

Freemason



Hands Across
NSW

**Building
Better Hearts**

the Victor Chang Cardiac
Research Institute

**2009 Grand
Proclamation**



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Freemason



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masoniCare Letter and
Questionnaire



Step up and serve

The **opportunity to serve** in a chosen field must be one of the **most rewarding experiences** for anybody. Depending how it is managed on an individual basis, it can present some of the most **challenging times** we might experience, some of the most daunting, and ultimately, some of the **most satisfying**.



It is always a personal honour to be invited to serve a Grand Master and a Grand Lodge. It follows that we generally hold those who have volunteered for these positions and roles in the highest regard for the manner in which they have committed themselves to bettering our individual experience of the Craft. Through their efforts the tenets of our Craft are further enhanced, the management of our various enterprises is continually improved, and hopefully, our future is assured.

The efforts of the Board of Management, our Regional and District Officers and the members of the Ceremonial Team should all contribute to the strengthening of our overall enjoyment of the Craft and we should continue to encourage all of those who are tasked with these roles as they strive on our behalf.

In any organisation, we regularly hear that change is inevitable. This is equally so in Freemasonry and there is no doubt that there are many changes presently being considered as we go forward. However in many of the issues we are now being asked to consider, it is not change itself that is necessary. Rather, we are simply being reminded that we need to refocus on some of the issues which we have previously considered many times in the past and agree on a modern, clear and practical thought of what it is the Craft actually needs to conduct its business for today and into the future.

The greatest concerns now facing the Craft are clearly the issues of Buildings and Membership and many other traditional Australian Associations are facing the very same considerations. The Craft has recently announced new initiatives to tackle these issues and we have been assured that this new dynamic approach will be followed through with considerable enthusiasm.

The fact is that we need fresh ideas.

A reality check will show that the majority of us want to be left alone to enjoy our Craft as we have always done, to be left to continue with our traditional programs and to be able to conduct our business in the same location and to the same format. Certainly not all of us appreciate being invited to join with others, to change the way we have become used to, or to consider meeting in alternate environments. The majority of us are in a comfort zone and see no need for us as individuals to be involved in any alternate planning. The truth is that we cannot remain insular from these considerations.

... the Grand Master will be looking to all of his appointed officers to not only carry the message forward, but to back it up with local revitalisation and improvement.

New programs require renewed effort, a new commitment and a new enthusiasm. Things do not just happen – they are made to happen. We need to truly believe in the adage ‘Freemasonry makes good men better’ and enter this new opportunity with renewed vigour.

Over the years, we have received many edicts from on high, but apart from some relatively small and isolated acceptance of

their directions, there has been little lasting change. With these new initiatives, the Grand Master will be looking to all of his appointed officers to not only carry the message forward, but to back it up with local revitalisation and improvement.

The benefits that we now enjoy were provided to us by a generation that was blessed with numbers. It is important that as we seek to enhance our Craft experience with a lesser but equally committed membership, we are only burdened with the level of resource that we actually need to operate our business.

So this is our opportunity to step up to the plate and serve. It is our opportunity to express our view on how best we can be accommodated, how we should best service our membership to enhance their individual experience, how we might better represent the content and conduct of our meetings, and how we would prefer to see our Craft positioned in our local communities.

We must leave no stone unturned and we must consider all options. One size does not fit all and we should be prepared to accept the differences. So long as we hold true to our principles and tenets and conform to and maintain our laws and regulations, there ought to be considerable flexibility. We have been asked to meet ‘in the grand design of being happy – and conferring happiness’. It is free to each of us to consider how this might be reflected in every part of our activity.

This is your opportunity to serve.
Step up, be vocal and make a difference.

Lodge Lightning Ridge 595
meets second Friday of each month.
Free above and below ground Opal Tours arranged.
Ph: Rod 6829 2428 Email: rod.abel9@gmail.com



The power of the words and their true meaning



The **ceremonial** aspect of Freemasonry is essential and an **integral part** in its practice.

The stages of accepting a new candidate and elevating him through the various degrees are pronounced with many words found in the Ritual book, guiding the new candidate to understand the meaning and the ideals of the Order.

The fact is that every mason has to improve himself via constant learning and to adopt the vast material in our Ritual book. We may regard the ceremony as a 'Show' in the form of a 'mini theatre' with the lodge members forming the audience. We must observe, listen intently, in order to understand the meaning behind the words and content of the ceremony.

What is the difficulty we are facing in our lodges? Why is it necessary to compare our ceremonies to a 'play' in the theatre? The truth is that there is much similarity but with a major difference. The performance of our 'actors' is not very convincing or professional enough while in a real theatre it is the opposite.

Why do we enjoy a good play in a theatre? The text by itself is not sufficient for our enjoyment if the performing actors are not expressing convincingly the content, the words and the message that the play writer wished to convey and to be understood by the audience.

In our Order we have the written 'play' in the Ritual books. Are we satisfied with the performance of the officers – the mini 'actors'? Are the brethren (audience), who eventually become the future officers, able to follow clearly the words thrown into the lodge space, to enjoy and understand the 'play' in the ritual, and benefit from it by attending? This is the question.

Sitting in the east, I often observe the reaction expressed by some masons, both young and more mature ones. Are they bored? Are they half asleep during the ceremony? Are they really listening with open ears and following the words and their meanings? Are they happy and eager to

regularly attend the lodge without being satisfied with the performance; by listening to the teachings in this format while hoping to improve themselves in masonic knowledge? I doubt it.

To perform properly, one has to learn the methods of doing so and to practice, as the actors in the theatre are obliged to be trained first and practice the play before performing it.

**... the ceremonial aspect ...
a tool to deliver the
teachings and guidance on
how to become a good mason**

As we know, one of the seven liberal Arts and Sciences is Rhetoric and this is not surprising. It is, indeed, the art of speaking effectively; particularly important in our Order because of its emphasis on the ceremonial aspect as a tool to deliver the teachings and guidance on how to become a good mason.


Imagine that in a theatre, inexperienced actors performed a play just by learning it by heart without any ability to play the appropriate role, and their diction and expression of the words was ordinary. Would the audience be satisfied and go again to see a play?

I have always wondered why we do not have a Masonic Rhetoric Class or Masonic Toastmasters Club where masons could improve their performing ability to the delight of the Order and all who listen to them. Until, hopefully, the training classes mentioned above might be established, may I suggest some positive steps for enhancing our ceremonies as follows:

1. All officers and those delivering various charges must not only learn by heart,

properly, their ritual section, but must understand, as well, the meaning of the text before delivering it. Otherwise, it will be merely a stream of meaningless, memorised words.

2. To keep the brethren/audience on their toes, continually, during the ceremony or any other educational activity in the lodge, they have, at the end of the evening work, to be asked by the WM to stand up one after another and tell in one sentence what they have learned from the ceremony. All members of the lodge should have a small notebook in which they write their comments every lodge meeting. The Secretary will make a note of their answer. The last lodge meeting of the year will consist, mainly, of hearing the summary of each mason as noted in his notebook and discussing them in open lodge. Those who do not attend regularly, by seeing such a learning session taking place in the lodge, would undoubtedly be encouraged, for their own sake, to attend more often and to also contribute their comments with the rest of the brethren.
3. The WM, each time, will appoint a small number of brethren to deliver a short message of their own in open lodge, perhaps of two minutes duration, in which they will try to convince the brethren on the content of their message (topics of religion and politics to be avoided). Then the WM will ask other brethren to comment, briefly, on the effectiveness of these messages. This should take not more than 15 minutes before commencing the evening's work.

The outcome is, that by involving more brethren with their small contribution, by introducing learning sessions, by making their presence worthwhile, it is likely that a better attendance of brethren would be ensured. 

Double honours

Two hard-working members of the Craft were duly rewarded when they were named in the **Queen's Birthday Honours List** in June.

RW Bro Rev Peter Kilkeary PJGW, Grand Chaplain and RW Bro Grahame Cumming PDGM were each awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM).

RW Bro Cumming received his award for service to the community through his research into the history of Freemasonry while RW Bro Kilkeary for community service, especially to the Strathfield-Homebush Baptist church.

Founder and current research officer of the NSW Masonic Historical Society, Grahame Cumming since 1977 has researched and published 20 books on the history of Freemasonry in Australia, with




LEFT: RW Bro Grahame Cumming OAM

ABOVE: RW Bro Rev Peter Kilkeary OAM

particular focus on NSW. In 2008, he completed the official history of the UGL of NSW & ACT for the period 1988–2008.

Peter Kilkeary graduated from the Baptist Theological College in 1970 and has been chairman of the Independent Cemetery Trust at Rookwood since 1996

where he has officiated at hundreds of destitute funerals.

He retired from active ministry in 2001 to live at Winmalee where he is an elder of the Springwood Baptist Church and has been Police Chaplain for the Blue Mountains. 

Zone Programs

From now until the year 2011, a **series of programs** will be staged in **each zone** in NSW to provide information enabling members to **improve their skills and knowledge**.

There will be four groupings of educational programs conducted through the Zone Program. The aim is to ensure all lodges and their members have an opportunity to gain Masonic Education, Leadership and Lodge Management skills.

This will ensure that each Region, District and lodge activity is a positive and enjoyable masonic experience.

Each Zone Program contains, but is not limited to the following topics.

1. **Mentoring, Membership Officer, Leadership Course** – Guide to Master, Masonry and You (1½ days)
2. **Health and Safety, First Aid** – First Aid Course, Caring Officers, Buildings (1½ days)
3. **Lodge of Instruction, Preceptor's Course** – Points and Protocols, Accreditation (one day)
4. **Lodge Management, Secretaries, Treasurers** – Finance, Masonic Education/Studies (one day)

The Zones and Programs will be:

NEW ENGLAND/NORTH COAST, REGION 5 AND REGION 6 – July/Dec 2009 (Program 1), Jan/June 2010 (4), July/Dec 2010 (3) and Jan/June 2011 (2).

SYDNEY METRO/HUNTER, REGION 1,2,3,4 AND 12 – July/Dec 2009 (2), Jan/June 2010 (1), July/Dec 2010 (4), Jan/June 2011 (3)

ACT/SOUTH COAST, REGION 10 AND REGION 11 – July/Dec 2009 (3), Jan/June 2010 (2), July/Dec 2010 (1), Jan/June 2011 (4)

WESTERN ZONE, REGION 7,8,9 AND 13 – July/Dec 2009 (4), Jan/June 2010 (3), July/Dec 2010 (2), Jan/June 2011 (1).



The Far West has its attractions

School holidays are often spent at home but **Judith Morrice** was quick to accept an offer from the Grand Master to take time off to **explore some of outback NSW**.



The Grand Master and Judith travelled 3,500 kilometres visiting masons, their wives and families in a trip that provided wonderful opportunities to meet, mix, listen, talk, experience and enjoy the world of brethren 'Out West'.

Judith, partner of the Grand Master, joined him in travelling 3,500 kilometres to speak with 350 brethren, ladies and families, with 12 lodges, inspected 14 buildings and brought rain to far-west NSW. This is her story.

'As a country girl, I was brought up in Booligal district, 160 km north-west of Hay, and retain many memories of our recent trip to Hillston for the 80th Installation of that lodge. The groundwork and planning for this trip was co-ordinated by Peter Read (GDC) in conjunction with RGCs, DGIWs and lodge members and we were on our way one hour after I finished work for a week of meeting and greeting.

On the first day we had morning tea at Scone, were in Gunnedah for lunch and Narrabri for dinner with a look at the Quirindi building on our way to Gunnedah. It was also a day of re-discovery for me. On the road between Boggabri

and Narrabri is a small township called Baan Baa, but more importantly a property called "Ardmona" which my grandparents managed and where my Dad spent time.

My connection with Narrabri was probably set at that time because I travelled from Booligal with my Dad to visit the accountant who was a member of the lodge in Narrabri. The building in Narrabri has the most magnificent stained glass windows with fabulous images of symbols that are easily recognised by Freemasons and their families.

Next stops were Moree and Lightning Ridge, hoping (unsuccessfully) to find some rare black opal. In Moree there is a memorial to the first white woman who settled in the area and her house still exists by the river where we sat and had coffee. After lunch we set off for Lightning Ridge. The land is flat, trees became less frequent and smaller and I could see to the horizon

with no interruption as the city cobwebs were blown away.

At the beginning of towns there is usually a sign giving local information including population. This does not happen coming into Lightning Ridge because there is a question mark next to the word population. We had dinner with members of the lodge, were taken on a tour and later went underground into "Black Hand Castle" to see some amazing sandstone sculptures and paintings. There is also an Egyptian room with the tomb and detailed painting with wild animals, superheroes and many more. A must for anyone visiting.

We went to the open mine but didn't find anything valuable. In the summer the hot water is turned off and mixed with cold water to cool it enough to use. There are some lovely artesian bore baths but I didn't have time to test them.

Lightning Ridge to Bourke was another day on the road going through Walgett



and Brewarrina. In light drizzle, we were passing the World War I memorial in the main street of Walgett when Greg suddenly said, "look, a 'Morrice'". On the memorial was the name "Morrice W.T.". I found out he was my great grandfather's brother, Walter Tertius Morrice, born in 1881 and died from wounds received in Damascus in September 1918. I knew that Morrices were in this area as my grandparents had also managed a property in this district.

In Bourke, we were met by familiar faces including Doug Grigg, Bill Kerr, Charles Wattle and Peter Ratcliff. There was a lodge night in Bourke with a South following the formal work.

With Charles leading the way we set off for Broken Hill, travelling along the river road and stopping at Louth for a photo. Then onto Tilpa and to check out the Darling. I was not disappointed with the scenery or the wildlife, lots of kangaroos, emus, a wild pig, a pair of brolgas, birds and goats. We stopped by the roadside for morning tea and lunched by the river in Wilcannia, before heading to Broken Hill. The rain started as soon as we hit the bitumen, fortunately not while we were on the river road as travelling on

wet black soil is not good. The rain and storms were quite spectacular.


At Broken Hill, we went to the City lookout to view the city and its surrounds. The night was at Silverton to visit the lodge room and to have dinner with members of the lodge. MW Bro Ray Clark, Grand Master of South Australia/ Northern Territory, arrived the next day and we spent a day sightseeing. We saw the sculptures, Mundi Mundi Plains, Silverton and a couple of art galleries. At night the men went to lodge and I had dinner with the ladies.

Nyngan was next and we had hoped to travel through Menindee but rain caused the road to be closed. Between Broken Hill and Cobar we saw goats everywhere, I only hope they don't travel too far south. We stopped in Cobar to lunch at the lodge room and then onto Nyngan for the night where I caught up with one of my brother's schoolmates who is a member of the lodge.

On the final day we travelled to Sydney through Narromine, Dubbo, Orange, Bathurst, Lithgow, stopping at Lawson to see the building.

It was a fabulous trip, meeting lots of people, listening to ideas, answering ques-

tions and receiving warm and enthusiastic welcomes. There is a demand for information, a need to be heard, and a request to be recognised as strong masons. Freemasonry is a strength of their communities even though times are tight with drought and the recession eating deeply into pockets. But, overall there is a sense of future, of pride in action, and a telling that these next five years are crucial to their future as masons and ordinary Australians. I am pleased to report that on the trip I sold many bags and raised \$600 for Stewart House, so a huge thank you to everyone.

Since our return I have had time to reflect upon the influence of women in the Craft. Wherever I went I was impressed by the friendship, openness and willingness of the ladies to work for and support Freemasonry. Many issues were brought to me as Chairperson of the Women's Advisory Committee which I will present at another time. But most importantly, I was left with the overriding impression that Freemasonry is about family, love and support and those strengths are felt throughout the Jurisdiction. 





Brother – *can you lend a hand?*

Hands Across NSW was formed towards the end of 2006 by a simple remark when a member of Lodge Broughton asked: 'Are we going to help the **farming communities** affected by the **drought in NSW**?' This humble beginning started something that took hold quickly and within a few months Hands Across NSW Inc. was **a registered charity**.

Their aim is 'to assist rural communities in NSW affected by drought and other issues by providing help with dignity and the hand of friendship in times of distress, thereby ensuring our prominence as one of the leading and most effective charitable organisations in this field originating in the Shoalhaven.'

The membership of Hands Across NSW Inc. is made up of local masons as well as a number of non-masons who consider it a privilege to be involved. No one claims wages or personal expenses, with all efforts on a volunteer basis.

The very proud farming community is concerned about hand-outs. They are struggling through bad times, watching the deteriorating conditions, looking at the red dust around the house and the paddocks without a blade of grass, watching stock dying day after day, week after week, month after month, and knowing that with no rain in sight nothing can be done to alleviate the suffering.

Many have had domestic water carted to their empty water tanks and children have smiled on receiving toys and push



bikes each Christmas since 2006, as well as Santa's Letters, for how can anybody explain to a child that 'Santa is not coming because it didn't rain.'

Other areas of assistance have been:

- Providing for respite care to people at high risk of suicide with free holiday accommodation. If our soldiers serving overseas died at the same rate as our farmers, there would be a public outcry.
- Working as partners, with SSPAN

(Shoalhaven Suicide Prevention and Awareness Network) by providing disadvantaged youngsters with Aeronautical Engineering Free Introduction Courses to help them view the aviation industry as another outlet for their aspirations.

- Provision of underwear for women reluctant to see the doctor because of embarrassment over the condition of their clothing.
- A dozen computers provided to HSC students finding it difficult to complete their studies without a personal computer due to financial constraints, and using spare computers teaching seniors the benefits of communicating with family.
- Young Achiever of the Year Awards for students of primary schools through grants and trophies.
- Prizes for essay competitions and debates about environmental issues.
- Portable water tanks of 1,000 litres capacity were filled with syrup, a high nutrient for cattle and sent to Corowa, Temora Agricultural Research Station, and Finley for distribution.



A major project for Hands Across NSW has been the donation of fodder and pastures and the request made to the Naval Air Base at Albatross to cut excess grass from the airport grounds. Local contractors are paid for cutting, baling and transport to drought-affected areas to help keep breeding stock alive.

Discreet enquiries are undertaken to ensure only the neediest farmers receive a share. However, in such large and needy areas affected by drought one must be extremely careful to ensure a fair distribution of the scarce resources. Last year, nearly 2,000 large bales of fodder were sent to the most affected areas in the Riverina.

The stage has been reached in the operations of Hands Across NSW that several questions must be asked,

- Where we are now? What do we have?
- Where do we want to go?
- How do we get there?
- What happens when we do?

What we have and where we are

We are in the middle of a crisis in the land, and a drought in NSW of such magnitude that it will not go away even if it rains for several weeks.

People will continue to suffer until new crops are lifted. Financial institutions may foreclose on the debts incurred, insufficient funds are in reserve for the next stage of planting new crops, building up lost stock, or replenish lost breeding stock.

Many will suffer severe depression because of uncertainty in a future that for many farmers will look bleak and forbidding, with poor possibilities of recovery.

This is a persistent problem not only in the farming communities but for everyone in NSW.

Where do we want to go?

The road to our destination is difficult and arduous because there is not a single organisation with the required resources. It will be almost impossible to do it by ourselves, but let's start the journey by trying to do as much as we can.

Financial assistance is commendable, but there are many other ways to help. Be the voice to point out to the authorities the rural problems, viewed from a different perspective. Representations were made recently to the NSW Government



to keep the DPI Office and Services at Berry and a good result was achieved as the Minister announced that the facilities will be retained.

How do we get there?

By combining available resources to create a strategy to involve other organisations and formulating long range and short-term plans for future activities.

At present there is a basic structure, but we need help to expand to reach a common goal of assistance as well as the support of other philanthropic organisations.

Support is essential to continue carrying out one of the most precious legacies given to man, the gift to be able to identify and provide charity where needed.

The amount of financial assistance required today to assist the rural communities in NSW would need to be in the billions but Hands Across NSW hopes to fill the gap for so many families between suffering and survival.


What happens when we get there?

Monitoring of progress is crucial to indicate the degree of help needed for the

future as well as observing the changes in the type of help required. That is translated in a constant review of the aims of Hands Across NSW and sets the benchmarks for future operations.

We are proud of our Patrons: Greg Watson, Mayor Shoalhaven; Joanna Gash, MP Federal Member for Gilmore; Shelley Hancock, MP State Member South Coast; Matt Brown, MP State Member Kiama; and Sandra McCarthy, Mayor Kiama. These busy individuals still find time to provide significant and positive assistance as well as helping to have Hands Across NSW nominated for the Regional Achievement and Community Award in both 2007 and in 2008, being one of ten finalists out of 4,000 nominations.

Remember the story of the man throwing back to the sea the small fish stranded after a fast tide went out? Approached by another man, who said that with so many fish stranded it made no difference, the man replied while throwing another one back into the sea, 'It will make a difference to this one!'

We can only hope that our efforts, although not being able to assist everyone, make a difference to someone. 



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Building Better Hearts

The Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute (VCCRI) was established in February 1994 to honour the vision and memory of pioneering cardiothoracic surgeon and humanitarian, the late Dr Victor Chang. It is a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee (the VCCRI Ltd.) with the Sisters of Charity, Australia as its Members.



Its mission is 'the relief of pain and suffering, and the promotion of well-being through an understanding of the fundamental mechanisms of cardiovascular diseases'. To fulfil this mission it strives to conduct the highest quality research into cardiovascular diseases, as well as playing a major role in disease prevention, in the training of cardiovascular researchers and doctors, and in the rapid transfer of new knowledge, treatments and diagnostics to the patient.

Although the VCCRI addresses all forms of heart disease, it has as a major focus on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of heart muscle diseases. This focus is of relevance to the citizens of not only Australia, where over 330,000 Australians have heart failure with 400 new cases being added each week, but other developed countries that have similar or

higher rates of heart failure. Moreover, the incidence of heart failure is increasing exponentially and, apart from the human toll it inflicts, is of major economic consequence (costing over AU2.1 billion health-care dollars annually), since it is a leading cause of disability in our society, requires expensive medications and procedures, and is hospital-intensive. Australia has one of the highest transplantation success rates in the world but sadly only 259 Australians donated organs in 2008. Through its programs to identify inherited forms of heart disease due to gene mutations, the VCCRI contributes directly to the discovery and prevention of disease risks. To this end, it is interested in functional and structural genomics, bioinformatics and the convergence between biotechnology and computational biology.

Importantly, apart from the direct rel-

evance of the Institute's research to cardiovascular disease, due to the basic nature of our work and the common paradigms linking development, growth and degeneration in other tissues and organ system, it also has relevance to a number of other major disease areas, including cancer – studies of the regulation of gene expression resulted in a very major discovery that some forms of cancer are due not to defects in the structure of certain genes but in their functioning.

Heart Disease remains Australia's No. 1 killer with men often presenting with the classic symptoms of a heart attack namely uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the centre of the chest lasting more than a few minutes, pain that spreads to the shoulders, neck, arms or sometimes the teeth, chest discomfort with lightheadedness, fainting, sweating,



nausea or shortness of breath. The symptoms of heart disease in women are often less typical and can be attributed to other causes such as stress.

The heart is the only organ that can never sleep. It is composed of billions of highly specialised muscle cells working together as an efficient pump, beating on average 70 times a minute, 100,000 times a day, and almost 3 billion times in a lifetime. It is our most essential lifeline.

Until recently, we have viewed the heart as being a highly specialised organ that, after birth, loses its ability to repair itself when injured. It certainly does have compensatory mechanisms, such as the ability

to increase the size and power of existing muscle cells and lay down more blood vessels. However, it is unfortunate that these mechanisms do not seem to be enough when someone has a heart attack and a lot of muscle cells die, or the pumping of their heart begins to fail. The heart lays down scar tissue and cannot replace the dead muscle cells.

Much excitement has been generated in recent years about adult stem cells and their seemingly limitless potential for helping us repair diseased organs or broken body parts. It turns out that the heart also harbours stem cells so the question arises if stem cells in our hearts do not participate in repair, then why not and how can we awaken them to help repair heart attacks and replace muscle in heart failure patients?

This is truly an exciting frontier and the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute is taking up this challenge with major new research efforts underway to explore the biology and therapeutic potential of adult cardiac stem cells, and how other stem cell populations, such as those that normally live in the bone marrow and blood, might be persuaded to migrate to the heart and participate in repair.

Building a better heart is a challenge the researchers at The Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute are embracing – along the way they will learn much about human biology, prevention, disease and medicine.

If you would like to see first hand the research the Institute conducts, then why not book a tour. Tours are held weekly. Please call 1300 Victor for further information. 🐾



If you would like to help...

Join the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute in its fight to beat heart disease by calling 1300 VICTOR (1300 842 867) or donate online <https://secure.donman.net.au/client/victorchang/victorchang.asp>. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

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HEART healthy for life

A practical guide to preventing and reversing heart disease

I have been asked to review the book *HEART healthy for life* from a general practitioner's view point.

As a primary care physician, it is essential that the patient be involved as much as possible, in their health.

Professor Terry Campbell, Deputy Director of the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, in a most thought provoking foreword, makes the point that up to twenty five percent of all deaths in Australia are due to heart disease.

To address this issue is not merely achieved by patients attending their doctors and obtaining appropriate advice and medication. It is now recognized that outcomes are vastly improved when patients contribute to their own wellbeing.

This book *HEART healthy for life* goes a long way in achieving this goal.

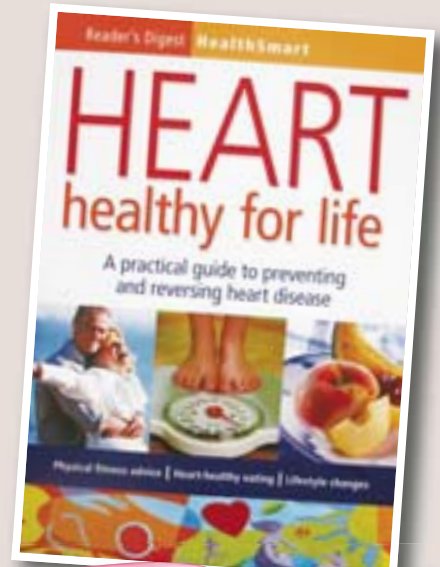
This well illustrated book is clearly written and covers all aspects of heart disease, risk prevention, medical inter-

vention and solutions to providing a healthy heart.

The depth of the book's coverage of these topics is sufficient to satisfy any patient's enquiry. Chapters have glossaries dealing with medical terminology and in some cases, ways of assessing cardiac risk factors, all of which are essential to making the book not only readable but relevant.

As a doctor I am asked to endorse *HEART healthy for life* as a good general family medical reference book, I certainly can. Any book that can involve a patient in taking an interest in their own health by educating them to do so is always a worthy reference source.

... 'By making a few simple changes to your daily routine, you can dramatically reduce your risk of heart attack. And you don't have to turn your life upside down to do it. Take a brisk walk after dinner instead of watching television on most nights of the week, and you've already started to arm yourself against trouble.



Trim a bit of saturated fat from your menu, and you'll compound that protection. If you smoke, muster the courage to quit and you'll halve the risk of heart disease. And take steps to reduce the stress and strains of everyday life that affect your blood pressure' ...

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Have your say



Masonic marriage ceremony

Thank you for publishing my expressions of interest (re artists amongst us) in the last issue of 'Freemason'.

I have gleaned by the response of three of the 13,000 masons in NSW, that masons do not express themselves in traditional art forms. Perhaps they may prefer to do so in writing, or poetry or acting?

So moving on here is: Expressions of Interest No 2.

As a Commonwealth Civil Marriage celebrant, I have pondered for some time on the possibility of a 'masonic marriage ceremony'. Grand Lodge library does not have any record of such a ceremony.

I would, with the help of our readers, like to write such a ceremony. In any civil ceremony there are some words and phrases that are required by law and beyond that it is open to the individuals to make it 'their own special event'. With the advent of the 20/20 masons and their high level of enthusiasm for Masonry in general, the potential for such a ceremony is a growing possibility.

Brethren, what would you like to see and hear in such a ceremony? Please send your words of wisdom to Bro Edwin Power, mistygrovefarm@bluemaxx.com.au

BRO EDWIN POWER
SW Duke of Edinburgh No76
20/20 Mason

A new lodge for Canberra?

On Saturday 6 June 2009 the Grand Master performed a ceremony of significance to masonic brethren and their ladies in Canberra at the symbolic laying of the foundation stone of the new Canberra Masonic Centre. I was proud to be among those assembled and rejoiced in anticipation of the future of masonry in Canberra.

The Grand Master had also announced he would like to see a new lodge created as well. What did he mean? Canberra like other districts is suffering from an aging

membership and it will not be long before some lodges will cease to exist. This is a fact of life. So what is his motive to say he would like to see a new lodge in Canberra?

None of the brethren want to see their lodge close. The early lodges in Canberra go back from the early days and are part of the city's history. Each lodge has its own history and can be justly proud of its age and achievements. But the Grand Master is looking into the future and sees a new lodge made up of younger brethren who can advance into the years ahead as a generation that will exist long after most of the more 'senior' brethren have passed away.

This is something to seriously think about. Can masons, say 30 to 35 years of age, take up this challenge and form a steering committee to discuss their future and where they currently stand. There are a few brethren in progressive office who could

occupy the three principal offices necessary to form a new lodge. Initiates could be encouraged to join the new lodge and progress through the various positions without jumping the queue. Existing lodges could take in older candidates in the normal way.

The success of a new lodge will mostly depend on the support of the existing district lodges. This is a bold step where jealousies need to be laid aside for the good of Masonry and Canberra in particular. Some district lodges are short in numbers and may need to unite with others in similar circumstances. What a great opportunity to see Masonry remain in Canberra. Is it worthwhile or just a pie in the sky? What name could be given to a new young lodge? How about: Lodge Genesis?

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Organist, Lodge Woden Valley

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The Golden Fleece

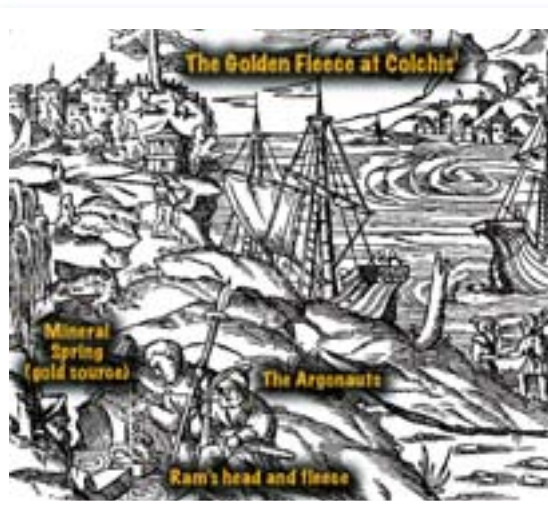
From the earliest moment in our masonic career when, as a newly initiated Entered Apprentice Freemason, we are invested with **our first apron**, we are told that it is **the distinguishing badge of a mason** and that it is ‘... **more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle** ...’. What on earth has this got to do with Freemasonry we might ask?

Assuming that the Golden Fleece we are referring to in our EAF ritual is one and the same as that stolen by Jason and the Argonauts from Colchis on the Black Sea, we can refer to one of the oldest books on mining published in 1556 by the alchemist Georgius Agricola, *De Re Metallica*ⁱ translated from Latin by Herbert Clark Hoover and Lou Henry Hoover (yes, that is the same Herbert Hoover who discovered The Sons of Gwalia (Wales) Gold Mine in Western Australia and who later became the President of the United States). Agricola says: ‘The Colchians

placed the skins of animals in the pools of springs and since many particles of gold had clung to them when they were removed, the poets invented the ‘Golden Fleece’ of the Colchians’.

Dating the adventures of Jason and his Argonauts can be traced to around the 5th century BC so we must assume that the reference to our EAF apron dates before this since it is ‘more ancient’ than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle. Colchis, the traditional land of the Golden Fleece, lies between the Caucasus on the north, Armenia on the south and the Black Sea on the west. Of course the objective of Jason’s raiding party was not a single Golden Fleece but rather the entire production of the Colchis Mining Co Ltd’s operations and its theft would have fetched a tidy sum back home. Hardly an honourable association for our EAF apron but, then again, I am not sure quite how honourable the Roman Eagle is either.

The method of gold recovery using the Golden Fleece closely resembles the modern method of gold recovery generally referred to as gravity gold concentration. The gold bearing rock or river



gravel is pulverised to a size similar to beach sand and mixed with water to form a ‘mineral slurry’. If the slurry is passed over a sheep’s fleece or in today’s world a ribbed corduroy cloth, the heavier gold particles sink into the wool of the sheep’s skin (or corduroy ribs) while the lighter waste particles pass over the top and are thrown away as ‘tailings’. Periodically the cloths or skins are washed to recover a ‘gold concentrate’. In the days of the Colchis Mining Co Ltd the fleeces would probably have been burned to remove the gold into a gold product.


Until recently ‘corduroy tables’ were being used extensively for gold recovery in South Africa and South America and may still be in use today. I witnessed the operation of these tables in South Africa in the 1960s and the Philippines in the 1990s.

The Order of the Golden Fleece

There is another referenceⁱⁱ to the source of the Golden Fleece. The ‘Order of the Golden Fleece’ was modelled on the English Order of the Garter (which is also mentioned in our EAF ritual), dedicated

to Saint Andrew and founded in 1430 by Duke Philip III of Burgundy. It was intended as a knightly brotherhood and a friendly alliance of noblemen. Membership was originally intended to be limited to 31 although various subsequent Dukes of Burgundy increased that number to 51 and eventually to 70. Requirements included that the nominees be noblemen ‘in name and arms’ and ‘truly devoted’ to the sovereign of the Order, the respective bearer of the title Duke of Burgundy. (It is noted without comment that The Knights Templarsⁱⁱⁱ were an offshoot of a little understood monastic

brotherhood, the Cistercians, who themselves danced to the tune of an extremely powerful group of noblemen living in Burgundy and Flanders.) The principal aims of the Order were to promote the glory of God and to defend the Christian faith. The order was explicitly denied to ‘heretics’, and so became an exclusively Catholic award during the Reformation, though the choice of the pagan Golden Fleece of Colchis as the symbol of a Christian order caused some controversy.

So what has the Golden Fleece to do with Freemasonry? In my view it is telling the newly initiated EAF that Masonry is based on a very ancient legend that will later lead him via the transmutation of rough rock into gold through to (hermetic) alchemy as an allegory for the transmutation of darkness into light. 

- i *De Re Metallica* by Georgius Agricola. Translated from the First Latin Addition of 1556 by Herbert Clark Hoover and Lou Henry Hoover, Dover Publications, Inc., New York, 1950.
- ii http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Order_of_the_Golden_Fleece
- iii www.templarhistory.com/revealed.html

Round up for Royal Arch

There are many changes and innovations taking place in **Royal Arch Freemasonry** all of which auger well for the future. Some snippets from the Jurisdiction are shown below and it is hoped that a Royal Arch page will become a **regular inclusion** in future issues of the expanded Freemason magazine.

Coeur de Lion Royal Arch Chapter

Bryan Davis and Allan Brown have organized a Masonic Library. A wide range of interesting masonic books have been donated to the library and these have been meticulously catalogued and arranged for easy reference. Each masonic organization meeting at Moruya will have an appointed librarian to be responsible for the loan and collection of books which members may require. It is a wonderful addition to our facilities and great credit is given to Bryan and Allan, Bryan having donated the lockable bookcase in which the books are stored. Many other changes are in the pipeline.

Message from the First Principal of Australia Mark & Royal Arch Chapter, No 28

Companions,

We have been advancing our masonic education recently with some interesting lectures on the philosophical basis of some matters relating to Royal Arch Masonry and anticipate pursuing this theme at our next meeting. It is stimulating to enhance our awareness of these matters.

There is no doubt that this is a beneficial activity, but we do need to be aware of the need for some new members to join the Order and participate in our activities. Companions who are aware of prospective members are invited to pass on the details to Scribe E. Particularly in the Yass region there may be former members of Yass Chapter who could be approached.

It is encouraging to see Companions affiliating with our Chapter or rejoining the Order. This will strengthen our activities and provide a stronger base on which to progress our Chapter work.

Best wishes,
Ron Goleby
First Principal



News From Weller country – Nowra Royal Arch Chapter – Nowra Gossip

Ted Keenahan, James and Robbi Fennell attended the Re-Consecration and Centenary Installation of Dubbo Royal Arch Chapter with the First Grand Principal and Grand Master M.Ex.Comp S.G. Mason and his Grand Chapter Officers, and what an enjoyable week-end it was.

R.Ex.Comp. V.B. Senghaas, PGJ attended the Area G-Combined Area meeting as the representative of the First Grand Principal and Grand Master and was attended by 20 Grand Chapter Officers. The meeting was a huge success and congratulations are extend to those involved.

There are two important events during the month of September.

1. As the host Chapter for the Combined

VE Comp A Tufley GDC; ME Comp Dr F J Radcliffe PGZ; ME Comp SG Mason GZ; RE Comp E Keenahan DGZ, GZ Elect

District Meeting, members have a responsibility to attend this meeting, and support the District, the Grand Representative V.Ex, Comp Ron Thaxton DGIW and the Companions who have travelled far and near to participate on the night.

2. The Grand Installation of R.Ex.Comp Edward Keenahan as First Grand Principal and Grand Master on 19 September will be a wonderful event and it is hoped that members and their friends will be in attendance at this most important event in Royal Arch Freemasonry. If you are intending to be present it is essential that you register your interest without delay.

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Freemasonry and Australian history

At the particular moment of the first white settlement in Australia, 1788, **Freemasonry was a highly conflicted phenomenon**, under both internal and external pressures.

There were several 'Freemasonrys', and more than one Grand Lodge, and each was impacted on by the major conflicts we now know as the Napoleonic Wars and the French Revolution.

As white settlement of Australia was beginning, during its earliest years, secret 'combinations' throughout Britain and mainland Europe were being proscribed and, where located, were being raided and their members charged. 'Secret Committees', authorised by the House of Commons, were attempting to track any and all conspiracies and agitators. While much of late-18th century tumult centred on reform efforts around universal rights and 'the brotherhood of man', there were also longer running religious conflicts. Freemasonry, the institution, both because of its claimed idealism and its day-to-day practice was directly involved in both struggles. And as a matter of course, these struggles spilled from Europe into what was then called 'New South Wales'.

It is the more shadowy, less formally organised groups which pose the most interesting problems as the degree to which they can be considered 'masonic' is pivotal to the first settlements and to what follows. Also pivotal is the allegiance of brethren to non-masonic 'masters', eg. Protestantism, nationalism or personal ambition.

Ultimately, what is at stake here are questions of just what has been meant by the word 'Freemasonry' at any given date, and what can be regarded as 'the masonic heritage'.

Given both the well-documented influence of enlightenment theories on late-18th century Freemasonry, and Irish influence on white Australian history from its earliest manifestation, Irish 'clubs' and



An Eight hours Day banner from Sydney (ie. the labour movement) in which numerous 'masonic' symbols might be discerned.

'lodges' deserve the increased scrutiny they are now receiving.

Recent research, for example, has shown the wide divergence of 'masonic' agendas being pursued. Irish records are clear that during the very turbulent 1780s and '90s, nominally 'masonic' lodges were being used for nationalist purposes, with numerous Catholics being initiated. Non-Protestant members may not have endured, but it is unlikely that even Protestant masons would have passed examination as 'regular' if tested by officers of the Grand Lodge in London. There must be questions about the accuracy of the label 'Masonry', when, for example, an English masonic magazine, in 1797 the year before the major Catholic uprising known as 'Vinegar Hill' recorded that:

There is an enthusiasm for Masonry in Ireland which is (greater than) in this Country (England). Every village has its masonic meeting, and, therefore, no wonder can be made at the great number of Masons constantly made in that country.

An account published by the Grand Lodge of Ireland admits that both 'regular'

and 'clandestine' masonic lodges were directly involved in the social upheaval being experienced:

(It) was usual for the lodges to declare their loyalty to the King and Constitution, and offer their services in defence of the country, by advertisement in the papers.


There is, in addition, the issue of official complicity in these 'troubles'. On 13 March 1797, the province of Ulster was placed under the control of an ill-disciplined army and its 'ferocious commander' General Lake. An officer under his command admitted:

I have arranged ... to increase the animosity between Orangemen and the United Irish. Upon that animosity depends the safety of the centre counties of the north. Were the Orangemen disarmed or put down or were they coalesced with the other party, the whole of Ulster would be as bad as Antrim and Down.

Lake's activities resulted in many Irish 'patriots' being transported to Botany Bay.

So, true or false, the allegations at the heart of this conflict were part of the context in which the secret societies transported to Australia, including the various Freemasonrys, struck their first roots.

In their new location, they gained sufficient traction for religious differences to remain potent well into the 20th century and thus to cause very deep divisions.

Harland-Jacobs, in her recent book *Builders of Empire*, has concluded that Freemasonry became a Protestant enclave on the basis of this enduring hostility and its reluctance to accept non-British brethren as full members. I conclude that so little research has been done into our heritage that much remains to be sorted out, argued over and absorbed into what will be a new Australian Freemasonry. 



Our new Grand Chaplain

VW Bro Leon Carter OBE has had **an extensive masonic and public life**. He was initiated into Lodge Carlton No 382 on 11 August 1959, elected WM of The Royal Empire Lodge No 613 on 25 October 1984 and was conferred PDGIW on 10 December 2008.


Leon and his wife Ann have two adult children Sally and Charles and live in Sydney, at Kirribilli. Leon was appointed Grand Chaplain three days before the 50th anniversary of his initiation into Lodge Carlton.

He is Chaplain of the Royal Empire Lodge, a foundation member of the Sydney Lodge and had the OBE conferred in 1978.

VW Bro Carter retired from the position of Town Clerk of the City of Sydney in 1992 having acted as General Manager of the city for 19 years. He nominated two Lord Mayors of Sydney into the Craft and served the city under eight Lord Mayors.

He held the office of President of the Australian Institute of Municipal Admin-

istration, was a fellow of the Royal Institute of Public Administration and a fellow of the Australian Institute of Management. Other offices have been Board director of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Sydney, Life Governor of Sydney Hospital and manager of a team of Australian surgeons to travel to China to demonstrate heart surgery techniques. He is also a Director of the Australian Chamber Orchestra and on the Board of Advisors to the Royal College of Music, London.

Leon, who is a member of the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust, is a keen golfer when he has an opportunity to play and is Patron of the Moorebank golf club. He is also highly regarded as a public speaker. 



News from Overseas

Problems are not restricted to any one area. They occur all over the world and Freemasonry is not exempt from having to solve difficulties.

During the past year, a problem developed where the Grand Lodge of New York withdrew recognition of a new lodge consecrated under the Grand Lodge District of Columbia (Washington DC). The problem was partially solved under the arbitration of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America where mutual recognition was re-established.

Paraguay is a small country with a very small Grand Lodge and problems arose between the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Paraguay and the Grand Orient of Paraguay. After outside arbitration, it was resolved the position of Grand Master will be occupied by both Grand Masters for a period of six months each. The new Grand


Master at the end of the term will be elected by all masons in Paraguay regardless of which Grand Lodge in which they are members. The Committee believes this could be the first instance recorded in the world in which two Grand Masters are sharing the Grand Mastership of a Grand Lodge.

In the opinion of the Committee, this perhaps will serve to solve many other problems in the future in other disputes between Grand Lodges. It also highlights the promising effects of outside, formal and unbiased arbitration.

In the past few years there has been a marked worldwide increase of irregular Grand Lodges and the NSW Executive Council is being kept up-to-date on happenings. As the continuing trend in worldwide travel produces increased visits by our members to lodges in other jurisdic-

tions, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence wishes to remind brethren of their obligations to take care when visiting lodges overseas and to contact the Grand Secretary for information before leaving.

In his report to Grand Lodge, chairman RW Bro Juan Alvarez, PAGM, said because of the rapid development in communications, the Committee is preparing Action and Strategic plans involving structural changes. They will not change the system of Representatives of Sister Constitutions but will consist of minor adjustments to reflect the changes in society and to use the advantages of modern technology.

He said the System of Representatives is not new and was born soon after the signing of the International Compact of 1814 by the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland. 



From the Grand Secretary

STRATEGIC PLANNING

In a recent letter to all lodges of this jurisdiction the Grand Master noted that in the Strategic Plan of this Grand Lodge for Craft Freemasonry, one of the key objectives is that we will establish 13 new lodges within two years in various locations throughout NSW and the ACT.

Whilst many of our lodges may appear strong on paper and sustain a considerable base of financial members, the fact is that the active members very often represents less than one third of its overall membership.

The Grand Master acknowledged that it is not fair or reasonable to expect many brethren of advanced years of membership to participate beyond their existing capacity, but at the same time, it must be accepted that the management and continuance of any lodge should not be left

to a small core of brethren within that particular group. Lodges therefore must rely on all members it has to be successful and to be assured of a viable future.

There is no doubt that within the members and ladies of the lodges of this Jurisdiction, there are untapped skills and resources yet to be focused towards the reinvigoration of the lodges and the Craft in general in this Jurisdiction. There is little doubt these qualities are too thinly distributed over a vast area.

No doubt the Freemasons of this Jurisdiction share the same wish for a sustainable Craft, and therefore the Grand Master asks these active Freemasons, regardless of age, to come together and work with him towards the development and consecration of new lodges under the belief that new lodges driven by enthusiasm, creativity and experience of a focused and dedicated attending membership eventually develop and implement the new ideas that are needed to ensure our lodges are places where men want to be and want to bring their family and friends. Participation rates of members within this Jurisdiction are a key performance indicator.

Brethren volunteering for this important project should not feel the need to leave their present lodges, and there is certainly no expectation or desire on the part of the Grand Master that they should do so. However, that final decision will rest with each individual brother depending on his own needs and circumstances, and

any move in that direction would only be made after a two year transition time frame from the commencement of the new lodge until a final decision has been reached.

The Grand Master has requested the Chairman, Board of Management, to commence forming a Steering Committee during the second six months of 2009 in order that some new lodges will be operative before June 2010.

To assist, included with the Grand Master's letter mentioned earlier was an 'Expression of Interest Form' for those who found the proposal appealing, to complete and return to the Grand Secretary without delay. A copy of this brief questionnaire form is available through your Lodge Secretary and as a download on the UGL website.


The form asks a simple 'YES' or 'NO' to the following five (5) questions: I will become a Foundation Member of a new Lodge; I will become a Foundation Officer of a new Lodge; I will join a Steering Committee for a new Lodge; I will be Chairman of a Steering Committee for a new Lodge; I will request information on joining the Grand Lodge Ceremonial Team.

Brethren are encouraged to give this exciting concept serious consideration.

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED

We are extremely grateful to the Publications Committee of the Grand Lodge for this magazine. All members volunteer their services so readily to bring together this fine publication – our *Freemason* magazine.

The workload is not decreasing and the Committee seeks as much assistance as possible from anybody who may have the skills (preferably journalistic or similar) necessary to contribute either on the Committee or by way of assisting it in the preparation of articles and features.

Anybody who may be willing to volunteer their time or services, should write to The Chairman of the Publications Committee (PO Box A259, SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235) with details of their qualifications or experience. 



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EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NEW BUILDERS LODGE

UGLSW & ACT are looking to form a new Lodge to meet in the Castlereagh Street Masonic Centre on the first Thursday of every second month that will be of common interest for brethren from the **Building Industry**. This will include all tradesmen, architects, engineers, developers, builders, contractors ... basically any professional involved in the design, building and construction industries. **If interested, please contact:**

WAYNE BARTON | Cavasinni Constructions | Ph: 9604 9008 | Mob: 0438 273 398
Email: wayne@cavasinniconstructions.com.au

PETER COURT | UGLNSW & ACT | Ph: 9284 2854 | Mob: 0423 707 383
Email: peterc@uglnsw.freemasonry.org.au



Who wouldn't want to sponsor this little girl?

Sally, a 6 year old primary school student who is sponsored through our program, recently wrote to her sponsoring Lodge with her story...

We would like to acknowledge the many Lodges who have supported MYWF during the past financial year. Through their generosity and participation in providing additional funds to our Programs, they have contributed to the 138% increase in the number of primary and secondary school children assisted this past year. **A big THANK YOU to you all.**

Part of this assistance has been due to the amazing support for our **Sponsor a Student Program**. We would like to take this opportunity to ask other Lodges to consider assisting us by pledging annually to this program. The program allows you to communicate with your student(s) and be part of his or her educational years and personal development. We and those taking part by Sponsoring a Student recognise the program as an important investment in the future of Australia.

Region 4 - Hunter Auxiliary AGM

The Masonic Youth Welfare Fund's Region 4 Hunter Auxiliary held its Annual General Meeting on Monday 4th August at Hawkins Masonic Village in Edgeworth. We would like to thank the RFBI for offering the use their facilities once again this year - and to the wonderful ladies of the Auxiliary, thank you for another fabulous dinner prepared for our members. We would also like to welcome W Bro Philip Holden as our new Chairman and RW Bro John Grainger to the position of Secretary.

We have a busy year ahead and the goals we have set could not be achieved without the tireless work and support of our Auxiliaries.

Congratulations to our Trophy Winners

John U Wilson Cup

Lodge Brotherhood of Maitland 1029

VW Bro Lachlan Watkins Trophy

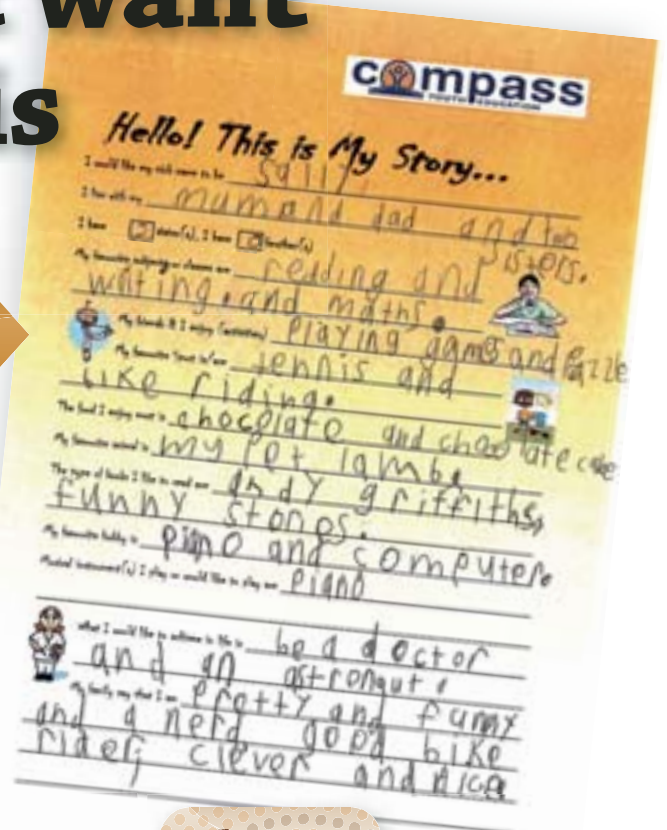
Lodge Brotherhood of Maitland 1029

DN Arkell Cup

Lodge Prince of Wales 102

Region 10 Auxiliary AGM

will be held on Thursday 13th August 2009.



New Logo

Announcing our brand new logo! Masonic Youth Welfare Fund is entering its next phase in growing its awareness of the Charity to assist more disadvantaged young Australians.



New Address

The Fund was very fortunate to receive an offer to purchase its premises on the 11th floor at 370 Pitt Street. This enabled us to move to a larger office space providing better facilities in the same building.



**We have moved to Level 7
370 Pitt Street, Sydney**

Barinya

Region 6 contributed its most appreciated support for the Masonic Youth Welfare Fund through its fundraising efforts in north west NSW this past year.

The Lodges' initial contribution supported the **Compass Youth Education** children and with the success of receiving a **masoniCare InterAction Grant**, the children on the **Barinya** Program in Gunnedah were given a great kickstart to their education.

We cannot express our gratitude for this type of support, as our application numbers have doubled in recent times and the Fund wishes to give as many children as possible that vital **Start In Life**.



Masonic Youth Welfare fund





Alison Martyr

A proper database is essential to the **smooth running of any organization** and Alison Martyr as the Membership Database Administrator is **the guiding hand** at Grand Lodge.

Alison was born at Muswellbrook in NSW where she completed primary and high school and progressed to the College of Advanced Education at Newcastle to study for a Diploma of Education.

In her four years at Grand Lodge, she has changed a few areas on the database but says it's a reasonably simple system. She tries to make sure the database is working correctly and that the information is correct. Her role is to give information to callers but sometimes it requires permission of the Grand Secretary because of privacy laws.

'In my previous job, I worked in logistics and purchasing for a company which sold fertilisers and chemicals to golf


courses and bowling greens. It was all database work but now it's with people instead of fertilisers,' she said.

'Most of the people here have been very nice and it didn't take me long to settle down although it was a bit confusing at the start because it was Grand Installation time. My advice to callers is to have the certificate or membership number ready because it makes it easier to check and get the required information.'

Alison's hobbies are cooking, sewing and paper craft such as making her own cards and scrap books. She also likes to make her own clothes but her sewing machine has broken down and future work will have to wait until it is repaired. She often cooks for family and friends and



has been watching *Masterchef* with the thought of going on the website to look at recipes.

Her main exercise is walking and pool swimming when she has time. 


Forum follow-up

JUST A FEW MONTHS after its launch our Forum has attracted a large number of participative brethren. The Forum is a website where every current member of our jurisdiction can express their ideas and have friendly discussions with other members. It has become the best channel of communication between brethren from all corners of NSW and ACT.

'Congratulations on an excellent forum. I am sure it will take off. The idea of having forums for every lodge/district etc is truly excellent. I don't think anything needs to be changed with this setup - you have nailed it first go!' said Bro Michael Scarlett from Lodge Merewether - Cardiff 576.

'Forum is a fantastic idea. A real means of communication. A great leveller and tool to share information from country to city and vice versa.' W Bro Shayne Medcalf, Lodge Ibis 361.

At time of publication, the Forum had about 400 registered members and 1,300 posts.

It was created and developed as an initiative of Bro Christian Bullow, member of the 20/20 Masons and Bro Frank Smolle from Lodge Canoblas Lewis 806, 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. 

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- ⚔ WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF THE VIGIL?
- ⚔ OR OF BEING A SQUIRE?
- ⚔ OR OF EVENTUALLY, ACHIEVING KNIGHTHOOD?

The modern Knights Templar and Knights of Malta steadfastly maintain the Trinitarian Christian Faith and the principles and ideals of Freemasonry – along with the chivalric standards, military discipline and objectives of the mediaeval Knights of the Crusades.

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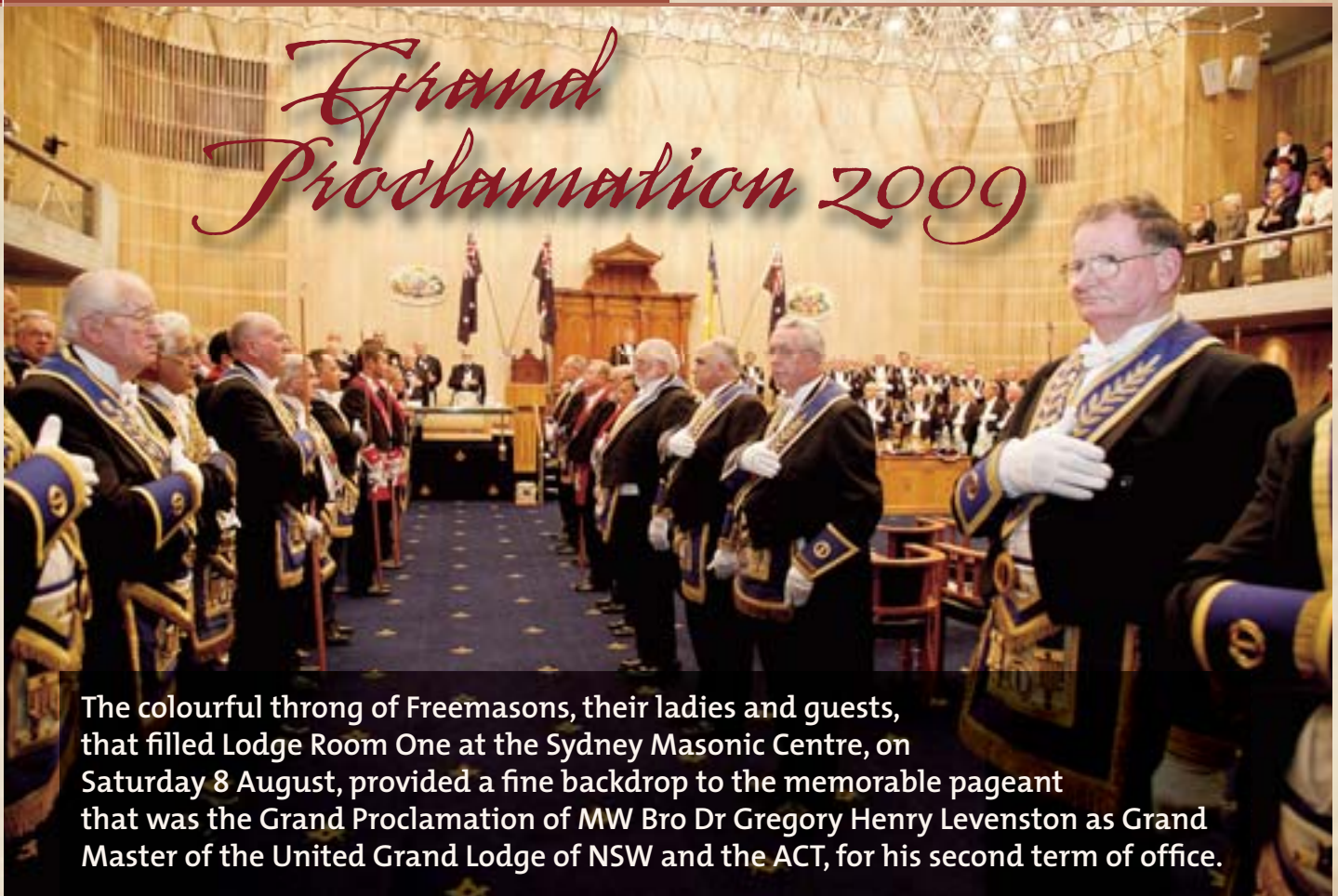


The Great Priory of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory

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



Grand Proclamation 2009



The colourful throng of Freemasons, their ladies and guests, that filled Lodge Room One at the Sydney Masonic Centre, on Saturday 8 August, provided a fine backdrop to the memorable pageant that was the Grand Proclamation of MW Bro Dr Gregory Henry Levenston as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of NSW and the ACT, for his second term of office.

From the Grand Master's formal entry to the lodge room to the stately strains of John Stanley's Trumpet Tune, ably performed by VW Bro Ian Cox, GDM, and the Grand Organist, VW Bro David Coburn, and throughout the entire ceremony, the watchword was 'Harmony'.

The Grand Chaplain, RW Bro Rabbi Dr Samuel Hay Tov-Lev, evoked the same spirit of harmony in his opening prayer, and this very masonic word was to recur all through the evening.

With the Grand Lodge duly opened in Ample Form, a fanfare preceded reception of The Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Most Powerful Brother Peter Straw, 33°, and The First Grand Principal and Grand Master of the United Supreme Grand Chapter Mark and Royal Arch Masons of NSW and the ACT, Most Excellent Companion Greg Mason, who were each warmly welcomed by the Grand Master.

In welcoming the entire assembly, the Grand Master made a point of asking all Entered Apprentices and all Fellowcraft present to stand, telling them

'You are the future of the Craft'.

The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the United Grand Lodge of NSW and the ACT, and the Freemasons' Association which followed, marked the celebration and reaffirmation of a close relationship which goes back 100 years.

Following the Proclamation of the Grand Master by the Grand Director of Ceremonies, RW Bro Peter Read, the Masonic Ensemble, under the direction of VW Bro Ian Cox, performed a setting of the poem 'If', by that famous Freemason, Bro Rudyard Kipling, adding even more harmony to the occasion.

The Grand Master then announced the appointment of RW Bro Derek Robson, AM, PDGM, as Deputy Grand Master and RW Bro James Melville, PSGW, as Assistant Grand Master, and escorted by their Sponsors, MW Bro Anthony Lauer, PGM, and MW Bro Raymond Brooke, PGM, these worthy brethren were duly Invested and congratulated by the Grand Master.

The Investiture of RW Bro Peter Read, GDC, and VW Bro Dennis Balmond, AGDC, as Senior Grand Warden and


Junior Grand Warden respectively, was followed by the Investiture and Proclamation of all remaining Grand Officers.

In accordance with tradition, all Grand Officers were afforded appropriate Grand Honours, providing a memorable spectacle for those guests in the audience not used to the sight.

The Address to the Brethren was given at short notice by W Bro Ned Mannoun, Grand Steward.

MW Bro Noel Dunn, OAM, PGM, the Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Australia and the Northern Territory, extended greetings on behalf of the Representatives of Sister Grand Lodges, which was responded to by the Grand Master.

The Grand Master's Address underlined the vital importance of new members to the continuation of the Craft and the progress being made in this direction by new lodges and young members, such as the 20/20 Masons.

Following the Grand Proclamation, over 300 masons, their ladies and guests attended the Disaster Relief Fund Charity Dinner. 

Fanfair, fundraising and fun



If you weren't at the Disaster Relief Fund Charity Dinner on Saturday 8 August, you missed an extravaganza of fun, entertainment and fundraising the likes of which have not previously been associated with the Proclamation of a Grand Master in this jurisdiction.

The night was a lively contrast to the pomp and ceremony of the earlier Proclamation and provided an opportunity for the packed banquet hall of masons, wives, partners and families to simply have fun. Speeches and toasts were short and kept to a minimum with the emphasis clearly on the entertainment.

Silent auctions and raffles together with professionally conducted live auctions formed the fund raising side of the Dinner and together with the generous donations by many masons and commercial enterprises, resulted in a total of \$40,000 being raised for the NSW Freemasons Disaster Relief Fund. This was presented to the Grand Master by the President of the Freemasons' Association, RW Bro Walid Mehanna PSGW.

The Dinner was organised and hosted by the Association which has been designated as the social arm of Freemasonry in an historic signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Association and Grand Lodge during the Proclamation Ceremony earlier in the evening.

The Association is indebted to the many sponsors who provided gifts for the auctions and raffles. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to the many donors who contributed to the success of the evening.

Members of the organising Committee also wish to thank the 340 masons, families and friends who attended the Dinner for their support and at the same time apologizes to those who were unable to obtain a ticket.



An historic occasion for Freemasonry



It was an historic occasion for Freemasons in this Jurisdiction when, at the Proclamation of the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Henry Levenston, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between The Freemasons' Association (NSW & ACT) Incorporated and the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

The document was signed in the presence of more than 350 masons, their wives, partners and families following the reception of the Heads of Other Orders

and prior to the Investiture of Officers.

The document acknowledges the Association as the social arm of Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction and it was in this role that it organised and hosted the extraordinarily successful Disaster Relief Fund Charity Dinner which followed the Proclamation and which is reported above (and further photos on our back cover).

Under the Presidency of RW Bro Mehanna and in addition to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Association has changed its name to reflect the fact that it is now open to all Freemasons, has admitted the wives and partners of masons and widows of former masons as members. The signing of the document marks the culmination of a truly remarkable and innovative year for Freemasons and the Freemasons' Association (NSW & ACT) Incorporated.

For more information about membership to the Freemasons' Association, please contact Dr Yvonne McIntyre on (02) 9284 2844 or email: yvonnem@uglnsw.freemasonry.org.au

Grand Pr



GRAND OFFICE

Grand Master MW Bro Dr G H Levenston
Deputy Grand Master RW Bro D J Robson AM
Assistant Grand Master RW Bro J R Melville
Senior Grand Warden RW Bro P Read
Junior Grand Warden RW Bro D B C Balmond
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Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
 VW Bro P M Ratcliff
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
 VW Bro R J Webb
Senior Grand Deacon W Bro F Pamplona
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Proclamation



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Grand Organist VW Bro D M Coburn
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Grand Herald Bro B J Randall
Grand Pursuivant W Bro C I Wattle
Deputy Grand Pursuivant Bro R K Murray
Grand Steward VW Bro B G Maples

Grand Steward W Bro R J Thrift
Grand Steward W Bro L B Smith
Grand Steward W Bro P A Bennett
Grand Steward W Bro J B Bertram
Grand Steward W Bro K Lee
Grand Steward W Bro G B Greenaway
Grand Steward W Bro B Akpinar
Grand Steward W Bro N K Mannoun
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 MW Bro R L H Johnson AM
Chairman, Board of Management
 RW Bro S M Green



The Grand Master's Address delivered at the Grand Proclamation 8 August 2009

Distinguished Masons,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Brethren all,

I offer the warmest of welcomes to you all, and thank you on behalf of Judith and me, for your good wishes and support. It is my pleasure and privilege to sit in this Chair, and look out on such a fine audience, such familiar faces and see the resolve in your faces to 'take longer strides' for the good of Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction in the next year.

The first 12 months of my Grand Mastership and administration has passed both quickly and slowly. But before a review, let me thank specific groups for their input and counsel and friendship: RW Bro Paul Fletcher, my first Deputy Grand Master, and Susan; RW Bro Barrie Wild, my first Assistant Grand Master and Jacky; and RW Bro Peter Read, my first Grand Director of Ceremonies and Mary; the Past Grand Masters group; the Executive Council and the Boards of this Grand Lodge; the Ceremonial Team as a whole; the Freemasons Association; the Women's Advisory Committee; and all our 20/20 Masons; the Grand Secretariat and the Sydney Masonic Centre staff.

Last but not least, the masons and families of this Jurisdiction, that Judith and I have had the pleasure of meeting at the many events, conferences and lodge nights that we have enjoyed throughout the year.

The Grand Master's role is technical, constitutional, organizational, regulatory, but above all, most enjoyable at a personal level. And in that first twelve months, we have come to know each other very well. There is a depth of understanding at the organizational and personal level appreciated by both sides. And I make this particular point, you having taken the opportunity to elect me unopposed to this second term, there is a corollary, I would go so far as to say, an expectation, that as masons you will follow me in the decision making that lies ahead.

These times are very demanding, very difficult. As individuals, lodges, districts and regions, I ask you to be involved in all issues. Register your interest, demand



L-R: RW Bro Derek Robson AM DGM with wife Cheryl seated in front; the Grand Master and partner Judith Morrice; RW Bro Jamie Melville AGM and wife Kristi; RW Bro Douglas Grigg GDC and wife Anne.

to be heard, contribute positively, and take an ownership of where you want yourselves and this organization to be in the next five years.

If a 'community' is to be filled with people who feel integrated into the program and activities, and if that organization is to thrive well into the future, then such prosperity happens because leaders and in this case, you as masons and our ladies, work together to recognize and realize a vision for their organization.

To appreciate that future, let me summarize and review the last year. At the same time I draw your attention to a more detailed presentation in the current Freemason magazine.

The positives:

- The cascading Strategic Plan involving all masons through the lodges, allowing

a 'think tank' of ideas for development, for our Boards to utilize.

- Signs of confidence in our future, with new lodges, new buildings and 600 new masons. (Not members brethren, but masons).
- The expansion of our 20/20 program, the Women's Advisory Committee and the Freemasons Association encouraging involvement and a culture of belonging.
- The progress in the building rationalization program engineered and guided by the Grand Master's Building Taskforce, chaired by RW Bro Paul Fletcher.
- Forums of commonality, including Associated Orders, Charities and the website Freemasons Forum.
- The overwhelming positive response by

our masons and communities to the twelve Regional Conferences held to date.

- The fully funded membership development program, 'It's time to talk', and the Image and Marketing programme, in part related to the release of the new Dan Brown book, titled *The Lost Symbol*. This is to be seen in context with our renewed Civic re-engagement program, which is gaining traction at many levels.



- And the magnificent contribution made by this Jurisdiction to Victorian Freemasons for the relief of the Victorian Bush Fire Disaster – \$105,000. Truly marvellous. Well done.

And to those brethren who say 'Don't worry, if we stay quiet, given time, this Grand Master will be gone, and we can then relax and go back to how it was' – WRONG. We, as an organization, have not a moment to lose. The foot is flat to the floor in this next 12 months. One in – all in.

And for balance, a time to reflect on the negatives of the last 12 months:

- Our total membership continues to decline and we have lost lodges.
- Capitation continues to rise as we move away from subsidy.
- We still communicate poorly as an organization in the 21st Century and I am asking our *Freemason* magazine to further assist in this regard.
- There is a resistance to change at all levels, and here the key is better communication and information.
- Governance streamlining and efficiencies are not yet completed.

So what lies ahead in these difficult, yet interesting times? New masons, new lodges, sustainable buildings!

- Our planning and actions need to be decisive and far reaching.
- Our culture of change needs to be further explained and by doing so, further encourage all our masons to take ownership, for the benefit of the next generation.
- I call for co-operative Regionalism in this Jurisdiction, within Australia and New Zealand and Asia Pacific.
- Issues of growth will include Education and Membership, and my belief that

these two issues are intrinsically related to our future. In relation to Education I have invited the following brethren to develop a five year syllabus for this Jurisdiction. They are Brothers Richard Dawes, Dr Frank Radcliff, Ian McCulloch, Grahame Cumming, Joseph Haffner, Geoffrey Lamb, Norman Garland, Robert James and Glyn Williams. In relation to Membership I have invited the following to join the Grand Master's Membership Forum as an extension of the Membership Chair on the Board of Management. This Forum will be Chaired by the Deputy Grand Master RW Bro Derek Robson and include Brothers Glenn Eley, Peter Lazar, Robert Peattie, Anthony Eden, Christopher Craven, Richard Barrington-Knight and Mrs Noha Sayed. I reiterate our future depends on these twin pillars.

Other issues are:

- Regional and District re-modeling, re-invigorating the Men's Health Program and increasing the profile and importance of masonic music in our own lives and that of the community.
- In relation to the Women's Advisory Committee, Judith has reported the following issues brought up by women across this Jurisdiction.
 - i) They would like to have one woman on the Lodge Nominations Committee if wife or partner is involved;
 - ii) Ladies would like to respond to the 'toast to the Ladies';
 - iii) Ladies like masonic honours, and would also like words to lodges' visitors toast;
 - iv) The Ladies would like 'pink' sheets to be inserted in notice papers to let them know what is happening;

- v) The Widows would like to be included on the lodge membership lists, with their permission, therefore maintaining contact with the other ladies and the lodge and referred to the Masonic Widows Association.

I also ask you to look out for announcements soon on our planned trip to the Holy Land in October 2010.

Finally I call for our leaders to **lead**, and take these hard decisions at all levels. And I call for

all our masons to be involved and contribute their enthusiasm and passion for the good of Freemasonry.

It will take at least five years to complete this transformation and let our Jurisdiction match its performance with its great history, and give you, the masons of NSW & ACT, what you want and deserve. It is time to do it. I am just one of 13,000 masons who has a stake. To return to those halcyon days, we have to do it together.

I leave you with a point of reflection.

1717 formalized a 'Great Idea' – a fraternal chain. An institution that educates to dialogue, that makes it possible for men from different cultures and religions to speak to each other, understanding each other, that opposes fundamentalisms without being fundamentalist and that it is never ready to withdraw into dogmatism.

This Great Idea is still Freemasonry. And I quote the Grand Master, MW Bro Gustavo Raffi, of the Grande Oriente d'Italia:

It appears as a union, a crucible of new ideas, a source of friendship, based on freedom and tolerance, and especially by virtue of trust. Speaking to another man you have never seen before and telling him, in the same spirit, and with the feeling of our ritual and ceremony 'You are my brother'.

Friends and brethren, our second year begins. Know yourselves, your organization and your aspiration. With both hands, and your hearts and minds, let us stake a claim on that future together, as BROTHERS, and shine some light into your own lives, and the lives of others. My theme, 'Freemasonry at the heart of life' continues.

This is not the time to say, 'We can do', but a time to say, 'We will do.'



Meet the new DGM and AGM

RW Bro Derek Robson AM

Derek James Robson AM, was born in Wellington, New Zealand in 1947. He completed his early schooling in Victoria before joining the Royal Australian Navy in 1963 as an apprentice at HMAS Nirimba. He trained as a shipwright and later served in various shore establishments including HMAS Tarangau at Manus Island. He also had sea service in HMAS Sydney, HMAS Melbourne and HMAS Stalwart.

Derek was selected for commissioned rank in 1976 and attended courses at the Royal Naval Staff College, Greenwich, London, and the Royal Naval Engineering College Manadon in Plymouth UK, before returning to Australia to complete training as a Marine Engineer Officer in 1977.

As a Lieutenant, he served as an Engineer Officer in HMAS Melbourne from 1977 to 1980 before posting back to HMAS Nirimba as Training Development Officer and an exchange posting to New Zealand's apprentice training establishment, HMNZS Tamaki. In 1981, he served as Senior Engineer in HMAS Torrens and in 1982, posted to Navy Office Canberra in the Directorate of Naval Training.

He was promoted to Lieutenant Commander in December 1985 and served as the Marine Engineer Officer in the modernised HMAS Derwent prior to returning to Navy Office in 1987 as the Deputy Director Engineering, responsible for managing ship refit packages. Promoted to Commander in December 1987, he served as Deputy Director Defence Technical Staff (responsible mainly for the storage of fuels and lubricants) and as the Marine Engineer Officer in HMAS Paramatta. In 1989, he became Assistant Director Naval Officers' Postings, responsible for the postings and promotions of all officers up to Commander rank. He then served as Commanding Officer, HMAS Kuttabul from 1991 to 1994.

Later in 1994, he served as the Navy's representative on the working party leading to the very successful Defence Efficiency Review.

In November 1994, Derek had a complete change of career when he was appointed as National Secretary (Chief



Executive Officer) of the Returned & Services League of Australia.

In conjunction with his employment, Derek is also the Executive Director of the Australian Forces Overseas Fund, which provides comforts and amenities to all Australian Defence personnel serving overseas, and Chairman of the National RSL Clubs and Licenced Sub-Branch Forum. Privately, he is a Director of Operation Care, a company formed to provide holiday respite for families of wounded servicemen following their rehabilitation. He is also a member of the Department of Veterans' Affairs Regional Memorials and Commemorative Grants Committee and of the 'RSL ANZAC of the Year' National Committee.

RW Bro Robson joined Freemasonry on 19 December 1978 in Lodge Prosperity Lewis No 474, then meeting at Summer Hill in Sydney. He is now a member of Lodge Canberra No 465, where he has served the office of Worshipful Master on two occasions, and Lodge Gowrie No 715. He was elected District Grand Inspector of Workings for District 103 in 2000, the Board of Management of Grand Lodge in



2003, and Assistant Grand Master in 2004.

He has always had some involvement in community activities. While a member of the Rotary Club of Kings Cross, he organised the Rotary commitment to the Sydney Harbour Tunnel Walk in August 1992, a project which raised over \$400,000 for charity. He served as President of the Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin and was named as a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International in 1993. He now serves on the Committee of the Order of Australia Association (ACT).

Over the years, Derek and Cheryl have been blessed with three wonderful children, Jodie, Kylie and Christopher.

RW Bro Robson became a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the Queen's Birthday 2004 Honours List.

RW Bro Jamie Melville

Jamie Melville was born in Sydney and lived in the Peakhurst area. Jamie is the youngest of four children to Bill and Aileen. Growing up, Jamie was involved in the local soccer and cricket clubs, judo



and the local Scout group. He was educated in Peakhurst West Primary and then went to Peakhurst High School which he left in 1985.

Following in his father's footsteps, he began an electrical trades course with Email Westinghouse then left to gain more experience with various electrical contracting companies. After deciding on a career change Jamie left the electrical trade to work in sales, where he pursued a career in the transport industry. After a few years an opportunity became available to get back into the electrical industry with a sales job with Clipsal, where Jamie has been for the last three years.


Jamie is married to Kristi and they live in the Padstow area where they have been for the past four years. Kristi is an accountant and looks forward to supporting Jamie in his new role.

Jamie first became aware of Freemasonry through his involvement in the Scouting movement, mainly as a Rover and Scout Leader and the awards nights Lodge Baden Powell hosted with local Rover Crews.

A close family friend, RW Bro Bruce Munro introduced Jamie to Lodge Sylvania (Lodge of Excellence) through an open night, and in August 1992, Jamie joined the lodge. He progressed through the various positions and in April 1998, RW Bro Munro installed Jamie into the chair of King Solomon where he served as Worshipful Master for two years.

Jamie then joined the Ceremonial Team in 2002 as a Grand Steward and progressed through the Ceremonial Team to become Senior Grand Warden in 2007 and would recommend this journey to any Past Master who has a good understanding of our ritual.

Jamie is a member of Lodge Castlereagh and the Grand Stewards' Lodge. He is also a member of the Grand Lodge Demonstration Team, Private Lodges Committee and the Freemasons' Association.

As Assistant Grand Master, one of his main responsibilities will be working with our younger masons called 20/20. Jamie looks forward to working with this group of brethren and would encourage those who wish to get involved at a Grand Lodge, Regional or District level to contact him or the Grand Secretary. 

Q&A


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

Is Masonry some type of cult?

Masonry is neither a cult, religion or secret organisation. It is a code for living based on moral, spiritual and ethical standards. It serves to demonstrate a standard which will have a beneficial and constructive effect on others and works towards a better and more peaceful life. It is open to members of all religions who believe in a Supreme Being. Books on the organisation can be freely bought and the public is welcome, without hassle, to visit Masonic Centres. It is a brotherhood of faith and work where heart and hand are united in peace and harmony.

regional group of lodges is called a 'District'. For administration purposes, there is a central organisation in each State known as the Grand Lodge which is responsible for the wellbeing and progress of the Craft.

Why don't you have women members?

There are other organisations which are strictly for women and we agree with and support their right to have 'women-only' members. We feel confident that they, and other well-informed people, would support our right to exist as we do. At the same time, there are women's masonic groups who meet on a regular basis, women often join their male members at the dinner table and increasingly are taking a more hands-on role in lodge activities. 

How is the organisation structured?

Each local 'lodge' draws its members, essentially from a local community, where it has monthly meetings. A

HOLDEN CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT

Are you an 18° Mason?

Have you seen the 4th to the 17th degrees worked?
Would you like to help work these degrees?

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

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

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





Meet our new RGCs

Region 1: RW Bro Malcolm Stradwick RGC (B5)

Theme: Making Masons and Keeping Members

The RGC, DGIWs, Lodge Officers and members and their partners will be aiming to maximise enjoyment of their Freemasonry while maintaining the dignity of both their ceremonies and protocol at the Festive Board.

Let's keep tradition as long as it doesn't impede progress. With enthusiasm and enjoyment as the forces behind us, increase in membership and retention of members will consequently follow.

REGION 2: RW Bro Graham Painton RGC (B3)

Theme: Strengthen and Involve

Following the 'Making and Keeping Masons Process', Regional and District Teams will encourage lodges to strengthen Management, Membership and Educational Functions:

- Three-year Operational/Succession Plans
- 'New Member Introduction' procedure
- Mentor with Candidate follows two-year 'Degree Development' Programs
- Enthuse all brethren to participate in proceedings

Each District Association needs to meet monthly, and to appoint, inter alia, a District Membership Officer and a District Education Officer to increase communication and lodge involvement/activity.

REGION 3: RW Bro Nigel Hamilton RGC (B2)

Theme: Freemasonry in your community

My first function is to get an exact perspective on how the Region's accountabilities are being filtered down through the current structures. A series of early workshops will start to get the proper statistics on active membership, masonic education and generate public awareness to attract new membership to the Craft. We need to build sustainable values and to focus on reducing the call off rate dramatically!

REGION 4: RW Bro Graham Pretty RGC (B1)

Theme: Communicate and Grow

Freemasons generally do not communicate well and this is one of the reasons that members of the public still consider us a Secret Society.

The RGC and DGIWs will work closely with all brethren in the region and with the Grand Lodge Image and Marketing Committee to ensure that members of the public know who we are and what we do.

Mentoring of all candidates, officers and brethren will be high on the list of priorities together with the continuation of the very successful education program. Men's Health, masoniCare, the formation of new lodges and the provision of safe and comfortable meeting places will also be on the agenda.

REGION 5: RW Bro Bruce Arnol RGC (absent)

Theme: Freemasonry – At the heart of our communities

Our objectives will be to ensure that lodges in Region 5 promote Freemasonry in their community by supporting and promoting noteworthy local activities.

I have accepted a presentation from District 51, based on Port Macquarie to host the 2010 Region Conference with the provisional dates of 15–16 May 2010.

The Coffs Coast Masons in District 52 have a major raffle in progress with major prizes of a Holden Colorado and a Stacer Easy Rider boat and trailer with the target of raising \$100,000 to support Cancer Clinic patients and their families. The raffle will be drawn at a Grand Charity Ball on Saturday 26 June 2010.

REGION 6: RW Bro Karl Toovey PJGW (F5)

Theme: Freemasonry Can Help You Make a Difference

Education and Training, Agquip Membership Promotion and our interaction with masoniCare charitable projects has increased community awareness and presented Freemasonry in the New England North West as a quality organisation, mak-

ing a difference, and relevant to today's society.

We are going to improve our communication methods with the introduction of Webex, a computer program that will enable us to be part of meetings, training courses and communications broadcast from Grand Lodge.

Special events such as Agquip and the Regional Conference will continue and are planned to bring us together as Regional Masons, one family, working to achieve the common goal of attracting candidates who will strengthen our membership.

REGION 7: RW Bro Lex Bramble PJGW (F7)

Theme: Freemasonry on the revival

A strategic plan has been set to be achieved within the next 12 months for all lodges in the region. The plan is to increase membership and each DGIW will be writing his own strategic plan for his particular district.

As a region all lodges will assist with fundraising for the Masonic Charities with some lodges also assisting local charities.

With the DGIWs I will be looking for projects for masoniCare to assist both as a region and district and we will also encourage lodges to seek presentations of 40, 50 and 60 year certificates and jewels.

REGION 8: RW Bro Rick Allen PJGW (B7)

Theme: Freemasonry at the heart of life: keep the heart of our Craft beating

To 'keep the heart of our Craft beating', we must ensure that we recruit and retain brethren who will be leading our Craft in the year 2020 and beyond. Region 8 has invited all of the younger brethren from this Region to an 'Under 40s Forum'. There is considerable overlap between these two groups and they complement each other.

My highest priority is to consolidate our 20/20 Masons/Under 40s Forum Network, so that leaders of the future can meet and share experiences, and so expand their vision of the Craft. A second objective is to help our lodges provide programs and mentoring that encourage



brethren to maintain the high priority given to that part of their valuable time spent in attendance at our meetings.

REGION 9: RW Bro Gregg Summerhayes RGC (F1)

Theme: Freemasonry – Towards the future

I look forward to meeting the challenge of forwarding the interests, and nurturing the future of Freemasonry in Region 9 and sustaining and expanding upon the Education and Training initiatives which have been implemented by the previous RGCs and Regional Education Officers.

REGION 10: RW Bro Graham Charlton PJGW (B4)

Theme: Masonry, too good to lose

My vision is to see a return of the organisation I joined in 1981 when lodges had a greater membership base, a waiting list to occupy the offices, a dedication for good ritual, a great mentoring system to guide new masons through each degree and an example given by each WM and senior mason on lodge dignity and operation.

Work is proceeding on the Strategic Plan and instructional talks will be available on Leadership, Business Management, Delivering Charges, Ceremonial Performance and Fellowship in the South.

A unit will be established for information technology and lodge websites. Six lodges in this region are committed to

having their own website and it's hoped to have all lodges on line within a reasonable time.

REGION 11: RW Bro Neil Atkins PJGW (F2)

Theme: Sharing the Vision

My aim is to harness the energy and commitment of the management team and brethren of the region in order to build on the fine work so far achieved.

We will focus on breathing life into the downward integration of the Strategic Plan and issues such as communication, retention of members and masonic education will be targeted with 20/20 Masons encouraged to play a key role.

Naturally we will aim to raise the profile of Freemasonry in the community and encourage further co-operation with the various Masonic Orders.

Above all we will continue to strive to make Freemasonry relevant and an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all and seek to provide an environment under which all may realise their full potential as TOFs (Totally Obligated Freemasons).

REGION 12: RW Bro Robert Searle PJGW (B6)

Theme: Planning – The Lifeline to the Future

Region 12 is very progressive and has a real air of excitement and expectation. There is a high proportion of younger

RGCs can be identified by their row (F–Front or B–Back) and their numerical position from left. Also present are RW Bro Stephen Green, Chairman Board of Management (F4) and RW Bro Glyn Williams, Chairman of Operations (F3).

masons within the region, Initiates are joining and a number of new lodges have been consecrated in the last few years. The Regional Conference is planned for Wednesday 24 September at 7.00pm in Lodge Room 1 at the SMC.

I look forward to the role of RGC with anticipation and the certainty that I will gain much enjoyment from the office. I will be working hard to impart some of my vision for the future to the brethren and am confident they will share the journey with me.

REGION 13: RW Bro Tony Punzet RGC (F6)

Theme: Keeping the Bush Craft Alive

This Region represents 'Masonry in the Outback' where travelling plays a big role.

The brethren of the region have developed a unique style of practicing Freemasonry, which is one of the many attributes that they have. Years of drought, shifting populations from country to the metropolitan areas, are just some of the challenges they encounter. But with the support of the DGIWs and the brethren, we will continue to promote Freemasonry, so it can grow and prosper well into the future for our region.



The visual jigsaw puzzle: *photo composition*

With the **point and shoot digital cameras** of today, all the high tech stuff of exposure, focusing, ASA settings, colour balance etc is taken care of, but the one thing that the camera won't do is compose the picture. To take a **technically perfect photo** has become easy but **what about the picture itself?**

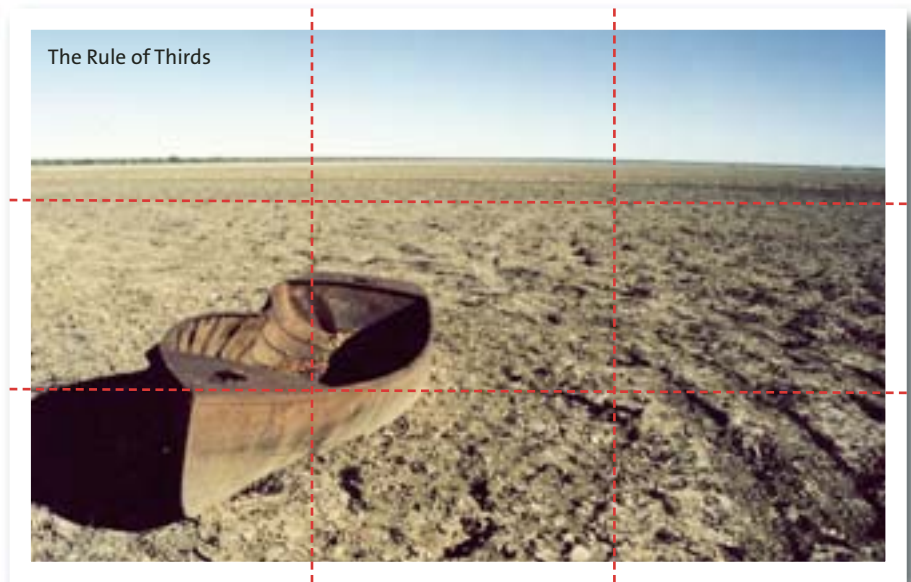
A good analogy is to think of a photo as a jigsaw puzzle with elements which require placing in the right position if we want the finished item to make sense, appear well structured, and feel complete. If we place the pieces in any old position we will almost certainly end up with a muddled mess of coloured shapes with detail which is visually confusing – albeit well exposed and nicely in focus! The following tips might help with the construction of your next visual jigsaw puzzle.

Think about your picture

Don't just pick up your camera, point it at the subject and press the button. Slow down and give yourself time to think.



WHOOOPS! Not a good time to press the button.



Ask yourself, what is the subject, why am I taking this photo, what is it about, what will it say, what makes it worth taking, how do I want people to feel about the subject, what distractions are there. The questions are endless but the answers will lead you into the world of better composition and attractive photos that will suddenly have meaning and a message.

How often we see a picture submitted for use in this magazine of a fellow Craft member with a pot plant apparently growing out of his head! Think about the picture before you press the button.

The Rule of Thirds

Used by painters and photographers alike, this is perhaps the oldest compositional ploy in the book. The majority of amateur photographers appear to have an uncontrollable urge to place the subject right in the centre of their frame which may occasionally work but is more likely to render

the picture static and lifeless. A much better approach is to use two imaginary lines dividing the viewfinder into thirds (either vertically or horizontally) and place the subject on or close to one of those lines. An horizon placed across the centre of the picture cuts the view in half and leaves the sky fighting with the ground for emphasis. A more dynamic sense of balance will be achieved if the horizon is placed a third of the way from either the top or the bottom of the photo. Have a look at the photo above and see what you think.

Format

Never be afraid to turn the camera on its side. The vertical (or portrait) format adds excitement to a picture by emphasizing height and vertical lines. A river snaking away into the distance is given more depth, a skyscraper becomes that much taller and a monument more imposing.



How much more imposing Tubal Cain looks in the portrait format below.



The horizontal format is better suited to subjects that tend to stretch across the picture and is usually favoured by landscape photographers because it is perhaps more restful and complements the horizon. The key to choosing the correct format is to make sure that it adds to the overall composition by reflecting the nature of the subject matter. If in doubt, try looking at a composition both ways before pressing the button.

Foreground Interest

Scenic pictures are greatly improved by the inclusion of something in the foreground. Anything will do, a rock, a fence post, a small shrub, a gate, a log. These will create a sense of depth and scale which draws the picture together. Foreground props work best with those scenic photos which might otherwise become flat and bland. Be careful that your chosen prop doesn't become a distraction and



How much more interesting the lower picture appears courtesy a little foreground interest!

don't forget the rule of thirds!

In the next Freemason we will take a look at three more composition tips. Happy snapping. 📷



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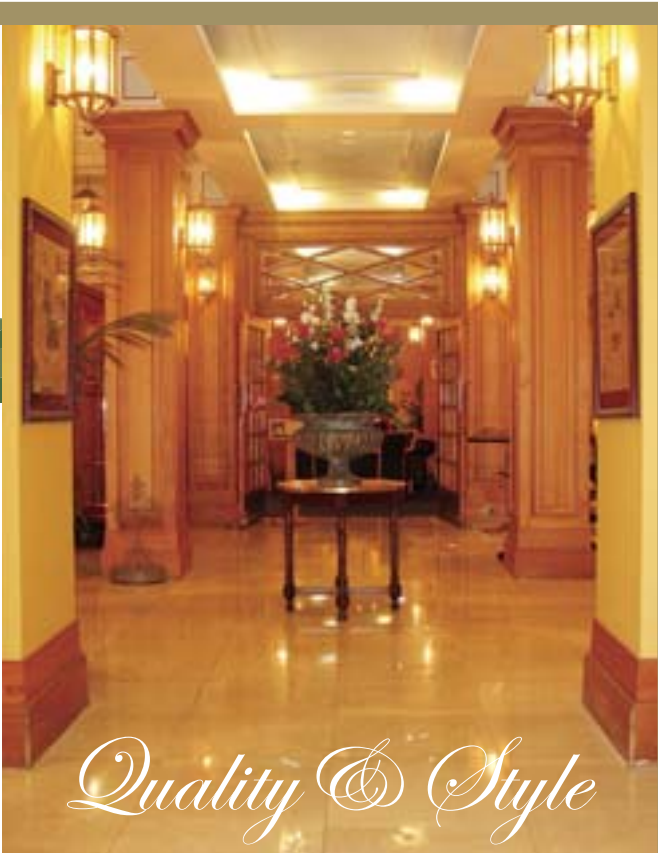
Since 1926, the Castlereagh has been home to the New South Wales Masonic Club. Described as the best kept secret in Sydney, the Club currently has 3,000 members who enjoy the magnificence of this unique heritage listed building.

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



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Passing of a legend

The nation was saddened by the recent death of an **Australian acting legend**, decorated World War II pilot and loving family man. What is not so widely known is that **Charles 'Bud' Tingwell AM** was also a committed Freemason, receiving his Fifty Year Certificate in 2000.

He was initiated into Lodge Carinya No 719 on 27 January 1950 and through consolidations became a member of Lodge John Williams No 148 in Sydney's east. He remained a subscribing member for the rest of his life.

Born on 3 January 1923, little Charles William was always known as 'Bud', a legacy of the Coogee Surf Club: 'What's budding in there?' and 'How's the bud?' teased his pregnant mother's friends.

Bud grew up happily in Coogee, apparently unaware of the struggles his parents endured during the Depression years. 'The pictures' and listening to radio offered much family entertainment, and with his father's encouragement, teenage Bud applied successfully for a job with 2CH, Sydney's leading commercial radio station, becoming the youngest radio announcer in Australia.

When seventeen-year-old Bud met Audrey Wilson, the beautiful 'love of his life', at a family Christmas party in December 1940 he was smitten. The two became engaged the following year, eventually marrying at Maroubra in 1951.

Bud enlisted in the RAAF in 1941. Training in Canada, he obviously revelled in his flying: 'We got to fly fabulous aeroplanes!' Despite a mishap with a Harvard trainer, he became an accomplished pilot, and was endorsed on the Bristol Blenheim, Beaufighter, Mosquito, Hurricane, and the Spitfire.

Posted to No. 680 Squadron RAF, Bud worked in photo reconnaissance in the Middle East, flying 75 operational sorties. Towards the end of the war he was transferred back to Australia and continued in reconnaissance flying Mosquitoes over the Dutch East Indies (Indonesia). By demobilisation in 1946, he had been promoted to Flight Lieutenant and was awarded the



1939–45 Star, Italy Star and Defence Medal. Bud's old leather RAF helmet remained with him for life, a treasured reminder of wartime experiences: 'It's been over enemy territory a few times!'

Bud's movie career began immediately after the war with a role as a control tower officer in the film *Smithy*. No wardrobe-room costume here; Bud proudly wore his own Flight Lieutenant's uniform. Several Australian films followed and, in 1952, a break came in Hollywood when he won the part of Lt Harry Carstairs in *The Desert Rats*, working with Richard Burton, Chips Rafferty and James Mason. Despite being offered a seven year Hollywood contract, Bud returned to Australia and worked extensively in film, radio and theatre.


A 1956 role in *The Shiralee* with Peter Finch took Bud and Audrey to London where they enjoyed an exciting and productive 17 years: *Emergency Ward 10*, *Miss Marple* films, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *There's a Girl in My Soup*, BBC



radio, TV series, theatre (including the formation of his own theatre company) and touring in several plays. Bud became a household name; however, Dad's former career as a Spitfire pilot rated far more highly with his young son, Christopher!

As with so many 'ex-pats' Australia eventually called, and Bud, Audrey, Christopher and daughter Virginia returned home in 1973. Bud immediately began work as Inspector Reg Lawson in the long-running TV series *Homicide*. Hectic years followed with Bud acting and directing in TV, film and theatre. He was inducted into the Logie Hall of Fame in 1994.

By this time, Audrey's health was failing and Bud put his career on hold to care for her. Sadly the girl he'd 'known and loved for 56 years' died in mid 1996. Bud was grateful that he was immediately offered challenging work – therapy that helped him cope and recover from Audrey's death. The years that followed were busy and rewarding with roles in *The Castle*, *The Dish*, the mini-series *Changi*, *Innocence*, *Menzies* and *Churchill at War*, and many others. Bud continued acting until shortly before his death on 15 May this year.

Australia farewelled this much-loved and admired son with a State Funeral at St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne. As his coffin was taken back down the aisle, Bud was given a final, heartfelt, standing ovation. 



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*Fares are per person in AUD, based on complete twin accommodation in base cabin categories, as specified, based on lead Interior grades available at time of printing, inclusive of all taxes and charges (which are subject to change). Supplements apply for other cabin categories, please contact Princess Cruises or Cunard Line for details. Airfares, hotels and transfers are additional. Valid for new bookings only. Princess Cruises and Cunard Line has set aside cabins which are available at these discounted fares. Once these cabins are sold, fares may revert to a higher fare or the full fare. Princess Cruises and Cunard Line reserves the right to do so at any time. Subject to limited availability. Conditions apply. To be read in conjunction with the Booking and Passage Conditions contained in the Princess Cruises 2008-2010 or Cunard World Cruises 2010 brochure, which passengers will be bound by. Carnival plc trading as Agent. ABN 23 107 998 443. 2TA. 5580. IH



masoniCare provides assistance to the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Cochlear Implant Programs

Through the Regional Grants program masoniCare has donated money to many worthy causes. In 2008 the RGC 13, RW Bro Peter Trow, PAGM, requested that his two grants of \$5,000 be combined and given to the Royal Flying Doctor Service. In 2009 the RGC 1, RW Bro Tim Anderson, PJGW, requested that his two grants be given to the Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre. Both organisations make a huge contribution to the people of this jurisdiction and Australia.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) was established in 1928 and developed on a national basis in the 1930s. It is a story of health care brought to the people who live, work and travel in the more remote areas of Australia. The Service soon provided not only emergency medical aid to the people of the Inland, but also a comprehensive health care and community service.

The development of the Inland, or more familiarly the outback, was in many ways made easier by the presence of the Flying Doctor. Previously, serious illness or accident often meant death and the outback holds many graves of people who might have lived had they been able to receive medical aid quickly enough.

The late Sir Robert Menzies, former Prime Minister of Australia (1939–41 and 1949–66), once very aptly said that the Flying Doctor Service represented the

‘greatest single contribution to the effective settlement of the far distant back country that we have witnessed in our time ...’

The RFDS was the first comprehensive aerial medical organisation in the world and to this day remains unique for the range of primary health care and emergency services it provides and for the huge area of sparse population and climatic extremes over which it operates – 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The RFDS was started by the Reverend John Flynn, a Presbyterian minister who worked tirelessly to better the lot of the people of the outback. John Flynn, who was twice Moderator General of the Presbyterian Church died in 1951 and is buried at Mt Gillen near Alice Springs, the very centre of the vast territory to which he brought communication, medical comfort and pastoral care.

Under the leadership of Professor WPR (Bill) Gibson the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Adult Cochlear Implant Program was established in 1984 and two years later the Children’s Cochlear Implant Centre opened its doors. In 2001 the adult and children’s programs brought together their internationally recognised clinical practice and medical expertise to form the Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre (SCIC).

Today SCIC offers a seamless service to all families, including children, adolescents and adults who are considering

receiving or who have received cochlear implants. The youngest child entering the program is three months old and the oldest adult implanted is over ninety years of age. This dear lady was a volunteer with ‘Meals on Wheels’ and had had her licence to drive revoked because of deafness. She said she had to get her licence back so that she could deliver meals to the ‘old people’.

With the knowledge gained from over 2,000 recipients and the combining of resources and expertise, the SCIC represents one of the largest and most experienced cochlear implant programs worldwide.

- To help adults and children with severe/profound hearing impairment reach their potential using the cochlear implant and other related technologies to facilitate integration into a hearing and speaking world.
- To provide children, adults and their families with world leading audiological care, assessment and management services.
- To provide adults, children and families with information necessary to make an informed decision as to whether a cochlear implant would be of benefit.
- Maintain world class medical and surgical procedures for cochlear implantation and other technologies.
- Provide quality habilitation and ongoing management to maximise the benefits of cochlear implantation.
- Ensure all adults and children are able to access a cochlear implant regardless of ethical, financial or geographical considerations.
- To conduct research which underpins clinical practice and which promotes the interests of candidates and recipients.
- To provide services in a supportive and positive environment which encourages the involvement of family and other agencies.

masoniCare is delighted to be able to support such organisations as these.



Military recruits?

Brethren often talk about **the great golden age of Freemasonry**. The late forties saw a resurgence of the Craft which could somehow see it out to the end of the 20th Century and as brethren reminisce with affection upon **this great era of brotherhood, comradery and fellowship**, not many seem to consider what brought it about, nor do they examine **the implications for modern Freemasonry**.

In 1945, World War II ended and these men flocked home and decided on a whim to become Freemasons. And I'm sure some readers will point out that certain liquor laws of the day also placed the local lodge as an attractive alternative watering-hole. But none of these factors taken alone at face value give rise to why Masonry grew to the extent it did. Vacantly gazing into the past with fond memories without looking closer at what happened or using this information to help look to our future is reminiscent of driving your car while constantly staring into the rear view mirror.

It was one sole demographic which was responsible for the late Forties boom; servicemen. Soldiers, sailors and airmen alike sought an organisation that taught the values of mateship, honour and tradition in the same structured way as to what they had become accustomed. The Craft provided that. This is not new to many readers but let's look closer – why did so many men make such good masons? The Craft was there before the war and it wasn't offering anything then that it hadn't offered before.

So why the change? Well, I propose the army teaches many of the same principles the Craft is based upon, acting as a type of pre-training institution, taking undisciplined, selfish, self-centred young men, lacking in every way. It then makes them better, teaches them honour, discipline, brotherhood, self sacrifice, duty, tradition, teamwork, motivation and willpower to achieve things greater than they would have realised.

Looking at it in this light, the military does indeed serve as a pre-masonic academy, especially when we look at the three main beliefs needed by an applicant to the Craft. He must be a patriot to his country,

dutiful to the care of his family and must believe in a Supreme Being. As far as patriotism is concerned I don't think any more needs to be said. In reference to caring for one's family goes, most of these young men have a sense of duty and responsibility far beyond their peers. And as for a belief in a Supreme Being, there is nothing like a job that required you to regularly come to terms with your own mortality to make you a believer in a Supreme Being. There are no atheists in a fox hole or before you jump out of a plane.

Even if we only saw a 3% rate of ADF personnel joining annually that is still 2,000 a year national growth that would gradually snowball ...

So now that we know this, what are we doing about it? The average age of a Freemason in NSW is 70, new masons are calling off at a rate of 50% in the first five years and it seems we have been doing little to bring these young men in.

Let's break down exactly what is on offer. The Australian Defence Force currently looks like this: 51,447 Regular personnel and 19,562 Reserves for a grand total of 71,009. Not all of these are able to apply, after all 14% are female but it still leaves a huge 86% male and that's before we look at the 7,000 personnel a year turnover.


And you know what the best bit is? This target demographic has its own newspapers, magazines and other media, all of which is commercial and is primarily

funded by 'cheap as chips' advertising revenue.

So what are we doing to let those thousands of perfect young applicants who would love to be involved in something like Freemasonry know exactly what is available. Ah ... nothing. Why? Can anyone please tell me why? Why are we sitting around crying into our beer, reminiscing on the past glories of Freemasonry in Australia when we could be making our own. Even if we only saw a 3% rate of ADF personnel joining annually that is still 2,000 a year national growth that would gradually snowball as more servicemen saw their mates heading off to lodge without them, or as the 7,000 servicemen leaving the ADF each year knew they could still get that sense of comradery within the walls of a lodge room.

I don't want to turn the Craft I love into some sort of para-military organisation. And it wouldn't happen any more today than it did in 1947. But it would see an influx of dedicated young masons that just might serve as the saving life blood this organisation needs.

The Grand Lodges of Australia need to stop sitting on their hands and work together to form a national advertising campaign that targets the demographics we want to attract to the Craft – that gives them the information they need, what Freemasonry is, what we believe, what we offer, what the truths and the myths are and what they need to do to join.

Maybe if we can do that, then perhaps we can do some good in this world rather than living on a previous generation's glory. 

Bro Davis served 10 years in the Australian Army, as an infantry paratrooper seeing active service in Iraq and also worked as an ADF recruiting officer and instructor. He is currently in the Army Reserve and is a member of Lodge Victoria Cross 928.



The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of New South Wales

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THE WAY FORWARD

RW Bro John Couper addressing the annual Homes Award Dinner said working in aged care is not just about a pay cheque. When you choose to work in aged care, you are choosing to make a valuable difference in our communities, and the lives of our clients each and every day.

RW Bro Couper also announced that contracts have been let for work to commence in Kyogle, Narrabri and Wee Waa with government assistance.



The photograph shows the new office and 10 beds the Homes has commenced work on in Narrabri with an expected date at the end of October for occupation by the new residents.

Name Badges

The Homes are able to provide name badges for brethren of a number of different Orders including Craft Lodges, Royal Arch, Rose Croix, Secret Monitor – all with the appropriate insignia.

Name badges for other organisations are also available.

Ladies' name badges with a magnetic clip are available	\$13.00
Styles of badges are as follows:	
1 line (name only)	\$7.70
2 lines(Lodge and name)	\$9.90
2 lines (as above)	
plus square and compasses	\$13.00
Serviettes – Craft/Chapter	\$10.00

Inquiries for name badges and serviettes – contact Renee Adams on: 9827 6623 or fax: 9827 6699

Make a Bequest in your Will

A specific legacy or residential request could be made in the following form but we recommend that you consult a legal adviser.

LEGACY – 'I give and bequeath to The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of New South Wales (ABN 49 082 385 091) the sum of free from all death probate estate and succession duties, to be applied in such manner as the Board of Directors may determine, for the use and benefit of the organisation, and I direct that the receipt of the Secretary for the time being shall be a complete discharge to my executors'.

BEQUEST – 'I give devise and bequeath to The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of New South Wales (ABN 49 082 385 091) the rest and residue of my estate to be applied in such manner as the Board of Directors may determine, for the use and benefit of the organisation, and I direct that the receipt of the Secretary for the time being shall be a complete discharge to my executors'.

If you need advice or further information, please contact the Chief Executive Officer.

ANNUAL APPEAL

Enclosed please find my tax deductible donation of \$

I wish to pay by: Cheque/Money Order made payable to: **The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW**

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Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____ Expiry Date: /

Name: (Please include Masonic Rank) _____

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Phone enquiries: **1300 738 388**



Regional Roundup



CLARENCE VALLEY FREEMASONS

Musical notes raise funds

Over \$1,500 was raised when the Clarence Valley Freemasons' Committee staged a musical evening in June.

These funds will go towards the cost of a bladder scanner for the Grafton Base Hospital, which will cost \$16,000.

Local entertainers brought harmony and merriment to a full house of appreciative guests.

The Grafton Glee Singers, conducted by Linda Weiss, opened the evening with their charming versions of *Vienna*, *City of My Dreams*, a Strauss Waltz, and *Moonlight and Roses*.



Harbour Light Entertainers delight the audience. L-R: Val and Bruce Ellem, Wendy Jeffery, Col Daisley, Kathy and Ken Morley, Juanita Hunt and Eric Duroux.

The Grafton Barbershop Singers, patriotically framed by a backdrop of the red, white and blue of the Australian flag, delighted those present with their harmonies of yesteryear. They have been together for seven years and actually include a practising barber.

The Harbour Light Entertainers from Coffs Harbour showcased their brand new, one hour show for the 120 Clarence Valley locals, who enjoyed the easy listening songs spanning the 1950s to the 1980s.

All performers regularly sing for their communities in nursing homes, hospitals and at charity fundraisers.

Farmer Lou's, South Services Butcher Shop, Grafton District Services Club, The Tai Palace Restaurant, Daisy Wheel Nursery and Dare Hurst kindly donated the raffle prizes on the night.

LODGE HORNSBY No 262

Lodge Hornsby turns 100

On 29 June 1909, Lodge Hornsby No 262 held its first meeting and, to the very day, on 29 June 2009, the lodge held its centenary meeting.

The unveiling of the foundation stone, originally laid in the Hornsby Masonic Hall in 1919, was followed by a centenary banquet attended by the Grand Master and his partner Judith Morrice.

Also in attendance at the banquet were many community notables, including the Mayor of Hornsby, Mr Nick Berman and his wife, and the Mayor of Kuring-Gai Council, Mrs Elaine Malicki and her



The Grand Master presenting the donation at the centenary banquet.

husband. All the lodges in District 15 were present.

As part of a comprehensive program of events to commemorate the centenary of Freemasonry in the district, a donation of \$23,000 was made to the Hornsby and Ku-Ring-Gai Police and Community Youth Club, which will be used to fund the development of a dedicated Youth Activity Centre enabling police officers to conduct their 'Youth at Risk' programs.

One of the key programs is a weekend activity for girls, with the objective of providing a place where they can meet socially and participate in structured activities, away from negative external influences.



LODGE BURNSIDE No 729

Burnside burning bright

A cold April night did not deter the more than 50 brethren and their ladies who attended the Reinstallation of W Bro Richard John Read as WM of Lodge Burnside, No 729, at Castle Hill.

Many had travelled long distances to share the evening, some from as far as the Southern Highlands.

The Grand Master was represented by RW Bro Richard Pickering, PDGM, who was accompanied by a Delegation of nearly twenty Grand Lodge Officers, the Grand Director on the night being W Bro Ron Webb.

Following the ceremony, ably conducted by VW Bro Arthur Poole, RW Bro Pickering presented W Bro Read with his Reinstalled Masters' Certificate and, after the usual welcome was extended, went down to the floor to meet the two Entered Apprentices in attendance, Bro Brett Nielsen and Bro John West, both members of Lodge Burnside.



RW Bro Pickering with Entered Apprentices Bro Brett Nielsen and Bro John West.

The evening was rounded off by an excellent banquet which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present and which certainly dispelled the chill of the night.

LODGE BATHURST UNITED No 79

All in the family

Thursday, 21 May was a milestone for the McKay family of Lodge Bathurst United No 79, when Mr Daniel John Thomas McKay was initiated into Freemasonry by his uncle W Bro David Bruce Thomas McKay, accompanied by Daniel's grandfather Bro Bruce McKay and his father, Bro Sean McKay.

There were nearly 40 brethren in attendance, as well as the RGC, District 9, RW Bro Ronald Frame, and the DGIW of District 92, VW Bro John Donaldson.

The Worshipful Master, W Bro Harold Nankervis, surrendered his chair to allow W Bro David McKay to perform the initiation ceremony, accompanied by the very generous and capable assistance of visiting brethren, as four officers were away.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, W Bro McKay explained the family connection with Lodge Bathurst United, which spans more than 64 years, or four generations, with three generations present on the night.

Daniel's great grandfather, the late Bro Maurice Royden McKay was initiated into Bathurst United on 18 October 1945, at the age of 56, and there were three other initiates on the same night.

Daniel is in year 12 at The Scots School Bathurst, where he is School Captain as well as being a member of the Pipe Band. Daniel's bandmaster, Bro Gill Mackenzie, is also a member of Bathurst United and he presented Daniel with the Working Tools.

LODGE MARK OWEN No 828

A Mark of brotherhood

The long history of the Owen family's commitment to Lodge Mark Owen No 828 was extended on Tuesday 21 July 21, when Bro Matthew Owen was installed as Worshipful Master of the lodge by his father, W Bro Dr Michael Owen, at the Sydney Masonic Centre.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston, was in attendance, with many Grand Lodge officers and about 120 brethren also present.

The new Master is the fourth generation of the Owen family to be installed and this historic event was rendered even more notable by the able participation of family members in aspects of the ceremony.

The lodge was named after W Bro Matthew Owen's great grandfather.

The first Master of the lodge was his grandfather, W Bro Alan Owen, and his father, W Bro Michael Owen, was the lodge's first initiate and 50th Master.



Bros Bruce, Sean and W Bro David McKay with Daniel.

When Daniel completes his HSC he will travel to London to take up an appointment at St Paul's School, where he hopes to extend his masonic interests.



The newly installed Master of Lodge Mark Owen No 828, W Bro Matthew Owen, receives his Installed Master's Certificate from the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston.



CMC FOUNDATION STONE CEREMONY

Setting the Stone in Canberra

That Saturday 6 June was a cool and windy day in Canberra failed to daunt the hardy hundreds who gathered in the Macquarie Street car park for the afternoon's ceremony, where they would celebrate the construction of their new masonic home in time honoured and traditional manner.

They came from Canberra and from Cooma, from Goulburn and from Harden; from Yass and other far flung corners of Region 10.

They also came from the East: the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston and his partner Ms Judith Morrice, the Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Paul Fletcher, the Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Wild, and the Ceremonial Team.

The place of the Junior Grand Warden in the Ceremony was taken by the Regional Grand Counsellor for Region 10, RW Bro Michael Dalton PJGW.

The first Masonic Centre on the Barton site was consecrated in 1936. It was replaced by a four storey building in 1977, occupying half the site, with the remainder being parking space. The third floor housed two lodge rooms, two banqueting rooms, a commercial kitchen, and nooks and crannies used for storage.

Utilising the entire site, the new building will have six floors and two levels of basement parking. The sixth floor will be furnished for masonic activities, and the rest of the building leased.

The old building was vacated at the end of June 2008 but the 'global financial crisis' delayed funding arrangements and a start on demolition.

Prior to that though, the CMC Board had negotiated a tenancy arrangement with the Queanbeyan Masonic Centre Board, and most of Canberra's Craft Lodges and other Masonic Orders now meet there. Demolition commenced in October 2008 and the ground floor slab



ABOVE: Artist's impression of the new Canberra Masonic Centre.

RIGHT: The Grand Master sets the Foundation Stone in Canberra.

for the new building was laid in May 2009, in time for the stone setting ceremony.

So on that wintry June afternoon, masons, their families and friends set out in procession from the Macquarie Street car park on the 100 metres or so to the building site.

The Chairman of the Canberra Masonic Centre Board, RW Bro Greg Nason PSGW, welcomed the Grand Master and his Team, and the ceremony began.

The stone was tested with the Square, the Level and the Plumb Rule. The Grand Master received the plans to the building from the architect. The stone was then



strewn with corn, as an emblem of plenty; splashed with wine as an emblem of joy and cheerfulness; anointed with oil as an emblem of peace; and scattered with salt as an emblem of fidelity and friendship. The stone was blessed and then set by the Grand Master with a wooden maul.

Later that evening, many brethren gathered at the historic Brassey of Canberra hotel for a celebratory dinner; a fitting end to an historic day.

PORT MACQUARIE DAYLIGHT No 991

Children in need

The representative of the Hastings Early Intervention Centre, Ms Katy Kaprianos, was delighted to receive masoniCare's cheque for \$2,800 from representative VW Bro Graham Tunstall, and a further cheque for \$2,000, presented by the WM of Port Macquarie Daylight Lodge No 991, W Bro Bill Patton.

Gratefully accepting these substantial donations, Ms Kaprianos said that the funds will go towards the purchase of much needed equipment, to make life a great deal better for the very needy children in their care.

Lodge Port Macquarie Daylight had previously donated \$1,000 from funds raised by their annual charity bowls day in support of this very worthy cause.

Ms Kaprianos with VW Bro Graham Tunstall and W Bro Bill Patton.





Making more mentors



Brethren from Region 4 at the Tea Gardens Mentoring Course

The brethren of Region 4 have taken to heart the Grand Master's recent statement 'No Mentor, no initiation', by conducting a series of three Mentor Training Courses during 2009.

The courses, presented by RW Bro Graham Pretty, an accredited Masonic Presenter, have been well received and equally well attended.

The first course, held at Tea Gardens in March, attracted a roll up of 18 partic-

ipants, including the Regional Grand Councillor, three DGIWs and a past RGC.

Brethren take away from these courses ideas, not only from the presenter, but also from among themselves, on how best to mentor candidates, affiliates, lodge officers and brethren.

The second course, in June, was attended by 11 brethren from District 45, and the final course will be held at Toronto Masonic Centre, in September.

LODGE ARMY AND NAVY No 517

Army and Navy Install

The 86th Installation at Lodge Army and Navy No 517 on 8 July saw VW Bro Mervyn Sinden, PDGDC, re-installed by the Worshipful Master, W Bro Captain Adel Amin.

With the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston in attendance, the ceremony was witnessed by a well filled lodge room, which included a sizeable Grand Lodge contingent and visitors from within the district and outside it; notably from lodge Ionic No 65, VW Bro Sinden's Mother Lodge.

The Senior and Junior Wardens on the Board of Installed Masters were RW Bro Alan Pretzman, PSGW, and W Bro Ian Worton, both from Lodge Ionic, with the Inner Guard's post being filled by W Bro Michael Gerrish, from Lodge The Royal Empire No 613.

At the installation banquet which followed the ceremony, the Grand Master stressed the importance of mentoring in retaining initiates and stabilizing lodge membership.

He also spoke on his up-coming tour of northwestern New South Wales.



The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston, presents VW Bro Mervyn Sinden with his Re-Installation Certificate.

Everyone has a story and we want yours!

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

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

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

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LODGE LACHLAN MACQUARIE No 1042

Membership grows in Port Macquarie

‘Brethren, give me new lodges, give me growth and enthusiasm and a future,’ said our Grand Master on the evening of his inaugural address just 12 months ago. Lachlan Macquarie Lodge No 1042, in Port Macquarie, accepted this exciting challenge and now demonstrates that this can be a formula to successfully rejuvenate the Craft.

This new lodge was consecrated in November 2008, and only eight months later it boasts three Fellowcraft and four Entered Apprentices with two more applications being processed for an August induction. The ranks have been further swelled by three affiliations.

Lachlan Macquarie Lodge, which began with 28 foundation members, has seen their membership increase by 35 per cent.

This considerable growth can be attributed to one of the hallmarks of Lachlan Macquarie Lodge, which practices a relaxed, modern style of Freemasonry whilst maintaining the traditions of the Order.

This success is largely due to the leadership of the Worshipful Master, VW Bro Graham Tunstall, and the support of his



Definitely having a great time at an early Christmas dinner and show following the induction of the two latest members in Lodge Lachlan Macquarie.

team. All the members of this lodge are passionate about their edict of friendliness, enjoying the experience of Freemasonry, quality dining and social activities.

The creation of Lachlan Macquarie Lodge in Port Macquarie may well have helped stimulate interest in Freemasonry in the local community, resulting in new members joining neighbouring lodges as well as the new lodge.

At the July meeting, two new members were accepted into Lachlan Macquarie Lodge, and the visitors from neighbouring lodges included three other Entered Apprentices.

The members and their partners and wives took great pleasure in continuing the celebration of that evening by attending a ‘Christmas in July’ dinner and a show hosted by restaurateur Bro Tommy Jeffs, who is one of Lachlan Macquarie’s newer members.

LODGE DAWN No 511

Lodge Dawn’s Install

On Saturday 4 July, W Bro Les Hicks was Re-Installed in the Chair of King Solomon at the 87th Installation of Lodge Dawn No 511, Tweed Heads.

The Grand Master’s Representative was RW Bro Grahame Marr, PAGM, accompanied by RW Bro Alan Walker, PAGM, RW Bro Keith Castle, PAGM, and 14 Grand Lodge officers. VW Bro Col Lee was the Grand Director for the evening.



The photo shows RW Bro Grahame Marr PAGM, presenting W Bro Les Hicks with his Re-Installed Master’s Certificate.

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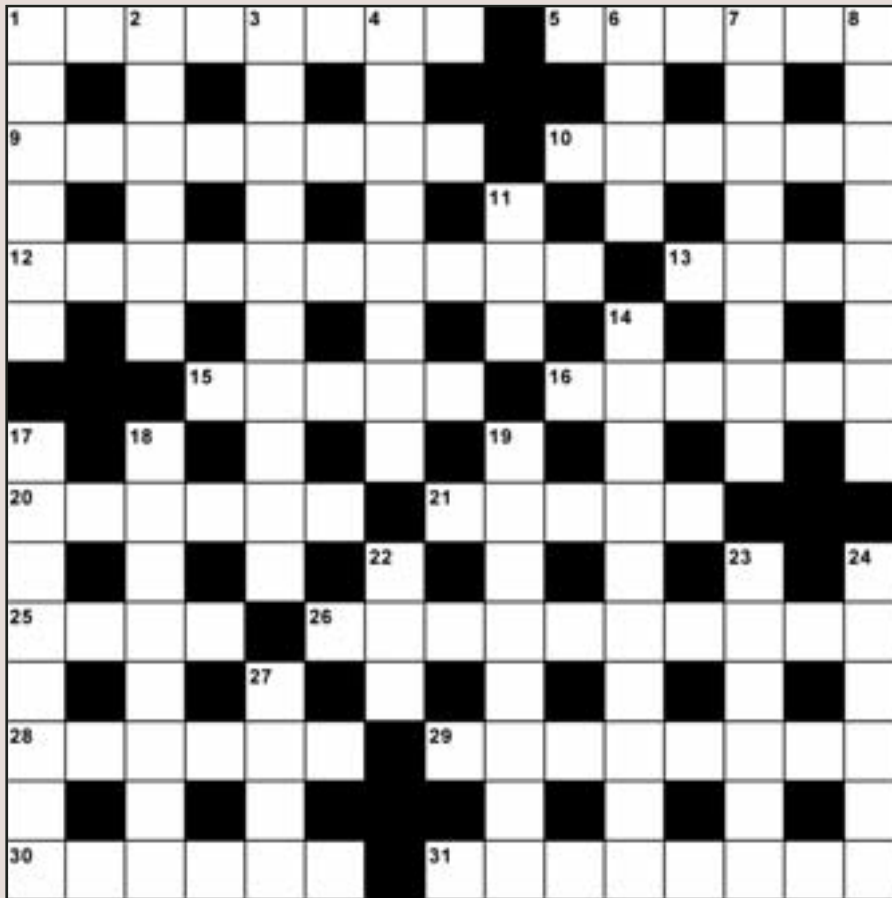
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Freemason welcomes new members to the Craft

Name	Initiated	Lodge	Name	Initiated	Lodge
ALAMPAYAN Romeo	15/4/09	The United Lodge of Sydney 11	HASKINS Steven	27/5/09	The Central Coast Lodge 2001
ARGENT Ross	23/6/09	Lodge Phoenix 1034	HEDGER Keith	4/4/09	Lodge Macquarie 53
ARUNDELL-SOUTHERON Lucas	9/4/09	The Hunters Hill Lodge 139	HEMBROW Mark	22/5/09	Lodge Central Australia 88
BAKHSH Jawed	9/4/09	Lodge Punchbowl 244	HUDSON Damien	6/5/09	Lodge Katoomba 118
BARAKAT Jason	29/6/09	Lodge Southern Cross 91	HURLEY James	14/5/09	The Royal Empire Lodge 613
BARNES Kyle	20/4/09	Lodge Timor 274	HUSTINS Todd	26/3/09	Horizons 1032
BARR Jahan	21/3/09	Lodge Wahroonga 674	ILSLEY Clinton	26/5/09	Brundah Endeavour 429
BARTLETT Luke	12/3/09	Lodge Kellerman 1027	JACKSON Gary	6/4/09	The Peel Lodge 209
BASANT Jagjeet	18/5/09	Lodge Capitol 612	JEFFS Thomas	25/2/09	Lodge Lachlan Macquarie 1042
BAXTER James	1/4/09	Lodge Trinitarian 978	JONES Timothy	9/6/09	Lodge Carlton Kogarah 305
BENNETTS Justin	5/3/09	Lodge Glen Innes 44	JUHASZ Michael	16/4/09	Lodge Ionic 65
BERGSENG Daniel	17/6/09	Lodge Mosman 228	KAKKINEN Mark	15/5/09	Lodge Warragamba 541
BEVAN John	12/6/09	Lodge Lightning Ridge 595	KATTA Ashish	1/6/09	The Australian Lodge Of Harmony 5
BLANCO Michael	26/3/09	Horizons 1032	KERLANDER Steven	20/1/09	Lodge Woollahra 341
BOOTH George	11/5/09	Eastern Beaches Daylight Lodge 1007	KHEIR Ibrahim	24/10/08	The Cedars Lodge 1041
BOSCOLO George	19/3/09	Lodge Benjamin Pryor 709	KHOURI Jason	2/2/09	Lodge St David and St John 180
BROADBENT Mathew	6/5/09	Lodge Gloucester 291	KURK Hindrik	23/4/09	Star In The West Sedgwick 189
BRUZZANO John	14/4/09	Lodge Horace Thompson Ryde 134	LE MIERE Jean-Christophe	16/2/09	Lodge France 1021
BYRNE Paul	4/3/08	Lodge Como 738	LEEMING Russell	18/5/09	Lodge Tomalpin 253
CAMPBELL Anthony	1/6/09	The Australian Lodge Of Harmony 5	LEMON Ricardo	12/3/09	Lodge Kellerman 1027
CAPARARO Trevor	18/4/09	The Peel Lodge 209	LEONOR Meinardo	20/5/09	The Hills Lodge 1025
CARROLL Vincent	19/3/09	Lodge Benjamin Pryor 709	LLEWELLYN Marc	2/6/09	Lodge Sutherland 585
CASSIDY Ross	17/6/09	Lodge Pacific 298	LLOYD Daniel	23/2/09	Lodge Canberra 465
COLOSIMO Marcello	20/5/09	The Hills Lodge 1025	LUCAS Terence	9/4/09	Lodge Barham 561
CONSTANTINO Costas	18/2/09	Lodge Camden 217	MAFI Sesefo	10/5/09	Lodge St David and St John 180
CONSTANTINO Andrew	18/2/09	Lodge Camden 217	MAKAR Kevin	4/3/09	Lodge St David and St John 180
COUMBIAS Chris	2/3/09	Lodge Hellenic Arcadia 177	MARINER Dean	13/1/09	The Hawkesbury Heritage Lodge 150
DANDACHLI Khoder	6/4/09	Lodge Aviation 688	MAUAD Maroun	31/3/09	Lodge Southern Cross 91
DANDACHLI Hassan	24/4/09	The Cedars Lodge 1041	MCALLESTER James	24/6/09	Lodge Wahroonga 674
DE LOS SANTOS Cornelio	12/2/09	Lakehaven Daylight Lodge 1017	MCKINNON Gavin	16/6/09	Lodge Queanbeyan St Andrew 56
DELAVEGA Ariel	28/5/09	Lodge Fidelity King Solomon 101	MCLEOD Nathan	11/3/09	Lodge Nambucca 271
DOBBS Stephen	13/3/09	Clarence Valley Daylight Lodge 1011	MCMASTER Andrew	7/4/09	Lodge Albert C. Petrie 954
DOWLING Brian	27/5/09	Jerrabomberra Daylight Lodge 1001	MORRIS Stephen	18/2/09	Lodge Sawtell Twilight 741
EMMETT Benjamin	25/3/09	Lodge Brotherhood of Maitland 1029	MOTBY Robert	14/3/09	Lodge Coeur de Lion 84
EVANS Mitchell	9/2/09	Lodge Timor 274	NAKAD Toni	3/10/08	Lodge Baulkham Hills 958
EVANS Michael	7/3/09	Bundaleeah Daylight Lodge 992	NATHAN Ragu	9/3/09	The Lodge Of Australia 3
FENNELL William	20/6/09	Lodge Millthorpe 276	NEWHAM John	12/2/09	Lodge Balranald 214
FERGUSON Ben	2/6/09	Lodge Albert C. Petrie 954	OTTAWAY Luke	25/2/09	Lodge Lachlan Macquarie 1042
FIDEL Micvi	3/4/09	Lodge Alpha 970	PETERSEN Craig	31/3/09	Lodge Southern Cross 91
FINEGAN Joshua	4/2/09	Lodge Dawn 511	PHILLIPS Matthew	29/6/09	Lodge Southern Cross 91
FLEMING Keiron	9/6/09	Lodge Horace Thompson Ryde 134	POIGNAND Billie	15/6/09	Lodge Capitol 612
FRUEND Simon	19/6/09	Lodge Carnarvon 172	PROFILIO James	14/4/09	Lodge Galileo 1019
FRYLINCK Leon	20/4/09	Lodge Ku-Ring-Gai 1033	RANDALL Joshua	21/4/09	Lodge St James 45
GAREWAL Rick	27/5/09	Lodge Wahroonga 674	RAWSON Wayne	13/5/09	Lodge Parkes 40
GAVIN Robert	13/3/09	Lodge Condobolin 185	REID Philip	18/5/09	Lodge Nepean 29
GEORGE Phillip	20/4/09	Lodge Tomalpin 253	RELF David	25/2/09	Lodge Lachlan Macquarie 1042
GILL Adam	11/4/09	Lodge Urara 469	REYNOLDS Michael	14/3/09	Lodge Concupia 1037
GILL Mahaiender	22/4/09	Lodge Wahroonga 674	RICHMOND Daniel	19/3/09	Lodge Pennant Hills 905
GILLIES William	13/3/09	Lodge Theo Grey 234	ROBERTS Richard	14/3/09	The Cobar Lodge 97
GUPPY Shaun	3/4/09	Lodge Alpha 970	ROBERTSON William	19/5/09	Maitland Lodge of Unity 4
HADDAD Amine	25/7/08	The Cedars Lodge 1041	ROUSE Michael	14/1/09	Lodge Nambucca 271
HAMMOND Matthew	20/4/09	Lodge Timor 274	RYAN William	2/6/09	Lodge Lachlan Jemalong 46
HARDING DELA VEGA Daniel	20/1/09	Lodge Woollahra 341			

Our Initiates are continued on page 46



DOWN

- 1 Take up but leave out the odd fascicles pet (6)
- 2 Pity about old city, it had virtue (6)
- 3 Nervously a git ate learner in Dee Why? (10)
- 4 Relating to the deacon, he had a cold in a bad way (8)
- 6 Arkwright, 'a just an upright man and a teacher of righteousness' (4)
- 7 Let the choir sit up in such past significant place (8)
- 8 My anchor used for the kingdom
- 11 & 22 Shearer's first aider to bray like an ass (3, 3)
- 14 Forerunner of a decent net result (10)
- 17 Nice damp conditions harbour spreading pestilence (8)
- 18 Activities within the country learnt in strange way (8)
- 19 Stopped glassware not worth a red cent when broken (8)
- 22 See 11 down
- 23 For example in the matter of steam ships, find escape route (6)
- 24 Meals taken back in ridiculous extremes for 8 down and the like (6)
- 27 A secret message from odd cloudier characters (4)

Solutions next issue

ACROSS

- 1 Gives acclamation about a lad's pup (8)
- 5 Group's rousing song arranged around the man (6)
- 9 Orders cigar and changes to casual wear (8)
- 10 Aprons unusually worn by a clergyman (6)
- 12 Uses graph to say his theorem (10)
- 13 I cooked ours but it's not sweet at all (4)
- 15 Brings back lager fit for a king (5)
- 16 Improve values in central Camden Richmond area (6)
- 20 Historical records about Alan's direction (6)
- 21 Locate old cutter where wrecked (5)
- 25 Dangerous settlement of some due levied (4)
- 26 Ancient badge displayed by mean gaoler (5, 5)
- 28 Wise Counsellor with some acumen torments (6)
- 29 Heavenly alien here with Capone (8)
- 30 Fleshy legs visible in biblical vestments (6)
- 31 Objections in favour of examinations (8)

Solution July 2009



The APRIL CROSSWORD SOLUTION published in the last edition of Freemason magazine was incomplete. The correct solution is shown below and we apologise for this error.



Last year, brethren, partners and friends from all across NSW jazzed it up at 'LODGE LEGENDS OF JAZZ', a cocktail evening with live big band performing the music written by those Freemasons who were jazz greats: Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Nat King Cole and Louis Armstrong.



It was a very well attended event and the audience went home with a warm connection to this fantastic music from a fantastic era. The Guild of Masonic Musicians invites you to attend this event again this year – a wonderful opportunity for members, partners and potential candidates to socialise with some live music!

TICKETS AVAILABLE from Museum of Freemasonry Shop, Sydney Masonic Centre or contact Carlos Mora on 0406 991 441 or email: mr.carlosmora@gmail.com

WHAT: Live big band, jazz, canapés. Incredible modern surroundings in the heart of the city.

WHEN: Thursday, 1 October, 7pm

WHERE: Level 3, Blacket Hotel, 70 King St. Sydney

COST: \$40 general admission; \$50 allocated seating



SAULT Robert	15/6/09	The Lodge Of Australia 3
SCHAUMANN Jason	25/3/09	The Queen's Lodge 229
SCHOLZ Martin	5/11/08	Lodge Dawn 511
SCHUBACK John	27/1/09	Basin View Daylight Lodge 1015
SHIBER John	2/2/09	Lodge St David and St John 180
SILVER Jeremy	29/6/09	Lodge Southern Cross 91
SMITH Alan	18/6/09	Lodge Cootamundra St John 124
SNOW Jonathan	15/4/09	Lodge Sawtell Twilight 741
SOTRIFFER Thomas	9/3/09	Lodge Milton 63
SPINDLER Allan	25/3/09	Lodge Lachlan Macquarie 1042
SPRAGUE Michael	25/3/09	Lodge Lachlan Macquarie 1042
STEFULJ Anthony	19/3/09	Lodge Ionic 65
STOTT Mathew	3/6/09	Lodge Edinburgh St John 38
SUGGATE Kevin	13/2/09	Lodge Springwood 409
TAIT David	15/5/09	Lodge Millennium 2000
TATAM Sam	1/4/09	Lodge Trinitarian 978
TAYEB Adall	2/6/09	Lodge Sutherland 585
TEODORO Rama	1/5/09	Lodge Celebration of Fairfield 345



THOMAS Peter	7/5/09	Lodge Far West 482
TORDEAN Justin	9/3/09	The Lodge Of Australia 3
TRAIN Benjamin	27/5/09	Lodge Wahroonga 674
VASSALLO Alfred	27/1/09	Basin View Daylight Lodge 1015
VERHEUL Colin	25/5/09	Lodge Canberra 465
VON BUSSE Karl	16/4/09	The Royal Empire Lodge 613
WAMBEEK Glen	15/4/09	The United Lodge of Sydney 11
WARD Keith	13/8/08	Lodge Nambucca 271
WATT Peter	17/2/09	Lodge Duke of Edinburgh 76
WEISSENSTEINER Josef	17/4/09	Lodge University of Sydney 544
WHITTON Jeffrey	9/3/09	Lodge Canoblas Lewis 806
WILKINSON Phillip	9/3/09	Riverina Thompson 104
WISHART Adam	15/5/09	Lodge Dunblane Australis 966
WOOLRIDGE William	22/5/09	Lodge Eurobodalla Daylight 989
WYLLIE Douglas	21/3/09	Lodge Wahroonga 674
YIOMELAKIS John	2/2/09	Lodge Hellenic Arcadia 177
YOUSEF Rony	6/5/09	The Australian Lodge Of Harmony 5

SERVICE CERTIFICATES



50 Years Service

BENNETT, GEORGE	The Prince Of Wales Lodge 102
BROWN, FRANK	The St. George Lodge 328
BROWN, GEORGE	Lodge Tomaree 878
BUSH, HARLEY	Port Macquarie Daylight Lodge 991
CAMPBELL, PETER	Maitland Lodge of Unity 4
CARTER, LEON	The Royal Empire Lodge 613
DUMBRILL, TREVOR	Lodge Mayfield 493
EDWORTHY, IVAN	The King's School Lodge 760
EVANS, COLIN	Lodge Dubbo 906
FERGUSON, THOMAS	Lodge Wyalong Pioneers 222
FLANAGAN, KEVIN	Lodge Burns Wentworth Tuscan 21
GIBBINS, THOMAS	Nowra Unity 60
HAMILTON, WILLIAM	Lodge Urbenville Bonalbo 354
HANNAH, REGINALD	Port Macquarie Daylight Lodge 991
HARPER, ERNEST	Lodge Barham 561
HARVEY, DOUGLAS	Lodge Tranmere 712
HAWKINS, DAVID	Lodge Carnarvon 172
HERD, KENNETH	Lodge Urbenville Bonalbo 354
HOORE, JOHN	The St. George Lodge 328
HULL, FRANK	Lodge Capitol 612
HURST, JULIAN	Eastern Beaches Daylight Lodge 1007

MADDEN, DONALD	The St. George Lodge 328
MCLACHLAN, DONALD	Lodge Olympus With Prosperity 278
MCLEOD, MALCOLM	Lodge Wyalong Pioneers 222
MERCADO, ALBERT	Lodge Score 183
MERTON, HAROLD	Lodge Carnarvon 172
MOORE, STANLEY	Port Macquarie Daylight Lodge 991
NELSON, CLIFTON	Lodge Cronulla 312
PANOS, CHRIS	Lodge Hurlstone Park United 288
PAVLETICH, GEORGE	Lodge Vacluse 266
PAYNE, COLIN	Lodge Wyalong Pioneers 222
PAYNE, FRANCIS	The King's School Lodge 760
POPE, JAMES	Great Lakes Daylight Lodge 994
PORTER, ROBERT	The Lodge Federation 196
POWER, BRIAN	Claymore 892
QUIRKE, STANLEY	Lodge St David and St John 180
RYDE, KEITH	Lodge St David and St John 180
SMEE, RAYMOND	Lodge Carnarvon 172
STARR, NEVILLE	Lodge Challenge 284
THOMPSON, JOHN	Lodge Balgownie 944
WADE, BRIAN	Lodge Urbenville Bonalbo 354
WEBB, MICHAEL	Lodge Star Of Wauchope 310
WEDGE, DONALD	Lodge Westlake Daylight 997

CONGRATULATIONS



60 Years Service

BRIDGE, JOHN	The Lodge Of Transition 9999
BROWN, PERRY	The Old Sydneians' Lodge 639
CHAPMAN, MAURICE	Leisure Coast Daylight Lodge 999
DOLLISSON, CLARENCE	Lodge Talbragar Daylight 525
GRAY, KENNETH	Lodge Sydney St. George 269
GREY, ERIC	Lodge Chelmsford 261
HOGARTH, GORDON	Lodge Cronulla 312
KEECH, GORDON	Eastern Beaches Daylight Lodge 1007
LAMBERT, LEONARD	The United Lodge of Sydney 11
LOCK, JAMES	Great Lakes Daylight Lodge 994
LUCRE, CHARLES	The St. George Lodge 328
MACKENZIE, FREDERICK	Lodge Rudyard Kipling With Langlea Assembly 470
MCMASTER, NORMAN	Lodge Burns Wentworth Tuscan 21
MONTGOMERY, HARRY	The Hunters Hill Lodge 139
MOSELEY, ALBERT	Lodge Hurlstone Park United 288
PRISK, KEITH	Lodge Epping 390
RUXTON, JAMES	Lodge Wahroonga 674
SCOTT, TREVOR	Lodge Ku-Ring-Gai 1033
THACKERAY, RONALD	Lodge Challenge 284
THORNTON, KEITH	Lodge Wahroonga 674
TURNER, KENNETH	Lodge Wahroonga 674
WOOD, KEITH	The United Lodge of Sydney 11

70 Years Service

HILL, GORDON	Lodge Wagga Wagga 22
TOWER, ROY	The St. George Lodge 328

District 32 Inaugural Annual Dinner Dance
DATE: 24 October 2009 *Dinner, tea/coffee included. Hosted by Lodge Resurgo 223 - Non masons welcome. Come and join us for a fun night - lucky door prize, raffles, dancing, live band, cabaret show with special guest, Maria Venuti*
TIME: 6.30pm for 7pm
VENUE: Merrylands RSL
COST: \$75 per person
RSVP: 10 October **TICKETS** call Ron 9631 3236 | Alison 9636 2360 | Anne 9630 5319 | Bill 9634 1914



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Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution

Established in 1880

The RFBI thanks those Masons that supported the RFBI during it's recent Appeal Quarter. Your donations are gratefully received and will be faithfully applied.

On 13 August, the RFBI opened its newly constructed 60 bed aged care facility at Armidale. The facility was named 'Ken Thompson Lodge' in honour to our current President. It was a marvellous occasion with over 400 people attending the opening and witnessing the Governor of NSW Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO officiate.

The RFBI APPEALS to Masons to assist in continuing the caring work begun in 1880. Today, in addition to the Annuity and the Benevolent Assistance Schemes, where assistance is granted to those in need, the RFBI provides accommodation for more than 2,400 senior citizens in its retirement villages. The physical evidence of our 20 retirement villages is a testimony to the charitable works of Freemasonry.

Be assured, all donations (tax deductible) will be gratefully received and faithfully applied.



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 and Newcastle. For retirement village inquiries, please contact Alex Shaw or Ann King on 9264 5986



DISASTER RELIEF FUND
CHARITY DINNER

