

# Freemason



**French ritual**  
an historic transformation

**Women in**  
**Freemasonry**

**IT'S NO  
SECRET**  
REAL MEN WEAR APRONS



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# Seasons Greetings



We must listen to sacred places of the heart and conscience, and apply our masonic grand principles to make better lives for our loved ones and community.

**D**ear Brethren and Families, Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year from Judith, Harriet, Sybilla and myself and may 2010 bring happiness and peace into all your lives.

The genius of Freemasonry skillfully weaves the fabric of our lives. A speculative philosophy in which the working tools of the operative masons teach lessons of morality. These moral lessons, once understood, equip men to be teachers of hope to a younger generation in search of these essentials of life. We must listen to sacred places of the heart and conscience, and apply our masonic grand principles to make better lives for our loved ones and community, and reaffirm that human reason, when combined with the power of the Great Architect of the Universe, builds the foundations of our wonderful Fraternity.

As Grand Master I ask you to 'reach out' as masons, and by your example, bring hope and future to a world crying out for compassion and healing.

Judith and I again wish you 'Seasons Greetings' and may this be a time of connection with family and friends.



# A journey of discovery



Since the last issue of the Freemason magazine, our jurisdiction has been preparing for the launch of the latest book by Dan Brown, *The Lost Symbol*.

With no knowledge of what had been written in the book about Freemasonry, we went into the pre-launch process blind to the spin on our Craft. The only part of the book that had been seen was the cover that displayed the square and compasses.

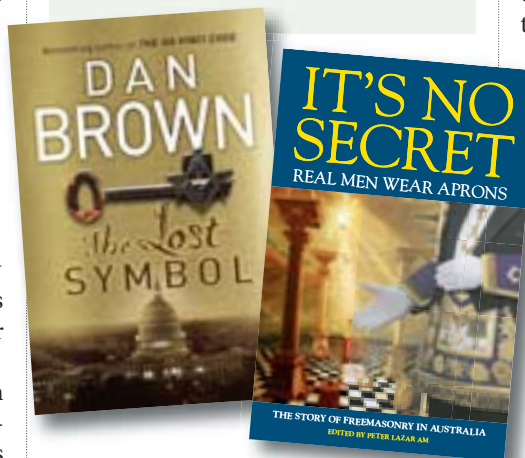
Prior to the launch of the book on 15 September, Grand Lodge invited all aspects of the media to interview our Grand Master and other members of Grand Lodge. I can't recall any other time when so much positive media attention has been given to Freemasonry in NSW & ACT. It's not often we have an opportunity to see our Grand Master on TV or hear him on the radio. I know if we had to pay for this advertising it would have been a costly exercise. I can only imagine what it will be like when the big budget movie with Tom Hanks comes out in the next year or two.

The next initiative, will be the Launch of our book, *It's no secret - Real men wear aprons*. This book will use the publicity of *The Lost Symbol* to continue the public's interest in us, and further enhance our profile in the community.

As masons the responsibility falls upon all of us to 'talk the talk' in the community. The Dan Brown books and movies are all great selling tools for us to use when discussing Freemasonry, but they don't make masons. That responsibility is ours. Part of our problem has been that we are taught early in our masonic careers of 'improper solicitation' but we must understand there is also 'proper solicitation' for the right man. Gone are the days when we go to lodge with a long coat to cover our dinner suit with our cases

hidden under the coat, or dad not showing the family what he keeps hidden in his little black bag. Maybe this attitude is part of the reason why our membership has suffered.

**I can't recall any other time when so much positive media attention has been given to Freemasonry in NSW & ACT.**



We often talk about the role of the husband/partner, and just as importantly the role of the wife or girlfriend and the amount of time they commit to their own lodges and districts. We need to provide a product that maintains their interest and encourages them to bring their partner, family and friends to our functions. For those lodges that are struggling, maybe it's time to see what the first stages of

Accreditation have to offer. All information is available under Quality System on the UGL NSW & ACT website. I don't see this as a way of making lodges become Macdonald's franchises. There are many specialty lodges that have their own uniqueness that attracts people to join them.

As many of the lodges throughout this jurisdiction are working towards Accreditation to become a 'Lodge of Excellence', one of the most important things to remember is that the certificate is not the reward for the lodge. It's the journey of discovery, improvement, and ultimately the longevity of the lodge and the Craft, through enjoyment of the masonic family that is the reward.

We hear the words at an Installation Ceremony, 'So that our children's children can celebrate with joy and rejoicing the annual recurrence of this auspicious solemnity'. These words are asking us all to consider the future of our own lodges and Freemasonry.

Another initiative that was introduced by our Grand Master at his Installation is the 20/20 program, which identifies talented 25-50 year old masons who have skills to offer our Craft. The next campaign will begin soon to identify more 20/20s. I would like to see every lodge represented with a 20/20 mason and for these brethren to be working with their DGIW and RGC on local initiatives. The 20/20s in the Canberra region are working hard in conjunction with their local Associations (CADMA) to promote Freemasonry This group of men will be our future leaders and we need to involve and encourage them as much as possible.



# The meaning of Christmas

Our Grand Chaplains offer their **thoughts** as the **Festive Season** approaches.

## From Chaplain Carter

*Keep sight of the deep religious significance of the celebration*

**C**hristmas in the Christian Church is the festival of the nativity of Christ. Many Christmas customs are an evolution from times that long ante dated the Christian period – a descent from seasonal, pagan, religious and national practices, hedged about with legend and tradition.

Their seasonal connections with the pagan feast of the winter solstice relate them to the beginning of time, and their legacy in the birth of Christ makes them shareholders in the most significant event in the history of the world – an event that gave it a new date ‘anno Domini’.

During our joyous and happy festive season, we must not become indifferent to, and lose sight of, the deep religious significance of the celebration, which is the birth of Christ.

My good wishes for a happy, holy and safe Christmas to all the brethren and their families.

## From Chaplain Kilkeary

*The Christmas tree*

**A**s I drove home through Blaxland, on the lower Blue Mountains, at the end of October, my eye caught the sign ‘Xmas Lights, Warehouse Sale’.

Yes, it’s that time of the year again.

Do you have a Christmas tree? Many of us have one which comes out annually. Its coloured lights are attractive and parcels are placed under its branches awaiting Christmas Day. The fir tree became accepted as the Christmas tree in Germany during the eighth century. Germany had become a Christian country and St Boniface cut down the sacred oak of Odin to mark the break from the pagan past. Behind the oak stood a small fir tree which he dedicated to the baby Jesus.

Martin Luther developed the concept by placing small candles on a tree in his home in an attempt to reproduce the



starlight shining through the branches of forest trees.

The Christmas tree was brought to England by Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria. In 1841 they had a Christmas tree at Windsor Castle. The tree and lights are a wonderful annual reminder of the coming of Christ.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas.

## From Chaplain Hely

*Give what help you can to others – we are all one family*

**A**s masons, we exercise the ‘kindly aid of charity’ and emphasise ‘brotherly love’ when promoting Freemasonry but how do you explain the theft of a motor van providing food and assistance to people in need.

Where is the charity – the brotherly love? With the approach of the Christmas season our thoughts should turn to others and the reason why this time of the year is called Christmas.

We should all give charitable assistance at this time and at all times, to those in need. The human species is one family, rich and poor, high and low, created by One Almighty Being.


In your Christmas wishes, think deeply about aid and charity and make it happen.

## From Chaplain Tov-Lev

*Be merry but really happy*

**H**ow wonderful that there is the opportunity, once a year, to rise from the profane into celebrating the Festive Season, to break the monotonous and exhausting daily life and direct the inner soul towards more spiritual time.

Of course, it is not the occasion for more drinking (enough with bars of constant drunks), but to search and reflect within each individual’s past behaviour and ambitions during the year and try to correct the mistakes and adjust the positive thinking, to be more useful, tolerant and helpful to all. The enormous pressure of life is today part of this modern time. Many families and individuals therefore require a little peace of mind and soothing feelings by the happy gathering with their loved ones.

The Light of Hanukkah (the Jewish Festival of Lights) is a reminder that the half blindness imposed on us because of various uncontrolled circumstances is now the time to clearly open our eyes and mind to see a better neighbourhood, a better personal happiness and be counted towards improving the world. 



# Tip Cards

Tip Cards are being prepared by Grand Lodge to **encourage lodges** to look at and if desired, to **change or upgrade** how they conduct meetings, arrange social events, become more involved in the community, handle membership drives or indeed, anything that will help us **enjoy being a lodge member**.

**T**ip Cards are being made in the hope they will be used but we are not going to demand, or even suggest, that each lodge downloads them. If you like an idea we put up and you want it, it's yours. If you have an idea for a 'Tip Card', let us know.

We will try to issue 'Tip Cards' regularly and on anything that can have an effect on how a lodge works, plays, grows and enjoys its Freemasonry.

It is also acknowledged that each lodge is a separate entity with its own heart and soul. Lodges meeting in the same town or building can have a different outlook, on how they conduct their meetings, standard of work, even growth in membership.

We share a common grounding and belief in Freemasonry and in our tenets but from that point our lodge personalities take shape.

The area, or environment of your lodge can have an influence on what you do and why. A change in environment can sometimes have a profound effect on a lodge. It is often gradual and we don't notice the subtle changes; other times it may be a single dramatic incident. Keeping up with changes in our environment could make a difference to your lodge. We hope 'Tip Cards' will help in these circumstances.

As lodges are different, we do not expect each Card to automatically fit every need. If it is close to what you are after and can be adapted to your circumstances, do it! We are here to give some different working tools to help and guide you and hopefully, make Freemasonry more enjoyable for all members.

If you want further information, contact the Grand Secretary, UGL NSW & ACT.



## Tip Card #1 Community Involvement

**AIM** – This tip is to help your lodge **establish, or to further expand**, the links between your lodge and the **local community**.

### Target

In this tip we suggest you build a relationship with local sporting clubs, either adult or junior, and consider a scholarship for an outstanding performance and/or certificates for other notable achievements. It might be for the most improved or best and fairest. Talk with the club hierarchy and be guided by them.

If your lodge is financially sound you might consider sponsorship of uniforms for a particular team or club – with due emphasis being given to our masonic logo.

Most towns or suburbs have a variety of sporting clubs such as little athletics, archery, several football codes, tennis, rifle, pistol, golf, bowls, dancing and others.

*Hint – Stay away from RSL or Community based sports such as fishing, darts, golf etc. These clubs are generally frequented by a different socio-economic group of persons to those who attend a freestanding, dedicated sporting club. It is to the latter we should direct our help and attention.*

### Reasoning

If we impress the participants or, in the case of junior clubs, their parents, these clubs are a potential source for candidates. Remember, the youngsters will grow up too!

Members of dedicated sporting clubs are generally team orientated, used to formalised meeting structures, tolerant and of good standing in the community. (Just like us.)

Our involvement should help them to think favourably of us and it doesn't have to cost an arm and a leg; for certificates just a little time and someone who is good on a computer with a good program and a few pieces of paper. Sponsorships, a little more perhaps!

### Methodology

The Master, or another articulate member in his absence, should approach such organisations and when up and running ideally he should attend open days, presentations, dinners and award events. Be seen to be caring and concerned about the club or the team.

See if the president or another club official can talk at a lodge meeting or social function to explain the finer details of their sport and its outstanding performers, perhaps there may have been locals who represented at the Olympics or another prestigious event. These persons could be considered for future lodge talks.

In turn you may be asked to speak to them about Freemasonry, or, if they don't, you could offer to do so.

### Conclusion

Canvas all possibilities in your area of influence. There may be a school or other group that warrants attention so put it to the lodge at a regular meeting. Also consider joint efforts with Lions, Rotary and the like, including speaker swaps.



# The Washington Bible

Every **President of the United States** has to take the oath of office on a bible, starting with **George Washington** and up to and including **Barack Obama**.




**M**any of the presidents have used a Masonic Bible which was first used by Washington on 30 April 1789.

This particular bible is 262 years old and was printed in England in 1747. It was presented on 28 November 1770 to St John's Lodge No 1, New York City by Jonathan Hampton, the newly-elected WM of the lodge.

On 30 April 1789, General Washington was to be inaugurated in New York City on the balcony of the old Federal Hall when Jacob Morton, Marshal of the Inauguration parade and also WM of St John's Lodge, noticed that a bible had not been provided on which the President-elect was to take his oath.

So he hastened to the nearby lodge room and took the Bible from the altar and because of the need for haste, the Bible was opened at random. Most Presidents since have opened the Bible to a page on which one of their favourite verses appeared.

The Washington Masonic Bible was printed in large letters. There were also engravings illustrating various Biblical narratives and pictures explaining historical, legal and astronomical information of that day and era. Many years ago, the lodge inserted an extra page in the Bible telling about the ceremonies connected with General Washington's inauguration and the part played by this particular Bible.

The Bible is protected in a velvet lined, heavy leather case and has been locked in a vault at masonic headquarters in New York. It has been taken to other masonic or memorial ceremonies, always accompanied by a lodge escort which has instructions to 'never let it out of sight or arm's reach.' 



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# The Bombard

At the base of the World War I Memorial on Level 3 of the Sydney Masonic Centre is a **small brass cannon** that had been entrusted to the care of Lodge Ubiqque No 900 on 30 May 1959 by its English counterpart Ubiqque Lodge No 1789 EC. On 17 June 2005, **Lodge Ubiqque held its 550th and final meeting** at Laurelbank, Willoughby.

This small brass cannon is known as a 'bombard', a large-calibre, front-loading medieval cannon or mortar and the earliest European device that we would recognise as artillery. The French dubbed them 'pots-de-feu' or 'fire-pots' as they resembled witches' cauldron, except with much thicker sides and a small basin. This design, which appeared in the early 15th century, was known in the late 18th century as a 'mortar,' from its resemblance to the mortars used for grinding.

Bombard is an old English word which is believed to derive from the French, who derived it from the Latin. The modern terms 'bombardment' and 'bombardier' come from this word.

The bombard on display at the Sydney Masonic Centre was manufactured in 1779 and was one of the defences used during the Great Siege of Gibraltar 1779–1783. There are only three of these bombards known in existence, with the other two in the Tower of London and Edinburgh Castle.

Gibraltar was captured by the British in 1704 and ceded to Britain under the terms of the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. In 1780, the Dutch declared war on Britain with the Spanish government interested in hoping to regain Gibraltar. However, Gibraltar was well prepared for the Siege and was re-supplied with stores and ordnances landed on shore in January 1780 and this bombard, which has a range of 800 yards, was in the re-supply. During the Siege, a shot fired from this bombard felled a ship's mast.

While initially limited for use in siege warfare, mortars came in a variety of types and sizes, depending on their intended use.

Larger mortars were of two types, land or sea service, which were either bronze or cast-iron. Land service mortars were lifted manually on and off carts and into position, whereas sea service mortars were installed in 'bomb ketches' and needed no manhandling. By 1775, there were nine different land service and four sea service mortars in the British inventory.

With mortars, as opposed to other types of artillery, instead of having a fixed charge and varying the elevation to range the projectile to target, designers used a fixed elevation – 45 degrees – and gunners in the field would vary the charge to reach the target.



The smallest of the mortars in use in the late 18th century was the 'Coehorn' which could throw an 8½-pound shell 800 yards. This was named after Baron de Coehorn, Director of Artillery of the Dutch Army who had invented and used them in 1673. It could be moved by a crew of two or three men. The 'Royal' mortar fired a 16-pound shell 1,000 yards and, except for size, it bore a close resemblance to the Coehorn and was still current equipment in some British colonies in 1924.

The years of polishing have almost made the engravings unreadable; however, engraved on the base of the barrel 'I AND P VERBRUGGEN FECIT RUNTA J779'



informs us that it was manufactured by John and Peter Verbruggen who were the Master Founders at Woolwich Arsenal between 1717–1786. A literal translation, after retransposing the 'I' and 'J', would be 'John and Peter Verbruggen made this (or made it) little piece 1779'.

Since 1453 artillery has been the backbone of every successful army in history. Artillery has no Regimental colours. Its colours are the guns themselves. Nor does the Artillery have battle honours. Its single battle honour is the one word 'UBIQUE' – EVERYWHERE.

Ubiqque Lodge in the UK and Lodge Ubiqque in Australia established a strong affiliation that began with a telegram to the latter on its consecration on 5 May 1956, that read: 'Ubiqque to Ubiqque – fraternal greetings and best wishes on your grand and glorious undertaking'. At the rear of the bombard is a small plaque with that inscription since reproduced onto a mounted larger plaque as pictured.

The history of artillery largely becomes a record of its technical effectiveness, together with improvements or changes in putting well-established principles into action. The bombard on display is part of that history having played its part during the Siege of Gibraltar and the beginning of modern artillery mortars.

References: W Bro Ken Hough, Bro Bryan Whiddon OAM, Bro Chris Williams (Grand Librarian), Robyn Foster, Archivist RW Bro Brian French, Extract Final Meeting Lodge Ubiqque No 900, *The Bombard: Its History and its Usage*, Earn Sharp





# A Poem for Remembrance Day

Why are you selling poppies, Mummy?  
Selling poppies in town today.  
The poppies, child, are flowers of love  
For the men who marched away.

But why have they chosen a poppy,  
Mummy?  
Why not a beautiful rose?  
Because my child, men fought and died  
In the fields where the poppies grow.

But why are the poppies so red,  
Mummy?  
Why are the poppies so red?  
Red is the colour of blood, my child.  
The blood that our soldiers shed.

The heart of the poppy is black, Mummy.  
Why does it have to be black?  
Black, my child, is the symbol of grief  
For the men who never came back.

But why, Mummy, are you crying so?  
Your tears are giving you pain.  
My tears are my fears for you my child  
For the world is forgetting again.





# Time to talk

The following items are excerpts from the **September Communication** in Newcastle.

## From the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston

**B**rethren, we have at present one overriding purpose, and that is 'As masons to make masons'. I draw your attention to changes that you, as individual masons, have contributed to, and have ownership of. Through your membership development levy, set this masonic year at \$5 per head, and in conjunction with our Strategic Plan, we are embarking on a major image and marketing campaign across this Jurisdiction and across Australia and New Zealand. The 'It's Time To Talk' program has been completed and the available CD case package will include: a 24 page brochure 'It's NO Secret', nine special interest cards, a DVD of interviews of

non-masons and masons alike, and a call to action card with contact details.

These will be sent to all Lodge Secretaries, Lodge Membership Officers, DGIWs and RGCs, and individually on request.

An instruction package is included, and it is envisaged that we will run lodge training seminars, and develop group and individual communication skills, so we can expertly reach out and re-establish ourselves as a valued member of the community, clearly understood and interesting to a non-mason. At the same time, our ongoing 'quality masonic experience' program is gathering momentum so we can retain those newer masons.

I am particularly excited that the Dan Brown book, *The Lost Symbol*, is being

released across the world. It will spike the curiosity in Freemasonry off the chart. This administration has contracted Professional Public Relations P/L to author, publish and distribute our own book, *It's No Secret, Real Men Wear Aprons*. It will be distributed into every book store and newsagent across the country, to take advantage of this media and public frenzy.

The book is about us, our Australian Freemasons, it is about our history, it is about our strengths, values, quirks, heroes, myths, good works, art, our music. The book launch is accompanied by the re-development of our UGL website, a 'Sound & Light' show in the Museum of Freemasonry available to all, in conjunction with a revamped UGL exhibition space, and a media launch.

We need to sell 20,000 of our books. I ask all lodges to immediately buy 10 copies for distribution to new masons, friends and family. It makes a great Christmas present.

## From the Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Derek Robson

**T**he majority of us have already had the opportunity to be associated in some form with the ongoing Men's Health Program and we intend to continue with this very successful program and look forward to a further round of Men's Health Seminars being conducted across all regions during this masonic year.

In addition, the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health is gearing up for the new GIRTH Program – GIRTH standing for 'Get Involved, Reach Top Health' and RW Bro Robert Runge has been appointed as our Men's Health Coordinator. His first task will be to identify and liaise with our Regional Grand Counsellors to introduce a pilot program which will give insights into health and wellbeing issues pertaining to men, group facilitation techniques and instruction on the healthy eating and physical activity components

### A Preview of the December Communication Program

The meeting will commence at 7pm and will be preceeded by a special 'Commemoration Service' at the Memorial Wall, Level 1, from 6.30pm.

- › A banquet to which ladies are invited will be at 8.30pm.
- › Grand Master's report
- › Board Reports
- › Musical items
- › Presentation of a Letter of Acknowledgement to The Supreme Council for Scotland of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite
- › General business



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of the GIRTH Program. It will also provide skills in event organisation, public presentation and leadership.

This is a very important program for all of us. It will encourage us to understand how adopting a healthy lifestyle and losing weight will not only reduce the risk of developing serious and uncomfortable medical conditions, but it will also offer more immediate benefits, such as greater energy and mobility, better sleep and better sex, preserve our independence and improve our mental health. In essence, GIRTH has been designed to help us achieve a new lease on life.

The Grand Master's Membership Forum will shortly be invited to commence its work. This will build on the efforts of the Board of Management's Membership Committee and the work currently being undertaken by our consultants. I hope our discussions will open many new opportunities and thought processes for Private Lodges to enhance their operations and activities and ultimately provide us with a more stable and secure membership. The majority of this work will be conducted through the electronic media and I will be looking forward to some early results.

Most of you should have already received the Spring 2009 edition of the *Freemason*. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the editorial team for this magnificent and informative edition. With it featuring the very broad range of masonic activity, including many individual members acting out their various roles, it offers a tremendous boost for our image and marketing aspects and will be a most valuable resource in our promotion of the Craft.

**From the Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro J R Melville**

It is great to see there has been a positive and enthusiastic response by the 20/20 sub committees. Most committees have developed their own charter outlining their function, responsibilities and procedures. The 20/20 Education and the 20/20 Membership Committees both have meetings set for October and the IT Committee has had discussions with the Freemasons' Association (NSW & ACT) and the Women's Advisory Committee to help develop a website for these two groups.



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

**Is it true that it is an advantage to a person's career to be a mason?**

This is a commonly held viewpoint but it is incorrect. Masons are under a strict obligation to not use their connections to obtain personal advantage. There is, of course, a general benefit that does come from being known as a mason, that is, being known as 'a person of integrity who can be relied upon.'

**As a mason, are there any compulsory charity donations or levies that I have to pay?**

No. There are never any compulsory donations required of you. Any donation you may choose to make to any fund is at all times entirely at your own discretion. A principal aim of Freemasonry is to render practical aid to the less fortunate members of the community.

**How has the issue of addressing the needs and concerns of brethren from the silent generation (b 1929-45), baby boomers (1946-64), generation X (1965-1977) and generation**

**Y (1978-1994) been addressed in communications and publications being issued by the Grand Secretariat such as the Freemason magazine, email blasts from the Grand Secretariat, fliers and publications?**

Firstly, it must be realised that the *Freemason* magazine always has been, is now and will be totally independent in content and distribution of the Grand Secretariat, the Grand Master and the Boards and Committees of Grand Lodge.

The magazine may print articles submitted from those areas but there are no guarantees or obligations. The Editorial Committee makes the decision on what's in or out, without fear or favour. As for email blasts and the like – is there really any need for differing formats aimed at the different generations? Is there not a need for unanimity and equality for all? The Board of Management does not consider there is a need to have a distinguishable difference of communication in these particular forms at this time.

They would also encourage all brethren to get online at [forum.nswactmasons.org.au](http://forum.nswactmasons.org.au)

If any Districts or Regions have any reports, please submit them to the attention of myself via the Grand Secretary.

Also, I would encourage a 20/20 mason who visits another lodge, when he fills out a visitor's card to have 20/20 after his name, followed by his lodge and number. I would also encourage those to enter as a combined group.



# Working for elephants

Bro Owen Parry has **long memories** of Freemasonry. This is his story.

I was a child the first time I heard about the Freemasons. My mother was discussing how her grandfather was a Freemason in England and when he died young, leaving seven children and a wife in the days of no social security or insurance, his brother masons offered assistance to the widow and children. I thought that these men must be of substantial character and have a strong bond between them to do that.

My next encounter with Freemasonry was as a teenager reading Rudyard Kipling and watching the movie *The Man who would be King*. Once again the bond between the brother masons impressed me and the secrets intrigued me.

I played rugby for many years at a great club (Drummoyne Dirty Reds) where many strong friendships were made.

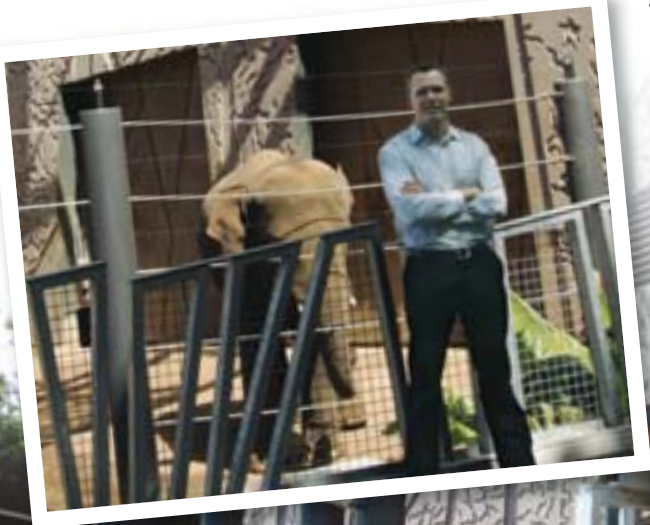
When I stopped playing a few years ago I missed the camaraderie. I thought maybe Freemasonry could offer me the same benefits without the broken bones. I joined Lodge Chelmsford 261 and have found exactly that: friendship, worthwhile activities, encouragement, cooperation and brothers.

I am a civil engineer working at Taronga Zoo for the Taronga Conservation Society of Australia, project managing design and construction of exhibits and facilities. One of my projects was the male elephant enclosure. I enjoy being an engineer and I have found that I can relate my work back to Freemasonry. Many of the working tools from the three degrees used by masons in the construction of King Solomon's Temple, and castles and cathedrals in the Middle Ages, are still in use today and significantly, were used in the construction of the elephant enclosure.

I am currently a Junior Deacon at Lodge Chelmsford and one of the youngest members at 31 years of age. What impresses me

about Chelmsford is that the older established members are willing to listen to the younger members' ideas and to visit lodges with them. They also take their ritual seriously and answer all of my questions patiently and show an interest in my progression.

Another benefit of Freemasonry that I look forward to is hopefully seeing my two year old son Winston join me at Lodge Chelmsford. Having another bond with him and knowing that I will work and have dinner with him at least every month is exciting. We had a father and son in Lodge Chelmsford (Stephen and Arthur Lidbetter) until recently when Arthur sadly passed away, it was great to see them work together and the enjoyment they gained.





# Hiram Abif and King Solomon's Temple

The Jerusalem 'Ram's Horn' of sometime in BC 1014 trumpeted the headline 'Solomon Imports Architect from Tyre'.

Even in those days of the King's absolute power, a great deal of bad feeling was generated. 'Have we no architects of our own?' 'Are we, God's chosen people bereft of skilful artisans and engineers of our nationality?' Such were the repercussions and bad publicity that King Solomon, on the advice of his press agent (or chief scribe as he was then known) issued the following statement.

*'My father King David left me with the responsibility to build a Temple to Jehovah, as the Lord had forbidden him to fulfil this duty because of his sin with my mother Bathsheba. Our Lord God Jehovah is the One True God and it is necessary, essential even, that His Temple shall be such that its beauty surpasses all previous ideas. Therefore it is a basic requirement that we get the best man for the job. This man is Hiram Abif and I have persuaded King Hiram of Tyre to release him from his current contract for a long period. This, and my promise to purchase from him shekels worth of timber, gold, precious stones and thousands of talents of brass has just about secured the future of this building. Hiram Abif is also an expert metallurgist and a genius in the craft of casting. He has been successful in making the world's largest casting to date and will be challenged even further by the two great pillars I want him to design and build for erection in the new*

*temple courtyard. These will serve to remind you all of the great deliverance our forefathers experienced when they escaped from their Egyptian bondage more than 450 years ago. I have appointed Adoniram as the Clerk of Works and Chief Inspector so our people will be represented in the project at a high level of responsibility. That is all I am prepared to say at present.'*

**They were all amazed at the skill shown by Hiram Abif and wondered why there had been so much fuss at his appointment.**

And so, by Solomon's prompt action, the problem blew over. The people in Jerusalem watched as the foundations on the temple mount were dug. The stones which had been fully prepared off-site due to the local noise regulations soon started to arrive and the temple steadily took shape year by year. Some people even went to the clay ground around Zeradatha to witness the casting of the great pillars and



Early 18th Century Russian icon depicting King Solomon holding a model of the Temple

the other major brass vessels which King Solomon had ordered for the Temple service. They were all amazed at the skill shown by Hiram Abif and wondered why there had been so much fuss at his appointment.

Progress continued until the Temple was almost completed, when, during the year BC 1005 another headline announced the dreadful news, 'The great architect and builder of the Temple, Hiram Abif, has disappeared'.

Every Master Mason can complete this story.

## The Vision of Freemasonry

*Our Vision is to have Freemasonry recognised within the community as an organisation of high moral and social standards that benefits its members and the community.*



**The Editorial Committee extends Seasons Greetings to all of our readers.**

**Any enquiries regarding Freemasonry can be directed to the United Grand Lodge on 02 9267 9133. Grand Lodge will close for the Christmas/New Year break on 23 December and will reopen on 11 January.**



# Success is the Keynote

How to be a **successful manager** is one of the biggest challenges in business, industry and sport, and determines **the future of every organisation.**



**F**reemasonry is not exempt and requires just as competent a manager. RW Bro Stephen Green, PAGM, Chairman of the Board of Management of UGL NSW & ACT is fully aware of the problems and in particular the different attitudes of the long-serving members and the new generation.

‘One of our biggest changes coming up is convincing brethren it’s fine to talk about masonry among families and friends. We believe the old rule on approaching no longer applies because if there used to be a phrase of improper solicitation, there must also be proper solicitation,’ he said.

‘All we’re trying to achieve is very reliant on our available human and financial resources. If the brethren aren’t willing to participate, we have a problem because there are not enough Grand Lodge officers to do it all.’

The main thrust at the moment is implementation of the Strategic Plan involving the new image/marketing program. It involves implementation of various policies and programs for lodges such as

the Mentoring program, self assessment of lodges (Accreditation) and different masonic education community activities.

‘They are all aimed at an increase in membership. The Board can come up with all sorts of policies and programs but if brethren are not willing to accept them, then it will be to no avail.’

The Board is the operational arm of the strategic unit of the Grand Lodge. It is in charge of membership, marketing, image, private lodges (the functioning of lodges), buildings, education and training, communications, field officers, ritual demonstration team and the Lodge of Transition.

On average, the meetings, which are held monthly, last for three hours but may go longer depending on issues that have arisen and decisions that need to be made. The Chairmen of Committees also have a meeting midway between each Board meeting. Each portfolio has to produce a report for the Board and that report may bring it up to date on current activities or bring recommendations for approval.

RGCs are invited to attend, two at a

time, to observe the operations and occasionally there might be an outside identity present to give his findings.

‘We particularly use RGCs and DGIWs, or field officers, to be fully aware and explain to members what we’re trying to achieve and why. We can make great inroads with the new image/marketing program which may bring in new members but upon entering the local lodge, if the quality of what they find is not up to expectations, they won’t stay for long.’

‘This includes buildings and the lodge workroom and we have to convince members to accept. Anyone can submit recommendations or suggestions to the Board but they must be through the Grand Secretary who will pass them to the appropriate committee.’

‘There has been a tendency of late to be more critical than offer suggestions. As I say to Board members, “don’t bring me problems, bring me solutions to those problems”. I think we have a very good mix on the Board, quality brethren with appropriate skills, but it doesn’t mean they will have all the answers. It’s not about stopping lodges from making changes or suggestions but making sure that what they do is right and will work.’

‘To members, I would say we need to look to the future together in teamwork. Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes the time. Vision with action can change the world.’

## HOLDEN CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT

### Are you an 18° Mason?

Have you seen the 4th to the 17th degrees worked?

Would you like to help work these degrees?

Holden Chapter of Improvement works all of the intermediate degrees over a 3 year period. You can attend as a visitor any time. If you would like to take part in the work, then you would be most welcome.

Our next meeting will be at the Masonic Centre, Ryde at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 30 September when we will work the 13th Royal Arch of Enoch and 14th Grand Elect Perfect Sublime Master.

Contact the Recorder, Brian Skingsley on holdenli@bigpond.net.au, phone 9452 5898 or the Preceptor Barry Travis on 9634 2504 for more information. Send your email address to get on the mailing list.



**Lodge Lightning Ridge 595**  
meets second Friday of each month.  
Free above and below ground Opal Tours arranged.  
Ph: Rod 6829 2428 Email: rod.abe19@gmail.com



# Melanie Scott

Working as a **secretary to a secretary** may seem a strange job but **Melanie Scott** finds it interesting and enjoyable.

As the personal secretary to Grand Secretary RW Bro Kevin McGlinn, Melanie finds her days are busy and varied handling correspondence, emails, phone calls and making sure the office runs smoothly through a team effort.

It's a far cry though to her early days in London, where she was born, and especially school days where she had much pleasure in painting watercolours, mostly landscapes.

'I haven't been able to do much of that

here and would like to find time to get back to it. I painted well and still have memories of a big project I did on the River Thames for the school,' Melanie said.

Like many young people, Melanie had visions of travelling and decided to take the plunge, venturing to New Zealand for five weeks backpacking in 2000 and then coming to Australia to have a look at each State.

'I can say I have been to every major city in Australia, including Central Australia: scuba diving in Cairns, working on



BY RW BRO KEVIN MCGLINN, PDGM, GRAND SECRETARY

## From the Grand Secretary

### Publications

Depleted stocks of Ritual Text Books and other publications have recently been replenished and these new editions incorporate the latest changes as required. The changes on this occasion are relatively minor and are of a grammatical nature or expand in explanation of perambulation information.

Approximately four years ago there were significant changes to each Ritual Text Book and at the same time a change was made to our Grand Lodge's external printer. This required previous books to be 'scanned' and new master copies created to be used for future printing. Unfortunately, scanning each document resulted in several letters, words and punctuation marks being misinterpreted and despite continued reviews, a very few of these remain; however, most are now believed to have been corrected.


Comments from brethren relating to these corrections are greatly appreciated as are submissions containing suggestions or requests for clarifications to the Ritual which are immediately referred to the Ritual Advisory Committee for its con-

siderations. Brethren are encouraged to sustain interest in the Rituals and to submit any comments which they may wish to put forward.

### Museum of Freemasonry

We strive to maintain interest in our Museum by having 'special exhibitions' and the recently refurbished lodge rooms are not only more than popular with lodges which meet at the Sydney Masonic Centre but receive tremendous comments from all visitors.

Work is progressing to use one of these lodge rooms as the venue for a 'son et lumiere' which will further enhance the Museum's interest.

A further addition to this area is the portrait of MW Bro Raymond Brooke (Grand Master 2005-2008) which was recently unveiled by MW Bro Brooke himself at a special function. It is not only a very good likeness but is a more than a worthwhile addition to the other fine portraits of other Past Grand Masters adorning the walls of Level 3. This addition is well worth a visit. 


a butterfly farm in Darwin and finally landing in Sydney where I did temporary work for three months, worked for a law firm for three years and then found Grand Lodge.

'Probably the biggest surprise for me came two days before my interview with the Grand Secretary when my mother told me that her father was a Freemason. He was Major General John Stevenson, the WM of Lodge Welfare in Sydney in 1937.

'I've now been here for five years. The busiest times are the Quarterly Communications when all the paperwork has to be ready, and screening the phone calls for the Grand Secretary. Many of them can be handled by other staff members which saves the Grand Secretary from being swamped.'

Movies, music and dancing are Melanie's favourite forms of relaxation. As she says, she can dance to anything with a beat - ballroom, latin, rock and modern.

She recently took a holiday to South Africa with her mother and sister, doesn't mind housework or cooking but with her fair skin, doesn't get tempted by the beaches.

'I don't go back to England very often because I'm happy with the lifestyle here. Australians are more easy-going, the weather is great and as far as I'm concerned, my home is now Australia.' 



# Women in Freemasonry

Throughout the history of this Grand Lodge, women have played an **important role** in the ongoing **success of the organisation**. Given the contribution they have made, it is surprising that little has been written concerning their activities. For this reason I have asked **Yvonne McIntyre BSc (Hon) MEd PhD JP** to write a series of articles highlighting women's contributions to the Craft for publication in the Freemason magazine. **I thank Yvonne in advance** for what I believe will be **interesting reading for women and masons alike**.

– Greg Levenston, Grand Master

**T**he role of 'Women in Freemasonry' is obviously a complex and controversial subject to research.

It is a widely held belief that Freemasonry has its origins in the medieval Craft Guilds of Great Britain where membership was restricted to men only. Based on this belief, it has become traditional that only men can become regular Freemasons.

Despite this, there are a number of lodges and Orders which operate exclusively for females or which have male and female members but they are not recognised as regular mainstream Freemasonry. Many of these non-mainstream and/or irregular lodges and Orders, counter the argument of the 'men only' tradition by saying that the reference to men in the Ancient Charges of Freemasonry is used in the generic sense and should not be seen as a barrier to women in general. The argument has also been put forward that there are examples of women being employed as stonemasons on the medieval buildings of Europe.

Despite the embargo on women and surprising as it may seem, there have been women who have been admitted as members of regular Freemasonry. The first known woman to become a Freemason in a regular masonic lodge was Mrs Elizabeth Aldworth 1693–1775. Mrs Elizabeth Aldworth, The Hon Elizabeth St Leger, daughter of Lord Doneraile of Doneraile Court, County Cork, Ireland, was born in 1693 and married in 1713 to Richard Aldworth Esquire. From a narrative pub-



lished by the family in 1811 it appears that, upon secretly observing the first two degrees of a lodge at labour in her father's home, she was discovered and, after discussion, Initiated as an Entered Apprentice Freemason and subsequently Passed to the Fellow Craft Degree. Further details of her life can be found in *Hon Miss St Leger and Freemason Ars Quatuor Coronatorum* Vol. VIII (1896) pp 16–23, 53–6 Vol. XVIII (1905) pp 46.

This series of articles is not about whether women should be allowed to become members of a regular masonic lodge. It is about how women are perceived in Freemasonry and the role they have played in the development of the NSW and ACT jurisdiction.

It cannot be denied that women and women's Orders were excluded from regular Freemasonry in the early days. In 1919 for example, MW Bro William Thompson, Grand Master, gave definite instructions that women were not to be admitted to Installation Banquets as these were to be treated as something quite distinct from 'Ladies Nights'.

Similarly, the following resolution was adopted at the Australian Masonic Conference held in Sydney in 1928:

- (a) That no Freemason be permitted to attend any meeting of, or be a member of, the Order of the Eastern Star.
- (b) That no meeting of the Order of the Eastern Star be permitted in any Lodge Room.

Thankfully, those restrictions have been lifted and women are now seen by most masons as having a far greater impact than simply ensuring that their husband's masonic clothing is ready for him to wear when he goes to lodge, support him at mixed masonic functions and staying out of his way when he is mumbling over his ritual books.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston, has stated publicly that he believes women have a role to play in the management of lodge social activities and the welfare of members. He goes further and advocates their inclusion as members on Lodge Management Committees.

I found it surprising in going over the well documented history of this Grand Lodge, that very little is written about the





contribution that women have made. There are volumes written about those wonderful Freemasons who have done so much for Freemasonry in this jurisdiction, but one has to ask whether those contributions could have been made without the active and unselfish support of their womenfolk.

One such woman was Mrs Beatrice Cropley who together with her husband Rubert Cropley, dedicated their lives to the care and welfare of masonic orphans housed at 'The William Thompson Masonic Schools'. The Cropleys gave up a successful business to enable Bro Cropley, later MW Bro Rubert Cropley, Past Grand Master (conferred) to be appointed as the Honorary Superintendent of the School. He held that position until he and his wife retired in February 1940. Despite their retirement and her husband's death in 1949, Mrs Cropley maintained an interest in the pupils and ex-pupils of the School until her own death in 1952. Both Rubert and Beatrice Cropley are fondly remembered in a well written book, *The History of The William Thompson Masonic Schools 1922 to 1988* by Beverly Earnshaw.

The late RW Bro MH Kellerman, OBE BEc MACE FIBA FCES PDGM, Member of the Royal Australian Historical Society, Grand Librarian and Official Historian for the United Grand Lodge of NSW and the ACT paid tribute to the Cropleys in his history of this Grand Lodge, *From Diamond Jubilee to Centenary*. Bro Kellerman said: 'It has been recognised that while William Thompson was the visionary who gave the NSW Masonic School its birth, it was Rubert Cropley and his wife, Beatrice, who were able to enact the day to day requirements which made it work and grow.'

In recording the details of MW Bro Cropley's contribution to the Schools, RW Bro Kellerman goes on to say: 'In all his efforts, his wife was a devoted partner, giving full assistance and encouragement.' I am sure Bro Kellerman's words are as equally applicable to all masons and especially those who have assumed the more demanding roles of Freemasonry.

MW Bro Cropley's memory is enshrined in a stained glass window which was unveiled on 24 February 1951 by MW Bro Frank McDowell, Grand Master, in the

Assembly Hall of the Schools. The window now resides in a place of honour on the first floor of the Sydney Masonic Centre. When I look at the window, I feel a little sad that Mrs Beatrice Cropley does not appear at her husband's side.

In May 1965, the NSW Masonic School Welfare Fund, of which Rubert Cropley was President during his tenure as Honorary Superintendent of the School, changed its name to the NSW Masonic Youth Welfare Fund. It is significant the current Chief Executive Officer of the Fund is a woman – Mrs Susan Williams.

But more of that, together with information on the role played by women in the development of Freemasonry in the NSW and ACT jurisdiction, in further issues of the Freemason.

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4. *A Dictionary of Freemasonry*, Robert Macoy



# THE Castlereagh

Boutique Hotel ★★★★★



*Since 1926, the Castlereagh has been home to the New South Wales Masonic Club. Described as the best kept secret in Sydney, the Club currently has 3,000 members who enjoy the magnificence of this unique heritage listed building.*

*The interior features an imposing marble entrance and foyer, period dining and board rooms, bars, bistro and conference facilities.*

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# A year to celebrate

The **Freemasons' Association** (NSW & ACT) Incorporated, formerly the 100 year old Present and Past Grand Lodge Officers Association held its **first AGM** under its new name on 1 October 2009 at the Sydney Masonic Centre with **43 members attending**, including the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory H Levenston, Patron.

In presenting his report, RW Bro Mehanna paid special tribute to the Committee of Management which met 13 times during the 12 month period.

'The Association's success over the past 12 months has been due to the hard work of the Committee members and it has been my good fortune to have led such a team. I congratulate the Committee on their achievements and would consider it an honour to work with them in the future for the betterment of Freemasonry in this jurisdiction,' he said.

Highlights of RW Bro Mehanna's report were:

- Membership increased by 29% and now includes a strong contingent of women members. Special mention was made of the untiring efforts of Dr Yvonne McIntyre as Membership Officer and Registrar.
- Accumulated funds increased by 35% to \$15,086 at 30 June 2009 and were in excess of \$30,000 at 14 September.
- Action was commenced to implement an Association credit card facility.
- During the year there were four regular lunch meetings, four special meetings, four special events and five dinners. All were well supported.
- An inaugural wreath laying service was held at the Sydney Cenotaph prior to the ANZAC March on 25 April 2009. Approximately 60 masons and members of the Association, led by the Grand Master and the President, marched to the Cenotaph under the command of VW Bro Major Douglas James RFD (Ret'd). Wreaths were laid in memory of members of the masonic family who paid the supreme sacrifice for their country.
- Memorial Services led by RW Bro Commander Derek Robson AM RAN

(Ret'd) PDGM, were held at the Sydney Masonic Centre Wall of Remembrance to commemorate Remembrance Day and ANZAC Day. The services were followed by dinners with more than 100 brethren and their wives/partners attending.

- The Association and the Women's Advisory Committee organised the Grand Lodge Communication Christmas Dinner on 10 December 2008. The event celebrated the centenary of the Association.
- For the first time in recent history, the Association organised a dinner following the Grand Master's Proclamation on 8 August 2009. It was held in conjunction with the Association's drive to raise funds for the NSW Freemasons Disaster Relief Fund and the combined event resulted in \$40,000 collected for the Fund.
- The sale of tickets to the Grand Proclamation on behalf of the Secretariat of Grand Lodge, raised \$1,635 to offset the Proclamation costs.
- The Association entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Grand Lodge at the Proclamation of the Grand Master on 8 August 2009. The document was signed by the Grand Master, MW Bro Levenston, the Grand Secretary, RW Bro Kevin McGlenn, PDGM and the Grand Registrar, RW Bro John Armfield, PDGM on behalf of Grand Lodge and by the Association President, RW Bro Mehanna SGW, Secretary, VW Bro Garry Sayed, PDGDC and Registrar Dr McIntyre, on behalf of the Association.
- Dr McIntyre was elected as the Association's representative on the Board of Management's Operations Committee following an invitation from the Chairman of the Board, RW Bro

Stephen Green, PAGM.

- The Association became Incorporated on 13 July 2009.

Before relinquishing his position as President, RW Bro Mehanna paid special tribute to the wonderful support of his wife Rima and gave a special thank you for the courtesies and friendship extended to them during his term.

The new President, RW Bro Peter Read SGW, thanked the outgoing President and his Committee for their efforts. The President also acknowledged RW Bro Alan Farrell's efforts as Vice President and said he was sorry Alan had decided not to seek re-election. He declared all Committee positions vacant and announced his nominations all of whom had signified their consent and were subsequently elected.

However, six of those elected were subsequently found not to be members of the Association at the time of their election. Consideration is now being given whether the positions affected can be treated as casual vacancies or whether a re-election is required at a Special Meeting of the Association.

Those who were elected and are eligible to hold office include:

- RW Bro Peter Read SGW – Constitutional President
- RW Bro Bruce Balmond JGW – Constitutional Vice President
- VW Bro Garry Sayed – Secretary
- RW Bro John McGregor – Committee member
- Mrs Barbara Mason – Assistant Secretary
- VW Bro Robbie Pesiwarissa – Committee member
- Dr Yvonne McIntyre – Membership Officer
- Miss Judith Morrice – Committee member

# Red Square Blues

A beginner's guide to the decline and fall of the **Soviet Union**

By **KIM TRAILL**

In 1990, as a young music student, Kim Traill set off for the former Soviet Union with a smattering of vocabulary, a lust for wild adventure and a swag of youthful idealism about the great Communist experiment.

Over the next 17 years Kim became an expert on a Russia few tourists see. She ate some of the world's worst food, went to places few of us would venture, made good friends and met a lot of seriously dodgy people. On collective farms and on 40-hour train journeys, at red carpet parties and marriage agencies, on nuclear

bases and in the frozen wastes of Siberia, she navigated the country's changing fortunes, bearing witness to a much darker side of the Soviet State machine – the horrific events of war, nuclear accidents, drug and alcohol addiction and ethnic rivalries. She even tried to make herself into a good Russian woman, abandoning her uniform of jeans, boots and Russian prison coat for heels and a skin-tight dress.

*Red Square Blues* is a full-blooded charge through a crumbling empire as it lurches from dark power to open society and back again. It is an eye-opening por-



trait of an eternally surprising country, leavened with the kind of bone-dry humour only life in a repressive police state can produce.

*An American, a Russian, and an Estonian are riding in the same compartment in a train. The American takes out a pack of cigarettes, offers one to the others, and then throws the rest of the pack out the window.*

*'What did you do that for?' exclaim both the Russian and the Estonian.*

*'Ah, in my great country we have so many cigarettes,' replies the American.*

*After a while the Russian takes out a bottle of vodka, offers it all around, and then throws the rest of the vodka out the window.*

*'What did you do that for?' ask the American and the Estonian.*

*'Oh, in Russia, we have so much vodka,' replies the Russian.*

*Time passes by, and the Estonian sits most troubled and in deep thought.*

*Finally he throws the Russian out the window.*

Kim Traill worked for SBS's *Dateline* and ABC's *Foreign Correspondent* where she specialised in stories about the former Soviet Union, having spent much of the past 19 years living, working and travelling throughout Eastern Europe and Asia.

# The White Queen

By **PHILIPPA GREGORY**

Set amidst the tumult and intrigue of the War of the Roses, the story of Elizabeth Woodville, the White Queen, is vividly brought to life by internationally bestselling author Philippa Gregory. From her uniquely qualified perspective, she explores the story of one woman's ambitious ascent to royalty, this being one of the famous unsolved mysteries in British history.

Widowed when her husband was killed in battle, Elizabeth Woodville of the House of Lancaster used her ambition – coupled with the witchcraft skills of her mother – to seduce and secretly marry the reigning Plantagenet king, Edward IV, of the family of the white rose, the House of York.

But as long as there were other claimants to Edward's throne, the profound rivalries between the two families would never be laid to rest. Violent conflict, shocking betrayal and murder dominated Elizabeth's life as Queen of England, as she fought for the success of her family. The ultimate tragedy she faced was the mystery surrounding her sons, known as the Princes of the Tower, who were



escorted to the Tower of London and never seen again.

Philippa Gregory's love for history and commitment to historical accuracy are the hallmarks of her writing. Visitors to her website [www.philippagregory.com](http://www.philippagregory.com) become addicted to the many updates of her historical research and great love of the Tudor period.

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\$35.00, hardback, 417 pages

Published by **Harper Collins Australia**

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\$32.99, trade paperback, 520 pages

Book Reviews continue over page

## Jack Davenport, Beaufighter Leader

By KRISTEN ALEXANDER

The life of one of Australia's Second World War heroes is celebrated in this engrossing new biography.

Jack Davenport AC DSO DFC GM flew two tours with 455 Squadron RAAF, commanding it during his second tour. He flew from stations in Scotland and England on operations to France, Germany, Holland and Norway as well as a three month stint in Russia. 455 Squadron became known as a ship-busting squadron, and Jack was considered the ace ship-buster.

From saving the lives of his crew from a near-fatal spin, to rescuing a pilot from a blazing aircraft, Jack Davenport was an indisputable hero of the Second World War. Post-war, Jack went on to become a very successful and well respected businessman.

Kristen Alexander's blend of sound research and enlightening anecdote reveals a man who demonstrated heroism of conviction, duty, responsibility and dedication to service.

Jack joined the Sydney High School Lodge No 631 in 1951 at the age of 31, remaining a member until 1969. He received the AO on 13 June 1981. Jack Davenport died on 1 January 1996.



Published by Allen and Unwin

ISBN: 9781741757767

\$35.00, illust. trade paperback, 306 pages

# Read more books

The proposed **Masonic Book Club** got away to a good start in September with **59 people attending** the first discussion in the Grand Lodge Library.



It coincided with the launching of the Dan Brown book *The Lost Symbol*, which was also an automatic choice for discussion. Amongst those in attendance was the winner of the Speed Reading contest when the book was released.

A number of non-masons were also present, including representatives from Sydney University and the Justice Department.

The Club is not restricted to masons nor is the book to be discussed only of masonic background. It is hoped that the mixture of masonic and non-masonic books will suit all tastes.

At each meeting, a panel will be present to answer questions raised by those attending with a facilitator to control the meeting.

At this stage, it is intended to hold meetings of the Book Club every three months. Tea and coffee will be provided and a coin donation is requested to offset the costs.

For inquiries, contact W Bro Chris Williams, Grand Librarian on 9284 2825 or Dr Yvonne McIntyre, Membership Section, on 9284 2844 or you can email [yvonnem@freemasonsnswnact.org.au](mailto:yvonnem@freemasonsnswnact.org.au)

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# IT'S DEFINITELY NOT THE DA VINCI CODE

... THERE ARE NO STARTLING REVELATIONS, MYSTERIOUS NAVAL FLEETS OR LOST TEMPLAR TREASURES.

... THERE ARE NO TORTURES, EXECUTIONS, BURNINGS AND BLOODLETTINGS.



We modern Knights Templar and Knights of Malta are a pretty tame lot compared to our mediaeval brethren. And, regretfully, we no longer have the opportunities and excitement of storming battlements, riding chargers into battle, slaying enemies, guarding pilgrims and rescuing fair maidens.

Even so, our ceremonies are historic, impressive and strikingly dramatic, drawing their themes and dignity from the celebrated ancient Crusader Knights. While our Knight Templarism is different it is faithful to, and an interesting extension of, Freemasonry.

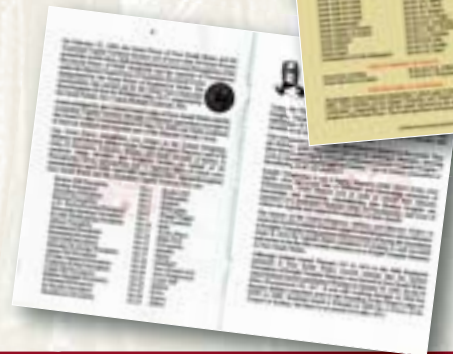
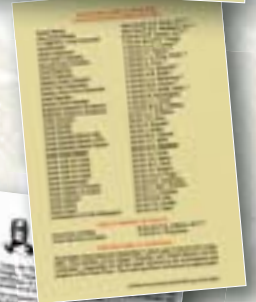
If you'd like to have an inside glimpse of our Order as it is today, send for this obligation-free and post-free booklet. It will give you an insight into the Knights Templar and Knights of Malta members of the Great Priory of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, especially over the last 25-years.

Our Great Vice-Chancellor, V.Em.Kt Peter J. Sinden will be happy to send you a copy, just write to him with your name and address details, at:

Peter J. Sinden  
PO Box 8041,  
Werrington County, NSW 2747

Or for more speedy service contact him directly by:

Phone: 02 9673 5839  
Fax: 02 9673 6685  
Email: [g.p.ofnsw.act@bigpond.com](mailto:g.p.ofnsw.act@bigpond.com)



## The Great Priory of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory

OF THE UNITED RELIGIOUS, MILITARY AND MASONIC ORDERS OF THE TEMPLE AND OF ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM, PALESTINE, RHODES AND MALTA



# It's never too late to play

## It's never too late to play a tune

Over twenty years ago Lodge Liverpool No 197 ran out of organists. So VW Bro R.A. (Bob) Evans decided to learn to play.

He was nearly 70 at the time, and blind. With the help of the Royal Blind Society he obtained a braille version of the Masonic Music Book, and cassettes of what the music should sound like. He bought an organ, and using his own time to practise at home he became a creditable performer who served as organist to his lodge for many years, and other lodges meeting at Liverpool. Bob was never in the running to give recitals at the Opera House or Town Hall, but he learned to play the lodge odes and incidental music to a satisfactory standard. Bob who is 92, no longer plays, but served his own and other lodges for well over a decade.

Traditional keyboard instruction emphasises the development of technical skills through exercises, playing every note exactly as written, and to develop the ability to play two or more different lines of music simultaneously. This system of instruction has produced great keyboard players, and if you want to be a concert pianist, it's the only way to go.

Unfortunately this approach makes demands on time, ability and persistence which few are able to meet, and has a high dropout rate. The sad thing is not that people quit music but that they quit with a sense of failure and frustration. They resent that their time has been spent with little or no achievement to show for it and many resolve never to touch a keyboard again.

The simplified approach to learning to play is not new. Established music teachers rarely approve it because they do not wish

promising young people to cut off prematurely their option to achieve excellence. But what of the late starters, whose fingers are already over forty? What of the dropouts, who had their chance to strive for excellence, but blew it years ago? What of those who already have some musical experience who would like to play keyboard as an additional accomplishment?


For beginning players, the simplification of style comes from three sources:

1. It is not necessary to play more than one melody at a time. Many people can only hear one melody at a time anyway. If you want more melodies, hire more musicians.
2. It is not necessary to play more than one note at a time with your right hand. A lot of good music is led by a solo melody.
3. It is not necessary to be too particular about the position of the left hand chord. If you have to play C, E and G, any C, E and G will do within reason so long as you can reach them in time, and the hand position feels comfortable.

The mature age entrant or piano dropout aspiring to become a masonic organist needs the following:

1. Willingness to persevere steadily until some progress is evident. This may take months.
2. Daily access (preferably at home) to an organ or electronic keyboard with full-size keys. If noise is a problem, use headphones.

3. About an hour for practice per day as a minimum if you're serious. Half an hour a week will get you nowhere.
4. A self-tutoring book (available from all shops selling organs) which explains the notation for the melody and the chords for the accompaniment, and provides tunes with graduated levels of difficulty.
5. Help from someone experienced in the melody and chords system to start your self-teaching process, and to provide backup if you hit trouble.
6. Necessary items of masonic music in melody and chord notation. Since few copies are required, they are produced individually on a photocopier on application to the Grand Lodge office. Ask for the **Modified Manual of Masonic Music**.

Learning to play the organ is like learning to drive a car, when in the early stages you haven't enough hands, eyes and feet to do all the things needed and the reward of achievement comes only after patience and persistence. Most masonic music is relatively simple, requiring the knowledge of three or four chords in easy keys and introductory seminars for late starters would help. 

Anyone interested in this subject can contact John Muir on 4344 7062 or write to 105 Broken Bay Road, Ettalong Beach, NSW 2257. Email: [jmuir@pnc.com.au](mailto:jmuir@pnc.com.au)

# It's no secret

It's hard to determine whether a book can **demolish the myths of ages** and at the same time **satisfy a curiosity** which has existed for centuries.

Author Dan Brown stirred public imagination with *The Da Vinci Code*, and prompted even further interest with his latest offering, *The Lost Symbol*, which used Masonry as a major background.

The two books once more brought to the forefront the public wonderings about Freemasonry with newspaper and magazine articles, radio and television interviews and the usual for and against discussion.

At masonic headquarters in Sydney, it was decided it was about time that Freemasonry stood on its feet and publicly fought back against its detractors and critics with an official book to clarify some of the popular beliefs and misbeliefs.

As the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston says in his foreword to the book: 'Freemasonry has been misunderstood for far too long. This book explains that the purpose of Freemasonry is to do good, to build better lives and to be of service to society.'

'Some people question the purpose of the Craft, some fear it, some praise it. Women get a say in these pages. Freemasonry has helped hundreds of thousands of Australians – it has great benefits and can share them with you.'

The masonic reveal-all *It's No Secret – Real Men Wear Aprons* goes a long way to debunking the once-popular conception of masons being a secretive, anti-women, manipulating group of men.

Editor Peter Lazar AM pulls no punches in detailing the history of the worldwide organisation, short biographies of famous members, the background to some of its ceremonies and its aims and objectives.


The traditional reluctance of Freemasonry to talk about itself gets a battering in this book which throws light on how Freemasonry values freedom, equality and fraternity. It tells how the Craft can be examined on the internet, at museums, at

libraries and bookstores where there are numerous volumes available for reading.

It details the charities quietly supported by masons, of the multiple Homes for aged and elderly people around NSW, the youth welfare and schools support, of leading by example.

Undoubtedly there will be critics. Some people are never satisfied.

But this book will go a long way to fill in the gaps for the general public and give a better idea of Freemasonry, what it stands for and what it seeks to achieve.

*It's No Secret – Real Men Wear Aprons* is available at bookstores, newsagents, Grand Lodge and from Lodge Secretaries. 

Freemasons have been active in Australia since Joseph Banks came ashore with Captain Cook. This silent band of brothers exists in almost every town and suburb of Australia. But who are they? What are they up to? Are their rituals really secret?

This book lifts the lid on Freemasonry in Australia. It reveals the secrets of the Craft and the stories of many famous Freemasons – Don Bradman, 'Weary' Dunlop, Sir Charles Kingsford Smith, 'Dally' Messenger, Sir James Hardy, Chips Rafferty and 'Bud' Tingwell amongst them.

Ten Australian Prime Ministers and many of the adventurers, inventors, entrepreneurs and pillars of society we have come to know and admire were Freemasons. Did it help them to succeed?

This book takes the reader on a guided tour of Freemasonry in Australia. It reveals the Craft's inner sanctums and the ancient rituals Freemasons use to learn and teach. It shows how the Craft embraces all cultures, welcomes all religions, provides friendship and helps masons to develop themselves and to be happy.

And it talks about a new future in which the wisdom of Freemasonry could well be directed in new, untested ways.

The above text is taken from the back cover of *It's No Secret – Real Men Wear Aprons*





# What Dan thinks

Dan Brown, author of the novel *The Lost Symbol*, was asked to address the 2009 Biennial Session of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction in Washington DC, 4–6 October 2009, but because of his schedule, he could not be there. **Here is the letter he wrote to the Southern Jurisdiction.**



DAN BROWN

October 6, 2009

Guests of the Southern Jurisdiction,

It is my great honor to be invited to greet you via this letter. I had hoped I might be able to join you in person tonight, but the launch of my novel *The Lost Symbol* has me far from Washington.

In the past few weeks, as you might imagine, I have been repeatedly asked what attracted me to the Masons so strongly as to make it a central point of my new book. My reply is always the same: "In a world where men do battle over whose definition of God is most accurate, I cannot adequately express the deep respect and admiration I feel toward an organization in which men of differing faiths are able to 'break bread together' in a bond of brotherhood, friendship, and camaraderie."

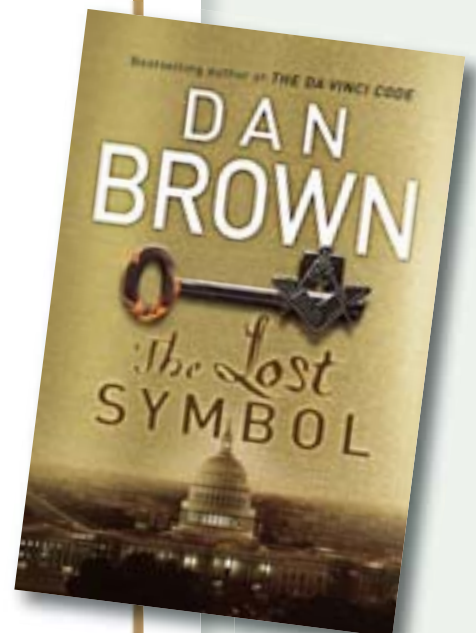
Please accept my humble thanks for the noble example you set for humankind. It is my sincere hope that the Masonic community recognizes *The Lost Symbol* for what it truly is...an earnest attempt to reverentially explore the history and beauty of Masonic Philosophy.

Yours sincerely,

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



Letter courtesy of Ill Bro Alain Bernheim, 33°.







# What the UGL of England thinks

Despite all the hype and scare stories on the internet Dan Brown's new novel **far from attacking Freemasonry is actually supportive of it.**

As a result it is unlikely to start the sort of media frenzy which accompanied the launch of the *Da Vinci Code*, which was seen by many as a fundamental attack on the foundation of Christianity.

It is the usual Dan Brown formula: the hero, Robert Langdon, is searching for lost masonic treasure and spends twelve hours being chased round Washington DC with the usual murders, explosions and narrow escapes.

He is aided in his search by senior members of the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the USA, which has its headquarters in Washington DC. The villain is a self-castrated body builder whose body is covered with tattoos, most of which are masonic symbols.

He has infiltrated Freemasonry and reached the 33rd degree. He is seeking the 'lost symbol' which will transform him into a powerful angel! Langdon is determined to stop him. Great hokum which Tom Hanks will no doubt enjoy turning into a Hollywood blockbuster!

Early in the novel there is a flashback to Langdon lecturing students on symbolism. One of the students makes disparaging remarks about Freemasonry which causes Langdon to point out to the group that contrary to the mythology Freemasonry is not an organisation to be feared; that Freemasons were much involved in the foundation of the United States; that it fails 'the ABC test' and is not a religion; and that it is not exclusive but admits men of all faiths and ethnic and social backgrounds.

As in his previous books, there are facts, half-truths and misleading untruths presented as hard fact. The media picked up one Masonic 'fact' which certainly got the media going. In the prologue Brown claims that in the 33rd degree the candidate seals his obligation by drinking red wine out of a human skull. Absolute rubbish! His

source for this 'fact' is a very curious and highly inaccurate American exposure of the Ancient and Accepted Rite rituals published in 1887 by the Rev'd John Blanchard and given currency in Europe in the 1890s by the notorious French anti-masonic writer who used the pen name Leo Taxil.

One major error which will be easily picked up is Brown's claim that the symbol of the 33rd degree – which he states is the most potent of Masonic symbols – is a double headed phoenix. As all who are in the Rose Croix will know, it is a double headed eagle.

The phone lines at Grand Lodge were pretty hot with the media wanting to know our reaction and you could feel the interest drop when I said we had no problems with the book, that it was supportive of Freemasonry and that we would be fascinated to see what effect it had on the number of people contacting Freemasons' Hall and Provincial offices for more information about Freemasonry.

The book is a heavy read at times with the plot held up from time to time by lengthy forays into deciphering symbols, cracking codes (which are relatively easy to break) and philosophising about the tensions between religion and science. There are the usual plot twists but as the reviewer in the Los Angeles Times wrote: '... it's hard to imagine anyone after reading *The Lost Symbol*, debating about Freemasonry in Washington DC in the way that people did about Brown's radical vision of Jesus and Mary Magdalene in *Da Vinci Code*. That book hit a deep cultural nerve for obvious reasons. *The Lost Symbol* is more like the experience on any roller coaster – thrilling, entertaining and then it's over.'

Freemasonry certainly has nothing to fear from the book, it may well stimulate a lot of public curiosity about Freemasonry which we will all be happy to deal with.

John M Hamill, UGL of England

# What the papers think

Far from maligning Freemasonry – as some freemasons in Australia were reported to have feared – *The Lost Symbol* may well have given the organisation a bigger publicity boost than it has received in centuries. At the very least, the novel appears to confirm Brown as an old-fashioned American elitist with a soft spot for the guys in aprons who do the funny handshake

*The Lost Symbol* is not as poorly written as Salman Rushdie, who once declared that Brown's fiction gives even bad writing a bad name, might have led you to expect. Even the great thriller writers have their flaws though at their soaring best they do make Brown look like a plodder.

There are moments of excitement in this skilfully edited, deeply implausible thriller. At times the suspense is prolonged rather than sustained, but the 500 pages turn steadily and the overall effect is entertaining and certainly family-friendly. *The Lost Symbol* is violent but remarkably chaste and devoid of profanity.

As with *The Da Vinci Code*, it would be a mistake to take the whole thing seriously. *The Lost Symbol* is no more a serious exploration of Freemasonry than Harry Potter is a sober treatise on magic.

It is possible to view *The Lost Symbol* as in part an ironic commentary on the immense success of its predecessor. Perhaps I'm reading too much into it, though with a novel like this, isn't that the point of the exercise?

Simon Catterson, *The Age*

... the narrative is still lumpen, witless, adjec-tively-promiscuous and addicted to using italics to convey excitement where more adept thriller writers generally prefer to use words – it's just less of all these things than *Da Vinci Code* survivors might have feared, or even anticipated with malicious glee.

Daily Telegraph – UK

*The Lost Symbol* is a heavy-handed, clumsy thriller from someone we know can do so much better. If it didn't have Brown's name on the cover, it would disappear without a ripple. Sure, it sucks the reader in, but, ultimately, it plays them for suckers. It's as if Brown has given in to his harsher critics, delivering the big, brainless thriller he has long been accused of purveying.

Robert Wiersema, *National Post* – USA



# To Walla Mulla and back

Dr **Yvonne McIntyre** and the Grand Master make an ‘I’ve been everywhere trip’ to deliver a **cheque from masoniCare**.

The day started with the Grand Master saying to me, ‘Yvonne, do you want to come to Walla Mulla with me?’ I thought, Walla Mulla – where is that? I was soon to find out.

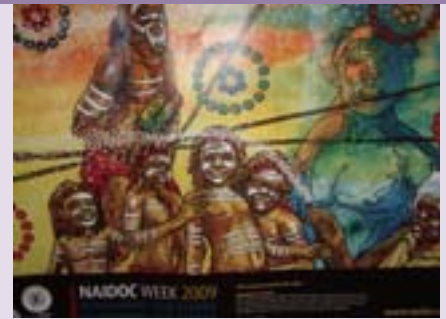
We followed a small bus which turned out to be the Walla Mulla Village Bus. After driving down Cowper Wharf Road to Wylde Street then Macleay Street down to Fitzroy Gardens along Darlinghurst Road around to Victoria Street through Oxford Street along where you turn to St Vincent’s Public Hospital then Riley Street, Campbell Street, Elizabeth Street, Crown Street, Baptist Street, Morehead Street (Poets Corner) we eventually reached our destination. The Grand Master stopped outside a humble dwelling to let me out and then went to find a parking spot in the nearby narrow streets. After a trip like that, I can really say, ‘I’ve been everywhere man’.

The purpose of the trip was the presentation of a cheque for \$5,000 by VW Bro David Coburn on behalf of masoni-

Care. It was wonderful to see the absolute delight on the faces of those that run the Centre. Walla Mulla receives very little assistance from the Government and the donation will provide much needed finances to help the Centre with its important work.

Walla Mulla’s primary aim is to help indigenous people with Domestic Violence and Apprehended Violence Orders. These include physical, sexual, emotional, social, financial problems and gambling addictions. In addition, the Centre acts as a Child and Family Learning Centre and provides a mature approach to staying in touch with those in need, providing counselling services.

There is also a ‘Work for the Dole’ workshop which Grand Lodge was able to further support. Following a discussion with the Grand Secretary and VW Bro Andre Fettermann, it was agreed that redundant computers from the Secretariat could be useful to Walla Mulla. The proposal was discussed with Walla Mulla



Above: RW Bro Alan Farrell and Katie Hardy taking computers down to the bus.

Below: Handing over cheque from masoniCare.



## masoniCare donation to Coffs Coast Freemasons Association will assist creation of CANDO Cancer Trust

The Chairman of the Coffs Coast Freemasons Association (CCFA), VW Bro Norm Standing DGIW of District 52, was recently presented with a cheque for \$20,000 by masoniCare Region 5 Representative, VW Bro Graham Tunstall. The donation of \$20,000 will bring the CCFA closer to achieving their goal to help with the creation of the Coffs Coast and Clarence CANDO Cancer Trust. The CCFA has undertaken to raise the \$100,000 needed to set the Trust on a firm financial footing. The Trust will be available to give financial assistance to those patients and families who fall on hard times due to the onset of cancer.

counsellors and co-ordinators who readily accepted the offer. It didn’t take long for two girls and a bus driver from the Centre to collect the computers from Grand Lodge.

It was just another example of how Freemasons can integrate with the community in providing support and assistance to the needy. Walla Mulla is right on our doorstep. The Centre is in need of assistance from those who are willing to give their time or provide pro bono professional services. The telephone number is (02) 9368 1381 and the Coordinator is Katie Hardy.

*PS – For those who haven’t translated Walla Mulla, it is the aboriginal name for Woolloomooloo.*



# Shaping up nicely!

The DGM, RW Bro Derek Robson AM, in his report to the September Communication gave some details on the **Men's Health program**. Here is further information.

In recent months, members have been working hard at the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health (FFCMH) to develop a world-class program aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of Freemasons and men in the wider community. Its name is GIRTH: Get Involved, Reach Top Health – and we're pleased to announce that it's shaping up nicely!

GIRTH is being designed specifically for men to tackle the 'growing' problem of overweight and obesity because overweight or obesity among men is associated with increased risk of heart attack, diabetes and osteoarthritis of the knee and hip. GIRTH is being designed to help men achieve a 'new lease on life' through positive lifestyle changes. The program will encourage healthy eating and increased physical activity and will also pay particular attention to stress and sleep. Reduced waistline circumference (GIRTH) will be one of the desired outcomes of participating in the program along with a greater sense of health, wellbeing and vigour.

To assist us in the development of GIRTH, the FFCMH has enlisted help from a team of scientists from the University of Adelaide, the CSIRO and the University of South Australia who are experts in the fields of men's health, nutrition, exercise physiology and public health.

The implementation of GIRTH will occur through the Freemasons' organisational structure using lay health/peer advisors recruited from among Freemasonry and trained by the GIRTH Project Team. The peer advisors, to be called Men's Health Co-ordinators (MHCs), will promote and recruit participants for GIRTH (from Freemasonry and the wider community) and sustain participation in the intervention through on-going activities.



Recruitment is currently underway for MHCs in Adelaide, Darwin, Melbourne and Sydney to participate in a pre-pilot development phase of the program to commence next February. A four-month experimental pilot study will follow this development phase.

The United Grand Lodge of NSW and ACT will be managing this program as part of its already successful Men's Health initiatives under the guidance of the DGM. For more information and to register your interest in becoming a Men's Health Co-ordinator, please contact RW Bro Robert Runge at rrunge@optusnet.com.au or telephone 0414 343 77101.

This is a truly exciting time for the FFCMH and for all those involved in the development of this Australia-first initiative. We look forward to bringing you more news soon!

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# Have your say



## Well done

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Editorial Team for the magnificent Spring 2009 edition of the Freemason.

This is a quality edition and with it featuring the very broad range of activity, including many individual members acting out their various roles, it offers a tremendous boost to the image and marketing aspects of the Craft and clearly assists in the promotion of the message that 'Freemasonry is a way to live life'.

I am sure that the Grand Master will be inviting all representatives to use the example of this edition as a speaking point over the next period and this will assist them in meeting the point I made in the Editorial, that '... the Grand Master will be looking to all of his appointed officers to not only carry the message forward, but to back it up with local revitalisation and improvement'.

For my own part, I must acknowledge the quality of the personal photographs and the general presentation of my input. I also appreciate the fact that within the Regional Roundup, there are pictures representing each of the various aprons available to masons, as this is a very valuable pictorial tool which is useful when speaking to those who might be considering joining and for members to

explain to their own families how progression through the Craft actually works.

**RW BRO DEREK ROBSON, AM DGM**

## Encouraging membership of old lodges

I like the Grand Master's enthusiasm and actions; he is definitely a doer and not just a talker. I would however like to see the retention of the oldest lodges by funnelling new members into them instead of creating new ones. As a young mason I picked the oldest lodge with the most history in my area to join two years ago. It would be a shame to lose the history that the old lodges have built up. As long as the incumbent members of the old lodges take a vote and are happy to accept young masons and are prepared to allow them to have a say in the running of the lodge, I think they should be the nominated lodge for new members in their area. I hope to one day be the Worshipful Master of my lodge, I think I will be much prouder because over one hundred men have been in the chair before me giving me that much more to live up to rather than a lodge that is just a few years old.

**AN INTERESTED NEWCOMER**

## The power of ceremony

I would like to respond to RW Bro Rabbi Dr Samuel Tov-Lev's article in the September Freemason.

I thought he made a very good point about our ceremonies being like a play and the only way to get the work across well is to present it like an actor. Maybe we all need acting classes? And I like the idea of rhetoric or Toastmaster classes.

I have seen charges delivered that are very boring and are not understood and I have seen them presented well and found them to be enlightening and interesting. So I think you have hit the nail on the head.

Well done and thank you.

**BRO GREG DUNNICLIFF**  
Cooks Gap via Mudgee

## Masonic wedding ceremony

Masonic weddings are not unknown in some continental jurisdictions, particularly Turkey, and it was apparently tried once only in Australia.

Attempts to introduce such a ceremony in English-speaking constitutions have not been well received as it clearly reinforces the common accusation that Freemasonry is some kind of religion.

Under the Turkish Constitution the ceremony takes place in the lodge room following the civil ceremony. After a formal opening in the First Degree, the alarm is sounded and the wedding party, with the bride and groom last, is received at the VSL (The Koran) by WM.

The ceremony is described on the website [phoenixmasonry.org](http://phoenixmasonry.org).

Needless to say, social conditions in Turkey do not necessarily parallel those applying in Australia. But I guess there is a possibility it could occur under our rules in much the same manner as a Lodge of Sorrow (!)

**W BRO IVAN RANSOM**  
Lodge Balmain No 23

Brethren are encouraged to share their comments and thoughts with others – please forward your letters to the Editor at [freemason@uglnsw.freemasonry.org.au](mailto:freemason@uglnsw.freemasonry.org.au)



## Freemasonry – at the heart of life

We are looking into re-consecration of

## Lodge Highway

that was No 837 at the registry of UGL of NSW.

The lodge will have a **travelling certificate**, will **meet** regularly at Northbridge Masonic Centre in February, May, August and November or at any place approved by the Grand Architect of NSW & ACT, such as **Masonic** or **Veteran Homes** or **Country Lodge Rooms** where the numbers are not sufficient to have a meeting.

If interested, please contact the Secretary, Bojan Vižintin  
email: [bojan.vizintin@optusnet.com.au](mailto:bojan.vizintin@optusnet.com.au)  
or 202 Cressy Road, North Ryde NSW 2113 or phone: 02 8082 8134



# Golden Jubilee Celebration

On 10 October, the **Order of the Secret Monitor**, also known as The Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, celebrated its **Golden Jubilee**, having been formed as a sovereign body in 1959. Prior to this, the Order in this State had been governed by a District Grand Council held under the auspices of the British Isles.

The Installation Ceremony was held in the Grand Lodge Room at the Sydney Masonic Centre which was beautifully adorned with banners of the Order, while on the Friday night, a Welcome Dinner was held at the Castlereagh Inn. On Sunday, following a service at the Holy Trinity Garrison Church, a luncheon cruise was enjoyed on Sydney Harbour.

The ceremony included the re-installation of MW Bro Michael Shearer as Grand Supreme Ruler, the proclamation of RW Bro Ian Newbery as Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler and the installation of RW Bro Don Savage also as a Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler. The appointment of a large number of Grand Officers was confirmed which was a testimony of the marvellous support of the Grand Supreme Ruler.

The Order was supported by a wonderful number of friends from other Grand Conclaves, including the Grand Supreme Rulers from France, New Zealand, Southern Australia, Northern Australia and Papua New Guinea, South Australia and the District Grand Supreme Ruler of South East Asia. The Order was honoured by the attendance of the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston, accompanied by five Past Grand Masters, and the First Grand Principal and Grand Master of the Holy Royal Arch, M Ex Comp Ted Keenahan.

The ceremony was enhanced by the NSW Masonic Ensemble which provided musical interludes during the proceedings for the pleasure of all attending.

The Grand Master delivered an Occasional Address to mark the Golden Jubilee with content historically fascinating and procedurally challenging to the Order.

In it he said: 'Today we have 29 Conclaves in this Jurisdiction, and more than 1,100 Secret Monitors, nearly 10% of the masons in NSW and the ACT. And in


2009, what is it that interests these masons, what is it that gives them a purpose to want to be ranked amongst its numbers? What are the core values that make up the fabric of this Order? And at this Golden Jubilee it is prudent to look to the future.

- This Order must begin to 'extend' itself. Leave its comfort zone. To personify its value of 'outward looking'.
- Remove the implied SECRET, from MONITOR.
- We need to revisit those constructive criticisms of 'staid, conservative, boring, out of touch', and embark on a membership survey of attitudes to change,

following new directions in, and forward thinking of management at all levels.

- Increase active participation at a Conclave meeting by all those attending and introduce the concept of Monitor mentoring.

In the Refectory, the Order was indeed fortunate to obtain the service of Kamahl who entertained everyone in a delightful professional manner.

These Golden Jubilee Celebrations marked a special and historic occasion for the Order and one which will be remembered for many years to come by all those fortunate to attend. 

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# A night to remember



L-R: PGMs – MW Bro A R (Tony) Lauer APM, MW Bro Rev R C (Raymond) Green and Janet, MW Bro N F (Noel) Dunn OAM and Faye, MW Bro R A (Bob) Hammond and Cath, Miss Judith Morrice and the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr G H (Gregory) Levenston, Sandra and MW Bro R B (Ray) Brooke.

*Inset:* MW Bro Bob and Cath accepting the framed photograph and flowers from the Grand Master.

*Below:* Bob and his teammates in action.

The Sydney Masonic Centre banquet room looked resplendent decked out in black and gold bunting and glittering candlelight for the occasion of MW Bro R A (Bob) Hammond PGM and Mrs Cath Hammond with 150 friends and masonic colleagues to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of his Installation as Grand Master.

The celebratory address and occasional toast to Past Grand Master Bob was given by Past Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Sir James Hardy OBE.


W Bro Norman Cason PM entertained the gathering with an illuminating history of Bro Bob's long and distinguished

masonic career, including his continuous membership and subsequent involvement with the Balmain Lodge No 23.

Two framed photographs were presented: one of Bro Bob alongside his resplendent wife, Cath, the other a composite rowing photograph presented by the WM of the Balmain Lodge, W Bro Jason Plumridge.

Deemed appropriate for the occasion was a beautiful and sleek rowing scull Bro Bob regularly uses. It was prominently displayed before an almost complete group of Past Grand Masters accompanied by their respective wives, together with the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Leven-

ston and his partner, Ms Judith Morrice. Regrettably, unbreakable interstate commitments prevented Past Grand Masters George Curry and Ron Johnson AM attending this memorable and celebratory occasion.

*Freemason* magazine congratulates Bro Bob's recent effort of competing and winning the gold medal in the 1,000 metre event in the 'Ancient Mariners' eight-person mixed rowing crew at the World Masters Games in Sydney, then following up in the coxed four race, again winning the gold medal, against some of the best crews from other Australian states, New Zealand and the USA. 





# A Malaysian feast

During a recent holiday in June, RW Bro Brian Potter had the opportunity to accept an invitation to attend the **92nd Installation of Lodge Tullibardine in the East** No 1118 SC meeting at **Kuala Lumpur** in Malaysia. This is his story.



The District Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge of the Middle East, RW Bro Dr Daljit Singh Nagreh, attended with Grand Officers of District Grand Lodge of the Middle East.

Together with VW Bro Bernard Binge PDGDC who has visited the lodge before, we were welcomed by the WM, RW Bro Neil Davis who expressed pleasure at our attendance.

The Installation was extremely well performed and interesting as the work differs in some respects of the ritual worked in NSW. The incumbent Master takes little part in the proceedings with the greater portion of the work being performed by the District Grand Master.

WM-Elect Bro Subhas Damodaran was extremely pleased to see brethren from other jurisdictions attend his Installation.

The south was something to behold with a large variety of striking food on offer with exotic tropical fruits. During our travels we met many distinguished and interesting brethren who showed that Masonry is alive and well in Malaysia, all of whom were very interested in hearing about 20/20 Masonry. We exchanged addresses with expectations we will again visit them and in return they will visit us when in Australia. Many have business ventures and family in NSW.

The variety of different cultures was extremely interesting with many travelling long distances to attend. Some came from Thailand, Singapore, Victoria, Perth and other brethren from NSW. Our host was Bro Lt Col Yunis Ali (Rt'd) a Malaysian resident and member of Lodge Kilwinning in the East No 1606 SC, and Lodge

Nepean No 29 UGL NSW.

It was a wonderful opportunity to see how Masonry was conducted in another country and I can only suggest that if any brother is travelling to Malaysia or other countries overseas please contact the Grand Secretary and obtain details of lodges in the country you are visiting.

## Everyone has a story and we want yours!

We would like to hear of anything you feel would interest other readers – perhaps your career, your travels, a profound experience, a passion, interest or hobby.

**DON'T PANIC** – you don't need to be a writer! Just send us some notes and we will happily pull it into shape for you, and don't forget a picture is worth a thousand words.

If you would like to talk to someone before going ahead, call **Richard on (02) 4344 5133**

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# French ritual for Zetland

For the first time, an officially sanctioned **English edition** of a ritual, as practised by the Grand Loge Nationale Française (GLNF) is available. This **major step for universal Freemasonry** gives access to a **primary masonic ritual** essentially unknown to the English-speaking world.



This edition is more than just a simple translation of the text, it is an historic transformation of the essence of masonic language and traditions written and performed in French from as early as the eighteenth century.

To accomplish such a task, many resources were referenced to help transcribe French masonic terminology into a suitable English equivalent. Many currently practiced rituals from the Grand Lodges of Scotland, Ireland, England and the United States were compared for English language equivalents.

The Zetland Lodge of Australia No 9 will have its charter resurrected in early 2010 and practice this newly translated ritual. It will hold its meetings in Sydney six times a year.

## The Beginning

It was 1855, only 67 years had passed since Captain Arthur Phillip landed at Sydney Cove. The 'Roaring Fifties', as they were known, was a decade of amazing growth; free settlers were immigrating as never before in history. As a result of gold discovery, seekers of the precious metal were pouring from every quarter of the globe. The Colony was more than ever finding its feet; it was entering a boom period.

The population of Sydney was about 60,000, and the total of all the Colony of NSW, which included the present State of Queensland, was approximately 250,000.

Settlement around Sydney was very limited; four-horse omnibuses were sufficient to supply all suburban areas. Brethren living at Glebe, Newtown, Balmain and Pyrmont were enrolled as country members.



Thomas Dundas, second Earl of Zetland

The night of 13 February 1855, on which Zetland Lodge of Australia was founded, was one of great excitement. Only a couple of hours before, the steamer *Waratah* had arrived with the news of the victory in the Crimea War by the armies of Great Britain and France over Russia, in the Battle of Inkerman.

Up to this period, only eight lodges had been founded in the colony, under English, Scottish and Irish Constitutions. In all probability, the number of masons in the colony did not exceed 450. Lodges Leinster Marine, Australia and Harmony were the strongest numerically.

## Thomas Dundas, second Earl of Zetland

For nearly a century and a half, the Dundas family has been identified in a

prominent manner, with the doings of the Craft, and one of the most honoured names in the annals of English Freemasonry is that of Thomas Dundas, the second Earl of Zetland.

Born 5 February 1795, he was initiated in the Prince of Wales Lodge No 259, in 1830, and afterwards became its Worshipful Master in 1840. He also served as WM of Royal Alpha Lodge. In 1844, he was elected as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, and held this position until 1870.

Upon his retirement from the Grand Mastership, the English brethren presented him with a testimonial, for which more than £2,700 was subscribed. He, however, refused to allow this money to be spent on a personal present, but asked that it might be invested in a Zetland Fund Masonic Charity, accepting as a souvenir of the presentation, a silver ink stand.

The Earl of Zetland died somewhat suddenly on 6 May, 1873, at the Ashe Hall, aged 78 years.

By permission of the Earl of Zetland, the Zetland Lodge of Australia has the privilege of having his Coat-of-Arms as its banner, with the following minor alterations: The letters 'Essayez' (try) surmount the banner, and in its place in the ribbon, the name and number of the lodge has been inserted. The masonic square and compasses symbol has also been added.

Brethren interested in become members of the lodge should contact RW Bro Chris Craven or VW Bro Andre Fettermann by emailing [zetland@freemason-snswact.org.au](mailto:zetland@freemason-snswact.org.au)





# A toast to First Grand Principal

The Installation of Most Excellent Companion Edward (Ted) Keenahan as the **First Grand Principal** of the United Supreme Chapter of Mark and Royal Arch Masons of NSW and the ACT at the Sydney Masonic Centre on 19 September 2009 was a **memorable occasion.**

The relaxed atmosphere of the banquet at the Bankstown Sports Club was a far cry from the pomp and ceremony of the Installation. The most important toast of the evening was to the newly Installed First Grand Principal and was proposed by the Immediate Past First Grand Principal, ME Companion Greg Mason who said he was honoured to propose a toast to a person whose qualifications are noteworthy in character, numerous in diversity and unique in their combination.

He said ME Companion Keenahan is a person of unblemished reputation, stainless probity and liberal charity and who possesses the qualities of vision, leadership and justice essential for those charged with the responsibility of guiding the fraternity through the hazards of unforeseen difficulties.

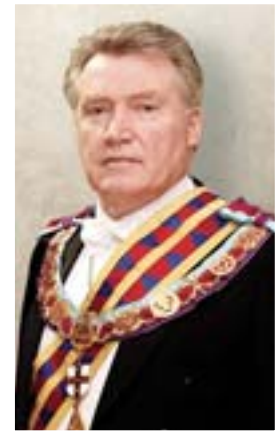
ME Companion Keenahan's career in Freemasonry commenced with his Initiation into Lodge Aubrey Halloran in February 1970. In 1981 he was installed as the Worshipful Master of Lodge Winston.

He has since served as an accredited Grand Lodge trainer, regularly presents ANZAC addresses in lodges, and was rewarded with the conferred rank of Past Senior Grand Warden.

He entered Royal Arch Masonry in Chapter Wollongong in November 1972 and became the Foundation First Principal of that Chapter at Unification in 1980.

ME Companion Keenahan was appointed to the Supreme Committee and subsequently elected as President. He presided over the development of a new Constitution, Regulations and a new corporate structure of the Order and served as facilitator of the United Supreme Grand Chapter Strategic Plan 'The Key to a Better Future'. A fitting climax to his Presidency was his leadership of the Committee which resulted in the Concordat with the United Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT.

Born in Widnes, England, Ted arrived in Australia in 1956 with his family. He married Sandra in July 1969 and they have two sons. Many of Ted's family were present at the banquet on this special occasion.



In private life, Ted commenced work with BHP in the electrical and mechanical discipline in 1961 and rose to the position of Manager Manufacturing Services, a position he held until his retirement in 2001. Major achievements in his field of mechanical engineering included the development of procedures for best practice in the maintenance of air conditioning towers to prevent Legionnaire's Disease.

In 1985 Ted joined the Scouting movement and became Assistant Area Commissioner in 1994, He was elected as a member of the Area Executive in 1998 and continued in that position until his retirement from scouting in 2001.

In April 1967, he joined the Australian Army as a National Serviceman and served with the Royal Australian Engineers in Vietnam from January 1968 to January 1969.

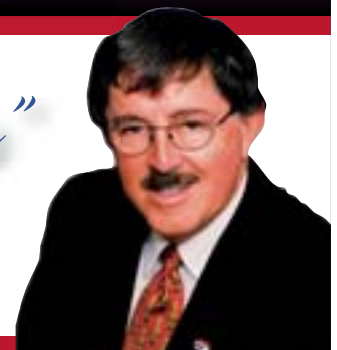


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# A new link in operations

To provide **an improved link between different areas of the Craft**, RW Bro Glyn Williams, PSGW and former Grand Director of Ceremonies, has been appointed to the role of **Operations Chairman**. He describes **how his new position will work**.



**T**he Chairman of Operations role is the link between our field managers, the RGCs, and the Board of Management. All issues, reports and assistance to RGCs and their Regions come through the Chairman. The Operations Committee and its Chairman is the current 'liaison' link between the Freemasons Association and the Board of Management.

There is a small Operations Committee currently comprising present and past

RGCs who act in advisory capacity to the Chairman and as mentors and 'sounding boards' for the RGCs as and if they are needed. The committee will also take on some of the longer term planning work around regional operations. Their current task is to compile a small manual for RGCs that gives an overview of their role and also the processes and systems with which the RGCs have to interact.

As a member of the Board of Management, the Chairman of Operations has

immediate oversight of implementation of all Board policies and programs. He also has an input and feedback role about issues that are arising in the Regions and Districts to Grand Lodge, in formulating strategy and tactics that will assist in achieving the Strategic Plan's goals of increasing membership, growth in the number of lodges and the continued viability of the Craft in NSW & ACT.

## WA Installation



From 29 October to 01 November the Grand Lodge of Western Australia celebrated its Grand Installation with many and varied functions being held. Our Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston and his partner Judith Morrice were delighted that in excess of 30 ladies and brethren of this jurisdiction accompanied them for this important event and there was no doubt that each of them was more than impressed with the hospitality extended by the Western Australian jurisdiction and the excellent weather conditions that prevailed over the entire weekend.

# Please help our Nation's children in need...

**A**ccording to their Mother, "Years of battling and now facing unemployment has made life much harder for all of our family, but more especially for Jason and Rebecca.

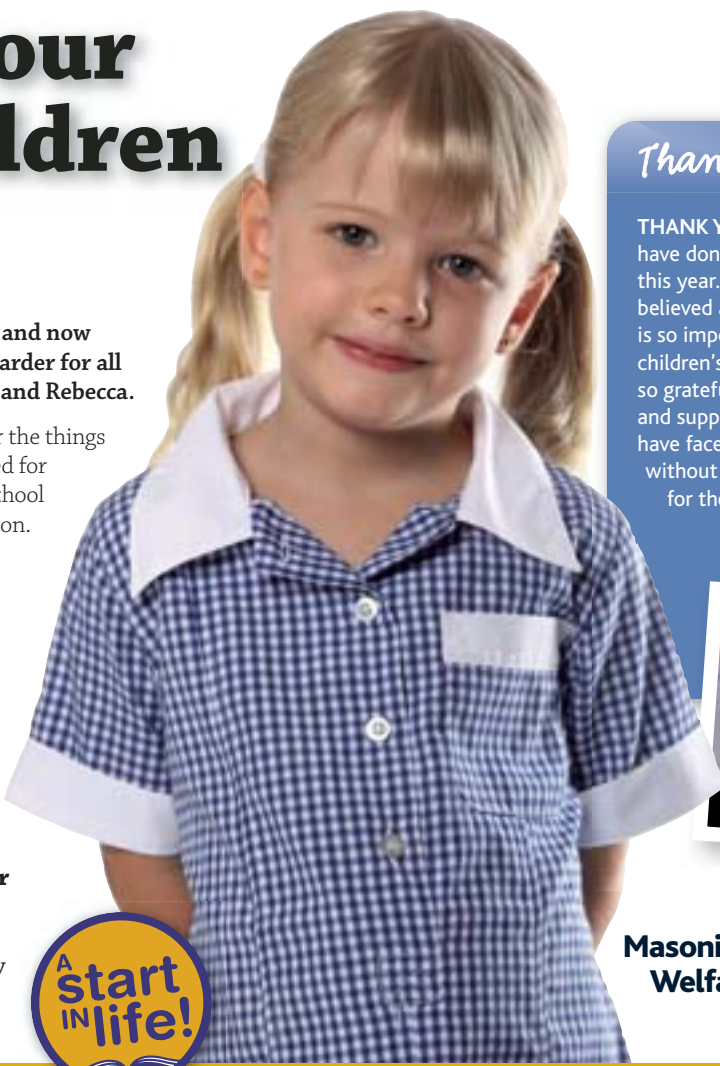
"**Every week it became more difficult**, not only for the things all growing children need, but also for what they needed for school – uniforms, text books, shoes, pencils, rulers, school excursions. And there were no hand-me-downs to rely on.

"We've had some government assistance, and really appreciated it. But it fell well short of helping us to give the children any sort of real boost to pay for these education essentials.

"**However, through you, we are now much more hopeful for the future of our children.**

"Your thoughtful and unselfish donation to MYWF and its programs can make the essential difference to young Aussies' lives like Jason and Rebecca."

**Whether it goes towards financial assistance for schooling, text books, living expenses, tools of trade or other approved expenses and educational needs, 100% of your donation will help many young Aussies in metro and rural areas.**



*Thank You*

THANK YOU for all you have done for our family this year. We've always believed a good education is so important to our children's future. I am so grateful for your help and support. I couldn't have faced the alternative without this start in life for them.

*Helen*



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ph (02) 9264 3017 > [www.mywf.org.au](http://www.mywf.org.au)

Giving young students a start in life!

## I would like to help

Please accept my donation of \$

Mr  Mrs  Ms  Other ..... Please complete form for all payments

First Name ..... Surname .....

Address .....

..... P/Code ..... Phone .....

Lodge ..... No. ....

Enclosed is my cheque made payable to: Masonic Youth Welfare Fund of NSW & ACT

Please charge my donation to my:  MasterCard  Visa  Amex  Diners Club

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Name on Card .....

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### TWO SIMPLE WAYS TO DONATE:

**QUICK & EASY** – PHONE 02 9264 3017 for a Credit Card Payment or simply complete your Donation Form and send to: **Masonic Youth Welfare Fund**, PO Box 20606, World Square, NSW 2002



I would be interested in helping children by:

- Volunteering my time
- Making periodical donation payments
- Sponsoring an MYWF student
- Running a local fundraiser
- Sponsoring a MYWF charity event

### More info?

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE** about our work with disadvantaged young Australian students and the diversity of our programs or how you can help, please write, phone, fax or email us. You can also get more information at our website - [www.mywf.org.au](http://www.mywf.org.au)

[www.mywf.org.au](http://www.mywf.org.au) or  
[www.compassyouth.org.au](http://www.compassyouth.org.au)

*Thank you for your kind support*



# The Order of the Red Cross of Constantine

The experience of the journey and the fulfilment of the destination are both achievable in The Order of the Red Cross of Constantine.

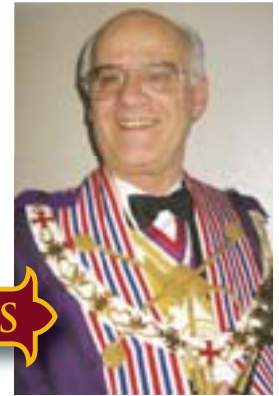
The Nineteenth Annual Assembly of the Red Cross of Constantine was held in the Royal Arch Temple at Petersham on Saturday 24 October 2009 with distinguished guests from other Orders of Freemasonry being present.

The Annual Assembly saw the Re-Enthronement of M Ill Kt Timothy J Foster GCC as Grand Sovereign of the Order for a fourth term and the Appointment and Consecration of Rt Ill and Em Kt Ted Griffiths KCC as the new Grand Viceroy.

Which is the more important – the journey or the destination? If the reference is to our pathway through life, the journey could be said to be the more important since the ultimate destination marks the finality of our presence in this world. Life is made up of many journeys each of which contributes to the development of our character and gives us cause for pleasure and satisfaction, as well as disappointment. The importance of life's

## The Career Path of a Constantine Knight in a Conclave

- + Advance your perspective of the Craft and Royal Arch Symbolisms
- + Join and become a Christian Knight of Rome and of Constantine
- + Complete the Degrees of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist
- + Serve with Dedication and Commitment as an Officer and a Knight
- + Achieve promotion as a Consecrated Viceroy representing Bishop Eusebius
- + And finally, take leadership and be Enthroned as a Sovereign representing Constantine the Great.



M ILL KT Timothy J Foster GCC

journey and destination are clearly interdependent one with the other.

The Order of the Red Cross of Constantine draws on the example of the life and times of Constantine the Great who died in AD 337. He attracted admiration in many fields – his military expertise, his

statesmanship, his administrative skills and his encouragement of Christianity as a recognised religion within the Roman Empire.

He certainly achieved much during his lifetime, probably on a grander scale than each of us might expect to experience. Not the least of his achievements would have been his elevation as sole Emperor of the vast Roman Empire, a position of great power and influence.

Constantine Masonry can play a very important role in our lives. It is the participation in the concept of Knighthood, and the enlightenment of the higher philosophical content of the Craft and the Holy Royal Arch degrees that contribute to our development. In this, the final destination is a deeper understanding of Truth.

Apart from furthering our masonic knowledge, we are also able to enjoy many other instances of pleasure from membership of the Order including, importantly, the privilege of companionship of like-minded Christian Knights.

Perhaps transcending all of these is the pleasure we derive from knowing that we are associated with such an august body as the Masonic Order of the Red Cross of Constantine. Both the journey and the destination are certainly worthwhile.

Further information regarding Constantine Masonry may be found on our website by typing in [www.myconstantine.nsw.org.au](http://www.myconstantine.nsw.org.au)

## A dream fulfilled

**An entry in his Year Book said it all: one of his goals was to compete in the Australasian Safari.**

In August, VW Bro David Finlay, WM of Lodge Canoblas Lewis No 806, in Orange, competed in this outback adventure.

With his brother-in-law, Eric Smith, as Crew Support, David rode a 2007 Husqvarna TE 610 approximately 4000 km in eight days. Eric is the son of W Bro Neville Smith, a Past Master of Lodge Yeoval-Cumnock No 810.

The Australasian Safari, (the Aussie Paris-Dakar) was held this year in some of the more remote regions of Western Australia. Starting out in Perth, on 1 August, the Safari competitors rode and drove from Perth to Geraldton, Mt Magnet, Leonora and Laverton, finally finishing in Kalgoorlie on 8 August.

Adjunct to the ride was the additional driving of nearly 4000 km to get to Perth, and again to return home after the event.

With the support of his wife Wendy and his family, David was able to undertake an adventure of a lifetime.



V W Bro David Finlay in the vicinity of the Great Victorian Desert



# Regional Roundup



## Century for Nambucca

History was made on Saturday 10 October 2009 when IPM VW Bro Brian Fuller installed David Thomas Boulton at Lodge Nambucca 271. The Grand Master was represented by RW Bro Andrew Fraser PAGM.

Bro David's installation was the 99th since November 1910 when his great grandfather Walter George Boulton, Lodge Argyle 111, was elected to be the first Worshipful Master of Lodge Nambucca 271. He was installed on 6 July 1911.

On 19 November 1910, VW Bro H.D. Bennett DGIW wrote to the Grand Master recommending a lodge be formed in the Nambucca District. As well as Walter George Boulton, Lodge Argyle 111, being elected to be the Master, others elected for positions were William Patrick Murray, Lodge Hastings 69, to be the first Senior Warden and Ernest Grenner, Lodge Oxley 225, to be the first Junior Warden. The petition went forward and Lodge the Raleigh supported the petition.

The Board of General Purposes recommended the issue of a Charter which was issued and dated 1/12/1910 commenting: 'If the building is erected in accordance with the plan and specifications submitted it will be a credit to the brethren in every way.'

It will be 100 years from 1910 when the lodge was first commenced. Local history states that masonic lodge meetings were held, prior to 1910, in the Temperance Hall in River Street, Macksville.

The lodge building in Nambucca Street, Macksville is the original building with 'the South' having been added at a later date.

Lodge the Raleigh is still in existence in the Bellinger River district and their Worshipful Master VW Bro Brian Hayes presented the Third Working Tools at the Installation of Bro Boulton.

LODGE WAGGA WAGGA No 22

## Riding for the Disabled

At the August meeting of Lodge Wagga Wagga No 22, the Regional Representative of masoniCare, RW Bro Don Geddes, accompanied by the District Representative, W Bro Ross Reid, made a presentation of \$5,000 on behalf of masoniCare to the Worshipful Master, RW Bro Geoff Amos, to go to the local branch of Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA).

The cheque was then presented by RW Bro Geddes to the President of Wagga Wagga RDA, Mrs Bev Amery. Also attending the presentation were RW Bro Geoff Amos (Treasurer of Wagga Wagga RDA) and the Director of Ceremonies of Lodge Wagga Wagga, RW Bro Arthur Priest, who acts as Volunteer Co-ordinator for Wagga Wagga RDA)



L-R: RW Bro Geoff Amos (WM and RDA Treasurer), Mrs Bev Amery (President RDA), RW Bro Don Geddes (masoniCare), and RW Bro Arthur Priest (RDA Volunteers Co-ordinator) with Blossom the horse.

The 114 clients are from surrounding areas and include the disabled from Kurrajong (who provide care and education for the disabled both mentally and/or physically) and nearby schools with a disabled component.

Teachers at the schools using the facility say the pupils gain great benefits both physically and mentally from regular activities at RDA.

## District 122 presentation

The District 122 Freemasons Association, together with masoniCare, has generously supported the Malabar Public School in their recent 100th birthday celebrations, with an interAction grant to the value of \$2,663.

VW Bro Maurice Mountain, DGIW, accompanied by District Association president, VW Bro Frank Whitney, PDGIW, a former pupil of the school, presented the grant to principal Ms Sheila Bollard, at the school's recent Centenary Celebration Assembly.

'We are very grateful for the generosity of our local Freemasons and masoniCare', Ms Bollard said. 'These funds will be used to purchase a 77 inch electronic interactive whiteboard - a much needed, 21st century educational aid for our children.'



L-R: VW Bro Maurice Mountain, DGIW, District Association president, VW Bro Frank Whitney, PDGIW, and school principal Ms Sheila Bollard at the presentation.



## LODGE DAWN

## Multi-cultural feast

Lodge Dawn, with its multicultural policy, again treated the masons on the Tweed to an Oktoberfest celebration. Over two days, Bros Mike Zuschke and Martin Scholz (both of German origin) prepared an array of 12 dishes of culinary delights including schwinehaxen (pig trotters), bratwurst and traditional sauerkraut. To assist, Bro Cody Civic of Lodge Dawn supplied Ottinger beer, wine was supplied by the WM of Lodge Dawn, W Bro Les Hicks, and the WMs of the other two lodges in town also made donations: two bottles of Schnapps from the WM of Lodge Pacific, WBro Ray Griffith, and two fruit trays from W Bro Keith Pedrama, WM of Twin Towns Daylight Lodge. The south was provided for the brethren free of charge with the promise that next year will be even bigger and better.



W Bros Martin Scholz (left) and Mike Zuschke with some of the wonderful dishes they produced for the Oktoberfest celebration.

## LODGE PERFECT OF CANBERRA No 951

## Caring Perfectly

The brethren of Lodge Perfect of Canberra No 951, and masoniCare, have again combined to make a significant contribution to the ACT Palliative Care Society.

For the third year, masoniCare provided an interAction grant to match the personal donations of Lodge Perfect members. This was the sixth consecutive year in which Lodge Perfect has supported the Palliative Care Society.

During 2009, members of the lodge made personal donations totalling \$4,000 to the Palliative Care Society, an increase of \$500 over the previous two years, with masoniCare matching that amount.

The masoniCare cheque was presented to the Palliative Care Society at a meeting of the Society's Council on 23 August.

VW Bro Geoff Ludowyk PDGIW, the ACT masoniCare District Representative, made the presentation to Ms Janet Turner and Ms Megan Evans, coordinators of volunteers for the Society. Also present



Janet Turner and Megan Evans with VW Bro Geoff Ludowyk (left) and W Bros Peter Forster and Mitch Meredith.

were VW Bro Ron Jemesen, DGIW for District 104 and W Bros Mitch Meredith, Mickey Michaelis and Peter Forster of Lodge Perfect of Canberra.

The ACT Palliative Care Society is a non government funded body that trains and coordinates some 120 volunteers who support people living with a terminal illness.

The volunteers are an integral part of the palliative care team at the Clare Holland House hospice and in home-based palliative care.

Each year, the Society organises a retreat for its volunteers and the \$8,000 provided by Lodge Perfect members and masoniCare will go a long way towards meeting the costs of the 2009 retreat.

## Grand Stewards' Install

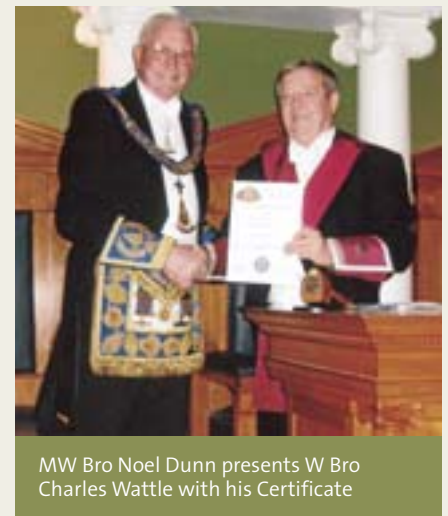
Masons from as far afield as the Philippines and Denmark, as well as local and country members attended the Installation Ceremony at the Grand Stewards' Lodge in September.

W Bro Teodoro Kalaw IV, from Lodge Teodoro Kalaw No 136, Phillipines Constitution, and W Bro Suend Verderso, the Grand Tyler of Denmark, from Lodge Centre of the Circle No 840, Danish Constitution, were especially welcomed by the Installing Master, W Bro Ron Webb.

The delegation was led by MW Bro Noel Dunn, OAM, PGM.

A badly infected toe did not deter W Bro Webb from performing a copy book ceremony and installing W Bro Charles Wattle as Worshipful Master.

The Grand Stewards' Lodge meets four times a year at the Sydney Masonic Centre



MW Bro Noel Dunn presents W Bro Charles Wattle with his Certificate

and all are welcome, particularly past masters, as the work is usually an Installation.



LODGE CANOBLAS LEWIS No 806

## A living treasure

Lodge Canoblas Lewis No 806, which meets in Orange, in the central west of NSW, has its own living treasure in the person of W Bro Kelvin Howarth.

Kelvin Howarth has been a member of Canoblas Lewis for over 57 years and has served that lodge in all offices including several times as Worshipful Master.

There are very few charges and addresses Kel hasn't delivered. On many occasions he has stepped in at the last moment to cover for a brother who has not turned up at lodge.

Kel has left the brethren in awe with the quality and sincerity of the presentation and provided the recipient with a clear understanding of the message it contained.

Every new member of Canoblas Lewis is welcomed by Kel and taken under his wing. He ensures his lodge is represented at other lodges and takes with him those new members and makes sure they are introduced to every brother in the room.

There have been very few working bees at the Masonic Centre in Orange that Kel has not been involved with and, in recognition of his services, Kel received the



W Bro Kelvin Howarth in his workshop.

District Service Award in 2006.

One of Kel's passions in life is his love of wood turning and he made the gift to our Grand Master and partner Judith Morrice to mark their visit to Orange in February, for the Region 9 Conference.

He crafted a beautiful hand-turned serving platter from recycled cattle yard railings obtained from a dismantled cattle yard in the NSW Riverina.

The other area he pursues is the craft of lapidary and, along with several other lodge members, Kel makes regular trips

scratching around old mullock heaps from bygone days, searching for specimens rejected by the original miners.

Kel cuts, grinds and polishes these apparently dull and worthless stones until they become items of lustre and beauty.

W Bro Kelvin Howarth is a speculative and operative mason who displays and practises the skills of a true craftsman. Why wouldn't you treasure a bloke like this?

LODGE KIAMA No 35

## Kiama celebrates

Over 100 Freemasons and some 40 guests recently helped Lodge Kiama No 35 celebrate 100 years of regular meetings in the Masonic Centre, Kiama.

The minutes of the first meeting in the building were read, followed by addresses by two guest speakers, who spoke about Kiama at the beginning of the 20th century and the early days of Lodge Kiama.

At the conclusion of these presentations, the brethren and guests assembled at the front of the building where the Grand Master, MW Bro Levenston, unveiled a granite tablet acknowledging this historic event.

Although Kiama Samaritan Lodge was formed in 1871, the brethren met initially in the Kiama Court House, and then the C of E Sunday School, until the present building was purchased in 1908.

Internal changes needed to be made and a supper room was added before the first meeting could be held in 1909.

During the banquet that followed, two masoniCare cheques were presented by the masoniCare Representative for Region 11. These were: Hands Across NSW, \$2,000, received by Matt Brown MLA, Clr Sandra Macarthy, Mayor of Kiama, and the Chairman, RW Bro Juan Alvarez; and



The commemorative tablet at Lodge Kiama. L-R: VW Bro Jim Hyam, WM, the Grand Master, W Bro Tony Zuzic – organising chairman for the event

a cheque for \$10,000 for Camp Quality, accepted by rally car driver Gavin Willis, on behalf of that organization.

In the Grand Master's words, 'It was a night to remember'.



# Grand Lodge Officers' Night

Region Six conducted a very impressive Grand Lodge Officers' Night at the Tamworth Masonic Centre on Saturday 26 September under the Warrant of The Peel Lodge No 209.

The work for the evening was to raise Brother Steve Groth of The Peel Lodge, to the Third Degree.

All offices were occupied by Grand Lodge Officers, with VW Bro David Robertson in the chair. The various charges were also delivered by Grand Lodge Officers.

Brother Groth was invested with his late grandfather's Master Mason's apron. He was supported by a number of brethren with whom he had been associated when working as a member of the NSW Police Force.

During the evening the Regional Grand Counsellor for Region Six, RW Bro Karl Toovey, presented Bro John Ludewig with the Grand Master's Regional Award, in recognition of the work Bro Ludewig has performed in carrying out his duties as Regional masoniCare Representative.



RW Bro Toovey congratulates Bro Ludewig on his receiving the Grand Master's Regional Award

# Lodge Wyvern Installation



L-R: Bros Grant McKenzie of Lodge Wyvern; Charlie Thompson of Lodge University of Sydney; the Grand Master; Anthony Clarke of Lodge University of Sydney; Ben Bradley of Lodge Harold Herman Unity; from Lodge Woronora Clarence Reyes, Steven Markovic and Archie Abella; and RW Bro Stephen Green, PAGM, Chairman BOM

W Bro Ralph Belshaw installed his successor, Bro Darren Eurlings on Saturday, 24 October in the historic Prescott Hall at Newington College, Stanmore.

Lodge Wyvern was consecrated in 1950, being formed by Newington Old Boys and holds the Installation Ceremony and Banquet at Newington.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Leven-

ston, addressed the 100 brethren in the lodge and made presentations to the new Worshipful Master, the Installing Master and to W Bro Harry Lawrence on reaching 50 years in the Craft.

The Banquet was a great success with 155 masons and guests being entertained by some wonderful speeches and an excellent dinner.

# Freemasons represented at AGQUIP 2009

Freemasonry was represented at the AGQUIP 2009 Field Days, held at Gunnedah over three days in August.

The stand was organized and manned by the brethren of Region 6, led by the DGIW of District 64, VW Bro Don Janson.

Brethren were on hand to answer enquiries from members of the public regarding Freemasonry, and to greet other brethren attending the field days.

The stand was also used to raise funds for the Masonic Youth Welfare Fund of NSW through the conduct of a raffle and the sale of honey.

The locally produced honey was sourced through apiarist W Bro Derek



L-R: VW Bro Rob Jackson DGIW District 61, VW Bro Don Janson, DGIW District 64, and Susan Williams, CEO of MYWF, at the Gunnedah Field Days Masonic stand

Brown, of the Peel Lodge No 209 in Tamworth.

RW Bro Olly Bergstrom, PAGM, the President of the Masonic Youth Welfare Fund, accompanied by his CEO, Mrs Susan Williams, also attended and assisted the local brethren.

The fund is directly involved in Gunnedah through their 'Barinya' program.





# Happy time at Eastern Star Ball

More than 250 members, guests and friends enjoyed a splendid evening when they attended the Order of the Eastern Star Grand Chapter Ball at the Burwood RSL.

The Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of NSW & ACT Mrs Jeanette Farrant, and the Worthy Grand Patron Mr Mervyn McAleice, welcomed the Grand Master, MW Bro Levenston and Ms Judith Morrice to the Ball.

'It is good for the Masonic Family to meet in a social surrounding to get to know one another for the benefit of all. The Ball was a social success and all who attended enjoyed good company, good food and look forward to the District Grand Installations in February and March,' said Mrs Farrant.

She added that all members of the Order of the Eastern Star in NSW & ACT would like to extend the compliments of the season, and a bright and happy new year to all members and their families and friends.

L-R: Worthy Grand Patron, Mr Mervyn McAleice, Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs Jeanette Farrant, with Ms Judith Morrice and the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston at the Grand Chapter Ball



## Calling all Scouts

Every four years Scouts Australia calls a Jamboree and it is customary for the host state to hold a masonic meeting for Scouts with masonic affiliation.

The Jamboree will be held in Sydney in 2010 and the host lodge will be Lodge Hurlstone Park United No 288.

It will hold a special meeting on Monday, 11 January at the Hurlstone Park Masonic Centre, corner of Duntroon and Marcia Streets, Hurlstone Park, commencing at 6.30pm.

The meeting will be open to wives, partners and friends and full Scout uniform with medals may be worn.

For further information contact RW Bro Len Jenkins PSGW, Group Leader 2nd Canterbury (St Pauls) Scout Group on (02) 9799 1829 or by email at Jenkins.family@bigpond.com.au

LODGE RICHARD COLEY No 152

## Cootamundra journey

It has been a longstanding tradition for members of Lodge Richard Coley No 152 to travel to Cootamundra to attend the Installation of Lodge Cootamundra St John No 124. This year they celebrated their 126th Installation and by the time the lodge tyled there were over 40 brethren and 20 ladies present.

During the ceremony the ladies were entertained by some keyboard music.

The Grand Master's Representative, RW Bro G.J. Charlton, RGC, led a Grand Lodge Delegation of nearly 20 officers.

In the ceremony, W Bro Norman Apps was installed as Worshipful Master by the Installing Master, W Bro Ross Hamilton.

RW Bro Charlton gave an inspiring address on membership and the proposed website, before retiring to the Coota-



R-L: RW Bro GJ Charlton, W Bro Norman Apps and W Bro Ross Hamilton

mundra Ex-Services Club to enjoy the Installation Banquet.

The following morning they were treated to the traditional barbecue breakfast before heading home.



## LODGE CHALLENGE No 284

## A family raising

At the Installation of Lodge Challenge No 284, W Bro Liam Cooper, a fourth generation mason of the Cooper family, was re-installed as WM for his third term. Liam then invested as Senior Warden Bro Stuart Low and as Junior Warden Jeff Low (father of Stuart), the Senior Deacon Bro Barry Briggs and Junior Deacon Bro Paul Briggs (son of Barry).

At a following meeting, Bro Adam Bourke was Raised to the Third Degree in a ceremony which made the night a pleasant and memorable experience.



L-R: Bros Jeff and Stuart Low, W Bro Liam Cooper, Bro Adam Bourke, Bros Barry and Paul Briggs

## LODGE KEMPSEY MACLEAY No 203

## Fun in the sun

Brilliant sunshine blessed the gathering of masons from Lodge Kempsey Macleay No 203, their ladies and friends, when they met at the barbecue shelter adjacent to Trial Bay Gaol, at South West Rock, for a fish barbecue.

W Bro Maurie Britten, not only caught and prepared the fish, but cooked and served the meal, which was a four course selection of fish pieces in tempura batter, with salads and sweets.

The WM of Lodge Kempsey Macleay, RW Bro John Cook, used the occasion to help raise funds for the purchase of a

## THE HILLS LODGE No 1025

## High time at the Hills

Over 70 brethren, ladies and friends attended the September Re-Installation of W Bro Sam Harrison as Master of the Hills Lodge No 1025.

This included a ten strong Fraternal from District 34, led in by Grand Pursuivant, W Bro Charles Wattle and headed by the DGIW of District 35, VW Bro Ron Webb.

The Grand Lodge delegation was led by MW Bro Ray Brooke, PGM, who was warmly greeted by the Installing Master, VW Bro Paul Larblastier.

Present for the occasion were three Entered Apprentices and two Fellowcrafts, who were especially welcomed by MW Bro Brooke.

It was pleasing to note that all offices for the coming year will be occupied by master masons, including Treasurer, Secretary and Chaplain.



L-R: Bro Shaun Simon, MW Bro Ray Brooke, PGM, Bro Tony Grima, Bro Nick Slayton.

The Re-Installation Banquet was beautifully prepared and decorated by Mrs Fran Harrison and the ladies.

## LODGE OPHIR No 17

## Regalia comes home

On Saturday, 24 October a fraternal of 14 members of District 34 travelled by coach to Orange to be part of the 152nd Installation ceremony of VW Bro Graham Richard Russell at Lodge Ophir No 17. The Installing Master was RW Bro

David Levesque PJGW, well known in Region 3 through his long association with Lodge Resurgo No 223, meeting at Castle Hill.

The visit not only supported RW Bro Levesque and Lodge Ophir, but also presented Lodge Ophir with masonic memorabilia which belonged to the late Harold Henry Ford who was installed as Master of Lodge Canoblas No 498, in 1927.

The instigator of the visit was VW Bro Ross Partridge, the Region 3 Education Officer and Secretary of Lodge Bundaleeah Daylight No 992, meeting at The Orchard Hills Centre.

W Bro Marshall Partridge led the District 34 Fraternal into the lodge room ahead of a very proud VW Bro Ross Partridge.

At the banquet, in making the presentation of W Bro Ford's personal masonic effects to Lodge Ophir, VW Bro Partridge explained how he gained possession of the regalia, which is to be mounted and displayed at the Orange Masonic Centre.



L-R: Bro Michael Scott, W Bro Maurie Britten, RW Bro John Cook

transport defibrillator for the Macquarie Base hospital.

The unit is estimated to cost \$30,000, and \$400 was raised by the lodge at this event.



# Freemason welcomes new members to the Craft

<b>Name</b>	<b>Initiated</b>	<b>Lodge</b>
CHON Enrique	7/9/09	Antiquity 1
MURPHY Neil	17/7/09	Macarthur Daylight Lodge 1009
SAMAMIECO Edmundo	24/9/09	Lodge Fidelity King Solomon 101
TIMBREZA Avelind	24/9/09	Lodge Fidelity King Solomon 101
ROBERTS Philip	25/8/09	Basin View Daylight Lodge 1015
BOMBA Roberto	13/7/09	Lodge Galileo 1019
CONNOLLY Sean	24/8/09	The Sydney Lodge 1020
PETRAKIS Glenn	24/8/09	The Sydney Lodge 1020
SAUNDERS Michael	24/8/09	The Sydney Lodge 1020
GRIMA Anthony	15/7/09	The Hills Lodge 1025
SIMON Shaun	15/7/09	The Hills Lodge 1025
ABOUD Patrick	21/10/09	The Hills Lodge 1025
BONE Justin	13/8/09	Lodge Kellerman 1027
FENKCI Ibrahim	13/8/09	Lodge Kellerman 1027
NORMAN Kris	13/8/09	Lodge Kellerman 1027
TADROS Ramy	13/8/09	Lodge Kellerman 1027
VERWEY David	13/8/09	Lodge Kellerman 1027
BLISS Robert	14/8/09	Lodge Swansea Belmont 1030
GARDINER Timothy	9/10/09	Lodge Swansea Belmont 1030
BARRETO Murilo	25/6/09	Horizons 1032
CUNHA Taiguara	25/6/09	Horizons 1032
SORIANO Rhoderic	25/6/09	Horizons 1032
RITCHIE Blake	23/7/09	Horizons 1032
SCOTT Calin	21/9/09	Lodge Ku-Ring-Gai 1033
CRANLEY Mathew	27/10/09	Lodge Phoenix 1034
NOHRA Jason	22/5/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
MITCHELL Dennis	24/7/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
BARLOW Luke	25/9/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
BOND Andrew	25/9/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
FLEMING Gareth	25/9/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
HILL Luke	25/9/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
OAKES Terence	25/9/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
FRANCIS Tony	23/10/09	The Cedars Lodge 1041
BUCKLAND Peter	22/7/09	Lodge Lachlan Macquarie 1042
PERRY Philip	22/7/09	Lodge Lachlan Macquarie 1042
JARACZEWSKI Jean	26/8/09	Lodge Lachlan Macquarie 1042
POSA Dennis	26/8/09	Lodge Lachlan Macquarie 1042
GRAY Peter	1/6/09	Lodge Central Tablelands 1043
RIDGEWELL Allan	1/9/09	Lodge Ballina 112
POWLEY Stephen	17/3/09	Lodge of Peace 120
GHUNMAT Laith	9/7/09	The Hunters Hill Lodge 139
LEE Jaedong	9/7/09	The Hunters Hill Lodge 139
SEMMENS Jarvis	15/7/09	Lodge Silver City 141
MANGELSDORF Nigel	1/7/09	The Lachlan Waugoola Lodge 142
WILSON Peter	19/10/09	Lodge John Williams 148
MARINER Brian	9/6/09	The Hawkesbury Heritage Lodge 150
BLATCHFORD Shane	24/8/09	Lodge Friendship 158
KING Geoffrey	4/9/09	Lodge Cooma Monaro 164
AHMED Noman	5/8/09	Lodge St David and St John 180
BURKE Daniel	5/8/09	Lodge St David and St John 180
McRAE James	16/7/09	Lodge Scone 183
GIBSON Darren	15/10/09	Lodge Scone 183
HARRISON Michael	14/10/09	Lodge Carringtonia 187
DONOGHUE Kenneth	13/8/09	Lodge Federal Burrowa 193
COPP Adam	5/9/09	The Lodge Federation 196
RUSHTON Joab	5/6/09	Lodge Namoi 207

<b>Name</b>	<b>Initiated</b>	<b>Lodge</b>
TZORTZIS Christo	30/6/09	Lodge Burns Wentworth Tuscan 21
ISAAK Danny	22/7/09	Lodge Resurgo 223
FRANGI Raymond	28/10/09	Lodge Resurgo 223
KHOURI Jason	28/10/09	Lodge Resurgo 223
CAMERON Adam	11/6/09	Balmain Lodge 23
SURBY Anthony	13/8/09	Balmain Lodge 23
FAIRCLOTH Michael	19/9/09	Balmain Lodge 23
MITCHELL Robert	11/9/09	Lodge Theo Grey 234
TOLIAS Kristian	9/10/09	Lodge Theo Grey 234
DUNNE John	17/3/09	Lodge Courallie 235
BARTON Francis	28/6/09	Lodge Wyaldra 238
BAYLISS Phillip	13/8/09	Lodge Wyaldra 238
WEBBER Darren	15/5/08	Lodge Wyong Tuggerah Lakes 247
PRINCE Alan	14/8/08	Lodge Wyong Tuggerah Lakes 247
DEVERSON Shaun	20/11/08	Lodge Wyong Tuggerah Lakes 247
BLAGA Sorin	8/4/08	Lodge Frenchs Forest United 249
BANDARIAN Vazrik	13/5/09	Lodge Frenchs Forest United 249
BOSCA Alec	12/8/09	Lodge Frenchs Forest United 249
SEDDON Francis	9/9/09	Lodge Frenchs Forest United 249
SOUTHAM Damien	1/10/09	Lodge Cessnock 252
REVES Crescenio	2/10/09	Lodge Vacluse 266
TUTAAN Theron	7/8/09	Lodge Sydney St. George 269
SATHIAPALAN Mayuran	2/10/09	Lodge Sydney St. George 269
OATES Garry	4/8/09	Lodge Kensington 270
ELLIS Mark	11/8/09	Lodge Timor 274
WHITE Johnny	7/7/09	Lodge Warrumbungles 277
DUPEN Ian	3/11/09	Lodge Hurstville 282
WILLIAMSON Ian	7/10/09	Lodge Gloucester 291
ASHLEY Richard	9/7/09	Lodge Middle Harbour 292
RENNIE Luke	16/9/09	Lodge Pacific 298
BRANT Adam	6/7/09	Lodge Mindaribba 307
AITCHISON Robert	3/8/09	Lodge Mindaribba 307
NASSIS Zois	11/8/09	Lodge Cronulla 312
MAILER Ross	13/10/09	Lodge Cronulla 312
ISSA Khalil	11/8/09	Lodge Guildford 321
EL MASRI Wissam	2/10/09	Lodge Celebration of Fairfield 345
HARPER Neale	2/10/09	Lodge Celebration of Fairfield 345
SHEATHER Garry	1/8/09	Lodge Blackheath 370
KHAN Ishrar	16/6/09	Lodge Oatley 381
YOUNG Steven	20/10/09	Lodge Bawgolah 392
GOLGINI Andrew	17/7/09	Lodge Blacktown Kildare 393
CLARO Elmer	18/9/09	Lodge Blacktown Kildare 393
DE LEON Renato	16/10/09	Lodge Blacktown Kildare 393
FERNANDEZ Xavier	24/8/09	Lodge Morning Star 410
SAPALO Rolando	21/8/09	Lodge Woronora 414Lodge of Excellence
MARKOVIC Steven	18/9/09	Lodge Woronora 414Lodge of Excellence
REYES Clarence	18/9/09	Lodge Woronora 414Lodge of Excellence
ARCHIMEDES Abella	16/10/09	Lodge Woronora 414Lodge of Excellence
BRADLEY Benjamin	27/5/09	Lodge Harold Herman Unity 428
BIGGS Michael	24/6/09	Lodge Harold Herman Unity 428
FERNIA David	14/7/09	Brundah Endeavour 429
KIRK Swain	14/7/09	Brundah Endeavour 429
DURSUN Shener	10/7/09	Concord Technology 432
THOMAS James	8/7/09	Lodge Dunoon 436
McMANUS-SMITH Darren	22/8/09	Lodge Morisset 441

*Our Initiates are continued on page 44*



# Freemason welcomes new members to the Craft

Name	Initiated	Lodge
SLOAN Daniel	22/8/09	Lodge Morisset 441
RANDALL Matthew	21/7/09	Lodge St James 45
BUTTRISS Mathew	4/8/09	Lodge Lachlan Jemalong 46
BROWN Robert	6/10/09	Lodge Lachlan Jemalong 46
WILLIAMS Lance	2/10/09	Lodge Belubula 472
STARR Peter	13/8/09	Lodge Canowindra 478
FLANAGAN Michael	5/8/09	The Australian Lodge Of Harmony 5
COCCIOLONE Dominic	9/9/09	Lodge Army and Navy 517
ADAMS Raymond	14/7/09	Lodge Mandagery 523
BLAKE Simon	8/10/09	Lodge Macquarie 53
CLARKE Anthony	21/8/09	Lodge University of Sydney 544
WEERASINGHE Jayantha	5/8/09	Lodge William Ross 550
CZARTOWSKI Richard	2/9/09	Lodge William Ross 550
PRICE Timothy	2/9/09	Lodge William Ross 550
TARTAGLIA Luciano	8/10/09	Lodge Barham 561
SARKIS Nadrra	9/7/09	Lodge Merewether-Cardiff 576
CAPARARO Aaron	10/9/09	Lodge Merewether-Cardiff 576
TAYLOR Glenn	5/11/09	Lodge Illawarra 59
ANDERSON Baden	8/5/09	Lodge Lightning Ridge 595
KERR Mitchel	9/10/09	Lodge Lightning Ridge 595
COLBRAN Dennis	15/9/09	Nowra Unity 60
HALL Benjamin	13/10/09	Lodge Paxton 608
BAKER Garry	14/9/09	Lodge Milton 63
MCCASKIE Nicholas	23/4/09	Lodge Commonwealth Of Australia 633

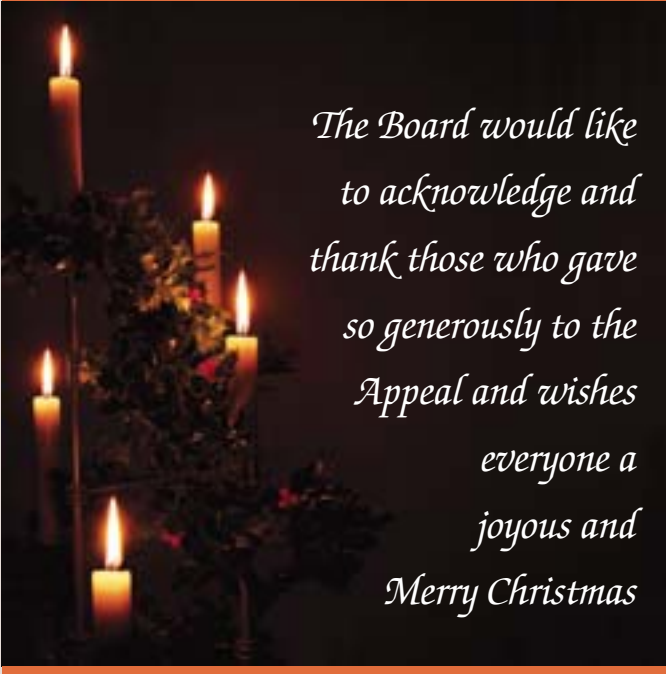
Name	Initiated	Lodge
ROBSON Steven	28/5/09	Lodge Commonwealth Of Australia 633
STEVENSON Alec	25/6/09	Lodge Commonwealth Of Australia 633
BULOT Zaine	22/10/09	Lodge Commonwealth Of Australia 633
BENNETT David	20/8/09	Lodge Ionic 65
QUARTA Enzo	5/8/09	Lodge Trinity 666
CHENG Philip	15/7/09	Lodge F S Mance 671
JOSEN Updash	26/8/09	Lodge Wahroonga 674
SAFI Elias	6/7/09	Lodge Aviation 688
RICHARDS Joshua	8/5/09	Lodge Hastings 69
CAMERON Raymond	14/8/09	Lodge Hastings 69
BAYRAMIAN Joseph	15/8/09	Lodge Pittwater 697
FORDE Toby	19/9/09	Lodge Pittwater 697
TURLEY Connor	19/9/09	Lodge Pittwater 697
GREENWOOD Keith	19/10/09	Lodge St Andrew Twilight 7
STEVANOVIC Aleksander	4/2/08	The Maroubra Lodge 725
BLOOMFIELD Alan	4/2/09	The Maroubra Lodge 725
NEKOUTCHAEV Vladimir	4/2/09	The Maroubra Lodge 725
MESTEROVIC Aleksandar	1/4/09	The Maroubra Lodge 725
BUCSKO Bela	9/10/09	Lodge West Epping 731
KIOUSSIS Anthony	7/10/09	Lodge Como 738
McKAY Daniel	21/5/09	Lodge Bathurst United 79
HOTZ David	14/10/09	Lodge Mark Owen 828
HAYNES Jason	15/9/09	Lodge Sylvania 853 Lodge of Excellence
WILLOUGHBY Scott	25/9/09	Lodge Central Australia 88
COYNE David	28/9/09	Lodge Southern Cross 91
MAHER Michael	28/9/09	Lodge Southern Cross 91
PARMIGIANI Jacob	16/5/09	Lodge Victoria Cross 928
BARRON Dean	20/6/09	Lodge Victoria Cross 928
BRIEN Steven	20/6/09	Lodge Victoria Cross 928
JAMES Paul	20/6/09	Lodge Victoria Cross 928
HILL Peter	15/8/09	Lodge Victoria Cross 928
HUTCHINS Charles	15/8/09	Lodge Victoria Cross 928
JARMAN Timothy	15/8/09	Lodge Victoria Cross 928
RAHARDT Casey	15/8/09	Lodge Victoria Cross 928
GORDON Kenneth	4/11/09	Lodge Toukley 933
GERMIER David	1/5/09	Lodge Saratoga 937
BONNEY Michael	6/8/09	Lodge Caledonia Of Canberra 938
MALCOLMSON Stephen	3/9/09	Lodge Caledonia Of Canberra 938
LUMSDEN Ian	1/10/09	Lodge Caledonia Of Canberra 938
SULLIVAN Erik	24/6/09	Lodge Fire Brigades 940
RODRIGUEZ-QUINTERO Luis	3/3/08	Lodge Perfect of Canberra 951
SHEN Yueshi	1/9/08	Lodge Perfect of Canberra 951
BYRNE Ross	2/6/09	Lodge Albert C. Petrie 954
FERGUSON Robert	2/6/09	Lodge Albert C. Petrie 954
JANZSEN David	1/9/09	Lodge Albert C. Petrie 954
VIRET Ryan	1/9/09	Lodge Albert C. Petrie 954
EWART Dylan	17/9/09	Lodge Albert C. Petrie 954
GAVAGHAN Simon	18/9/09	Lodge Dunblane Australis 966
HART Ainsley	18/9/09	Lodge Dunblane Australis 966
HEIN Michael	10/7/09	Lodge Alpha 970
SLAYTON Nick	10/7/09	Lodge Alpha 970
SUBASI Ismet	11/9/09	Lodge Alpha 970
ZAHROONI Michael	9/10/09	Lodge Alpha 970
SCHUBACK John	27/1/09	Basin View Daylight Lodge 1015
VASSALLO Alfred	27/1/09	Basin View Daylight Lodge 1015
LE MIERE Jean-Christophe	16/2/09	Lodge France 1021

## The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of New South Wales

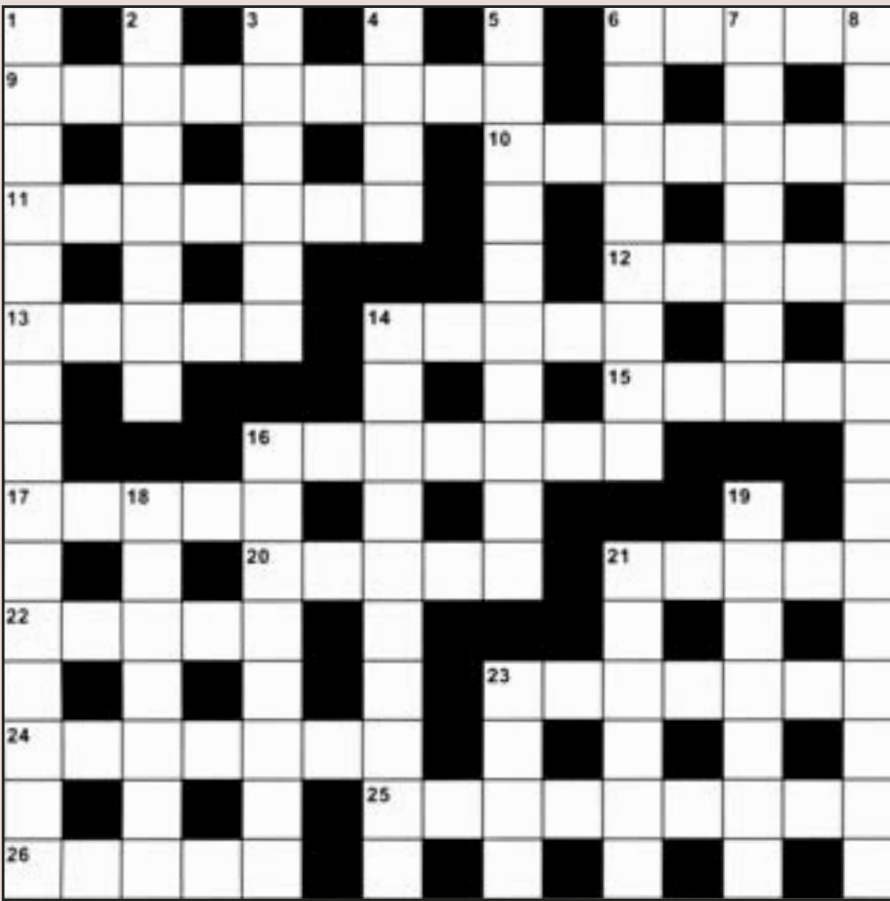
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*The Board would like  
to acknowledge and  
thank those who gave  
so generously to the  
Appeal and wishes  
everyone a  
joyous and  
Merry Christmas*



**DOWN**

- 1 & 6 across – Bright, in fantastic order for the long explanation (3, 5, 7, 5)
- 2 One of 6 and 14 down from 1 down and 6 across (7)
- 3 Quite attractive so regularly perfects toys (6)
- 4 Another of 6 and 14 down from 1 down and 6 across (4)
- 5 Dances tend to show what Moses was to 2 down (10)
- 6 & 14 – Barbaric ethics call for changes to find people mentioned in 1 down and 6 across (8, 10)
- 7 Tie a tag and stir things up (7)
- 8 An idea might gently catch on for those who are not night owls (8, 7)
- 14 See 6 down
- 16 This lodge favours 8 down and runs a neat ship (8)
- 18 Consistent costume (7)
- 19 Nice gal changed to be beautiful, kind and innocent (7)
- 21 Take up or hold down unrealistic extremes in copy (6)
- 23 Some marched off with number-one leader (4)

*Solutions next issue*

**ACROSS**

- 6 See 1 down
- 9 Breathe in to lay dormant (9)
- 10 Sid buys support with change (7)
- 11 Demolish an apartment a number of times (7)
- 12 Intelligence quotient comes back after Irish Republican Army initially moved to another war zone (5)
- 13 I'm fully prepared to change Deary! (5)
- 14 Doubter regards some diplomacy nicety with suspicion (5)
- 15 Need a help to find first letter of Hebrew alphabet? (4)
- 16 Painful effort at rival corruption (7)
- 17 Veracity of the beginning with a book of the Bible (5)
- 20 Extol the virtue of stretched latex (5)
- 21 Weight of a snow leopard (5)
- 22 Raise order for Golden Fleece provider (5)
- 23 Very old for change to a nice tan (7)
- 24 Revere promise is contained in the French (7)
- 25 A response given on receipt as appropriately arranged (9)
- 26 Some saga mindful of a street urchin (5)

*Solution September 2009*



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## 70 Years Service

YOUNG, HERBERT Lodge Artarmon United 285

## 60 Years Service

BAMBURY, KEITH Forster Great Lakes United L994

BARRETT, WARREN Lodge Broughton 131

BARTLE, CHARLES Lodge Wyvern 813

BETTY, NOEL Lodge Vacluse 266

BLOOMFIELD, HENRY Balmain Lodge 23

BRIEN, JOHN The Lachlan Waugoola Lodge 142

BROADHURST, WILLIAM Lodge Punchbowl 244

CAFE, EDWARD Lodge Independent Lewis 592

CAMPBELL, JOSEPH The Lachlan Waugoola Lodge 142

CHAPMAN, RONALD Lodge Rudyard Kipling 143

CLAPHAM, JOHN Lodge Warringah 83

CROSS, CEDRIC Lodge Talbragar Daylight 525

CROSSING, RICHARD Lodge City Of The Plains 607

DIAMOND, CONSTANTINE Lodge Parkes 40

FARRELL, NEVILLE Lodge Independent Lewis 592

FLODIN, JAMES Lodge Olympus With Prosperity 278

GIBSON, FREDERICK Lodge Wyong Tuggerah Lakes 247

GORDON, WALLIS The St. George Lodge 328

HAYES, BRUCE Lodge Fidelity King Solomon 101

HENRY, DAVID Lodge Saratoga 937

HICKSON, IAN Lodge Greater Taree L66

HILL, MILTON Richmond Valley Daylight 146

HOLMES, LESLIE Lodge Farrer 93

HUXTABLE, KENNETH Lodge Vacluse 266

IRVINE, DAVID Lodge Harold Herman Unity 428

LEWIS, ARNOLD Lodge Panania 845

LINTON, WILLIAM Lodge Cronulla 312

LOCK, JAMES Forster Great Lakes United L994

MANSELL, HECTOR Lodge Gymea 796

MARTIN, JACK The Lachlan Waugoola Lodge 142

MCBURNEY, JOHN Lodge Beecroft 359

MCGREGOR, HAROLD Balmain Lodge 23

MCMASTER, NORMAN Lodge Burns Wentworth Tuscan 21

MCMULLEN, JAMES Lodge Saratoga 937

MILLER, ANGUS Lodge Broughton 131

NAGLE, JAMES Livingstone United 604

ORR, BENJAMIN Lodge Paxton 608

PEOPLES, KENNETH Lodge Montagu Daylight 1008

PERRIMAN, ROBERT Lodge Commonwealth Of Australia 633

QUINELL, SYLVAN Lodge Independent Lewis 592

RAMM, JEFFREY Port Macquarie Daylight Lodge 991

ROBERTS, WILLIAM Lodge Broughton 131

SEARLES, HERBERT The Waratah Lodge 170

SHARP, VICTOR Clarence Valley Daylight Lodge 1011

SHARPE, COLIN Lodge Broughton 131  
SMITH, JOHN Lodge Theo Grey 234

SOLOMON, HURTLE Lodge Silver City 141

SWEET, KEVIN Lodge Warringah 83

THOMPSON, RICHARD Lodge Ophir 17

THOMSON, RONALD Lodge Paxton 608

VICKERS, BARRY Richmond Valley Daylight 146

WATTERSON, HENRY Lodge Lithgow Valley 8

## 50 Years Service

AMALOS, HIPPOCRATES Batemans Bay Daylight Lodge 1013

ASKEY, MICHAEL Laurelbank Kuring-gai Daylight Lodge 230

BAKER, JACK Lodge Independent Lewis 592

BARLOW, LEON Lodge Fitzroy 248

BEATTIE, FREDERICK Lodge Ballina 112

BOLTON, GEORGE Lodge Resurgo 223

BOWBRICK, ALLAN Lodge Greater Taree L66

BUNT, NOEL Lodge Caledonia Of Canberra 938

BURKILL, RAYMOND Lodge Denman 597

CASTLE, PETER Balmain Lodge 23

CLARKE, GRAHAM Antiquity 1

DEACON, GEORGE Lodge Burnside 729

DRYSDALE, WILLIAM Antiquity 1

ELLIOTT, JAMES Lodge Hunter Hiram 246

ELVY, KENNETH Port Macquarie Daylight Lodge 991

EMERY, CLIVE Lodge Broughton 131

ENTWISTLE, RAY Lodge Port Stephens 522

FERGUSON, JOHN Lodge Ophir 17

FRANCIS, COLIN Lodge Yeoval-Cumnock 810

FRANKEL, MAXWELL Lodge Condobolin 185

GILL, WALLACE Macarthur Daylight Lodge 1009

GRAHAM, WILLIAM Lodge Silver City 141

GRIFFIN, GEOFFREY The Lachlan Waugoola Lodge 142

HELY, DONALD Concord Technology 432

HOUSE, REGINALD Lodge Richard Coley 152

HOWE, EWART Antiquity 1

JEFFERY, DOUGLAS Lodge West Epping 731

JOHNSON, DAVID Lodge Woolgoolga 705

KAPCEJEVS, VILNIS Lodge Friendship 158

LANNIGAN, JOHN Lodge United St Andrew Singleton 34

LAVALLEE, PAUL Lodge Gymea 796

LAZAR, PETER The Old Sydneians' Lodge 639

LEHMAN, JAMES Lodge Silver City 141

MACKINNON, ARCHIBALD Lodge Broughton 131

MARTIN, JOHN Lodge Camden 217

MCMANUS, ROY Lodge Independent Lewis 592

MCPHAN, MALCOLM Lodge Hunter Hiram 246

MCQUILKIN, RICHARD Lodge Broughton 131

MCVEY, IAN Lodge Mindaribba 307

MUIR, JOHN Lodge Seymour 945

MUNTON, JACK The Lodge Federation 196

PHILLIPS, COLIN Lodge Hunter Hiram 246

POPE, JAMES Forster Great Lakes United L994

RICE, PETER Lodge Baddeley 205

ROCK, SAM Lodge Mark Owen 828

RUTLEDGE, RAYMOND Lodge Broughton 131

SAWERS, MAX Lodge Baddeley 205

SHARPE, BRIAN Lodge Broughton 131

SHEAN, BRUCE The Lachlan Waugoola Lodge 142

SMITH, CHARLES Antiquity 1

STRACHAN, RONALD Lodge Silver City 141

SWINGLE, JAMES Batemans Bay Daylight Lodge 1013

THOMAS, RUSSELL Lodge Gloucester 291

THOMPSON, JOHN Lodge Balgownie 944

TOWNSEND, ALAN Livingstone United 604

TRAFFORD, KENNETH Batemans Bay Daylight Lodge 1013

TURNBULL, THOMAS Lodge Baddeley 205

WALKER, ANDREW Lodge Baden Powell 646

WERMAN, LEONARD Lodge Mark Owen 828

WILLCOX, GRAYDON Lodge Guyra 325

WILLIAMS, HAROLD Lodge Cessnock 252

WORTHINGTON, DONALD Lodge Cessnock 252

WORTHINGTON, GERALD The Sir Walter Scott Lodge 123

YATES, DANIEL Lodge Gadara 39

## Calling all past members

**The LODGE OF TRUTH BRAIDWOOD No 26 will be 150 years old in March 2010.**

On Saturday, 13 March 2010 they will be having a Regular Meeting followed by a formal Dinner to be held at the Garranvale Woolshed Braidwood. On Sunday, 14 March there will be a Church Service.

Lodge officials are anxious to locate past members or any other person who has had some involvement with the lodge over the past 50 years and who may now live in other parts of NSW.

Invitations will be sent to members of the Braidwood Community with whom we have been involved over the last half century. Acceptance to the invitations is expected to be late January so that all matters can be finalised for the February Meeting.

**For further information please contact the lodge secretary, VW Brio Douglas Edwards on (02) 6297 2194 or the WM, Donald Buckley on email at [mistyview@skymesh.com.au](mailto:mistyview@skymesh.com.au)**



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NUMBER ONE IN NUMBERS

## Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution

Established in 1880

### In these tough and uncertain times, the RFBI extends Seasons Greetings

The Directors and Staff of the Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution extend Seasons Greetings to all Masons and their families and thank them most sincerely for their support throughout the year. We assure you that your donations have been gratefully received and were faithfully applied through the Annuity and Benevolence Schemes and in our aged care facilities. 100% of all donations have been applied with no administration charges.

#### HAVE YOU GOT TIME TO SPARE? WILL YOU GIVE THE RFBI SOME TIME NOW?

The RFBI is looking for **VOLUNTEERS** in all of our facilities to offer assistance in activities such as reading a book to sight impaired persons, assistance at mealtimes, sit and chat with aged persons, assist with outings, assist with maintenance such as gardening, lawn mowing and the like. The list is endless. There are many jobs that **VOLUNTEERS** can do and those listed above are but a few. All are very rewarding to the individual, of great comfort to elderly folk and indirectly assists the RFBI in the care of some 2300 aged residents. Your contribution assists our residents in making their quality of life in their twilight years more pleasant.

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

For all retirement village inquiries, please contact Alex Shaw or Ann King on 9264 5986



# *Enlightenment*

*May the Methodist have method,  
May the Protestant protest,  
May every creed aspire,  
In the way it feels is best.*

*May the testament of Christians,  
And the older one of Jews,  
And the stanzas of the Koran,  
Bring their readers vital news.*

*May Gautama Buddha's teaching,  
Bring enlightenment for some,  
For others, with Confucius,  
Let their awakening come.*

*In a multitude of backgrounds,  
It surely is not odd  
To find such variance of ways,  
Of praying to one God.*

*Seasons Greetings to all*

