

Freemason



The Inaugural Cath Hammond Award

25 years of
Careflight



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Freemason



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Cath Hammond and Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, recipient of the Inaugural Cath Hammond Award

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Thank you ...

Grand Master

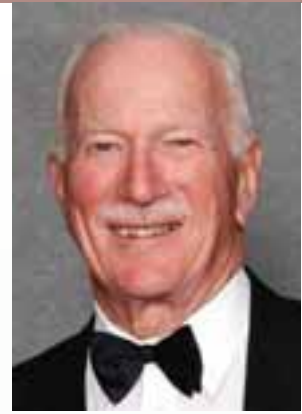
Three years have passed since the jurisdiction of NSW/ACT elected you to the eminent role of Grand Master of the Craft in this State and now it is time to step down and welcome your successor as our new leader for the period ahead.

For years, we have been well aware of your devotion to the ideals and principles that motivate Freemasons and the need to look at moves to keep the Craft alive and in touch with today's changing world. Apart from the brethren who have given their unfailing support, you have had the wonderful assistance of partner Judith Morrice, a proud lady who has been a shining example during the three years.

You demonstrated to everyone that Masonry exists to help the needy and to enrich our lives by service, dedication and a sense of universal brotherhood. Society has always called for leaders to express its needs, to organize its policies and, most of all, to be its guide and conscience in evil days. Too often though, it has been burdened with ambitious men who use public office as stepping stones to wealth, position, privilege and power.

True leadership arises out of selflessness and often makes a huge claim upon the one who leads. On your Installation, you said: 'We are going to make it happen. I will not accept the "Us and Them" position nor the "one size fits all". Give me growth and enthusiasm and a future. I wish to mobilize our 15,000 women who support their men and this organization. Our action time is right now. Let it be said in 25 years that it was you who made the difference.'

Freemasonry, at the heart of life ... Feel it brethren, understand and value its importance to your life and the lives of your loved ones, reach out and by your own actions, reflect light into the lives of others.



And you concluded by announcing your theme as 'Freemasonry, at the heart of life', adding: 'Feel it brethren, understand and value its importance to your life and the lives of your loved ones, reach out and by your own actions, reflect light into the lives of others.'

During your term, you gave tireless support to the 20/20 Masons, Regional conferences, the Australian and New Zealand Grand Masters meetings as well as the Pacific meetings, Masonic Widows, and you continued the recognition of Associated Orders to help members understand the many facets of Freemasonry.

One of the prime purposes in life is to help and educate others, a principle in which you have succeeded. Now it is time to bid farewell and join your predecessors who have also worked so hard for the Craft. But don't go away because your presence is still needed in so many areas where brethren and others can approach you and say: 'Well done, Grand Master, well done.'

and welcome ...

Grand Master-elect


As Grand Master, you will succeed to great responsibilities. Your brethren pledge loyalty and support and they now look to you for guidance, inspiration and example. You have the Ancient Landmarks to guard but you also have to make relevant our code of Morals in a challenging, materialistic world.

Speculative Masonry embraces all society, from humble operatives to presidential palaces. Its members can be found

in the business world, government, public service and as ordinary workers, devoted to the rule of law, the Brotherhood of Man and that integrity of soul which makes our lives complete.

At an installation, we are told: 'As some must of necessity rule and teach, so others must, of course, submit and learn. Humility in both is an essential qualification.' This is a major factor in the process of control and leadership. Humility in leaders is the seal of greatness and among

its members it is the token of a wise administration and a healthiness of attitude and aspiration. Such men are the material from which true leadership arises and it is now your opportunity to join those esteemed ranks and enjoy a wonderful and humbling experience.

Long may Freemasonry be a part of and adorn our land. Well may its wise Grand Masters rule us in the years to come. 



Brotherly Love, Relief, Truth

Understanding in today's world

How are these principles understood and applied in a **changing world** and a society where fragmentation of culture is rampant, belief structures are challenged and even the understanding of such words can mean significant different principles to different persons?



For many years I have been concerned and involved in studying the declining level of membership both within church structures and within Freemasonry.

One significant recent church research study suggests – that when well done – the traditional forms of church are still helpful and meaningful for up to 40% of churchgoers. This remains a relevant mission field and with a need to continue to develop and grow the church as it is. One significant way proposed is through becoming a more welcoming and open community. For the other 60% of churchgoers the church needs to discover new ways of communicating the basic truths that people have loved over the generations.

In Freemasonry there have been many papers written on causes for the decline in membership. Certainly, when well done, many masons appreciate the established ritual and teaching activities of Freemasonry. However, one significant result of studies is that Masonry needs to discover new ways of communicating the basic truths that masons have loved over the generations.

Social Ethicist, Hugh Mackay in the *Sun Herald* 29.04.07, included in his article a statement that triggered me to involve a small team in a five year field research study titled 'Freemasonry Reconnection with Society'. Quoting the statement:

When we lose our sense of connectedness, moral clarity is the first casualty. Our most urgent need is to reconnect – to get back in touch with each other.

Here we have a direct challenge for Freemasonry to practice its moral teachings of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth as a basis to reconnect both with the brethren within Freemasonry and with the wider community. My personal expression of this



challenge is the illustration above (you will see more of this in the future).

Since first hearing the North East Charge at my Initiation over 62 years ago I have wrestled with practicable applications of demonstrating that moral virtue **Charity**, the distinguishing characteristic of a mason's heart. Over recent years as a Grand Chaplain, I have come to the practical understanding that:

*The moral virtue, **Charity**, when applied with that Foundation Masonic Principle, **Relief**, is a social responsibility challenge every mason should demonstrate.*

Where in today's changing world do we see positive masonic activity to respond to the concerns expressed in the title of this article?

One of the great joys and privileges of being a Grand Chaplain is that of participating in the ceremony of Consecrating a new lodge. Such was my privilege in the Consecration of The Builders Lodge No 1048. I entered this ceremony with the concerns on my mind of the title of this article.

Early in the most beautiful of the Consecration Prayers, we sought blessing from the Great Architect of the Universe to give us wisdom in all our doings; strength of mind under all our difficulties; and the

beauty of love and harmony in all our communications.

Knowing something of the extent of problems in communications, I wondered how seriously brethren present reacted to this part of the Consecration Prayer – particularly when each responded with: *So mote it be.*

In a later part of the Consecration Prayers was included the prayer request: *May Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth ever prevail among its members; and may this bond of union increase and strengthen the several lodges throughout the world.*

Without wanting to be judgemental I questioned in my mind how seriously this new lodge would interpret and respond to the divine guidance being sought and promised within these Consecration Prayers?

It was in the short ceremonial interval that I first looked at the Consecration booklet given to all present and read the **Welcome** inside the cover page. To my great joy I read:

We do not exist to build for Freemasonry but rather to build for the community and thereby build Freemasonry. It is our desire that communities across this jurisdiction will come to know Freemasons as active members of their communities, sharing a common goal of being happy and conferring happiness. That they will look upon Freemasons as men who have as their aim, virtue, their purpose, to bring Glory to God, and as a group offer practical assistance to all.

I give thanks for the wisdom shown in the objectives of The Builders Lodge and have every confidence that we have evidence of a positive response to the concerns expressed in the title of this article.

The role of a Grand Master

The entry of a Grand Master into Grand Lodge or any lodge often sparks curiosity as to **what is a Grand Master** and **what does he do**.

There were only loose formations of lodges until the creation of the Grand Lodge of England and the need was recognised for a controlling body and a leader.

Antony Sayers was the first elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, established in 1717 which was afterwards known as the Moderns and which joined with the Antients in 1813.

The Grand Master is the chief presiding officer of the Symbolic Degrees in a jurisdiction, presides over the Grand Lodge and has the right not only to be present, but also to preside in every lodge, with the WM on his left, and to order his Grand Wardens to attend him and act as Wardens in that particular lodge.

He has the right to visit lodges as often as he pleases, or, if unable to do so, he may send his Grand Officers to act for him. When he visits a lodge, as the ruler of the Order he must be received with the greatest respect and the WM should always offer him the Chair, which the Grand Master may or may not accept.

Among the many and varied duties of a Grand Master is the granting of Dispensations for the formation of new lodges, to ballot for and initiate a candidate on the same night, to prohibit an initiation or installation, to determine the interval between degrees, regalia to be worn, licence for a Lodge of Instruction, grants of relief, the Quarterly Communication, appointment of representatives at Installations and the appointment of his Deputy and Assistant Grand Masters. By delegation RGCs are permitted to issue limited Dispensations.

He is expected to attend the meetings of the various Boards and Committees of Grand Lodge, be constantly aware of the commitments of Grand Lodge and its finances, to attend other Grand Installa-



tions where possible and to wear the Grand Master's regalia when appropriate.

The regalia consists of an Apron, Chain, Jewel and Gauntlets.

When the United Grand Lodge of NSW was established in 1888, the regalia adopted for the Grand Master was practically the same as that used by the United Grand Lodge of England except for the provision of a distinctive shield from which the jewel is hung on the Chain and a NSW monogram replacing the English model.

The Apron is of white lambskin, lined with garter blue and edged with garter blue ribbon, having gold braid and fringes, two tassels in gold and three gold levels. The garter blue was apparently chosen as the Grand Lodge colour after King George I changed the colour of the Order of the Garter from light blue to the darker blue. It is ornamented with pomegranates, lotuses and seven-eared wheat with the blazing sun in the centre.

The Chain is of gold and is mounted on garter blue ribbon with shoulder bows on each side. The links of the Chain are connected by knots composed of nine five-point stars and four monograms of the UGL of NSW & ACT. The Chain has been a distinguishing mark of office and dignity for centuries.

The Jewel is worn suspended from the Chain beneath a white enamelled shield bearing part of the heraldic arms of NSW. It consists of the Compasses extended to 45 degrees and a gold plate on which is superimposed the All Seeing Eye in a circle.

The Gauntlets were originally part of the gloves and do not have any special symbolical significance. They became part of the prescribed regalia in 1884 and carry the badge of office in gold.

Such is the role and regalia of a Grand Master.



March Communication

The March Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was specially important because of the election of one of three candidates to be **the next Grand Master of NSW & ACT.**

After welcoming all members, the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston asked them to rise and reflect on those who have passed away in the natural disasters in Australia and New Zealand.

Discussion then followed on changes to the Book of Constitutions proposed by the Grand Registrar, RW Bro John Armfield PDGM relating to the election of Grand Master. Three amendments were proposed and debated before a vote was taken and RW Bro Derek Robson PDGM was elected on the first ballot as Grand Master-elect to a standing ovation.

The Executive Council report agreed with the Board of Management that a joint statement detailing the 'Strategic Overview of the future placement of Masonic Buildings' should be prepared and distributed as soon as possible. The report also decided a Grand Master's Representative course should be re-introduced but declined to support a proposal the Constitution be amended to include an 'Education Officer' in the list of invested officers in a lodge.

In its report, the Board of Management detailed the successful booth at Sydney University 'Open Week' with assistance from the 20/20 Masons and a number of

lodges with a review to be held to assess its success and whether it might be extended to other universities next year. The Board approved the Communications Initiatives including the trial introduction of a quarterly circular and more efficient use of emails. The Membership Committee has been developing a booklet 'Members Guide to Moving Forward' and is also working to make available new resources to the jurisdiction for use at various events, shows and other activities.

The Grand Master, in his address, again congratulated RW Bro Robson on his election and then asked for RW Bro Ken Mole PDGM of Lodge Wyaldra to be presented to receive a 50 Years Certificate and then, to the complete surprise of RW Bro Mole, the Grand Master awarded him the Carlington Medal of Honour for outstanding service to Freemasonry, particularly in country areas.

After RW Bro Mole had responded, the Grand Master told members that Freemasonry Australia-wide now had only 40,000 members and there was still plenty of work ahead.

'Since that terrific December Communication at Goulburn, much work has been done, in the name of Freemasonry,

for the good of our community,' he said.

'masoniCare pledged \$100,000 to the Queensland Grand Master's flood relief program, at the same time opening our own fundraising flood relief pledge program. Freemasonry also strongly pitched its message at Tamworth late January where we welcomed the formation of a new Widows and Ladies Association, the first since 1998, mentored by Dr Yvonne McIntyre, and the consecration of Lodge Northern Rivers No 77 on 5 February. Local media coverage on both occasions was effective and well received.

'Judith and I attended the February centenary installation of Lodge Kensington and the 50th anniversary of the Blue Angel restaurant at the end of January where more than 200 attendees raised money for the Paediatric Oncology Department of Westmead Hospital and a cheque for more than \$88,000 was handed over.

'The Grand Installation of the Grand Lodge of Tasmania at the end of February was well attended by masons and ladies of this Jurisdiction.

Issues arising from the Grand Masters' Conference were:

1. The continuing growth of the Asia Pacific Conference.
2. The challenge of Australian Freemasonry's asset management in light of falling membership.
3. A coordinated Disaster Relief template between Jurisdictions.
4. The GIRTH Men's Health program is positive, and awaiting Federal Government funding of \$1.3m for a roll out in 2012.

'I have also asked Executive Council and our Boards to reinvent the way we communicate with each other. To improve efficiency and effectiveness and to be seen and heard. Only with positive messages can we develop conviction about the need to change, and increase our efforts, actions and determination to take Freemasonry into our lives and externally to the community we live in.'

A Preview of the June Communication Program

Grand Lodge will meet at the Sydney Masonic Centre on Wednesday 8 June at 7.30pm.

The Order of Business will be:

- > Minutes
- > Correspondence
- > Reception of the Heads of Other Orders: United Supreme Grand Chapter, Order of the Secret Monitor, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for Australia
- > Annual Reports
- > Appointment of Regional Grand Counsellors 2011/13
- > District and Regional Awards
- > Election of Officers

Ken gets the right reward

Who is **RW Bro Kenneth Francis Mole?**

Nestled near the lush wine growing area of Mudgee on the Central Western Plains some 300 kilometres from Sydney, is the historic gold mining town of Gulgong.

A town remembered for its placement on the ten dollar note; and once the home of Henry Lawson, poet and writer extraordinaire. A town during the Australian gold rushes of the 1850s bursting at the seams accommodating the 20,000 prospectors searching their separate fortune.

Among its present-day citizens numbering no more than 2,000 lives a quiet but busy man of some note. A person frequently called, and relied upon to help, support, organise or just encourage the young and not so young, to join fair play, teamwork, learn organisational skills and grow and develop independence of thought sufficient to carry through their several milestones of life.


His helpful involvement over many years embraces the widest diversity of interest, be it scouting, swimming, athletics, netball, Legacy, the RSL and Rotary; and not forgetting being a 2000 Olympics volunteer; from interested observer, committeeman, official representative, patron, building maintenance supervisor to president, culminating in becoming Rector's Warden of Gulgong's St Luke's Anglican Church for several years. Most of this little township has benefited in some way from his non-interfering support and encouragement.

So who is Ken Mole PDGM? He is the man the Grand Master MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston, near the conclusion of the March 2011 Quarterly Communication, honoured with the highest and most prestigious masonic award, the Carrington Medal of Honour ... not just for his masonic achievements, but his lifetime of outstanding and ongoing community work and accomplishments.

Born into a masonic family, Ken Mole was initiated at Lodge Wyaldra No 238 in 1961. A continuous member to this day, Bro Ken occupied every office within his

lodge and currently is the Lodge Secretary.

Bro Ken progressed to DGIW in 1978 through to 1983. He was appointed RGC in 1999 to 2003, elected to the Board of The Masonic Youth Welfare Fund in 1999 to 2004, serving on all committees, conferred PJGW 1987, PSGW 1996, PAGM 2003, PDGM 2008.

When the time comes, he would like to be buried from Gulgong's St Luke's Anglican Church ... 'It is my wish that the Rector, whoever they may be, would invite the local Salvation Army, Presbyterian, Uniting and Roman Catholic leaders to participate in the Service. The object would be to show that we are all one.' 



The Carrington Medal of Honour

The Carrington Medal of Honour recognises the outstanding efforts of a Brother who has made a major contribution to the community at large, as well as those made within the masonic family. His involvement will highlight that he is 'A Mason of Excellence.'

Those who have received the Award to date are:

- > **RW Bro Rev Harry Ctercteko PDGM August 2002**
- > **RW Bro Dr Frank Radcliff PDGM August 2005**
- > **MW Bro Ron Johnson AM PGM August 2005**
- > **RW Bro Alan Farrell PDGM August 2005**
- > **RW Bro Grahame Cumming PDGM August 2007**
- > **RW Bro Kenneth Mole PDGM March 2011**





The gift of love

Organ transplants are low in Australia by world standards. This story by W Bro Robert and Mrs Raelene Shugg tells of their need.

In 1999 when our grandson Nicholas, was seven months old, he contracted the Rota virus which causes severe vomiting and diarrhoea and his health declined rapidly. He was sent to the Sydney Prince of Wales Hospital where he was diagnosed with undersized and misshaped kidneys. After Nicholas recovered, our son James (a foundation member of Lodge Phoenix 1034 and a former member of Lodge Warringah 83) and daughter-in-law Melissa were told that Nicholas would need a kidney transplant. As medical equipment was urgently needed for all Renal Unit patients, James, Melissa, Raelene and I, with help from friends, began fundraising and over the next three years raised \$35,000 for the Sydney Children's Hospital at Randwick to purchase additional equipment.

Nicholas was 13 months old when his sister Grace was born and 21 months old when his brother Matthew came along. This was a difficult period for Melissa having to care for three small children, fortnightly visits to natural therapists, hospital outpatients and pathology tests. Melissa learned to cope and also managed to do related research on diet, medication, weight, growth hormones and kidney transplants and did a fantastic job in keeping Nicholas healthy.

Nicholas had constant acidic reflux and found it hard to swallow food but the alternative was tube feeding through his abdomen. We were determined to feed him conventionally for as long as possible, so we spent hours zooming aeroplanes with spoonfuls of food into his mouth. We would arrange his fruit and vegetables into faces or animals hoping he would like the look and with perseverance managed to keep enough food down his stomach to sustain him, but his diet was very limited. Nicholas would escape into a realm of paper, drawing Scooby Doo and Shuggy (not Shaggy) as well as all the characters from *Toy Story*. He became a star patient

at the hospital because he was in such good health, apart from his kidneys, but there was concern his height for age was far below average.

When he reached eight, it was decided to put Nicholas on hormones to promote his growth and erythropoietin to oxygenate the blood. He had to be constantly monitored for height, weight, blood pressure and creatinine levels every month. Over time James and Melissa's marriage failed under the pressure but they still share the duties of parenting the three children. Around year 2005 they decided to move permanently to Kingscliff, near Tweed Heads to escape from city life.

In January 2010, tests showed that Nicholas's creatinine levels were over 600

when 'the norm' is between 80 and 130. It was time to think about the future. From the onset of Nicholas' diagnosis the family said they would donate a kidney. Melissa was the prime carer for Nicholas so she was ruled out and James insisted he would be the donor. For the next nine months James and Nicholas had to undergo tests including blood and tissue typing, counselling, CT scans and ultrasounds for heart, lung, and kidneys. Each hospital visit included meetings with surgeons, specialists and the Transplant Co-ordinator and tests, requiring many return trips to Brisbane.

Father's Day 6 September, 2010 was a special day for 11 year old Nicholas, James, Melissa and supporting family members

Right: Nicholas with Raelene and Robert four hours before his operation. James is already in theatre.

Below: Nicholas and James six days after the operation, skyping his mum.





Nicholas with his dad four weeks after the operation (left) and with his proud grandfather (right) three months after.

Late that afternoon Nicholas was in the ICU and we could go and see him even though he was not conscious. He still had the smile on his face and his old mate Woody, from *Toy Story*, was tucked securely under one arm. Two days after the operation James was up and hobbling. Nicholas was sitting up and for the first time in his life actually enjoying eating.

Day three and the new kidney was working perfectly. It had been inserted on the right hand side of his body, behind his intestines to provide protection. He was drinking four litres of water a day, his creatinine level had dropped to around 100 but he had to go back on the drip during the night to keep from de-hydrating. Day four and Nicholas was up and walking and devouring all food items in sight but when eating out food preparation and washing was important. Cooked food has to be prepared just before it is served and staff at restaurants and fast food outlets have been happy to comply with this request.

Nicholas spent two weeks in recovery in hospital and four weeks in Ronald McDonald House with Melissa beside him to keep him on track. He had daily blood tests and general checks whilst in hospital before returning home, going to school, leap frogging at the beach and generally being a boy.

After three days in hospital and four days in a nearby hotel, James returned home to spend time with Grace and Matthew. He is back at work but comes home exhausted. It will take time for his 100kg body, once powered by two kidneys, to adjust to getting by on one. He said it



and friends. An excited Nicholas went into the Brisbane Mater Children's Hospital to prepare for his kidney transplant the next day. Emotionally for James it was a mixture of fear, pride, love and bewilderment and asking 'will I still be around tomorrow?'

Next morning James presented himself to the Mater Private Hospital which is next to the Children's hospital and was whisked away so quickly that we could not even say, 'I love you James and I am so proud of what you are about to do for your son.' James was to be three hours in the operating theatre, then into the Intensive Care Unit for the rest of the day and to the recovery ward the following day.

Raelene, friend Jenny and I went to see Nicholas, as he had a couple of hours to wait for his operation. He couldn't wait to be able to eat anything he wanted, a banana smoothie and chicken nuggets with chips (taboo before the transplant) were his favourite choice. Nicholas went in after cuddles and kisses with a smile on his face.

James came out of surgery and was in the recovery ward. His pre-operation prep of meditation, detoxification and exercise had played its part and he was doing better than expected. He was euphoric because he had done something wonderful and relieved because he was still alive. He had four incisions on the left side of his abdomen to enable surgeons to disconnect the kidney and a 'Caesar' incision across his lower abdomen large enough for a hand to be inserted to recover the kidney. James likened it to a pregnancy. Nine months of preparation, a delivery and a new life is born. Of course this thought was also true for Raelene, Jenny and I, when James was later exhibiting some symptoms of afterbirth blues.

was the most empowering thing he has ever done and it gives his life more meaning. He is encouraging other people to think about signing up as a live donor. Anyone can do it and it is one of the safest operations being done today.

James, a Real Estate agent, found that the nine months of travelling one or two days a week to Brisbane and the advent of the Global Financial crisis put a strain on his finances. He was finding it difficult to survive and the family could only help so much.

The help he needed came from his fellow brethren in Lodge Phoenix and The Freemasons Benevolent Fund where they extended the right hand of fellowship to help a brother in need. This timely gesture came when James was trying to get back on his feet physically, emotionally and financially. James and all the Shugg family are overwhelmed and sincerely grateful. It is easy to give but it is harder to receive. This magnanimous gesture has given James a chance to recover from his selfless act, for the love of a son. To all in Freemasonry, the Shugg family says "THANK YOU!"

Organ and tissue donations save lives

DISCOVER the facts about organ and tissue donation

DECIDE about organ and tissue donation

DISCUSS your decision with your family and friends

To learn more about organ and tissue donation, visit www.donatelife.gov.au





Rescue Flights celebrate

Twenty five years ago a group of doctors had a shared vision: to create a **better medical retrieval service** in Australia.

They believed that very sick patients who need to be moved between hospitals, and severely injured patients who need to be treated at the accident scene, should be attended by critical care specialists who can perform 'physician only' procedures. From this vision, CareFlight was born.

A base was established in the grounds of Westmead Hospital and a helicopter was commissioned. Initially, with only one doctor on duty each day, CareFlight flew to some four patients a month. Over the years the organisation has evolved and

expanded and now there are medical operations in three states/territories and at least 11 critical care doctors on rostered duty every day of the year. The doctors cover shifts on NSW Ambulance Service helicopters, road ambulances and fixed wing air ambulances; shifts on the CareFlight helicopters; and shifts on the company International Air Ambulance medi-jets which operate out of Sydney, Darwin and Perth.

It also employs highly trained critical care nurses who work on the helicopters and fixed wing aircraft in Northern Territory operations and on the International Air Ambulance medi-jets.

CareFlight has a strong focus on teaching and medical research. We train trauma specialists and senior registrars in

critical care in the transport and pre-hospital environment, and hold teaching accreditation with the Critical Care Colleges. CareFlight has played a major role in the evolution of critical care transport in Australia, having been a leader in research and development of both systems and equipment employed in retrieval medicine. Out of this research has emerged our Head Injury Retrieval Trial (HIRT), a major clinical trial to evaluate the impact of advanced pre-hospital medical interventions in the treatment of severe head injury.

We are planning to expand our medical research and education programs and are currently in the process of developing a rural trauma education program which will benefit all of New South Wales.





As we enter our 25th year of operation, our medical philosophy remains constant: to provide clinical excellence and leadership in critical care transport.

CareFlight holds teaching accreditation with the three Critical Care Medical Colleges of Anaesthesia, Emergency Medicine and Intensive Care. In 1990 we implemented the medical registrar training scheme after becoming the first non-hospital organisation to be granted accreditation.

University affiliation and teaching accreditation make CareFlight a sought-after career path for both specialists and registrars.

The ability of our International Air Ambulance to conduct long range missions was shown in October when the Sydney-based jet flew to Guilin in southern China to transfer a critically ill

patient home to Hamilton in New Zealand. The jet made refuelling stops in Darwin and Borneo during the day-long outward leg. Additional pilots, specialist doctors and flight nurses were pre-positioned to overcome fatigue factors, allowing the jet to keep going without having to stop for crew rest breaks and to allow the clinical team to focus on treating the critically ill man.

In another incident, for three stranded fishermen the sound of Darwin's CareFlight helicopter breaking the dawn silence was more than welcome. The trio set off their distress beacon late at night in November when a Top End fishing outing from Wyndham into the Cambridge Gulf became a battle for survival after a storm battered their small boat. They sought refuge in a bay but became stranded on rocks in an area infested with

saltwater crocodiles. The helicopter set out from Darwin and spotted the boat just minutes after a police boat also arrived with the men on the boat and out of danger.

The year 2011 is a major milestone for CareFlight. It recognises 25 years of saving lives in which there have been more than 25,000 responses to adult and child patients. Like other charities, CareFlight depends on the support of community minded people and if you would like a talk at your lodge meeting or an interest visit, contact (02)9843 5100 or email info@careflight.org.





What is Freemasonry?

Technically, Freemasonry is defined as: **A system of morality**, veiled in **allegory** and illustrated by **symbols**. Let us examine this definition.

The word MORALITY is defined in the Oxford dictionary as: Principles concerning the difference between right and wrong – or good or bad behaviour – or a particular system of moral values – or the extent of which an action is right or wrong.

In other words, Freemasonry is a time honoured philosophy of moral (delete ethical) conduct, one based on the belief in one God, a Great Architect of the Universe.

It is veiled in Allegory.

An allegory is defined as a poem or story which contains hidden symbolic meanings.

Why illustrated by symbols?

Symbols are the most ancient method of recording and communicating teachings. For example – the most ancient teaching of morality is found in hieroglyphs covering the walls of the great pyramid built for the early Egyptian God-King Unas in 2349 BC. These translated as sacred incantations (or prayers) to assure the Gods that the King led a life free from evil, that through his life he practiced Good over Evil.

In like vein, symbols in Freemasonry and masonic lodges are used throughout our ritual as the means of teaching the moral and intellectual lessons embodied within the Craft.

The oldest published document on modern Freemasonry is the Anderson Constitution of 1713. Its very first command is: *'A Mason is obliged by its tenure to Obey the Moral Law, and if he rightly understands the Art he will never be a stupid atheist nor an irreligious person.'*

In one of the oldest important published histories of Freemasonry, the learned Dr George Oliver in 1823 wrote in his book *The Antiquities of Freemasonry* these eminent and enduring words: *'It is truly said that Masonry unites mankind in an indissoluble bond of sincere affection, and if its nature and origin is minutely considered, then it will produce a perfect conviction that when its fundamental principles are strictly adhered to it cannot be otherwise. It is not the simple practical or operative but the Speculative or Spiritual Mason that produces this desired consummation.'*

In the beautiful 26th Degree of the

Scottish Rite – The Prince of Mercy – we find these relevant words: *'Masonically, we know not whether you be a Christian, Jew or Moslem. If you be a Christian you will see in this degree a Christian Degree, and so you have the right to interpret it. Your brethren will respect your Faith as they have the right to demand you shall respect theirs. If you not be a Christian, you will see in it a mere historical allegory symbolizing the great truths, acknowledged alike by you and them.'*

Clearly, one of the major hopes of modern Freemasonry is that it can provide an ethical and intellectually compatible means for persons of different religions, having a belief in a common God, to come together to share its great moral teachings for the betterment of mankind.

How do I personally perceive Freemasonry?

It is a society of intelligent men of good character who, believing in one God, obligate themselves to study and apply the moral and intellectual teachings of Freemasonry to the betterment of themselves, their family, their community and their nation.

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The Cath Hammond Award



A special gathering, including **nine members of the Hammond family**, were present at the Sydney Masonic Centre on Tuesday 3 May to witness the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO presented with the **inaugural Cath Hammond Award**.



L-R: MW Bro Robert Hammond, Mrs Cath Hammond, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Judith Morrice and the Grand Master

Inset: The magnificent Award brooch

The Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston, welcomed the Governor, pointing out it was not the first time she had visited the Centre.

He explained the Carrington Medal of Honour had been instituted for Freemasons ten years ago for special individuals who demonstrate the utmost care and respect for their fellow humans. So far there have only been six recipients.

It was suggested a similar honour should be awarded to a lady with similar virtues and the decision was made to name the Award after Cath Hammond, a person of long standing values and the wife of the longest serving Past Grand Master, MW Bro Robert Hammond.

'May I thank you for your work as Governor and what you have done for the community and Freemasonry. You are a person of dignity, care and compassion and have shown a real love of Freemasonry. I am most pleased on behalf of Freemasonry in NSW and the ACT to make this presentation for your contribution to public life and Masonry', the Grand Master said.

Mrs Hammond then made the presentation to the Governor of the Award,

which was a specially designed magnificent brooch and an elegant piece of jewellery.

'I am deeply moved and hoped to get through this moment without a tear in my eye but I have failed. I feel very humble', said Her Excellency.

'This occasion makes me think specially of my parents, particularly of my late father Michael Bashir who was a devoted member of Lodge Leopold in Narrandera (NSW) in which he held a number of senior roles.

'He told me that what he loved about Freemasonry was that it makes good men better. And it became part of my home life at Narrandera where I grew up. I am deeply honoured to have been selected for this medal and I wonder what my father would have said about being honoured this way.

'It's a most wonderful jewel and it has been a very special and unique morning. This presentation from what is seen as a men's organization resounds deeply in my heart and mind because of my father and Freemasonry. He was a loving and kind citizen and I feel his spirit here. I am humbled by the extraordinary decision of Freemasons to make this award to me and

though somewhat overwhelmed I accept this honour with great appreciation.'

A very proud Cath Hammond said the medal had been a terrific surprise and most unexpected and she was so pleased with the idea.

'The Governor is such a wonderful person, so approachable and gifted and her presence made the morning so much easier', she said.

An equally proud Bob Hammond pointed out the jewel had his wife's birthstone and had a relation to the Carrington Medal because it was named after the first Grand Master of the UGL of NSW who was also the NSW Governor.

'The naming of it was an inspiration. The Grand Master made the announcement at the function to celebrate my 40th anniversary of being GM. It was such a surprise. I am so proud of Cath as without her I could never have been Grand Master', MW Bro Hammond said.



Her Excellency the Governor

It is well known that if you want anything said, ask a man. If you want anything done, ask a woman. There can be no better example of **a woman who gets things done** than **Professor Marie Roslyn Bashir, AC, CVO**.

Her contribution to medical science and humanitarian causes has been untiring and her courage to challenge the 'status quo' where injustice and inequality exists has inspired women of all generations. The Freemasons of NSW and the ACT pay tribute to her leadership in this article.

In a press conference given in response to the announcement of her appointment as Governor, Professor Bashir said: 'When the suggestion was made to me ... to begin with I was absolutely spellbound and speechless. Thinking about it, it seemed to me to be symbolic about the way our country is advancing in a sophisticated manner, that it could consider asking not only a woman, but a woman whose work is in a field that is not always popular. It is unpopular to work in mental health, with the disadvantaged and with indigenous people. It is also unpopular to be counted among women who have children and work, women from non-English speaking backgrounds, women who have an opinion. It seemed to me that to reject such a high challenge would be an insult to the history of our State.'

Her Excellency, Professor Marie Roslyn Bashir, AC, CVO, became the 37th Governor of New South Wales and the first female Governor of this State following her four year appointment by Queen Elizabeth II on 1 March 2001. She succeeded the late Honourable Gordon J Samuels, AC, CVO, QC, who served the office with great distinction from 1 March 1996 to 28 February 2001.

Professor Bashir's term of office is due to expire in February 2012 following extensions to her appointment in 2005 and 2008. At that time she will become the second longest serving Governor of this State behind Sir Arthur Roden Cutler,



The Governor and Sir Nicholas Shehadie watch Prince William sign the guest book at Government House in Sydney.

VC who served the office from 20 January 1966 to 19 January 1981. She will share the honour with former Governors Major General Lachlan Macquarie and Lt General Sir John Northcott both of whom served the office for a period of eleven years.

In addition to her role as Governor, Professor Bashir acts as the Administrator of the Commonwealth when the Governor-General of Australia is absent from the country. This occurred as recent as 25 April 2011 when the Governor General, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce, AC, attended an ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Hellfire Pass, Thailand, where more than 2,800 POWs died during the construction of the Thai-Burma Railway. Professor Bashir represented the Governor-General at the Dawn Service in Canberra before returning to Sydney to lead the ANZAC Day march.

Professor Bashir gained her Bachelor Degrees in Medicine and Surgery (MBBS) at Sydney University in 1956 and in 1957 completed post-graduate studies in psychiatry. In 2003 she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Medicine (*honoris causa*) by the University of Sydney.

In addition to teaching roles at Sydney University, Professor Bashir was heavily involved in programs associated with mental health, juvenile depression and the welfare of migrants, indigenous Australians and the elderly. She held a number of positions associated with these fields including Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Sydney; Area Director of Mental Health Services; Consultant Director of Juvenile Justice facilities and Senior Consultant to the Aboriginal Medical Service. She was also heavily involved in organisations such as Amnesty International, the National Trust, the NSW Camellia Research Society and the Tandanya National Aboriginal cultural Centre. Many of the positions were relinquished following her appointment as Governor.

Professor Bashir's long and active association with Sydney University resulted in her appointment as 17th Chancellor of the University on 1 June 2007. The appointment followed overwhelming support from university staff, students and alumni.

In a welcoming ceremony conducted in the Great Hall of the university, the Deputy Chancellor said: 'Professor Bashir practised as a psychiatrist, supporting some of the most disadvantaged in our society, in urban and rural settings and in indigenous communities. She is widely known across the state and is much loved as Governor of NSW. She also contributes regularly to outreach activities in the Asia-Pacific region including in Vietnam through the University's Hoc Mai Centre.'

In responding to the welcome from the Deputy Chancellor, Professor Bashir said: 'It is indeed a most singular privilege to be called upon to serve this renowned institution which has been integral to my

very being since childhood, so richly contributory to my intellectual and emotional development across a lifetime”.

Marie Roslyn Bashir is of Lebanese descent and was born in 1930 in Narrandera, NSW. She attended Narrandera Public School and was later enrolled as a student of Sydney Girls High School. Her Father, VW Bro Michael Salim Bashir was initiated in Lodge Leopold No 128 on 18 January 1934. He was installed as WM of Lodge Leopold in 1940 and appointed as the District Grand Inspector of Workings for District 93 for the term 1958 to 1960. Sadly he passed away on 22 March 1964.

In February 1957, Marie Bashir married Bro Nicholas Shehadie and they are the proud parents of three children. Nicholas served as Lord Mayor of Sydney from 1973 to 1975 and was made a Knight Bachelor on 1 January 1976. He also represented Australia in Rugby Union on 114 occasions and played in 30 tests.

Professor Bashir's close association with Freemasonry, which began with her father, continued through her husband who was initiated into Lodge John Williams No 148 on 18 October 1948. He was passed to the Second Degree on 15 November 1948 and raised to the Third Degree on 18 March 1949. Freemasonry has been honoured through Professor Bashir's attendance at a number of major masonic events at the Sydney Masonic Centre including the opening of the 'Changi Papers Exhibition' and the unveiling of the portrait of MW Bro Tony Lauer who served as Grand Master for the term 2002 to 2005.

Professor Bashir is a worthy recipient of the many Honours and Awards she has received for services to her profession and Australia. In addition to being named Mother of the Year in 1971, her honours and appointments include:

Honours:

Companion of the Order of Australia (AC)

Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO)

Dame of Grace of the Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem (DStJ)

Centenary Medal

Commander of the National Order of the Cedar

Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur

Appointments:

Patron of the Sydney University Graduate Choir, Opera Australia and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

Honorary and Regimental Colonel in the Royal New South Wales Regiment

Honorary Air Commodore of No 22 Squadron Royal Australian Air Force

Honorary Commodore, Navy Warfare

Training, Royal Australian Navy. This was the first ever appointment of an Honorary Commodore in the RAN.

References:

1. 'Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO' – Woman's College Journal, Sydney University 2001
2. 'The Governor's New View' – Sydney Morning Herald, April 2004, Robin Fitzsimmons
3. 'Marie Bashir' – Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia



The Governor, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC, CVO, delivering a university address.



ON WITH THE SHOW

'Some small boys run away from home to join a circus. I was born into it and I see no other way of life.'

So said Stafford Bullen, who was born in Bathurst where the circus founded by his parents was performing. He died in Sydney in November 2001, aged 76.

As a nine-year-old, Stafford's father, Alfred Bullen, had declared his intention to establish the greatest circus in Australia and in 1920, he founded Bullen's Circus with his wife Lilian which went on to rival Wirth's, Perry, Sole Brothers and Aston.

Its 16 wagons criss-crossed Australia with Stafford, his three younger brothers and sister in the entourage. Stafford described his childhood as marvelous and

exciting. His circus career began at four and soon he was working as a contortionist, tumbler, clown, wire walker, bareback rider, juggler, trainer of horses and elephants and eventually becoming ringmaster.

'As a small child, I was filled with the wonder of it – the animals who became my friends, the big-hearted performers, the hard work. There was a lot of laughter and comradeship you would never find in any other profession.'

It was a hard life. Young Stafford had to help erect the big top, train animals, play in the band and above all, practice. When it rained, the wagons would often get bogged and the elephants would have to pull them free. The circus children had a tutor who doubled as a musician in the circus band. Stafford was an above-average student but his formal education ended at age 14.

He became an expert animal trainer. At 22, he and his brother Ken went to Thailand to find suitable elephants, leopards and monkeys to bring to Australia. Bullen had an affinity with elephants. Once while unloading trailers in North Queensland his truck was hit by a train. Trapped and drifting in and out of consciousness, he called out instructions to his favourite elephant, Gandhi, which ripped the wreckage apart to allow in rescuers.

Stafford and Ken Bullen ran the business after their mother died in 1965. In the early 1960s, aware of the threat posed by television, the business began to diversify. In 1965, Bullen helped the Edgley organization to bring the Great Moscow Circus to Australia, and later shows such as Disney on Parade, the Monte Carlo Circus and the Moscow Circus on Ice. In 1968, the African Lion Safari opened at Warragamba, attracting 200,000 visitors a year.

In 1969, the traveling circus closed and Bullen's Animal World, with a permanent circus, opened at Wallacia. In 1953, Bullen



Right: Stafford the Ringmaster
Below: With one of his many circus friends



Sons Craig (left) and Brenton (right) with Stafford and the three elephants, Bimbo, Sabu and Siam, that now reside at Australia Zoo.

had married in Adelaide Cleo Rinaldo, his childhood sweetheart and the reception, naturally, was held in the Big Top. At Casa Bullen, the palatial home they built next to Animal World at Wallacia, lion and tiger cubs as well as the occasional elephant, could often be found in the back garden.

Bullen, who was breeding animals for export, moved into property development, the travel and entertaining industries, British casinos, and in 1985, based himself on the Isle of Man for a few years, travelling Europe with his son Craig.

However, the animal park business was becoming less attractive and as Sydney sprawled, Bullen complained about stringent regulations on keeping exotic animals. In addition, animal liberationists made Bullen a target and he had to staunchly defend his record and the importance of his breeding program.

Bullen's Animal World closed in 1985 and the African Lion Safari in 1991 but the family continued to maintain a private menagerie at Wallacia where they continued to breed lions and tigers.

Bro Stafford Bullen was initiated in Lodge William Thompson No 309 on 11 September 1950.

Information provided by the Masonic Historical Society of NSW.

Photos courtesy Brenton Bullen



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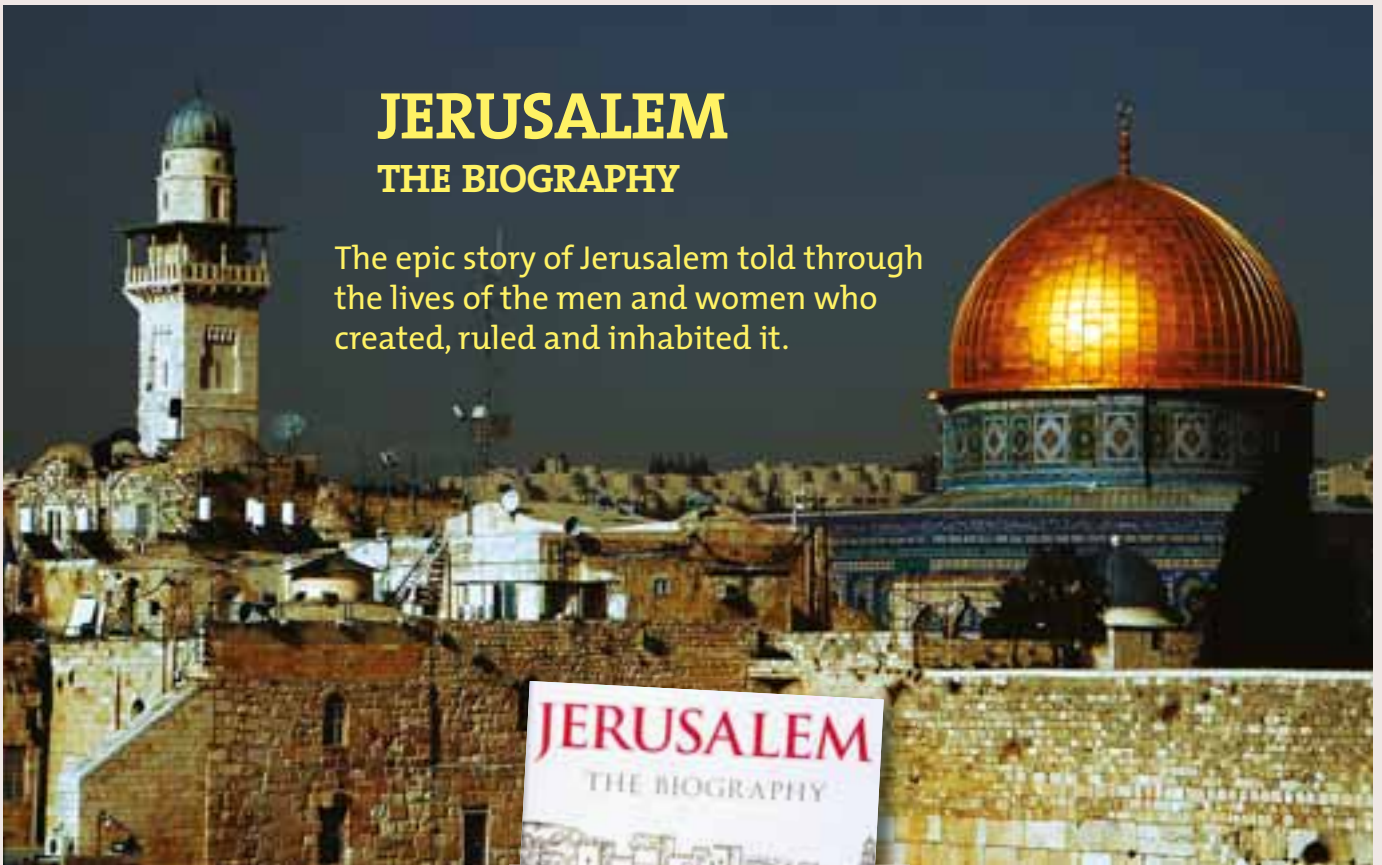
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JERUSALEM

THE BIOGRAPHY

The epic story of Jerusalem told through the lives of the men and women who created, ruled and inhabited it.

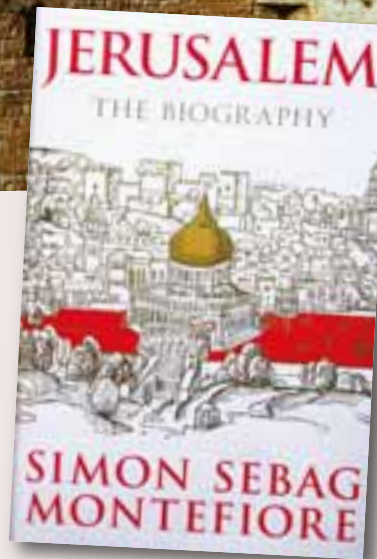


Simon Sebag Montefiore states in this masterly, vastly entertaining and timely book 'JERUSALEM', the history of the world from the birth of Judaism, Christianity and Islam to the British Empire and the creation of Israel.

This is a huge and complex subject covering more than three thousand years of recorded history. It contains much beauty and idealism. A relatively small city, economically unimportant and with poor climate, of no strategic importance, far away from the principal historic east-west trade routes, yet it has held the imagination of so many for millennia.

Jerusalem the universal city, the capital of two peoples, the shrine of three faiths; it is a prize of empires, the site of Judgement Day and the battlefield of today's clash of civilisations.

Brilliantly told is the account of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70AD, when almost all the inhabitants were slaughtered in gruesome fashion and hundreds of thousands of Jews sold into slavery. Then followed the Babylonians, Persians, Jews, Romans, Mamluks, Christians, Ottomans, Arabs, all with a lust for power and conquest.



Equally, it contains much beauty and idealism as the capital of two peoples, the temple of three religions, yet being the only city to exist twice – in heaven and on earth.

The author Simon Montefiore writes in his Preface ... 'My aim here is to write the history of Jerusalem in its broadest sense for general readers, whether they are atheists or believers, Christians, Muslims or Jews, without a political agenda, even in today's strife.

I tell the story chronologically, through the lives of the men and women – soldiers and prophets, poets and kings, peasants and musicians – and the families who made Jerusalem.'

Many ordinary Jerusalemites have left their mark on the city: a cast that varies from Solomon, Saladin and Suleiman the Magnificent to Cleopatra, Caligula and Churchill, from Abraham to Jesus and Muhammad; from the ancient world of Jezebel, Nebuchadnezzar, Herod and Nero to the modern times of the Kaiser, Disraeli, Mark Twain, Rasputin, Lawrence of Arabia, the Rothschilds and the author's own, including his distinguished forbear, Sir Moses Montefiore, a Victorian gentleman and philanthropist who rebuilt large parts of Jerusalem.

Drawing on new archives, current scholarship, his own family papers and a lifetime study, Simon Sebag Montefiore – A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature – illuminates the essence of sanctity and mysticism, identity and empire in a unique story of a city that many believe will one-day be the setting for the Apocalypse.

Published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson,
London

ISBN: 9780297852650

March 2011 publication, \$50.00.

Hardback, illustrated, 638 pages.

Tips for tax time

The end of another financial year is drawing close and the worry of preparing a **tax return** is also on the horizon. Here are some **suggestions** that could help you prepare your return but in all cases you should seek professional advice.

1. Forget the Shoebox!

Putting receipts and other documents in a box is not only messy but can end up costing you in more ways than one. You generally have to keep your tax records for five years, including any receipts for deductions. Lose them and you may lose the ability to claim. Setting up a good filing system can help keep track of your income and expenses and save time at the end of the year.

2. Start planning early

The best time to put a strategy in place is at the start of the new financial year when you have time to plan your income and expenses. This can take some of the stress out of tax time. But it's not too late now to think about things you can do to minimise

your tax. Professional tax advisers know the rules and can help you to make the most of opportunities, both when planning ahead and preparing your tax return. They can also help you to avoid common traps.

3. Time income and deductions

Reduce your tax in this financial year by deferring the receipt of income until after 30 June, or use a strategy such as salary packaging to reduce the amount of income that is assessed. If you are thinking of retiring and expect a payout, consider doing so next financial year. Likewise if you want to sell an asset that will incur capital gains tax. Prepay deductible expenses such as interest on investment loans before 30 June.

4. Make Super contributions

Explore the options available to you (and your partner). This includes salary sacrifice, spouse contributions and eligibility for the government co-contribution.

5. Claim work-related deductions

Take the time to understand what you can claim. Common expenses include uniforms, phone calls, subscriptions, union fees and some people can claim laundry and self-education expenses. Generally, you need proof of the expenses but you can claim up to \$300 of work-related expenses without receipts, provided the claims relate to expenses you necessarily incurred in your job or business. Check with your accountant to see if you are eligible to claim home office and motor vehicle expenses.

6. Think about other deductions

Charity donations and the cost of preparing your tax return are just two non-work-related expenses that you may be able to claim.

7. Find out about tax offsets

Tax offsets can reduce your tax liability so it's worth knowing if you're entitled to any. They vary depending on income and personal circumstances and are related to a range of categories including child care, private health insurance, medical expenses, low-income earners and senior Australians.

8. Put your refund to work

If you get a refund, think carefully about how to use it to build your wealth. Pay off some debts, put it into an investment or make a contribution to superannuation. Don't just spend it on something you really don't need.

Masonic Book Club

The fourth meeting of the Masonic Book Club was held in the Grand Lodge Library and reviewed *Born in Blood – The Lost Secrets of Freemasonry* written by John Robinson. The review was facilitated by RW Bro John Loveday PJGW and a copy of the review is available by contacting Dr Yvonne McIntyre at (02) 9284 2844 or email yvonnem@freemasonnswact.org.au

Dr McIntyre inaugurated the Book Club with the aim of encouraging brethren, their families and the public to take a greater interest in Freemasonry through the many books available in the Grand Lodge Library.

The first meeting of the Club reviewed the Book *The Lost Symbol* by author Dan Brown and the second discussed *It's no*

Secret, Real Men Wear Aprons edited by RW Bro Peter Lazar, AM, PJGW.

At the February meeting it was agreed that a more formal structure be adopted, with the Club to meet on the second Thursday of February, May, August and November at the Grand Lodge Library at 6pm.

A fee of \$5.00 is charged to cover the cost of tea/coffee and biscuits and membership is open to all masons, their families and members of the public

The meetings have resulted in lively discussion of the books reviewed. Readers are cordially invited to attend Book Club meetings and to nominate a book which they believe would be of interest to readers of masonic history for consideration by the executive.

'Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body' Sir Richard Steele



From the Grand Secretary

A new era

For some years many lodges have found it difficult to continue and have been forced to surrender their Charter. With this came the unfortunate fact that many significant names and indeed numbers disappeared from our Register of active lodges within the jurisdiction. It is of course possible that lodges that reached that stage may now be reconstituted with the original name and number on submission of a Prayer of Petition to the Grand Master of the day and his subsequent approval.

In the past, some lodges have sought to adopt variations to the accepted ritual of the jurisdiction of the NSW & ACT. Applications made to various Grand Masters have been carefully considered and, in most cases, referred to other committees of Grand Lodge, such as the Ritual Advisory Committee. In the main, this has resulted in some changes being denied or variations with strict guidelines being permitted.

A special organising committee comprised of independent brethren has been formed and has been looking at using an

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.

English translation of the French version of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite ritual as supplied in the official form by the Grand Loge Nationale Francais. Subsequently, a request has been made to the Grand Master for its use.

Whilst there have been approaches made by other lodges and brethren for similar considerations, for many and varied reasons these have not been permitted to proceed.

However this latest request which has also included a request for the reconstitution of the former 'Zetland Lodge of Australia No 9' to be reconstituted has met with some acceptance by the Grand Master who has been pleased to grant permission for this reconstitution and for the lodge to use the Scottish Rite ritual as indicated above which be known as the 'Zetland Ritual'.

However, permission to reconstitute this lodge and use the 'Zetland Ritual' has come with very specific guidelines of the Grand Master which are as follows:

- i. the lodge will not be allowed to initiate, pass or raise candidates for a two-year period;
- ii. the UGL of NSW & ACT ritual must be used at all and any installation ceremonies;
- iii. the permission strictly covers only the approved ritual to be known as 'Zetland Ritual';
- iv. some variations to regalia are permitted in accordance with the proposal put forward.

The Grand Master has indicated that he may consider granting limited use as specified above for this ritual to other lodges who may wish to make submission. The granting of such permission will always be subject to strict conditions which must be observed at all times.

For those interested in being part of this new and exciting era for Freemasonry in this jurisdiction may contact the Deputy Grand Secretary, RW Bro Chris Craven at 02 9284 2800 or by email




Chrisc@Freemasonsnswact.org.au for further details of the Zetland Lodge or other lodges which may have been given the special approval.

'BE SQUARE – BE THERE' – Grand Installation

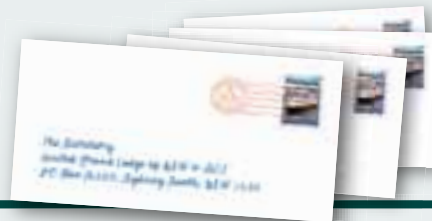
Arrangements are well advanced for the Grand Installation of RW Bro Derek Robson AM with all events to take place on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th August. The Grand Installation Ceremony and Banquet to follow are to be held at the Sydney Exhibition and Convention Centre, Darling Harbour. This is a unique and fantastic venue that will truly provide those attending with 'an event to remember'.

An information brochure and registration forms are available at the UGL website (www.freemasonsnswact.org.au) and copies have also been provided to Lodge Secretaries, Regional Grand Counsellors and District Grand Inspectors of Workings. They are also available though the Grand Secretariat on request – and don't forget – all events are open to the public so bring along your family and friends!

There will be much to do – especially on the day of the Installation and Banquet – and if any brother is interested in volunteering to assist, could he please contact the Deputy Grand Secretary, RW Bro Chris Craven (details elsewhere in this column) to record his details. 



Have your say



A big challenge

Last year I underwent an operation at the Prince of Wales Hospital for a brain tumour and am now planning to take up a challenge to help raise funds for various organisations.

With others, I'm hoping to walk the Kokoda Track in August with the Cancer Council of NSW as the major beneficiary. Others include A Start in Life (previously Masonic Youth Welfare), the McGrath Foundation and the Bradman Foundation. The Track is a challenge and if I can bring to others the awareness of cancer and that you can survive, that is more than enough.

It would be appreciated if anyone can assist by means of donations, light apparel to be handed out on the Track or vouchers which we can raffle. My contact is: bill.rigby@optusnet.com.au.

BRO BILL RIGBY

St George Lodge 328

Players wanted

Organ music plays an integral role in the rituals of Freemasonry and adds a certain dignitas to ceremonies, making them very memorable. Lodge Chelmsford 261 has noticed a lack of and also an aging of organists in the Craft and decided to assist.

The lodge approached Guy Elron, the Development Officer for the Sydney Conservatorium of Music offering financial assistance for organ students. He said it wasn't only Freemasonry suffering a lack of organists but it was a state-wide problem with a lot of churches struggling to have well performed music for their services. The Conservatorium receives financial support from the community for other instruments but very little if any for the organ. Only seven students were studying the organ there at that time and he believes Freemasonry could possibly play a vital role in reviving organ playing in NSW.

Freemasonry has a rich history of musicians including Louis Armstrong, Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, Liszt, Nat King Cole, George Gershwin, Sir Arthur Sullivan of Gilbert and Sullivan (Past Grand Organist

of the United Grand Lodge of England). It would be a shame if the Craft ran out of organists and our ceremonies lost their music.

Through the Conservatorium's organ department, Guy is seeking to make students and the Conservatorium aware of the support of Freemasonry through their magazine, 'CONtribute'. He would be delighted to hear from other lodges who may like to provide further support. All donations are tax deductible. Contact Guy Elron on 9351 1406 or by email at guy.elron@sydney.edu.au

BRO OWEN PARRY

Lodge Chelmsford

Help wanted with learning charges

I would like to see an article in the Freemason Magazine on 'How to learn charges'. It's something every one of us spends hours doing and there is no guide provided! I know everyone learns differently and uses different methods. I would like to read about all of the different methods so that hopefully I can find one suitable to myself. Maybe one of the reasons we lose so many new masons is because they get frustrated learning charges because no one has taught them!

RICHARD BURTON

(Editor's Note: What do you think?

The best suggestions will be printed in the following issues of the NSW Freemason).

Magazine enjoyed in Nova Scotia

For the past 30 years I have had the extreme privilege of being the Grand Representative of NSW & ACT near the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. Through the kindness of my counterpart in Sydney, I receive your excellent magazine 'Freemason' on a regular basis. The Autumn 2011 issue proved to be even more enjoyable reading than usual, due to the fact that I was born very close to the birthplace of those three great pioneers Matthew Flinders (Donnington), George Bass (Boston) and Joseph Banks (Revesby). What an excellent article about these three distinguished men. The other feature I found interesting was on the 'Dambusters'. As a young man I recall watching them practice dropping the 'bouncing bombs' in the River Witham prior to the raid on the Dams. My good friend, a Past Master in Boston Lincolnshire, recalls members of the crews, including Guy Gibson, visiting in his father's pub for liquid refreshments.

During this past year there was a movement within the GLoFNS to discontinue the exchange of Grand Representatives as many representatives had experienced difficulty corresponding with their counterparts. Fortunately, the relationship between NSW/ACT and Nova Scotia was placed before the Committee as an example of how the system can work.

DAVID J. RUSSELL

Past District Deputy Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia

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 email to info@freemasonsnswact.org.au



Our thanks to you

This will be my **last message** to you as Grand Master.

How time flies when I remember back to the circumstances surrounding the cover of the *Freemason* magazine in April 2007.

Following the footsteps of MW Bro Tony Lauer I had just addressed the National Press Club in Canberra on the state of Freemasonry in this country, and the influence the Men's Health initiative, 'Men's Health, It's No Secret' was to have on the way our community perceived us and how we saw ourselves. And as the ritual of our Mark Man Ceremony states: 'The Hourglass is one of the most daunting of symbols. Nothing, nothing at all, will slow or stop the flow of time!' And that urgency and focus of purpose was paramount for this organisation.

At my Grand Installation, the first in our building, I stated my mission as Grand Master, and as a doctor, was to:

- care for this wonderful organisation
- rebuild confidence, 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, 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. One size does not fit all.

My personal purpose as Grand Master was to connect people and issues. Judith and I have just returned from the Regions 5, 6 & 7 tour over the Easter school holidays. This is our third major tour in the three years, this tour covering 2,500 kms, visiting 24 masonic centres and meeting more than 500 masons and their ladies.

We enjoyed the 2020 Regional Conference (Dubbo), lodge nights with Lodge Allan Stuart (Geurie), Lodge Peace



(Uralla) and Lodge Cavanbah (Byron Bay), sharing our time at Byron with the Grand Master of the UGL Queensland, MW Bro Burton and wife Regina.

Overall many issues were raised, connections were made, and friendships were confirmed. As a jurisdiction we are linked stronger and focused on working as one towards our future. And 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, 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.

It is prudent at this time at the end of my three year term to review the outcomes, both positive and negative, in order to present a platform for the next administration under RW Bro Robson. In classic fashion, that is, you remember what came

last, let us look at those issues we fell short on:

1. As an organisation stability of governance would benefit from a set three year term for Grand Master.
 2. Communication lines are still patchy and non-inclusive.
 3. We need to increase our level of benevolence to our own masons and families.
 4. Regional ceremonial skills need to be further developed and acknowledged. And what of the ways forward:
 1. Confidence and morale is rising as seen by the 16 new lodges, the evolving 2020 concept, the 'O' week initiative, and our own Board of Management 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.
 2. In the 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 by the invaluable *Freemason* magazine, well respected by our community.
 4. And we have the maturity to trial a second Ritual in this Jurisdiction, the AASR 'Zetland Ritual' which will be reviewed and addressed in this next two years to evaluate the benefits to the Craft by way of interest and growth.
- For Judith and I this last three years has been a wonderful time in our lives. To Judith, I offer my love and a heartfelt



‘Every closed eye is not sleeping, and every open eye is not seeing.’

This article aims to clear up some of the misgivings surrounding the **2020 Masons Program** and what we are here to achieve.

The foremost goal of the Program is to bring and engage fresh new ideas to see Freemasonry into the 21st century with the support and mentoring of senior brethren to ensure we will have a future in this jurisdiction. In order to make this work, we need everyone's assistance. We can support and guide on ideas to assist lodges; however, if we do not have your support, then we cannot make this work. The 2020 Masons Program has gone through a restructuring, to ensure robust and strong reporting and responsibility lines from the ground up to the Board of Management.


We are proud to announce that there is one 2020 Mason (from the Advisory Council) on each of the Committees for two reasons: as a means of providing feedback from the grassroots to the Board to

thank you 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 women. Over the last 20 years of being a mason, we are, and always have been, a team.

I express my most sincere appreciation for the splendid co-operation and assistance I have received as Grand Master. Both Judith and I thank you for the many acts of kindness, friendship and hospitality which will always live in our memory.

I again congratulate Grand Master-elect RW Bro Derek Robson and, on your behalf, look forward to assisting him in any way he wishes, for the good of the Craft.


In closing I am indeed deeply indebted to everyone for the privilege of serving as Grand Master. Freemasonry inspired me, as you have all inspired me.

Keep well and God bless. 

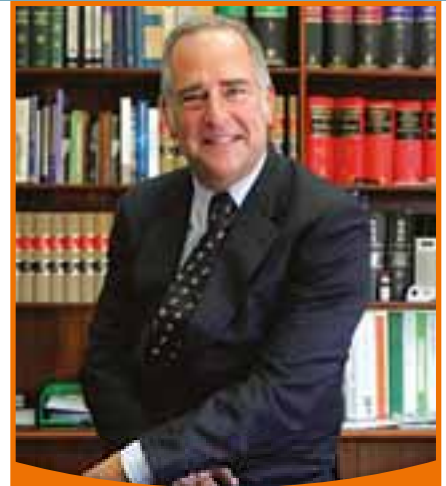
ensure everyone in the jurisdiction has a voice, and to ensure that we have a succession plan for the future – that we have talented, driven and outcome oriented brethren on the Grand Lodge committees. Also the Program has extended this resource to RGCs to play a role on the regional management team for the benefit of advancing regional activities.

I am asking for brethren to give this opportunity a chance. On behalf of the team I'm calling on you to change your attitude from despair to one of change and to share in a wonderful vision for the future. No more should we hear ‘we are going to die’, but instead we would like to hear ‘we have something to offer the world’. Remember the Address to the Brethren in the Installation Ceremony – by practising what we are taught in the lodge, it will be enough for the world to know that we are Freemasons, and when someone is said to be a mason, then he is one who is truly moral and upright in character.

We need to know what you are feeling and to break down the ‘us’ and ‘them’ barriers. My first initiative for the Image and Marketing portfolio is to survey every member, to gauge your thoughts and opinions for a general understanding of what is working and what is not working. The BOM has requested through the AGM to draft a survey (pending BOM approval). This is your opportunity to have a say and to share with the Grand Master your expectations, so together we can plan for the years ahead and work in unity for a fantastic outcome for all.

We need a positive attitude towards the future and we look forward to your honest and thoughtful feedback. 

Bro Justin Bone
2020 Image & Marketing Portfolio Advisory Council



H.C. STATHIS PM

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Mob: 0415 266 056**

harry@pserraslawyers.com.au



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A rare occasion

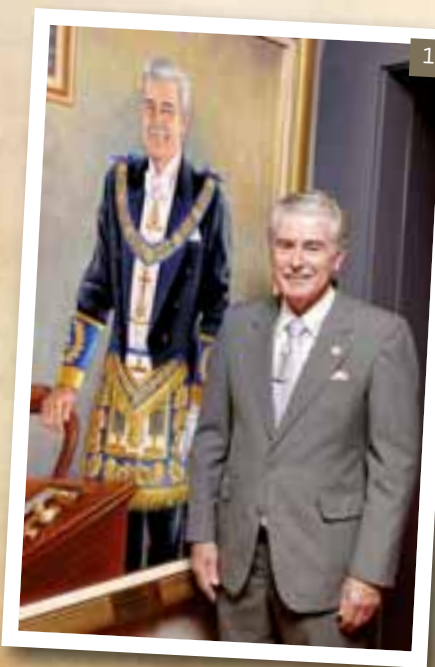
For only the second time since the foundation of the UGL of NSW in 1888 has a group of Grand Masters been available for such a rare photograph.

This photographic record of eight Grand Masters portrays part of the history of the United Grand Lodge of NSW & ACT.



- 1 – MW Bro Ray Brooke (GM 2005–2008)
- 2 – MW Bro George Curry (GM 1999–2002)
- 3 – MW Bro Tony Lauer APM (GM 2002–2005)
- 4 – MW Bro Bob Hammond (GM 1969–1972)

- 5 – MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston (GM 2008–2011)
- 6 – MW Bro Ron Johnson AM (GM 1988–1992)
- 7 – MW Bro Noel Dunn OAM (GM 1992–1996)
- 8 – MW Bro Rev Ray Green (GM 1996–1999)





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Photography: Mike Thorpe Photography
Ph: 9630 2367 Mob: 0408 298 184

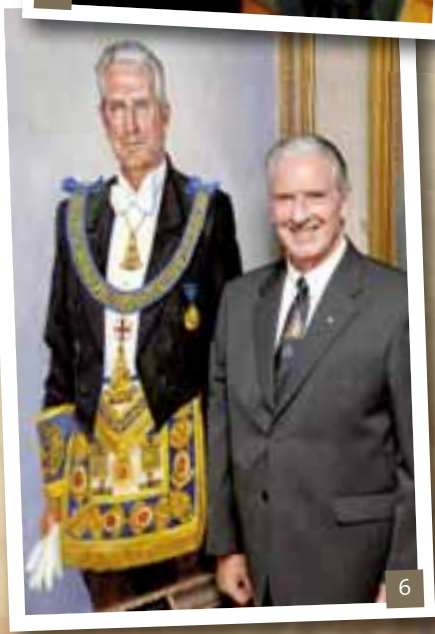


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"And I shall lay a plumb line amongst my people Israel..." The two Jewish Grand Masters of this Jurisdiction. MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston makes the 84 years connection by wearing MW Bro Goulston's Grand Master's jewel on his Grand Master's chain.



6



Who do you trust?

What is this fetish among Australians to continually 'Chop down the tall poppy?' To denigrate those in power, the leaders in different areas whether in business, sport, entertainment or society in general and irrespective of whether they deserve it.

At the March Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge in Sydney, the Grand Master reflected on this situation and appealed to all masons in the jurisdiction for support and commonsense thinking. This was his closing statement.

'In conclusion, that brings me to *Grand Mouse*.

On this occasion today where the brethren of this Jurisdiction express their hopes and aspirations for the Craft by coming together to choose a new Grand Master for the next year, a subversive electronic device of insolence and menace trawls the dregs of discontent and parody.

On this important afternoon, all of us know that the jurisdiction's problems and challenges won't be overcome without decisive leadership and an agreed willingness to bring about change.

Grand Mouse, as a token spokesman for the alternate position, bewails our leaders for lack of courage or conviction, for the intimidated slur that they would not risk their personal survival in the Craft's best interests. Trust and integrity slighted in the most unmasonic fashion. Yet we give our leaders so little loyalty. The announcement of a Board decision or Grand Secretariat directive is taken as an occasion for the outbreak of dissent, a


carping of opposition, at all levels of this organisation from the highest down. All those with a reason for objecting cry out, and their criticism is amplified by whispers and twitters, whereas those who agree, fall silent.

No-one today feels obliged to actively and overtly support the leadership, even if just because they are our leaders, and someone has to accept responsibility for deciding what we'll do and how we'll do it. This issue lies at the heart of our inability to trust the term of our Grand Master to be any more than 12 months. Our maturity as an organisation would be proven if today we had been voting for a longer term as well.

Of course, no-one wants to belong to an organisation where the leader's will is never challenged. We each have a constitutional right to oppose all Grand Lodge decisions, but we also have a right to support, defend or even just acquiesce in the judgment of the masons we elected to lead us.

Why are we becoming so much more prone to arguing the toss, than falling into line? And how do we imagine making leadership so much more difficult for the leaders, will leave us better governed.

This is partly explained by partisanship, and partly due to a general loss of loyalty and respect for the office of leader. As Grand Master, I am calling for an end to this undercurrent of subversion and destabilisation. This Grand Lodge is not always, and everywhere, fair game for a kick, if there is not public censure to that alternative view.

This afternoon, you have had the constitutional responsibility to make this Grand Lodge governable, not ungovernable. This is not imposed, but yours by rite. Make the most of that responsibility, be constructive in your response, and then get right behind that decision as one! 

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For further information contact

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johnandnarelle1@bigpond.com

Speak up with confidence

So many members of Masonry and the public have difficulty in making themselves heard when they have to **deliver a speech or a toast**. Following are some suggestions that may help make the task **less forbidding**.

How many can remember the grandfather of the bride at a wedding who drones on and on about her childhood, or the speaker at a function who ignores his audience and his topic to reminisce about his activities?

It is this lack of knowledge, preparation and confidence which causes people to stay away when a Talk is listed, a guest speaker is hired or a special charge to be delivered in lodge.

It's a great big world to live in, love in, laugh in and speak in. It's an even more wonderful world when your speech is fluent, informed, intelligible, audible and attractive. And even better still if you know how to use a microphone.

An association of mind, voice and imagination is required to speak well and this is not a gift, but must be learned. Your voice reveals your nature. Happy people have happy voices, boring or timid people have boring or timid voices and your voice proclaims to the world your possession or your lack of self confidence.

It's unfortunate that so many people with harsh or less-than-pleasant voices tell themselves they're stuck with it but nothing could be further from the truth. The way you talk can be changed.

There are a number of clubs formed to help people to achieve better speech. They learn to articulate, enunciate, vary their tone and speaking pace, raise and lower their voice and eventually become masters of speaking with every word distinctly audible.



But don't be in a hurry to be self-confident. Many people are always preparing but never achieving. Start with learning to breathe properly – easy, steady deep breathing which enables the words to come from the chest, not the throat.

Learn to relax. When it is time to speak, stand up with your feet apart, arms and hands hanging loosely in front of you, breathe deeply and evenly and release the tension in your body.

If you have had a negative mental attitude change it to a positive attitude and you will find your life becoming poised and calm. Read more as it will broaden your mind on words and try speaking in front of a mirror and watch your lips moving. It may look funny at first but it is a great teacher of how to move your lips.


A major point in public speaking is having something to say. Prepare your speech, if you have a good memory, then memorise it. If you don't have a good memory, write six key words on a sheet of paper on which you can talk adequately for four or five minutes, that gives a 30 minute speech. Always select words you know and can pronounce. You lose an audience when you stumble over words

or use unfamiliar words which they don't understand.

Don't whisper or talk to your feet. You have an audience, talk to them. Let the people in the back row hear you as clearly as the people in the front row. Open your mouth and let the words come out. Practice at home saying 'Ho, Ho, Ho' in a loud voice, then try it in a whisper and listen to the difference.

You can't speak well with a stiff upper lip and a lazy tongue. Loosen them, relax and speak up. Look happy and be happy because an audience will always respond to a happy person who appears to be enjoying himself.

So remember these rules – know and prepare your subject, relax, breathe deeply, speak up, loosen your lips and tongue and be happy. You may surprise yourself in your first effort at public speaking, you may be surprised at your improvement if you follow these suggestions. But it is only the start as you have a long way to go because poise on the platform is mainly acquired by speaking practice.

Remember an ancient Egyptian statement: 'Make thyself a craftsman in speech, for thereby you shall gain the upper hand.' 



\$83,772.55 raised for masoniCare's Flood Victims Appeal

We would like to congratulate Freemasons in NSW and the ACT for their generosity in giving to masoniCare's Flood Victims Appeal. We are delighted to announce the total raised for our Flood Victims Appeal is \$76,591.55 from donations alone plus a further \$7,181.00 from the success of Tivoli 2011 which was held on Thursday

7 April in the Sydney Masonic Centre, bringing the total tally to \$83,772.55.

Tivoli 2011 was presented by Lodge Thespian in association with masoniCare.

All of the artists, including the four piece band, kindly donated their diverse talents and time. Fellow mason Dee Donovan was the talented compere for the variety show. The extremely gifted artists



included Donna Lee, Tete a Tete, John Mansour, Daniel Issac Jones, Amber Jade and let's not forget our very own Grand Master – Dr Greg Levenston – who performed a few Sinatra classics with Dee Donovan to take the night out to thunderous applause.

Along with other successful events such as the Region 3 Golf Day, Tivoli itself was a huge success and we are thrilled with the outcome especially the funds raised for such a worthy cause.

We have conducted a very stringent process of identifying worthy recipients and are pleased to announce that three projects in the Riverina area (Jingellic, Carabost and Oaklands) and the Hannah Foundation in Queensland have been selected. The Hannah Foundation is a national charity based in the Lockyer Valley. The charity provides support to families who have lost family members/parents due to the floods, and 24 hour counselling services to victims of flooding.

All funds donated by masoniCare go directly to the victims to provide families with items like new washing machines, clothes, food, shelter, school books, housing etc. They will be able to put these funds to immediate use and provide some relief to those affected in these areas. It is always masoniCare's intention to direct your donated funds where they will be of greatest and immediate benefit. 100% of funds donated will be distributed and tracked.

After a very successful Appeal, the Flood Victims Appeal has now come to an end and again **we would like to thank everybody across the jurisdiction for their support and generosity.**

Welcome to a new face

A lilting Irish accent greets enquirers to masoniCare as new girl Evelyn Elsted employs her marketing experience to the Grand Lodge charity.

Born in Waterford, in southern Ireland, Evelyn came to Australia in June 2009 and has definite plans on making it her permanent home.

'Originally I came here for a year but fell in love with the country and decided to stay. When I was younger I always wanted to go to Australia. I don't know why but probably because so many young people went there for a working holiday and came back saying how amazing it is so I wanted to try it for myself,' she said.

Evelyn, who earned a degree in marketing after four years study, worked in the marketing section for Waterford Crystal and stayed in the industry in Ireland before coming to Australia. She was in marketing at Sydney's Olympic Park and then applied for the Grand Lodge position, making the short list with five others and winning selection.

'I had worked with different charities in Ireland, liked the work and was very interested in the Sydney position which I now thoroughly enjoy.'

She keeps herself fit and busy playing



Gaelic football in Sydney and running. She said there are five or six Irish football clubs in Sydney and thoroughly enjoys the social atmosphere. Distance running is another passion and living at Bondi gives her the chance to enjoy runs from Bondi to Bronte, Clovelly or Coogee but she's not sure yet about the famous City to Surf in August.

Evelyn, who has a younger sister and brother, named her parents as her best role models and hopes to get them to come to Australia to visit. She has a passion for travel and toured America and South East Asia before coming to Australia.

'I've already travelled around a lot of Australia and love seeing new places. There's so much here to see and do,' she said.



Meet our mRRs

It is a privilege to have a team of dedicated masoniCare Regional Representatives (mRRs) and masoniCare would 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 mRRs from Region 1 and Region 3.

VW Bro Peter Zeilic, PDGIW mRR – Region 1 (Sydney North) The Lodge of Australia

Peter joined Freemasonry some nine years ago primarily to be involved in charitable contributions to society and those in need and became Region 1's mRR mid-2010.

'I joined as mRR to assist in the management and distribution of charitable activities and to promote Freemasonry through the great work that the Grand Charity has and is undertaking. Moreover I wanted to effectively progress the functionality of masoniCare through my extensive managerial and public projects experience.

'Region 1 has been a leading charitable provider through the great work of the masoniCare District Representatives and lodges and my aim is to strengthen the implementation of charitable activity in the region and within lodges and especially where possible to promote Freemasonry and masoniCare within the public arena.

'In perspective, there are few better roles in Freemasonry than being in a position to give money away on behalf of masoniCare to community based charities'.

VW Bro Harry Griffiths, PDGIW mRR – Region 3 (Sydney West) Lodge Nepean No 29

With Harry's term as DGIW approaching its end, he was asked to consider taking on the role as mRR for Region 3 commencing in June 2010.

'I decided to accept the role so that I could put into practice one of the principles that we as Freemasons claim to be our objectives, that is charity. After

observing the lack of charitable works being carried out through the regions that I visited I hoped that I might be able to make some inroads into changing this.

'In the first six months after my appointment, making myself known to the masoniCare District Representatives for Region 3, being invited to attend presentation dinners where many thousands of dollars were presented to needy organisations and seeing firsthand the pleasure of the masons that assisted in raising those funds, I was convinced that my decision to get involved was the right one for me.

'During 2011 it is my aim to oversee the fundraising events, encourage the



VW Bro Peter Zeilic, PDGIW



VW Bro Harry Griffiths, PDGIW

seven districts in Region 3 to keep their work going and assist those districts that do not have a plan in progress to formulate one for the future. I would also like to have the districts of Region 3 unite their efforts and have one or two regional fundraisers in order to help a special organisation so that they can continue to support our communities.'

masoniCare Benevolence Appeal

In response to a much-needed boost of funds for the Grand Charity's Benevolence Fund, masoniCare has recently re-launched the masoniCare Benevolence Appeal.

Members of the Craft who are in dire financial difficulties are eligible for grants of up to \$5,000 for the relief of a distressed brother, or his family, or \$6,500 for funeral expenses to those in need.

Over the years, masoniCare has provided hundreds of thousands of dollars to brethren and their families in need, some no doubt in your very own lodge.

Brethren, please be generous and dig deep for the Benevolence Fund appeal, so that less fortunate brothers, and their families, may always be comforted in the knowledge that as masons, we will always be there for them.

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



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Tip Card #7 Local Customs

AIM – This tip is to encourage us to ask the question: ‘Is my lodge affected by local customs?’ and to help us make changes if we are not happy with what those customs have done for us.

Reasoning

Over the years a large number of our lodges became tolerant of certain behaviours within their precincts and in conforming to these customs the members created a comfort zone for themselves **but** put their lodges in a time warp; now many of those lodges only just exist.

The customs were created ‘by the members for the members’ not to benefit their lodges.

Methodology

Local customs often create situations where full openness and honesty does not always exist eg. when the members are not fully informed, or some members have a closed mind to various issues.

Misunderstanding, mistrust and selfishness often lead to poor decision-making resulting in decisions being made by the heart and not the head.

Let us look at just a few of our better-known local customs:

- Lodge fees kept to a minimum with little or no thought being given to the lodge’s future wants and needs.
- Social events don’t happen any more; ladies and families are not involved in lodge.
- Generally, one, two or more ‘older’ members will argue against almost anything put to the lodge for a vote. No one wants to argue with them so

they get their own way.

- ‘Edited’ correspondence is regularly presented, or not, to the Master and the members.

- Past forgotten disputes between lodges has reduced or stopped fraternals and visiting.

Many members relate their lodge fees to, say, what they pay as a member of the local RSL or bowling club. These clubs can afford to have low, or nominal fees because they have other sources of income to assist in payment of their expense. Only a few of our lodges have additional income to help cover expenses and some of them still didn’t get it right, with discounts given to certain other orders and mates rates to others. Yet, it was expected of Grand Lodge to do it right, right enough so that lodges could call upon Grand Lodge to bail them out of trouble when they needed money. That didn’t work too well for anyone.

Grand Lodge isn’t a bank! It was and still is a masonic administration centre.

Is it possible we have let Aussie mateship and our local customs overrule masonic practices and even masonic law; did we let other issues get in the road of Freemasonry, commonsense and good business practice and did we let those with stronger personalities, and perhaps with an axe to grind, make our

decisions for us?

Some, indeed, most customs have now been in place for decades and have achieved such a degree of acceptance that they are considered ‘the norm’ in many lodges, even more important than our teachings, lodge by-laws and our masonic constitution.

If you think your lodge is a victim of local customs or behaviour, or responsible for some doubtful decisions being made in the past, stand up and be counted now and ask your fellow members to work with you to make the changes needed to give your lodge a new start; to practice Freemasonry as taught and not just pay lip service to our Credo, to make your lodge stronger so it can go forward to the future with confidence

Conclusion

Freemasonry has been around for a very long time and many lodges throughout the world have almost certainly corrected their behaviour over time; it’s not a crime to be seduced by custom and slip into bad habits, it is to ignore the consequences though.

If your lodge is affected and you believe it is worth saving – do something about it, but do it now and remember, you and your fellow members are the only people who can correct your lodge’s past conduct.

RW Bro Peter Court invites you to join him on a tour of

Vietnam and Cambodia

To enjoy the best that Asia has to offer, the excitement, beauty and opportunity to relax and absorb the unique traditions of the people. Commencing Jan 2012.



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

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

The Order of the Amaranth

A time to focus on and have faith in the future ...

It was a wonderful occasion on Saturday 26 March for the Grand Installation of Officers of the Grand Court of New South Wales and the Coronation Ceremony of the Grand Royal Matron, Honoured Lady Heather Baker.

Grand Installations are always a time for reflection on past achievements, a time to rejoice in the present with all the colour and pageant that goes to make such an occasion so special and a time to focus on and have faith in the future.

We are committed to growing Amaranth in the hearts and minds of our members and bringing new members into our midst.

Much happens when, in the company of like minded people, the Grand Session is held. We meet over three days for business, have fun and fellowship and install our new leaders. In the process a big thank you is given to the outgoing Grand Royal Matron, Lola White and Grand Royal Patron, Ken White as well as welcoming the new Grand Royal Matron, Heather Baker and Donald Cobcroft, Grand Royal Patron.

The Grand Court meets at the Bankstown Sports Club and the Court Room was ablaze with colour from our standards

of red and gold, magnificent floral arrangements through to the beautiful gowns worn by the ladies.


Officers of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales & the ACT and other Associated Orders were present to help make the Grand Installation special.

Each year the Grand Royal Matron chooses a charitable project and this year it is to be the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Honoured Lady Heather Baker has challenged members to do their best to make a significant gift to the RFDS.

The RFDS has a masonic connection; the late MW Bro Chris Goy, a Past Grand Master of the UGL Lodge of Victoria and Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, worked closely with the Rev John Flynn to help make the vision of such a service a reality. Another interesting fact is that Heather Baker's father, the late Rev



The new Grand Royal Matron, Heather Baker and Grand Royal Patron, Donald Cobcroft.

Norman H Symes, Presbyterian Minister and Past Grand Chaplain, also knew the Rev Chris Goy and Rev John Flynn. 

FASCINATING MASONIC FACTS

Did you know...

Across the site of the Masonic Centre there is a main stormwater pipe taking surplus water from the Sydney area for disposal. This is why there are only two levels below Goulburn Street. However, there is a lower pump room in the basement level containing machinery to control the flow of excess water from our building. Also, adjacent to the garage entrance in Goulburn Street is a large electrical sub-station below street level.

The Order of the Amaranth

www.masonsconnect.com/amaranth



The Order is Targeting Growth in New South Wales

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Inspired by grandfather

Anthony Noble's grandfather was a Freemason and was the inspiration for his grandson to find out more.

I grew up in Queensland and was very close to my grandfather, Ray, who passed away in 2005. After living and working in London in 2008 and 2009, I returned to Australia and moved to Sydney working as Principal Scientist at the Australian Cord Blood Service.

I had known that my grandfather was a Freemason, but really had no idea what that actually had entailed. I vaguely remember asking him about it and his not saying much, in his inimitably wry way.

Since my granddad had passed away several years ago and my father had no idea about Freemasonry, all I had to go on was the internet. What I read left me intrigued, if a little confused, so I decided to do some investigation.

I followed a link to Grand Lodge I found on the web, and was put in contact with the Secretary of Lodge Ionic. After a chat at the Hunter's Hill Hotel and learning more about Freemasonry, I knew I was definitely interested. It was a time in my life when I was looking for something more meaningful, both in terms of my personal development and in the way I was interacting with the community.

Obviously my initial curiosity was piqued by my granddad's involvement and wanting to connect with that piece of family history. However, as I have become more involved with Freemasonry, I have become increasingly aware of what a force for good it can be and how much it must have influenced who he was as a man in



his community, and as a loving husband, father and grandfather.

I was initiated in Lodge Ionic No 65, in May last year and passed to the Fellow Craft degree in November. I am awaiting my Raising later this year. I have really enjoyed my experiences in Freemasonry and the people that I have met. I distinctly remember the first time I saw the lodge room. It was an overwhelming experience; I had experienced nothing quite like it before in life. My favourite part of Freemasonry, though, has to be the musical elements, both in the lodge and at the South.

Anthony has recently taken up a senior operations position at Soho Flordis International, a global natural medicine distribution company based in St Leonards, and is currently studying for his MBA in the Australian Graduate School of Management MBA (Executive) Program.



Anthony Noble at work

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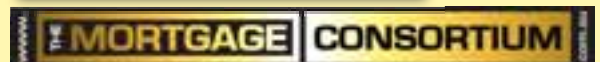
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Freemasonry universal

One of the great joys of travelling and the added benefit of being a mason is that you are never far away from new friends and a camaraderie that exists among masons all over the world.

The recent visit my wife and I made to Sydney was no exception when we visited the Grand Lodge building and Museum. There we were warmly greeted and had an informative conducted tour of the Temple and Museum.

As the Editor of the Dorset Masonic Magazine (DMM) in the UK, I am always looking for ideas and/or articles which may be of interest to Dorset masons. It was therefore our good fortune that on the day we visited, RWBro David Standish (Marketing Manager of the *Freemason Magazine*) was present in the building and we were able over coffee to discuss our respective magazines and share the mechanics on the methods of production, layout etc.

Having brought several copies of the DMM on our trip, despite the airline weight limit, I was pleased to be able to leave a copy for the NSW Library.

On my return home a copy of the Autumn edition of *Freemason NSW & ACT* was awaiting me and while I found some articles, inevitably, were similar in subject to those in the DMM ie. charity presentations, anniversaries, appointments etc, others covered a depth and range of subject matter which were both provocative and thought provoking, add in innovative ideas such as the Tip Card and the result is a very impressive and high quality

magazine. It is also a wonderful advert for Freemasonry in NSW to both masons and non masons, and to be able to produce a magazine of this quality four times a year is a credit to all those involved in its production.

RW Bro Standish and his wife Anita spent the afternoon driving us to some lovely parts of Sydney which we as mere tourists would never have seen. A similar situation occurred in Karunda, Queensland, where we met an ex-Dorset mason and his wife who also extended generous hospitality, and spent time with us by showing us their local area.

For my wife and I these were two highlights of what was a wonderful two month trip to Australia as it demonstrated in full the aim of all Freemasons 'to please each other and unite in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness'.

The friendships we made will last well into the future as will the many happy memories. It only remains for me to extend an invitation to any NSW mason who may be visiting England to encourage them to visit Dorset, one of the most delightful of the English Counties, and of course the best Masonic Province in England. I can assure them of a true masonic welcome.

I can be contacted either via the Provincial website: www.dorset-freemasonry.org.uk or atajh@blakehillcres.plus.com.

The Southam Brothers

When Brother Timothy Southam was raised to the Third Degree, in Lodge Cessnock, he became the third Southam brother to attain that rank.

Currently, Bro Justin Southam occupies the office of Chaplain, and Bro Damien Southam the office of Lodge Secretary, and the lodge is proud to have these three dedicated brothers in their ranks.



L-R: Bro Timothy Southam, Bro Justin Southam, and Bro Damien Southam

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Established over Sixty Years



The Lorna Milgate Scholarship Trust

The following article gives a brief outline of the history and function of the Trust.

Lorna Maud Lott was the sole surviving daughter of William James Milgate, a storekeeper, of Hamilton NSW, who died in 1949. Lorna died in 1988 without issue. William Milgate died at an advanced age before detailed records of UGLNSW had been established. There is however a card in the UGL membership files that confirms his status as a Master Mason in Lodge Fraternity No 405 at Newcastle West.

In Lorna Lott's 1988 will, after several personal bequests to close friends and rel-

atives and the payment of debts and expenses, the residue of the estate was left to: 'The Trustees for the time being of the United Grand Lodge of NSW upon Trust to invest same ... in any investment prescribed from time to time as a Trustee Investment ... and use the income therefrom to found and provide such scholarships ... to be known as the 'Lorna Milgate Scholarship' ... to be granted annually to any person or persons who have been in the care of the William Thompson Masonic School and Hostel ... to obtain a

College of Advanced Education or University education ... or to attend a course at any Teachers' College ... or any other form of tertiary education.'

The Trustees did not become aware of the provisions of the Trust Fund until late 1991 but when they did take over administration of the fund they were immediately faced with the problem of the wording of the Will due to changes that had been made to the organisation and management of the William Thompson Masonic School in the intervening years. Despite the difficulties involved, the Trustees, between 1992 and 1996 made awards to 31 beneficiaries (computers, printers, and software) valued at over \$50,000.

To give the Trustees more flexibility in their administration of the Trust without departing from the intention of the benefactor, they decided to apply to the Supreme Court of NSW to make an order that a scheme could be settled to administer the Trust.

The Trustees were successful and, by Order of the Supreme Court in September 1996 were then enabled – in the Court's words, 'to overcome the impracticability of administering the Lorna Milgate Trust in the terms of the Will of Lorna Maud Lott'. The Court recognised that 'The Testator's underlying wish was that persons in necessitous circumstances should be assisted to obtain some form of tertiary education.'

The Court ordered that the Trustees were to administer the Trust Fund pursuant to the Will of the late Lorna Maud Lott for the following purposes: 'To invest the fund in any investment prescribed as a Trustee investment and so use the income derived to found and provide such scholarships ... to be known as the 'Lorna Milgate Schol-

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arship' ... granted annually to any person or persons recommended by a masonic lodge ... to better enable such persons to obtain a College of Advanced Education or University education or any other form of tertiary education.'

At this time, and during the period that this account has covered to date, the Trustees were MW Bro Harold Coates OBE PGM, RW Bro Gordon Watt, PDGM and MW Bro Ronald Johnson AM PGM CMH. Subsequently, on the death of RW Bro Watt, RW Bro Grahame Cumming PDGM CMH, was elected to replace him and, later, on the death of MW Bro Harold Coates, MW Bro Robert Hammond PGM was elected in his place. This is the current board of Trustees which carries out the Trusteeship of the Lorna Milgate Scholarship.

Since 1998, the Scholarship has had a voluntary Administrative Officer to help from time to time with a heavy administrative load. The first was VW Bro Roy Horrocks PDGDC who had been Head of Junior School at the Kings School and had experience in the field of education. He was followed until the end of 2006 by VW Bro Richard Corin PDGIW, who was then succeeded by the current incumbent, RW Bro Bill Caukill PJGW PGO.

The Scholarship award process is exacting as it is the Trustees' desire that the requirements of the Will be meticulously observed and that only the most deserving candidates are selected. The first step is for a lodge to nominate a candidate who may be male or female, but must be well known to a member of the nominating lodge and be supported by that lodge as a nominee. After nominations have closed, application forms are sent for completion by all who wish to apply. Lodge Secretaries are kept fully informed of the progress of their nominees' application or if their nominee does not in fact apply.

The closing date for applications is around July each year after which the applications are summarised and organised for discussion and adjudication by the Trustees. This is a serious process for the Trustees and which involves a great deal of time and heartache. There could be from five to 15 new scholarships for award each year and the application questionnaires reflect a desire by the Trustees to be very fair in their deliberation. In the

Q&A

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

When did masons first meet in a lodge?

The word 'lodge' apparently is derived from the Anglo-Norman 'loge' which meant a habitation or dwelling and was the small building or workroom adjacent to the structure on which the operative mason worked.

The first known use of the word 'lodge' was in England in connection with the building accounts of the Vale Royal Abbey in 1278. In the Fabric Rolls of York Minster in 1355 appears the following: 'Order for the Masons: Then to breakfast in the fabric lodge, and forthwith to return to work until noon. Between April and August after dinner they shall sleep in the lodge, then work until the first bell for vespers.'

In the *Freemasons Guide and Compendium*, written by Bernard Jones, he expresses the opinion that lodges must have existed for hundreds of years before 1278.

Obviously, when a building of any

importance was started, the first thing to do was to erect a shed in which the workmen could dress stone, keep their tools in order, take their meals and spend some part of their rest time.


The Charges of a Freemason of 1723 says: 'A Lodge is a place where masons assemble and work. Hence that assembly is called a Lodge and every Brother ought to belong to one and to be subject to its By-Laws and the General Regulations.'

The word lodge was used in Masonry in four senses: (1) the building or room in which the masons worked; (2) an organisation or group using it; (3) a meeting of such a group; (4) a movable object, perhaps a type of chest or ark, perhaps a tracing board. Items 1, 2 and 3 are still in use but 4 has been dropped. It was used as late as 1776 when we read that at the dedication of the new Freemasons Hall in London, four Tylers carried the lodge in procession three times round the hall and then placed it on a crimson velvet couch in the centre.

early days the value of a scholarship was up to \$2,000 per annum; however it is always the Trustees' desire to award as many scholarships as possible whilst maintaining the value of the Trust against inflation.

There are currently 23 scholarship holders studying in University, TAFE and apprenticeship and who have graduated in a wide range of disciplines such as agriculture, business, nursing, teaching,

nuclear medicine, aeronautical engineering and palaeontology. Over the years more than 100 students from all over NSW have benefited from the foresight and generosity of Lorna Lott (Milgate).

Freemasonry is fortunate to be able to continue to benefit such young people through Lorna Milgate's desire to bring tertiary education within the reach of those who may otherwise have been denied that opportunity. 



Do you want to join?

The **Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania** has stepped into new territory with a radical decision on **how to increase its membership** in a report received by the NSW UGL Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

In its latest newsletter, Pennsylvania says people have less time for social, civic and fraternal organisations than they did years ago. To make it easier for men to join, Pennsylvania Freemasonry has changed some of its centuries-old traditions. The response has been extraordinary.

While placing continued emphasis on the preferred practice of a candidate asking a brother to be proposed for membership, now brethren may also engage in selective invitation. Under this change, members are permitted to invite a man of good character to join this fraternity. In many ways, this is only authorising what

has been a common practice for many members for years.

The present Grand Master said that tradition was to wait for men to inquire about membership rather than to solicit members. Today, however, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania allows its members to invite men of good character, who will be a credit to our fraternity. This change, along with more active community involvement at the local lodge level, provides the fraternity greater visibility and cultivates greater understanding about Freemasonry among potential members.

The Grand Lodge also said the new Senior Recruitment Program is being

implemented as an incentive to invite worthy candidates to join our ranks. Any member who is age 60 or higher and who successfully recommends for membership two members who are less than 30 years old will be exempt from lodge and Grand Lodge dues for life.

(Editor's note: The membership move is an interesting suggestion by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania but the UGL of NSW and ACT still adheres to the principle of 'proper solicitation'. While it is proper to talk to reputable men about the Craft and explain its aims and objectives, it is still regarded as 'improper' to make an approach in which a person is directly asked to join the Craft.)



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We say farewell



RW Bro Robert Hillier receiving a gift from Maree Taylor, Director Care Services Narrabri, representing the staff of The Whiddon Group. The 'Brick' being presented was one from the original duo cottages that were built by volunteer Freemasons, in the late 1940s, that established The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW as a provider of 'homes' and care to the community.

RW Bro Robert Hillier, after some 17 years as Chief Executive Officer of The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW, has retired. Robert, through this time, helped develop the landscape that is currently Aged Care. Robert was a member of the Aged Care Association Australia NSW (AACANSW) Board for 16 years and Chairman in 2005 and 2006.

The Whiddon Group during Robert's stewardship grew to a provider of care to 1335 residential and 491 independent living clients plus the establishment and growth of community services across 8 regions in NSW and across all areas employing some 1800 staff.

The Board, after an extensive recruitment process, appointed Mrs Lee-ann Irwin as Chief Executive Officer to the 'Homes'. Lee-ann was formerly Deputy Chief Executive Officer of The Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes of NSW.

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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 50 per cent or 20 per cent 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.

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Regional Roundup



DISTRICT 44

Help for Great Lakes Hospice –

On Tuesday 8 February, a significant presentation of \$16,200 was made to Great Lakes Hospice to use in the Chemotherapy Unit at Forster Hospital.

The money had been raised by District 44 Masonic Charities (\$14,200) and was assisted by an Inter-Action Grant from masoniCare of \$2000.

W Bro Don Andrews, Secretary of District 44 Masonic Charities, had been most active in initiating, organising and running a charity Bowls Day, and a major raffle.

The community responded generously because the project will fill a local need as patients will not have to go to other areas to receive their treatment. Many groups gave generously – Breast Friends; Forster RSL; Forster Hospital Board; Gloucester Community Services; Tuncurry BC Social Group ... to name but a few.

The money will be used to buy recliner chairs and other equipment for the Chemotherapy Unit which will be up and running in March. Each chair costs in the vicinity of \$4000.

REGION 5

Nice boat brother



W Bro Homer Fenech (left) and Bro Michael Rennie

As a part of the Region 5 Annual Freemason Conference, Freemasons from the Tweed and surrounding districts have come together to raise money in support of local hospitals.

A Quintrex 4 metre aluminium boat and trailer, powered by a 25hp Mercury outboard, supplied by Tweed Coast Marine, is the raffle prize with proceeds going to the Tweed Heads and Murwillumbah Hospitals.

The winner will be drawn on 21 August with the presentation at the Conference.

Conference and raffle sponsors are the Bendigo Bank, Tweed Centro Shopping Centre, Tweed City Shopping Centre, Sunnyside Mall Shopping Centre and Bunnings Burleigh Heads, and is proudly supported by the Region 5 Masonic Welfare Association.

Shire masons shine

The Sutherland Shire Freemasons continue their hard work in raising funds, with a huge result in the Cook Community Classic.

By participating in the various activities of the CCC, including a gala ball at Delton House at Sylvania, supported by The Cedars Lodge No 1040, the Shire masons were able to raise \$7,400, which will go

towards helping charities and individuals within and outside the Shire.

The committee was formed two years ago, and has continued to grow, due mainly to the support given by the brethren from all the lodges in the district, especially at the fundraising BBQs that are held regularly at Bunnings, at Taren Point.



L-R: Committee Chairman, W Bro Bob Mckinnon, VW Bro David Herring, PDGIW and VW Bro Shakir Kabbabe, DGIW District 29



BUILDERS LODGE No 1048

Building Freemasonry

The latest lodge to be consecrated in NSW is the Builders' Lodge No 1048 which will meet at the Sydney Masonic Centre on the first Monday of February, April, June, August, October and November.

The Consecration Ceremony was held at the Epping Masonic Centre in April with the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Gregory Levenston in attendance with 22 members of the ceremonial team.

The lodge is one of a number of themed lodges, intended to draw membership from particular professions or ethnic groups; all of the foundation officers and members being attached in some way to the building industry.

Following the Consecration, the Foundation WM, VW Bro Paul Schultz, PDGIW, was Installed by RW Bro Garry Sayed, PJGW.



Director of Ceremonies, VW Bro Wayne Backhouse, PDGIW, with the large spanner which is his Baton of Office.

Anzac Service

On Tuesday 12 April, the annual Anzac Service took place at Lodge Fitzroy's April meeting at Coffs Harbour Masonic Centre.

Brethren and their ladies were invited to join with the lodge in remembering the courage and sacrifice of service men and women in various theatres of war, and in peace keeping.

The service was conducted by VW Bro Fred Miles. RW Bro Bruce Arnol in his capacity as RGC of Region 5 also attended, and Rev Lenore Knowles led the prayers.

The Cataphalque Party from the Coffs Harbour Air Force cadets performed impeccably, as did other representatives from the Navy and Army. The bugler was W Bro Grant Rigby.

After the service, and in the South, retired Group Captain Richard Kelloway, OBE, MID (Mentioned in Despatches) gave a deep and thought-provoking talk.

LODGE PAXTON No 608

A third generation

Longstanding father and son tradition recently continued when Bro John Solomon was initiated into Lodge Paxton No 608 in the Hunter Valley, to become a third generation family member of that lodge.

His grandfather, VW Bro Frank Solomon, PDGDC, had the honour of occupying the chair of the lodge during the ceremony, while his father, W Bro David Solomon, was Junior Warden and assisted with several charges.

The family's association with Lodge Paxton goes back a generation further however, as VW Bro Frank Solomon's father-in-law, W Bro Searle Cassidy, was a frequent visitor to Lodge Paxton in the days of City to Country Fraternal visits between Lodge Paxton and Lodge Gladstone, of which he was a PM.

Bro Tim Dawson raised

Lodge Wyaldra was privileged to have Bro Tim Dawson raised to the Third Degree. He was a very good candidate and his grandfather VW Bro John Esber acted as SD. What a great night!



L-R: Bro Tim Dawson, RW Bro Richard Wingate WM of Lodge Edinburgh St John No 38, and VW Bro John Esber

Big Night at Sir Frank

Paul Smith didn't know what was happening when he arrived to be the new candidate for Sir Frank McDowell Council at Oatley in March.

It was a big night for the Council which hosted Higher Degrees meetings early before proceeding to elevate Paul to the 30th Degree.

The night was made even better with the arrival of the Australian Sovereign Grand Commander, M Ill Bro Peter Straw who also took part in the ceremony.

In other business, a certificate was presented to Ill Bro Ken Stuart and the Sovereign Grand Commander announced the appointment of Ill Bro John Nicolaides as the new District Commander to succeed V Ill Bro John Sunman.



LODGE NEPEAN No 29

Lodge Nepean Installation

Over 120 people including brethren, wives, family and friends attended the 122nd Installation of Lodge Nepean, No 29, at the Orchard Hills Masonic Centre, in April.

The masoniCare Representative for Region Three, VW Bro Harold Griffiths, PDGIW, was re-installed by W Bro Ross Hughes.

Also present were 25 Grand Lodge Officers, including Past Grand Master, MW Bro Tony Lauer, one Past Deputy Grand Master and two Past Assistant Grand Masters, all of whom were duly recognised during the evening.



L-R: RW Bro Ronald Webb, Junior Grand Warden, Newly Re-Installed Master, VW Bro Harold Griffiths, PDGIW, and Installing Master, W Bro Ross Hughes

Cobar Conference

The Cobar Lodge No 97 was the host of the Combined Regional Conference for Regions 7 and 13 on 19-20 February, at Cobar in Far Western NSW.

The weekend was organised by RW Bro Lex Bramble, RGC Region 7 and RW Bro Tony Punzet, RGC Region 13, with 60 brethren representing 17 lodges supporting the event. The Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Glenn Eley, attended with various representatives who gave presentations on their respective roles.

Fathers and sons



In March, the W Master of Lodge Caledonia of Canberra No 938, W Bro Jamie King, installed his successor, W Bro Joe Arnold.

Towards the end of the meeting, it was noticed that there were six pairs of fathers and sons in attendance, and they were photographed for posterity.

In Lodge Caledonia of Canberra, it was quite common for fathers to encourage their sons to join; perhaps this is a sign of things to come.

Back Row: RW Bro Wal Hopkinson, W Bro Tom King, Bro Daryl Neit, RW Bro Barrington-Knight, VW Bro David Slater, Bro Carlos Alarcon

Middle Row: VW Bro Ken Hopkinson, W Bro Jamie King, Bro Ben Neit, VW Bro Barrington-Knight, Bro Alex Slater Bro Daniel Slater

Front Row: Rorie King

The young lad in the picture is the son of the Installing Master, already showing considerable interest in the Craft, and his father and grandfather are behind him.

A new Conclave

On Saturday 19 March in the Moruya Masonic Centre, the Grand Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine Order consecrated and dedicated the newest Conclave called Far South Coast No 30.

This was followed by the Enthronement of PKt Alex McCreath as its MPS, Em Kt Bryan Davis as the Viceroy and the investiture of Officers.

Present amongst the 90 ladies, brethren, knights and visitors were heads and representatives of Associated Orders (apologies from OSM) and several community dignities.

The highlight of the Conference was the initiation of Mr Ashleigh Bellotti on the Saturday night, followed by a banquet at the Cobar Services Club. A barbecue breakfast was provided on Sunday morning, and the weekend ended with District 72 Lodge of Instruction presenting the three 'Walkabout' degrees and an open forum.



Rear L-R: RW Bro Michael Freeman-Robinson PSGW, MExComp Ted Keenahan GZ and GM, MEm Kt George Palmer GCT Grand Master and VIII Bro Kevin Perry 33 (Absent MW Bro Ian Newbury)

Front L-R: M III Kt Tim Foster GCC Grand Sovereign, MPS PKt Don McCreath, Em Kt Bryan Davis Viceroy, Rt III and Em Kt Keith Spencer KCC Grand Viceroy



LODGE KATOOMBA No 118

Katoomba Installation

It was a chilly evening in March when W Bro David Cooze installed his successor, Bro Rick Johnson into the chair of Lodge Katoomba No 118.

The lodge was consecrated in February 1884 as Lodge Mount Victoria No 2057 EC.

RW Bro Barry Bloore, PJGW, represented the Grand Master.

In receiving his Installed Master's Certificate, W Bro Johnson said he would endeavour to hold the flag of Lodge Katoomba high as it had been for the past 120 years.

W Bro Cooze thanked the brethren of the lodge for their support during his term of office and expressed his appreciation of the honour it had been to serve Freemasonry as Master of the lodge.

During his address, RW Bro Barry Bloore referred to the long and colourful history of the Craft in the Blue Mountains dating back to the earliest settlers and road builders, and urged them to keep hold of that priceless heritage.

Nominations for Australia Day Awards

Australia Day 2011 was an exciting culmination to a very successful term of office as DGIW of District 53 and Chairman of the Coffs Coast Freemasons Association (CCFA) for VW Bro Norm Standing when he was nominated for the Volunteer Of The Year Award in Coffs Harbour.

The CCFA was also nominated for Voluntary Organisation Award for



VW Bro Geoff Greenaway (left) and VW Bro Norm Standing



L-R: VW Bro Kevin Holdsworth, DGIW, RW Bro Barry Bloore, PJGW, Newly Installed Master, W Bro Rick Johnson and Installing Master, W Bro David Cooze

Community Excellence.

Under the leadership of VW Bro Norm Standing, the CCFA raised \$103,000, which was donated to the Coffs Coast and Clarence Can-Do Cancer Trust.

VW Bro Norm Standing and current DGIW of District 53, VW Bro Geoff Greenaway, attended the Australia Day Ceremony held at the Coffs Ex-Services Club and were presented with nomination certificates in the two categories.

LODGE FAIRFIELD No 345

Hands across the sea

To mark the Installation of Bro Victor Edilloran as WM of Lodge Fairfield No 345, his brothers Leo and Orly, both members of Southwest Lodge No 283, Pennsylvania, flew to Australia to share in the celebrations and also to take part in the ceremony.

The Installing Master was W Bro Ted Balgos. The Working Tools in the Third Degree were presented by Bro Leo Edilloran and those in the Second Degree by Bro Orly Edilloran and W Bro Edilloran thanked his brothers profusely for the effort they had made to be with him.



L-R: RW Bro Stephen Green, PAGM, Bro Leo Edilloran, Bro Orly Edilloran, W Bro Victor Edilloran and VW Bro Emanuel Maniago



Breathing easier



Back Row: W Bro David Travis, W Bro Geoff Finall; W Bro Sandy Sramko, RW Bro Tom Latham, Immediate Past Master – W Bro Nigel Swan, Cathy Alexis, WM W Bro Brian Harvey, W Bro Peter Brown, W Bro Ian Coppinger

Front Row: RW Bro Dick Crossing, VW Bro Bill Crawford, Bro Mac Hamilton, VW Bro Jeff Cox

W Bro Malcolm Hamilton has attended lodge for the first time in over four years, thanks to masoniCare, the Whiddon Group Community Care Coordinator, and masons from Lodge City of the Plains No 607.

Cathy Alexis is the Community Care Coordinator for the Whiddon Group Community Care, based at Ilumba Gardens, Kelso. She identified that Mac was becoming increasingly housebound due to his dependence on home oxygen, and

approached the masons at Lodge City of the Plains for help in purchasing a portable oxygen concentrator.

The Board of Directors of masoniCare approved the grant to fund the purchase which has opened a new life for him. He can now visit his neighbours at the Ilumba Village, and even stay for a cup of tea.

The highlight for Mac was to attend lodge on Saturday 5 March for the installation of their new WM, W Bro Brian Harvey, and enjoy the banquet luncheon.

Kensington turns 100

Lodge Kensington turned 100 in February with a strong District and Grand Lodge attendance and a quick look at its history.

Bro John Kosmas became the 100th WM when he was installed by W Bro Pat Hammond and, at the meeting the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston had the pleasure of presenting a 70 years Membership certificate to VW Bro Albert Bowron who gave an emotional response.

W Bro Geoff Cook detailed the background of the lodge which was consecrated on 21 February 1911. Edward

Whitlaw and John T Jennings had discussed the possibility of forming a lodge in Kensington and applied for a charter through Lodge John Williams, the only lodge in the district. Bro Jennings, who was a steward, was later elected Mayor of Randwick and then the local member in State Parliament.

The first candidate was Bro Albert Heath who later became the Agent General for NSW in London. In 1913, a scheme was presented by W Bro Frank O'Grady about the building of a Kensington Centre and W Bro Frank Todman,

LODGE HAWKESBURY HERITAGE No 150

A proud father

It was a 'father raises son' night at Lodge Hawkesbury Heritage No 150, in March.

The WM, W Bro Alan Owen had the privilege to raise his son, Bro Stuart Owen, to the Third Degree.

W Bro Owen is well known for his skills as a trumpeter and frequently fills the role of Herald at Installation Ceremonies throughout District 34.

Present for the occasion was recent recipient of the Carrington Medal of Honour, RW Bro Ken Mole, PDGM, who is a long-standing member of the lodge.



L-R: W Bro Alan Owen, Bro Stuart Owen, and Senior Deacon, Bro Hans Kuehn

the WM and owner of the land in view, offered generous terms to sell. The Foundation Stone was laid on 6 November 1912. Original meetings were held at a large home in Doncaster Avenue called 'Bon Ami' and installations were held at Paddington Town Hall.

The first meeting of the lodge in the new centre was 16 November 1914 and on 19 February the first installation was held with Bro F Stevens installed as WM.



50 Years Service

BIGGENDEN, RICHARD	Lodge St Andrews 281
BOGAARD, WILLEM	Lodge Toongabbie 921
BONUS, JOHN	Lodge Richard Coley 152
BRITTON, LIONEL	The Hills Lodge 1025
BRYANT, GARNET	Lodge Enterprise 400
BUCKLAND, ROSS	Lodge Kingsford Smith 1028
CANTRILL, BARRY	Lodge Canoblas Lewis 806
DUTHIE, KEVIN	Lodge Capitol 612
FAITHFULL, GEORGE	Lodge University of Sydney 544
FISHER, PETER	The Schools Lodge 639
FRANKLIN, ROBERT	The Sir Walter Scott Lodge 123
GOODWIN, NORMAN	Lodge Army and Navy 517
HARGREAVES, WILLIAM	Lodge Mulwala 'The Scott' 184
HORTON, TREVOR	Lodge Middle Harbour 292
JONAS, LEWIS	Lodge Gundagai United 25
JONES, NORMAN	Lodge Mulwala 'The Scott' 184
LEVER, GEORGE	Lodge St David and St John 180
MAGILL, HENRY	Riverina Thompson 104
MAWBAY, BARRY	Lodge Macquarie 53
MCKENNA, NIGEL	Lodge Capitol 612
MENZIES, NEVILLE	Lodge St David and St John 180
MOLE, KENNETH	Lodge Edinburgh St John 38
MOON, ROBERT	Lodge Macquarie 53
MORTIMER, EDWIN	Lodge Macquarie 53
MOSTYN, JOHN	Lodge Barham 561
NAISMITH, NEVILLE	Lodge Hillston 627

OLDFIELD, MICHAEL	The Royal Empire Lodge 613
PARK, IAN	Lodge City of Newcastle 1035
PARKER, IAN	Lodge Fitzroy 248
PLEWS, RAE	Port Macquarie Daylight Lodge 991
POLL, VICTOR	Lodge Mulwala 'The Scott' 184
ROLLEY, GORDON	Lodge Sylvania 853 Lodge of Excellence
ROSSER, BARRY	Lodge Cornucopia 1037
SENGHAAS, ULRICH	Basin View Daylight Lodge 1015
TOUT, IAN	Lodge Gundagai United 25
WASS, IAN	Lodge Warrumbungles 277
WILSON, WILLIAM	Lodge Warrumbungles 277
WRIGHT, BRUCE	Lodge Baulkham Hills 958

60 Years Service

ARROWSMITH, ALAN	Lodge The Star Of Australia 200
BILLS, RUPERT	Lodge Macquarie 53
BRITTEN, RALPH	Lodge Guildford 321
BROWN, PERRY	The Schools Lodge 639
BUIST, JOHN	Balmain Lodge 23
CRERAR, HUGH	Lodge Condobolin 185
DERRICK, JAMES	Lodge Gundagai United 25
DUNN, DONALD	The Schools Lodge 639
EDGAR, KELVIN	Lodge University of Sydney 544
GALE, RONALD	The Schools Lodge 639
GILLIVER, LOUIS	Lodge Dunblane Australis 966
GOMES, WILLIAM	Lodge Hornsby 262

HODGEKISS, WILLIAM	Lodge University of Sydney 544
HUNT, ERIC	William Ross 76
JACOBSON, KEVIN	Lodge Ibis 361
JOHNSON, OWEN	Lodge Port Stephens 522
KELLETT, ALAN	Lodge Edinburgh St John 38
LOCKHART, RONALD	Lodge Warrumbungles 277
MACKENZIE, FREDERICK	Lodge Rudyard Kipling 143
MALTBY, GRAHAM	Lodge Ionic 65
MCKAY, BRUCE	Lodge Bathurst United 79
MENZIES, BRUCE	Lodge University of Sydney 544
PRATT, ROBERT	Lodge Cronulla 312
ROBERTSON, JOHN	Lodge Gundagai United 25
ROLLEY, GORDON	Lodge Sylvania 853 Lodge of Excellence
ROWETH, RONALD	Lodge Blacktown Kildare 393
SPIRA, JACQUES	Lodge Mark Owen 828
TURNER, ROSS	North Shore Daylight Lodge 1044
VICKERY, LAWRENCE	Lodge Port Stephens 522
VOGT, ARTHUR	Lodge Enterprise 400
WOOD, ERIC	Lodge Enterprise 400

70 Years Service

HARDIMAN, ARTHUR	Lodge Oatley 381
WALKER-SMITH, ELI	Lodge Morisset 441
WILSON, ERIC	Lodge Warrumbungles 277

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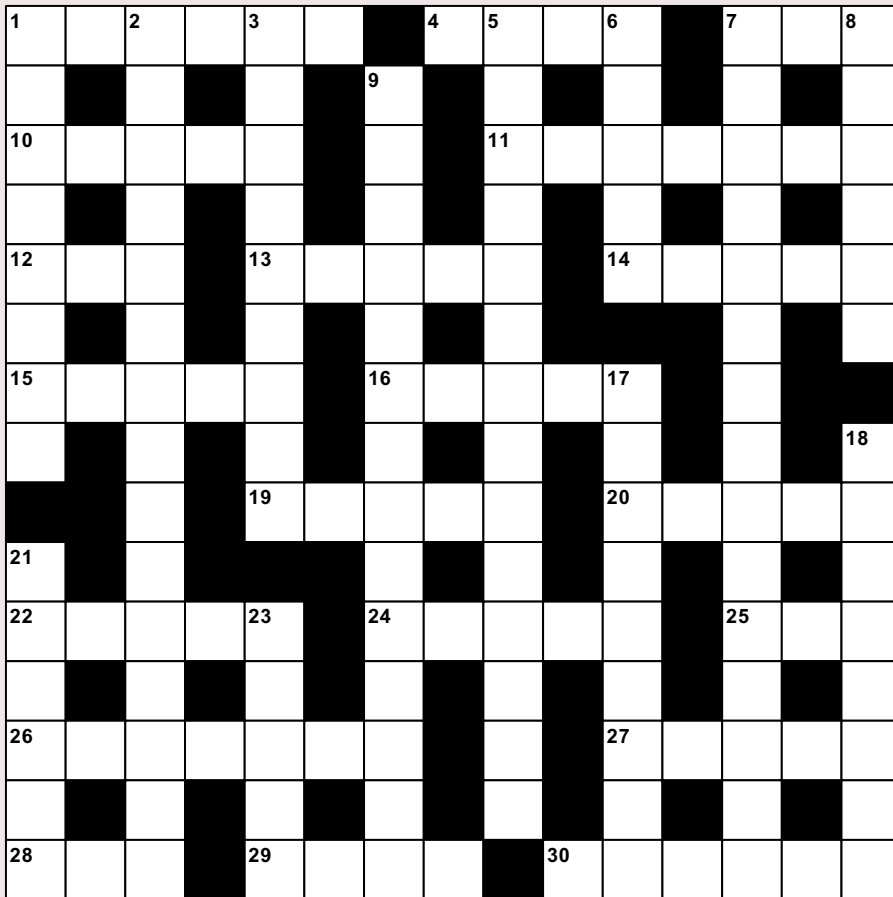
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ACROSS

- 1 & 29 Titles must stand up to this critical examination (6, 4)
- 4 Cicatrix covered with cascara (4)
- 7 Some down to earth digit (3)
- 10 Odd characters agree Anzac stadium is in fact one (5)
- 11 & 21 down One like a 7 down found in Trafalgar Square? (6'1, 6)
- 12 Back some reoffenders to harbour an enemy (3)

- 13 Indecently inter whilst motionless (5)
- 14 Shoulder expression of doubt (5)
- 15 Architectural mouldings reversed in some kilovolt measure (5)
- 16 No start for the lot drunk at the inn (5)
- 19 Fungus as yet to be identified (5)
- 20 Monochrome medium used by some Chinese pianist (5)
- 22 Canoe turned turtle on the high sea (5)
- 24 I roam around as a New Zealander (5)
- 25 18 down's hidden sign of the zodiac (3)

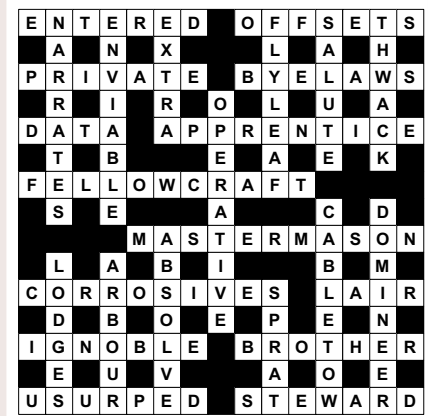
- 26 Of such good intentions for perpendicular support (7)
- 27 Customary practice gives us a general introduction (5)
- 28 Formerly found in pioneers (3)
- 29 See 1 across
- 30 Add flavour at some time of the year (6)

DOWN

- 1 Jump over entangled flag rope (8)
- 2 Edge red-hot scene away from the Fellowcraft ceremony (3, 6-6)
- 3 Concord involved in a mutiny (9)
- 5 & 6 Healthy breads were deposited in 7 down according to 2 down (14, 5)
- 7 Alert girl to wasp hiding with supporters mentioned in 2 down (3, 5, 7)
- 8 National flag for lowest ranked US naval officer (6)
- 9 Hebrew tribe from 2 down. It has the empire in turmoil (3, 11)
- 17 I used salt to treat tiredness and apathy (9)
- 18 Adversary of 11 across entered no plea on default (8)
- 21 See 11 across
- 23 Strange thing found at the close of day (5)

Solution next issue © adxwords

Solution Autumn 2011



Fundraising for Home in Queanbeyan

Lodge Queanbeyan St Andrew recently opened a facility, called 'The Home' in Queanbeyan which provides 20 room accommodation and care for people in the community with mental illness.

'Our stronger fraternal and social activity enabled us better to promote our charitable work focused on the Home in Queanbeyan', stated Lodge Queanbeyan St Andrews. 'When we set out to involve ourselves in community charity it was easy to identify the Home as our beneficiary and we set a target of \$5,000 for the year also applying for a dollar for dollar

matching grant from masoniCare which was approved in April 2010'.

The Home and our lodge are very grateful for that grant which extends to \$10,000 over two years. Our fundraising activity took the form of raising money at our lodge social functions, the selling of raffle tickets (the prizes for which were donated by our members), and a co-organised dinner dance with the Home at the end of October 2010.

We were able to meet what turned out to be a modest target of \$5,000 by early June which is a great credit to the benevolence of the Queanbeyan community



Lodge Queanbeyan St Andrew presents \$10,000 cheque to Home in Queanbeyan.

with us acting as their conduit to the Home. We intend duplicating this effort in 2011 and maintaining a close charitable relationship with the Home in Queanbeyan into the future.



Freemason welcomes new members to the Craft

Name	Lodge	Name	Lodge	Name	Lodge
ALGHOUL Ali	Lodge Guildford 321	COOK John	Coeur De Lion – Narooma 84	KNOTLEY Lindsay	Lodge Edinburgh St John 38
ALVERES Garth	The Australian Lodge Of Harmony 5	COSTA Joseph	Lodge Trinity 666	KUHN Gregory	Lodge Gowrie Of Canberra 715
ANDERSSON Luke	Lodge Southern Cross 91	CUNNINGHAM Matthew	The Queen's Lodge 229	KUTAY Sezgi	The Royal Empire Lodge 613
ARNOLD Kevin	Lodge Burnside 729 LOE	CURNOW Nick	Lodge Southern Cross 91	LAUTREC Jon	The Yass Lodge Of Concord 27
ARNOLD Melvin	Lodge Burnside 729 LOE	DALZELL Sam	Lodge Enterprise 400	MANTON John	Lodge Cronulla 312
ASHTON Nigel	Lodge Thespian Lewis 804	DEL FABBRO Cario	Antiquity 1	MARAMBIO Fernando	Lodge Miguel De Cervantes 1038
ATTARD Anthony	Lodge Blacktown Kildare 393	DIXON Ben	Lodge Ballina 112	MARCHESANI Daniel	Lodge Victoria Cross 928
AYOUB Bashar	Lodge Wahroonga 674	DONLEAVY Gabriel	Lodge Shoalhaven 840	MARSHALL James	Lodge University of Sydney 544
BAILEY Mathew	Lodge City of Newcastle 1035	ELHADDAD Samir	Lodge Aviation 688	MASSEY Stanley	Lodge Gowrie Of Canberra 715
BALAMOAN George	Lodge Alpha 970	ELLIOTT-DOYLE Shane	The Lodge Of Australia 3	MCDERMID Andrew	The Queen's Lodge 229
BALASSIS Stamatis	Lodge Warragamba 541	FAHL BUSCH Kari	Lodge Blaxland Temperance 346	MEAGHER Timothy	Lodge Trinitarian 978
BANASIK Benjamin	Lodge Picton 258	FARRINGTON David	Lodge Trinitarian 978	MEURANT Christopher	Lodge Blaxland Temperance 346
BANERJEE Tat	The Australian Lodge Of Harmony 5	FISHER Andrew	Lodge Wyvern 813	MILLER Scott	Lodge Southern Cross 91
BARNES Cameron	Lodge Punchbowl 244	FOX Malcolm	Lodge Dunoon 436	MILLS Chris	Lodge Alpha 970
BAZIK Andrew	Lodge Emu Plains 860	FULLER Luke	The Yass Lodge Of Concord 27	MOHAN Aviral	Lodge Blacktown Kildare 393
BELL Bruce	The Yass Lodge Of Concord 27	GARRETT Peter	Lodge Emu Plains 860	MURRAY Lee	The Yass Lodge Of Concord 27
BELLOTTI Ashleigh	The Cobar Lodge 97	GLINATISIS Michael	Lodge Cronulla 312	NASA Michael	Lodge Double Bay 331
BENTLEY Andrew	Lodge Morning Star 410	GOLDIE Allan	Lodge Paxton 608	NASA Fadi	Lodge Double Bay 331
BLACK Steve	Lodge Toukley 933	GRAMELIS Konstantine	The Sydney Lodge 1020	NEWELL Mitchell	The Queen's Lodge 229
BOARDMAN Gavin	Lodge Pacific 298	GRIFFITHS Paul	Lodge Guildford 321	NOURI Kalib	The Lodge Of Australia 3
BOYD David	Lodge St James 45	HACKETT Steven	Lodge Cronulla 312	NUNEZ Alexander	Antiquity 1
BREWER Aaron	Brundah Endeavour 429	HALL Stephen	Lodge Oxley 225	OSMAN-KERIN Norman	Lodge Warragamba 541
BRISTOW Philip	The Queen's Lodge 229	HARTAS Troy	Lodge Kirrawee 903	PEARSON Dave	Coeur De Lion – Narooma 84
BROGAN Sean	Coeur De Lion – Narooma 84	HAYNES Cameron	Lodge Army and Navy 517	PENN Stephen	Lodge Ku-Ring-Gai 1033
BUENAVISTA Roderick	Lodge Jose Rizal 1045	HILL Byron	Lodge Wyong Tuggerah Lakes 247	PEZZANO Angelo	Lodge Hurlstone Park United 288
BURGESS Banjam	Lodge Illawarra 59	HODGE Robert	Lodge Cessnock 252	PRIETO Blas	Lodge Rudyard Kipling 143
BURNS Andrew	Lodge Wahroonga 674	HORSLEY Des	Lodge St James 45	QUIMPO Troy	Lodge Jose Rizal 1045
BURTON Daniel	Lodge Resurgo 223 LOE	HUGHES Scott	Lodge Silver City 141	RADFORD Myles	Lodge Picton 258
BUTTOLA Lyndon	Lodge Hastings 69	IZCI Gunay	Concord Technology 432	REID Scott	The Yass Lodge Of Concord 27
CALINGAO Arsenio	Lodge Woronora 414 LOE	JACKSON Peter	Lodge Nepean 29	ROTHWELL David	The Yass Lodge Of Concord 27
CAMERONNE Craig	Lodge Gynea 796	JACKSON Mick	Lodge Narromine 236	ROYAL Reuben	Lodge Pacific 298
CARPENTER Alan	Lodge Camden 217	JAIN Ritesh	Lodge Middle Harbour 292	RYAN Aaron	Lodge Ballina 112
CASLANGEN Audie	Lodge Beauty of Cabra Vale 743	JAVALUYAS Ferdinand	Lodge Wahroonga 674	SALOURIS Bill	The Sydney Lodge 1020
CLEMENTS Brian	Lodge Morisset 441	KAPOS George	The Sydney Lodge 1020	SCHACHT Andrew	Lodge Southern Cross 91
COCHRANE Alan	Lodge Barham 561	KENT Allan	Lodge Guyra 325	SIDANA Akshay	Lodge Ingleburn 815

A win for Juan and Masonry

RW Bro Juan Alvarez PAGM and Freemasonry were both winners at a special ceremony earlier this year on the South Coast.

Juan attended the official ceremony for the Australian Day Awards where he had to transfer his baton of office to the new winner, a woman who is assisting the disabled and the disabled unemployed and in his opinion 'a most worthy recipient'.

However they had earlier received a phone call from the Local State Member for both to be at another function a couple

of hours before the Official Australia Day function.

'I didn't give it any thought but we went there at the appointed time,' he said.

'The surprise was that I was presented with a trophy and a certificate from the Premier of NSW with the Community Service Award for 2011, but the main point was that Freemasonry was publicly noted as my training ground for community spirit.

'It was a good night all round for me and the Craft.'

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Established in 1880

The RFBI wishes to thank all Masons who have supported the RFBI during its official Appeal Quarter. Your generosity ensures the good work of this charity will continue to assist deserving citizens of all ages through the RFBI's Annuity and the Benevolence Assistance Schemes.

The RFBI has recently been granted two 'Development and Construction' Approvals from various Councils. The RFBI will begin construction in the very near future at Tamworth with an additional twenty two rooms at Tamworth Cottage Homes and, depending on demand, a further nine self-care villas at Armidale. The RFBI is applying for a Construction Certificate for a new forty bed facility at Raleigh.

The RFBI cares for approximately 2,600 senior citizens in its residential villages, its aged care facilities and through its CACPs and EACH programs throughout NSW and the ACT. This physical activity is a testimony to the charitable works of Freemasonry. Be assured, all donations over \$2 are tax deductible will be gratefully received and faithfully applied.

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

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

Likewise the RFBI is able to organise **SPEAKERS FOR LODGE MEETINGS** or any like minded Masonic Function. Please contact Alex Shaw.

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



Grand Installation 2011



Programme



MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston
Grand Master & Judith Morrice



RW Bro Derek Robson AM
Grand Master elect

Friday 5 August

12 noon **Grand Masters Luncheon**
(by invitation only)

5.30 to 7pm **Meet & Greet**
Sydney Masonic Centre
(Dress: Jacket & Tie)

Saturday 6 August

8.30am **Ladies Brunch**
Sydney Masonic Centre

2.00pm **Grand Installation**
Sydney Convention and Exhibition
Centre (Dress: Formal)

6.30pm **Grand Installation Banquet**
Sydney Convention and Exhibition
Centre (Dress: Formal)

Map

◆ - Sydney Masonic Centre

1 - Sydney Convention &
Exhibition Centre
1100m from SMC

2 - Queen Victoria Building
750m from SMC

