

Freemason



Sydney welcomes the
Queen Mary 2

Our GM: the
first 12 months

UGL's new look
lodge rooms



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Freemason



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

Grand Lodge Website:
www.uglnsw.freemasonry.org.au

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FREEMASON is the official journal of The United Grand Lodge of New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

Telephone: (02) 9284 2800

The journal is published in February, April, July, October and December. Deadline for copy is 1st of the month preceding month of issue.

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Publication of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product or service by The United Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT.

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FREEMASON is proudly produced for
The United Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT
by APM Graphics Management
47 Picnic Parade, Ettalong Beach, NSW 2257
ABN 16 434 998 150

Printed by Offset Alpine Printing P/L, Lidcombe, NSW.

Distributed to all New South Wales and ACT brethren and sister Grand Lodges in Australia and throughout the World.

ISSN 1836-0475

Print Post Approved PP255003/01651

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This Issue:
Volume 41, Number 3
July 2009

Cover Image:
The Queen Mary 2
in Sydney Harbour

Photo: Cunard Line



The view from the Deputy Grand Master's chair

Perhaps the greatest display of masonic pageantry is the Installation of a Grand Master. **The first thing that the newly-invested and installed Grand Master does is to invest his Deputy** – his 'right-hand man', the person, you are told, who will assume the reins of office when the Grand Master is absent from the jurisdiction.



This may have been the case in the days when it took six months to sail to England; but when it takes just nanoseconds to speak with someone anywhere in the world while you're doing almost anything else other than driving a car, it is highly unlikely that you'll receive a phone call from the Grand Secretary asking you to solve an otherwise insurmountable problem at any time of the night or day.

In addition to his ceremonial role, the Deputy Grand Master plays a strategic administrative role that, depending on the projects he is running, can involve far more work than the more visible ceremonial tasks.

The Deputy plays a role in the opening of the Grand Lodge. Historically, the 13 words were all that the Deputy said at a Grand Communication. A welcome initiative introduced by MW Bro Ray Brooke, Immediate Past Grand Master, now provides the Deputy and Assistant with an opportunity to advise the Grand Lodge of progress in the initiatives for which they are accountable.

As Deputy Grand Master, you have a close and very personal level of interaction with the Grand Master and the Assistant Grand Master. You form a triumvirate, united in your words and actions, showing unity of purpose as the leadership team.

The pleasurable aspects of the position are many, and include the occasions that are of historic import: the Consecration of a new lodge; the Setting of a Foundation Stone for a new Masonic Centre; the Dedication of a new lodge room. The Deputy forms part of the team that conducts the ceremonies associated with these milestone events.

Attending Installations, District meetings or Regional Conferences provides an

opportunity to criss-cross the jurisdiction, to meet people and get a glimpse of life in a range of local communities. The warmth of the welcome extended to Susan and me has been wonderful.

A great way to spend your annual leave is attending Grand Installations. This enables you and your partner to build a rapport and friendship with the other Deputy Grand Masters, with the Grand Masters of Australia and New Zealand, and with their respective partners. It's a chance to share insights into the way in which other jurisdictions are addressing the challenges that seem to be facing us all.

The principal task of my term has been to address the need to improve accommodation for our lodges. As a jurisdiction, we have more buildings than we need; more than we can maintain; too many that aren't safe; and too many that portray a poor image of our organisation.

The decision to redress this situation rests with the owners of each building. With their assistance, I seek to reduce the number of buildings; where required, to improve the safety of our buildings, particularly in terms of fire safety and egress; to increase the amenity of our meeting places; and to relocate lodges into other community resources in those instances where our buildings cannot be improved sufficiently. My fondest hope is that this initiative will be carried out without a single lodge handing back its Charter.

Our organisation is composed of people; it is not a collection of buildings spread across the landscape. A lodge is a band of Brothers. While buildings may be dear to us – usually because of their familiarity to us rather than their fittings and fixtures – the survival of the organisation does not depend on retaining the buildings; it depends on retaining the people.

The Craft could continue without owning a single building; it cannot continue without many thousands of brethren.

This is a bold initiative. But this is not the time to be timid; timidity is for mice. This is the time to be enthusiastic. To be inspired. To be dynamic. Doing this will re-invigorate our Order. **Think about how good it could be.**

New Look Magazine

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED that we have made changes to the design of your Freemason magazine.

Our publishers have worked hard to create a format which is brighter and more inviting to read. As we are always trying to improve content, contributions are encouraged, so if you have a story please send it to us.

As today's world changes, so must we to keep up with what's happening and to bring readers the benefits of new technology while maintaining our standards.

How do you feel about the 'new look'? Your comments on the design and articles will assist the magazine committee to determine the best approach to quality and we welcome all suggestions.

What do you like, what don't you like, what would you like to see? Send us your thoughts.

The Editor



Some thoughts about Baby Nicholas



'April is the cruellest month'. TS Eliot began his great poetic work *The Waste Land* with those words. I thought of them on 30 April as I drove to Rookwood to take **a funeral service for Baby Nicholas**.

In February the body of a baby boy was discovered at a waste depot on the southern outskirts of Sydney. The body was passed into the custody of the State Coroner and kept in the Glebe morgue. As time passed the staff named the baby boy Nicholas.

In April, failing any success in locating the mother or any other relatives, the Coroner's staff began preparations for a funeral service at Rookwood Independent Cemetery. We have a close working relationship because the cemetery takes many of the public or destitute burials in Sydney, and I officiate at many of those services. The Cemetery staff arranged for the funeral service to be held in the Chapel of Eternal Rest followed by interment in the Baby Lawn.

On Thursday, 30 April we gathered at the Cemetery Chapel for the funeral service. Who would come? Would anybody come? I knew that there would be representatives of the media. I was surprised to find about 100 people present, including police, representatives of interested groups and many people who had attended because it was not right that Baby Nicholas should be buried without people there. The



question on many of our minds was: Is the mother present?

A baby's funeral is always a difficult service for all involved, including the Minister. This was no exception. Amid assurances of God's love for children I pointed out that somewhere there was a mother bereft of her child who needed help to grieve and find closure.

From the chapel we walked 50 metres

to the baby lawn where a grave had been prepared. The coffin was put into place for the committal. It was touching to see flowers and soft toys placed on it by those attending. We said goodbye with dignity as we committed Nicholas to God. One lady said that she had collected money for a memorial plaque and that she would visit and maintain the grave.

After the service many people spoke to me and expressed thanks for the service. So many had come, some from as far as Camden. I went through a series of media interviews from television, radio and newspapers. All media interviews were conducted with courtesy and consideration. They were an opportunity to reflect on what we had done in that service for Nicholas. I found the media very supportive of the service.

The days following the funeral have been filled with reminders of it. People from the Church and the community saw the television portrayals, heard radios, read the newspapers. I have received phone calls and emails. Still I wonder: What about the mother? What about family members who must be aware of what has happened? Can they face what they have done and find closure?

Those of us who are masons have lived to adult life and have made important life choices, including embracing masonic teaching and lifestyle. We are privileged people. Baby Nicholas has been denied the ability to make such choices. Thank God for the ability to choose your path in life and the wonderful privileges you enjoy in a country like ours. I thank God for the privilege of ministering to others and look forward to continuing in that role. I may never have another experience like this, but it has been an important part of life's journey.

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, Sydney at the St Mark SC meeting on Monday 17th August 7:00pm when we will work the 11th & 12th Degrees.

Contact the Recorder, Brian Skingsley on holdenli@bigpond.net.au, phone 9452 5898 or the Preceptor Barry Travis on 9634 2504 for more information.



The year in review

The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston, **completes his first year in office in August** and takes time with the Editor to review those 12 months.

I tended to tread water for the first six months because the system (of the Grand Master's election) doesn't work more than one year at a time.

There were wins with the cascading Strategic Plan, new lodges where we have four so far with another six in the pipeline, 20/20 Masons and the Women's Advisory Committee. I'm also seeking expressions of interest from those brethren who want to take part in the formation of further new lodges.

It's a priority. It's about confidence and morale in the organisation. It is also important for our masons as well as others to have an idea where Freemasonry is heading and that there is a future and they own that future.

The Women's Committee, 20/20 and the Freemasons Association are works in progress, involve different teams and are being well received. There are already 192 members in the 20/20 group and we'll be adding about 50 a year to that list. The Freemasons Association now has 1,000 members and we're hoping to get 5,000.

We need to mobilise the women, especially for the social side of Freemasonry but I'm also asking each lodge to place at least two women on their Management Committee. This will initially identify at least 700 women across the jurisdiction who can bring marketing, administration and social skills across the board. I feel strongly that if *she* is involved, *he* will stay.

The Women's Committee is producing a book on cooking, with special reference to 'goats' and we already have a publisher interested. Each region is being asked to contribute a series of recipes with local flavour and to highlight the positives of the region. In all these initiatives Judith's leadership and enthusiasm is acknowledged and appreciated across the Jurisdiction. She has a natural ability to bring people closer together.

One of the bigger and frustrating disappointments has been in relation to communications. We have the new Freemasons Forum coming through but still need to



do better in getting out the message. We have to use every available method we have. Quarterly Communications are old-fashioned and we need to streamline the method of communicating. This is also one of the areas where governance can be improved.

The Grand Master's Membership Task Force will be operating within the next three months with a draft program of public relations and marketing. The Membership program is not just about recruiting but also retention which is a most important area.

The membership program will look at the issue of 40/40 which is an age group where we do particularly well. We can ask a man of 40 to join and stay for 40 years but a man of 20 for a 20 years period has to be given much more flexibility. He may attend only once a year or may go overseas but if the lodge keeps in touch it may encourage him to stay.

Other benefits in this first year have been the Heads of Associated Orders conferences and the Fraternal Agreements with other Orders. These are all progressive steps to identifying talent and consolidating resources. Membership is still falling but a look at the numbers over the past three years shows the decline has slowed dramatically.

All of these issues, whether quality, retention, increased participation, word of mouth recruiting, re-engaging with the community, increasing civic awareness (the Anzac wreath-laying) or utilising the talents of women, are all stepping stones towards turning it around. The process is gaining momentum.

Another plan is to hold Grand Master's lunches to which we will invite the media, church representatives, Masonic Centre business groups and organisations to which we can put out our hand and invite them to join us so that we can re-engage our Community.

However, we do have a huge problem with the financial costs of running Grand Lodge adding to the concerns about membership and communications. We're looking at further cost restraints, economising and checking and sharing views with other Jurisdictions on how they are managing.

I've also indicated my belief we should have a Grand Lodge of Australia with a single magazine, a single database and sharing ideas and resources. We have six Grand Secretaries looking after the same number of masons around Australia now as we did in NSW 15 years ago with one Grand Secretary.

Today's society doesn't show that we need any changes in the general product of Freemasonry but we should look at changes to allow younger masons to contribute. I'm happy to be led through this process by the 20/20 group and that's what we've asked them. Not 'we can do' but 'we will do.'

Charity is no less important and I'm very pleased with the ongoing development of the Charities Forum. They are working together to present a unified product to the Jurisdiction.

I wish masoniCare to return towards our own masons. To further promote a sense of belonging, highlighting personal benevolence and caring as much within

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Lodge rooms get new look

There is a new look for members and visitors when they step into **Lodge Rooms Three and Five at the Sydney Masonic Centre.**

At the September 2008 Communication the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston, announced the refurbishments which were conducted on level 3 at the SMC.

The year 2009 marked the 30th Anniversary of the opening of the Sydney Masonic Centre and there had been no major work done on these lodge rooms since the opening.

Initial work was done on plans and designs and discussion on the concept that

was to be achieved. Certain monies had been allocated from a bequest as well as from maintenance funds from SMC. Once a quote was obtained it was found that the cost of the original concept of the project was in excess of funds available. A request for assistance was broadcast and, luckily, Lodge Castlereagh No 72 was able to come to the party in such a way that their funds enabled the project to be completed in accordance with the original concept.

Starting in January 2009, lodge rooms



3 and 5 were completely stripped of all furniture and scaffolding was installed. Many kilometres of optic fibre was placed in each ceiling to enable a representation of the night sky to be made. With the ceiling being finished in Capital Blue paint and a cloud finish, it resulted in a glorious representation of the night sky.

Progress was slow but detailed, in keeping with the expert workmanship which was the hallmark of this project. New paintwork, the installation of columns on various walls as well as the installation of the appropriate columns and pediments all had to be timetabled to allow tradesmen the appropriate access for their tasks. This culminated in the beautiful ceilings with their clouds, stars and gold leaf.

The finish was the most important part as any blemish or defect would have been readily observed.

These efforts culminated in a special series of opening events. One of these was the first official use of the lodge rooms. In recognition of their outstanding contribution to the restoration work for the comfort of all lodges, Lodge Castlereagh No 72 was the first lodge to hold its meeting in these rooms.

On Tuesday, 31 March 2009 we were honoured by the presence of Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC, CVO, Governor of NSW, who officially opened the refurbished lodge rooms for masonic purposes. Her comments about the rooms, and the role of Freemasonry in society in general, had a powerful impact on everyone present and created a sense of pride of being a Freemason.

See the back cover of this issue of *Freemason* for more photographs of the refurbished lodge rooms.

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From the Grand Secretary

SAD LOSSES

SADLY, IN RECENT TIMES we have lost two very special and unique members of the Craft. I refer to RW Bro Ian Smart and Bro Charles Tingwell.

RW Bro Ian Smart was initiated in Lodge Strathfield in May 1953 and stayed a member of that lodge until April 1960 before affiliating with Lodge Pennant Hills and in 1970 he was a Foundation member of Lodge Dural No 973. Having called off from Lodge Pennant Hills in August 1976, Ian became the Worshipful Master of Lodge Dural in 1986 and in 1988 he was appointed as District Grand Inspector of Workings for District No 12.

Ian and his family moved to the Central Coast where, in 1999, he affiliated with Lodge Gosford No 742 which, by consolidation, is now The Central Coast Lodge No 2001. Ian reached the rank of Past Assistant Grand Master in March 2005.

Ian battled illness for some time up to the day of his death on 26 May, and his devoted efforts to this Grand Lodge as its Deputy Grand Treasurer will long be remembered. A Grand Lodge Masonic Tribute was conducted for Ian on 1 June and to his wife Jo and family we extend our sincerest condolences.

ON 8 MAY THIS YEAR, Australians were saddened to learn of the passing of one of their favourite icons from stage, screen and television – Charles William ('Bud') Tingwell AM.

In acknowledging Service Awards in December 2000, the *Freemason* magazine listed Bro Tingwell as the recipient of a Fifty Year Certificate and few brethren of this jurisdiction would have been aware that he was in fact a Freemason.

Bro 'Bud' Tingwell was initiated in the former Lodge Carinya and was a subscribing member of Lodge John Williams No 148 UGL NSW & ACT to the date of his death.

Born and raised in Coogee NSW, Bro Tingwell spent most of his earlier years in Sydney's eastern suburbs where he first broke into the movie industry as an unpaid extra in a production at the Cinesound Stu-

dios in Bondi Junction. His great love of that industry lead him to many major roles on radio, in films and theatre productions in the United Kingdom, Hollywood and his home country where he later became better known playing the part of Inspector Lawson in the TV series 'Homicide'.

Whilst residing in Melbourne for a major part of his latter years, he sustained membership of this jurisdiction and we have not only lost a great Australian but a great Freemason.

REGIONAL WEBSITES

BRETHREN ARE REMINDED that each Region now has its own website with information specific to your local areas. Your Regional Grand Counsellor will welcome any contributions to his particular site and any assistance in maintaining its current information.

FREEMASONS FORUM

NEW TO THE UGL WEBSITE is the Freemasons Forum which brethren are invited and encouraged to review. This unique facility now offers the brethren of this jurisdiction the opportunity to join in comments on matters masonic and to


improve communications and relations within the jurisdiction.

In its early stages, there will no doubt be revisions to the style, format and content of this Forum to enhance its quality and usefulness.

In using the Forum, brethren are encouraged to do so in the true spirit for which it has been developed. It is a useful tool to enhance understanding, involvement and interest in Freemasonry.

QUALIFIED ACCESS

RECENT IMPROVEMENTS have been made to parts of the website to enable extensive download of various items – particularly in relation to masonic education and training. Brethren will now see that if they have only reached the rank of, say, FCF, they will not be permitted access to information in relation to MMs.

Naturally, your rank on the web is determined by the information provided by your Lodge Secretary by way of a Lodge Monthly Return (LMR). If you are denied access to an area that you believe you are entitled, please contact your Lodge Secretary immediately to request he provide the correct information to the Grand Secretariat as soon as possible. 

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The year in review

as without. The Caring Officer program is crucial to this direction.

For the future, the first step in making Masonry better known in the community is to start with the lodges and develop a public relations program to inform the community. The Board of Management and masoniCare are developing a marketing and image process. Men's health will be a big program in 2010 and we hope to attract major sponsorship.

We're also looking at developing annual scholarships for the liberal arts and sciences through the Charities Forum

and Ethics awards for small businesses. Our values must be highlighted. There should be more involvement in Anzac Day, taking a stall at the Easter Show and laying stones for buildings with community involvement. I hope to involve more local masons as well as prominent local people because new teams, new ideas and fresh perspectives are important.

Remember we are all in this together. One in, all in. 

Enthusiasm – that's what lies ahead.



Membership – it's time for action

Previous articles have dealt with the **membership challenge** facing the Craft and the **Membership Strategy** adopted by the Board of Management.

The main issues challenging the Craft are increasing the intake of new members and retaining existing members.

Regarding new members, the Board of Management has entered an agreement with Professional Public Relations (PPR), which will provide professional advice, together with strategies, promotional materials and training to achieve the required membership outcomes. The Program, 'Why I am a Mason', has two broad objectives:

1. To encourage applications for admission
2. To reduce the rate of call offs

PPR, the largest communication consultancy company in Australia with offices in Australia, New Zealand and Asia, was founded in 1978 by RW Bro Peter Lazar, AM, PJGW, who was later joined by his son, W Bro Richard Lazar.

In 2009, PPR was named 'Australian PR Agency of the year 2008' with clients including Emirates, Dell, McDonald's, Bunnings and government departments. It also undertakes pro bono work for the RFBI, Sydney Eisteddfod, Dental Health Australia, and others.

Effectively dealing with the membership issue is difficult because it requires a change in attitude by members. Firstly, members need to treat Masonry as a way of life, and heed the teachings of our rituals – (Devote a fair proportion of your leisure hours to the study of the liberal arts and sciences ... make some daily progress in the acquisition of masonic knowledge). Members also need to think about Masonry in their daily lives, and talk about Masonry to their friends, relatives and workmates. It is only when these people know a man to be a mason that they will ask questions which will enable him to provide information concerning Masonry.

Members also need to honestly assess the activities and operations of their lodge. Whilst our teachings and principles cannot and should not be changed, virtually everything else can, and should be modernised to meet current community expectations.

To add value to Masonry involves making good decisions.

To make good decisions requires being informed and reflective.

The men we need to attract into Masonry are well educated and mobile, and expect quality and effectiveness. They are also prepared to pay for it. These expectations are certainly not met in many of our lodges. Poor quality and deteriorating masonic buildings, poor ritual work due to a lack of commitment by officers and those delivering charges, lodge administration that is 50 years out of date, and poorly catered festive boards, with too many toasts.

It seems that we have lost sight of our real purpose. Many meetings are no longer enjoyable, interesting and stimulating. We have brethren delivering charges with no real understanding of the allegory underlying the charge. The recent University of Technology Survey indicates that many brethren have left the Craft because they became bored with repeated exemplifications of ritual work and were 'fobbed off' when they asked members for explanations. It is clear that years of membership, or


Grand Rank, does not mean that a mason has a good understanding of the teaching and principles of Masonry.

To add value to Masonry involves making good decisions. To make good decisions requires being informed and reflective. To be able to do this, a mason must read, enquire, debate and consider.

The objective of all masons should be to put aside self-interest and do whatever they can to ensure that a masonic presence is maintained in their community. Lodges need to develop and implement effective Management Plans containing timelines to improve lodge quality over a given period. Lodge quality will not improve by itself; someone has to make it happen. Remember, a failure to plan, is a plan to fail.

Brethren also need to recognise that masonic building ownership is having a serious impact on membership and lodge finances. Buildings are dictating the future of lodges, and on occasions, destroying lodges. The sooner members recognise that a change of meeting place can be beneficial, the sooner they will reduce the financial burden of owning a building, and be able to re-organise the lodge to provide the type of meetings and services desired by members.

Finally, for those wedded to the past, remember the last 50 years has not been very successful and reminiscing on candidates initiated during a particular year will not change that fact. Membership has declined from about 135,000 in 1957 to about 14,000 in 2008. In the same period, the number of lodges has declined from about 856 to 345. That is not a story of success.

The time for action on membership is now, and to be successful, every member needs to be proactive, and actively participate in rebuilding the Craft. 

Masons pay tribute to ANZAC

Freemasons and their families have always held special ANZAC Commemorative Services dedicated to the men and women of the Armed Forces whose sacrifice has enabled Australians to enjoy the peace, harmony and prosperity they have bequeathed to us.



RW Bro Walid Mehanna, President of the Freemasons' Association, with Dr Yvonne L McIntyre

Two such Services were held under the banner of the Freemasons' Association (NSW & ACT) in April 2009.

At 7.00 am on ANZAC Day, a contingent of 60 brethren and their ladies assembled on the corner in Martin Place prior to a wreath laying ceremony at the Cenotaph. The parade was under the direction of VW Bro Major Douglas James, RFD and was led by the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston. This was the first time that approval had been given by the custodian of the Cenotaph, for Freemasons to take part in a wreath laying ceremony at the Cenotaph on ANZAC Day.

Two wreaths were placed in memory of Fallen Comrades – by the Grand Master escorted by RW Bro Major General RJ Sharp, AO, RFD, ED, (Retd) PAGM and Ms Judith Morrice, the other by the President of the Freemasons' Association (NSW & ACT) RW Bro Walid Mehanna, SGW, escorted by Capt (Retd) 2RAANC Dr Yvonne L McIntyre, BSc (Hon), MEd, PhD, JP and Bro Petty Officer N Cooke, RAN (Retd).

The Grand Master's wreath was placed on behalf of NSW and ACT Freemasons whilst the Association President placed his wreath on behalf of the ladies and Widows of the masonic family in this jurisdiction.

The brethren and ladies later adjourned to the Masonic Club for refreshments as guests of the Club President, RW Bro Graham Berry, PSGW.

It is proposed the ceremony will become an annual event and the Freemasons' Association has lodged an application to again participate in 2010.

On 1 April, the Association held an ANZAC Day Memorial Service and Commemorative Dinner at the Sydney Masonic



The parade was led by the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston

Centre. The Service was conducted by RW Bro Commander Derek Robson, AM, RAN (Retd) PDGM with the Grand Master and Ms Judith Morrice attending. The Service coincided with the 30th Anniversary of the Sydney Masonic Centre. RW Bro Robson gave the ANZAC Address.

Wreaths were placed at the base of the Memorial Wall on the first floor of the Centre by the Grand Master and the President of the Freemasons' Association in memory of servicemen, ex-servicemen and servicewomen of this jurisdiction who paid the supreme sacrifice in war.

A moving lament was played by W Bro Pipe Major Sam Young, NSW Police Pipes and Drums and VW Bro Ian Cox, Grand Herald, played the Last Post and Reveille.

The Ode to the Fallen was given by

RW Bro Major General RJ Sharp.

The Commemorative Dinner was attended by more than 70 ladies and brethren, an appropriate grace was delivered by RW Bro Rev Dr J Hely, CBE, PJGW Grand Chaplain, and RW Bro Leonard Werman, PJGW entertained the gathering with a talk on *Scoundrels and Scallywags Down Under*. It was an interesting and humorous address which provided lots of laughs and gave RW Bro Lt Col Warwick Boyling RFD ED (Retd) PDGM plenty of scope in his 'Vote of Thanks'.

The next major event of the Freemasons' Association will be the 'Disaster Relief Fund Charity Dinner' following the Grand Master's Proclamation on 8 August 2009 at the Sydney Masonic Centre. Details are available on the Grand Lodge web page.



A journey just begun

I would like to share my story with you. This may seem 'self indulgent', for me however, it may serve to show brethren that **one's journey need not be unique but could be a common interest to help evolve our wonderful craft.**

I am a 39-year-old Master Mason living in the ACT. I was initiated into Lodge Capitol 612 in December 2006. I was largely unaware of what would befall me but I do remember the Junior Deacon instructing me to say what he said, and when the WM said 'What is the fervent wish of your heart', the whispered instruction came, then another whisper which said it's a wonderful light. Of course my automatic response was to say in a loud voice to make sure everyone could hear, it's a wonderful light. After the laughter had died down I realised that might have not been the next line. On reflection I have realised the JD was right, Freemasonry is a wonderful light.

I was Passed in June 2007 and Raised in November 2007. I had the privilege of being Raised while on a visit to Lodge Canberra. What I remember in particular about this marvellous ceremony is when giving my response 'to the toast to the candidate' I talked about Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth being a part of everyday life for masons. I was understanding how interchangeable the two facets were, for the way I was living my life was 'the masonic way', or the way a mason would unconsciously live.

After my Raising it took a couple of weeks to realise my journey had just begun. I quickly became involved in a

Canberra program of Feeding the Needy and also helped out at things like BBQs for the special school.

Once a month I attend a 'Stonecutters' lunch where we enjoy good food and excellent company and raise money for charity by contributions from those attending. One of the good aspects about this lunch is that a wide range of topics (masonic and non masonic) are discussed and the lunch is open to non masons as well. This gives an opportunity to showcase Freemasonry to the public.

At the young age of 38 I suffered a massive brain haemorrhage in February 2008. After brain surgery, the surgeon said to my wife 'we have done what we can, it is not good and we don't expect him to live through the next 72 hours'.

Obviously, I managed to live, spent time in intensive care and three months in hospital. This has been a long process and, luckily, I have no lasting effects.

One of the things I missed whilst in hospital was attending lodge. I missed our Installation in March, in which I was going to be elected Junior Deacon and present the First Degree Working Tools to our new WM. This year I will be Junior Deacon and this will be extra special as March was



the 1000th meeting of Lodge Capitol (I believe the first lodge in Canberra to attain this milestone). With the coming construction of a new Canberra Masonic Centre this occasion will be remembered by all. To mark this moment our Junior Warden has compiled a book on the 80 years history of Lodge Capitol.

After a couple of months at home I decided I was

ready to resume some masonic activities. As I was not allowed to drive, I convinced my best friend to come to Stonecutters. This naturally led to discussions about Freemasonry and a chance for him to see it is not just a bunch of old men but also younger men doing something for the community and making 'good men better'. I then had the honour of seeing him initiated in January 2009.

My recovery would not have been possible without the fantastic support of my family. I was so pleased when my wife was presented with a lovely ladies jewel for her care. The support of my lodge brethren has been without peer, it has been overwhelming and cannot be repaid. I will forever be indebted to Lodge Capitol for the love and friendship shown and I intend to 'repay' the lodge by being the best mason I can, and do what I can to help.

Part of this is helping me realise the GM's visions of visiting and 20/20. I visit when I can and now my best friend has been initiated I have a driver and someone else I take visiting. I look forward to the 20/20 Masons meetings to be held this year and see this as an opportunity to be a part of masonic future in the region. Over the last couple of years I have realised that I have a lot to learn and a long way to grow as a mason (I can't wait), the future of Freemasonry looks bright and I know that this is a journey just begun.





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Peter Court

A career as a schoolteacher gave Peter Court the experience on **how to give advice and make people happy.**



Born in Bondi and schooled at Randwick Boys High, Peter spent most of his 28 years teaching career in NSW country areas before returning to Sydney in 1966. Although he did not have much time for a real hobby he enjoyed sport and played cricket and rugby for school.

His interest in Masonry came through his family. His father, grandfather and mother's grandfather were all members of the Craft and he was initiated in Lodge Southern Cross in January 1964 rising to WM in 1976. Currently, he is the secretary of Lodge Alpha, Lodge Southern Cross and the Lodge of Australia.

Wanting a change of career, he applied to and was accepted by Grand Lodge to work in general administration and is now

the Membership Officer dealing with the public, applicants, masons and families.

'I help to trace people who have lost contact with families and there has been a number of sad experiences with those who have died. But there have also been happy occasions when I've been able to unite family members including long-lost brothers,' he said.

'We had one enquiry from a mason who had been separated from his wife for 25 years, found where she lived, and as he didn't have any money, we clubbed together, put him on a train and as far as we know, they are still together.'

Peter regards one of his major achievements to be the setting up and popularity of lodges where young people can come together and gain confidence.

'It's difficult for Caring Officers to mentor young people who have problems which are different to older members. I believe there is an undercurrent of young people looking at Freemasonry and we can't afford to fob them off. Just about every lodge in NSW has young people interested and the challenge is whether we can get them to stay.

'I'm a great believer in social events and mentoring and many results have made me feel satisfied with what I'm doing,' he said.

What it means to be a mason

AS I WRITE THIS ARTICLE, I feel like it comes from deep within me. It brings a slight tear of joy as I read my words. And that's part of what it is to be a mason. Things we do, our goals, beliefs and challenges should all come from the heart.

To me, Tony George, what it means to be a mason is the chance to be of service to my fellow man.

Every man has a desire to be of use in the world. It may be in the big outside world or some inner restricted world but the desire to serve is the same. A school teacher is not one because of the rewards, a good teacher has to teach. He or she can't be happy doing anything else. A priest or clergyman in his temple is seldom rewarded materially as he might be in some other profession. Their reward comes from the belief in their faith.

Men, especially those whose challenges in life do not appear on the surface as being obvious service to mankind, in Masonry it's an opportu-

nity to express the truth which is deep in every man's heart. They express themselves as servants of men. They learn in order to teach. They work in order that other men may have a better time, be happier and more comfortable. They call on the sick, not because it is the thing for masons to do, but to render to their unfortunate brethren some mead of comfort from their own state of health and happiness.

There is not a single act which a Brother does which is for himself. Officers in the lodge, of whom I'm proud to be one, work hard to put on a good degree, doing the work correctly, trying to make it impressive. Why? So that he can make something in Masonry his own and thus be a better man. That is inspiring.

Masonry means the chance to make friends. Meeting men from all walks of life, enjoying time together in lodge and in the south sharing good and difficult times. And to have a brother's shoulder to lean on knowing we all are of the same ilk and travelling to the same place.

Why am I a Freemason? Simply because I am proud to be a man who wants to keep the moral standards of life at a high level and leave something behind so others will benefit. As I become better, can I help others to do the same. I was raised in a home that believed in a superior being with many generations of the same belief and yet with this religious background, I felt I could still derive much from and give much to this Fraternity for the good and welfare of mankind.

In closing, to all who have taken the time to read my article, let me say the following. If you help a fellow human in need of assistance to cross the road, do so and walk away with a tear of joy that you did a good deed for another. If someone on the side of the road looks hungry and you are enjoying a snack, hand it to the starving person, walk away and feel overwhelmed at the deed you just performed. And in doing those deeds expect absolutely nothing in return.

Bro Tony George Lodge Liverpool 197

Do you have a story to tell?

Send it to the Editor, NSW Freemason.



Thanks Dad

In reading the latest edition of the Freemason (April, 2009), I noticed a reference to one of your illustrious brethren, one John Henry O'Connor. I see that he has been awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the recent Australia Day Honours list. This makes me immeasurably proud. This is a significant award, but it is also one that is vastly well-deserved.

RW Brother O'Connor has been a shining example of what Freemasonry has to offer the world and he has shown himself time and time again to be someone who truly cares. I know that without Freemasonry he would have still provided the level of generous service that he has over many years to his fellow man, but isn't it interesting how Freemasonry is full of so many of these selfless people?

I have always said it proudly, but now I can say it all the more proudly, 'That's my Dad!'

I apologise for not using a more traditional means of communicating, but I wanted to contact you ahead of your lodge meeting (Lodge Thespian) this Saturday, and the only means to do this was by email given my distance from you all. I still remember fondly my earliest steps taken in your lodge, it only saddens me that with my current geographic location in Brunei, a meeting of Freemasons is just not a possibility, as much as I have tried - I feel something a little less than a complete person without my regular contact with my fellow brethren.

Perhaps you would take the time to read my thoughts during lodge or otherwise in the south.

Keep up the good work Freemasons and keep up the work Dad.

DAMIEN DONAVAN

Lodge Canberra No 465

Bring Back Respect

I joined Freemasonry in 1952 in Victoria, EC. I was 21 at the time and did this after seeing my best friend change in a way that reached out to me. There was no encouraging or push because in those days Masonry was a society that was, not secret, but went about their business in a very much quieter way than we experience today. Of course my father fell over backwards when I expressed my desire to join his lodge. I had plenty of supporters from men who had known me most of my life and had hoped I would one day take that step.

In joining the lodge I did not feel any actual change to my life in a material sense but because I had a 'religious' background it strengthened my resolve to be a better person. This strength combined with my religion gave me great support when I lost my wife of 50 years, seven years ago. Freemasonry in 1952 was a society of serious reverence when one entered the lodge room. There was an air of respectful obligation to the very fact of where one was. There was no idle chatter or social interchange of frivolous comments and the short time from entering the room and the commencement of the ceremony was obligatory on everyone to prepare for the degree work that was to follow. Any socialising was kept strictly to the area outside the lodge room.

This atmosphere was kept by everyone. During the course of a ceremony, if an error was made in presenting a charge or if a candidate made a reply to some question or he fumbled in reply, there were no comments or remarks. The DC or JW were quick to maintain silence.

Over the years as I progressed to the chair and made numerous visits to other lodges I was able to bring back to my lodge many

things. There was always a friendly rivalry in maintaining the highest standard of work in presenting the best ritual from memory. I attended a fortnightly district lodge of instruction that ensured all work was of the highest level at all times.

Over the years, unfortunately, I have seen a dramatic breakdown in that high standard of work. To my younger brethren I would like to emphasise that our lodge meetings should not be treated as just another club of fellows, as an excuse to fraternise, socialise and exchange fraternal greetings, interrupted by degree work. This, I know, will draw some comment but for those who do, stand back a while and look and listen and see if I am not justified in what I have said.

I was encouraged from an article the Grand Chaplin wrote in the last Freemason about reintroducing an air of respect when entering the lodge room. I hope GL take up his suggestion and the GM issue an edict to that effect in the near future.

W BRO FRANK DUNSTER PDGDC

Lodge Woden Valley No 974

Masonic Birthday

Next month will be my first masonic birthday. Barely a year in, wearing my pin on my jacket every week, I am regularly approached by people of every age, men and women, who notice the pin and, as you can guess, bombard me with awkward questions.

One question that is particularly prevalent or rather is perpetually posed is along the lines of 'Are you another one of those cultists?' or 'I've heard the masons are a cult trying to take over the world. How can someone of your age be a member of such an organisation that doesn't even tell people what's really going on?'

For the record, I'm 21. I am very surprised this was not one of the questions you put in that Q & A section. I acknowledge you did mention the 'Secret Society' idea in the previous magazine, but in the public opinion, at least based on my own experiences, that some, if not many, believe worse of us. I have asked my mentor about how to answer and he says 'Just say "yes I'm a member".'

The problem is that doesn't answer the question, rather gives them the opportunity to pose it again at a later time. How would you answer the question? I am not afraid to attempt to answer, I'm just not yet sure how.

BRO NATHAN LANDIS

Lodge Mark Owen No 828



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Is Jephthah Important?

In the February issue of the Freemason appears an article by RW Bro Bill Caukill entitled 'Jephthah the Gileadite'.

Whilst agreeing with the author that this story is indeed interesting, I have often wondered what might go through a candidate's mind when he is told this story of 2,600 years ago, especially as the candidate has been exhorted to study and interpret our allegories and then to apply his findings to his day to day life.

What possible bearing can a story so old have on our modern lifestyle in the 21st century... and if it has no bearing why tell it at all, interesting or not.

All masonic allegory I find has a hidden meaning (something like a fable which has two meanings, one obvious and one hidden) and this story of Shibboleth is no different.

I can see at least four very significant teachings that we should apply in our everyday lives today. Perhaps the problem with trying to interpret these hidden meanings lies in the fact that the average mason hasn't a clue where to begin.

Maybe this is a subject that should be addressed.

VW BRO KEITH STOCKLEY PDGDC
Lodge Frank McDowell-Lindfield No 362

A reply from Bill

The story of Jephthah the Gileadite leader is not an allegorical one. Jephthah was one in the line of Israelite leaders called 'Judges' who ruled the descendants of Abraham after they had been slaves to the Egyptians. The story of the journey into Egypt, of Joseph and his brothers, all sons of Jacob the grandson of Abraham, who was, due to his faith the beneficiary of Jehovah's promise 'to make of his seed a great and mighty nation as the stars in heaven for number or the sand of the seashore for multitude'.

All these stories are well documented in the early books of the Old Testament on which we rely for the history leading up to the building of King Solomon's Temple.

The story of Jephthah, his battle with the Ephraimites, the adoption of a means of identification is all historical and can be found by the interested reader in Judges Chapter 12. In fact the answer to all these

'hidden meanings' to which Keith Stockley refers can be found by diligent reference to the Volume of the Sacred Law, which is referred to in another place, as the Spiritual Tracing Board of the GAOTU.

And this is where the mason should begin.

RW BRO W P M CAUKILL PJGW

Is Jephthah Important?

In connection with the history of Jephthah, we are told there fell 40 and 2,000 Ephraimites. Which figure is correct – 2,040 or 42,000?

This is an old question which I think almost every Brother has heard discussed and argued for years. The often accepted answer has been that the correct figure is 2,040, as it was most unlikely there could possibly have been 42,000 Ephraimites at the scene of the event on the one day.

I have also read that it was not possible in Hebrew to say 'forty two', one could only say 'two and forty' or 'forty and two'.

The matter has finally been resolved on the New English Bible, which is a translation from the original tongues – not just a revision of the Authorised Version where we read in Judges 12:6 'At that time 42,000 men of Ephraim lost their lives'.

It is interesting to note that in Numbers 1:33, in the second year after the Children of Israel came out of Egypt, there were in the tribe of Ephraim 40,500 men of military age. By the time of Jephthah, probably 300 years later, the tribe of Ephraim would have increased enormously, so that a loss of 42,000 was not outside the bounds of possibility.

With reference to the possibility of being able to kill so vast a number of men in one day with spears, swords and bows and arrows, at the Battle of Cannae in 216 BC, contemporary writers such as Livy, Appian and Plutarch state that in the battle lasting some ten hours at least 50,000 Romans were killed. And Tacitus claims 80,000 Britons killed by Paulinus against Boadicea's forces in 61 AD.

Curiously, the rituals printed under the authority of the United Grand Lodge of NSW prior to about 1930, stated the number killed as 42,000.

RW BRO PETER SCASCIGHINI, PSGW

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The changing of the guard

The June Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge contained a mixture of old and young members, an extension of the Masonic Family, congratulations for two honoured brethren and a new team.

Another step in binding our relations with Masonic Orders in the State took place when the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston welcomed the Provincial Grand Master of the Royal Order of Scotland, RW Bro Anthony Traynor and presented him with a Letter of Acknowledgement.

In his welcome, the Grand Master asked those who had been members of the Craft for 50 years or more to stand and told younger members to take note of the work they had performed over the years.

Congratulations were given to RW Bro Grahame Cumming and RW Bro Rev Peter Kilkeary, Grand Chaplain, on being awarded the OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

The Grand Master warmly thanked his Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Paul Fletcher and Assistant Grand Master RW Bro Barrie Wild for their co-operation and work during their term of office and announced that for the 2009–2010 year RW Bro Derek Robson AM would be the new DGM and RW Bro Jamie Melville the new AGM.

Other thanks in the 'Changing of the Guard' were also extended to RW Bro Peter Read for his skill and professionalism as GDC, RW Bro Walid Mehanna SGW and RW Bro Ray Johnson JGW and RW Bro Kevin Foster after 12 years as a volunteer, the last few as museum curator.

The Grand Master advised the meeting that the Building Task Force was about to release a Green Paper in its consideration of the Craft and he also anticipated that in the next 12 months every lodge would have a 20/20 representative from its members.

'It is no longer a situation of what we can do, but what we *will* do,' he said.

The appointment of Regional Grand

Counsellors and Regional Building Officers was approved and the Grand Lodge Officers for the new term were announced as follows:

- SGW: RW Bro Peter Read
JGW: VW Bro Bruce Balmond
- GDC: VW Bro Douglas Grigg
DGDC: VW Bro Antoine Georges
- AGDC: W Bro Ron Webb
AGDC: W Bro Peter Ratcliff
- Grand Deacons:
SGD: W Bro Fidencio Pamplona
JGD: W Bro Emmanuel Maniago
- Grand Sword Bearer:
W Bro Peter Angeles
- Grand Standard Bearer:
W Bro John Begbie
- Grand Pursuivant:
W Bro Charles Wattle
DGP: W Bro Rodney Murray

RW Bro Stephen Green was re-appointed as Chairman of the Board of Management and MW Bro Ronald Johnson AM, PGM re-appointed as Chairman of the Grand Charity. RW Bro Derek Robson AM will be Chairman of the Grand Master's Membership Task Force and RW Bro Walid Mehanna will be Chairman of the Grand Officers' Committee.

The Board of Management report detailed information on the mid-term conference of RGCs and DGIWs with major items the Strategic Plan and Membership, Communications, 20/20, Image and Marketing, Buildings and Training. The Board has engaged a professional company to develop appropriate marketing programs and is already involving membership at all levels. With the Forum website up and running, the Board is also seeking a new

web address for Grand Lodge.

Use of the Forum will allow brethren to engage in sensible, constructive and courteous dialogue which will allow the Notice Board to be returned to the use for which it was originally intended, namely, notification of significant events.

The Board has approved the two-year appointments of RW Bro Brian French (Grand Archivist), Bro Chris Williams (Grand Librarian) and VW Bro Ron Portis (Museum Curator).

Three lodges, The Hills No 1025, Sydney St George No 269 and Kiama No 35 were named as having been awarded accreditation as Lodges of Excellence and were congratulated by the Grand Master.

Reports were also received and accepted from the Executive Council, masoniCare, the Grand Lodge Trustees and the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

More than 50 brethren and ladies accompanied the Grand Master to Adelaide for the installation of MW Bro Ray Clark as the new Grand Master of South Australia and the Northern Territory.

A conference of the Grand Masters of Australia and New Zealand was held in conjunction with the weekend and progress was made in relation to Men's Health. An agreement was reached to address issues of commonality by due process over the next 12 months with submissions to be considered at the next Conference in Melbourne in March 2010.

An informative short talk on the Museum of Freemasonry was given by RW Bro Chris Craven, Deputy Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master then announced that the September Quarterly Communication would be held at Wallsend, in Newcastle on Saturday 12 September.



Deputy Grand Master

RW Bro Paul Fletcher

Men's Health and lodge accommodation were the major topics presented by the Deputy Grand Master to the meeting.

He also announced that the campaign titled 'Waste the Waist' had been changed to 'Get Involved - Reach Top Health.'

On buildings, he said that outcomes from the recent review by the Buildings Task Force were now being put in place. A meeting had been held in April and another in June and the revised draft will go to the Executive Council.


The Task Force is now discussing ten new centres in the Sydney region which will replace 26 existing buildings. There will also be a compulsory campaign aimed at building owners on the safety of buildings.

'It is a duty of care we owe to those who visit and use the buildings. For years we have watched but not seen the decline of our buildings. We should be willing to accept and win this challenge,' RW Bro Fletcher said.

Assistant Grand Master

RW Bro Barrie Wild

This report first dealt with the Grand Lodge Officers and Ritual Committee meetings in which it was announced that Master Masons will now be allowed to deliver certain charges previously restricted to a Past Master.

He also spoke on the latest moves regarding the 20/20 Masons, that all of the committees have now been finalised and released the names of the members who had been appointed to each of the committees. 



Grand Proclamation 2009

MW Bro Gregory Henry Levenston, MD, JP

PROCLAMATION: MW Bro Gregory Henry Levenston, MD, JP, will be Proclaimed as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of NSW and the ACT for the 2009-2010 term in the Grand Lodge Room at the Sydney Masonic Centre on Saturday 8 August 2009 commencing at 4.00 pm. Brethren, ladies and friends are welcome. Attendance at the Proclamation will be by ticket only and will attract a charge of \$5.00 per person.

DISASTER RELIEF FUND CHARITY DINNER



A 'Disaster Relief Fund Charity Dinner' will be held in the Grand Banquet Hall following the Proclamation and will commence at 7.00 pm. The Dinner will be organized by the Freemasons' Association (NSW & ACT). The occasion will be a fun night with entertainment, a three course dinner, beverages, mystery prizes, tea and coffee. Beverages and nibbles will be served following the Proclamation from 6.30 pm to 7.00 pm. The cost of the Dinner is \$90.00 per person with proceeds to go to the NSW Freemasons' Disaster Relief Fund.

DRESS: Tails/dinner suit/lounge suit for men. Formal/after five wear for women.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: Monday 3 August 2009

FURTHER DETAILS including an event registration form will be on the Freemasons' Association page under 'Masonic Links' on the United Grand Lodge website. Information can also be obtained by contacting the following:

- **VW Bro Garry Sayed**, PDGDC, Secretary, telephone 0417 752 801, garrysayed@yahoo.com.au
- **Mrs Barbara Mason**, Assistant Secretary, telephone 0438 544 995
- **Dr Yvonne McIntyre**, Membership Officer and Registrar, telephone (02) 9284 2844, yvonnem@uglnsw.freemasonry.org.au

DONATIONS: If you cannot attend, but would like to make a donation, please make cheques or money orders payable to NSW Freemasons' Disaster Relief Fund. Donations are tax deductible.




New Grand Master for SA

A big delegation of 51 ladies and brethren accompanied the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston to the **South Australian & Northern Territory Grand Installation** in Adelaide in April.

MW Bro Ray Clark was installed as the new leader and with his wife Paula was welcomed by representatives from all States.

The ceremony was held at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre with 650 attending the banquet. All events associated with the Grand Installation were sold out.

A Grand Masters' conference was also held after the Installation which was attended by Grand Masters, Deputy and Assistant Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries.

The major items that were discussed were Men's Health and the GIRTH (Get Involved, Reach Top Health) Initiative. 



Paul Fletcher DGM, Susan Fletcher, GM, Judith Morrice, Jacky Wild, Barrie Wild AGM



Kevin Foster OAM and granddaughter Michaela



Remy and Manny Maniago



John and Philipa Armfield



Patrick Medway AM and wife Suzanne

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Ice Cream

Australians love their ice cream. Apart from the USA, we eat more than any other nation.

Today we live in an era of freezers and we can have ice cream whenever we like, but in the early days a small scoop called the penny ice cream was about all most families could afford.

This story relates the history of two masons, Bro Edwin Street and Bro Fred Peters who, in their own way, made life a lot happier for many people, especially children.

A few years after he returned from World War I, Edwin Street bought a little hand machine to make ice cream. It was something quite new.

Edwin was the youngest of 10 children in a family which migrated from England. He was born in 1891 in Corrimal and it was there he operated a fruit run in the early 1930s before buying a mixed business and milk bar. He started making ice cream in a small churn, just after the depression, to supply his milk bar.

He churned a few litres of frozen custard in the back of his little shop. People loved it and bought more ice cream than he could make so he had to mechanise and attached a one horsepower engine to the churn. Then the picture show opened nearby and everyone wanted to eat ice cream at interval.

Those were the days when ice cream was sold on a wafer or in little cardboard buckets. Later in the 1930s, stewards hawked sixpenny ice cream buckets down the corridors of express trains. The first milk bar in Australia opened in 1933 and, by no coincidence a year later, Edwin Street took over the Corrimal ice works and started producing ice

cream in commercial quantities. It tasted so good that other shops wanted to buy it and before long Edwin Street was supplying ice cream to dozens of shops. His first deliveries to Sydney were made by van. There was a huge neon sign, featuring a polar bear licking ice cream outside the Corrimal works which was also the first moving neon sign in Wollongong.

Sales grew as more stores bought freezers to stock ice cream and another factory was opened at Turrella in Sydney in 1947. Early in the 1950s the first Streets 'paddle pop' appeared in a choice of three flavours – chocolate, vanilla and banana.

Fred Peters, in similar fashion, was busy making his mark in the world of ice cream. He was born in Scio, Michigan, USA in 1866 and became sales manager for a company exporting bicycles to Australia. He visited Sydney and when the business collapsed, returned to Australia in 1899. But he was homesick and developed a craving for American ice cream which was not available in Australia.


He leased two rooms in an ice works at Paddington and on 27 August 1907, began Peters American Delicacy Company. A new factory to manufacture Peters ice cream with the slogan 'The Health Food of a Nation' was opened in George Street, Redfern in 1923 and by 1929 he had established associated companies in a number of Australian locations.

The factory in Redfern was the largest in the British Empire



and produced 1,000 gallons of ice cream per hour. The success of the company was due to modern equipment, a good staff and an emphasis on quality and cleanliness.

The Peters factory in Melbourne produces more than 55 million litres of tub ice cream a year and in 1963 introduced the 'drumstick' which is still a best seller in Australia.

Bro Peters was initiated in Indiana and was an entered apprentice when he arrived in Sydney where he affiliated with Lodge Washington H Soul. 

Research by RW Bro G H Cumming, OAM
Masonic Historical Society



Tubal Cain and my grandfather

My maternal grandmother was the only grandparent I ever knew. My other grandparents died before I was born. **The one who is relevant to this story is my father's father, who bore the distinguished Biblical name of Betzalel (literally, 'in the shadow of God').** In his memory I have the same Hebrew name, which I use on Jewish religious occasions.

Why am I giving my readers these personal details which appear to have nothing to do with the masonic life? Simply because in all the years in which I have been a Freemason I have wondered why our three Craft degrees, which name so many Biblical personages, do not give Betzalel a mention – not my grandfather, but the Betzalel who was the expert architect and artisan responsible for the construction of Israel's first sanctuary.

Countless Biblical figures have a place in the Craft. My late friend and mentor, RW Bro Harry Kellerman, once gave me a list of them for the purposes of a Who's Who in Freemasonry which I will hopefully one day complete. There is no Betzalel in the list.

Other Craftsmen are there. There is Solomon the king of Israel, Hiram the king of Tyre, Hiram Abiff (who may or may not be identical with the first Hiram). But no Betzalel!

We do of course have Tubal Cain, the son of Lamech (correctly, Lemech – the 'ch' is as in the Scottish

'loch') and Zillah, and the brother of Na'amah (Gen. 4:22).


Tubal Cain who 'forged implements of copper and iron' has a double-barrelled name with two components – 'Tuval', a smith, from a root that means to bring or produce, and 'Kayin', which the Jewish sages derived from a root that means to complete or make perfect; they believed that he overcame the sin of Cain, who killed his own brother.

In forging metal implements he gave mankind a choice between being a Cain who destroys and a Tubal Cain who constructs.

The contributions which Tubal Cain's family made to the emergence of civilisation are exceptional. Yaval was the inventor of tents and animal husbandry, Yuval the inventor of musical instruments and Tubal Cain the inventor of metal implements.

Freemasonry rightly accords to the family credit for the basis of human culture.

They were builders who had ideas and practical capacities. As progenitors of so much that later generations take for granted they deserve to be known and remembered.

But so does Betzalel. In making the tradition of temple-building possible he should have been honoured much more by the masonic Craft. If Hiram Abiff could have a degree built around his life and legend, surely Betzalel deserved no less. 

The statue of Tubal-Cain pictured opposite is by Karl Anderson and can be viewed on level 3 of the Sydney Masonic Centre.





Opening more doors for young Australians

It has been a busy and rewarding time for the Masonic Youth Welfare Fund, with the launch of a new program assisting more young Australians and two fabulous Gala evenings in Sydney and Canberra, which showcased the fine young Australian talent we support. In Canberra, we were delighted to have the Governor General, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce and His Excellency, Mr Bryce, attend our function.

The past few months have also seen **Lodges opening their doors to presentations** from the Fund's CEO, Susan Williams and President, Olly Bergstrom. We would like to take this opportunity to offer our availability to all District and Region events and to Lodge meetings and dinners to spread the word of the good work we are doing as a charity with young Australians and their education in this State.

A few months ago, we launched **Compass Youth Education**, a program that helps young people reach their potential in life through our Education Gift assistance at primary, secondary and tertiary level. We appreciate the **positive response** to this program from both families and students in need of assistance and from the Freemason Fraternity.



This financial year alone, we have been able to give a start in life with monthly support for essential education to in **excess of 300 young people** in cities and through rural and regional Australia.

Initially, we were achieving this through the return from our investments. However, since we invited all Australians to join us to invest in the future of this country, we have **very gratefully received donations, bequests and sponsorships which have allowed us to help even more students.**

Given our mission is to help provide education for all young Australians in need of assistance, regardless of race, colour, creed or Masonic affiliation, we are delighted to announce that we have launched in conjunction with a caring and committed group of health, education and social work specialists (Gunawirra), **a second program, called Barinya...**



Barinya

Barinya's vision is to provide financial assistance for **10 or more Aboriginal children so they can have a comprehensive and supportive education from early childhood right through to university.** This will allow

them to take their rightful place in society and realise their dreams alongside the other students we have in the Compass Youth Education program.

If you believe all Australian children have

the right to be empowered by a good education and nurtured, we urge you to join with us and make a Donation, Bequest or bring together some fellow Lodge members or friends to Sponsor a Student. 100% of your donation will go to the young Australians who receive our start in life with the basic right to an education.



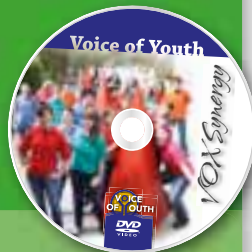
Gift Ideas

It was incredibly rewarding to see some of the beneficiaries of our Compass Youth Program performing at our Gala Fundraiser in April. Appearing at the Gala were our Ambassadors, VoxSynergy, a talented choir of young people aged 16-23, who performed songs from **our specially recorded Fundraiser, the Voice of Youth DVD and CD.**



Order your copy NOW!

Proceeds from the sale of the DVD and CD will help support the Compass Youth Education and Barinya programs.



CD \$16 • DVD \$36

Email fundadmin@compassyouth.org.au or
Phone 02 9264 3017. Credit Cards accepted. Includes P&P.

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www.compassyouth.org.au



Masons from Lodge Horizons enjoying their winning bottle of Grange Hermitage from the Gala event in Sydney.

More news from Masonic Youth Welfare Fund next issue



Get the *Royal* treatment

If you want to be pampered, petted and thoroughly spoiled, **the QM2 is the perfect answer.**

The 151,400 tonne, 23-storey ocean liner is a world of elegance and grandeur with all the trappings and comforts of modern times.

Travelling on the QM2 from Los Angeles to Sydney had this wonderful, timeless, romantic aspect. But if you want to quickly get into trouble, mention to Commodore Bernard Warner that you enjoy being a passenger on his cruise ship.

'We do not carry passengers, we only have guests. And the Queen Mary 2 is an ocean liner, not a cruise ship. We sail the oceans of the world while a cruise ship leaves and generally returns to the same port,' the Commodore said.

More than three times the size of the Titanic, the QM2 was launched in 2004 and cost \$US800 million (\$A1.24 billion) to build, is two thirds the length of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, is 49 metres longer than the Eiffel Tower is tall, 345 metres long and the funnel sits more than 60 metres above the waterline.

Meals in the 11 restaurants cater to every taste, ranging from lobster, caviar and racks of lamb to sausages and mash.

For masonic members, two functions were held where members met in the boardroom to talk about their lodges and experiences in general fellowship.

A special certificate was printed by the ship and distributed to each member who attended.

An experience on board this Cunard vessel is elegant and memorable with the crew trained in a service program where they never say 'No' but offer alternatives in trying to exceed the expectations of the guests.

It has a total of 17 bars, lounges, meeting rooms, board and card games, a cyber centre, computer classes, casino, a 900-seat



Royal Court Theatre, a 500 seat lecture room which converts into a unique 150 seat planetarium and five pools with sets of spas – what more could you want.

And for the height of elegance (or decadence), try the Queens Room at 3.30 each afternoon where you will be attended by white-gloved staff dispensing tea and coffee and trays of scones (with jam and cream), small sandwiches and a variety of cakes. At night, the Queens Room transforms into the world's largest floating ballroom.

For the statisticians, the main Britannia restaurant serves over 1,200 meals at each of its two sittings prepared by 150 chefs. Actually, more than 16,000 meals are prepared and consumed each day in the different dining areas. If you don't feel like using the restaurant, there is a 24-hour complimentary room service.

On a typical day, the liner uses 50 tonnes of fresh fruit and vegetables, 12 tonnes of meat, 13 tonnes of fish and seafood, 20,000 litres of milk, 400 eggs. In addition, 120 pizzas are consumed each day, 700 scones served at afternoon tea, about 87,000 pieces of china and glassware are used in the dining areas, 8,000 linen napkins and 3,200 towels used and laundered every day and 6,000 cups of tea served. Special units produce water to cope with the approximately 1,100 tonnes a day or 302 litres per person needed for drinking, cooking and washing the ship.

Everything runs so smoothly that comparisons to a floating six-star hotel are unjust. A hotel could never achieve the style and service which is the norm on the QM2. It is more like a floating city. All crew have a ready smile to greet each guest every day

and are eager to help with information.

The dress codes are strict for the main restaurants. Formal nights mean dinner suits or dark suit for men and evening wear for ladies while the more casual nights require a jacket, tie or collared shirt for men and a blouse with skirt or slacks for ladies. On the voyage from Los Angeles, there were six formal nights but again, if you preferred more casual attire, the Kings Court dining rooms catered to every taste.



Commodore Warner with the Editor, RW Bro Ted Simmons, on the bridge of the QM2

It was not all eat and drink. There is an 8,000 book library with a special section for books with large print to help readers with sight problems, an art gallery and auctions, shops and the Maritime Quest, which consists of more than 200 panels spaced throughout the public rooms and walkways which trace Cunard's history.

Sports enthusiasts are also catered for with swimming pools, deck quitoes, paddle tennis, table tennis, golf simulator, putting, gymnasium, fitness classes and three circuits of Deck 7 is equivalent to 1.1 miles (approx. 1,800 metres).

There was hardly any rock or roll during the voyage. This is because the QM2 is the first four-propeller ocean liner built since 1962. These propellers are driven by pods, or electric motors, attached to the underside of the hull. They are best compared to large outboard motors, each weighing more than a 747 jumbo. There are also four stabilisers which extend five metres from the hull and can counteract any rolling motion of the ship.

'QM2 also has a specially strengthened hull and a longer bow which helps it cope better with waves than smaller ships could,' said Commodore Warner.

'I look at myself as the mayor of a city when you consider we carry more than 2,600 guests as well as crew. I've been asked to be best man at a wedding or on shore open a supermarket. I married more than 300 couples during my time with P&O.'

'But I'm also responsible for the safety of the ship and must be on the bridge entering and leaving port. We also have a large security force to monitor discipline and a special room for unruly people but it's not used very often because the Cunard line mostly has nice guests.'

Talk about being treated like royalty. It was a time of gracious living with old-world courtesy, happy people and a voyage to live long in the memory. 🛠️

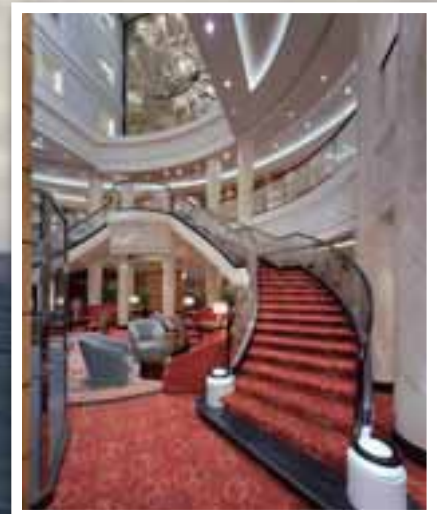
By the Editor, who travelled from Los Angeles to Sydney on the QM2

BELOW: Afternoon Tea in the Queens Room

RIGHT: Empire Casino

BELOW RIGHT: Canyon Ranch Spa

FAR RIGHT: Grand Lobby





Our Forum is here!

The NSW & ACT Freemasons Forum is now live.

It is a new website dedicated exclusively for current members of our jurisdiction to express their ideas, ideals and share their thoughts about Freemasonry and their Fraternity. In the Forum you will find several open topics including 'Announcements', 'General & Fraternal Discussion', 'Masonic Symbolism', 'Philosophy and Esotericism', 'Lodge Masonic Events', 'Meetups, Social and Fraternal Events', as well as forums dedicated for each degree. There is also a sub-forum for each lodge, district and region. The NSW & ACT Freemasons Forum is here to improve direct communication between all brethren. It was created and developed as an initiative of Bro Christian Bullock, member of the 20/20 Masons with the help and support of the Communications Committee and VW Bro Andre Fettermann. 🛠️



The Forum is at <http://forum.nswactmasons.org.au> and you'll need your membership number to register.

A message from the Ambulance Service

We all carry our mobile phones with names and numbers stored in its memory but if we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, **the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call.**

Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency? Hence this 'ICE' (In Case of Emergency) Campaign.

The concept of 'ICE' is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As cell phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during emergency under the name 'ICE' (In Case Of Emergency).

The idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he went to

the scenes of accidents, there were always mobile phones with patients, but they didn't know which number to call.

He therefore thought that it would be a good idea if there was a nationally recognised name for this purpose.

In an emergency situation, Emergency Service personnel and hospital staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialling the number you have stored as 'ICE'.

It really could save your life, or put a loved one's mind at rest. For more than one contact name simply enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE 🛠️.



Flying high

At night, Charles Wattle is a Grand Steward but he becomes a different personality on weekends.



Charles has been flying aircraft since he was 19 years of age

starting with a Cessna 150 and progressing to flying gliders at RAAF Richmond. He also flew a home-built aircraft that could reach speeds in excess of 300mph. But in 2005 he found a different type of aircraft which excited his imagination and enthusiasm.

It was a powered parachute and he wanted to fly it.

The aircraft has a seat to fit two people, surrounded by a solid metal frame to protect the occupants in case of a rollover or if the parachute gets caught in a strong gust of wind and pulls you over. It flies at a speed of 60kms per hour with no wind and has a flying time of two hours.

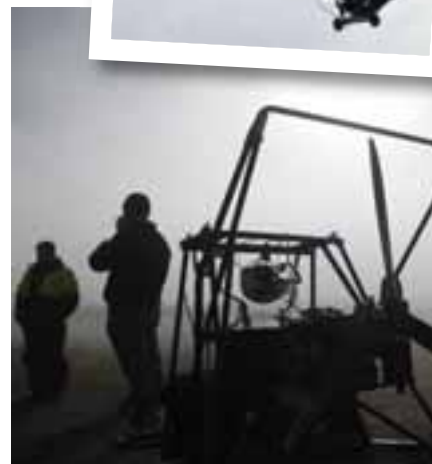
In a short space of time, he found instructors and took lessons at the Hawkesbury Powered Parachute Centre close to Windsor where he lives. To fly the aircraft requires 30 hours of flying time to gain your Ultra Light pilots licence and you and your aircraft have to be registered.

The aircraft is called an aerochute and is built in Melbourne. Its cost is around \$20,000 and a trailer is needed to tow it. Charles progressed so rapidly that he went solo after only three and a half hours instruction and lessons and has not stopped flying these machines since. He bought his own aircraft and had a trailer made of his own design to tow his machine.

According to Charles, there are hundreds of people all over Australia who own these aircraft and there have not been any fatal accidents due to their solid construction, slow flying speed and being easy to handle. They can be flown normally if the engine stops and will land in an area the size of a cricket pitch. Takeoff distance is less than 20 metres for one person and can vary between 50–200 metres for two people.

'This is a recreational aircraft for local flying in calm conditions with the wind in your face and not enclosed in a cockpit. You can dangle your feet over the side with nothing below you and I often ask my passenger to do this to get the feeling of flying free as a bird,' Charles said.

Since then he has travelled around most of Australia except Western Australia flying his parachute in places like Townsville,



Carnarvon Gorge, Birdsville, Simpson Desert, Lake Eyre, Port Macquarie, Nowra, Parkes, Cowra and Rylstone.

He is planning to go to Mt Gambier to fly the Blue Lake, visit the Apostles in Victoria, returning via the Snowy Mountains region.

Charles is Vice President of the Hawkesbury Powered Parachute Club and flies every weekend, weather permitting, often linking with other members and their families to travel to an area to enjoy the experience of flying.



No Business Like Show Business

Vaudeville returned, not with a whimper but with a roar as an enthralled audience attended the **Tivoli 2009 benefit concert** at the Masonic Centre in April.

The cast was headed by RW Bro Dee Donovan PJGW who introduced a galaxy of performers worthy of an Opera House staging. They included Helen Zerefos OAM, Frankie Davidson OAM, Marty Morton, Shannon Bacall, Johnny Pace, Ross Maio, the Celtic Dancers and the Greg Hooper Trio with the sound handled by VW Bro Phillip Miller.

The spectacular was staged in aid of the Grand Master's Victorian Bush Fire Appeal and it was named in honour of the Tivoli Theatre which was the home of vaudeville in Sydney.




The Grand Master thanks the cast

Famous for its artists, the Tivoli circuit was popular in Australia from 1893 to 1950 but suffered a big decline after the introduction of television in 1956. The last Tivoli show was held in 1966 after being the major outlet for variety and vaudeville in Australia for over 70 years.

On Saturday 18 April 1893, Harry Rickards, an English music hall comedian, took up the lease of a building in the city and called it The Tivoli. By 1909, Rickards had 532 people on the payroll. After his death in 1911, the Tivoli was taken over by Hugh McIntosh, then Harry Musgrove, J C Williamson and finally David N Martin from 1944.

Dee Donovan explained there was a link with Masonry with the late Past Grand Master, MW Bro Harry Rickards Maas who gave him the cane with which he performed his opening song and dance on the night.

The artists gave their services voluntarily, each performing with humour, song and dance in a program which ended too soon for the captivated audience. 



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My Aromatic Journey, the long way round

W Bro Andrew Elston was enjoying the freedoms and excitement of travel when, one beautiful day in 1990, he realised it was time to reassess and start working towards some meaningful life goals.

Having returned to Australia and begun the journey towards fulfilling his career goals, Andrew met and married the girl of his dreams and started the longed for family. He also devoted time to the Craft and served as Worshipful Master of Lodge Epping No 390 for two years having been installed on 19 September 1996. This is Andrew's story.

'In 1990 I found myself on the side of a mountain, the untracked shoulder of Fortes Mountain in Calgary, catching my breath after a steep climb, and enjoying a rare spectacular view of Kananaskis Valley which is out-of-bounds with untracked power and usually has no chairlifts or people. From this picturesque crest, I reflected on the meaning of life.

I had been travelling for nearly three years to world ski resorts with no major plans or goals in life, except to find fresh, deep, untracked powder on the side of a mountain each day. I was working in Ski Patrol for Fortress at the time.

Following that beautiful day on the mountain top, I kick-started my first three major goals, which set me on an amazing journey.

- 1 Open my own gym (thus I could maintain my fitness).
- 2 Find and marry the most beautiful girl in the world.
- 3 Start a family.

Soon after, I returned to Australia, gained my Fitness Instructors certificate and found a gym to work in. My plan was to become a personal trainer for body builders, then to open my own gym.

I completed a six-weeks Swedish massage course (just for fun), which opened an unexpected door and further opportunities. It was very rewarding, and I saw a business opportunity linked with my gym

and body builders. I knuckled down, did further studies, and became a qualified remedial and sports masseur allowing me to set up my first massage practice in the gym, working as a personal trainer and masseur. This idea took off quickly but it wasn't the men as initially planned; it was the ladies who became my regular clients. This is when I decided to do an aromatherapy workshop so that I could add a little extra to my massage practice. It was so much fun to work with, smelling the delicious aromas, mixing and blending oils; the clients absolutely loved it. I decided to take this further and I became certified in advanced aromatherapy. This also was successful and seeing an opportunity to expand my practice I went on to study beauty therapy.

So in May 1995, five years after sitting on a mountain, I opened my first beauty salon in Lane Cove. In January 1997 I married my beautiful wife Jana, (who just happened to be the Beauty School trainer) and in July 1999 my little princess Peta was born. My first three major goals in life were complete.

Now 19 years later, I still practice aromatherapy on a daily basis for family and close friends. I still mix blends for calming the kids with a massage or a bath blend before bedtime, or a romantic blend in the burner for that rare romantic candle light dinner (it's rare because of the kids), or relieving the kids' discomfort from that mosquito bite. I had a mate who needed a massage blend for his dry skin, he says it's fantastic and keeps ordering it by the litre, to apply to his wife's skin. I still prepare pregnancy blends for friends,



warming circulatory blends for aunts and for my mum's aches and pains. It's been a fantastic journey, one which will last forever.'

Since his years as WM, Andrew has remained energetic in his advocacy for Masonic Widows and, together with his lodge, arranges an annual luncheon in recognition of the contributions these ladies have made in supporting their masonic menfolk.

The continued efforts of Andrew and wife Jana ensure that the ladies of Lodge Epping remain an important part of the family of Freemasonry.





William Preston (1742-1818)

William Preston (1742-1818), a Past master of the Lodge of Antiquity, London (one of the four Old Lodges which formed the Grand Lodge of England in 1717) and the brother after whom the Preston Lectures are named, wrote:

To relieve the distressed is a duty incumbent on all men, but particularly on Freemasons, who are linked together by an indissoluble chain of sincere affection. To soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries, and to restore peace to their troubled minds, is the great aim we have in view. On this basis we form our friendships and establish our connections.ⁱ

Compare what Preston wrote with the masoniCare Vision Statement: *‘To promote and uphold the Masonic principle of Charity and heighten public awareness of Freemasonry’s commitment to the community.’*

There is nothing to indicate that Preston intended to imply that the relief of the distressed should extend to only the masonic community rather than the wider, public one. Indeed, the Lodge of Antiquity had a tradition dating back to 1694 of appearing in public wearing masonic regalia, indicating that whilst its ceremonies were private, its membership was public. They had nothing to hide as far as who was a member was concerned. If an individual paraded as a ‘workman

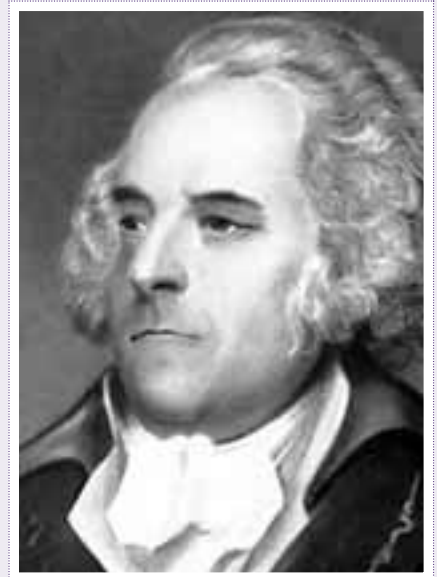
unashamed’ (to steal a phrase from my old friend Christopher Haffner)ⁱⁱ and Freemasons then, as now, had a public image, it is logical to surmise they practiced public charity.

In 1777 some brethren of Lodge Antiquity attended a church service near to their meeting place and vested themselves of gloves and regalia in the church vestry. When the service concluded the brethren walked back to their lodge, only a short distance across the street, still wearing their regalia.

The Modern Grand Lodge of England had forbidden its lodges and members to take part in public processions in regalia. Preston simply stated that the Lodge of Antiquity had not surrendered its privileges or prerogatives when it took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge in 1717, and opined that brethren of the lodge could parade as they had done in 1694. As a result Preston was expelled and the Lodge of Antiquity severed its connection with Grand Lodge. In 1787, all was resolved with Preston’s readmission without loss of rank or privileges. The Lodge of Antiquity No 2, flourishes today.

There then followed a huge expansion of Freemasonry across the globe with the common thread of brotherly love, relief and truth. Charity and benevolence, of course, are said to be synonymous with our Craft. All initiates hear the North-east Charge and its meaning, in the context of Freemasonry, is very clearly explained to them. The newly-installed Master is addressed and told that his head should be guided by justice and his heart expanded by benevolence. These strains of ‘goodness’ are the fabric of our Order and form the basis on which we are judged as men and masons.

Whatever influenced the Grand Lodge of England and other jurisdictions, to prohibit the wearing of masonic regalia in public is entirely a matter for them but the period of ‘secrecy’ that followed may have contributed to our current demise as far as membership is concerned. There would not be many among us who has not attended a brother’s funeral in a



church, chapel of rest or other designated place when regalia was worn. It depends on the wishes of the brother’s family, the place of worship and other factors as to whether or not regalia is worn: if it is, we are on public view and generally proud to wear it and be workmen unashamed.

The days should be gone when a father would not mention to his son that he was a Freemason but if there are still brethren who are disinclined to share certain aspects of the Craft with loved ones, they are entitled to do what they believe is right.

Whilst we should always bear in mind the distressed, needy and disadvantaged in the world who are not Freemasons, we must also look to our own who are sick or who have fallen on hard times. Benevolence is available to those who need it and the process is simple, quick and totally confidential outside of the persons in the process.

Naturally, at least one person in a lodge must know that a brother is applying for benevolence because the application form must be signed by an officer of the applicant’s lodge. The administrator and board members of masoniCare must know and since the grant is credited to the lodge’s bank account, the lodge treasurer must know also if he was not the countersigning lodge officer. The grant is not a loan but



a gift. While funds are available relief will be given. Brethren should be reassured that there is no shame in being in need; distress, as we as Freemasons understand it, is an indiscriminate beast. Whilst the process is means tested to a certain degree, no one is expected, as an alternative, to liquidate equity in their home for example. Centrelink does not take the value of the equity in a sole place of residence into consideration for aged pension purposes. Why should masoniCare do otherwise?

Benevolence existed in the days of the medieval stonemasons. When an operative mason took one step too many off the edge of the primitive scaffolding that had been erected, his family was cared for. Such practices were common in most of the medieval trade guilds. Thus, there survives an overlap of propriety from the operative to the speculative.

masoniCare cannot give to individuals in the interACTION or Regional Grant Programs but this does not preclude a lodge or District or Region from doing so in their own right or in conjunction with a qualified charity as a partner.

There can be little doubt that over the last couple of hundred years the Craft has been its own worst enemy in terms of its public persona. There was no need to consider dwindling membership because our numbers swelled and swelled. It is a different story now and if we purport to love our fellow man then we must show that we are truly part of the community so that the other members of it will want to join our ranks.

We could do worse than consider the words of Bro Preston. The masoniCare Vision Statement is not too far removed from his sentiments. The message is relatively the same with the latter put into the modern-day context. If we are to promote the Craft with a view to attracting just, upright and mature men, what better way to do it than through charity and benevolence?

i William Preston, *Illustrations of Masonry* (London, 1772) 72.

ii Christopher Haffner, *Workman Unashamed* (Hinckley, UK 1989).

Grand Installation



Grand Royal Arch Installation

The First Grand Principal and Grand Master Elect, RExComp Edward Keenahan DGZ, will be Installed as the Most Excellent First Grand Principal and Grand Master of this United Supreme Grand Chapter on Saturday, 19 September 2009 in the Sydney Masonic Centre, Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

The First Grand Principal and Grand Master, MExComp Samuel Gregory Mason, will enter Grand Chapter at 2:00pm. Companions, Brethren and Ladies are requested to be seated by 1:40pm.

Members of visiting Delegations are invited to enter the Grand Installation with their Leader.

DRESS: Companions/Brethren – Formal
Ladies – After Five

Grand Mark Installation

The First Grand Principal and Grand Master Elect, RExComp Edward Keenahan DGZ, will be Installed as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Mark Lodge held within this United Supreme Grand Chapter on Monday, 21 September 2009 in the Egyptian Room, Petersham Royal Arch Temple, Petersham.

The Ceremony will be conducted jointly by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Victoria, MWBro Kerry Grills, and the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of South Australia and the Northern Territory, MWBro Alan Pearson.

An explanation of the Egyptian Room Frieze will be given at 3:00pm with the Grand Installation commencing at 5:00pm. Tea/Coffee will be supplied in the interval.

On this occasion there will be no delegations and all Companions, Brethren and Ladies are requested to be seated by 4:45pm.

Following the Grand Installation there will be a Celebratory/Farewell Dinner at a location yet to be decided.

DRESS: Companions/Brethren – Lounge Suit
Ladies – After Five

REGALIA: Mark Master Mason/Royal Arch

CONTACT DETAILS: Should an emergency occur during your stay, please contact the Grand Scribe Ezra on 0408 245 255 or, if not available, one of the other number listed below

RExComp Ron Duckworth, GSE

Office Hours (9am-5pm) 02 9569 5699 (USGC Office)

After Hours 0414 236 913 (Ralph Hannaford, GTyler)

0416 003 231 (Tom Murphy, DGIW, A1)



The Templars celebrate

There were no paparazzi, TV cameras or thronging fans, but it was a night for Freemasons from Brisbane, Broken Hill, Canberra, Dubbo, Melbourne, Wagga Wagga – and even from beyond the black stump – to gather for a relaxed and enjoyable celebration night.



MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston receives the Great Priory jewel from M.Em.Kt Graeme Stapelfeldt.

On Saturday 28 February, Cello's Restaurant at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel buzzed with spirited conversation and clinking glasses as the Great Priory of NSW & ACT celebrated its 25th anniversary, being founded on 25 February 1984.

Helping Templar and Malta Knights celebrate were the Grand Masters of the Great

Priorities of Queensland and of Victoria; the District Grand Prior of the District Grand Priory of NSW (SC); the Grand Sovereign of the Grand Imperial Conclave; the Grand Master's Representative of the Convent General KYCH, the Prefect of the Southern Cross Prefecture, Great Priory of Belgium, and a representative of the Order of DeMolay Australia.

The guest of honour was MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT, accompanied by Ms Judith Morrice.

Most Eminent Knight Graeme Stapelfeldt, GCT, Grand Master of the Knights Templar welcomed the MW Grand Master and Ms Morrice and spoke on the establishment of the Great Priory




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.

The Hotel provides refined elegance for its guests at moderate rates. Parking is available at a convenient location.



The Castlereagh Boutique Hotel is owned and operated by the NSW Masonic Club



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of NSW & ACT and its short but interesting history. He said he believed the Fraternal Agreement between Great Priory and Grand Lodge was a momentous milestone which, together with the Order's six-year old Accreditation Program, strongly contributed to the membership growth the Order was enjoying.

During the evening, Margaret and Colin Gill enchanted everyone with beautiful – and all too short – choral interludes. The absolute minimum of toasts and speeches ensured everyone enjoyed a convivial and memorable evening.

MW Bro Levenston proposed a toast to the Great Priory and its members, following it with a short address which demonstrated his deep understanding of the Order.



The Caped Crusaders of Today

Thanking MW Bro Levenston and Judith for sharing the celebration with the Templars, M.Em.Kt Stapelfeldt then presented the Grand Master with a Great Priory 'Foundation' breast jewel and a copy of the booklet *The Caped Crusaders of Today*, a brief review of the Great Priory's 25 years of achievements. Overall, it was a successful evening, launching the Order towards its 50th celebrations.

Black Saturday

Stories of love, loss and courage from the **Victorian Bushfires**.

They warn you it comes fast. It comes at you like a runaway train. One minute you are preparing. The next you are fighting for your home.

At 11.48am on 7 February 2009, seconds after a phone call was made to the emergency triple-0 number, the Kilmore Country Fire Authority station received the first official notification of the fire storm that would become Victoria's Black Saturday; later to become Australia's worst ever national disaster, a tragedy that resulted in the loss of at least 210 people and 1,800 homes, and touched the lives of all Australians.

Black Saturday is a collection of individual stories, featuring deeply personal contributions from those directly affected by the bushfires, their friends and relatives.

Arranged town-by-town, with introductions detailing the scope and impact of the fires on each community, the book features outstanding writing by News Limited journalists and heartbreaking images from their photographers.



All proceeds from the sale of each book go to *The Salvation Army Victorian Bushfire Appeal*

Published by **Harper Collins Publishers Australia**
 ISBN: 9780732290108
 T/pb. illust., 304 pp
 ARP: \$24.99

Glycemic Index Tested The Low GI Handbook

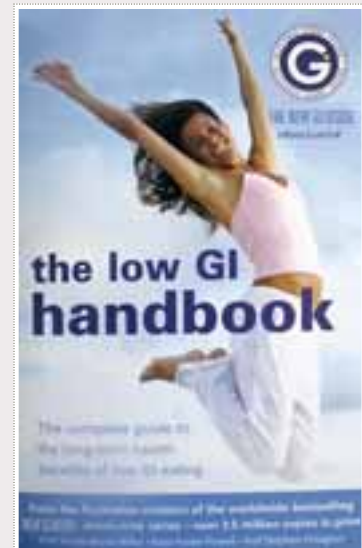
The complete guide to the long-term health benefits of **low GI eating**

Professor Jennie Brand-Miller and her colleagues show you how to lose weight and improve your health, and control diabetes.

The low GI handbook clearly and simply explains the GI, the effects of high and low GI foods on your body, and why low GI eating will have dramatic health benefits.

Dozens of easy low GI recipes, real-life testimonials, answers to fifty of the most frequently asked questions, and tables of GI values for almost 1,000 foods,

If you want to lose weight, manage your diabetes, improve your blood glucose levels, improve your cardiovascular health and your sense of wellbeing, then this is the book for you ... for optimum health and wellness.



Published by **Hachette Australia**
 ISBN: 9780733622878
 T/pb. 400 pp
 ARP: \$35.00



The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of New South Wales

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THERE'S POWER IN PARTNERSHIPS FOR RURAL AGED CARE

The Whiddon Groups' unique partnering with regional community aged care facilities is providing real benefits for communities in North West NSW.

Community run aged care facilities in Wee Waa, Walgett and Bourke have recently entered into partnership arrangements with The Whiddon Group, and the arrangement has been in place with Narrabri for some time.

Director of Care Services at three facilities and long-time Narrabri local, Maree Taylor, said that the key to the success of the business arrangement is The Whiddon Group's ability to work in genuine partnership with facility community advisory committees, as well as with local health services and community groups.

"This business model works because The Whiddon Group understands how important it is for rural and remote communities to have a say in how their local aged care facility is run," Maree said.

"The Whiddon Group has over sixty years of aged care experience, and they bring solid management expertise and a sound knowledge of the legislative

standards to each partnering relationship," she said.

"We ensure that each facility is run in accordance with legislative requirements, and is able to successfully keep abreast of changes whilst ensuring standards of care are being met and exceeded."

"The aged population in rural areas is increasing. Whether the town has 44 or eight aged care beds, we are passionate about providing opportunities for older people to continue living in their local community, where they can remain connected to their friends and family and receive the best possible care," she said.

"Another key strength of our partnering arrangement is we are able to provide employment as well as training opportunities in aged care for local residents. This stimulates employment in the local area and helps to ensure that country towns remain viable."

The Whiddon Group is a not-for-profit organisation which specialises in the provision of aged care. Through the work of its caring and dedicated staff, the service provides comfort and security for



W Bro John Couper PSGW and W Bro Trevor Randall signing the Management Agreement for River Gum Lodge Hostel, Bourke.

its 1,600 residential clients at 24 aged care facilities throughout metropolitan and regional NSW. Their service is founded on the values of dignity, autonomy, integrity, excellence and growth.

The Whiddon Group's mission is to provide choices and opportunities for life enrichment for clients through innovative care services.

The Whiddon Group has a successful record of full compliance with all standards in each of its NSW facilities.

ANNUAL APPEAL

Enclosed please find my tax deductible donation of \$

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Regional Roundup



LODGE EXCALIBUR

Age won't stop CEC

By courtesy of his daughter Jan and son-in-law Geoffrey Bowmaker, VW Bro Cec Barlow PDGDC of Lodge Excalibur had a memorable 89th birthday.

Cec was given a present of flying a Tiger Moth for 35 minutes around the Hunter Valley to bring back many memories. He was a pilot in World War II flying Mosquitos and his co-pilot in the Tiger Moth had little hesitation in handing over the controls when they were airborne.

'I've flown different types of aircraft from Tiger Moths to the bigger and faster planes and it was still a thrill to be in the little Tiger,' said Cec.



THE CEDARS LODGE No 1041

Garry stays in charge

VW Bro Garry Sayed has been re-installed for another term as WM of The Cedars Lodge at Punchbowl.

The Installing Master, VW Bro Antoine Georges performed a faultless ceremony in front of a packed lodge room and a Grand Lodge delegation of 30 led by the AGM, RW Bro Barrie Wild.

One of the highlights was the presentation of a gavel to VW Bro Sayed, crafted by VW Bro Georges. The head was made of cedar from Lebanon representing proud heritage and the past and the handle made from Australian cedar representing wisdom, maturity and positiveness gained from the understanding of a new country.

More than 180 packed the banquet hall for a lavish supper and the raffle raised a generous amount which was donated to 'A Good Man's Daughter Scholarship Fund' with sponsor Edith McNally present and speaking on how and why the Fund was created.

LODGE FIRE BRIGADES No 940

Relief Fund donation

On 25 March 2009 VW Bro Tony Piggott DGIW (District 124) received a lodge donation of \$1,000 for the Grand Masters Disaster Relief Fund.

The photo shows Bro Roger Bucholtz (Membership Officer), VW Bro Tony Piggott, W Bro Paul McGuiggan (WM), VW Bro John Anderson (Director of Ceremonies).

Bro Bucholtz and VW Bro Anderson were the mover and seconder of the donation.





MAROUBRA LODGE

Aleksandar the Great

The Maroubra Lodge welcomed its third young candidate in two months in May when Bro Aleksandar Mesterovic became the latest member to join the Craft.

Two interested spectators on the night were Bros Alexander Stevanovic and Vladimir Nekoutchaev, who had been initiated into the lodge in April.

Apart from a highly satisfying display of the ritual by the various members, Bro Mesterovic had the pleasure of being presented with a gift from a fellow-mason in the United States with whom he had been in correspondence.

Special thanks were given to W Bro Brian Keg and VW Bro Carl Mahler from District lodges who stepped in to deliver charges because of the absence of sick brethren.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Bro Alexander Stevanovic, Bro Aleksandar Mesterovic, Bro Vladimir Nekoutchaev with RW Bro Ted Simmons OAM

BALMAIN LODGE NO 23

An honour for Bill

It was indeed an 'auspicious solemnity' with the presence of the Grand Master, his Deputy, and Assistant. The Re-Consecration of the Balmain Lodge No 23 in May by the Grand Master and the ceremonial team confirmed it, and for one very special mason at the time unaware of what was to happen, it was to become unforgettable.

The Grand Master returned the Gavel to W Bro Peter Gourlie and said 'Grand Director, would you please present RW Bro Bill Trodden'.

The Grand Director walked to the brother named, who was obviously taken by surprise and who then followed the Grand Director.

'Grand Master,' W Bro Gourlie spoke, 'would you please present RW Bro Trodden with his Sixty Year Certificate and Jewel'.

RW Bro Trodden, a Past Master of Lodge Rozelle and twice of the Balmain Lodge is a mason as accomplished as he is modest. He was DGIW in the early 1990s, has been a fine mentor to many of



his brethren and a true example to all. He is usually not lost for words but on this occasion could not find full expression for his feelings. It was an occasion enjoyed by all who were fortunate to be there.

The presentation also capped a memorable night for the lodge to mark its 150th anniversary. The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston and the Grand Lodge team took control on the Saturday night for the Re-Consecration ceremony.

At the Festive Board, W Bro Norm Cason presented an interesting talk on the history of Lodge Balmain and particularly its seafaring background.

The lodge held its normal meeting the

LODGE KATOOMBA No 118

High times at Katoomba

Lodge Katoomba No 118, celebrated its Installation on 21 March, well supported by brethren from District 34 and their ladies.

The DGIW of District 34, VW Bro Harry Griffiths, led a fraternal of 20 brethren to witness the Installation of Bro Anthony Watson by VW Bro George Marriott-Statham.

W Bro Thomas Brownjohn, the Worshipful Master of Lodge Katoomba, had a serious fall prior to the Installation and VW Bro Marriott-Statham stepped in and carried out the ceremony.

The Grand Delegation of 20 included the Grand Director, VW Bro Ron Garlick, who had travelled from the Central Coast for the occasion. Representing the Grand Master was RW Bro Brian Warde, PAGM.

Following his Installation, W Bro Watson welcomed RW Bro Warde, who gave RW Bro Harry Wheaton, a long standing friend of the new master, the privilege of presenting his Installed Masters' Certificate.



W Bro Anthony Watson receives his Installation Certificate from RW Bro Harry Wheaton, with RW Bro Brian Warde, far left.

preceding Thursday where members were treated, as close as possible, to a replica of the original meal of oysters and corn beef supplied at the inaugural meeting.

On both nights, there was a minimum of speeches with the meetings concentrating on fellowship, memories and enjoyment.



LODGE TRANMERE No 712

60 years in Tranmere

When RW Bro Kevin McGlinn, Grand Secretary, was invited to attend the May meeting of Lodge Tranmere No 712, at Willoughby, it was to perform a very pleasing duty.

May 18, 1949 was the day VW Bro Peter Smith and Lodge Secretary RW Bro Barry Walker, were initiated into Freemasonry.

‘Having been a friend of these brethren for over 30 years, it was a delight to be at the sixtieth anniversary of that important event and to have the privilege of congratulating them both in person and presenting them with their 60 Year Certificates,’ he said.



LEFT TO RIGHT: VW Bro Peter Smith, RW Bro Kevin McGlinn, Grand Secretary, and RW Bro Barry Walker

SYDNEY SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

A Travelling District

Vill Bro Brian Cooper 33°, the District Commander for Sydney South East, on Saturday 2 May led his second fraternal visit to Goulburn to conclude his five year term of office.

The first fraternal was held in 2004, and in subsequent trips he has taken from 17 to 28 members to Orchard Hills, the Blue Mountains, Wollongong, visited their Scottish counterparts, and gone as far as Gosford and Goulburn (twice). Probably

LODGE WARRAGAMBA No 541

Blood brothers

Taking the Grand Master’s theme of ‘Freemasonry, at the Heart of Life’ in its most literal sense, W Bro Robert Moore registered Lodge Warragamba No 541, in the Australian Red Cross ‘Club Red’ Corporate Donor Programme, at the Nepean Hospital.

As a result, 21 brethren and wives enjoyed a bus trip from the Orchard Hills Masonic Centre to the Nepean Hospital, donated blood and were rewarded with a sausage sizzle, supplied by the Red Cross in appreciation of their dedication.

W Bro Moore said, ‘We’re keen to contribute to the community in a meaningful way that is entirely consistent with the Grand Master’s theme, and we intend to donate blood every 10 weeks.’

As a result of this initiative, Lodge Warragamba’s name is proudly displayed on the honour board of the Australian Red Cross Centre.



Brethren and wives from Lodge Warragamba

the highlight was the visit to Jenolan Caves where they held a Rose Croix meeting inside the Cathedral Cave.

Among the District activities has been the annual Australia Day breakfast and at the last meeting, Bro Cooper presented a cheque for \$1,500 on behalf of the District to the Royal Australian Flying Doctor Service. On previous occasions, SSE have donated similar amounts to the Steve Waugh Foundation and also twice to CanTeen (Childrens Cancer Research program).

LODGE UNITED ST ANDREW No 34

The Birth of Bertha the Bus

Following a two year fundraising effort, the brethren of Lodge United St Andrew Singleton No 34, donated \$1,500 towards the purchase of a wheelchair accessible 12 seater bus, which was presented to Witmore Enterprises Inc., Singleton, a community service group which provides assistance and facilities for the ageing and disabled.

The lodge’s donation was matched by masoniCare, which also donated \$5,000 as a Regional Grant, bringing the total Masonic contribution to \$8,000.

The bus, which has been named ‘Bertha’, will provide a very welcome means for clients of Witmore Enterprises to benefit from wider access to Singleton and the surrounding communities.

Other sponsors of the bus included the Singleton Lions Club, Pegasus, Integra Coal, the Singleton Country and Western Group and the Department of Ageing, Disability and Homecare.



LEFT TO RIGHT: RW Bro Graham Boyce, (RGC Region 4), VW Bro Ron Morrison, (DGIW District 46), Wendy Love, (General Manager, Witmore Enterprises Inc.), VW Bro John Moore, (masoniCare Representative, Region 4), RW Bro Tony Farmer (Secretary, Lodge United St Andrew Singleton, No 34)

BELOW: Sponsors of ‘Bertha’ the bus.





LODGE MEREWETHER CARDIFF No 576

Scott family and Masonry in Newcastle

Bro John David Scott APM was installed as the Worshipful Master of Lodge Merewether Cardiff No 576 on 14 May by W Bro Gerald Fehlberg. Brothers Scott and Fehlberg are both life members of Redhead Surf Life Saving Club.

RW Bro Graham Boyce PGJW, Regional Ground Counsellor was the Grand Master's representative at the install and headed a 25-member Grand Lodge delegation. W Bro Wal Dodd of Lodge Hillston travelled to Cardiff to give the address to the Worshipful Master.

It has been 110 years since John's grandfather W Bro George William Conder Scott was installed as WM of Lodge Fidelity No 163 on 8 June 1899. His grandfather was initiated at Lodge Fidelity on 10 November 1892 and remained a member until his death on 16 January 1940.

Bro John was initiated at Lodge Merewether No 778 in 1971, twelve months after his father Bro George Condor Scott of Lodge Fidelity No 163 died on 5 April 1970. Bro John's father was initiated into Lodge Fidelity on 8 December 1927 and remained a member until his death.

Master masons filled the Wardens and Deacons offices, the first time in many years Lodge Merewether Cardiff has been in this position and it augers well for the future with two candidates soon to be initiated.



The above photograph taken in the south after the install

BACK ROW: WB G Fehlberg IPM, VWB E Lideman, Bro M Scarlett SW, VWB T Holstein, Bro O'Brien SD

MIDDLE ROW: WB C Hannah IG, RWB R Garlic, Bro D Hayes JD, RWB G Boyce RGC, Bro J Bower Tyler, Bro Ian Power JW.

SEATED: WB John Scott WM and WB D Hayes DC.



Setting of the Foundation Stone

At the setting of the Foundation Stone ceremony at the new Canberra Masonic Centre, the Grand Master, on several occasions, recognised the participation of ladies and children at this and other masonic events.

The image depicts the Grand Master with Bro Roman Cholawinskyj and his daughter, Tahnee (5), prior to the procession to the building site.

DISTRICT 34

Wardens at work

This year's District 34 Wardens' Night was held in March under the Charter of Lodge Richard Coley No 152, and was attended by over 100 brethren and ladies.

Many visitors from outside the District travelled to share the evening and amongst them was VW Bro Bill Mc Bey, the DGIW of District 35, in the Blue Mountains.

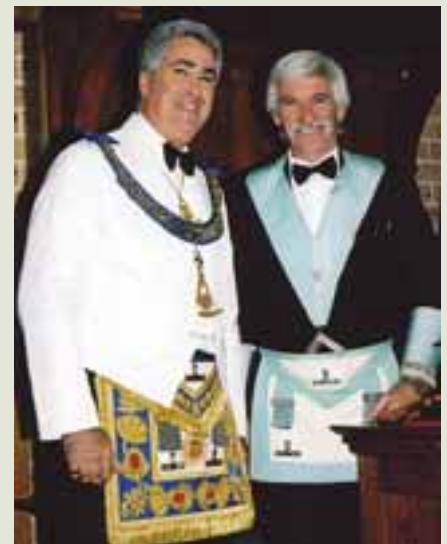
The WM of Lodge Richard Coley, RW Bro Richard Burke, welcomed the Grand Master who gave recognition to the numbers attending and commented on the sense of joy and wellbeing in the air.

The lodge was then taken from labour to refreshment, according to its tradition, and brethren retired to the south for a fine meal prepared by the ladies.

The toasts to the Queen and to the Grand Master were given before brethren returned to the lodge room for the Passing of Bro Glen Miller to the Second Degree by the Wardens of the District, with W Bro Vince Turner taking the Chair.

Following the ceremony, Bro Miller was congratulated by his father, Bro Duncan Miller and W Bro Burke then resumed control of the lodge.

The Grand Master met all Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts and then asked for all who had belonged to Freemasonry for 50 years or more to be presented, warmly greeting each in turn, thanking them for their contribution.



The Grand Master, MW Bro Greg Levenston with the Master of Lodge Richard Coley, W Bro Robert Burke



Masonic Relay helps cancer research

Young and old masons walked together to raise \$4,000 for the Cancer Council as part of the first-ever Relay For Life in Sydney's eastern suburbs.

The masonic team raised \$2,000 which was matched by masoniCare as the members put into practice the vision to see Freemasonry recognised as an organisation of high moral and social standards that benefits its members and the community.

Relay For Life is an overnight walkathon where the community comes together and teams are formed to take turns walking around an oval.

The event honours those whose lives have been affected by cancer. The first lap in the Relay is for the survivors, after that a member from each team takes turns carrying the 'baton'. At night is a candlelight ceremony and lap of silence where messages of hope are placed along the track in candle bags.

Relay for Life is unique in that community members come together to walk in a local area and enjoy a festival atmosphere. Participants can form teams big enough to walk up to 24 hours. Our Freemasons team pitched a tent to do just that for the 24 hours.

For a first attempt, the Freemasons were: team captain Mark Mansour and Brothers



Tom Nott, Bill Billingsley, Nick Agafonoff, Darren Allat, Aladdin Hassen, Cory Deakin, Nick Nelson, Justin Tordean, Luke Bartlett, Dimantha Goonasekera, Boris Manitiuis, Shane Youssef, Lauri Liskowski and Stephen Marriott supported by the GM and Judith Morrice.

The SGW RW Bro Walid Mehanna and wife Rima arrived at 2am with food and hot drinks for the walkers.

'We have taken an excellent opportunity to get out there and contribute to something worthwhile' says Bro James Farrar, a 2020 mason and a Relay for Life event organiser in the eastern suburbs. 'The Freemasons had the ideal location to show the brand, interact with the community and express our three great principles of brotherly love, relief and truth'.

LODGE LIVINGSTONE UNITED No 604

A nurse tells them

April is the month that lodges generally remember ANZAC and this year the Secretary of Lodge Livingstone United No 604 sought a speaker different from previous years. An address on ANZAC or reminiscences of wartime experience is generally given but this time Mrs Judith Cornell AM, a retired nurse and the Honorary Archivist at the College of Nursing spoke on Nurses in the First World War.

As part of her research on the history of the NSW Bush Nursing Association which commenced in 1911, Judith and a colleague came across stories of early nurse appointees who subsequently enlisted and sailed with the first of the men sent to Gallipoli.

She agreed to talk about the nurses who served in the Australian Army Nursing Corps and as part of the Anzac ceremony, the meeting was taken from labour to refreshment to allow Judith and two other members' wives to enter the lodge.

Judith presented a thought provoking address on 'The Other Anzacs: Nurses at War 1914-1918' acknowledging she had used this title from the Peter Rees 2008 book of the same name. Her address included diary extracts from several of the nurses who served on the hospital ships collecting wounded soldiers from Gallipoli Peninsula and transferring them to hospitals on Imbros, Lemnos, Salonika, Alexandria and England.

W Bro Stanley Franklin expressed the appreciation of the brethren for the talk which he said informed us of another side of ANZAC.

LODGE ALPHA No 970

PMs' night

Mr Shaun Guppy and Mr Mick Fidel were initiated into Freemasonry at the annual Past Masters' Night of Lodge Alpha No 970 in April.

Lodge secretary RW Bro Peter Court PJGW led a team of Past Masters in a faultless ceremony and thanked the Past Masters for participating so effectively, and also thanked the WM, W Bro Craig Callaghan, for the opportunity of leading them in the work of the evening.

The fact that it was RW Bro Court who initiated W Bro Callaghan on a Past Masters' Night some years ago, lent a special significance to the evening.



Lodge Alpha – W Bro Daniel Neilson, Bro Shaun Guppy, Bro Mick Fidel, RW Bro Peter Court, W Bro Craig Callaghan and W Bro Barry Simmons.

The fine banquet which followed the meeting had been prepared by the ladies, and assisting in the serving of the meal was a team of 'little helpers' who did much to keep things running smoothly.



Lodge Alpha helpers – 'Little Helpers', Erik and Aaron Kalkoven and Daniel Allport.



GREAT LAKES DAYLIGHT LODGE NO 994

A night to remember

The May meeting of Great Lakes Daylight Lodge No 994, was a memorable one for two good reasons.

The first was the presentation of 60 year Certificates and Jewels to three members: Bro Colin Stevens, Bro Alan Ellis and W Bro Bruce Stevens who were congratulated by the DGIW of District 44, VW Bro Brian McIlvenna and the WM of the lodge, W Bro Don Andrews.

The second significant event was the presentation to the lodge by Mrs Elizabeth Fisher, OAM, President of the Great Lakes Hospice, who spoke with great authority on the history of the Hospice and the importance of its work in the district.

W Bro Andrews thanked Mrs Fisher and presented her with a donation from the members of the lodge towards the activities of the Hospice.



Mrs Elizabeth Fisher, OAM, accepts a donation towards the work of the Great Lakes Hospice from W Bro Don Andrews



L-R: VW Bro Brian McIlvenna, DGIW, Bro Colin Stevens, Bro Alan Ellis, W Bro Bruce Stevens and W Bro Don Andrews.

A witches feast

The Goulburn Masonic Friends of the Village were in full flight in making a clean sweep of the Non-Progressive dinner on Friday 13 March.

At least 50 people attended the function with some dressing for the occasion as 'witches'. Each course was provided by members and the dinner was well attended by self-care residents, card night friends and members of the Auxiliary. Planning is already underway for the next dinner.

INITIATES



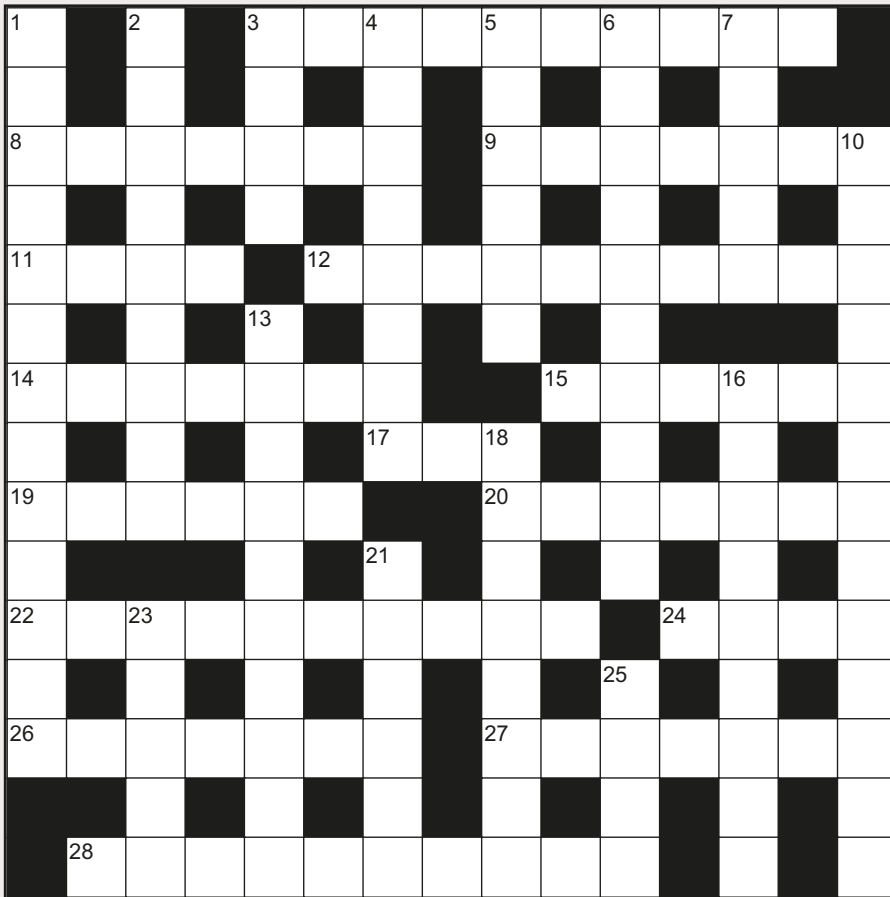
WELCOME TO THE CRAFT



Freemason welcomes new members to the Craft

Name	Initiated	Lodge
ACEBES, EDGAR	13/2/09	Lodge Beauty of Cabra Vale 743
AFYOUNI, HAZEM	19/2/09	Lodge Warringah 83
AZZI, TOM	2/2/09	Great Lakes Daylight Lodge 994
BAINBRIDGE, CRAIG	27/2/09	Lodge Ingleburn 815
BETHEL, ROBERT	12/1/09	Lodge James Kibble (Daylight) 985
BROWN, MATTHEW	23/1/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
BURLEY, SCOTT	27/1/09	Lodge Castlereagh 72
CLIMO, TIMOTHY	25/2/09	Lodge Fire Brigades 940
COSTELLO, GRAEME	23/1/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
FAIRCHILD, GRAEME	25/2/09	Lodge Fire Brigades 940
FERREIRA, FLAVIO	11/3/09	Lodge Mark Owen 828
GEE, DAVID	27/1/09	Lodge Castlereagh 72
HARRIS, WAYNE	9/2/09	Lodge Canoblas Lewis 806
JUROTTE, KENNETH	23/1/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
KASHUBS, BERND	17/2/09	Lodge Sylvania 853 Lodge of Excellence
KHARITOU, NICOLAS	5/11/08	Lodge Como 738
KOVACIC, FELIPE	27/1/09	Lodge Castlereagh 72

Name	Initiated	Lodge
LE MIERE, JEAN-CHRISTOPHE	16/2/09	Lodge France 1021
LLEWELYN, RHYS	26/2/09	Lodge Caledonia Of Canberra 938
LINNANE, MICHAEL	28/11/08	Lodge Baulkham Hills 958
LULHAM, MARK	7/2/09	Lodge Thespian Lewis 804
MARANO, GEORGE	13/2/09	Lodge Alpha 970
MORAN, VAL	13/2/09	Lodge Beauty of Cabra Vale 743
NIELSEN, ARNFINN	27/1/09	Lodge Burnside 729
PEEK, TIMOTHY	23/1/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
PETERSEN, ED	11/11/08	Lodge Excalibur 737 Lodge of Excellence
ROULSTONE, SHANE	2/12/08	Lodge Albert C. Petrie 954
SCHUBACK, JOHN	27/1/09	Basin View Daylight Lodge 1015
TRACEY, GUY	13/2/09	Lodge Alpha 970
TURTON, PHILLIP	23/1/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
VASSALLO, ALFRED	27/1/09	Basin View Daylight Lodge 1015
WADDELL, GARY	27/2/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039
YARTON, DEAN	27/2/09	Lodge Corrective Services 1039



DOWN

- 1 Some Royal Arch emblem did obscure the paymaster's room (6, 7)
- 2 Christian sacrament causes such irate behaviour (9)
- 3 Uncles Sam evaluates some quite similar (4)
- 4 Disciple of Orwell is deranged in 1984 (8)
- 5 Is Rudd upset about members of the ancient Celtic religion? (6)
- 6 Ceremony with 12 across comes into it in first class reallocation (10)
- 7 Gathering at Lodge, yet it announces commencement of Lodge meeting (5)
- 10 A way of doing it found concealed amid ponderous Romans (5, 8)
- 13 Porn mailed out to madam for instance, comes back in the same order (10)
- 16 TV signal I intercepted broadcasts a Pulse Rate or a Blood Pressure (5, 4)
- 18 An long dry urged change for menial toil (8)
- 21 Sorcery involved with beginnings of venereal disease and ducks (6)
- 23 Japanese of Uncle Sam discovered in paralysis seizure (5)
- 25 See 17 across

Solutions next issue

ACROSS

- 3 Steward fronts kids about beverage at temperance Lodge (4, 6)
- 8 Medical treatment gets to the point (7)
- 9 Constant about regalia for instance (7)
- 11 Reform gained turning over a young flea (4)
- 12 Deceived and unable to see through 22 across (10)
- 14 A nice go working out deprivation of likely metallic substances for 6 down (7)
- 15 Faith Hope and Charity form the principal rounds to preventions (6)

- 17 & 25 down Predate change that's tied up in legalities (3, 4)
- 19 Achieve something in a titan fashion (6)
- 20 Obscure proof to be shouted from here (7)
- 22 They keep you in the dark yet find doll hidden in boundless extremes (10)
- 24 Rolf intoxicated with the sherry (4)
- 26 Answer some square's ponderings (7)
- 27 Euphoria found in a short relationship (7)
- 28 Gathering at motel, yet it announces commencement of Lodge meeting (4, 2, 4)

Solution April 2009



Wanted

*Articles for
Freemason Magazine*

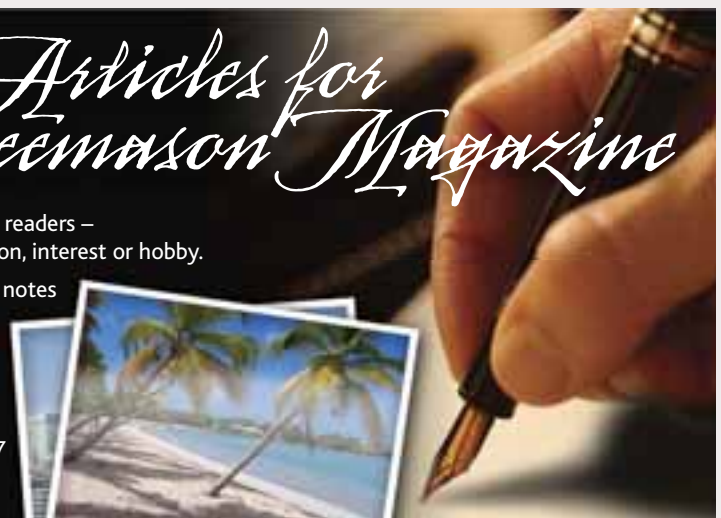
Everyone has a story and we want yours.

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.

Send your copy to: 47 Picnic Parade, Ettalong Beach NSW 2257 or email it to: freemason@apmgraphics.com.au





50 Years Service

ALLEN, BRIAN	Lodge Central Australia 88
ALTASS, ROSS	Lodge Farrer 93
BARBEY, RICHARD	Lodge Wagga Wagga 22
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MORTIMER, KEVIN	Lodge Unity 6
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TRELOAR, JOHN	Lodge Laurieton Haven United 1031
VALVIS, ANTHONY	Lodge Wyalong Pioneers 222
WADDELL, JAMES	Lodge Wagga Wagga 22

WATSON, FRANK	Lodge Thistle Kilwinning 54
WHITELEY, SYDNEY	Lodge Bangalow 250
WIGGINS, RONALD	Lodge Gympie 796
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WILLIAMS, HAROLD	Richmond Valley Daylight 146
WILSON, FRANCIS	Lodge Lachlan Jemalong 46
WOOLLEY, JOHN	The Goulburn Lodge of Australia 58
WORLAND, WILLIAM	Lodge Wyalong Pioneers 222

60 Years Service

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BRADFORD, KEITH	Lodge Leopold 128
BROWN, BRIAN	Lodge Scone 183
BROWN, JAMES	Lodge Sir Joseph Banks 300
CARPENTER, ALFRED	Lodge Sincerity 233
COTTER, ROBERT	Lodge Toukley 933
EDWARDS, WALTER	Lodge Silver City 141
ELLIS, ALAN	Great Lakes Daylight Lodge 994
EVANS, KEITH	Lodge Bega Remembrance 220
EVERINGHAM, COLIN	Richmond Valley Daylight 146
GILLOW, JOHN	Lodge Eurobodalla Daylight 989
GRAHAM, GLEN	Lodge Blackheath 370
HALL, JOHN	Lodge Parkes 40
HAMILTON, JOHN	Tenterfield 55
HAWTHORNE, KENNETH	Lodge Centenary With Honour 373
HEDGE, GEOFFREY	The St. George Lodge 328
HODGSON, JOHN	Lodge Epping 390
HUXLEY, LINDSAY	Lodge Baulkham Hills 958
JONES, KEITH	Lodge Lachlan Jemalong 46
JORDAN, RONALD	Teramby Daylight Lodge 993
KILLION, GORDON	Richmond Valley Daylight 146
LEONARD, KESTER	Lodge Dubbo 906
MCDONALD, DENIS	Lodge Oatley 381
PAGE, BRUCE	Lodge Harold Herman Unity 428
SHERIDAN, NOEL	Lodge Resurgo 223
SMITH, ARTHUR	Lodge Tranmere 712
STEVENS, ALLAN	The St. George Lodge 328
STEVENS, COLIN	Great Lakes Daylight Lodge 994
STEWART, WILLIAM	Lodge Kilwinning 13
TRODDEN, WILLIAM	Balmain Lodge 23
TURNER, LANCE	Lodge Resurgo 223
WALKER, BARRY	Lodge Tranmere 712
WALLENS, GEORGE	Lodge Hastings 69
WILSON, THOMAS	Lodge Southern Cross 91
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70 Years Service

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Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution

Established in 1880

The RFBI thanks most sincerely those Brethren who responded to its Annual Appeal Quarter. As you are aware, the RFBI appeals to Masons to assist in continuing the caring work begun in 1880. Today, in addition to the Annuity and the Benevolent Assistance Schemes where assistance is granted to those in need, the RFBI provides accommodation to more than 2,300 senior citizens in its retirement villages. The physical evidence of our 20 retirement villages is Freemasonry in action. You can be assured that your donation will be 'gratefully received and faithfully applied'.

The Grand Master laid the foundation stone for our new 50 bed aged care facility at Leeton. This ceremony in May was an outstanding success.

The RFBI was honoured to have Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia officially open the refurbished Nursing Home and the newly constructed Banksia House, a low care facility at Hawkins Masonic Village. This magnificent event was a milestone in the RFBI's history.

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

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

Likewise the RFBI is able to organise Speakers for lodge meetings or any like minded masonic function. Please contact Alex Shaw.

The RFBI has vacancies in its self care complexes at Basin View, Goulburn and Lakemba. For retirement village inquiries, please contact Alex Shaw or Ann King on 9264 5986

UGL new look Lodge Rooms

Lodge Room Three



Lodge Room Five

