it was an enjoyable experience in a most relaxed atmosphere.

Singapore also boasted a Masonic Centre from the days of the Raj with several lodge rooms and a bar and restaurant downstairs. There I visited English, Scottish and Irish constitution lodges. The evening I attended the Irish Lodge I was asked by the Master to take my place close to the Director of Ceremonies who sat in

the body of the lodge. This brother was a Sikh whose staff of office was a fearsome shillelagh. Half way through the meeting I saw the master gesturing frantically in my direction and looked around to see whose attention he was trying to attract and rapidly realised that it was me. The Director of Ceremonies had fallen asleep, as apparently was his wont, and it had been my duty to prod him awake at intervals, a task which was rotated amongst the brethren or unsuspecting visitors.

Like most 'Colonial' Masonic Centres, Singapore had a paid tyler who stood duty for each of the lodges meeting there. I met the tyler one day at lunchtime and he was 'enjoying himself' immensely. That evening I attended a meeting and experienced a full spectrum of 'knocks' none of which bore any relation to the degree in question!

One visit nearly turned into disaster when I was invited to Lodge Johore Royal across the Straits from Singapore. My 'chauffeur' reminded me to bring my passport since we were crossing into Malaysia. At the outgoing Singapore immigration post the officer declared me an illegal immigrant and subject to arrest since I had no entry permit stamped in my passport. I explained that, as a crew-member, I was admitted on the aircraft general declaration, but we were well removed from aeroplanes and airport on the Straits crossing and that explanation didn't wash. Finally, the ways of the East came to my rescue and it all became too difficult and, like Sergeant Schultz, the immigration officer 'knew nothing' and waived us through. I spent the whole meeting wondering if I would be able to return and report for duty the next day!

Hong Kong was another place where the masonic facilities were superb and after lodge they dined in great splendour in their magnificent hall below the lodge rooms and frequently proceeded afterwards to a brother's flat for a liquid dessert. I found this a little difficult as often I had to fly early the next day and excused myself. The lodges in Hong Kong, at an exact time during every South, rose to toast absent brethren. This enabled the brethren not present to join them, wherever they were, in a mutual toast to each others' wellbeing. What a wonderful and very masonic custom!

One of the delightful aspects of all these




overseas lodges was the 'three risings' where the master stands and enquires for the first, second and third time whether any brother has anything to say for the good of the lodge or masonry in general. It is customary on the third rising for visiting brethren to convey fraternal greetings from their mother lodge, which I always did. I was unaware, though, that the secretary then wrote to the mother lodge thanking them for their greetings and thus my lodge in Sydney was able to track my travels with a constant flow of letters.

Nearer to home I visited a lodge in Perth where, being short on numbers and ascertaining that I had been a junior deacon, they asked me to occupy that chair. I willingly agreed but asked to first view their ritual so that I might note any differences in the responses. The ritual was so different I demurred, but their need was so urgent I was asked to sit in the office anyway and it was arranged that the

organist, seated behind me, would make the responses whilst I 'lip synched'.

On assuming the chair of my lodge I was very proud to manage to arrange my flying so that I only missed one meeting in my year, not an easy task in view of the vagaries of the flying game. My various stopovers around the world became very useful study time for the ritual.

In those days, before all the restrictions due to security became necessary, I was free to wander through the aircraft cabin and liaise with the passengers, good PR for the company and most enjoyable for me. I always wore my masonic pin on my tie and hardly a journey went by that I wasn't greeted by a mason in the cabin. This, and the overseas visiting, certainly demonstrated to me that Freemasonry is truly an organisation which traverses the boundaries of nations and of race, creed and wealth. 




... continued from page 27.

All others are state based only and maybe they too should look at becoming national. Our current Grand Commander is from South Australia, treasurer from Queensland and secretary from NSW and it still works.

'We can only source our members from the Craft and when it declines, we decline. But looking at the membership of the Rite, we're as large as or bigger than some of the state Craft organisations. I didn't know the policies of Supreme Council but my expertise is running a business so with fresh eyes I've made changes to the structure and already had major proposals accepted. Four states now have us linked on their website and I'm working on the other two.

'I realise I'm new in this position and am still learning but we all need to be working off the same page. The next stage should be pooling with the other Orders, no "us or them", no conflict but all trying to work towards unity.'




Dominic will be 50 this year and with wife Maira, son David and daughter Jessica hopes to be the face of a bright new future for the Australian Rite. 

## The Ted Simmons Medal

NSW Freemason editor, RW Bro Ted Simmons was also the recipient of a number of honours in December.

He was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Football Federation of Australia and appointed as one of three members of the newly-formed National Football Historians Association because of his role on the executive of the International Federation of Football History.

Late last year, the Sydney Eastern Suburbs Football Association announced the inaugural Footballer of the Year Award, to be presented annually and to be known as the Ted Simmons Medal. 



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There are a number of ways which you can help The Whiddon Group through a bequest in your will. Here are some examples:

1. You can give a specified amount of money to The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW. This is the simplest form of bequest.
2. You can provide a percentage of your estate, for example 30 percent, for The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW. This ensures that your family and friends are not disadvantaged by the change of the size of your estate, or inflation.
3. After providing for family and friends, you may decide to leave the residue of your estate (what is left) to The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW.
4. You can leave particular items such as shares, paintings, property or other items of value in your will to The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW. *This option may have possible taxation ramifications and should be discussed with a solicitor.*
5. You can take out a life insurance policy or an endowment policy with The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW nominated as the *sole beneficiary*. *This option may have possible taxation ramifications and should be discussed with a solicitor.*

If you have any questions regarding a bequest, or would like to make one, simply contact the Chief Executive Officer on (02) 9827 6632.



# Mason's high achieving daughter

**Stephanie Donaldson**, 17 year old daughter of W Bro Mark Donaldson, IPM of Lodge Epping No 390, has been presented with a Youth Community Service Award from the Order of Australia NSW. This is a great honour as only 20 NSW High School students are awarded each year after a vigorous selection process.

Stephanie and her family attended a special ceremony at Government House on 23 November when the Governor of NSW Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO presented her with an inscribed medallion and a Certificate of Commendation.

Stephanie has served the school community and wider community with commitment and dedication. She has actively led the Social Justice Group at her school (Cheltenham Girls' High) and tirelessly raised awareness about social justice issues. Her organising and leading various fundraising activities and special events have benefited many national and international charities.

As part of Cheltenham Girls' 'education for gifted and talented students,' Stephanie was selected to study a Preliminary HSC course in Aboriginal Studies in Year 9 (2009). She has taken a keen interest in promoting Aboriginal human rights and social justice issues, delivered a public presentation about her school's initiative for the Indigenous Literacy Project at the Aboriginal Reconciliation Convention at Parliament House; and completed a major HSC project on the contribution of Aboriginal service people since the Boer War.

She has been a School Prefect and Peer Support Leader, nurturing and mentoring junior high school students, a Library Prefect since 2008, and has worked closely with the Head Librarian to promote student reading. She was the first student at her school to receive the Premier Reading Challenge medal in 2009.

Stephanie was awarded the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award in 2010 and volunteered to assist with the Lifestyle Program at Anglicare Chesalon (Beecroft) Nursing Home from April to October 2009.

The Lodge extends its congratulations to Stephanie on her outstanding achievements.



ABOVE: Mrs Bridgewood, School Principal, Cheltenham Girls' High School, and Stephanie  
TOP: Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir with Stephanie

*Grand Chapter of New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory*

## Order of the Eastern Star

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*The Order of the Eastern Star is the Largest Fraternal Organisation in the world to which both ladies and male Master Masons may belong.*

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- ▶ To receive the most of your membership in the Order you would need to enjoy being part of an historic and inspiring organisation. Our Meetings are designed to reinforce the lessons of our Order. Our social functions aside from raising charity money, re-confirm our friendships old and new.

For further information contact

Mrs Narelle Ober OAM  
PO Box 742 Ulladulla NSW 2539  
Ph: 02 4455 3245 or 0414 553 247  
johnandnarelle1@bigpond.com



# The Brethren Trilogy

By ROBYN YOUNG

*Back in 1999 Robyn Young was sitting in a bar listening to friends discussing the Templar Knights.*

*Robyn had never heard of them, but was instantly intrigued by the idea of writing about these medieval warrior monks. Some months later, she came across 'THE TRIAL OF THE TEMPLARS' by the eminent historian Malcolm Barber, which detailed the dramatic downfall of the Order. Having read it in one sitting, on completion knew she just had to tell this story...*



Robyn Young's epic trilogy of the Knights Templar comprises, *Brethren*, the *Crusade* and *Requiem – The Fall of the Templars*.

This trilogy spans the years between 1260 and 1314 AD with settings encompassing London, Paris, Rome, Edinburgh, Cairo and various other locales throughout the Middle East.

The author utilises a long accepted storytelling style, using an omniscient narrator to provide much of the background information. The central figure is Will Campbell, an apprentice in the Knights Templar; an order that was formed in the twelfth century after the First Crusade.

Although the Knights' initial mission was to protect Christians visiting the Holy Land, the Knights Templar evolved into 'one of the wealthiest and most powerful organisations of their day,' wielding great political, economic and religious influence.

Throughout the trilogy the overall theme is as relevant today as it was back then, with too many violent acts carried out in the name of religious and nationalistic causes.

The battle scenes are spectacularly exciting, gory and horrifying to read. Her villains are dastardly and her young

heroes are callow and long-suffering. A whole spectrum of human emotion is on display, including selfishness, venality, ambition, altruism and fanaticism; but the members of this trilogy's large cast are mostly 'types' rather than realistic individuals. One positive about this trilogy is that each book stands alone. Robyn puts a great deal of research and historical accuracy into her work, while at the same time bringing her characters to life in a brilliant manner. She allows the reader to become involved emotionally with the characters with such finesse, you do not even notice you are hooked. You must finish all 1,965 pages!

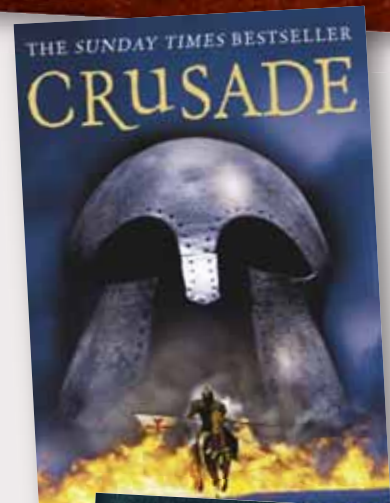
As a work of historical fiction, this Brethren trilogy won the UK Sunday Times Bestseller Award. Established itself as No. 2 on the UK and No. 1 on the USA bestseller list, and 'Book of the Year' German language edition in Germany. Currently available in twenty-two languages throughout the world.

Published by Hodder & Stoughton, UK.

**BRETHREN** ISBN: 978034083971.3  
**CRUSADE** ISBN: 978034083974.4  
**REQUIEM** ISBN: 978034092342.5

Paperback. 1,965 total pages  
 ARP: \$19.99 each book

Available at all booksellers and MoF shop  
[info@mof.org.au](mailto:info@mof.org.au)





# Masons at work

Any thoughts that Freemasons are not active around NSW are dispelled by the number of reports from different centres of **donations and assistance**.

**F**or example, Central Coast Freemasons have generously donated thousands of dollars to more than 70 community-based projects.

Over the past three years, Gosford City lodges and Wyong Shire lodges have donated a total of \$610,000 to various organisations. The seven lodges include Morning Star, Saratoga, James Kibble, Central Coast, Toukley, Lake Haven Daylight and Wyong-Tuggerah Lakes.

Among the donations is a mitigation trailer worth more than \$25,000 which is now being used by the Rural Fire Service at Kariong. It is fully equipped with safety gear and rescue equipment for the firefighters in case of emergency.

Another donation is a new van for the Radio Five-O-Plus community radio station at Gosford which allows the

station's volunteers to relay messages to listeners in the wider community.


Police are often first on the scene in an emergency and Wyong Tuggerah Lakes and Lake Haven Daylight have

**It's a very welcome gift from the masons. We come across many situations every day and if we can save a life that's what we aim to do.**

donated equipment which could mean the difference between life and death.

Three defibrillators, valued at \$10,000 have been given to Tuggerah Lakes Local Area Command which will be placed strategically throughout the area.

'It's a very welcome gift from the masons. We come across many situations every day and if we can save a life that's what we aim to do,' said Inspector Chris Welfare.

Reports state about 30,000 people suffer sudden cardiac arrests each year in Australia, many without warning. This short-circuits the electrical system of the heart, causing an abnormal rhythm and a shock from a defibrillator can restore the heart's normal pumping rhythm. 



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# Masonicare Benevolence Appeal

The Masonicare Board would like to thank all masons and lodges across the jurisdiction for your continued support of the Benevolence Appeal for 2012. We hope the 2012 Appeal is as successful as 2011 and we would ask you to please continue to be generous throughout this year.

During 2011 the Benevolence Program helped many masons and their families overcome hard times and financial pressure, and many masons have expressed their thanks to Masonicare and the Jurisdiction for this kind support:

A note received by Masonicare – *This is to thank you and your committee for the most expeditious manner in which you handled the Funeral Grant application for our late brother.*

*His widow needed all the help we could muster, and to this end I made all the funeral arrangements, acted as celebrant and conducted the Masonic Tribute. This W Bro and his wife have both been on the*

*old age pension for a very long time, and there was virtually nothing in the bank.*

*You went well over what anyone might possibly have expected of you in the handling of this application, in getting approval from your committee by email when the next meeting was to be a month later, and the family wishes me to express their sincere thanks for your effort.*

*Thank you and your committee very sincerely for your most valuable help. (I have placed Masonicare at the top of our lodge's annual charity list).'*

As you know the Masonicare Benevolence Appeal is actively looking for your support this year to help assist brethren and their families who are less fortunate and looking for our support.

Donations can be made to any Masonicare Caring Officer (MCO) in your lodge, or directly to Masonicare via our website ([www.masonicare.org.au](http://www.masonicare.org.au)), by mail or in person.



## District 45 Golf Day

A cheque for \$8,000 was presented to Rani Dibley (Director) of The Hunter Prelude (Early Childhood Prevention centre) by MDR Sean Leavey, WM from Lodge Tomalpin (Weston) and also Greg Redfern (Chairman of Masonicare). \$4,000 was raised by District 45 by organising a very successful Golf Day and raffle where Masonicare matched the funds raised with a \$4,000 Interaction Grant.

## Freemasons' Association donates \$10,000 to Disaster Relief Fund

The Freemasons' Association has donated \$10,000 to Masonicare's Disaster Relief Fund. This money was raised by the Freemasons' Association through donations, events and various fundraising activities which were held by its members and associates. These fundraising efforts were coordinated by the Freemasons' Association. This presentation took place on 13 December when the cheque was presented to the Chairman of Masonicare, RW Bro Greg Redfern. Masonicare would like to thank the Freemasons' Association and its members for their generous donation and also for their continued support to Masonicare.



# Masonicare Caring Officer Training Seminars

The MasoniCare Caring Officer program has not been well understood or accepted throughout the jurisdiction and the role within our lodges is **too important** for this situation to continue. With this in mind, Masonicare has been **updating the materials** and **training program** for MCOs.

**W**e have been very pleased to have the help of three very experienced educators who have finished reviewing relevant materials and information and are now ready to deliver a training program in the coming months. The program has been designed in such a way that the people to whom it is delivered in every region can then take it back to their districts/ lodges and train others.

Your MRR is currently working with your RGC to arrange an education session in your district or region and these sessions will take place from late March through to June 2012. If you have any queries please contact your MRR or

Masonicare directly.

A warm welcome to these forthcoming education meetings is extended to all who are interested to see this vital 'caring' activity improve. We believe the sessions will be valuable to the following masons but please also note that partners are very welcome:

- Region and District Education Officers
- RGC
- DGIW
- MDR
- MCO
- Worshipful Masters
- Lodge Secretaries

We will publish dates for each area as

## District 114 raise funds for Eurobodalla Cancer Care



**V**W Bro Brian Mackander OAM and VW Bro Brian Willis PDGIW (Masonicare Regional Representatives Region 11) presented a cheque for \$5,000 to VW Bro Rod Bradford DGIW of District 114. VW Bro Bradford and the members of District 114 are continuing to work very hard in raising funds for the Eurobodalla Cancer Care Centre and in the coming weeks both cheques will be presented to the Cancer Care Centre. All brethren in District 114 should be congratulated on their efforts so far.

they become known. Please try to attend. An effective 'Masonicare Caring Officer' program will be a benefit to your lodge and is an integral part of Freemasonry.

### RW Bro Peter Court invites you to join him on a tour of Vietnam and Cambodia

*To enjoy the best that Asia has to offer, the excitement, beauty and opportunity to relax and absorb the unique traditions of the people. Commencing Jan 2013.*



**22 day tour: \$5,400** Price includes airfares, boat fares, transport, visas, accommodation, gratuities and most meals.

For details ring Peter Court • 02 9284 2854 work • 02 9892 2128 home • 0423 707 383 mobile



# Masons and the Boer War

On 31 May 110 years ago, a Treaty was signed which ended the Boer War (1899–1902). This was the first war Australia was involved in as a nation and it bridged the period of the colonies becoming a Commonwealth. Australia was the largest contributor to the British cause apart from Britain itself. **Over 16,000 Australians** served in official contingents and approximately another 7,000 in British or irregular units.

It was also the first time that Australian women had served in Australian units and the first Australian woman died on active service. Many Freemasons served in the Boer War and in human terms it is still Australia's third most expensive war. Many of the veterans went on to serve in the First World War, at Gallipoli and in the other theatres. A look at just three gives us some feel for masonic representation among our first war's volunteers.

The Gilchrist family of Cremorne had a significant involvement both in war and in Masonry. Alexander Gilchrist, the father (Lodge Samaritan, North Sydney) served in the pre-war colonial militia and three of his nine sons served in the Boer War. Horace, a trooper in the Australian Horse survived the war and returned to South Africa for a second tour of duty with 3rd Australian Commonwealth Horse as a lieutenant. By 1914 he was a member of the NSW Police, stationed at Nundle near Tamworth and by the time of his enlistment had served as Master of Lodge Tamworth. As a lieutenant in the 7th Light Horse he served at Gallipoli where he was severely wounded. He died

of his wounds on board the hospital ship 'Sicilia' on 29 June 1915 and was buried at sea. In an unusual twist a brooch believed to be of masonic origin belonging to Horace Gilchrist was recovered from Gallipoli by a Queensland soldier and returned to his wife a year later. Horace's two brothers in Boer War service were Charles and John. Charles, an Australian Horse trumpeter, died from enteric fever in March 1900 at Kimberley, while John returned home safely.

James William Morris was born in England and served with the Royal Marines during the Boer War. Migrating to Australia, joining the local volunteer movement he was an NCO in the Australian Rifles in 1914. He enlisted as a sergeant in the 1st Battalion AIF and by 1915 was a Company Sergeant Major. Wounded on the first day of the Gallipoli campaign he returned to his unit in May. Following the losses at Lone Pine he was commissioned in the field in August but just over a week later received a gunshot wound to the head. His consequent disfigurement prevented his return to front line duty and he spent the rest of the war training recruits in the AIF. He was twice Mentioned in Dispatches



for his Gallipoli exploits. After the war he had a long involvement in community and sporting clubs. He enjoyed Freemasonry as a member of Lodge Woy Woy and for some years was its Secretary.

Percival Pidgeon was a schoolteacher from Sutton. He served in the Boer War as a trooper in the 2nd NSW Mounted Rifles. Enlisting again at the age of 40 in 1916, he served in the 10th Field Ambulance in France before being invalided to England with trench fever in May 1918 and classified medically unfit for further service. He had an extensive history of community service, the highlight being his leadership in arranging the construction of the telephone line from Queanbeyan to Sutton in 1914. He was WM of Lodge Queanbeyan and his active involvement in lodge affairs ensured that a veteran's honour board was established for Queanbeyan masons.

For many years there has been a lack of research and national interest in the Boer War, overshadowed by ANZAC. The National Boer War Memorial Association is moving to recognise veterans of the Boer War with a Memorial in Anzac Parade, Canberra. This association (contact: david.deasey@bwm.org.au) would be pleased to hear of any other masonic involvement in the war or of relatives of masons who served in the war.

# Moruya gets a new look

The Moruya Masonic Centre Management Committee wishes to thank those volunteers who gave their time and support to refurbish the front of the Page Street centre. **The building now presents Masonry to the community as it should in this current environment.**

There were some who were present throughout the six days of work, others came when available and some supported in other ways, all of which resulted in the work concluding about midday. There were some who came with food – scones, jam and cream for morning tea – and there were visitors from as far as Goulburn.

Apart from the front presentation of the building, some work was achieved on the side doors and internally. Several ladies attended and using various means of sanding, stripped old paint and put-tied so that the painting could continue. A cherry-picker was hired for the high work and occasional drops of paint landed on those below.

The work was coordinated by RW Bro Allan Brown who played for days on the cherry picker. He even replaced the finials that were originally on the building but had been removed many years ago. The Masonic Hall sign was painted out and the 'Moruya Masonic Centre' name is now prominent over both front doors.



MORUYA  
MASONIC CENTRE



This, a magnificent effort by those involved, is not the end of the work but was decided as a priority by the Management Committee so that the outward appearance is maintained and masons, visitors and users of this facility may feel welcome and proud to be associated with Moruya.

The entrance to the lodge room is almost complete and further work in the Hall is planned but the masonic year is again upon us. The Centre now houses two Craft lodges, a Lodge of Research and Instruction, a Royal Arch Chapter, a Sovereign Chapter (Rose Croix), a Knights Templar Preceptory, a Secret Monitor Conclave and a Red Cross of Constantine Conclave. Two of these Orders came to Moruya in 2011 and a third about three years back.

Apart from Masonry, the Centre houses a junior dancing academy on four days of the week and many other users who all contribute to the financial viability of the Centre.

The Moruya Masonic Centre Management Committee welcomes you to 2012; may all who join us continue to have a wonderful and enjoyable time at the new look Masonic Centre.



# Q&A

This column is intended to answer the most **frequently asked questions** about Freemasonry. If you have any questions, please send them to the Editor.

**Q: We have been asked many times since this column started why Masonry does not admit women.**

**A:** Traditionally, recognised Freemasonry has been restricted to men. The early stonemasons were all male and in those years when Freemasonry was being organised, the position of women in society was different from today. In fact, if women want to join Freemasonry, some countries have lodges restricted to women. Men are not admitted to meetings or to the supper. However, in NSW, women are often invited to Installation banquets and quite often form a majority at Open Nights. Lodges are also being recommended to bring women onto social committees and any other area where their expertise will be of assistance to the lodge. It remains a desirable fact that we are more and more trying to involve our partners in our masonic life and masonic activities.

**Q: Religion is still a frequent question and sometimes new members ask why do we refer to the Volume of the Sacred Law at our meetings and not the Bible.**

**A:** To the majority of masons, the Volume of the Sacred Law is the Bible. There are many members however who don't consider the old or the new testaments to be their sacred book or what is regarded as sacred to their individual religion. The Bible (the old and new testaments) will always be open at the start of a lodge and closed at the finish as is done in Parliament and many other institutions. However, Freemasonry welcomes men of many different faiths and therefore to avoid confusion and possible disagreement, it is called the Volume of the Sacred Law. On occasions, a book representing the faith of a candidate can be placed alongside the Bible. So when the Volume of the Sacred Law is referred to in our ceremonies, to all masons it will be the holy book of their own faith.

## Australia Day honours

The *Freemason* magazine committee would like to congratulate the masons who **received honours** on Australia Day this year.

### Bro Martin Tsamenyi, AM

For service to maritime and fisheries law in the Asia-Pacific region, through the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security, and to legal education.

### Bro Robert Dobson, OAM

For service to the community through voluntary roles with a range of service organisations.

### Bro Peter Evans, OAM

For service to the community of Newcastle and the Hunter region, to business, and to youth.

### W Bro Raymond Hart, OAM

For service to veterans and their families, particularly through the Spitfire Association.

### Bro Raymond Harty, OAM

For service to the building and construction industry through vocational training and education, and to the community.

### W Bro Peter Morris, OAM

For service to the Parliament of Australia through a range of ministerial portfolios, and to the maritime industry and ship safety.

## Are you interested?

Have you ever wondered about Freemasonry – what it is and what its members do? Do you ever think about joining but don't know any masons or what action to take to find out more?

**If you are interested and would like to talk with a mason, contact Grand Lodge who will put you in touch with a member from your suburb who can give answers and advice.**

Grand Lodge is available Monday to Friday on (02) 9284 2800 or you can contact us by email at [info@freemasonsnswact.org.au](mailto:info@freemasonsnswact.org.au)



## Australian Facts!

Australia's first police force was a band of twelve of the most well behaved convicts they could find!

[www.convictcreations.com](http://www.convictcreations.com)



# Regional Roundup



LODGE DUNBLANE AUSTRALIS

## A Grand Burns Night out

Over 140 masons, ladies and children attended the Forty-Seventh Annual Dunblane Australis' Burns Night, held at the Fairfield Masonic Centre on Friday 20 January.

Ladies and guests waiting for the brethren to return from the lodge were entertained by dancers and a magician.

Meanwhile, outside the lodge a very strong Grand Lodge contingent was forming, led by the Grand Master with the Deputy and Assistant Grand Master, the Junior Grand Warden, the Grand Director of Ceremonies and other Grand Officers.

History was made when Grand Lodge Officers wearing national Scottish dress for the occasion were permitted to participate in the Grand Lodge delegation, adding some extra colour to the evening.

The work for the evening was the Explanation of the Scottish Ritual First Degree Tracing Board. The Entered Apprentices and brethren all listened keenly to VW Bro William Leach's excellent presentation.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, in his address to the brethren, remarked on the significance of Lodge Dunblane Australis and of other lodges doing something a bit different to become known within masonic circles and the wider community.

Grand Lodge retired and joined the brethren to start the festivities of Burns Night and the five course Scottish fare.

The Right Worshipful Master W Bro Gabriel Bilyk and his two Worthy Wardens, Bro del-Munns and VW Bro Kennedy, were piped into the south by Bro Hart, who then proceeded to pipe the Most Worshipful Grand Master with the Deputy Grand Master and Assistant Grand Master.



The Grand Master carries the Haggis

All stood for the Selkirk Grace, shortly followed by the toast to the Queen and toast to the Most Worshipful Grand Master. In his response the Grand Master gave recognition to the Grand Lodge Ceremonial Team, the many other high ranking Grand Lodge officers in attendance, and heads of Scottish Orders – the Royal Order of Scotland and the Province of NSW for the Supreme Council for Scotland of the Thirty Third and Last Degree.

A display of Highland sword dancing then took place, presented by Piper Bro Hart and his two young daughters.

The honour of carrying the haggis is normally given to the Master of the lodge, but on this historic occasion the Master conferred the Honour on the Grand Master, who was more than pleased to participate.

The Haggis Ceremonial Team consisted of Piper Bro Adam Wishart, Whisky Master RW Bro Couper, Sword

Bearers RW Bro Bill Rudd and RW Bro Couper's young son, Haggis Bearer MW Bro Derek Robson and Master of Ceremonies VW Bro Kennedy, who also gave a brilliant rendition of Roberts Burns 'Address to the Haggis'.

Haggis was quickly served after the course of Scottish pies and the 'Aussie' Address to the Bunny began with Piper W Bro Andrew Caveney, RW Bro Couper as Beer Master, his son as sword bearer and Bro Adam Wishart giving the Address to the Bunny by 'Tommy Burns'.

The Right Worshipful Master then presented gifts to the Grand Master, his partner Nicole, and to the Grand Director of Ceremonies and his partner Penny for their assistance.

The night went long into the early hours of the morning with all thoroughly enjoying themselves and many keen to attend next year.

Lodge Dunblane Australis meets at the Fairfield Masonic Temple on the third Friday of each month, tiling at 7.30pm, the dress is dinner suit or Highland dress.



Sixty Year Certificate being presented to RW Bro Lyall Lintott Green, PDGM, at the Moonby House Nursing Home, Tamworth, by Lodge Peel No 209 members. L-R: W Bro Les Taylor, Secretary, W Bro Cliff Hathway, VW Bro Max Ellicott PDGDC and RW Bro David Robertson PJGW



LODGE HORIZONS

# Expanding horizons

Lodge Horizons Fraternal at Lodge Victoria Cross Installation

Lodge Horizons No 1032, led by W Bro Kristan Regalado, continued its tradition of large fraternals in visiting Lodge Victoria Cross on the occasion of the Installation of W Bro Michael Scarlett, also a member having been initiated into Lodge Horizons.

The success of lodge Horizons, which

was consecrated some eight years ago, can be measured by the numerous brethren that have expanded their own 'horizons' by assisting other lodges with progressive offices and secretarial work.

The lodge has an open door policy and welcomes all visitors to its meetings held on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Sydney Masonic Centre.

LODGE WILLIAM ROSS NO 76

## Goulburn Installation

On 10 December 2011, the Grand Master, MW Bro Derek Robson AM, visited Goulburn and was present at the Re-Installation of RW Bro Ken Bellingham, PAGM, into the Chair of Lodge William Ross No 76.

RW Bro Bellingham spent 29 years working for the Grand Lodge office in Sydney, from 1971 to 2000, and with his wife Dawn moved to Goulburn in 2003.

Over 20 ladies attended and were given an interesting presentation on interior design by Nicole Armstrong, the Grand Master's partner, while the ceremony was in progress.

More than 70 brethren were present, including 27 Grand Lodge officers to support the Grand Master.

In the lodge room, and later at the banquet at the Goulburn Soldiers' Club, the Grand Master spoke of the joy he derived from being in his own region, amongst friends who had variously con-



RW Bro Bellingham receives his Installed Master's Certificate from the Grand Master

tributed to his masonic development over the years.

For those who spent the night in Goulburn, Ken and Dawn hosted a breakfast for more than 40 people on the Sunday morning.

LODGE NOWRA UNITY NO 60

## Craftsman at work



L-R: W Bro Mark Baker and Bro Lauri Ball

Reading about the life of early masons made Bro Lauri Ball of Lodge Nowra Unity No 60 wonder what it would be like to be an Operative Mason. So he took a weekend course with a bunch of others fired with the desire to chip away at stone and see what became of it.

It was a very fruitful course and has since given him many hours of fun, crafting something out of stone.

He knew that his masonic mentor and fellow lodge member W Bro Mark Baker had some sandstone, and this gave him the idea of how to thank him for several years of questions and training through the degrees.

He set to work and carved a square and compass on a fine piece of stone and presented it, much to W Bro Baker's delight.





# Riverlands Masonic Widows' luncheon

Over 50 people attended the annual Riverlands Masonic Widows luncheon at Orchard Hills Centre in November.

The Grand Master was represented by RW Bro Kevin Foster OAM PDGM, assisted by the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, VW Bro Peter Ratcliff. Both of these brethren are members of Lodge Warragamba.

In response to his welcome by the Association's secretary, Mrs Pat Mitchell, RW Bro Foster spoke on the 'A Start in Life' program and in closing, complimented all present on the success of this popular event.



The ladies present, with RW Bro Foster and VW Bro Ratcliff (kneeling)

## MOBILE MASONS

# Mobile Masons in Warialda



Mr Paul Jones (L) receives the Mobile Mason's donation of \$1,166 from RW Bro Geoff Calcott.

The Mobile Masons, NSW and ACT Inc caravan group visited Warialda for 10 days at the end of 2011.

It is the group's custom to raise money for a donation to a local charity during their travels and this trip was no exception.

A successful charity morning tea and raffle, involving local masons and the community, yielded \$1,166, and a cheque for that amount was duly presented to the Warialda Rotary Club President Mr Paul Jones, to contribute to the Warialda High-Dependency Dementia Unit appeal.

## LODGE QUEANBEYAN ST ANDREWS No 56

# HOME in Queanbeyan

On the morning of 6 December, local masons gathered to hand over \$5,000 raised locally for 'HOME in Queanbeyan', supplemented by an equal grant from Masonicare.

'HOME in Queanbeyan' is a community-based response to provide a home for people with chronic mental illness who struggle to live independently: a place where people can live with the dignity and love they deserve.

The patron is the former Governor-General, Sir William Deane.



Members of Lodge Queanbeyan St Andrew No 56 and the Regional Grand Counsellor, Region 10, presenting cheques totalling \$10,000 to Ann Pratt Manager of 'HOME in Queanbeyan'. L-R: Robert O'Hara, Bruce Gorman, Danny Edwards, Ann Pratt, Graham Davies (RGC Region 10) and David Powell

## LODGE MILLENNIUM No 2000

# A family affair

On 17 November, Lodge Millennium No 2000 celebrated the installation of its seventh Worshipful Master when W Bro Mathew Jupp installed his successor, Bro Peter Tait, into the Chair of King Solomon.

The lodge was very pleased to welcome the Grand Master's representative, RW Bro John McGregor PAGM, the DGIW, VW Bro Fali Poach and other

Grand Officers, as well as representatives of the Mother Lodge, Lodge Pennant Hills No 905 and of the Daughter Lodge, Lodge Cornucopia No 1037.

The new Worshipful Master was supported by his father, Bro Eric Tait, and by his son Bro David Tait. Subsequently Bro David took his first step on the ladder of progression to the Master's chair when he was invested as a Steward.

The family theme of the evening was



L-R: Bro David Tait, W Bro Peter Tait and his father, Bro Eric Tait

underlined as the Installing Master was supported by the Immediate Past Master, his father VW Bro James Jupp.



LODGE MILLTHORPE No 276

## Millthorpe celebrates 100 years

The Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Jamie Melville, attended the Installation of VW Bro Trevor Louie PDGDC, Lodge Millthorpe's 101st Worshipful Master, by VW Bro Hughes PDGDC.

It is VW Bro Louie's tenth term in the chair of the lodge and the ceremony was attended by 70 brethren.

Three functions held during 2011 helped mark the centenary: a birthday luncheon held on 13 June, exactly 100 years after the lodge's consecration, the unveiling of a plaque which records the essential history of the lodge and its building, and the Installation ceremony itself.

Highlight of the birthday luncheon at the Millthorpe Bowling Club was the cutting of a cake by the lodge's most senior member, W Bro Maurice Goodman, a member for 70 years, and its newest member, Bro Malcolm Lacey.

On 17 September, RW Bro Greg Summerhayes PRGC assisted one of the lodge's Masonic Widows, Mrs Rene



L-R: Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Jamie Melville, presents VW Bro Trevor Louie with his Certificate as Lodge Millthorpe's 101st Worshipful Master, watched by Installing Master, VW Bro Ross Hughes

Chapman, to unveil the centenary plaque which is dedicated to Mrs Chapman's late husband, VW Bro Bob Chapman. VW Bro Chapman served Lodge Millthorpe for 49 years and held office for all but 10 of those years.

Many hours of voluntary work have helped to produce a lodge building which should provide a comfortable meeting place well into the lodge's next century.

## A helping hand for Bear Cottage

Freemasons on the Northern Beaches have donated \$10,000 to Bear Cottage, the first children's hospice in New South Wales.

Located on Sydney's Northern Beaches at Manly, Bear Cottage offers a home where children with terminal illnesses and their families can spend time together, often in the final stages of their young lives.



Local Freemason and leader of the fundraising campaign, W Bro Simon Smith, said Bear Cottage provides twenty four hour respite and end-of-life care for the children and essential support services for parents and families.

'The staff and volunteers at Bear Cottage do fantastic work,' he said.

'They provide amazing support, care and kindness to kids and their families'

LODGE LIVERPOOL No 197

## Lodge Liverpool Install

The November Installation of W Bro Anthony George as Worshipful Master of Lodge Liverpool No 197 was graced by the presence of the Grand Master, MW Bro Derek Robson AM.

He was accompanied by the Deputy and the Assistant Grand Master, the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens and a full complement of Grand Lodge Officers.

Following the ceremony, the Grand Master made a point of meeting two Entered Apprentices, Bro Anthony Arena and Bro Michael Aziz, and welcoming them into Freemasonry.



The Grand Master flanked by Bro Anthony Arena and Bro Michael Aziz

in extremely difficult and tragic circumstances. They are selfless, generous and courageous and deserve all the help and support we can offer them as part of our community.'

'Bear Cottage also looks after the families who look after the children, usually 24/7 with no break. The needs of the families are often overlooked,' said Mr Smith, 'but a little TLC from Bear Cottage helps them have a little of the normality we take for granted.'



LODGE PAMBULA DAYLIGHT No 1000

# Anchors aweigh

**I**t was a bit like a naval reunion at Lodge Pambula Daylight's reinstallation ceremony on 4 November 2011. The Worshipful Master, the Grand Master's representative, the Worshipful Master of Lodge Bega Remembrance, and several of the brethren present were all ex Royal Australian Navy, as is the Grand Master himself.

The event was a great success with 54 brethren and ladies attending the Festive Board.

Of particular note was the presence of 18 brethren and their partners from the Bairnsdale Daylight Lodge on their annual pilgrimage to the ceremony to retrieve the 'travelling baton' which spends six months in each lodge during the year.

Other brethren represented Lodge Bega Remembrance, Lodge Baddeley, Lodge Eurobodalla Daylight, the Mountain Lodge Bombala and Lodge Cooma-Monaro.

W Bro Fred Rubly was installed in the Chair of King Solomon for a second year in the presence of the Chairman of the



RW Bro Ian Newbery, PAGM, presents W Bro Fred Rubly with his Reinstallation Certificate

Board of Management, RW Bro Ian Newbery PAGM, (representing the Grand Master), the Regional Grand Counsellor R10, RW Bro Graham Davies and the DGIW, VW Bro Tom Peadon.

The Installing Master, W Bro Ray Spindler, performed his task of re-installing the WM elect with sensitivity and expertise. The GDC was VW Bro Kevin Mulcahy.

The brethren joined their ladies after the ceremony for an excellent festive board at the Masonic Centre.

BUNDALEEAH DAYLIGHT No 992

# Family ties



L-R: VW Bro Terry Stock, Bro Matthew Cunningham and W Bro Robert Polglaze, Worshipful Master of Lodge Bundaleeah Daylight Lodge.

**O**n Saturday 4 February, in Bundaleeah Daylight Lodge No 992, Bro Matthew James Cunningham was raised to the Third Degree by his Grandfather, VW Bro Terry Stock PDGDC.

Matthew was initiated in the Queens Lodge No 226, on Australia Day last year, while VW Bro Stock was Master in the Chair for the night, and was passed to the Second Degree in July, also by his Grandfather.

Although Bro Cunningham is not a Lewis, there is a long history of family involvement with the Craft; both grandfathers, a great grandfather, a great, great grandfather, two great uncles and a great great uncle having been members.

One of his Great Uncles is MW Bro Tony Lauer, Past Grand Master.



Soldiers Beach Surf Life Saving Club recently purchased a Surf Boat, courtesy of a grant of \$40,000 from the Central Coast Lodges. A great example of Freemasonry supporting the local community!



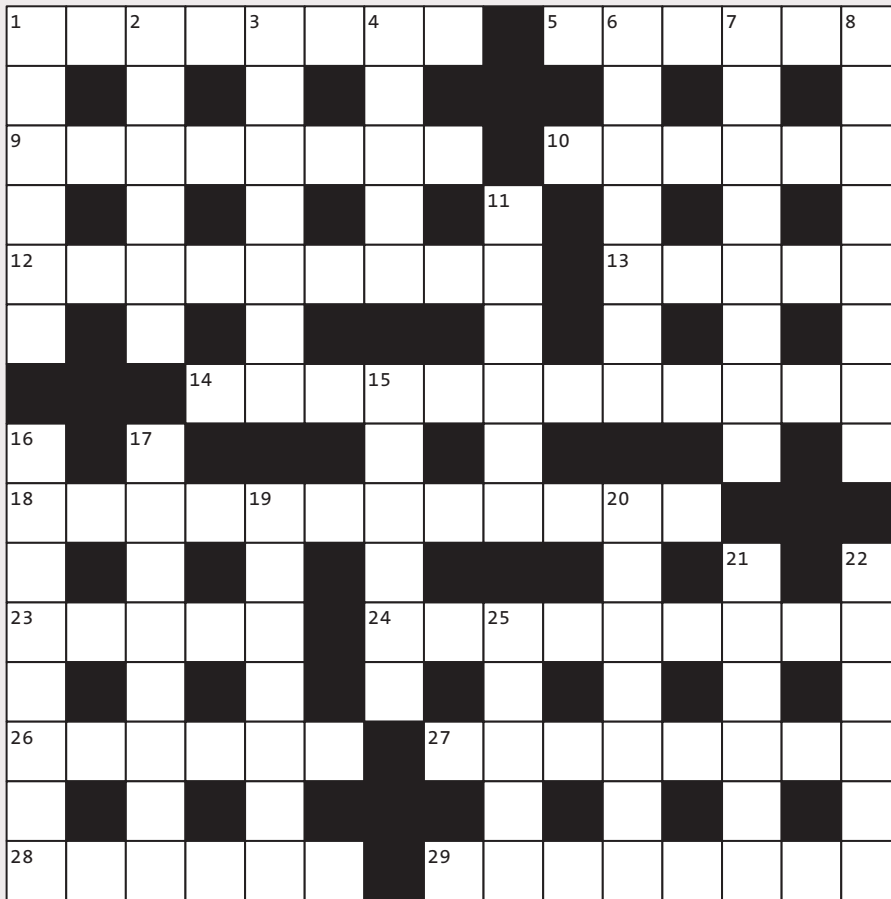
# Freemason welcomes new members to the Craft

Name	Lodge	Name	Lodge	Name	Lodge
ABDULWAHAB Walid	Lodge Woollahra 341	HAVARD Richard	Lodge Beecroft 359	STEWART Jack	The Builders Lodge 1048
AKSOY Yagiz	The Sydney Lodge 1020	HEALEY Ben	Lodge Fire Brigades 940	STOKES Paul	Lodge City of Newcastle 1035
ALEXANDER Joshua	Lodge Sir James Hardy 1046	HEROD Robert	Lodge Wyong Tuggerah Lakes 247	TEMEKOV Tom	Lodge Cronulla 312
ANDREWS Morgan	Lodge Wahroonga 674	HIGGINS Christopher	Lodge Merrylands 479	THOMAS Matthew	The Sydney Lodge 1020
ARFORD Lawrence	Lodge Nepean 29	HOLLINGER David	Lodge Victoria Cross 928	TOEVAI Anthony-Aston	The Queen's Lodge 229
ATTIE Ned	Lodge Axiom 1047	HOLLINS Kristian	Lodge Canberra 465	TRENGROVE Phil	Lodge Hornsby 262
BACHIR Mark	The Builders Lodge 1048	HURRELL Gregory	Lodge Castlereagh 72	TUBRIDY Benjamin	Lodge Woollahra 341
BAILEY Colin	The Builders Lodge 1048	JENKINS Harley	Lodge Baddeley 205	WALLER Tony	Lodge Fire Brigades 940
BARBER David	The Hawkesbury Heritage Lodge 150	JOHNSON Cameron	Lodge Star In The West Sedgwick 189	WATKINS Richard	Lodge Helensburgh 566
BARBERY Graham	Lodge Milton 63	KENNEDY Christopher	Lodge Wahroonga 674	WHITE Ben	Lodge Star Of Wauchope 310
BARICH Antwan	Lodge Hurlstone Park United 288	KHALIL Sam	The Cedars Lodge 1041	WILSON George	The Sydney Lodge 1020
BERRY Dave	Lodge Milton 63	KHANNA Amal	Lodge Illawarra 59	WILSON Daren	Lodge Blackheath 370
BEZWADA Srinii	The Sydney Lodge 1020	KING Dan	Lodge St James 45	WISE Anthony	Lodge Barham 561
BOWER John	Lodge Ethos 963	KLYNHOUT Dale	Lodge Castlereagh 72	WITHERS Steve	Lodge Picton 258
BOZZA Andrew	The Sydney Lodge 1020	KNAPP Mitchell	Lodge Greater Taree 66	WORRALL Rhys	Lodge Wyong Tuggerah Lakes 247
BRAKELL Duncan	Lodge Castlereagh 72	KUMAR Roni	Lodge Axiom 1047	WYMAN Erick	Lodge Ethos 963
BRIGGS Jared	Lodge Emu Plains 860	KUZMANOVSKI Tony	Lodge Woden Valley 974	YAP Lionel	Lodge Fitzroy 248
BURSILL Doug	Lodge Trinitarian 978	LARGENT Brendan	Lachlan Macquarie Lodge 1042	ZABALLA Sherwin	Lodge Education 814
BUTLER Stuart	Lodge Wyong Tuggerah Lakes 247	LAWRENCE Peter	The Cobar Lodge 97		
BUTTERS Anthony	Lodge Kirrawee 903	LEWIS Troy	Lodge City of Newcastle 1035		
BUTTERS Brenden	Lodge Kirrawee 903	LOADER-NASH Dean	The Queen's Lodge 229		
BYRNE Paul	Lodge Beecroft 359	LOEHEL Peter	Lodge Merrylands 479		
CAIRNS Nicholas	Lodge Castlereagh 72	MCCANN James	Lodge Morisset 441		
CALDERONE John	Lodge Horace Thompson Ryde 134	MCDONALD Shaun	Lodge Unity 6		
CAMPBELL Douglas	The Northern Rivers Lodge 77	MCDONALD Daniel	The Queen's Lodge 229		
CARLILE Neil	Lodge Caledonia Of Canberra 938	MCDONOUGH John	The Hawkesbury Heritage Lodge 150		
CARY Matthew	Lodge Sylvania 853 LOE	MCGILL Shaun	Lodge Morisset 441		
CASTLE Daryn	Lodge Sydney St. George 269	MCMANUS Joel	Lodge Helensburgh 566		
CHACANA Rodrigo	Lodge Verity 570	MIDDLEMIST John	Lodge West Epping 731		
COCHRANE James	Lodge Bega Remembrance 220	MILLER John	Lodge Middle Harbour 292		
COPELAND Paul	Lodge Gynea 796	MORRIS Tristan	Lodge Eastern Suburbs 1050		
COSTER Doug	Lodge Richard Coley 152	MOUJALI Charbel	Lodge Woollahra 341		
COTTAM Rob	Lodge Saratoga 937	NGUYEN Eric	Lodge Epping 390 LOE		
DAVID Cedrick	Lodge Challenge 284	O'CONNOR Martin	Nowra Unity 60		
DAVITYAN Shahan	Lodge Horace Thompson Ryde 134	O'CONNOR Sean	Lodge Illawarra 59		
DREW Steve	Lodge Cavanbah 231	PALMER Ben	Lodge Ethos 963		
ELACHI Raymond	Lodge Woollahra 341	PARICA Edgar	The Queen's Lodge 229		
ELHAGE George	The Lodge Of Tranquillity 42	PEREZ MORA Louis	Lodge Macquarie 53		
ELHAGE John	The Lodge Of Tranquillity 42	PHILLIS Matt	Lodge Timor 274		
ELLERY Jordan	Lodge Kellerman 1027	PURDUE Douglas	Lakehaven Daylight Lodge 1017		
ELLIS Peter	Lodge Caledonia Of Canberra 938	ROBERTS Ryan	Lodge Caledonia Of Canberra 938		
ENRIQUEZ Aki	Lodge John Williams 148	ROUMIEH Nasser	Lodge Sutherland 585		
ERLER Kurt	Lodge Artarmon United 285	ROUMIEH Youssef	Lodge Sutherland 585		
EVERDELL Paul	Lodge Young Burrangong 20	SCIOSCIA Vito	Lodge Kiama 35		
FITZPATRICK Paul	Lodge Epping 390 LOE	SCLATER Brett	The Lodge Of Australia 3		
FOSTER Jay	Lodge Sir James Hardy 1046	SCOTT Robert	Lodge St David and St John 180		
FRIEND Andrew	Lodge Castlereagh 72	SIDAROS Mick	Lodge Axiom 1047		
GATT John	Lodge Parkes 40	SINGH Edwin	The Lodge Of Tranquillity 42		
HARDY Anthony	Lodge Commonwealth of Australia 633	SMITH Julian	Lodge Como 738		
HARRIS Luke	Lodge Trinitarian 978	SMITH Anthony	Lodge Timor 274		

## Australian Facts!

- In 1838 it was declared illegal to swim at public beaches during the day! This law was enforced until 1902.
- In April 1933, 68 per cent of West Australians voted in favour of seceding from the Commonwealth of Australia. However, they needed permission from the British Parliament before they could officially become a new country. Meanwhile, Australia's Federal Parliament was arguing that Britain should not interfere in Australian politics. The end result was that Britain never made a decision. Consequently, Western Australia remained part of the Commonwealth!
- In 1832, 300 female convicts at the Cascade Female Factory mooned the Governor of Tasmania during a chapel service. It was said that in a 'rare moment of collusion with the convict women, the ladies in the Governor's party could not control their laughter.'

[www.convictcreations.com](http://www.convictcreations.com)



**DOWN**

- 1 Hear audio censor's substitutions in a regularly ballet exposé (6)
- 2 Contracted infectious fever from suspicious spy hut (6)
- 3 Substitute 'I am able' to be friendly with discrete and virtuous conduct etc (7)
- 4 This time, that is, you hear me say goodbye in French (5)
- 6 Trembles carrying cases of arrows (7)
- 7 The French waylay characters rewriting the passage (8)
- 8 Star used to make jewellery (8)
- 11 Let me display the first strength of character (6)
- 15 Fondle characters upset to embrace (6)
- 16 Ton of tarragon lost when cultivated by lan of rural pursuits (8)
- 17 Rough mode of preparation displayed in rough old ships (8)
- 19 Makes possible or else ban such changes altogether (7)
- 20 Can dour characters act with such honest frankness? (7)
- 21 Stick together and run business from this place (6)
- 22 Iron man types, forbidden into our assemblies? (6)
- 25 Various names for a chaplain's dwelling perhaps (5)

Solution next issue © adsXwords

**ACROSS**

- 1 Barely at the point of arranging duplicity (8)
- 5 The French leave squealer to dig up emblem of morality and justice (6)
- 9 Windows in elicit exhibition is clear and obvious (8)
- 10 Some capillary vessel was formed hollow. To serve as an archive? (6)
- 12 Bluer lump diagnosed symbolically with Integrity and Uprightness (9)
- 13 Our Ancient Usages and Customs are said to have for example and unknown quantity and exercise (5)
- 14 Abandon place girt by sea for Robinson's domain (6, 6)
- 18 Favourable opportunity to charge excessively for Jason's quarry (6, 6)
- 23 & 27 – Nothing between party worker and me, half gaga, is the first and the last (5, 3, 5)
- 24 No moselle served up with seafood (5, 4)
- 26 Unethical characters cut out variations to breathe (6)
- 27 See 23 across
- 28 Practice of total exposure in mid sun resort (6)
- 29 Brief respite for an official pardon? (8)

**Solution Summer 2011**

G	O	L	I	A	T	H	S	A	G	R	E	E	D	
O	E	C	E					R	S					
B	R	E	T	H	R	E	N	J	A	C	O	B	S	
L	W		I	L	L	V		P	T				H	
E	N	A	B	L	E	T	E	M	P	L	E	O	F	
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S	A		S		C		I		M		C		S	
K	I	N	G		S	O	L	O	M	O	N			
I	I		U		R	N	N		L				U	
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D	A		S		S		U		G		D			U
E	S	T	E	E	M		I	N	T	R	U	D	E	R
E	E		E				D		A		E			P
P	E	D	A	N	T		W	O	O	M	E	R	A	S



**I was in the six item express lane at the store quietly fuming.**

Completely ignoring the sign, the woman ahead of me had slipped into the check-out line pushing a cart piled high with groceries.

Imagine my delight when the cashier beckoned the woman to come forward, looked into the cart and asked sweetly, 'So which six items would you like to buy?'

*Wouldn't it be great if that happened more often?*

**All eyes were on the radiant bride as her father escorted her down the aisle.**

They reached the altar and the waiting bridegroom; the bride kissed her father and placed something in his hand.

The guests in the front pews responded with ripples of laughter. Even the priest smiled broadly.

As her father gave her away in marriage, the bride gave him back his credit card.



## 50 Years Service

AINSWORTH, CECIL	Lodge Illawarra 59
ARBUCKLE, DENIS	Lodge Cessnock 252
ARMSTRONG, REGINALD	Lodge Sutherland 585
ARTHUR, RAYMOND	Lodge Canberra 465
BAXTER, ARTHUR	Lodge Oatley 381
BERESFORD, ELWIN	Nowra Unity 60
BIRD, BRUCE	Lodge Panania 845
BUIST, JOHN	Balmain Lodge 23
CANNON, NEVILLE	Lodge John Williams 148
CAVANAGH, IAN	Lodge The Raleigh 241
COFINAS, COSTA	The Leichhardt Lodge 133
DALEY, DARYL	Lodge Canberra 465
DAVIS, KEVIN	Lodge Pacific 298
FERGUSON, JAMES	The Hawkesbury Heritage Lodge 150
GLARE, LEONARD	Lodge Perfect of Canberra 951
HOGDEN, BARRY	Lodge Alpha 970
JACKSON, DOUGLAS	Lodge Calala Tamworth 652
JOSEPHS, HENRY	Lodge Woden Valley 974
LOWE, WILLIAM	Lodge Wyvern 813
MELHUIISH, ANTHONY	Lodge West Epping 731
MULLIGAN, KENNETH	Lodge Guyra 325
MUNRO, HAROLD	Lodge Richard Coley 152
NORRIE, PETER	Lodge Wahroonga 674
PRIEST, DAVID	Brundah Endeavour 429
PURSEHOUSE, KENNETH	Lodge Liverpool Plains 191
RICHARDS, CECIL	Lodge Wahroonga 674
RICHARDS, EDWARD	Lodge Sutherland 585
RIMOLDI, REGINALD	Lodge Como 738
VIRTUE, KEITH	Lodge John Williams 148

WHITBY, WILLIAM	The Schools Lodge 639
WIGENS, PAUL	Lodge Bathurst United 79

## 60 Years Service

BLACKETT, PHILLIP	Lodge Wahroonga 674
BLUNN, JOHN	Bankstown Daylight Lodge 996
BROWN, WESLEY	Lodge Warringah 83
BURGESS, DONALD	Lodge Cessnock 252
CALLINAN, KEITH	Lodge Ballina 112
COOMBES, ERIC	Lodge Paxton 608
CRIBB, ROBERT	Lodge St David and St John 180
CUDD, MAXWELL	Lodge The Raleigh 241
DAVIS, HILTON	Lodge Carringtonia 187
EDDY, RICHARD	Lodge Ophir 17
EIVSON, WILLIAM	Nowra Unity 60
FLINT, ARTHUR	Lodge Cowra 33
GILROY, ALEXANDER	Lodge Horace Thompson Ryde 134
GREEN, LYALL	Lodge Liverpool Plains 191
HADFIELD, RONALD	The Hawkesbury Heritage Lodge 150
HANINGTON, JAMES	Lodge Star Of Wauchope 310
KOPFF, ARNOLD	Lodge St David and St John 180
LINDSAY, ROBERT	Lodge Picton 258
MAGEE, GEOFFREY	Lodge Panania 845
MARKS, KENNETH	Lodge Kilwinning 13
MCGREGOR, GRAHAM	Lodge Pacific 298
MCPHERSON, MALCOLM	Lodge Canberra 465
MENDHAM, FREDERICK	Lodge Carringtonia 187
MONTGOMERY, LESLIE	Lodge Beecroft 359
NEILL, KENNETH	Lodge Canberra 465

ODGERS, EUGENE	Lodge Silver City 141
OWEN, EARL	Lodge Mark Owen 828
PEARSON, JOHN	Lodge Epping 390 LOE
POND, WILLIAM	Lodge James Kibble (Daylight) 985
ROACH, HEDLEY	Lodge Pacific 298
ROBERTS, JAMES	Lodge Richard Coley 152
ROBERTSON, BRUCE	The Royal Empire Lodge 613
SARGEANT, FREDERICK	Lodge Resurgo 223 LOE
SCOTT, JACK	Batemans Bay Daylight Lodge 1013
SHAKESPEARE, CHARLES	Lodge Cessnock 252
SPERLING, OWEN	Lodge Mark Owen 828
STEVENS, JAMES	Lodge James Kibble (Daylight) 985
SWANE, EDGAR	Lodge Wyvern 813
SWEETMAN, KENNETH	Lodge Cessnock 252
TAIT, NORMAN	Lodge West Epping 731
THOMAS, JACK	Lodge Silver City 141
TODD, ROBERT	Lodge Mulwala "The Scott" 184
TURNER, ROBERT	Lodge Score 183
WALLACE, FREDERICK	Lodge Carringtonia 187
WILMOTT, BRUCE	Lodge Liverpool Plains 191

## 70 Years Service

BEDWELL, JOHN	Lodge Barham 561
BYERS, STANLEY	Lodge West Epping 731
DIBBEN, VICTOR	Lodge West Epping 731
KING, HARRY	Lodge Ophir 17
METCALFE, RONALD	Lodge Canberra 465
NOTLEY, LYALL	Lodge Loftus 401

# ANZAC day 2012 Masonic wreath laying ceremony

The Freemasons Association (NSW & ACT) will again conduct a **Masonic Wreath Laying Ceremony** at the Martin Place Cenotaph, Sydney on ANZAC Day 2012.

**W**reaths will be laid by the President of the Association, RW Bro E Maniago, SGW and the Grand Master, MW Bro Derek J Robson, AM, RAN (Ret'd)

The masonic contingent will assemble on the GPO corner of Martin Place and Pitt Street at 0700 hours under the control of the Parade Commander, RW Bro

Major Douglas James, RFD, PJGW, and march to the Cenotaph for the wreath laying ceremony at 0715 precisely.

As with previous years, it is hoped that the NSW Masonic Club will make its facilities available for light refreshments following the ceremony.

An open invitation is extended to brethren, their families and friends to

join the masonic contingent for this most important event. Masonic regalia will NOT be worn.

Further information can be obtained from the Association's Vice President, Dr Yvonne McIntyre, telephone (02) 9284 2844 or email [yvonnem@freemasons-swact.org.au](mailto:yvonnem@freemasons-swact.org.au)



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## Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution

Established in 1880

*The RFBI wishes all Masons a happy,  
prosperous and healthy 2012.*

On 1 February 2012, the RFBI assumed ownership of Waratah Lodge, a 63 bed low care facility located at West Wyalong. The RFBI, in 1982, assisted the local community with funding to enable them to establish a facility. Waratah Lodge now joins the RFBI Family being the 23rd location in the stable.

The RFBI **APPEALS** to Masons to assist in continuing the caring work begun in 1880. Today, in addition to the Annuity and the Benevolent Assistance Schemes, where assistance is granted to those in need, the RFBI provides accommodation for more than 2,600 senior citizens in its retirement villages. The physical evidence of our 23 retirement villages is a testimony to the charitable works of Freemasonry. Be assured, all donations will be gratefully received and faithfully applied.

The RFBI seeks **donations** (tax deductible over \$2) to ensure the benevolent nature of the RFBI continues.

The RFBI invites you to leave a **BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL** to enable the charitable works of the Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution to continue. Please contact head office for the appropriate form.

The RFBI is keen to seek the assistance of **Volunteers**. The scope of involvement is limitless.

Likewise the RFBI is able to organise Speakers for Lodge meetings or any like minded Masonic Function. Please contact Alex Shaw.

Contact Alex Shaw or Ann King on 9264 5986 or [admin@royfree.org.au](mailto:admin@royfree.org.au)

# Freemasons Association

## Annual Childrens Christmas Party

