

# Freemason



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a garment for  
all seasons

## The Grand Installation

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**Your  
Safety**  
how to protect  
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# Freemason



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

Grand Lodge Website:  
[www.freemasonsnswact.org.au](http://www.freemasonsnswact.org.au)

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

Telephone: (02) 9284 2800

The journal is published in March, June, September and December. Deadline for copy is 1st of the month preceding month of issue.

All matters for publication in the journal should be addressed to:

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

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

Distributed to all NSW & ACT brethren and sister Grand Lodges in Australia and throughout the World.

ISSN 1836-0475

Print Post Approved PP255003/01651

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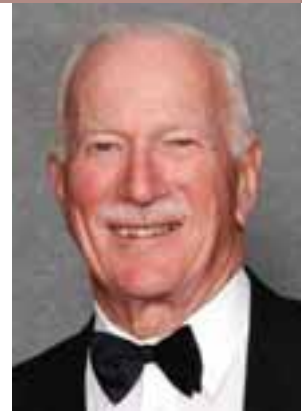
**Cover Image:**  
MW Bro Derek Robson recently installed as the 36th Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT





# What will you carve?

**The future is yours** – what you choose will determine so much of life for you and others.



**Y**ou are given at birth a block of untouched, unscratched marble out of which you may make anything you choose.

Every day and every moment of your life you are chiseling upon this marble block. You can chop away without a model or design or plan; you can hit it with your anger and disappointment, you can bring out of it a satanic, beastly, vulgar image which will disgust and demoralise every beholder, or you can bring out the angel of beauty, of truth, the ideal which lives in every normal soul.

Carve something however, you must – for you cannot leave that marble untouched.

Meanwhile, consider the letter 'e'. This letter is said to be the most unfortunate letter in the alphabet because it is always out of cash, forever in debt, never out of danger and in torment all the time.

All of which is true. Still, it is never in war, always in peace, and always in something to eat. It is the beginning of existence, the commencement of ease and the end of trouble.

Without it there would be no life or heaven. It is the centre of honesty and is always in love. It is the beginning of encouragement and endeavour and the end of failure.

Freemasonry promised me nothing except the opportunity for mental and spiritual growth and the opportunity to be serviceable to God and man. I came of my own free will and accord as all men in all ages have done. I was received as all others have been received in ages past and learned that Masonry is interested in the character of man, in man as a thinking, feeling being. I learned the real meaning of charity and that one's integrity of mind

and soul is his most precious possession. All that I had learned before was enhanced by the manner in which Masonry teaches sublime lessons.

**Freemasonry promised me nothing except the opportunity for mental and spiritual growth and the opportunity to be serviceable to God and man.**

Surrounding me I see brothers, some young in Masonry, others who have been masons for many years and I feel towards all of them a bond of friendship and fellowship which is hard to describe. To have the confidence of such a group and to know you are joined to them by bonds difficult to break, as you are to every mason in the world, is indeed a priceless privilege. All of this I learned as well as

the knowledge that to continue all I have received, I must give back my best to Masonry and to society.

Throughout the world, in every age, great men have laboured for a multiple of reasons. Some work for power, for wealth, for dominance, for duty, for a cause, for glory or just for perfectionism. But some seek happiness alone, a state of being unconnected with the obligations of this world and soon find that happiness cannot exist inside a vacuum and their triumph turns to dust and misery. True happiness involves the happiness of other people. It is to work, to teach, to learn and to be a real friend. By rights, a mason is a happy man but if he becomes unhappy, it could be that he has neglected his duty to himself, to his fellow man and to his God. A man of true compassion grows unmindful of himself and his own personal desire but instead becomes absorbed in the needs of others and happiness steals upon him.

In Grand Lodge, this is the start of a new masonic year. May it bring happiness and joy, a feeling of work well done and an enthusiasm to show to the world that the ideals of Freemasonry have not and never will be forgotten while we abide by those principles we promised to obey.

## Are you interested?

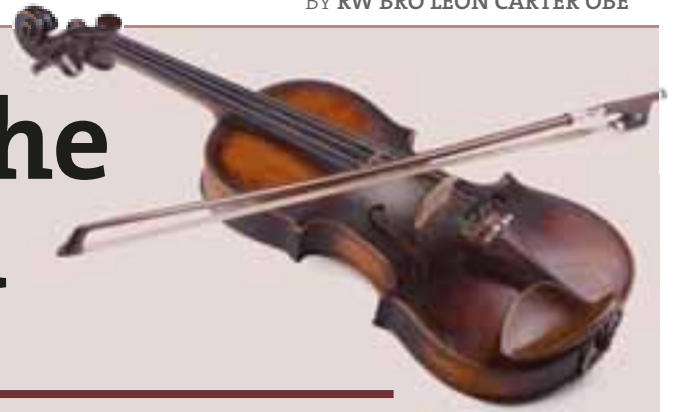
Have you ever wondered about Freemasonry – what it is and what its members do? Do you ever think about joining but don't know any masons or what action to take to find out more?

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

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



# The Touch of the Master's Hand



A poem by **Myra 'Brooks' Welch**

*T'was battered and scarred, and the auctioneer  
Thought it scarcely worth his while  
To waste much time on the old violin,  
But held it up with a smile.*

*"What am I bidden, good folks," he cried,  
"Who'll start the bidding for me?"  
"A dollar, a dollar," then, two! Only two?  
"Two dollars, and who'll make it three?"*

*"Three dollars, once; three dollars, twice;  
Going for three ..." But no,  
From the room, far back, a grey haired man  
Came forward and picked up the bow;*

*Then, wiping the dust from the old violin,  
And tightening the loose strings,  
He played a melody pure and sweet  
As a caroling angel sings.*

*The music ceased, and the auctioneer,  
With a voice that was quiet and low,  
Said: "What am I bid for the old violin?"  
And he held it up with the bow.*

*"A thousand dollars, and who'll make it two?  
Two thousand! And who'll make it three?  
Three thousand, once; three thousand, twice;  
And going and gone," said he.*

*The people cheered, but some of them cried,  
"We do not quite understand  
What changed its worth?" Swift came the reply:  
"The touch of a master's hand."*

*And many a man with life out of tune,  
And battered and scarred with sin,  
Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd,  
Much like the old violin.*

*A "mess of potage," a glass of wine;  
A game, and he travels on.  
He is "going" once, and "going" twice,  
He's "going" and almost "gone."*

*But the Master comes and the foolish crowd  
Never can quite understand  
The worth of a soul and the change that's wrought  
**By the touch of the Master's hand.***

## THE ROYAL EMPIRE LODGE

# Frank Kensett Luncheon



*The former Chief Justice of NSW, Sir Laurence Street will be the special speaker at the annual Masonic Luncheon at Parliament House on Tuesday 22 November.*

Sir Laurence will talk on 'Conflict Resolution' to continue a tradition started by the late VW Bro Frank Kensett PDGDC for The Royal Empire Lodge in 1975.

The Lodge has always tried to underscore the importance of this special event by the pre-eminence and quality of those who honour the occasion as special guests and this year will be no exception.

*Online application for tickets should be made to **The Royal Empire Lodge** at [trel613@gmail.com](mailto:trel613@gmail.com) or by mail to **The Secretary of The Royal Empire Lodge**, c/o 201 Macpherson Street, Warriewood, NSW 2102*

# June Communication

Extracts from the June Communication

The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston opened Grand Lodge with a welcome to all members and then received the First Grand Principal of Mark and Royal Arch Masons, M Ex Companion Edward Keenahan, the Grand Supreme Ruler of the Secret Monitor, M Worthy Bro Ian Newbery, and the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for Australia, MP Bro Peter Straw.

In the Executive Council report, the Grand Master said highlights of his three year term were the introduction of 17 new lodges, the 2020 program success, the changing role of women in Freemasonry, introduction of the Building Certification process, the position of the Grand Lodge in the Asia Pacific Conference and publication of the book *It's No Secret*.

The Board of Management's report recommended involvement with review in the Asia Pacific Conference, approved refurbishment of the Grand Library, seminars and workshops in Masonic Education and Training and the appointments of Regional Building Officers for the 2011–2013 term. Approval was also given to the appointment of Regional Grand Counsellors for the same term.

It also said the 'O Week at Sydney University' follow-up event at the Sydney Masonic centre in March was an outstanding success and the program is expected to be extended to other universities next year.

In its Annual Report, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence said an Information Seminar for Representatives of Sister Constitutions at the Sydney Masonic Centre prior to the September 2011 Grand Lodge Communication is yet to be confirmed. The Committee has also appointed five Zone representatives to monitor those assigned to masonic areas and maintain close contact with those representatives appointed by Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master-Elect, RW Bro Derek Robson announced RW Bro Jamie Melville would be his Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Walid Mehanna the Assistant Grand Master and RW Bro Antoine Georges the Grand Director of Ceremonies.

In an address, RW Bro Robson acknowledged the Grand Master's speech, stating it was a very clear sheet of achievements and the majority will be going forward.

'This is an honour I will never forget and I intend to build on some of these issues. I ask for the ongoing trust for the team and acknowledge what has been done to set us up for this today. It is my belief that Grand Lodge is over-governed and I hope to construct a better outcome for this jurisdiction. What I would like to see is the crossing of Regions where there are no fence posts and more togetherness.

The 2020 Masons have done great work but I want to now see them taking on the role of creating pathways to the future. I want the community to understand the merits and strengths of Freemasonry. I love Freemasonry and I want you to love it also.'

Appointments of Conferred Grand Rank were announced, as well as the Grand Master's Awards and District and Regional Awards. Various positions on committees were elected or appointed with a ballot required for the position of

Grand Pursuivant which was won by VW Bro Philip Miller with W Bro Grant Singleton Deputy Grand Pursuivant.

In other business, the Grand Secretary, RW Bro Kevin McGlenn announced his retirement after seven years in office. He said his decision was made last April and it had been an absolute delight to have worked with MW Bros Lauer, Brooke and Levenston.

'I would like to give special thanks to MW Bro Ron Johnson and RW Bro Frank Radcliff for their assistance and to the staff for their tireless efforts and unselfish service,' he said.



## A Preview of the September Communication Program

The next Quarterly Communication will be held at the Sydney Masonic Centre on Wednesday 14 September at 7.30pm.

### The Order of Business will be:

- Minutes and Correspondence
- Board and Committee reports
- Inaugural Communication Address by the Grand Master
- Investiture of Officers (if required)
- Conferral of Grand Rank
- General Business



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# Reflections

These are excerpts from the address by the **Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston**, at the June Communication.

**H**ow time flies, this is my 12th and last Grand Lodge Communication that I have had the privilege of overseeing from this Chair. They have been interesting, worthwhile, and mirrored the passions of those involved.

Brethren, at my Grand Installation I stated my mission was to:

- care for this wonderful organisation;
- rebuild confidence and morale and belief in the future;
- energize and reinvigorate our membership and infrastructure;
- have Freemasonry guide our personal search for meaning in this world as we 'reach in' ourselves, as much as we 'reach out' to the community.

The Grand Master's role is administrative, ceremonial and a role model on issues intellectual, moral and spiritual, serving to develop and promote our influence for good as masons within our community. The concept is inherently conservative, and it has always been my wish to encourage alternate leadership skills to augment and facilitate that central platform.

My personal purpose as Grand Master is to connect people and issues. As a jurisdiction we are linked stronger and focused on working as one towards our future. We need to row in the same direction to continue the traction and momentum gained in the growth of masons and enhancement of image in this Jurisdiction.

In general terms I have been pleased with the positive manner and supportive approach adopted by all members of this Jurisdiction when discussing change and embracing this challenge – witness the growing number of new lodges, Lodges of Excellence, education programs, media involvement and awareness, and application for building certification. This engagement of purpose and participation bodes well as we fight to combat the destructive influence of apathy and work toward improving membership retention.

It is prudent at this time to review the

outcomes in order to present a platform for the next administration. Issues we fell short on were:

1. As an organisation, stability of governance would benefit from a set three year term for Grand Master and a broader, more objective system of voting.
2. Communication lines are still patchy and non-inclusive, confusing in method and message.
3. We need to increase our level of benevolence to our own masons and families. Please note the reopening of our Benevolence Appeal.
4. Regional skills and contribution need to be further enhanced and acknowledged.
5. We share the loss of the Canberra Masonic Centre.

#### And what of the ways forward:

1. Confidence and morale is rising as seen by 17 new lodges, the 2020 concept, the evolution and direction which I leave in the safe hands of RW Bro Robson and his team, the 'O' week initiative, and our Image and Marketing campaign showcased by our book *It's No Secret, Real Men Wear Aprons*.

We are growing with new masons against the 'age bubble' and our future looks strong, building on the sound foundations of understanding what Freemasonry means to you as an individual and communicating that message to a receptive community.

2. In the past three years we have had 23 Regional Conferences, the developing Asia Pacific Conference, the support of our women in management, led by the Women's Advisory Council. We are meeting each other more regularly and understanding each other more clearly.
3. The strengthening of our linking to the Australia and New Zealand Grand Lodges, our Associated Orders and the family of Freemasonry, the NSW *Freemason* magazine, well respected by our community.



4. And our building Certification program, for which I formally close the Grand Master's Building Task Force, and thank those brethren, through the Chairman RW Bro Paul Fletcher, for their time and efforts. I also take time to thank our Regional Building Officers for their great work and persistence. And I look forward to the opening of the Gwynville Masonic Centre as the centre of Freemasonry in the Illawarra.

For Judith and I this last three years has been a wonderful time in our lives.

I have been asked many times 'are you looking forward to stepping down?', and to be fair, at times I am ambivalent. But 'letting go' is part of 'taking on', and the experience is a parallel to being the WM of your lodge. The learning curve is steep, regrets few, but put simply, the time is right, and a diverse range of opportunities lie ahead for Judith and I to continue to serve in the community.

To Judith, I offer my love and heartfelt thanks for being my 'right hand,' for her wise counsel, her strength of purpose, and her influence on Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction, especially on issues involving our women. Over the last 20 years of my being a mason, we are, and always have been, a team.

I express sincere appreciation for the splendid cooperation and assistance I have

continued on next page >

# What do we tell them?

When you meet a man you believe is a fit and proper person and would make a good mason, **what do you say to him?**

**D**o you try to make your comments considering his age, do you look at his qualities and qualifications, do you remember that quality is always better than quantity?

The following suggestions may assist in clarifying points about Freemasonry which have been a puzzle or obscure and give the information he needs to think about becoming a member.

## Age

The older man who seeks to join has already moulded his life, career and probably family, and is looking for an area of further stability. His lodge can be a haven after a day of pressure at work, where he can relax and associate with friends. He can study and adapt to the principles of the Craft, learn from the ritual and become a better person.

The modern world has a new youth whose views differ from our own and who won't automatically join because we say it is good for them. They want to know more about it, what happens in the lodge room, at supper and why so many men in high places find it fascinating.

The younger man, who is the future of Freemasonry, can tackle the challenges posed by the ritual and also improve the quality of life with his family and work. To better himself and mankind and be of value to the community must be stressed

as desirable objectives to achieve. Yes, a lodge can be serious but it also has the fellowship which makes life more enjoyable.

## Members

Every organization has its different classes of members – serious, happy, those who work and those who assist, leaders and followers. Each lodge has its personalities, as does the workplace and from them, the new member can learn so much of value. Using the experience of others will gradually improve their knowledge and enable them to fit better into the community and more capably handle the problems which occur.

## Publications

Grand Lodge has a number of publications which make interesting and informative reading for a prospective candidate. Give him copies of the NSW *Freemason*, background brochures on the Craft and get him to attend Open Nights or a Lodge South to meet and judge members. Give him a knowledge grounding which will further interest and inform him about the values of Freemasonry.

## The South


The festive part of the night is called 'The South' because in most masonic centres it is held on the ground floor under the lodge room. This is where members mix freely with men from all walks of life, there is an

interchange of ideas, humour, masonic courtesies, and where a thoughtful word can be given to someone in need. It is an endless list of relaxation, recognition and just plain enjoyment. But it is not a carousel; both alcohol and soft drinks are available – the choice is yours. A mason is not required to drink intoxicating liquor, his views are always respected.

## Ceremony

Potential candidates can be told that a number of people take part in the ceremony and that they are required to learn and interpret words and charges that are inspirational and instructive. When finally explained and understood, they will set standards for the new members to try and live up to. The ceremonies have to be experienced to be believed and often there are occasional happenings which show the members are human and add to the happy memories of those who participate.

## Conclusion

There is nothing to stop you telling a friend you belong to a masonic lodge. If he has the qualities required and expresses interest, you can then suggest he make further inquiries, provide him with items about Freemasonry or suggest he contacts Grand Lodge for further information. Most of all, tell friends about Freemasonry and show that you are proud to be a member. 


received as Grand Master. I generally acknowledge the counsel of our wonderful Past Grand Masters, the marvellous work by Executive Council, Board of Management and masoniCare Board, the Grand Secretariat and the Sydney Masonic Centre team. Their roles require care and an understanding of the human condition. This is reflected by a growth of membership services and the businesses of the Sydney Masonic Centre. In particular, I thank RW Bro Kevin McGlenn and RW

Bro Stephen Green for their friendship, loyalty and support.

Judith and I thank you for the many acts of kindness, friendship and hospitality which will always live in our memory and Judith particularly thanks the Jurisdiction for its support of Stewart House.

In closing I am indeed deeply indebted for the privilege of serving as Grand Master. Freemasonry inspires me, as you have all inspired me. Your commitment to our CAUSE inspires me. As an organi-

sation, we as masons need to continue our focus toward the building of the 'inner temple'. This 'inner temple' is the place where the foundation of the core of our spirit as human beings is formed. Our spiritual core is the cornerstone of our character upon which our lives are built. This is the influence of 'Freemasonry, at the heart of life'.

May you, as masons, through your ideals, actions and deeds, continue to help make the world a better place. 





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# How to learn

In the winter edition of the NSW Freemason, Bro Richard Burton made a request for assistance on **how to learn a Charge**. This is the first of the responses.

**B**ro Richard Burton asks for help on how to Learn a Charge and I would like to make these suggestions. First, there is no quick fix and endless practice is paramount.

I have found the most effective way to learn a charge is as follows:

1. Read the charge carefully and slowly **out loud** until you are confident that it is how it should sound, complete with the necessary light and shade. Understanding the meaning of each charge is half the battle. A tape recorder can help.
2. Choose the first words, as few or as many suits you, and repeat them **out loud** until you know them reasonably well.

**There are few things more rewarding in our ceremonies than hearing a charge well done, except of course doing it well yourself.**

3. Do the same with the next few words, then go back and say the two selections. Do not allow yourself to go on until all words are correct.
4. Continue to do this until you have learnt the whole.
5. This routine is a discipline which must be learnt at your own pace, but which, without imposing discipline on yourself, will be less effective. Do not expect to learn the whole charge at one sitting. It may take many sessions to arrive at the whole but that is just because we are all different and must not rush this important part of our ritual. Plus, remember that charges vary in length. You will find that a few years 'down the track', the whole process seems to get easier. That is just you getting better at it.

There are few things more rewarding in our ceremonies than hearing a charge well done, except of course doing it well yourself. A competent WM will see that you have at least a month to learn a charge – that is until the next meeting. Some may give two months. The danger with this is that a busy man may overlook his responsibilities, wasting a month because 'he knows he can do it in one month'. The way to achieve success is to start now, even if you have not been given the job yet.

The importance of delivering a good charge is not just to make you a better mason. If our candidates are on the receiving end of poor ritual work, it will colour their thinking about the Craft. Remember that 'first impressions are lasting impressions'. If a candidate sees a chap stumbling through a charge or reading it, any respect he may have had is speedily dispelled. It is the clear duty of every man doing this job, to do it well.

There are few greater satisfactions in our wonderful Craft than delivering a charge well, word perfect and knowing it is meaningful and understood.

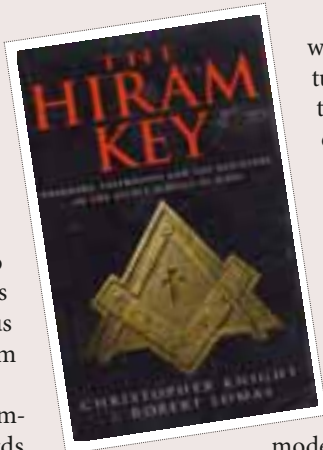
## Masonic Book Club

**T**he *Hiram Key* by Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas will be the next book for review by the Masonic Book Club.

When the authors, both masons, set out to find the origins of Freemasonry they had no idea they would find themselves unravelling the true story of Jesus Christ and the original Jerusalem Church.

Rigorously analysing and comparing ancient Egyptian records, the Old and New Testaments, early Christian and Rabbinical texts, the Dead Sea Scrolls and the rituals of Freemasonry, the authors have been able to reconstruct the lost story of Jesus and his brother James and describe their struggle to establish the 'Kingdom of heaven' upon earth using masonic-style rituals.

The book reaches its climax with the authors deciphering precise clues concealed



within masonic ritual that turned out to be the key to unlocking the secret of the final resting place of the scrolls of Jesus.

Book Club members may see interesting parallels with Robinson's *Born in Blood* – the last book reviewed – in which the 'Great Society' gave birth to modern Freemasonry.

### Details of the next meeting are:

- Date: 10 November 2011  
 Venue: Grand Lodge Library, 3rd floor Sydney Masonic Centre  
 Time: 6.00 pm  
 Charge: \$5.00 contribution for tea and coffee.



# A new Chapter in the Craft

Wollongong turned on clear skies and a mild temperature as brethren and their partners met at the Bulli Masonic Centre to participate in a **history-making weekend for Freemasonry in NSW and the ACT.**



The occasion was to give practical effect to the Concordat entered into between the UGL of NSW and the ACT and The United Supreme Grand Chapter of Mark and Royal Arch Masons of NSW and the ACT with the formation of The City of Wollongong Masonic Fraternity.

The Fraternity is composed of a Craft Lodge, The City of Wollongong Lodge No 1049 and a Royal Arch Chapter, The City of Wollongong Mark and Royal Arch Chapter No 79. With common management, the Lodge and Chapter meet on alternate months with brethren and Companions choosing to belong to both or just one of the entities making up the Wollongong Fraternity. Both the Lodge and the Chapter are dining organisations with the new Lodge being the first 'Dining Lodge' in the Illawarra region. The Lodge is starting with twenty nine Foundation Members with a candidate and two affiliates ready to join.

On Saturday 25 June the Consecration, Constitution and Installation Ceremony of The City of Wollongong Lodge No 1049 took place followed the next day by the Re-Constitution, Re-Consecration and Re-Dedication of The City of Wollongong Mark and Royal Arch Chapter No 79.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston, opened a Grand Lodge on the Saturday to enable the Ceremony of Consecration to take place. Before the closing of the Grand Lodge W Bro Ray Vickers was invited to accept on behalf of The City of Wollongong Lodge No 1049 three presentations. The first was the presentation of a Commemorative Shield by Bro Robert Robertson Mitchell and Bro Robert Christopher Mitchell, to be handed on from WM to WM of the new Lodge.



The WM of The Cedars Lodge No 1041 presented The City of Wollongong Lodge with a Volume of the Sacred Law and a set of a Square and Compasses. VEx Comp Peter Harris then presented the Lodge, on behalf of the former custodian VW Bro Hyman Esner, a set of Working Tools.

After closing the Grand Lodge and a brief intermission, the Grand Master opened an Occasional Lodge and invited VW Bro Abraham Constantin, District Grand Inspector of Workings for District 25, to take the Chair to install W Bro Vickers as the Foundation Worshipful Master of The City of Wollongong Lodge No 1049. At the completion of his installation as WM of the Lodge, Ray invested the Foundation Officers of the Lodge.


On Sunday, the First Grand Principal and Grand Master of The United Supreme Grand Chapter of Mark and Royal Arch Masons of NSW and the ACT, Most Excellent Companion Edward Keenahan, opened a Special Convocation of Grand Chapter to conduct the Ceremony of Re-Constitu-

tion, Re-Consecration and Re-Dedication of The City of Wollongong Mark and Royal Arch Chapter No 79. Delegations from the Royal Arch, Secret Monitor and the Craft attended the events on both days.

Brethren from several Masonic Orders as well as from lodges throughout the jurisdiction travelled several hundred kilometres to attend the function, such was their perception of its importance.

As the Consecration and Constitution Ceremonies held on both days were open to non-masons as well as masons it was pleasing to see many ladies in attendance.

On Saturday evening a banquet was held at the Novotel Northbeach Hotel in Wollongong for brethren and their partners and during the evening Mrs Caroline Weller presented a \$2000 cheque to Careflight, the charity of note for the Royal Arch Masons of United Supreme Grand Chapter.

The events of the weekend concluded with a buffet lunch on the Sunday provided by the ladies of The City of Wollongong Masonic Fraternity. 





# Flying the Flag

A new and innovative program of blue and gold banners will be used to help **promote Freemasonry** in communities throughout NSW and the ACT.

**T**wo of the stand-up banners, each just under two metres high and with a 900mm portable podium, will be distributed to each Region with a third provided in due course by masoniCare.

They will fit into the podium for ease of delivery and carriage and will have a cover in contemporary style to match the banner.

Each has a logo and one banner, which will have four variations, featuring a young man in a welcoming stance.

They will be used whenever a community activity occurs, such as handing over

cheques for charity, regional conferences, *Walk for Life* or Open days, and can also be used by lodges for outside and inside functions such as picnics, balls or O Weeks at various universities.

The idea follows from the book and DVD on *It's No Secret – Real Men Wear Aprons*.

'We hope brethren see this as a proper use of capitation fees and giving back something to use in Freemasonry. It will give the members something tangible they can see and touch in helping to promote the Craft,' said RW Bro Stephen Green, Chairman of the Board of Management.

'It followed an experience at a charity event some time ago at Centennial Park in Sydney when we noticed a number of corporate and other service organisations like Freemasonry had gazebos and obvious promotional material which made them readily identifiable.

'Freemasonry was obviously lacking in this area and did not have the ability to provide shade for those participating, or logos/banners. We saw the need for a more professional and visible approach to our community activities and the Board, in consultation with the RGCs, decided these would have the most use.'

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# How to Prevent crime

**Despair, shock** and a feeling of **violation** are the first reactions when a person returns to find **their home has been burgled**. It can happen when you are on holidays, attending a wedding, party or funeral.

CRIME SCENE - DO NOT CROSS

CRIME SCENE - DO NOT CROSS

CRIME SCENE - DO NOT CROSS

**T**hese are some precautions to be taken. Play your part in preventing crime and don't use 1950 methods to protect your property against 21st century criminals.

## Security in the home

1. All fences should be kept in good repair, clear of all debris which may afford a hiding place.
2. Garden tools, ladders etc should never be left in the yard. They should be locked away when not in use. Don't give criminals the means to break into your house.
3. All doors and windows should either have deadlocks or secure double locks. Don't provide access through a window, door or skylight whereby a burglar by merely opening your door from the inside can calmly walk off with your property.
4. Money, jewellery and other valuable items should not be left in obvious places such as dressing tables or shelves.
5. Valuable appliances, TV sets, cameras and others should be separately described on a sheet of paper with the colour, make, model and serial number. Keep this record in a safe place as it will assist police to identify your stolen property.
6. Keep glass and window sills clean of dust and grime to help preserve fingerprints.

7. Note and have in a prominent place the number of your local police station as well as the emergency number.
8. Valuable pieces of jewellery or antique items should be photographed in colour for later identification should they be lost or stolen.

## Holidays

1. Cancel all paper and mail deliveries or arrange with a neighbour to collect the mail and clear pamphlets and other materials during your absence.
2. Equip your letter box with a lock and if away for some weeks, arrange to have your lawns trimmed.
3. If absent during the day and returning late at night, leave a light on, turn down the blankets in your bedroom as if about to retire. Light sensitive switches are now available to control turning lights on and off in selected areas such as front porch, lounge or bedroom.
4. Be wary of informing people that 'nobody will be at home' at any time. Many robberies occur during the owner's absence after calls from bogus tradesmen.
5. Never leave the key under the mat or other obvious places nor leave notes or money where it will advertise your absence. Your home must have a 'lived in' appearance at all times.

6. If you are going away for an extended period, consider lodging small valuables in a bank safety deposit box or with family members for safe keeping.

## Motor vehicles

1. When you leave your vehicle, even for a short period, close all the windows, lock all the doors and take your keys with you.
2. Leave only the ignition key when parking at a garage. Take the others with you.
3. Do not tempt a thief. Never leave valuables such as cameras, mobiles, on the seat or anywhere on view in the vehicle.
4. Never leave any papers of identification (driver's licence, registration papers, private correspondence) in your car, especially in the glove box.
5. Do not park in isolated or dark areas.
6. Record the serial numbers of your engine, car body and car radio at some places other than in your vehicle. It will assist police in trying to identify your stolen property.
7. Consider installing a steering lock or alarm. Many thieves pass a car in favour of another vehicle if you have a lock or alarm installed.

**Remember - carelessness contributes to most robberies so don't make it easy for someone else to take your property.**





# Frightened of Freedom

This talk was given by RW Bro Raymond Apple, AO RFD PDGM at the **Lodge of the Holy City**, Jerusalem.



Two ‘freedom’ events come together tonight. We meet as Freemasons, *bonim hofshi'im*. We are almost at the eve of Passover, *hag ha-herut*. Being free is the theme that links both occasions. It would be easy to utter poetic praise of freedom, but my subject is not the joys of freedom but its dangers. Freedom is a blessing, but it's hard to handle.

*Freedom can make us bored.* Jacques Rousseau spoke of people who had freedom but found their lives so mindless and empty that they wondered what to do with themselves.

*It can lead to mischief.* Sholem Asch wrote about the unfreedom that often comes once freedom is attained. He sadly noted that the so-called liberators tended to exploit – and enslave – the very people who dreamt of freedom.

*Freedom can make us lonely.* During the struggle people pull together, but once the goal is achieved they fall out and are no longer comrades. They are now so lonely that they almost prefer they were still suffering.

What does Passover, the festival of freedom, have to say? Fight for freedom, yes, of course: but always have a further goal in mind. Reach the top of each mountain – and then discover other mountains ahead.

Sholem Asch wrote: ‘Moses, the great liberator, freed the Jews from Egypt, to make them servants to the Lord. Servants to His Law. For without God and without His Law, without righteousness, there is no Freedom.’

The masonic teachers understood this fundamental principle. They told every new recruit that a Freemason must be free, but then they gave him a difficult discipline.

Freedom is a precious boon, but it is a

**‘How can we achieve freedom?’ ...  
‘What shall we do with our freedom when we attain it?’**

danger if, in the words of the Hebrew essayist Ahad Ha'Am, one becomes a slave in the midst of freedom – *avdut b'tokh herut*.

There are four ritual questions, known as *Mah Nishtanah*, which are asked at the Passover table. Two other questions need to be asked whenever people talk about freedom. The first is: ‘How can we achieve freedom?’ The second, just as important, is: ‘What shall we do with our freedom when we attain it?’

The Psalmist says: ‘How good it is for brethren to be together.’ How good it is to have a goal; how good it is to have an agenda to carry us beyond the first goal.

**May the Great Architect of the Universe beckon us onto new challenges.**

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

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# The apron: – a garment for all seasons

Following the success of the article ‘**It’s no secret – Grannies Wear Aprons Too**’ published in the Autumn 2010 issue of the magazine, it has been decided to take a closer look at a garment worn by men and women since time immemorial.

**T**he first reference to aprons can be found in Genesis, Chapter 3 and Verse 7 of the Old Testament of the King James Bible: *‘And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.’*

This age old garment has gone through many transitions since biblical times. It has been worn as protective clothing and for decorative, symbolic and religious purposes. Many reading this article will remember the various styles of apron which



included the full length or bib aprons, the simple waist aprons which cover the lower half of the body, the sleeved aprons and the pinafore aprons usually worn by young girls as a sleeveless overdress. Aprons are also used as part of the uniform for waitresses, nurses and domestic workers.

Up until the 1900s, a type of apron in the form of a cassock was worn by Christian clergy as part of their clerical clothing. It varied from knee length to full length and in the Anglican religion was coloured black for archdeacons and purple for bishops. It is thought to have derived from Ancient Roman and Grecian times and found practical use as a means of protecting the clothing of those clergy who visited their parishes on horseback.

Whilst our memories are mainly of Granny and her apron, she certainly didn’t have it to herself. Trades and professional people including blacksmiths, welders, butchers, bakers, stonemasons, carpenters and the medical profession also wear aprons to protect their clothing and bodies from their work. How many remember the cobbler’s apron which covers the front and back of the upper part of the body and tied at the sides?

Modern aprons are a far cry from the

days when they were made of hessian. In addition to protecting clothing, the household apron was used for such practical purposes as a pot holder, a hand towel, or for carrying produce from the garden to the kitchen. Although the protection of clothing has remained the primary reason for wearing the household apron, it is now regarded as a fashion accessory





with a wide range of patterns, colours and trims available.

The materials now used are largely determined by the purpose of the apron and include leather, cloth, rubber, lead, oil cloth and PVC to name a few.

Nowadays the kitchen apron is worn by an increasing number of men due to the popularity of the back yard BBQ and an increased interest in television cooking programs.

As part of the masonic family, we are familiar with the masonic apron of which there have been countless variations and designs over time. A visit to the Museum of Freemasonry on the 3rd floor of the Sydney Masonic Centre will give those interested an idea of the development of the masonic apron and its use in the various orders of Freemasonry.

There can be little doubt that the masonic apron has been developed from the apron worn by the operative masons in the middle ages. It was fashioned from the skin of an animal and was large enough to cover the wearer from chest to ankles. It was held by a leather thong which passed around the neck and by leather thongs which tied around the waist. The use of this form of apron continued for many centuries until replaced by the more modern woven apron introduced in the eighteenth century.

The apron worn by speculative Freemasons today is now symbolic of the aprons worn by their masonic forebears and it is interesting to read the opening page of the recently published book, 'It's no Secret – Real Men Wear Aprons' which quotes from the initiation ceremony of the First or Entered Apprentice Freemason Degree: *'...the distinguishing badge of a Mason. It is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle, more honourable than the Garter or any other Order in existence, being the badge of innocence and the bond of friendship.'*


These are major claims indeed and it is worth having a brief look at the Orders to which the distinguishing badge of a mason has been compared.

**The Order of the Golden Fleece** was of high repute as an Order of Knighthood. It was established in Flanders, France in 1429 by the Duke of Burgundy, a member of the then royal family, who selected the fleece for its badge because wool was the staple production of the country. Since

that time, it has been considered as one of the most illustrious Orders of Europe.

**The Roman Eagle** was to Romans the ensign of imperial power. Made of silver or bronze, the Roman Eagle was placed at the top of the pole of the military standards (circa 104 BC).

**The Order of the Garter** was and is still considered the highest decoration to be bestowed upon a subject by a sovereign of Great Britain. It is an Order of Chivalry of Knighthood originating in medieval England. It is the pinnacle of honour in the United Kingdom to have the Order of the Garter bestowed upon you.

Granny's humble apron may not have such an illustrious pedigree as the masonic apron; however, it has developed into a garment which is worn with pride in all walks of life. For masons, the apron is a badge of membership and a bond of friendship; for Granny and those who have followed in her footsteps, it has become a badge of distinction and service. 

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# Gone to Gowings

On 2 January 1819, the NSW Governor, Bro Lachlan Macquarie, leased a **parcel of land on the southeast corner of George and Market Streets, Sydney** to James Smith for 14 years.

Two years later, on 13 February 1821, the land was auctioned and purchased by Daniel Cooper who, with his partner Solomon Levy, erected a store and brick warehouse named the Waterloo Stores which became a thriving business and even issued its own currency known as Waterloo notes. This site was later to become the renowned Gowings store.

On Christmas morning 1857, 22-year-old John Ellis Gowing stepped ashore at Sydney Cove with 400 pounds in his pocket. His family were struggling English farmers and John had come to unsuccessfully seek his fortune on the goldfields. When members of the family arrived in 1858, John took a job in a waterfront warehouse and then joined the staff of the well-established retail firm of David Jones, rising to manager of the mercery department.

In 1863, John Ellis Gowing went out on his own and opened a small drapery store in Crown Street, East Sydney, did well and on 28 November 1868 opened his new Mercery and Glove Depot at 318 George Street. He took his brother Preston into partnership and the firm of Gowing Bros moved into a new mercery warehouse at 344 George Street. A second store was opened at 498 George Street and Gowings had become known as 'Gentlemen Outfitters'.

Gowings purchased Hunter's shop at 454 George Street in 1922 which gave a George Street entrance to the Market Street property where they erected a 14-storey building in 1930. Preston Gowing died in 1900 and John on 2 October 1908, but the firm continued with their sons to carry on the business.

The famous slogan 'Gone to Gowings' originated when Ted Gowing, grandson of John Ellis, was serving in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War. He saw placards advertising 'Gone to Lyons', the well-known English chain of cafes, and decided that 'Gone to Gowings' sounded even better.

They began an advertising campaign in the *Sydney Morning Herald* which depicted footsteps from Farmer's Department Store opposite, across the street to Gowings. Farmer's complained and the advertisement was withdrawn. Another famous use of the slogan was when the notorious criminal Darcy Dugan escaped from custody and scrawled 'Gone to Gowings' on the prison wall.

Another well-known slogan associated with Gowings was the sign outside the store which read 'Walk thru, no one asked to buy'.

Sydney's oldest family-owned retailer began 148 years ago, and four years after John Ellis Gowing opened for business, he was initiated into Freemasonry on 4 March 1867, passed on 6 May and became a Master Mason on 17 June in the Lodge of Australia No 390 English Constitution, which became No 3 on the Register of the UGL of NSW/ACT.

Details supplied by the Masonic Historical Society of NSW





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# BOAT PEOPLE

PERSONAL STORIES FROM THE VIETNAMESE EXODUS 1975-1996

Photographs courtesy David Tanner c/- The West Australian Newspaper Group;  
The Fremantle Press; HKSAR Government and UNHCR



EDITED BY CARINA HOANG

An in-depth look at the most extraordinary  
mass movement of people in modern history...



During my years as book publisher for a multi-national publishing conglomerate, I was privileged to sight numerous books and manuscripts over the widest spectrum of interest and scholarship. Never was opportunity offered to review such a collection of heartbreaking, harrowing, yet true personal stories of desperate escape ocean journeys of almost unspeakable human tragedy and experience, now portrayed in this newly published book simply titled **BOAT PEOPLE** by Carina Hoang – herself a boat person survivor from the great Vietnam Exodus of 1975 through to 1996.





At the tender age of 16 Carina, a product of a wealthy stable family, had already learnt truth and discipline from her father, then Saigon's chief of police. Instilled with this strength of character, her demonstration of amazing courage escaping war-torn Vietnam on a small wooden semi-waterlogged boat measuring 25m x 5m with her two younger siblings and 373 other people of all ages, almost defies belief.

This is their story ... 41 other survivors on 41 different boats collectively carrying several thousand souls, all fleeing for their lives.

'... violent seas tossed boats around, squashed-in people throwing up and urinating all over each other ... the pervasive smell of vomit, faeces, and crawling rats ripping into dead and totally exhausted human bodies alike, all day and all night ... malnourished babies dying from either starvation, sea-sickness or dysentery... Sleep when possible from bodies just laying on top of each other ... boats frequently greeted by Thai and Malay pirates, whose brutality left both unforgettable and indelible memories beyond all imagination ... young girls and women of every age raped by pirates over and over for hours on end ... the many sledgehammers used by these same outlaws to smash wrists, to prise bangles and watches of



value away can never be forgotten ... the excruciating pain from teeth plier-pulled for their meagre gold fillings ...' And for the thousands surviving the many agonies, came further horror with the Indonesian injustice of dumping floundering boats and people on the myriad of small uninhabited islands; either to die of thirst, hunger, disease ... or from personal ingenuity and super-human effort to just stay alive and make landfall elsewhere.

Yet there was always hope and an eventual positive future for many.

Carina herself began a new life, where over the next 20 years she worked and studied hard, eventually earning herself multiple tertiary degrees. Now married and a mother, Carina currently lives peacefully in Perth with her husband and daughter.

The Foreword is by the Right Honourable Malcolm Fraser, AC, CH, and acknowledgement of Carina Hoang's recent induction into Western Australia's inaugural

Hall of Fame by His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Governor of Western Australia, adds that measure of positiveness and hope to all suffering Vietnamese boat people ... that there **is** a future. 🇺🇸



Carina Hoang with her husband Roberto, Daughter, Chiara and niece Savannah

Published by Freemantle Press, Western Australia

ISBN: 9780646542911

March 2011 publication, \$45.00.

Large P/B, illustrated, 240 pages.





# From the Grand Secretary

## The Lodge Secretaries' Association

One of the longest surviving gatherings of this Grand Lodge is the 'The Lodge Secretaries' Association'. This unique group meets four times annually and recently changed its Rules so that it meets on the Friday following the Grand Communications each quarter. This enables business transacted or resolutions passed at the Communication to be discussed and explained if needed.

Whilst the name of the Association may imply it is restricted in membership to Lodge Secretaries only, this is not the case and interested brethren are most welcome to join – however that does not diminish the fact that current Secretaries should be encouraged to attend and represent their particular lodge.

The meetings (at which ladies are most welcome to attend) generally start at 11.00 am at the Sydney Masonic Centre and after general business and financial updates, a 'Question and Answer' session follows which, if nothing else, raises some interesting and often unique questions. Here the Grand Secretary generally answers questions relating to administrative and Grand Lodge matters but it will often lead into discussions on certain secretarial responsibilities and how various Secretaries address these issues or problems.

At the completion of the Q & A segment, the Association welcomes a guest speaker to the gathering who speaks for approximately 25 minutes. This is also followed by a Q & A session on the subject at hand. The guest speaker's topic is generally, but not limited to, masonic information.

Ladies or brethren who may have a masonic affiliation involving their time in a unique and interesting way which they feel may be of interest to the Association, are welcome to bring this to the attention of the Secretary of the Association for consideration of the Management Committee which is responsible for the organisation of the quarterly meetings.

At the conclusion of each meeting, lunch is provided at a minimal cost at which those present are able to mingle in true masonic spirit. Ladies are most welcome to be present as well.

Membership of the Association is by way of a minimal yearly subscription which ensures all subscribers are kept up to date with copies of Minutes of each meeting and the addresses given by guest speakers.

Those wishing to join the Association should contact the Secretary, VW Bro Max Bound (maxbound@optusnet.com.au) or by telephone to the Grand Lodge Secretariat (02 9284 2800) to arrange contact with Bro Bound by other means.

## UGL Website

Brethren would have noticed by now that certain facilities in the 'Members' Area' of the UGL website have been discontinued. Every part of this special area has been developed to provide our members with as much opportunity as possible to read, research and, especially, to enjoy their Freemasonry that one bit further.

The 'Notice Board' for example provided all members of the Craft in this jurisdiction a chance to convey messages relating to, or reporting on, special masonic events and such things as congratulatory messages to brethren for various achievements.

Unfortunately one Brother chose to use this particular medium in an underhanded and most disgraceful manner for reasons known only to him. The matter will continue to be the subject of investigation and one day this service may be provided again for all brethren to enjoy and not be ruined by the immature actions of just one brother.

## End of the road

This will be my last column for our wonderful magazine as Grand Secretary. I have been staggered by the many messages in person and in writing that I have received and I am truly grateful and humbled.



**'It has been a pleasure to serve members of Grand Lodge ... it has allowed me the chance to appreciate what Freemasonry truly represents in our Community ...'**

It has been a pleasure to serve members of Grand Lodge in this most distinguished Office. In one day alone it can be hard, satisfying, funny, challenging, overwhelming and offer unbelievable hurdles. At the end of that day, though, it has allowed me the chance to appreciate what Freemasonry truly represents in our Community but above all to meet so many individuals from the Governor General of Australia, the Governor of NSW and a brother who had just been initiated at 18 years of age and still planning his own career but at the same time choosing to also be numbered within our ranks.

I cannot speak too highly of the Grand Masters and wonderful Secretariat staff who have joined me on this adventure for over seven years and to the members of the Boards and Committees that have devoted so much of their own time and effort as well.

**It has been great!** 



# New Grand Master Installed

Once again the Masonic fraternity gathered in Sydney to witness a Grand Installation when **MW Bro Derek Robson AM** was installed as the **36th Grand Master of the UGL of NSW & ACT** at the Convention Centre, Darling Harbour.



Ladies in their finery matched the colourful regalia of the attending Grand Masters and representatives of the Associated Orders and were entertained before and during the ceremony by an organ recital, musical items from the Masonic Ensemble and items by harpist Bro Victor Valdes.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston opened Grand Lodge and then received and welcomed the five visiting Australian State Grand Masters, the Grand Master of New Zealand, the representatives from New Caledonia and the leaders of 15 Associated Orders.

Grand Honours were given to the visitors and the Grand Master called on the sponsors, MW Bro Ron Johnson AM and MW Bro Rev Raymond Green to present the Grand Master-Elect, RW Bro Robson who took an Obligation on the duties of his office.

He was invested with the powers of his office by the Grand Master and told: 'The Office of Grand Master is one of great antiquity and respect and is the highest dignity to which a mason can aspire. Be it your aim to reach these standards so that you shall be a bright and shining



Brethren from New Caledonia

Master by MW Bro Tony Lauer PGM, to the brethren by MW Bro Raymond Brooke PGM, greetings from MW Bro George Curry PGM on behalf of sister Grand Lodges and a response by MW Bro Ray Clarke, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of South Australia and the

example to all.'

The insignia of his rank were then invested – the apron, gauntlets and chain of office, as well as the Grand Master's Centenary Jewel which is to be passed to his successor at the time of his installation.

MW Bro Levenston then said: 'I now render the first act of honour due to you as Grand Master. MW Bro Robson, I hail you, I salute you and I proclaim you Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of NSW and the ACT of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons. May God bless and preserve you.'

Grand Honours were then given by the assembly to the new Grand Master who then invested the Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro James Melville and the Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Walid Mehanna. Together, they invested and congratulated the remaining officers.

Addresses were given to the Grand

Northern Territory.

The Installing Grand Master, MW Bro Levenston said: 'MW Grand Master, as we reach the conclusion of the ceremony of your Installation, may I offer you my sincerest congratulations and best wishes for your term of office.'

In reply, MW Bro Robson thanked MW Bro Levenston for the extraordinary legacy he has left of commitment and thoroughness.

'He has introduced change and I have great admiration for him and treasure our long-standing friendship. I would also like to thank the visiting delegations who have taken so much time and commitment to be here today.'

The Grand Master then addressed the assembly, the Grand Lodge was closed and members, guests and friends attended the Grand Banquet to further welcome the new team.





# A Look to the Future

Address by **MW Bro Derek Robson AM**, Grand Master at his Installation on 6 August, 2011

I want to begin by highlighting the circumstances of two most distinguished men whom I have always held in high regard and whose example I have tried to follow throughout my life.

In 1810, Lachlan Macquarie, a Freemason, was installed as Governor of New South Wales.

As the colony numbers increased, he commenced an ambitious program whereby all settled members of the colony, the councils and the former convicts were working together for the betterment of all.

The Governor encouraged exploration as another way of occupying idle minds and soon, many on the colony were venturing into the country to create new opportunities and to support those who had gone before. The Governor met considerable resistance from time to time, particularly from those who saw themselves as exclusives and those wanting to create their own opportunities and restrict civil rights and judicial privileges for themselves.

But his experience prevailed.

He pursued a policy of allowing all deserving in his community to enjoy the same rights and he was careful to involve them at every level. He reached far and wide across this State to extend his vision of building communities and providing opportunities for self enrichment, and he saw that all areas of his jurisdiction were viable and self sufficient.

Macquarie had served with some distinction in the military. At age 15, he volunteered for service in the British Army, was commissioned and finally promoted to Lieutenant Colonel before his appointment as Governor of NSW. Perhaps we should also note that all previous Governors had been Navy men – good men, I might add.

I would like to dwell for a moment more on this subject, and mention another good man, Admiral Harry Rawson, the 21st Governor of NSW, who served from May 1902 to May 1909. Admiral Rawson was a Freemason – and also a good man;



Representatives of the Associated Masonic Orders present at the Grand Installation

a distinguished Naval Officer in every sense and a most respected Governor. He was noted for his tact, kindness and good sense; and he worked hard to promote his communities, and especially the youth. He became our Grand Master in 1905, and served with the same commitment. Admiral Rawson governed for all in our society and actively promoted Freemasonry at all times. On his passing in 1910, the *Sydney Morning Herald* said 'Everyone has recognised the qualities of unassuming good will, tact and honesty of purpose that have made Sir Harry Rawson's period of office so successful'.

Brethren, such are the qualities that we have come to expect from all of our Grand Masters.

So what is different today?

Well, 201 years after Governor Macquarie, there need be no difference. And I stand here now with all of you, honoured to accept this challenge.

Like Macquarie, I intend to lead for all, and like Admiral Rawson, I intend to lead with tact, kindness and good sense.

As Freemasons in NSW and the ACT,

we have to recognise the need for change where change can make our organisation more flexible and efficient. For instance, we are currently bound by our Constitution to an Executive Council, a Board of Management, a network of Regional and District Officers, our Lodge Officers and the Grand Secretariat. This many layered approach to management may have been the most efficient in the past, when communication to and from Grand Lodge was slow and difficult – but do we need all these layers now, or are they making us less efficient in this, the age of digital communication? Many members, including myself, believe that we are now at risk of being over governed.

We also need to look at the efficiency of existing fiscal arrangements and, where necessary, consider and invoke change.

A large number of organisations have embraced change-management to become more efficient and responsive to members in recent years, and we should not be the exception. To begin, we need to urgently consider how best to engage the views of our individual members in this process.



We need to seriously consider our best option for allowing them the right to have a personal say in these activities, and particularly in matters of succession. We cannot continue to simply talk around these issues. The only way to address complex issues is to address them.

We need to come together in every sense. Whether we consider ourselves city or country Freemasons, Generational Masons or 20/20 Masons, we need to ensure we gain from our Craft experience and all get to enjoy the full benefits of Freemasonry throughout our jurisdiction.

We need to ensure there is equal opportunity for all no matter where we are situated, that the spoils of our endeavours are equally shared, that we are mindful of the needs of others, and that harmony prevails.

Freemasonry does not begin with the Grand Lodge, and neither is the Grand Lodge Freemasonry. Rather, Freemasonry is you and all other prospective members out in our community. Freemasonry begins in our community, in our lodges and, more importantly, in our individual hearts. If we want to ensure our growth as an organisation, we must continue to present a strong presence through the lodges in our local communities.

In the context of the city, I particularly want to see all masons proud of their Grand Lodge building. Positioned in the heart of our State's capital, it sits as a proud Memorial building, and a fine example of our strength of purpose and commitment. Regrettably, its purpose as a memorial building is not well known. I will encourage the creation of a 'Friends of the Grand Lodge' association to achieve two aims. Firstly, to raise funds to support the building's development, and secondly, to support a loosely rostered team of honorary, enthusiastic, energetic and committed masons to effectively act as concierge at the main Castlereagh Street entrance, and to act as roving ambassadors throughout the building.

As roving ambassadors, they will respond to the inquisitive interest of conference delegates and visiting public, explaining the purpose, symbolism, design and content of our wonderful building. This is a resource we cannot continue to ignore.

There is no doubt that times change. Lodges will always consider consolidation

and we will always consider the dedication of others. This is mostly healthy, being cognisant of the changing circumstance of our members and their changing demographics and professions. But we need to ensure that we have searched our hearts and given every assistance to the lodge as it has struggled toward that decision, just in case a little assistance might lead to it being revitalised within its local community. Whatever the circumstance, we must ensure that the result is the best for that area of our jurisdiction, as it is particularly important that we are represented in every large city, town and village, if we are to ensure that our objectives are met.

I propose to investigate the possibility of a number of strong lodges joining forces to form a 'Masonic help task force' whereby we could travel to communities in need, either to perform some form of makeover of a lodge building beyond the skills of a reduced or aging membership, or to undertake a similar type package in a broader community sense. Either of these services would enhance the standing of the Craft and its charitable objects in those communities.

Similarly, I will recommend to our Grand Charity that it might be better involved in this regard. While it regularly distributes to groups in our community, and assists others suffering natural disaster with appropriate and substantial donations to ease their burden, members must be confident that their funds are being put to best use. We need to ensure that our gifted financial resources are directed to where they are most effective. With large areas of our State having been declared disaster areas in recent weeks, there has been considerable opportunity for us to ease the burden of others and be seen as a caring and supportive group within those communities. With similar versions of our 'Masonic help task force' assisted by the Grand Charity, we would bring enormous kudos to our organisation, a great sense of wellbeing for our involved members, and a positive and direct influence on the communities involved.

Using these directions, and other subtleties of program, I hope to improve our standing across this State and the Australian Capital Territory.

The future is clearly in our hands.

Many famous personalities have left the world with sayings from which we

have gained sage advice.

Sayings such as:

- Opportunities do not wait;
- True life is lived when tiny changes occur;
- You must do the things you think you can't do;
- Give us the tools and we will finish the job;
- Keep sowing the seeds, for you never know which ones will grow – perhaps they all will;
- Do more than is required of you;
- I will go anywhere – provided it be forward;
- An honest man is the noblest work of God;

And finally,

- The bible tells us 'as you sow, so shall you reap.'

We have been told by Past Grand Masters to 'dare to be different' and that 'Freemasonry is good – let's talk about it'.

Our Vision is clear, and that is to see Freemasonry recognised as an organisation of high moral and social standard that benefits its members and the community.

And that is my vision – for Freemasonry to renew its connection with the community – and in every town and suburb of our jurisdiction.

So the challenge is before us. We must emulate the deeds of our forefathers – we clearly owe them that.

And, before I conclude, I want to acknowledge the great support that I have had over many years from my many mentors, within and outside the Craft; from my family – Cheryl, Jodie, Kylie, Pete and my gorgeous boy Chris; from my personal secretary Dawn; and as we now go forward, the wonderful encouragement I get from Nicole – in all, one could never hope for greater support.

I thank Greg, our Immediate Past Grand Master, for his personal friendship over the past few years, and for his contribution to the Craft.

And finally, I thank you for your encouragement and your confidence. This is a great honour you have bestowed on me today.





# Our new Grand Officers

Grand Lodge Officers for 2011–2012

**Grand Master**  
MW Bro D.J. Robson AM

**Deputy Grand Master**  
RW Bro J.R. Melville

**Assistant Grand Master**  
RW Bro W. Mehanna

**Senior Grand Warden**  
RW Bro E. Maniago

**Junior Grand Warden**  
RW Bro F. Pamplona

**Grand Chaplain**  
RW Bro L.P. Carter OBE

**Grand Chaplain**  
RW Bro R.F. Hely CBE

**Grand Chaplain**  
RW Bro P.B. Kilkeary OAM

**Grand Chaplain**  
RW Bro S.H. Tov-Lev

**Grand Treasurer**  
RW Bro R.K. Collins

**Deputy Grand Treasurer**  
VW Bro A.G. Ebert

**Grand Registrar**  
RW Bro J.E. Armfield

**Deputy Grand Registrar**  
RW Bro W.S. Whitby

**Grand Architect**  
RW Bro W.V. Sinclair

**Deputy Grand Supt of Works**  
VW Bro P.E. Robinson

**Grand Secretary**  
RW Bro K.J. McGlinn

**Deputy Grand Secretary**  
RW Bro C.J. Craven

**Deputy Grand Secretary**  
RW Bro K.C. Taylor

**Grand Director of Ceremonies**  
RW Bro A. Georges

**Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies**  
VW Bro P.M. Ratcliff

**Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies**  
VW Bro J.R. Angeles

**Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies**  
VW Bro J.J. Begbie

**Senior Grand Deacon**  
W Bro R.K. Murray

**Junior Grand Deacon**  
W Bro C.I. Wattle

**Grand Sword Bearer**  
W Bro P.A. Howlett

**Grand Standard Bearer**  
Bro N.K. Mannoun

**Grand Director of Music**  
RW Bro I.N. Cox

**Grand Organist**  
RW Bro C.F. Sillince

**Deputy Grand Organist**  
RW Bro J. Baldwin OAM

**Deputy Grand Organist**  
VW Bro F.J. Dunster JP

**Deputy Grand Organist**  
Bro A.R.B. Slater

**Grand Herald**  
W Bro A.C. Owen

**Grand Pursuivant**  
VW Bro P.L. Miller

**Deputy Grand Pursuivant**  
W Bro G.W. Singleton





**Grand Steward**  
W Bro B. Akpinar

**Grand Steward**  
Bro P.J. Bertram

**Grand Steward**  
VW Bro J.B. Bertram

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro A.C. Boyden

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro J.E. Brown

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro M.A. Cooper

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro R.E.D. Dixon

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro G. El-Chami

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro D.J.P. Eurlings JP

**Grand Steward**  
VW Bro I.M. Galloway

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro K.J. Gisborne

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro D.P. Goonasekera

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro K.W. Hunt

**Grand Steward**  
VW Bro J.M. Le Faucheur

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro W.T. Lewis

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro R.C. Lloyd

**Grand Steward**  
VW Bro B.G. Maples

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro P.J. Mason

**Grand Steward**  
VW Bro L.M. McComish

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro D.B.T. McKay

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro R.W. Nash

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro R.J. Reid

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro K.W. Reynolds

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro P.J. Smith

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro L.B. Smith

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro R.N. Taylor

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro R.E. Weblin

**Grand Steward**  
W Bro D.J. Wilson

**Grand Tyler**  
RW Bro G.W. Beaton

**Chairman,  
Board of Management**  
RW Bro I.R. Newbery

**Chairman,  
Grand Charity**  
RW Bro G.C. Redfern



L-R: RW Bro Jamie Melville DGM, Ms Nicole Armstrong, MW Bro Derek Robson GM, Mrs Rima Mehanna, RW Bro Walid Mehanna AGM

## Meet the new Leaders

Biographies of our new senior officers

### THE GRAND MASTER

## MW Bro Derek Robson AM

**D**erek James Robson was born in Wellington, New Zealand, in March 1947. He completed early schooling in Victoria before joining the Royal Australian Navy in 1963 as an apprentice at HMAS *Nirimba*. He trained as a shipwright, served on shore establishments including HMAS *Tarangau* at Manus Island and on HMAS *Sydney*, HMAS *Melbourne* and HMAS *Stalwart*.

Derek was selected for commissioned rank in 1976 and attended courses at the

Royal Naval Staff College, London, and the Royal Naval Engineering College Manadon in Plymouth UK, before returning to Australia to complete training as a Marine Engineer Officer.

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 mod-

ernised HMAS *Derwent* prior to returning to Navy Office in 1987 to be 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 in and around Australia, and as the Marine Engineer Officer in HMAS *Parramatta*. In 1989, he became Assistant Director Naval Officers' Postings, responsible for the postings and promotions of all officers up to Commander rank.

He served as Commanding Officer, HMAS *Kuttabul* 1991–1994 and became the Navy's representative on the working party leading to the successful Defence Efficiency Review.



November 1994 saw a complete career change with appointment as National Secretary (Chief Executive Officer) of the Returned & Services League of Australia.

Derek is also the Executive Director of the Australian Forces Overseas Fund, which supports wounded servicemen and provides comforts and amenities to all Australian Defence personnel serving overseas, Chairman of the National RSL Clubs and Licensed Sub-Branch Forum and represents Australia on the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Servicemen's League, providing assistance to all veterans of the Commonwealth. 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 a member of the 'RSL ANZAC of the Year' National Committee.

In community activities as 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 Rotary International in 1993. He has had a long association with national community, welfare and service related industries and has served on many reviews and committees. He actively supports the Royal Flying Doctor Service, and currently serves on the Committee of the Order of Australia Association (ACT).

Internationally, he led the RSL National Executive tour to Japan in November 2002 following an invitation from the Japanese Government; represented Australia (along with the Governor General, Major General Michael Jeffery) at the 60th Anniversary of the 'Victory in Europe' celebrations in Moscow in May 2005; headed a 5 km 'Heroes Walk' through the centre of Bangalore in August 2005, with over 15,500 school children, military personnel and National Cadets to raise awareness of the plight of veterans of the Armed Forces of India, especially those who lost limbs, and spoke at several private schools in India on respect and understanding. He represented Australia in veteran related forums in Ghana, Canada, Malaysia and Hong Kong and in 2005 hosted the Indian

Defence Force Chiefs of Staff at the inaugural 20/20 International Cricket Competition in India.

MW Bro Robson joined Freemasonry in Sydney on 19 December 1978 in Lodge Prosperity Lewis No 474. 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, Assistant Grand Master in 2004, and Deputy Grand Master in 2009.

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

#### DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

## RW Bro Jamie Melville

Jamie Melville was born in Sydney and grew up in the Peakhurst area. He is the youngest of four children to Bill and Aileen. Growing up, Jamie was involved in local sport, including cricket, soccer and judo where he won a state title. He was also involved with his local Scout group (1st West Peakhurst) where he became the Assistant Scout Leader. He was educated in Peakhurst West primary and then continued to Peakhurst High School which leaving in 1985.

After his apprenticeship as an electrician he left to gain more experience with various electrical contracting companies. Deciding on a career change, Jamie left the electrical trade to work in the transport industry. After a few years an opportunity became available to get back into the electrical industry with Clipsal where he is still employed. Jamie's first introduction to Freemasonry was through the Scouting movement and the awards nights hosted by Lodge Baden Powell for local Rover Crews.

A close family friend introduced Jamie to Lodge Sylvania through an Open Night in 1992. He joined the Lodge then progressed through the various positions until April 1998 when he was installed as the WM, a position he served for two years.

Jamie joined the Ceremonial Team in 2002 as a Grand Steward and progressed through to become Senior Grand Warden in 2007. He is a member of Lodge Castlereagh and the Grand Stewards Lodge. He is also a member of the Grand Lodge Demonstration Team and was appointed the Assistant Grand Master in 2009.

#### ASSISTANT GRAND MASTER

## RW Bro Walid Mehanna

Walid Mehanna progressed through the Ceremonial Team from Grand Steward in 2002 to Senior Grand Warden in 2008/2009. Walid was initiated in Lodge Wallace Bryce No 684 on 11 February 1991 serving each progressive office. The lodge consolidated with Lodge Sir Joseph Banks No 300 on 27 July 1993 and Walid was installed as the WM in September 1996.

He was also a Foundation Member of The Cedars Lodge No 1041, a Past Worthy Supreme Ruler of the Secret Monitor, a 30th Degree member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and has taken all the degrees in the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch.

Born in Lebanon, in August 1963, Walid was the eldest of five brothers and a sister. He migrated to Australia in January 1986 at the age of 23 and married Rima, producing Rebecca, Jennifer, Danielle and Charbel.

Educated in commerce and accountancy, Walid established successful business operations with Rima. During his 12 months as President of the former Present and Past Grand Officers Association in 2008/2009, it changed its name to the Freemasons Association, admitted women, entered into a Memorandum with the United Grand Lodge and raised over \$45,000 for the NSW Freemasons Disaster Relief Fund. He enjoys off-road driving, the Australian countryside, movies and social interaction with Rima and the children.





L-R: RW Bro Antoine Georges GDC, VW Bro Jose Angeles AGDC, RW Bro Manny Maniago SGW, RW Bro Fidencio Pamplona JGW, VW Bro John Begbie AGDC, VW Bro Peter Ratcliff DGDC

#### SENIOR GRAND WARDEN

## RW Bro Emmanuel (Manny) Maniago

**M**anny (Emmanuel) Maniago was initiated in Lodge Woronora 414 on 24 July 1993, passed on 27 November 1993 and raised on 28 May 1994. He progressed through all offices and was the Worshipful Master from 1999 to 2001 and again in 2004.

He joined the ceremonial team as a Grand Steward in 2004, served District 28 as District Grand Inspector of Workings in 2006, rejoined the ceremonial team and was elected Grand Pursuivant in 2008.

Manny was born in the Philippines in 1951 and migrated to Sydney, in 1982 with wife Remy and children Julius Emmanuel and Joanna Remedios. His son Joseph Emmanuel was born in Sydney in 1987. Julius is in electrical sales, Joanna is in forensic services and Joseph works in the building industry. Manny and Remy have two grandsons and a granddaughter. He was the foundation Worshipful Master of Lodge Jose Rizal 1045, consecrated on 30 November 2010. He is also a member of

Lodge Kilwinning and the Grand Stewards Lodge. Manny is the Worthy Supreme Ruler of St George Conclave No 2 of the Order of the Secret Monitor and a member of Bexley Mark and Royal Arch. He was educated as an engineer, worked with Qantas Airways for the last 24 years, holding the positions of Site and Operations Shift Supervisor and recently retired as Property Maintenance Supervisor. His interests outside Freemasonry include travelling and playing golf.

#### JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN

## RW Bro Fidencio Pamplona

**F**idencio (Fidel) Pamplona was born in the Philippines in 1951 and migrated to Australia in 1982. He completed his education in the Philippines as BS in Management and a Marine Machinist Apprentice graduate in the US Naval Facility, Subic Bay, Philippines.

Fidel began work in Sydney at GEC Diesel, then Cockatoo Dockyard, Sydney

Water Board and has been at Thales Australia for the last 26 years as a Team Leader Mechanical.

He was initiated at Lodge Star of Australia No 200 in February 2000. In November 2003 he was installed as WM and led the Centenary Celebration of the Lodge in April 2004.

Fidel is a member of the Filipino Third Degree Exemplification Team, Past President of the Filipino Freemasons Association of NSW and a member of the 30th degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

Grand Steward in 2005 and Deputy Grand Pursuivant in 2007, he progressed through the Ceremonial Team to AGDC. He is also a member of the Grand Stewards Lodge No 1022.

He was one of the architects and Foundation SW of Lodge Jose Rizal No 1045 consecrated on 30 January 2010 and is the WM of this Lodge.

Fidel has been married to Penny for 39 years with three children, Dennis, Elline and Larry. Larry was one of the first two candidates initiated in Lodge Jose Rizal. They have four grandchildren, Dianna, Daniel, Desiree and DJ and enjoy family outings, travelling and sightseeing.



**GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES**

## RW Bro Antoine Georges

**A**ntoine Georges was born in Lebanon in 1956 as the youngest of 10 children and migrated to Australia in 1975.

He began working in the public welfare sector and stayed for the next 24 years. He was employed as a Youth Worker and held various positions including Welfare Officer; Social Welfare Worker; Counsellor; Bilingual Vocational Support Officer; Community Development/Education Officer; Community Justice Mediator; Interpreter; Co-ordinator of a Commonwealth Employment Program; Education/Training consultant, and worked for Australia Post. Antoine has been highly active in voluntary community participation, assisted the Marrickville Legal Centre in providing voluntary services to the Arabic speaking community, was a foundation member of the Arabic Welfare Interagency (now known as the Arabic Welfare Council) and assisted in the development of several other non-English speaking senior groups. He was initiated in Lodge Punchbow No 244 on 11 January 1996 and is still a member. He is also a member of Lodge Kilwinning No 13, The Grand Stewards Lodge No 1022 and the foundation Installing Master (IPM) of the Cedars Lodge No 1041, a member of the Royal Arch, Rose Croix 30th Degree and was installed in the chair of the Leichhardt Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor. As a capable ritualist, Antoine joined the Ceremonial Team as a Grand Steward in August 2004.

Antoine is well supported by wife Margarita and children, Sara, Christina and Moussa.

**CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

## RW Bro Ian Newbery

**I**an Newbery, born in London, joined the Royal Navy in 1959, saw active service in Borneo in 1966 with the 845 Royal Marine Commando Squadron. Ian joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1971 and migrated to Australia with his



RW Bro Ian Newbery  
Chairman, Board of Management

wife Joan and two sons. He served on the carrier HMAS *Melbourne* and most of the RAN Air Squadrons. He retired as a Commander in 1998 and was appointed Executive Officer in the Australian Public Service. Ian retired in April 2010 and resides in Nowra with his wife.

He was initiated in 1975 in Lodge Albert C Petrie No 954 at Nowra, installed as WM in 1981 and reinstalled in 2003. Ian helped form Lodge Nowra Daylight and is currently a member of Lodge Kiama No 35. He was conferred Past Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies in 1994, Past Junior Grand Warden in 2005 and Past Assistant Grand Master in 2011.

He was appointed to the Members Board in 1997, elected a Country Member for two years in 1998, served on the Membership Committee and as Chairman and Master of the NSW Lodge of Transition. He is a member of the NSW Research Lodge Correspondence Circle and the Discovery Lodge of Research.

Ian joined the Royal Arch Degree in 1977 in Nowra and became First Principal in 1989, 1993 and 2009. He was made Past Third Grand Principal and has been a correspondence member of the City of Sydney Royal Arch Chapter of Research and Instruction since 1990.

He joined Illawarra Conclave No 4, Order of the Secret Monitor in 1984, installed as Worthy Supreme Ruler in 1988 and progressed to Grand Supreme Ruler, a position he still holds. In 2003 Ian was appointed President of the Executive Committee until 2008. He represented the OSM in negotiations with the UGL culminating in the Concordat signing in 2005.



RW Bro Greg Redfern  
Chairman, Grand Charity

**CHAIRMAN, GRAND CHARITY**

## RW Bro Greg Redfern

**B**eing semi-retired hasn't stopped RW Bro Greg Redfern, PJGW, from continuing to be an active Freemason and family man.

The Chairman of the Grand Charity, masoniCare, said he sees charity as a vital component of being a mason and the future success of Freemasonry.

He started his masonic career 40 years ago in Sydney at Lodge Wybalena which is now part of Lodge Epping No 390 and included three years in the chair of his lodge.

He was part of the Audit and Finance Committee for more than seven years, Deputy Grand Treasurer for five years and on the Board of masoniCare for six years.

Greg met his wife Jennie through their scouting activities and both retain a love of the outdoors. They have two children and Greg continues to have a passion for four-wheel driving.

He spent 12 years overseas on business commitments and in that time gained valuable experiences from lodges he joined and visited in England and Zambia.

'My intention is to develop stronger links between lodges, their members and masoniCare and together to push the awareness of Freemasonry's charitable activities out into the community. Good communication is so important and my intention is to lift the two-way flow with masoniCare,' he said.



# How one mason's death created one mason's life ...

I can think of one thing more difficult to cope with than **losing a loved one**, and that is to lose a loved one you never had a chance to know.

**M**y grandfather succumbed to a heart attack at the age of 72, when I was two. Too young to know him, I was left with a feeling that's very difficult to explain, an emptiness that's difficult to fill, no matter how hard you try. No memories to cherish, no tears to cry. I needed to know more.

Growing up, I would listen to stories from family and friends about this honest, lovely and generous man – you couldn't wish to be remembered more fondly.

One story I'll never forget is when I was a teen paperboy working the streets of Mascot. One Sunday morning, a regular customer, a seventy- or maybe eighty-something year old lady told me I looked like someone she used to know in the area. That someone turned out to be a corner fruit shop proprietor, Spiro Karasavas – my grandfather! The woman recounted how she had bought fruit from two of the nicest people (my grandmother Angela included) she ever knew.

I really wished I knew Spiro so I started digging a little deeper. I spoke to my grandmother Angela who at some point revealed that Spiro was a Freemason.

A Freemason? A lodge? Was my grandfather involved in a secret society? Cool.

Whatever Freemasonry was, Angela didn't know much about it, but she spoke in a way that made me feel much of Spiro's character was built by his involvement in Freemasonry.

With my curiosity aroused I went to Mascot Library and after trawling websites I remember being left with an explanation of the Principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, and the address of the United Grand Lodge of NSW and ACT.

By the age of 18, I continued my sleuthing and submitted my grandfather's name to the UGL. It felt like some kind of treasure hunt, digging for gold, for my lost grandfather.

In just a few weeks I received a letter stating that Spiro Karasavas was 'Initiated'

at Lodge Duty 562 on 12 June 1958, 'Passed' three months later, 'Raised' five months after that and remained a member of that lodge until his death in 1983.

I was surprised to soon see my interest in Spiro's involvement with Freemasonry create expressions of interest in me. I received a letter from Ron Oates of Lodge Rectitude and from Sam Morgan of Lodge Kensington but I didn't feel mature enough or ready to pursue or discuss Freemasonry.

For the next eight years, I stagnated in spiritual development and it wasn't until four years ago that I started to find happiness in my career and in a new relationship.

About that time I met high school friend Scott Nash, who had recently become a Freemason and remembered my interest in Freemasonry.

In February 2008, I joined Lodge Kellerman 1027, and I knew there was more treasure to be found. I had an opportunity to learn more about my grandfather and I was receiving the gift of some kind of experience I could share with him.


This shared experience reached a new level at my Raising. For the last 27 years, my grandmother had held onto Spiro's regalia. I always knew it was for my taking but I refused until the weekend prior to my Raising in November 2010.

I guess I felt as though I would be disrespecting Spiro by accessing the contents of his briefcase before reaching the Third Degree.

I was delighted to hear I was allowed to wear Spiro's apron. It was an emotional night and I will never forget the moment when our Senior Warden, Bro Lachlan Delaney, wrapped my grandfather's musky Master Mason Apron around my waist. I was filled with so much elation I was reduced to tears! The other high came when our Worshipful Master, Andy Mackareth, acknowledged in open pride that my grandfather would be very proud of me. It truly was a euphoric experience.

I took great pride in conveying to grandmother Angela how I felt that night, which reduced her to tears.

Through Freemasonry I have found a treasure that cannot be more valuable than life itself. Like life, it keeps on growing and it gave me an opportunity to know my grandfather. Since then, it has given me even more, such as the will to keep developing and learning, or an understanding that teaching, too, is a critical part of learning and that I should forever strive to impart whatever it is that I learn. Above all, it is teaching me to love others and to help those in need.

There is so much to learn, so much to give. 



Bro Stuart Carr standing on the site of a castle built by the Knights of the Order of St John of Rhodes in the 1300s on the tiny Greek island of Kastelorizo where both his grandparents were born.





# Masonic Expo

A total of 17 Orders were represented at the highly successful **Associated Orders Information Open Day** on 28 May at the Orchard Hills Masonic Centre after seven months of planning.



The Associated Orders required a reasonably modern looking building with ample parking. When approached, the President of the Centre and also DGIW for District 37, VW Bro Robert Moore and Vice President, RW Bro John Robb, made their entire building, contents and 2½ hectare grounds available completely free of charge.

A number of Orders had set up their displays on Friday afternoon and visitors started arriving from 8.30–9am, an hour or more before opening time. They were welcomed by a sausage sizzle manned by a small group of young volunteer masons from the Queen's Lodge. Their efforts raised over \$450 which was donated to the District 37 Charity, the Prostate Cancer Clinic at the local Nepean District Hospital.

The overall attendance was officially estimated at 500 during the six hours and at times vehicles were parked four deep. Advertisements had been placed in the local papers and a very large sign made by W Bro Tom Bell of Lodge Emu Plains was on public display, resulting in 45 non-masons as visitors who will be contacted by VW Bro Moore to attend a special information day or evening at the Centre.

The Orders each donated a worthwhile gift for a raffle which raised in excess of \$700, donated directly to the Grand Lodge

masoniCare Fund. RW Bro Chris Craven had set up a masonic shop and almost ran out of stock.

Most of the Orders gave PowerPoint presentations in the lodge room and W Bro Lester Hall was on duty to record the presentations as well as the stands of all of the Orders with a special DVD to be available in the near future.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston, in the presence of about 175 interested people in a packed lodge room, officially opened the First Associated Orders Information Open Day. He expressed his hopes that this would be the first of many held throughout all regions of NSW & ACT in the future. He also introduced the Grand Master Elect, RW Bro Derek Robson AM, who was also in attendance.

Each of the participating Orders agreed it had been a success on a scale they had not believed possible. Its objects had been achieved and the number of enquiries had been exceptional. All participants are now looking forward to those enquiries being turned into memberships.



**H.C. STATHIS PM**

Harry would gladly like to inform all his loyal clients that we are expanding and have merged practice with

*Mr Jim Pserras as of February 2011.*

We appreciate your business and want you to know that we look forward to continuing to serve your legal needs in the future.



*His new address is:*

**Suite 1/22-26  
Memorial Avenue  
Liverpool**

**Tel: 9600 8155**

**Fax: 9601 8938**

**Mob: 0415 266 056**

**harry@pserraslawyers.com.au**



# The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of New South Wales

ABN 49 082 385 091

Postal Address: Locked Bag 7014 Minto NSW 2566 • Facsimile: (02) 9829 1516 • Phone: (02) 9827 6666

## How to access Aged Care Services

**At any time there are many people trying to assist loved ones to access aged care services.**

The services needed could be from some help with the house cleaning through to complex nursing interventions in the community, through to residential care placement.

The easiest way to enter these services is to speak with your nearest Aged Care Assessment Team.

[www.agedcareaustralia.gov.au](http://www.agedcareaustralia.gov.au) is the website where you can identify the closest team or refer to your Local Area Health Service or your loved one's GP. Once you have made contact they will set a time to meet with the prospective client and they will assess their needs for services.

The financial contribution to the individual's care is based on financial status. For community care the contribution may be up to 17.5% of the single aged pension and for residential care the minimum daily payment is 84% of the single aged pension. In residential care the daily fee is determined from a Centrelink assessment which you will need to complete. All fees are set by the Commonwealth Government and reviewed at least twice a year in March and September.

**If we can be of help please call 1300 738 388.**



## 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**

## Help us care for future generations

Through your compassion and planning you can help us provide care to future generations of older Australians. Your support for The Whiddon Group through a bequest will help us build upon the achievements of today and allow for innovation to take us to tomorrow.

### Making a bequest

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

1. You can give a specified amount of money to The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW. This is the simplest form of bequest.
2. You can provide a percentage of your estate, for example 30 percent, for The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW. This ensures that your family and friends are not disadvantaged by the change of the size of your estate, or inflation.

3. After providing for family and friends, you may decide to leave the residue of your estate (what is left) to The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW.
4. You can leave particular items such as shares, paintings, property or other items of value in your will to The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW. *This option may have possible taxation ramifications and should be discussed with a solicitor.*
5. You can take out a life insurance policy or an endowment policy with The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW nominated as the *sole beneficiary*. *This option may have possible taxation ramifications and should be discussed with a solicitor.*

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



# Cheryl is tops

The old phrase used to be 'one in a hundred' but Cheryl Todd has managed to become one in 1500 in winning the **Frank Whiddon Homes Award as the Employee of the Year.**

**C**heryl, from Redhead (Newcastle) was presented with an engraved glass plaque when announced as the winner at a Gala Dinner at the Homes in July for her outstanding work during the preceding 12 months.

'I'm just blown away. All of these other people give 120% and the win is amazing. We love our job and just turn up every day,' she said.

An excited and tearful Cheryl, who has three teenage children, made her first call to her husband Christian at home, whose reply was 'Well deserved and the kids are extremely proud.'

The Homes employ about 1500 people throughout NSW to staff the 26 Aged Care units and the 1200 or more residents.

As Activities Officer, Cheryl arranges concerts, social functions, craft work, games, bus trips, bingo, nail care and even sometimes sings and dances during her Monday to Friday shift.

'I'm always looking for ideas and the residents and staff are wonderful people. This is the first time in three years I've been away from my family and I have to say special thanks to Christian and the children and my friend Sharon Tear who is my guest tonight and who has given such tremendous support to me.'

Homes CEO Lee-ann Irwin said the



Cheryl (left) and friend Sharon.

staff daily demonstrate the values of the organisation: Integrity, Dignity, Growth and Excellence. In 2006 The Whiddon Group developed the FOCUS program (For Our Caring and Unique Staff) to recognise those who had gone 'above and beyond' in their care. Scholarships for undergraduate and post graduate studies are also a component of this program.

Each area nominates an employee for this award, then it is the difficult decision of the Board of Directors and CEO to choose a winner; over the 5 years there have been tied winners on two occasions.

## Freemason Clothing and Accessories

### Dinner Suits

**\$199**

(Normally \$299)

**TO WEAR WITH DINNER SUITS:**

Philippe Anton Dress Shirt \$89.95

Black Bow Tie \$29.95

Black Cufflinks and Studs

(with Masonic Emblem) \$79.95

### Dress Tails

**\$499**

(Normally \$599)

**Superb Top Quality \$850**

(Normally \$995)

**TO WEAR WITH DRESS TAILS:**

White Marcella Dress Shirt \$99.95

White Marcella Dress Vest \$99.95

White Marcella Bow Tie \$29.95

White Gloves \$15

White Cufflinks and Studs

(with Masonic Emblem) \$79.95

### White Mess Jackets

**\$89.95**

**TO WEAR WITH MESS JACKETS:**

Jigger Buttons

(with Masonic Emblem) \$59.95

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For enquiries, bookings or more details please contact:  
Brian on Mobile **0425 337 754**  
or Patrick on **9556 1537** or  
Email: [patrick@wpsa.org.au](mailto:patrick@wpsa.org.au).



# masoniCare Benevolence Appeal

Brethren and their families can always turn to masoniCare's Benevolence Fund **in times of financial need and hardship.**



**T**he Benevolence Programme has benefited hundreds of brethren in the jurisdiction and some have wanted to convey their thanks and express the importance of masoniCare's Benevolence Programme and what it means to them and their community.

*'When you take on becoming Master of a lodge you inherit many responsibilities, one of those is caring for your lodge members or in the sad case a brother dies, then caring for his family. While we are all taught we are equal as brothers sometimes we are not all equal in our ability to cover the costs of dying.'*

*This happened to me recently where a member of my lodge sadly died. I contacted a masoniCare Board Member as to what we could do. He put me onto the appropri-*

*vate course of action and within two days we had approval from the masoniCare Benevolence Fund that the funeral costs would be fully covered.*

*This was relayed to the brother's widow who was extremely grateful. We were able to give our brother a wonderful funeral with full masonic honours.*

*The Benevolence Fund to me is true Masonry in action and its actions in support of our Order make me proud to be a mason' Worshipful Master Sydney South.*

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

## Meet our mRRs

masoniCare is privileged to have a team of dedicated masoniCare Regional Representatives (mRR) and we'd like to thank our 13 members for their commitment, enthusiasm, devotion of time and continual community and charitable spirit.

This month we introduce you to our mRR from Region 4 (Hunter).

### VW Bro John Moore, PDGIW

Lodge St James No 45

'The position of mRR Region 4 became available soon after my term as DGIW finished, and having spent two years communicating and interacting with the lodges in District 41, I found it to be a natural progression to move on to the position of an mRR.



My belief is that by using masoniCare's resources efficiently and effectively we can help our local charities meet their objectives and spread the word of Freemasonry to the public at large and therefore increase membership.'

## Wrap-up of Flood Victims Appeal

As you are aware the masoniCare Flood Victims Appeal has now come to an end. The total amount raised was **\$83,916.55.**

*'Hannah's Foundation is very appreciative of the funding provided by masoniCare which will enable us to provide services to the flood victims of the Lockyer Valley. This funding has enabled us to give Bunnings' vouchers to replace farmers tools, provide food and clothing vouchers to families who lost all their clothing and provide medical replacements for children's medications, reading glasses and to support businesses' Katherine Plint – The Hannah Foundation*





# Using charity in Freemasonry to bridge the Generation Y gap

As our membership dwindles and the average age of a mason in NSW is 70, Freemasonry stands at a crossroads....

**T**he next generation in our sights is the elusive and much debated Generation Y. While the precise ages of Generation Y differ from source to source, it's typically considered to encompass those born between the late 1970s and the early 1990s.

This generation is typically well travelled, well educated and has grown up in an environment where technology has become more and more a part of their everyday lives. While they may seem apathetic to many causes, they're deeply passionate and vocal about the issues that matter to them and will communicate their point of view without reservation regardless of their social or professional standing.

Generation Y accounted for approximately 15.2% of the Australian male population in 2010. They now occupy positions of power within the workforce, own property, are typically more financially savvy than their predecessors, which is precisely why Freemasonry has no choice but to engage this generation if we want to grow.

Bro Joshua Shields, masoniCare Board Member and a representative of Generation Y, recently spoke at the Region 11 annual conference to discuss the hot topic of bridging the gap between Freemasonry and Generation Y.

However, in his opening he questioned whether Freemasonry was ready for Generation Y at all...

Can Freemasonry cater to the needs and desires of this generation, given the nature of Freemasonry and the big generation gap that exists?

'Unfortunately there is no magic bullet to attract Generation Y,' he said. 'If we want to sustain or grow Freemasonry, we must attract quality new members, and more importantly, retain them for the long term. Generation Y are critical to us in achieving this.'

Bro Shields said Freemasonry should engage Generation Y using the concepts of humility, self-value and progression. 'Firstly, we must be selective and cautious with who we recruit – we have to realise that not everyone is well suited to our fraternity. We then need to provide a sense of meaning and unique purpose, demonstrate our relevance, give them a voice and provide opportunities that will reward immediately' he said. Lastly he adds, 'We need to start communicating on their level.'

To achieve all of this Bro. Shields believes charity holds one of the keys to attracting and retaining men from Generation Y.

'I strongly believe that one of the most important and under-utilised tools at our disposal is charity. Charity was a big attraction to me when joining Freemasonry and it is the biggest reason why I am still here today. It can help us bridge the generation gap that currently exists'

He states that if we successfully engage in charity, charity itself becomes a core communication tool to attract Generation Y and a core retention tool to keep them interested and involved.

'Assuming we support causes that have meaning to Generation Y, charity can provide the instant gratification, utilise Generation Y's varied skills and, overall, provide relevance for the individual,' he said.

By supporting causes chosen by Masons from Generation Y, Freemasonry can remain relevant, involve their social network and enhance their lives. 'Why not make running charity projects a formal part of every mason's development and progression within each lodge?' suggests Bro Shields.

By embracing charity through Freemasonry we are actively building our future, he says.

To achieve this, Bro Shields discussed how masoniCare has been used very successfully as a vehicle across the jurisdiction



L to R: Bro Joshua Shields (masoniCare Fundraising Convenor), VW Bro Brian Willis (mRR Region 11), VW Bro Tony Craig (masoniCare Marketing, Communications & PR Convenor), RW Bro Neil Atkins (RGC Region 11)

to engage in charity for the benefit of Freemasonry. 'masoniCare is our vehicle to maximise what charity has to offer Freemasonry in attracting and retaining Generation Y.'

masoniCare is the official charity of Grand Lodge. More than \$5 million has already been donated to local causes throughout New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory through masoniCare and the efforts of our jurisdiction. Recently, masoniCare reached the \$1 million milestone for interaction grants committed; a huge achievement, said Bro Shields.

Notwithstanding, masoniCare donated \$100,000 to Queensland United Grand Lodge Grand Masters Flood Appeal on behalf of all masons in our jurisdiction and also established its own flood appeal raising an additional \$83,000 in three months.

'This was a fantastic and very generous response from the jurisdiction and shows what can be achieved in the name of charity and Freemasonry, if we work together,' he said.

Bro Shields concludes that to sustain our organisation we must attract and retain quality members; Generation Y playing an important part in the next chapter of our Fraternity. 'We must do all we can through charity, and other efforts, to proactively build Freemasonry.'



# It is the year 893...

**Better known to us as 2011 AD**, it is the 893rd Year of the Order for the Great Priory of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory which held the Grand Proclamation meeting of its ninth Grand Master at the Epping Masonic Centre on Saturday 23 July, 2011.

**D**espite the rain there was an excellent roll up of 72 Knights and visitors to witness the proclamation for a second term of M.Em.Kt George E. Palmer, GCT, as Most Eminent & Supreme Grand Master.

During the ceremony, M.Em.Kt Palmer spoke of Rt.Em.Kt Walter T. Charlwood's dedicated service and years as Great Marshal of the Order, and announced that he was pleased to appoint him as the Great Seneschal for the coming year and to honour him with the rank and dignity of Knight Grand Cross of the United Orders (GCT).

In his address, the Grand Master said


how pleased he was to welcome 12 representatives or Heads of Orders, these being: Rainbow for Girls; Order of the Amaranth; Order of the Eastern Star; Royal Order of Scotland; Grand Imperial Conclave; United Supreme Grand Chapter; Convent General, Knights York Cross of Honour; Great Priory of Belgium; District Grand Priory of NSW (SC); Great Priory of Queensland; Great Priory of Victoria and the United Grand Lodge with RW Bro Douglas Howard Grigg, Senior Grand Warden representing the MW Grand Master.

Many of our visitors remained the weekend and were among the 37 who attended the church service on Sunday at



The new Great Seneschal Walter Charlwood (left) is congratulated by the Grand Master George Palmer.

the Garrison Church and joined in the fun had by 30 who wrapped up the festivities at the Grand Master's lunch at the Hero of Waterloo Hotel.

An important part of the Grand Master's address was his announcement that the Great Priory website had now gone 'live' and can be accessed at [www.greatpriory.com.au](http://www.greatpriory.com.au). Naturally, at this early stage, the site is still under review and construction and still contains some of the items used in testing. However, it will be fully updated as soon as possible after the Great Priory meeting. It will contain all Great Priory publications and forms along with the new rituals which are password protected. 

**Additional information available from:**

Bernard Hedley Phone: 02 9906 4888

Email: [bernard@thehedley.com.au](mailto:bernard@thehedley.com.au)

OR

The Great Vice-Chancellor

Peter J. Sinden Phone: 02 9673 5839

Email: [g.p.ofnsw.act@bigpond.com](mailto:g.p.ofnsw.act@bigpond.com)

The Order of the Amaranth

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



## The Order is Targeting Growth in New South Wales

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

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

★ <b>Gosford:</b> <i>Lillian Holland Court</i>	★ <b>New Lambton:</b> <i>Newcastle Court</i>
★ <b>Toukley:</b> <i>Central Lakes Court</i>	★ <b>Windsor:</b> <i>Hawkesbury Court</i>
★ <b>Kiama:</b> <i>Sydney Australia Kiama Court</i>	★ <b>Nowra:</b> <i>Royal Haven Court</i>
★ <b>Turramurra:</b> <i>North Sydney Court</i>	

*New members would be made very welcome*

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

*We are keen to open new Courts in New South Wales*

For more information go to our website

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





# Have your say

## Thank you

*Thank you for the kind words and the effort in publishing our story 'The Gift of Love' in the Winter edition of the NSW Freemason.*

*Raelene and I will be forever grateful for the generosity of Freemasons when it comes to helping one of their brothers in need.*

*When it is your own family it truly demonstrates that it is not just lip service being paid, but the true meaning of the right hand of fellowship.*

*Lodge Warringah and its brethren provided additional support to that given by Lodge Phoenix and the Freemasons Benevolent Fund. Lodge Warringah opened their hearts and hands with financial assistance for James in the early months of 2011.*

*Once again the Shugg family have reason to be grateful for the kind love and support shown by the masonic community for our son James in his months of need and recovery.*

**W BRO ROBERT AND RAELENE SHUGG**

## Memories revisited

*My daughter Wendy Herbert and I recently had a lovely walk around the Masonic School. Most of the buildings look unchanged since I last was there in 1966 ... but they look to be in good use with lots of community activities being held there.*

*Wendy took lots of photos and reminisced about her time there. Especially the thick stem the little girls used to sit on under the large bougainvillea at her cottage, Favonian. The water bubbler is also under the huge bougainvillea.*

*We were very lucky to find the Historical Museum open. We went in for a very quick look as we were expected elsewhere, but Wendy took a note of when they are usually open and will take her own children and her niece and nephew there in the future.*

*We were particularly impressed with the new War Memorial. It is a classic piece of architecture unlike anything I have seen before.*

*Apparently the obelisk of the old memorial is now in the city at Grand Lodge.*

*There was sport played on the Oval so it looks like the whole area is being used.*

**PAT RICHARDSON**

## A good read

*I have been visiting Australia since 1995 but it is only in the last few years since finishing my working career that I and my wife have been able to spend more time here. In 2010 I came for a three month spell and felt that I would have the time to actually fit in a visit or two to a lodge meeting. It was then that I was able to meet quite a number of Australian masons and develop friendships that continue to this day.*

*In 2011 I returned to Sydney and was lucky enough to be invited to the Masonic Club in the city. There I picked up a number of back copies of the magazine Freemason and very interesting reading they made. They gave me an excellent insight into the Craft here in Sydney as well as what was happening around NSW. In April I was in the Club once more and picked up a copy of the autumn issue of the magazine.*

*I felt I must congratulate you on a superb edition, the wide scope and variety of the articles contained therein was excellent. Even to the non-mason it would have provided an interesting read. Being a writer I know just how difficult it is to produce any publication to a consistently high standard. I am at the present time researching material for a novel which contains elements of the early history of Freemasonry in Australia and I was particularly interested in the article about Matthew Flinders.*

*This great organisation of ours has done one thing, namely it has withstood the test of time; information suggests that there was actually a lodge meeting held on board one of the ships that made up the first fleet on its arrival at Botany. I have no doubt that people joining that meeting would have received the same warm welcome that I have received at every meeting I have attended here in Sydney.*

*Equally I am sure that any newly made brother could not fail to be encouraged and enlightened by reading the NSW Freemason to see that the organisation, whilst respecting the masons of the past, also seeks to enlighten masons of the present.*

*All that remains is for me to say well done and keep up the good work. I look forward*

## Have you changed your address?

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

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

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

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

*to seeing the next issue on my return 'down under' which hopefully will be in the not too distant future.*

**WB TOM MATHER**

Past Provincial Junior Grand Deacon  
Quadrant Lodge No 8044  
Province of West Lancashire, England

## Congratulations ... more info please

*I write to you for two reasons.*

*First to congratulate you and all concerned with the production of the Winter 2011 edition of the Freemason. As a former journalist (many years ago!) I consider the current issue to be the best I can recall, both for content and appearance. Well done.*

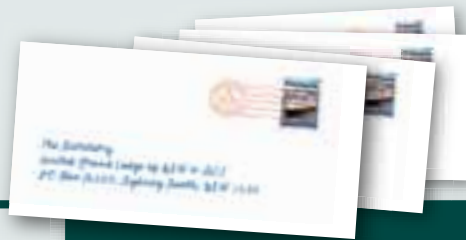
*Secondly, I was particularly interested in the piece about the Lorna Milgate Scholarship Trust, and would like to obtain further information.*

*Many thanks and fraternal greetings.*

**BERNARD SALKIND**

PDGSupt Wks (English Constitution)  
currently a member of Port Macquarie Daylight.

*Ed: The writer has been put in touch with Trust officials.*





## Tip Card #8 Commitment

**AIM** – This tip is to help us understand the depth of the commitment we take upon ourselves when we join Freemasonry and particularly when we (a) find a new candidate and (b) when we initiate him into Freemasonry.

### Target

To make clear that our commitment to Freemasonry is not something that we can turn on and turn off at will. Whilst we should always be looking to our own self-improvement, we should also be constantly assessing our friends and acquaintances as potential members. The scope and depth of our masonic commitment is always there and continues through to our death.

### Reasoning

As lodge members we are obliged, at all times, to be on the lookout for men of good character and high morals to join our fraternity and to live Masonry as a way of life, as we do.

Our commitment to a prospective candidate commences well before he is accepted into the lodge. We 'know' what will be expected of this man when he joins. We therefore owe it to both

the candidate and the lodge to say 'no' if we do not believe he has the potential to live and practice Freemasonry and to accept wholeheartedly the privilege he is asking of us.

Saying 'no' is not condemning a potential candidate as a man; it is not saying he is a failure or a bad person. It is saying that you, after due consideration, do not see this man as a Freemason. After all we, as Freemasons, know it is something special to join and participate fully in our philosophy. How many 'really good' men have moved on because it is not for them; conversely, how many 'not so good' men have stayed on and tried to change us?

After initiation, every single member of the lodge has an unwritten, continuing mystical obligation to ensure all new members are fully educated into our ways, our philosophy, our creed; our way of life both within the borders of Freemasonry and in the wider, non-masonic community.

The new member also becomes an ambassador for your lodge in the expanded 'worldwide fraternity' of the Craft that he has just joined. It is our job to ensure that he is a worthy representative, that he understands his responsibilities and boundaries whether visiting a local lodge, travel-

ling overseas or perhaps even cooking sausages in the local car park.

### Methodology

We have wonderful ceremonies full of thought-provoking ritual that is intended to guide and help us in every aspect of life. Our ritual is not just included to pad out a ceremony or highlight the delivery skills of certain members. The ritual is there for a **purpose** – that being, **what Freemasonry is all about!**

Be fair to our prospective initiates but also be fair to yourself, to your lodge and to Freemasonry as a whole whenever you have to make a decision. We have a major obligation to all parties involved to ensure that the right choice is made and sometimes saying NO, whilst hard, can be the right choice. This is our commitment!

### Conclusion

Let us look to revive our commitment to ourselves and to Freemasonry.

We need to regularly remind ourselves why we are Freemasons, listen more attentively to our Ritual, attend to our personal growth and be completely honest when making decisions, particularly when assessing and mentoring new members.



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# Regional Roundup



LODGE GALILEO No 1019

## An historic night

The May meeting of Lodge Galileo No 1019, in the presence of over 50 masons, was a unique night in this Jurisdiction.

Bro Marcantone 'Tony' Cosoleto was initiated on this evening and was conducted during the ceremony by Junior Deacon Bro Carmine 'Charlie' Cosoleto, his father. The MOP was skilfully presented by Bro Domenico Cosoleto, his brother.

Bro Tony is also a member of the Order of DeMolay and many of his brethren from that order were present, including the NSW Grand Master of the Order, W Bro Terry Stock, and Past Supreme Grand Master of the Order of DeMolay for Australia, RW Bro John Robb.

The Worshipful Master, W Bro Romualdo Reggiani, invited VW Bro Dominic De Candia PDGIW to occupy the Chair and conduct the Ceremony of Initiation.



L-R: Bro Carmine Cosoleto, Bro Marcantone Cosoleto, Bro Domenico Cosoleto

Later, in the south, VW Bro De Candia said that Lodge Galileo had indeed made history that night by initiating a DeMolay into the lodge for the first time, and the participation of family members added to the occasion.

LODGE LITHGOW VALLEY No 8

## A quiet achievement

At a combined District meeting in Lodge Lithgow Valley No 8, Janice Gurney, one of the district's tireless workers for Freemasonry and for the local community, was presented with a District Service Medal and Certificate, by DGIW, VW Bro Don Mac Murray.



Janice has been the long time cleaner at the Masonic Hall, and caterer for many lodge meetings.

She has worked long hours at her crochet work, selling rugs and booties at a stall, to raise funds for distribution to the community through the Order of the Eastern Star.

This award is only given to those who make a significant contribution to Freemasonry in the district and work to help the local community.

This award is only given to those who make a significant contribution to Freemasonry in the district and work to help the local community.

LODGE WYALDRA No 238

## A double at Wyaldra

Lodge Wyaldra, No 238, was privileged to have Mr Paul Ginns and Mr Patrick Ginns join the lodge together as a double Initiation.

This is a special occasion in any lodge and it is believed Lodge Wyaldra has not had a double initiation for 50 years; two brothers together is certainly a first.



L-R: Senior Deacon, Bill Robinson, DGIW Eric Beer, Bro Patrick Ginns, Bro Paul Ginns and Worshipful Master, RW Bro Richard Wingate.



LODGE ILLAWARRA No 59

# Mobile masons

Lodge Illawarra, No 59, reinstated W Bro Barry Johns as Worshipful Master at its 118th Installation Ceremony on Saturday 11th June.

MW Bro Rev Raymond Green PGM, attended and was accompanied by a sizeable Grand Lodge delegation, including the Grand Master-Elect, RW Bro Derek Robson AM.

During the evening W Bro Johns made reference to his membership in the Mobile Masons NSW and ACT Inc (Caravan Club), whose main aim is to provide social and harmonious fellowship. He emphasised that during the coming year his main aim is to have District lodges meet socially at the new Wollongong Centre on a regular basis to promote similar objectives.



Brethren and ladies at the Lodge Illawarra Installation

The Mobile Masons meet at least twice a year, at various venues through the state and the group also raise funds for a local charitable organisation.

LODGE ETHOS No 963

# Special occasion



L-R: Bro Harrison Mott, RW Bro Graham Charlton and W Bro Rudi Koch

It was a special evening at Lodge Ethos, No 963, in Canberra, on Wednesday 18 May, when the eighty year old Worshipful Master, W Bro Rudi Koch, in the Chair for the second time, initiated Mr Harrison Mott, an 18 year old MAS candidate.

Present at the meeting were RW Bro Graham Charlton, PSGW, Regional Grand Counsellor of Region 10, VW Bro Peter Camiller, DGIW District 104, 21 members and 14 visitors.

Thirty years prior to this meeting, W Bro Koch initiated RW Bro Charlton.

W Bro Koch is confident that his latest initiate, Bro Mott, will progress successfully in Masonry, as has RW Bro Charlton.

# Local youth benefit

A generous donation of \$41,000 from the Central Coast Freemasons has assisted the Regional Youth Support Service in operating its new bus.

The donation means young people will continue to have access to the Service's many programs and activities and is vital to transporting young people around the Central Coast area.

Services manager Kim McLoughry said staff and members were overwhelmed with the support of the masons and it has made a huge difference to those using the Service.

'If it helps the kids get off the streets and do something productive and positive with their time, then that's a great thing to see,' said Freemasons representative W Bro David Walker.

LODGE INVERELL No 48

# Seventy years

A recent meeting of Lodge Inverell, No 48, provided the occasion for DGIW, VW Bro Matthew Quinlan, to present a number of brethren with long service certificates, on behalf of Grand Lodge.

W Bro Merv Piddington was presented with a certificate and jewel marking his 70 years service to the Craft, while W Bro Ian Davidson and Brother Ron Harris each received certificates for 50 years service.



Worshipful Master, W Bro Eric Higgins, 70 year long service certificate and jewel recipient W Bro Merv Piddington and DGIW, VW Bro Matthew Quinlan

VW Bro Quinlan praised these brethren for their remarkable devotion to Freemasonry. He said they were a credit to Lodge



W Bro Ian Davidson and Bro Ron Harris with DGIW, VW Bro Matthew Quinlan, and Worshipful Master, W Bro Eric Higgins after the presentation of their 50 year long service certificates.

Inverell, the community and to themselves, and that their achievements should be whole-heartedly acknowledged.





# Fundraising dinner

The Westmead Children's Hospital Oncology Department was the beneficiary of \$86,000 raised at a gala dinner at the Blue Angel Restaurant earlier this year.

Restaurant proprietor, VW Bro Marcello Marcobello, PDGIW, had selected the department as a worthy cause and the gala dinner was held to mark the restaurant's 50th anniversary.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Greg Levenston later presented a cheque to Dr Luciano Dalla-Pozza, head of the Westmead Oncology Department.



The Grand Master, MW Bro Greg Levenston, presents the cheque to Dr Luciano Dalla-Pozza, head of the Westmead Oncology Department with VW Bro Marcello Marcobello PDGIW (centre) and VW Bro Warwick Boyling PDGM

## LODGE SUTHERLAND No 585

# A new team for Sutherland

On Saturday the 14th of May, Lodge Sutherland, No 585, began a new era when Bro George El Chami was installed as Worshipful Master and invested his progressive officers, who were all master masons.

The ceremony was witnessed by 81 masons, including a Grand Lodge delegation consisting of six PAGMs and a PDGM, whilst the current AGM, RW Bro Walid Mehanna attended with a fraternal from The Cedars Lodge, No 1041.

The brethren retired to a magnificent



The Worshipful Master, W Bro George El Chami, and brethren of Lodge Sutherland

banquet, where they were joined by their ladies, and a good time was had by all.

## LODGE WARRAGAMBA No 541

# A thirst for knowledge

At Lodge Warragamba's June meeting, the Worshipful Master, W Bro Kevin Stansbie, presented a Diploma of Masonic Education certificate (South Australia) to Bro Rev Ted Walker.

The certificate had been signed by both the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Australia and the Northern Territory.



Proud recipient, Bro Rev Ted Walker

## DISTRICT 34

# Helping flood victims

At the District 34 Masters and Wardens' night, held this year under the Charter of Lodge Blacktown Kildare, No 393, the DGIW, VW Bro Bob McCallum, presented the Region 3 masoniCare Representative, VW Bro Harry Griffiths PDGIW, with a cheque for over \$2,400.

This money was raised by brethren from lodges in District 34, from raffles, donations and other means, to assist flood victims in Queensland and other areas.

VW Bro Griffiths received the cheque with thanks and said that the funds would go, where possible, to masonic families who had been affected by the disaster.



VW Bro Griffiths receives the cheque from VW Bro McCallum

Bro Rev Taylor, who completed the four year course with distinction in a record time of just three years, recommended that the Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT should adopt such a programme to encourage the thirst for masonic knowledge among masons of all ages.



LODGE MARK OWEN No 828

## A unique installation

It was a step back in history for more than 100 brethren who attended the 60th Anniversary Installation of Lodge Mark Owen No 828 at the Sydney Masonic Centre in July.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Gregory Levenston, accompanied by the Grand Master-Elect, RW Bro Derek Robson, RW Bro Jamie Melville and RW Bro Wally Mehanna, marked this unique occasion by using the regalia of MW Bro John Goulston PGM, who was the first IPM of the lodge.

The new Master, W Bro Joshua Newman, is a great-grandson of Mark Owen – after whom the lodge is named. The Immediate Past Master is Matthew Owen also a great-grandson of Mark Owen and the son of the first initiate and 50th Master; and the Owen family was there in force to witness the ceremony.

Mark Jacob Charles Owen was initiated into Freemasonry in July, 1921 in The Lodge of Tranquility No 42.

DISTRICT 34, 37 AND B2 ROYAL ARCH

## Church Service

The District 34, 37 and B2 Royal Arch combined church service, held at the Wesleyan Chapel on Old Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh, was supported by over 60 brethren, family and friends.

The Volume of the Sacred Law was received from the DGIW of District 37, VW Bro Robert Moore by the officiating clergyman, Bro Rev Ted Walker.

The address was entitled 'Jacob's Ladder' and the enthusiastic hymn singing was accompanied on the organ by VW Bro Don Cobcroft PDGDC.

The chapel is the first Wesleyan church in the southern hemisphere and has been beautifully restored.



VW Bro Robert Moore DGIW, carries the Volume of the Sacred Law into the chapel

Discover how to become a

## MASONIC RESEARCHER

Attend a research seminar at Goulburn, 24 September.

Contact Chris Telford on 0411 540 686.

LODGE BLACKTOWN KILDARE No 393

## A proud father

A very special guest was present at the Lodge Blacktown Kildare for the Raising of Bro Fulvio De Oliveira on their Masters and Wardens night.

The candidate's father, W Bro José Cue De Oliveira, a member of Lodge Colunas De Biritib, Brazil, had flown to Australia for the express purpose of seeing his son become a master mason.

The Worshipful Master of the lodge, W Bro Jack Mahoney, gave W Bro Brent Geeves the privilege of conducting the Raising Ceremony, with the various positions and duties carried out by Masters and Wardens of District 34.

After the raising, W Bro Geeves called upon the candidate's father to be the first to congratulate him, which he did with a proud, fatherly hug.



L-R: Bro Fulvio De Oliveira and his father, W Bro José Cue De Oliveira

LODGE BENJAMIN PRYOR No 709

## A great week

Lodge Benjamin Pryor No 709 held an Emergent Meeting at Belmont on 6 June to raise Bro Nathan Hannah. The ceremony was a family affair filled with emotion as the Master, W Bro Colin Webber, was assisted by Nathan's grandfather, W Bro Cliff Hannah as Senior Warden. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Nathan presented his grandfather with his 60 Year Service Jewel.

On 11 June, Nathan was then the candidate for a demonstration of a Scottish 3rd Degree conducted by the 'Thistles' group of Canberra masons led by VW Bro Harry Hepburn. The following day many of the brethren, their families and Canberra visitors went on a lunch cruise on Lake Macquarie, followed by dinner at the home of Bro Les Esquilant to culminate a great week.





# Three cousins

The Installation of Lodge Livingstone United 604 was a rare case of brotherly love for three members of the same family.

It was a very special night on 16 May when W Bro John McIntosh Beaton, after 57 years as a member of Freemasonry, was Installed into the chair of King Solomon with his twin brother W Bro Douglas Beaton present from Queensland. A third member of the family, cousin RW Bro Graham Beaton PJGW, Grand Tyler was also present as the representative of the Grand Master.

He was accompanied by a delegation of 31 Grand Officers and a good night was enjoyed by all members and visitors.



L-R: RW Bro Graham Beaton, W Bro Douglas Beaton, W Bro John Beaton

# Kevin steps down

To remain 42 years in a voluntary capacity in a charitable organisation speaks well of a person's character and willingness to help. RW Bro Kevin Foster OAM PDGM was accorded a farewell luncheon in May following his decision to retire from activity with A Start in Life (formerly the Masonic Youth Welfare Fund). He has witnessed many changes from the foundation with the William Thompson Masonic School through to its current position.

'It's been a happy time helping young, disadvantaged Australians and I haven't regretted one minute,' he said.

LODGE SYDNEY ST GEORGE No 269

# A double celebration



Grand Master with Grand Lodge delegation

On Saturday 4 June, Lodge Sydney St George, No 269, celebrated two memorable events at the Campbelltown Masonic Centre at Ambarvale: 2020 Master Mason, Brother Michael Jones, was installed as Worshipful Master of the lodge, and the lodge celebrated its 100 years anniversary.

The Installing Master and Immediate Past Master was VW Bro Glenn Lilly DGIW.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Greg Levenston, was accompanied by 34 past and present Grand Lodge Officers.

At an appropriate time, the Grand Master presented W Bro Michael Jones with his Installed Master's certificate and requested that the DGIW for District 111, VW Brother Richard Lilly, present the IPM, VW Bro Glenn Lilly with his IPM

jewel, not in his capacity of DGIW, but as a very proud father.

At the conclusion of the ceremony brethren adjourned to the dining room to join their partners and guests where more than 160 people sat down to a sumptuous Festive Board with entertainment laid on.

Before the meal was served a Polynesian dancing troupe performed a vigorous dance routine, which was acclaimed by all present. Much amusement and enjoyment was created when the Polynesian dancers selected partners from the assembled brethren and their guests to join them on the dance floor.

Miss Kristen McKean, the partner of the Worshipful Master then sang the song 'Angel' in memory of the Worshipful Master's much loved and sadly departed mother.



The Proposal

Michael then spoke of how the fellowship of Freemasons and the support he received helped him greatly at a particularly sad time in his life. He went on to say he wished to complete his family and dropping to one knee, proposed to Kristen.

Suffice to say there was hardly a dry eye in the hall.



# 50 Years Service

ANDREWS, WILLIAM	Lodge of Peace 120
ARMSTRONG, NORMAN	Lodge Lithgow Valley 8
BLUNDEN, DONALD	Lodge The Raleigh 241
BUIST, JOHN	Balmain Lodge 23
CHATAWAY, JOHN	Lodge Kempsey - Macleay 203
CLARKE, PAUL	Lodge Cowra 33
COLEMAN, KEITH	Lodge Gundagai United 25
DAVIDSON, IAN	Lodge Inverell 48
DAYMENT, BERTIE	Lodge Toukley 933
DEACON, REUBEN	Lodge Hurstville 282
EABORN, RONALD	Lodge Farrer 93
EVANS, COLIN	Lodge Barwon 208
EVANS, RONALD	Lodge Toukley 933
FEARNLEY, NORMAN	Lodge Hurlstone Park United 288
FOSTER, ROBERT	Antiquity 1
GREENLAND, JAMES	Lodge Inverell 48
GROVES, LAWRENCE	Lodge Gundagai United 25
HALLEMAN, IAN	The Prince Of Wales Lodge 102
HARPER, ADRIAN	Lodge Unity 6
HARRIS, RONALD	Lodge Inverell 48
HEARD, ROBERT	Lodge John Williams 148
HINES, LESLIE	Lodge Farrer 93
HOCKING, BARRY	Lodge Sir Joseph Banks 300
JACOBS, KENNETH	Lodge Star Of Wauchope 310
JAMES, DOUGLAS	Lodge Greater Taree L66
JOHNSTON, BRIAN	Lodge Nambucca 271
JONAS, LEWIS	Lodge Gundagai United 25
JUNGE, ROBERT	Lodge Cootamundra St John 124
KAVANAGH, ARTHUR	Lodge Punchbowl 244

LARSEN, OWEN	Coffs Harbour Daylight Lodge 1016
LARTER, BRIAN	Lodge Gymea 796
MACASKILL, DONALD	Lodge Swansea Belmont 1030
MANSFIELD, DAVID	Lodge Inverell 48
MCDONALD, KENNETH	Lodge Glen Innes 44
MCKENZIE, BRUCE	Lodge Hillston 627
MCLEAN, IAN	Lodge Calala Tamworth 652
MYERS, JOHN	Lodge Farrer 93
NASH, ROBERT	Lodge Young Burrangong 20
PEREIRA, ROSS	Lodge Cowra 33
POSTLETHWAITE, ROBERT	Lodge Swansea Belmont 1030
RAFFELL, BRUCE	Forster Great Lakes United 994
RICHARDS, JACK	Lodge Morning Star 410
ROBINSON, RUSSELL	Twin Towns Daylight Lodge 981
RUMBLE, BARRY	Antiquity 1
SAUNDERS, EDWARD	Lodge Middle Harbour 292
SHEHADIE, PETER	Lodge John Williams 148
SMITH, MICHAEL	The Prince Of Wales Lodge 102
SWATTRIDGE, GEORGE	Lodge Thespian 256
TASKER, GEORGE	The Prince Of Wales Lodge 102
TOUT, IAN	Lodge Gundagai United 25
WADE, RUSSELL	Lodge Inverell 48
WALKINSHAW, NUNGO	Lodge Inverell 48
WALTERS, CHARLES	Lodge Hunter Hiram 246
WRIGHT, STANLEY	The Waratah Lodge 170

# 60 Years Service

BIRCHALL, JOHN	Lodge Hurstville 282
CHARLTON, NEVILLE	Lodge Chelmsford 261
COHEN, KEITH	Lodge Canoblas Lewis 806

DERRICK, JAMES	Lodge Gundagai United 25
DOUGLAS, LAURENCE	Twin Towns Daylight Lodge 981
FERSON, DENNIS	Lodge Cowra 33
GESS, CLYDE	The Mountain Lodge 190
HARVEY, MERVYN	The Lodge Of Transition 9999
JAMIESON, COLIN	Lodge Tranmere 712
LEECE, ATHOL	Lodge Greater Taree L66
MCINTOSH, LINDSAY	Lodge Artarmon United 285
MYLCHREEST, ALAN	Lodge Middle Harbour 292
OWEN, MICHAEL	Lodge Mark Owen 828
PITCAIRN, JAMES	Lodge Swansea Belmont 1030
RICHARDSON, BARTON	Lodge Hunter Hiram 246
ROBERTSON, JOHN	Lodge Gundagai United 25
ROLLEY, GORDON	Lodge Sylvania 853 LOE
SARGEANT, ERIC	The Lodge Of Transition 9999
SEBBENS, WILLIAM	Lodge Beecroft 359
TRAVIS, GEOFFREY	Lodge University of Sydney 544
WHITFORD, FREDERICK	Lodge Toukley 933
WOODHOUSE, HILTON	Lodge Artarmon United 285

# 70 Years Service

ALDERSON, MILTON	The Waratah Lodge 170
GOODMAN, MAURICE	Lodge Millthorpe 276
HERD, THOMAS	The Waratah Lodge 170
MCDONALD, JOHN	Lodge Sir Joseph Banks 300
MORONEY, DESMOND	Lodge Oatley 381
PIDDINGTON, MERVYN	Lodge Inverell 48
WOOD, ALLAN	The Sir Walter Scott Lodge 123

## LODGE ARMY AND NAVY No 517

# A Good Cause

W Bro Captain Adel Amin knew exactly which organisation would benefit from money donated to the Worshipful Master's Charity Fund during his term of office in Lodge Army and Navy, No 517; it had to be Cystic Fibrosis New South Wales.

Having tragically lost a daughter to the disease he was delighted to be able to contribute to the work done by this group in assisting sufferers of the disease and their families and in carrying out educational work to spread awareness and understanding of the condition.

Meeting with Alex Huntir, CEO and Sally Shepherd, Fundraising Manager, in June to present them with a cheque for \$2,000, he expressed his best wishes and those of the lodge for their important work.

The donation was gratefully received by Alex Huntir, who thanked him and the contributing members of the lodge for their generosity, and expressed a hope that masons throughout the jurisdiction might bear the organisation in mind when directing funds to charities.



L-R: Sally Shepherd, W Bro Captain Amin and Alex Huntir

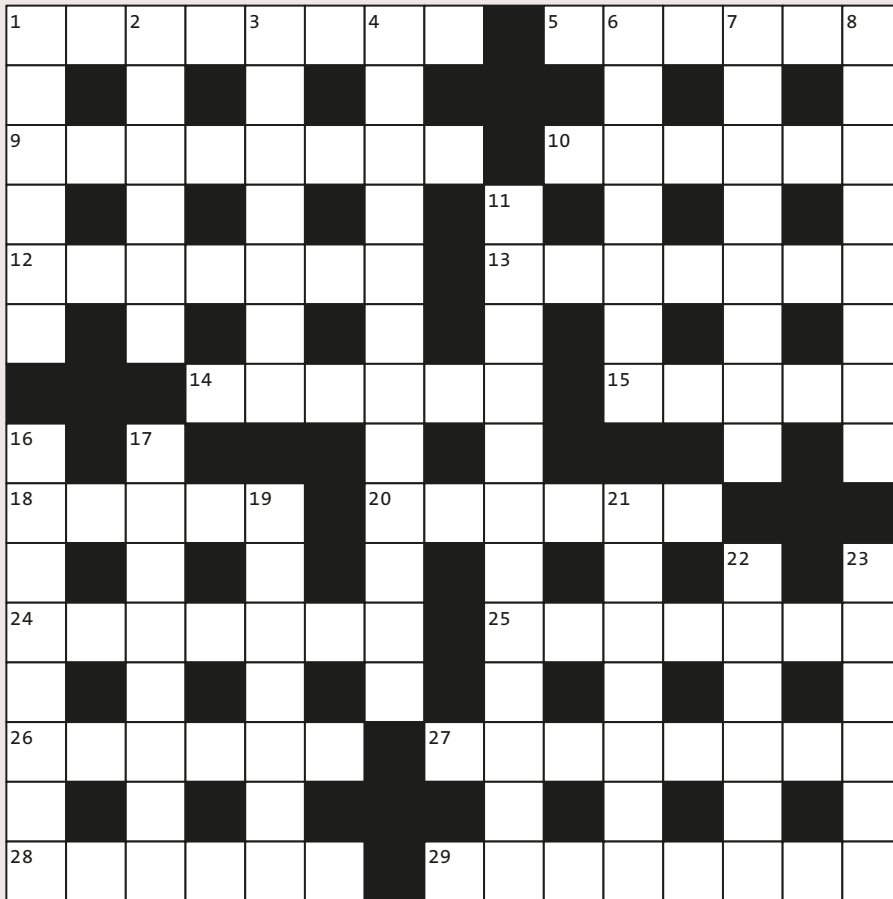
# Media Moments

The Installation of MW Bro Derek Robson as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT attracted attention from the Australian media.

In Sydney, Channel 10 showed excerpts from the Installation in its main evening news with comments by the Grand Master.

News Limited and AAP featured a story on the day's event titled 'Secretive Freemasons open the doors' with details of the Installation and interviews with MW Bro Robson and MW Bro Gregory Levenston.





**DOWN**

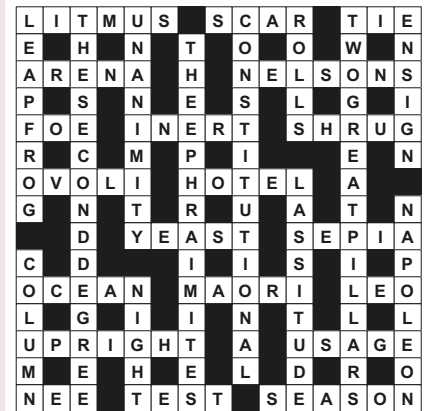
- 1 Religious student without immoral habits (6)
- 2 Perhaps a text book for 1 down and converted Islams (6)
- 3 Propagates abuse with no ear for a temporary solution (7)
- 4 & 28 Rulers start to plan some lemon plot housing 10 & 13 (4, 7'1, 6)
- 6 Liven up meat in a stew (7)
- 7 Refined woman, avian type is a six footer (8)
- 8 Devine rule under the arch you reckon? (8)
- 11 Counteract me somehow with a regalia accessory (12)
- 16 Be compliant and die under British award around Darwin (8)
- 17 PM's jewel inscription cast as a single small weight (8)
- 19 No Min, Al does it in name only (7)
- 21 Physical study involved since joining Church of England (7)
- 22 Men age terribly when involved with trained horsemanship (7)
- 23 So much is elicited concealing a working tool (6)

Solution next issue © adsXwords

**ACROSS**

- 1 Am as keen for a change to avoid a mistaken identity (8)
- 5 Means of voting using ball point with pin missing (6)
- 9 TV cousin is made one above a baron (8)
- 10 & 13 Old paymaster's office at Central Station? (6, 7)
- 12 Fees for the ancient regulations (7)
- 13 See 10 across
- 14 Even lampoon Lily on her knowledge of old Greek sun god (6)
- 15 Some appear thoroughly concerned with third rock from the sun (5)
- 18 Colour for Brother Short, when he goes out (5)
- 20 Summit arranged for reason they're refusing to talk (6)
- 24 No tie worn in new moderation by a Tyler or perhaps I. G. (7)
- 25 Monumental inscription in discarded heap in tip (7)
- 26 Wayward fraternal leader leaves most of all (6)
- 27 Quality of 23 down displays enthusiasm (8)
- 28 See 4 down
- 29 Figurative mansion veiled from mortal eyes may elate her somehow (8)

**Solution Winter 2011**



# Staying in touch

As one of his last functions before the Grand Installation, the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston, attended Lodge Epping's fifth Annual Widows' Luncheon, on Tuesday, 2nd August at the Epping Masonic Centre.

Other Grand Lodge Officers present included the RGC Region 1, RW Bro Malcolm Stradwick, the RGC Elect Region 1, RW Bro Lynden Norgate and the District 17 Grand Inspector of Workings, VW Bro Fali Poacha.

More importantly, fourteen widows of the lodge attended and were complemented by two widows from other lodges in the District. Also in attendance were eleven representatives from the Masonic Widows Associations.

Lodge Epping prides itself in looking after its widows, with their masoniCare Caring Officer, VW Bro Rusty Russell, making regular contact with its 35 'Wonderful Widows' living in all parts of the state. They receive a newsletter every



Attendees at Lodge Epping's Annual Widows' Luncheon

month to keep them in touch with what is happening in the lodge and this regular contact is very much appreciated.



# Freemason welcomes new members to the Craft

<b>Name</b>	<b>Lodge</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Lodge</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Lodge</b>
ALIPOR, Michael	Lodge Sydney St. George 269	FALCON, Tony	Lodge Woollahra 341	MILOCHIS, Carlos	Lodge Canberra 465
AMATO, Louis	Lodge Picton 258	FAYTROUNI, Mohamad	Lodge Woollahra 341	MILOSTNIK, Frank	Horizons 1032
ANGSTMANN, Tobias	Lodge Capitol 612	FERNANDEZ, Juan	Lodge Trinity 666	MOORE, Benjamin	Lodge Macquarie 53
ARMSTRONG, Graham	Lodge Brotherhood of Maitland 1029	FILERIS, Dimitri	Lodge Cronulla 312	MORGAN, Malcolm	Lodge Hastings 69
ASHRAFF- KAHN, Fayarz	Lodge Woollahra 341	FORSYTHE, Samual	The Queen's Lodge 229	MOTT, Harrison	Lodge Ethos 963
BACKHOUSE, Brett	Lodge Dawn 511	FORTUGNO, Marc	The Hills Lodge 1025	MURRAY, Muz	Lodge Benjamin Pryor 709
BALIAN, Hagop	Lodge Horace Thompson Ryde 134	FOSTER, Robert	Lodge Albert C. Petrie 954	NAPOLI, Angelo	Lodge Hurlstone Park United 288
BALZAN, Mark	Lodge Blaxland Temperance 346	GALLARDO, Carlos	Lodge Enterprise 400	NIKOLOVSKI, Benjamin	The Lodge of Tranquillity 42
BARLIN, Eric	Lachlan Macquarie Lodge 1042	GASPAROTTO, Jordan	Lodge Hurlstone Park United 288	NIXON, Terry	Lodge Millthorpe 276
BASSETT, Mark	Lodge University of Sydney 544	GILANDAS, Alex	The United Lodge of Sydney 11	NOETH, Gunter	Lodge Ballina 112
BELL, Garry	Lodge The Raleigh 241	GILEPPA, Peter	Lodge Namoi 207	NORTHOVER, Lynton	Lodge Sydney St. George 269
BHATTACHARYA, Ankan	The Lodge of Tranquillity 42	GINNS, Paul	Lodge Wyaldra 238	OKSUZOGLU, Arkin	The Hunters Hill Lodge 139
BOGHOSSIAN, Steven	The Lodge of Tranquillity 42	GINNS, Patrick	Lodge Wyaldra 238	OVERDUIN, Jakob	The Schools Lodge 639
BONNING, Luke	Lodge Cronulla 312	GLASS, Peter	Lodge Gymea 796	PAMPOLHA, Luiz	Horizons 1032
BOOTH, Michael	Lodge Wahroonga 674	GOWN, Bob	Lodge Allan Stuart 416	PARTON, Alan	Lodge Hornsby 262
BOURKE, Nigel	Lodge Macquarie 53	GREGORY, Daniel	Lodge Victoria Cross 928	PELICHOWSKI, Daniel	Lodge Cessnock 252
BRAGER, Curtis	Lodge Vacluse 266	HAMILTON, Paul	Lodge Cornucopia 1037	PEZZANO, Joe	Lodge Hurlstone Park United 288
BRAMLEY, Alex	Lodge Cessnock 252	HARRIS, Mark	Lodge Silver City 141	PLONKONKA, Ivan	Lodge Chelmsford 261
BRITLES, Paul	Lodge Victoria Cross 928	HELM, James	Lodge Woollahra 341	POLACK, Luke	The Lodge of Australia 3
BURGESS, Ben	Lodge Illawarra 59	HODGES, Scott	Lodge Kellerman 1027	RENNIE, Matthew	The Hills Lodge 1025
CALDER, Richard	Lodge Victoria Cross 928	HUENTELER, George	Lodge St Andrews 281	ROACH, Simon	Lodge Farrer 93
CAMPBELL, Tertius	Lodge Ku-Ring-Gai 1033	HUMBY, Richard	Lodge Pacific 298	ROBERTS, Ryan	Lodge Caledonia of Canberra 938
CARR, Troy	Concord Technology 432	IMBAG, Edward	Lodge The Star Of Australia 200	SAMANIEGO, Edwin	Lodge Beauty of Cabra Vale 743
CHAHWAN, Richard	Lodge Warringah 83	JOHNSON, Danny	Lodge Port Stephens 522	SCHEMBRI, Brian	Lodge Emu Plains 860
CHAMMA, Michael	The Cedars Lodge 1041	JOHNSTON, William	Lodge St James 45	SCHULZ, Leonard	Lodge Kellerman 1027
CHIPPENDALE, Brett	Lodge Macquarie 53	JORGENSEN, Jena	Coeur De Lion – Narooma 84	SECULIC, Jonny	The Builders Lodge 1048
COSOLETO, Marcantone	Lodge Galileo 1019	JREIGE, Tony	The Builders Lodge 1048	SHANNON, Emrys	Lodge Ballina 112
DAMANTO, Daniel	Horizons 1032	KACHI, Claude	The Cedars Lodge 1041	SIMS, Ben	Lodge Woden Valley 974
DAVIS, Wayne	Lodge Glen Innes 44	KELLY, Nicholas	Lodge Millennium 2000 LOE	SINA, Mark	Lodge Hornsby 262
DE LIMA, Michael	Lodge Kensington 270	KETKAR, Rishikesh	Lodge Kensington 270	SJOSTEDT, Jon	Wallis Plains 4
DEL DUCA, Joseph	The Cedars Lodge 1041	KITCHING, Robert	Lodge Cessnock 252	SMITH, Benjamin	Lodge Prince Leopold 87
DEMTRIO, Jose	Horizons 1032	LABIB, Rodger	Lodge Woollahra 341	SNELGAR, Peter	Lodge Lake Macquarie 243
DOHERTY, Gregory	Lodge Rudyard Kipling 143	LANGLEY, Jack	Lodge Seymour 945	SOARES, Jordao	Lodge Miguel De Cervantes 1038
DONNISON, Christopher	Lodge Gowrie of Canberra 715	MANLEY, Ian	Laurelbank Kuring-gai Daylight Lodge 230	SOLER, Brandon	Lodge Beecroft 359
DUVER, Andrew	Lodge Sawtell Twilight 741	MCKERRAL, David	Lodge Capitol 612	STAVROPOULOS, George	Lodge Woollahra 341
EL BADAEL, Charbel	Lodge Woollahra 341	MENDEZ, Daniel	The Sir Walter Scott Lodge 123	STEWART, Andrew	Lodge Woollahra 341
ELVINS, Mark	Lodge Liverpool 197	MILLER-KOVACS, Jordan	Lodge Kellerman 1027	TANT, Benjamin	Lodge Edinburgh St John 38
		MILLS, David	The Builders Lodge 1048	TAYLOR, Jesse	Lodge Fitzroy 248
				TESFAY, Samuel	Horizons 1032
				VANDER MERWE, Frank	Wallis Plains 4
				VAN-OOSTEN, Lennard	The Hunters Hill Lodge 139
				VRDOLIAK, Robert	Lodge Germania 1036
				WALKER, Christopher	Lodge Glen Innes 44
				WALKER, Stephen	Lodge Woden Valley 974
				WAQATAIREWA, Sakiusa	Bankstown Daylight Lodge 996
				WELLDON, Peter	Horizons 1032
				WILLIAMS, John	Lodge Queanbeyan St Andrew 56
				WILSON, Paul	Lodge Broughton 131
				WITHERS, Donald	Lodge Wahroonga 674
				ZAKHOUR, Stephen	Lodge John Williams 148
				ZIVCIC, Douglas	Lodge Airs Campbelltown 976



Grand Lodge Delegation at Re-Installation of The Balmain Lodge No 23 on 14 July 2011



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## Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution

Established in 1880

**The RFBI's 'expansion program' continues with the commencement of construction of an additional 24 rooms onto the Tamworth Cottage Homes facility. This month also sees the completion of an additional 6 self care villas at Cessnock. Construction Certificate documentation is underway for a new 40 bed facility at Raleigh and a Construction Certificate is being sought for additions and renovations at Canberra.**

Over the last two months or so, the RFBI has been busy with its benevolence activities. Annuities were provided to West Wyalong through the ever vigilant eye of W Bro John Scascighini of Lodge Bland. These annuities plus others were provided to deserving citizens by monthly payments which the RFBI has undertaken continuously for 131 years. Through the **Benevolence Scheme**, the RFBI has assisted the Foresight Foundation, an organisation which provides housing for deaf and blind adults. The plight of these individuals was brought to our attention by W. Bro Frank Deane supported by District 32 and the Rotary Club of Carlingford. Custom designed wheelchairs were provided along with a hearing loop and a 2 metre wide TV for their activities room. Another petition for assistance came from the RFBI's Kurri Kurri Masonic Village requesting a specialized 'recliner chair' for a neuron degenerative disorder sufferer.

The RFBI seeks **donations (tax deductible over \$2)** to ensure the benevolent operation of the RFBI continues. The RFBI has served the community for 131 continuous years.

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

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

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

The RFBI has **VACANCIES** in its self care villages at Armidale, Basin View, Goulburn, Lake Haven, Lakemba and Newcastle. **For retirement village inquiries, please contact Alex Shaw or Ann King on 9264 5986.**

admin@royfree.org.au





*Grand  
Installation  
2011*



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