



# A. F. & A. Masons of Ireland Grand Lodge News



DECEMBER 2006

## 'Marie Curie Cancer Care' benefits from Masonic Golf Competition



Charles Knipe, Mrs Elizabeth Shaw and George Miskimmins.



Mrs Miskimmins; Mrs McKinley and Adam McKinley.



Pam and Eric Waller.



John & Mrs Dunlop; Denis Millen & Mrs Millen.

The 7th Annual Grand Masters' Millennium Golf Competition held under the auspices of The Northern Provinces Committee took place at Killymoon Golf Club, Cookstown on Friday 8th September 2006 and despite an early morning mist the competition was played under blue skies and bright sunshine.

The Competition has continued to increase in popularity and has now become a red-letter day in our Masonic Calendar. This year was no exception as the entry was full very soon after the date was announced.

This year's entry, which included Masons, Ladies and Non-Masons from Ireland, North & South and the now regular party from Scotland, headed by W.Bro. Jimmy Frickleton.

Although the entry was limited to the first 200, on a first come, first served basis, due to the demand, the Competitions' Committee decided to extend the numbers to 270 which was the absolute limit, this required starting the first fourball at 7.00 am and the last at 4.00 pm, unfortunately, even with the increase there were quite a few people disappointed.

Prior to the prize giving there was a meal for the Guests, which included The M.W.Grand Master Eric Waller, and his wife Pam, The Deputy Grand

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Robert Quigley presenting a cheque for £3,000 to Anne McRoberts (Marie Curie Cancer Care).



Robert & Mrs Quigley with Ann McRoberts (Marie Curie).



Mrs Burns with Mrs Johnston & Leslie Johnston.



George Ginnelly; Harry Weir and Michael W Walker.



G. Master and overall winner Marty Whittle, Lodge 396.

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Master R.W.Bro. George Dunlop, The Provincial Grand Masters accompanied by their partners and Representatives from the Provinces of Antrim, Armagh, Down, Tyrone & Fermanagh, Londonderry & Donegal and North Connaught.

The Ferry Family from the Aughintober Pipes and Drums, and George Bradley on the keyboard and piano accordion provided excellent entertainment, which was appreciated by all.

The competition raised £6,000.00 to be distributed evenly between the **'Marie Curie Cancer Care'** and the **Masonic Charities**. R.W.Bro. Robert G. Quigley, Chairman of the Northern Provinces Committee presented a cheque for £3,000.00, which was accepted by Anne McRoberts Community Fundraising Manager – North, on behalf of **'Marie Curie Cancer Care'**.

He thanked the Captain, Mr David Lyttle, the Sec./Manager, Mr Norman Weir, the Council and Members of Killymoon Golf Club for the use of their excellent course on this special day, an annual arrangement which, over the years, has proven to be successful for both parties. Thanks to the Greenkeepers for the condition of the course and for assisting with markers etc., to Darren and Stacey and the Catering Staff of Fairways Restaurant for looking after our sustenance by providing a most acceptable fare.

Following the entertainment in the clubhouse, the Grand Master M.W.Bro. Eric Waller presented the golf prizes to the value of £1,000.00.

**Overall Winner:** - Marty Whittle, Lodge 396 - Province - Tyrone & Fermanagh – 39 Stableford Points.

**Team Prize:** - Marty Whittle & Uel Henry, Lodge 396 - Province - Tyrone & Fermanagh – 76 Stableford Points.

**Best Gross:** - David Turner, 2 handicap, Non - Mason - with an excellent score of 70 gross.

**Special thanks to:** - All the Sponsors and Lodges who continue to support this annual competition, thanks also, to all those who brought prizes for the Tombola and Grand Draw. Ivor McIlpatrick and Walter Ferguson, who acted as starters on the day. R.W.Bro. George Ginnelly, Eleanor Doherty – Marie Curie Nurse, Heather Miller – Marie Curie Fundraising Team, who looked after the Tombola table. Pauline Simpson, Uel Henry, Leslie Graham, Wesley Hutton and Albert Warwick who handled our new 'computer management system' with ease.

To all who took part in the Competition. Sincere thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make the day a success.

Last but not least, the Golf Committee: Chairman - R.W.Bro. George Dunlop DGM; Vice Chairman - Tom McClean, Pauline Simpson; Antrim - Ronnie Gregg; Armagh - Bobby McDowell; Armagh - John Richardson; L&D - Leslie Graham; L&D - Raymond Robinson; T&F - Albert Warwick; T&F - Wesley Hutton; T&F - Uel Henry.

Noel Simpson - Competition Secretary

## Open Day at Cork Masonic Hall

As part of Heritage Week, Cork City Council held an open day when they invited the owners of 27 historic buildings, not normally open to the general public, to open them, free of charge on Saturday, 2nd September. The Provincial Grand Master and Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster were delighted to be included and readily agreed to participate. So pleased were the Heritage Department of the City Council that they arranged for the Lord Mayor to launch the open day from the Masonic Hall and to hold a reception there for their invited guests.

Whereas the Hall has been opened many times to various groups of visitors this was the first time, since it became a Masonic Hall in 1845, that it was open to the general public.



W.Bro. Malcolm Tyrrell, P.G. Supt. Of Works, R.W.Bro. Alan J Campbell, P.G.M.; Councillor Michael Ahern, Lord Mayor of Cork; Ms Niamh Twomey, Heritage Officer and V.W.Bro. Robin Newenhan, P.P.S.G.W.



R.W.Bro. Alan J Campbell, P.G.M. showing Cllr. Michael Ahern, Lord Mayor of Cork a picture of one of his predecessors laying the foundation stone of St. Patrick's Bridge in Cork in 1851 surrounded by Masons in full regalia.

All arrangements were put in place by W.Bro. Malcolm Tyrrell, Provincial Grand Supt. of Works and we were amazed to find a queue forming at 10.15 am., the opening time being 11.30 am. When the Lord Mayor arrived it wasn't possible to wait any longer and everybody was allowed in to hear his speech launching the event and the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Alan Campbell's welcoming address.

Over the day some 450 people called in to see the premises and ask questions about Freemasonry which the teams of Stewards were only too happy to answer. The comments in the visitor's book were all very warm and encouraging and showed that the public's perception of the Order has changed a great deal.

Photos by courtesy of Tony O'Connell Photography, 85 North Main St., Cork.

# Historical Badge retrieved



The crest of the Belfast Volunteers ML No. 439 is based on the original cap badge of the Belfast Volunteer Defence Corps founded in 1915. So, when W.Bro. Mal Ross identified one of these rare items for sale on "e-bay" recently, he quickly contacted the Brethren and made arrangements to obtain it for the Lodge. Funds were identified and strategies discussed over the Internet late into the night. Bro. Kirkpatrick had the unenviable task of actually doing the bidding but he kept his cool under great pressure and was successful in his labours.

W.Bro. Ross said that "everyone is very excited to have obtained this cap badge because of its close relationship with the Founders of our Lodge and I hope that it will be an

inspiration for all the Brethren. This cap badge is of both local and Masonic historical interest and demonstrates how Lodges can use modern technology to identify and retrieve items from their History and increase interest in Freemasonry in general."



The BVDC cap badge is presented to Bro. David Scott, W.M. by Bro. Colin Kirkpatrick, S.W. and W.Bro. Mal Ross, Secretary.

## 100 years and going from strength to strength



R.W.Bro. Mawhinney presenting the Centenary Certificate to W.Bro. Ivan Thompson.

## Long & Distinguished Service

The Grand Master and Officers of the Grand Lodge of Ireland recognise the valued contribution of the Brethren listed below for their devoted and distinguished service to The Order and the honour they have bestowed upon their Lodges and Brethren.

Distinguished Brethren	Years	Lodge Name & No.	Province
W.Bro. George Chambers	75	Phoenix Lodge No. 836	Tyrone & Fermanagh
R.W.Bro. Frank Sweetnam	66	Harlech No. 165	North Connaught
W.Bro. Robert Ritchie	60	Curran No. 532	Londonderry & Donegal
V.W.Bro. William Jackson	60	Inniskilling No. 744	Tyrone & Fermanagh
W.Bro. Wilbert Branyan	60	Bailieborough No. 796	Meath
W.Bro. Victor Riddell	60	St. Andrew's No. 944	Tyrone & Fermanagh
W.Bro. Ivor McPherson	50	Aghadowey No. 316	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. Glen Casement	50	Curran No. 532	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. Jack Hogg	50	Curran No. 532	Londonderry & Donegal
R.W.Bro. James Burnside	50	Curran No. 532	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. Stanley McKinney	50	Curran No. 532	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. Campbell Blakely	50	Shandon No. 701	Down
W.Bro. William J Elliott	50	Inniskilling No. 744	Tyrone & Fermanagh
R.W.Bro. Victor Lynn	50	Callowhill No. 453	Tyrone & Fermanagh
Bro. S Taylor	50	Alfred's No. 59	Antrim
V.W.Bro. R Kempton	50	St. Andrew's No. 944	Tyrone & Fermanagh
W.Bro. Hugh Morrison	50	Wright Memorial No. 448	Down
W.Bro. Marcus Dickson	50	Garvagh No. 779	Londonderry & Donegal
R.W.Bro. D R R Galbraith	50	Newtownstewart No. 547	Tyrone & Fermanagh
V.W.Bro. J O Lyons	50	Newtownstewart No. 547	Tyrone & Fermanagh

Minerva Masonic Lodge No. 389 celebrated 100 years of continuous working in 2005. Following various functions throughout the year to mark this milestone, the highlight was the presentation of a Centenary Certificate by R.W.Bro. William Mawhinney (Assistant Grand Master), to W.Bro. Ivan Thompson (W.M.), which took place on 4th February 2006 in Arthur Square Masonic Hall.

W.Bro. W I Blackstock,  
Secretary

## Articles for Grand Lodge News

The editorial team will be glad to receive interesting articles regarding functions / special anniversaries / letters etc. Forward your articles (supported by a photograph or image) to:

The Editorial Team, Grand Lodge News, c/o 115 The Mount, BELFAST BT5 4ND or by e-mail to: [w.clarke@5shoots15.freemasonry.co.uk](mailto:w.clarke@5shoots15.freemasonry.co.uk)

# CHARITY CORNER

## CHARITY CONCERT – WATERFRONT HALL

A SPECIAL THANK-YOU FROM  
W.Bro. ANDY STEPHENS J.P.

One morning in March 2005, while I was on home Haemodialysis, I had an idea of organising a charity night in the form of a musical evening in the Waterfront Hall, on behalf of four charities – N.I. Outward Bound Association (a Mary Peters Charity), N. I. Kidney Research Fund (of which I am vice-chairman), CLIC Sargent Cancer Care for Children (I have a young nephew who had cancer), The Ulster Cancer Foundation (nominated by the R.W.Bro. George Dunlop, Deputy Grand Master, on behalf of the Masonic Order).

My first step was to approach Alan Corry, Conductor of Festival Brass, who was in complete agreement with my venture and proposed Festival Brass taking part, free of charge.

With this encouragement I went ahead and booked the Waterfront Hall for the first available Saturday in the New Year, which was 25th March. I then discussed the format of the Concert with Alan in more detail and was delighted to hear that the Belfast Operatic Company, under the direction of Pat Grayden, were also happy to take part, free of charge. On Alan's suggestion we got two soloists, Camien Cusack and Jeff Leyton, stars of the West End and Belfast Odyssey productions of "Les Miserables". We also managed to



Pictured above (L-R): are; Valerie Cromie (CLIC Sargent Cancer for Children; R.W. Bro. George Dunlop D.G.M.; Joyce Savage (Ulster Cancer Foundation); W. Bro. Andy Stephens J.P.; W. Bro. Bill Thompson; W. Bro. Wilson Fawcett (Chairman N.I. Outward Bound association) and Dame Mary Peters (Vice-President N.I. Outward Bound association).

acquire the services of Wilfred Pyper, who was not only Compère for the evening, but in addition acted as stage manager.

Now with the concert programme organised I was faced with the daunting task of seeking sponsorship to cover the cost of hiring the Waterfront Hall for the evening (£6,200 plus vat). I asked a very good friend of mine of 25 years standing if he would consider sponsoring part of the charge. In reply he undertook to pick up the bill for the full amount on the understanding that he wished to remain anonymous.

The Musical Evening took place as planned on 25 March 2006 and I am pleased to inform you that after all expenses were paid we raised £14,600 and each of the four charities received £3,650.

In addition to those people mentioned above and all the others who helped and supported me in the organisation of the Concert, I wish to offer my sincere appreciation to all the Masonic Lodges in Antrim and Down who donated a total of over £1,000, and to my own Masonic friends for their donations, most of whom also attended the Concert. A very special thank you to you all.

## Mandeville Unit for Cancer Treatment

Armagh Masonic Club, whose membership is drawn from Lodges in Armagh City, at a Social Evening on 23rd June 2006, handed over a cheque for £2,000.00 to the Craigavon Area Hospital, Mandeville Unit for Cancer treatment.

Included in the accompanying photograph are front row (L-R) W. Bro. Philip Dowzell, Club Vice- Chair; Adrienne McCullough, Mandeville Nurse; R.W. Bro. Leslie Johnston P.A.G.M. (Armagh); Fiona Reddick; Julie Reid & Ester Marshall, Mandeville Nurses. Back Row (L-R) W. Bro. Ken Walbran, Club Treasurer; Canon George Little, Grand Lodge Chaplain and V.W. Bro. Ronnie Watt, Club Chairman.



# CHARITY CORNER

## WITH GRATEFUL THANKS

I would like to say how much I owe to the Masonic Benevolent Institutions for their financial help throughout my years at Ballyclare High School and at Exeter College, Oxford.

During these years it was a great relief to my mother and me to know that we had this very generous financial support.

Studying English at Oxford was a great experience but, according to a recent survey it is one of the most expensive places in the U.K. The support was of particular benefit while I was there as College accommodation, flights home and the general cost of living drain one's resources. Had I not had this extra assistance life at university would have been very much more difficult.

I would also like to thank the Members of The Committee and in particular Andy McFetridge and Fiona Hyslop, for their personal involvement.

I look forward to September when I will take up my first teaching appointment at Magdalen College School, Oxford.

With very grateful thanks for everything you've done for me.

*Matt Gray*

## CHARITY FUNCTIONS



Well done to the members of Bailieborough Masonic Lodge No. 796, in the Province of Meath, for their fund raising events for local charities over the past 5 years.

With the sum of €10,000 raised for charities such as Children's Ward of Cavan General Hospital, M.S. and other deserving charities. Pictured is

our most recent event held in September 2005 for the Children's Ward of Cavan General Hospital, where a cheque was presented for the sum of €2,000.

We think it is no mean effort from the Brethren of Bailieborough 796, in the Province of Meath.

*W.Bro. John Eakins, Secretary*

## Sure & Steadfast No. 619 supports Kidney Research



Pictured is W.Bro. Andy Stephens J.P. (in his capacity as Vice-President), along with Janet Coleman (Hon. Asst. Secretary) receiving a cheque for £550 for the N.I. Kidney Research Fund, from the W. Master and Brethren of Sure & Steadfast Masonic Lodge No. 619.



## BEAT YOUR OWN DRUM!!

Congratulations to W.Bro. Alastair Patterson, a Past Master and current Almoner of Castleberg Masonic Lodge No. 799, on becoming World Champion Drum Major for an incredible third time, Alastair is Drum Major of The Field Marshall Montgomery Pipe Band. As champion he received the coveted Charles Hepburn Mace at the World Pipe Band and Drum Majors Championships held in Glasgow Green during the summer. He had previously won the title in 1998 and 2002.

He started his career as Drum Major at the tender age of eight with Gortaclare Pipe Band from Omagh. He has just returned from adjudicating at a Pipe Band Championship in California.

*R.W.Bro. Rev. Canon Harry Trimble*

## IRISH PGM JOINS GRAND LODGE TEAM IN AUSTRALIA

R.W.Bro. Basil Fenton, Provincial Grand Master of South Connaught, was afforded a rare Masonic experience when he was invited to join the Grand Team led by M.W.Bro. Emmanuel Anthony, Past Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Queensland, when M.W.Bro. Anthony represented the Most Worshipful Grand Master on a visitation to C.H. Harley Lodge No 281 UGLQ at Brisbane in May. R.W.Bro. Fenton stood out, his physical presence notwithstanding, and looked resplendent in his Irish Grand Lodge regalia. The Worshipful Master of C.H. Harley Lodge, W.Bro. Neil Patrick, maximised R.W.Bro. Fenton's presence by inviting him to join the Lodge for its opening and, after a formal introduction, invited him to sit on his right in the East. He was then retired before the entry of the Grand Lodge Team and made his re-entry by accompanying M.W.Bro. Anthony with his team of Grand Officers.

In his address to the assembled Brethren, M.W.Bro. Anthony formally recognised and welcomed R.W.Bro. Fenton as his invited guest on his team and captured the moment with the comment '...and isn't *this* what Freemasonry is all about'. He reinforced the Lodge's Irish connection by reminding the Brethren that C.H. Harley himself joined the Duke of Leinster Lodge No.283 IC in 1889 and later served as



R.W.Bro. Basil Fenton, W.Bro. Neil Patrick, M.W.Bro. Emmanuel Anthony.

Prov. Grand Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge, Irish Constitution, in Queensland. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a Fifty Year Service Jewel to V.W.Bro. Eric Rankin. R.W.Bro. Fenton's visit certainly added lustre to the event and to the Lodge.

When responding to a toast at the Festive Board R.W.Bro. Fenton, in his inimitable way, seized on a plastic chair which was appropriately coloured green and holding it aloft claimed that it represented Ireland and that 'Dublin is here – and I am from over here', indicating to the central west coast of the chair. Having located his captive audience in the appropriate spot on the globe

he then proceeded to recount a visit he had made to a Lodge at Skibbereen, which he indicated was located in the south east part of the chair – and which everyone now easily recognised as Co. Cork in Ireland. His story illustrated how the bond of Freemasonry ensures Brethren will be made welcome anywhere, anyplace and at anytime during their travels. One brother was heard to comment later that the story was all the better for its telling by the affected Irish accent R.W.Bro. Basil adopted. The accent must be peculiar to Co. Cork.

The month of April also claimed a date in R.W.Bro. Fenton's Masonic diary. The impressive Ann Street Masonic Memorial Centre in Brisbane is dedicated to the memory of Brethren who paid the supreme sacrifice in WW1 and subsequent fields of conflict. Each year on 25th April the AIF Memorial Lodge No.289 UGLQ hosts a special Anzac Day Masonic memorial ceremony in the Grand Hall with the Grand Master in attendance. The apron of Bro. Air Commodore Sir Charles Kingsford Smith MC, AFC, the well known Australian pioneer aviator, occupies the vacant chair. R.W.Bro. Fenton also attended this meeting, which no doubt left a lasting impression on his mind and will be a landmark in his Masonic memories.

R.L. Grimshaw

## Seagoe Lodge Past Master makes National Headlines

When W.Bro. Philip McAvoy was on holiday at Creevy on the Donegal Coast, he didn't expect to be making headlines. Philip spotted a fully clothed man jump off the pier after throwing his mobile phone into the waves.

W.Bro. Philip, who is a volunteer with the Lough Neagh rescue team, didn't think twice and jumped into the sea along with a community nurse, Mrs Sarah Meehan, who had been preparing to go swimming with her family. A very strong current was pulling the man out and to add to the difficulties, the man became aggressive when his rescuers reached him some 50 metres out.



W.Bro. Philip McAvoy of Seagoe Lodge No. 851 pictured with Community Nurse Mrs Sarah Meehan after their dramatic rescue of a man from the sea at Creevy, Donegal.

It took Philip and Mrs Meehan about 20 minutes to bring the man to the shore and he was taken away by ambulance. After release from hospital, he was detained by Ballyshannon Gardai and charged with a public order offence. "Alls well that ends well" said Philip modestly when the current Worshipful Master conveyed the congratulations of his Brethren at the monthly Lodge meeting in Portadown.

W.Bro. Philip's father Louis is a Past Master and held the post of Secretary of 851 for a time. His brother Timothy was Master of the Lodge in 2005.

R.W.Bro. Leslie V Johnston,  
PAGM Armagh

# The Duke of Leinster Lodge celebrates 150 years

The Grand Lodge of Ireland issued Warrant No.363 to form the Duke of Leinster Lodge on 7 November 1855. Named for the Grand Master of Ireland at that time, the Lodge met for the first time on Tuesday 4 March 1856.

The first Master was Richard McClure, a road contractor who was at that time also Master of the recently formed Lodge of Truth No. 933 English Constitution (now part of Lodge Pentalpha). In later years Bro. McClure was R.W. Provincial Deputy Grand Master of Irish lodges in Victoria, and involved in forming Lodges at Penola and Naracoorte.

The first initiate of the new Irish Lodge was Archibald Cooke, a sheep farmer from Wellington-on-Murray, an explorer and a founding settler of Kingston SE. He was initiated on 25 March 1856, passed in November 1857, and raised in November 1858, several months after his wife died in a house fire at Kingston.

Subsequent members have included Sir James Penn Boucaut, thrice Premier of South Australia and later a Supreme Court Judge, our current Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Graham Bollenhagen, and about 1750 others.

The 150th Anniversary celebrations of the Lodge took place 4th – 7th March 2006. The celebrations included a welcome reception and display of historical memorabilia, a Service of Thanksgiving and spud feast, a bus tour of the Southern Vales, and a meeting of the Lodge. The Lodge room was packed with almost 200 present. The Provincial Deputy Grand Master I.C. of New Zealand, supported by members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, represented the M.W. Grand Master of Ireland, and welcomed the M.W. Grand Master of South Australia and Northern Territory and accompanying distinguished Officers. Members of the Lodge (including some from interstate) were joined by overseas visitors from Ireland, New Zealand (four Masters from NZ Irish Lodges) and South Australian lodges. The work for the evening consisted of a Second Degree ceremony, and presentation of a 50 year jewel to a surprised Bro. Lionel Sims by W.Bro. Doug Rushworth of NSW, the most senior Past Master of the Lodge.



Richard McClure.

Since 2002 the Duke of Leinster Lodge has met at Illingworth Masonic Hall, Goodwood, where selected historical photographs may be viewed, including one of the first initiate, Archibald Cooke. It is hoped to add a copy of a photograph of the first Master, recently discovered at Naracoorte Lodge.

The Lodge remains under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. It was the ninth Lodge to work in South Australia, after Friendship, Adelaide, Harmony, United Tradesmen's, Fidelity, Mildred (later Kooringa), Unity, and Truth.

## “FATHER STONEMASON”

by Elaine Woolmington

(Daughter of W.Bro. James Woolmington,  
Prov. Gd. Steward of Charities of Wicklow & Wexford)

When my Dad first ‘came out’ as a member of a male only underground society I was disgusted with him. I imagined horrible scenarios of him and other balding middle aged men involved in sexual orgies, wearing silly costumes with brandy, cigars and billiards, while their women were safely tucked up in their beds at home. Could my father, the dear old Dad that I knew and loved, be a conspiring, male chauvinist fuddy-duddy?

Dad didn't let our reaction unsettle him and he began to speak regularly about Masonic principles and ambitions. Countless the times have we heard him say - “Freemasonry is not a secret society, but a society with secrets.” He told us of the various charity works undertaken by the Order and of his own role as Provincial Steward of Charities for Wicklow and Wexford. My brother, sister and I began to mellow on the old man, the mysterious activities of the Masons gave us great slagging material. We accepted Dad's part in the fraternity with our own brand of humour! We concocted several nicknames for him and his beloved Brothers, my favourite, - the Stone Bashers! Which my late brother invented and often harassed poor Dad with as he set off to meetings with his briefcase. Personally, I must thank the Masonic Order for bringing

so much laughter into our little humble abode!

Over the years I have met many of Dad's Masonic friends. I have gone to social events organised by different Lodges and I have even enjoyed them! I have seen the happy dedication and tireless efforts of Masons fund raising for various charitable causes. The specially fitted ambulances purchased for the Alzheimer's Society and the current support for medical research are just some great achievements among many, in the history of the Order. Previous achievements should never be forgotten, but remembered with pride, each achievement a triumph of what the Order can do.

It all seems to me to be the soul of Freemasonry - proud but not loud. All the Stone Bashers that I have come to know, love their fraternity very much. Dad looks forward to all his meetings and I know he especially loves all the big feeds and dinners that seem to be so central to Lodge hospitality, men and their stomachs! I think Freemasonry has given a lot to these “fellas”, it has given them companionship, direction and self fulfilment. And it has given something very important to women, a break from their husbands! Today I can say with open heart, I am proud of Irish Freemasonry and I am proud of my father's role within it.

# THE ST. GEORGE MASONIC LODGE NO. 267

On Friday the 21st January 2005 the St. George Masonic Lodge No. 267 held its installation of Officers for the year 2005. This was to be a special occasion as the incoming Worshipful Master Worshipful Brother Jack Dickson was being installed by his son Worshipful Brother Roy Dickson from Lodge No. 680. Whenever Worshipful Brother Roy Dickson was being installed as Worshipful Master in Lodge No 680 his father Worshipful Brother Jack Dickson acted as the Installing Officer, so on this occasion it was the son installing the father. A very successful and enjoyable evening was had by all the brethren attending the meeting and the dinner.

The March Stated Communication held on Friday 18th proved another very special occasion. The Lodge was honoured by a visit from the Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. Adam J McKinley, who presented



W.Bro. W H Thompson; W.Bro. D McCorduck; V.W.Bro. C G Gillespie; W.Bro. R H Wallace; R.W.Bro. A J McKinley (P.G.M.); W.Bro. J Dickson (W.M.); R.W.Bro. L Evans (P.G.M. Midland Counties) and R.W.Bro. J Stark (P.A.G.M.)



R.W.Bro. R Thomson; R.W.Bro. S G Leathem; R.W.Bro. G V Bradshaw; R.W.Bro. A J McKinley (P.G.M. Antrim); W.Bro. J Dickson (W.M.); R.W.Bro. Ven. R C Stevenson; R.W.Bro. J Stark (P.A.G.M. Antrim).

W.Bro. William H Thompson with his fifty year jewel and certificate. The Provincial Grand Master referred to W.Bro. Thompson's Masonic career and informed the Brethren that he had been initiated on the 18th March 1955. W.Bro. Thompson thanked the Provincial Grand Master and Brethren of Lodge 267 for the jewel and the gift. The next item on the agenda was the presentation of a portrait to R.W.Bro. The Ven. R Clayton Stevenson to celebrate his election to the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council 33°. Before the Worshipful Master presented the portrait, R.W.Bro. Gordon Leathem, R.W.Bro. Robert Thomson and R.W.Bro. Gordon Bradshaw all

paid a tribute to R.W.Bro. Stevenson for all his work for the Masonic Order. R.W.Bro. Stevenson thanked the Worshipful Master and Brethren of Lodge 267 for the portrait and gift and he thanked the many Brethren who had attended the meeting to make it such a memorable occasion for him.

Following on another presentation was made to R.W.Bro. Gordon Bradshaw to celebrate his election to the Princes of the Royal Secret 32°. The Worshipful Master and R.W.Bro. Stevenson paid tribute to R.W.Bro. Bradshaw, who was then presented with a small gift. R.W.Bro.

Bradshaw thanked the Worshipful Master for his kind words and gift.

To complete a very special meeting, Lodge 267 was delighted to have five Brethren visiting from Huntingdon Lodge No. 307 Roscrea, Co Tipperary, who were R.W.Bro. Leslie G Evans Provincial Grand Master of the Midland Counties, W.Bro. Robert H Wallace, W.Bro. Cyril G Gillespie, W.Bro. David C Mc Corduck and W.Bro. R W Wallace. The Worshipful Master thanked these Brethren for attending especially as they had travelled a considerable distance to be present. They were returning a visit that six Brethren of Lodge No. 267 had made to Roscrea.

A very enjoyable festive board brought to an end another historic night for the St George Masonic Lodge No 267.

## “Shopping & Sightseeing in an Ancient City”

ARMAGH MASONIC CLUB extends a hearty welcome to all visiting Brethren and their Ladies to the Orchard City.



The Masonic Hall facility includes: Lodge Room, Meals and refreshments. These are available from 12 noon. Evening meals are available if desired.

For details contact in writing: V. W. Bro. Ronnie Watt, Chairman, 13 Folly Lane, ARMAGH BT60 1AS.

## New Organ for Lurgan Masonic Hall

Pictured is W.Bro. Marcus Johnston (left) presenting a new replacement electronic organ for use in Lurgan Masonic Hall. Looking on are W.Bro. Trevor Boston (standing left), chairman, Lurgan Hall Committee, W.Bro. D McBurney, committee member, and R.W.Bro. S J Patience, Provincial Grand District Treasurer, Armagh.

Picture by: Charles Cockcroft, Registrar RAC No.134

