



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



MARCH 2011

## Grand Master's Address to Grand Lodge on St. John's Day– 27<sup>th</sup> December 2010



### 18th October 2010 Lodge 184 Magheralin

I was very impressed by the quality of working and unity of purpose exhibited by the Brethren as well as the especial performance of the Lodge Secretary, V.Bro. Trevor Waddell, whose administration skills and dedication to the task were superb. He personally exercises a great interest in building and preserving a successful Lodge and I congratulate him for that. The Brethren were obviously committed to attending and received much pleasure from their membership. The Secretary sent me a very nice letter where he stated that I did not realise the tremendous lift which my visit had given to their small growing Lodge and, I must say, which gave me equal satisfaction.

### 20th October 2010 Lodge 68 Youghal

I travelled to Youghal via Dublin with the Grand Secretary, which was a visit I looked forward to making, as my memories of Lodge 68 go back to my time as Secretary of St. Columb's Lodge, Moville, Co. Donegal, when we made annual payments to them for the purpose of improving their Lodge premises. Our view at the time was that they were very much in the far flung frontiers, just as it was with us. It was a wonderful visit which impressed me considerably.

### 14th – 21st November 2010 Hong Kong & Singapore – P.G.L. of The Far East & South East Asia

Our visit to Hong Kong and Singapore was a wonderful experience. The weather was ideal in both Provinces and we were treated exceptionally well.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of the Far East was constituted in 1989 since it was an Inspectorate and had since qualified as a Province due to the increase in its Lodges. The outgoing Provincial Grand Master was R.W.Bro. Chamson Chau, who succeeded R.W.Bro. Arthur Gomez as Inspector and is well known to many in Ireland, was a wonderful P.G.M. in his time. He was succeeded by R.W.Bro. Brendan Bong, whom I installed on my visit and whom I also rate very highly. The P.G.L. of the Far East has been in good hands and will continue to be well led by the new P.G.M. I wish him every success.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of the South East was constituted earlier by the P.G. Master of Sri Lanke, R.W.Bro. Harindran who also installed the new P.G.M. R.W.Bro. Lau Kee Siong for which I thank him sincerely. The new P.G.M. is most active and very capable, in unison with his Deputy Grand Master, to develop this Province in a meaningful and appropriate manner. Again, the generosity of the South Eastern Brethren was outstanding and I am very confident that we will see significant development in these two theatres of Irish Freemasonry. I wish the Brethren every success knowing that in their hands new levels can be achieved and I am confident that I can expect no less. I also wish them every success.

### 2nd December 2010 Lodge 598 Randalstown

My visit to Lodge 598 in Randalstown was an enjoyable experience where, once again, the quality of the Lodge Secretary was most apparent in that he was well organised and most professional in his performance. My task was to present two 60 year medals to V.Bros. S.J. Millar (1947) and David Jamison (1950), elderly Brethren who had given their all to the Lodge and to Freemasonry. I thank them for that and wish them continued good health and long life. I also presented 50 year medals to V.Bros. J.C. Luke (1953) and C.W. Cullen (1955). These members have given commitment and energy to the well-being of 598 and to its glorious antiquity.

Lodge 598 was the Lodge of the late William Mawhinney who served as Assistant Grand Master when I was Deputy and with whom I had very good relations.

### 16th December 2010 Lodge 799 Castleberg

Lodge 799 invited me to present 50 year medals to two Brethren, one of a long standing involvement and one who has achieved much in Freemasonry and now prevails as the Provincial Assistant Grand Master of Tyrone & Fermanagh, namely R.W.Bro. Norman Humes. Norman has coped with a serious illness for sometime and faces more treatment at the present time. I wish him well and may he see this difficulty through and emerge at the other side undamaged.

Castleberg hosts a Weather Station in its precincts and sets the standard for the rest of Northern Ireland in relation to temperature. I visited the area on a night when -17°C was prevailing.

### Young Musician of the Year 16th October 2010

As we said on the Final night, it was an occasion on which to remember that Mozart was still a youth when he was first helped on his way by the patronage of Freemasons in Vienna. Later, when he became a Mason, his Lodge was called 'Beneficence'. He knew how much a young musician is in need of support and beneficence – and he certainly knew a brilliant clarinetist when he heard one. As the Irish Freemasons send Macdara Ó Seireadáin on his way as their Young Musician of the Year 2010, they surely have Mozart's blessing for him, and for their efforts.

(Eamonn Lawlor)

### 5th October 2010 Sligo

On 5th October in Sligo I was pleased to meet with her Excellency The President, Mary McAleese at a Samaritans Conference there and was privileged to be photographed with her on that occasion.

Keep up the good work and God bless you all.

George Dunlop  
Grand Master



# Freemasons of Ireland Golfing Society

Millennium Charity Cup 2011

At

**KILLYMOON GOLF CLUB – COOKSTOWN**

ON

**FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2011**

**2011 CHARITIES:**

**‘ACTION CANCER; ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
& VIA WINGS’**

**& ‘MASONIC CHARITIES’**

**£1,000 IN PRIZES**

**THREE PRIZE CATEGORIES:-**

**1. MASONIC BRETHREN**

**2. NON-MASONS**

**3. LADIES**

**PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE**

**“EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT”**

**THE FIRST 200 ENTRIES WILL BE TAKEN ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.**

**NO GREENFEES REQUIRED ON THE DAY**

**ENTRY FEE £25 INCLUDING ENTRY TO THE ‘GRAND DRAW’**

**REGISTRATION FORMS AND COMPETITION RULES AVAILABLE FROM:**

**NOEL SIMPSON**

**TELEPHONE No. (028) 70823129**

**13 CARNEYBAUN DRIVE**

**MOBILE No. 075 408 62236**

**PORTRUSH BT56 8JA**

**EMAIL: NOELSIMPSON589@YAHOO.CO.UK**

## **GOLF DATES 2011 – for your diary**

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Golf Club</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Contact</b>
PGL Londonderry & Donegal	Castlerock	28 <sup>th</sup> April	Raymond Aiken - 07739 419 727
Captain Fyffe Salver - T&F	Enniskillen 2:00p.m.	11 <sup>th</sup> May	Leslie Graham - (028) 8676 2773
Provincial Priors' Golf Society	Killymoon 9:30am-1:30pm	24 <sup>th</sup> May	George M J Stewart - (028)79428348, 07793223464
Armagh Cup - Armagh	Portadown	3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Bobby McDowell - (028) 3883 2630
Mourne Cup – T&F	Newtownstewart	22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Harry Friar MBE - (028) 8165 8237
Ferris Cup - Down	Kilkeel	25 <sup>th</sup> June	Interim arrangement – contact Noel Simpson – details as below
Grand Master's Millenium Cup	Killymoon	26 <sup>th</sup> August	Noel Simpson - (028) 7082 3129

Don't forget to visit the Grand Lodge Website at: [www.irish-freemasons.org](http://www.irish-freemasons.org)

# 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. R. Aiken	70	Seven Towers Masonic Lodge No. 476	Antrim
W.Bro. John C. J. Adair	67	Redhall Masonic Lodge No. 260	Antrim
Bro. Alexander McA. Weir	60	Star of the East Masonic Lodge No. 37	Down
W.Bro. Robert Campbell	60	St. Helen's Masonic Lodge No. 641	Down
W.Bro. James M. Kenny	60	King Harman Masonic Lodge No. 65	Meath
W.Bro. James I. Topping	60	Castle Mervyn Masonic Lodge No. 58	Tyrone & Fermanagh
W.Bro. John S. Mitchell	50	Victory Masonic Lodge No. 941	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. Henry Campbell	50	Victory Masonic Lodge No. 941	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. Hugh J. de Lacy	50	Unity Masonic Lodge No. 238	Metropolitan
W.Bro. George Burland	50	United Services Masonic Lodge No. 215	Midland Counties
W.Bro. John P. McKee	50	Sunbeam Masonic Lodge No. 191	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. John D. Miller	50	Sunbeam Masonic Lodge No. 191	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. Thomas Kirk	50	Star of the East Masonic Lodge No. 37	Down
W.Bro. John McC. Moore	50	St. Patrick's Senior Masonic Lodge No. 623	Armagh
W.Bro. Joseph M. Fraser	50	St. Patrick's Masonic Lodge No. 43	Antrim
Bro. William Webster	50	St. John's Masonic Lodge No. 675	Down
Bro. Robert Spence	50	Solomon's Band Masonic Lodge No. 565	Antrim
Bro. John W. Kelly	50	Solomon's Band Masonic Lodge No. 565	Antrim
W.Bro. Ram A. Jagtiani	50	Shamrock Masonic Lodge No. 712	Far East
W.Bro. Sidney Dodsworth	50	Sephar Masonic Lodge No. 810	Down
W.Bro. Leslie McAleer	50	Sephar Masonic Lodge No. 810	Down
W.Bro. Alexander E. Kyle	50	Scott Masonic Lodge No. 300	Tyrone & Fermanagh
W.Bro. David R.T. Bate	50	Royal Shamrock Masonic Lodge No. 32	South Eastern
W.Bro. Raymond Kilgore	50	Royal Blue Masonic Lodge No. 404	Londonderry & Donegal
Bro. David Doherty	50	Royal Blue Masonic Lodge No. 404	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. Hamilton Martin	50	Richview Masonic Lodge No. 711	Antrim
W.Bro. William H. Adair	50	Randalstown Masonic Lodge No. 598	Antrim
W.Bro. William D. McDonnell	50	Portaferry Masonic Lodge No. 104	Down
Bro. William N.A. Newell	50	Mourne Masonic Lodge No. 696	Down
W.Bro. Samuel Thompson	50	Mountpottinger Masonic Lodge No. 534	Down
W.Bro. Thomas Dickson	50	Moat Masonic Lodge No. 546	Down
W.Bro. Ian D.H. Haughton	50	Military Masonic Lodge No. 728	Metropolitan
W.Bro. George Cunningham	50	Maine Valley Lodge No. 492	Antrim
V.W.Bro. Henry M. Robinson	50	Leinster Masonic Lodge No. 141	Metropolitan
Bro. Brian Millar	50	Kells Masonic Lodge No. 990	Antrim
R.W.Bro. Richard A. Best	50	Jubilee Temperance Masonic Lodge No. 652	Armagh
W.Bro. Maurice Curran	50	J D Williamson Masonic Lodge No. 283	Down
W.Bro. Joseph Harris	50	J D Williamson Masonic Lodge No. 283	Down
W.Bro. William A. Willoughby	50	Harmony Masonic Lodge No. 228	Wicklow & Wexford
W.Bro. George W. Stephens	50	Harmony Masonic Lodge No. 228	Wicklow & Wexford
R.W.Bro. Cecil Taylor	50	Harmony Masonic Lodge No. 228	Wicklow & Wexford
W.Bro. Whitby L.M. McClay	50	Friendship Masonic Lodge No. 341	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. William H. Hatrick	50	Eureka Masonic Lodge No. 309	Londonderry & Donegal
W.Bro. Alexander Fullerton	50	Crossle Masonic Lodge No. 132	Down
W.Bro. John R. Grey	50	Castle Mervyn Masonic Lodge No. 58	Tyrone & Fermanagh
W.Bro. George A. Henderson	50	Castle Mervyn Masonic Lodge No. 58	Tyrone & Fermanagh
W.Bro. Benjamin W. Stewart	50	Cairncastle Masonic Lodge No. 788	Antrim
W.Bro. William T.L. Perrott	50	Antient Boyne Masonic Lodge No. 84	Munster
W.Bro. Alwyn C. Williams	50	Antient Boyne Masonic Lodge No. 84	Munster
W.Bro. Robert Law	50	Ancient Blue Masonic Lodge No. 537	Antrim
Bro. Samuel J. Dickson	50	Ancient Blue Masonic Lodge No. 537	Antrim
W.Bro. John J. Lynd	50	Aigburth Masonic Lodge No. 733	Down
Bro. David F. Millar	50	Abercorn Masonic Lodge No. 219	Armagh

# Visit to Hong Kong by the Grand Master



*Past Provincial Grand Master together with his son, V.W. Bro. Calvin Chau, Honorary Past Grand Almoner, Provincial Grand Assistant Secretary, Past Master of Lodge 903 & Worshipful Master of Lodge 1001.*

After 10 happy and successful years as the Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Far East, R.W. Bro. Chamson Chau decided to pass the mantle on to a 'younger' Brother and the Grand Master graciously appointed R.W. Bro. Brendan S.C. Bong, Provincial Assistant Grand Master, as his successor.

To our delight, The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother George Dunlop, accepted the invitation of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Far East to come to Hong Kong to install our new Provincial Grand Master, the first time that this has been done in Hong Kong in over 20 years. R. W. Bro. Chamson being installed in Dublin during the 275th Anniversary of Irish Freemasonry and our first Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Arthur Ernest Gomes, being installed by the then Grand Master, Most Worshipful The Honourable Marquess of Donegall in Hong Kong, immediately following the Constitution of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Far East on the 9th March 1989.

A working party was immediately set up to organise this very special event, and the social activities, which would hopefully make this visit to Hong Kong by the Grand Master truly memorable.



*The 'Blue' Lodge Room at Zetland Hall, Hong Kong.*

The Grand Master, accompanied by Right Worshipful Barry Lyons, the Grand Secretary, arrived in good health after a long flight from

Dublin via London in the early evening of Monday 15th November 2010. They were met at the Hong Kong International Airport by the Provincial Grand Master Designate and the Provincial Grand Secretary, V.W. Bro. Terry Hicks, who had met the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary on many occasions at Grand Lodge.

The current Provincial Grand Master and the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies (myself), awaited their arrival in the Executive Lounge of the hotel that the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary were staying in and, after they refreshed, we all had the first of several meals together.



*The Grand Master together with the Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Brendan S.C. Bong.*

The following day, after lunch with many of the organising committee, the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary were taken on a guided tour of Hong Kong Island by Bro. Vincent Cho and myself, ably chauffeured by W. Bro. Kelvin Wong. That evening, a cocktail reception followed by dinner was held at the Craigengower Cricket Club, which must be one of the very few cricket clubs in the world that does not have a cricket pitch – but that's another story !! The Grand Master had specifically requested that as many Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts and Master Masons as possible should attend and that he would like to specifically meet as many of them as he could. This was duly arranged and 88 Brethren from the 7 Irish Lodges in Hong Kong attended.

Wednesday was the big day and lunch was arranged for us all at Zetland Hall, Kennedy Road which is the home of Freemasonry in Hong Kong. As Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, I will be for ever eternally grateful for the advice and guidance given to me by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary with regard to the Ceremony itself.

The Ceremony itself went very well and this was in no small way due to the advice and guidance that I had been previously given and to all the Provincial Grand Officers playing their part to an exceptionally high standard. Apart from the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, we were graced with the presence of distinguished Brethren from the Provincial Grand Lodge of New Zealand, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sri Lanka, the Provincial Grand Lodge of South East Asia, the District Grand Lodge of



*Members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Far East, Past & Present.*

164 mainly Irish Freemasons were also present to see R.W. Bro. Brendan S.C. Bong Installed by the Grand Master in his own unique and impeccable style.

A sumptuous Banquet followed the Ceremony which was enjoyed by all who were present.

That evening was the end of all the official functions and it was followed by lunch the next day at the Hong Kong Jockey Club, hosted by our Past Provincial Grand Master. We were able to clarify certain areas involving ritual and protocol that seems to have drifted away from Irish Freemasonry during the last 30 years.



*The Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Brendan S.C. Bong.*

Eastern Archipelago, English Constitution, the District Grand Master of Hong Kong and the Far East, English Constitution as well as the District Grand Master of the Far East, Scottish Constitution.

I can assure you, Grand Master, these matters have already been or will be corrected in the very near future.

That evening V.W. Bro. Gary Harilea and his wife hosted a cocktail reception followed by dinner at their wonderful home where a number of senior Brethren from all 3 Constitutions were present along with the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary.

The following morning, the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary left Hong Kong and flew to Singapore to attend the first Annual Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of South East Asia, which was only Constituted in July 2010.

All the Brethren in Hong Kong who were involved in the organising of the visit of our Grand Master sincerely hope that the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary enjoyed their visit to Hong Kong. I know that they were both extremely pleased to see how strong Irish Freemasonry is in this part of the world.

Hopefully, the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary will again in the not too distant future be able once more to visit us in Hong Kong but please, wait until I retire from work as I am still trying to catch up on the sleep that I lost during your visit !!!!!

John Wright, Honorary Past Grand Inner Guard, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, Past Master of Lodges 712, 883 & 1001.

# Metropolitan Area - 2011 Masquerade Ball

Barbeque, Summer Lodge, Art Exhibition, Concert, Masters and Wardens Seminar, Metropolitan Stewards of Charities and Metropolitan Almoners Meeting are some of the events that are currently being organised to take place during 2011 and we look forward to the continued support of the Brethren and their friends at these events. As reported last year a subcommittee was established to look at suitable functions both fundraising and social for younger Brethren and I am delighted to announce "The 2011 Freemasons' Masquerade Ball". We look forward to your support for this spectacular event to be held on Saturday 7th May in the Thomas Prior Hall at Bewley's Hotel in Ballsbridge. The Metropolitan Board has over the last couple of years provided a coach for those wishing to attend Grand Lodge meetings outside Dublin and we would encourage Brethren to avail of this opportunity. The next meeting of Grand Lodge will take place on Saturday, 5th March in Carlow and again we will have a coach departing Dublin. Details of times and car parking facilities (see back page). I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Brethren of the Lodges in the Metropolitan Area for their encouragement and support. It would be impossible to record individual thanks to the many who have given of their time and talents, but the Board wishes to place on record its appreciation and thanks to the many who have assisted during the year. No committee runs by itself and we are fortunate on the Board to have many talented people and I would take this opportunity to say thank you to them for their support and commitment. In addition, I am grateful to the following Brethren for taking on additional responsibilities.:

Geoff Lovegrove	Deputy Chairman
Kevin Spring	Treasurer
Randall Robertson	Secretary
Kevin Spring	Metropolitan Steward of Charities
Les Sibbald	Metropolitan Almoner
Ken Broughall	Editor MetroMason
Ken Roe & Jim Smith	Webmaster and Hall Screen

The Metropolitan Board of General Purposes presents

## The 2011 Freemasons' Masquerade Ball

A plan was cooking, minds fiendishly at work to conceive an event unlike any presented before. "Let's run an event", they said, and then with a glint of devilment in their eyes, "and give it to the newer members of our Order to organise." You have to give them credit; they know how to play a practical joke.

And so it was that four unsuspecting souls met with the representatives of the Metropolitan Board; with no concept of the magnanimous journey that lay before them. A task of epic proportions no doubt, but you know they might just pull it off.

The brief; to organise an event that would appeal to the younger brethren, yet be inclusive of our respected elders. This event should be open to the friends of the Order and be a social night to be remembered for many a year to come.

And so the cogs began to turn, and from the very bowels of the intellectual machine rose an idea. As with the truly great Masonry, the shape was not hewn by the Craftsman; it was released from the stone, having existed all along. So it was with the Masquerade Ball as the concept became clear.

This would not be a Dinner Dance, no, this would be a Ball in the true sense of the word. And so the orchestra was booked, and the dance cards produced. Dance cards, you say? That's right; if you wish to dance with a lady you must mark her card. Though perhaps you should book a set with one of our dancers first to see how it is done. As the night progresses so will the tempo when the orchestra will be replaced by a jazz band and then they in turn by a contemporary band. Of course no night

as magical as this would be complete without a magician!

And the magic does not stop there. Our Masquerade Ball shall be held in Bewley's Hotel, Ballsbridge; the site of the former Masonic Girls School. The Thomas Prior Hall is a Victorian venue with Masonic symbolism embedded in the very fabric of the building. The Square and Compasses can be seen throughout the architecture. Where better to hold a Masonic event?

While craic agus rí rá are of utmost importance, it is of course the charity that remains our main focus. Laura Lynn House is due to open later this year, providing hospice care to sick children. They strive to 'Put life into a child's day, not days into a child's life'. A noble cause, close to many of our hearts, and we hope that you will help us to support them.

This 2011 Freemasons' Masquerade Ball is open to members of the Order and their friends. Tickets will be available from early February at a cost of €75 each. This is a formal black tie event with masks required (we will have some available for sale on the night with the proceeds going to the charity). We promise an event like no other you have attended, packed with surprise entertainment to make it a night to truly remember.

And those four unsuspecting souls thought; "Not only might we pull this off, we may manage it with a little flair..."



**in aid of Laura Lynn House**  
**Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> 2011**  
**Thomas Prior Hall, Bewley's Hotel, Ballsbridge**



A priority of the Metropolitan Board is the continued improvement of communications with Lodges and Brethren, we see this as a vital part of the continued growth and success of Freemasonry and encourage everyone to play their part in building a strong team effort both in Lodges and throughout the Metropolitan area. As part of this overall plan we have launched the Metropolitan website at [www.mbgp.org](http://www.mbgp.org). Please have a look and provide us with information on your Lodge and events that you may have planned for inclusion. We welcome your views and please feel free to contact me or any member of the Board at any time.

Philip Daley, Chairman – Metropolitan Board

Don't forget to visit the Grand Lodge Website at: [www.irish-freemasons.org](http://www.irish-freemasons.org)

## Presentation of Platinum Jubilee Certificate (70 years Service)

The W. Master W. Bro. A. Wills said it gave him great pleasure to present W. Bro. Bobby Aiken with his certificate. W. Bro. Wills said although he himself was a 'blow in' to Ballymena, he had known W. Bro. Aiken for many years. W. Bro. Aiken had been a good and loyal member of Freemasonry over the years and particularly of Lodge 476.

W. Bro. Aiken was initiated on 2nd November 1939, passed 1st December 1939 and raised 2nd February 1940. He came into office in 1949 as Inner Guard and after completing all the offices he attained the Chair in 1954 and in 1998 he again held the office of Inner Guard.

The W. Master then asked the Director of Ceremonies to have W. Bro. Aiken presented in usual form for his presentation, after which he was then escorted to his seat to the applause of the Brethren.

W. Bro. Aiken was then saluted by the Brethren. W. Bro. Aiken thanked the W. Master for his kind words and presentation. The floor was then open for the Brethren to say a few words which began on the dais by our distinguished Brethren.



## MASONIC OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

### AGM /Dinner

Friday 1st April 2011.

**President: Mr Alastair White, Foxrock. Dublin**

The Old Boys' Dinner will be held on **Friday 1st April 2011. 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.**, at Freemasons Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin 2, by kind permission. As on previous occasions the hall will remain open until 11.30 p.m.! This is NOT on the eve of a rugby match and for those travelling, accommodation should be available and at a competitive rate. You are encouraged to attend your AGM at 6 p.m. which will be held in the reception area downstairs outside the dining room while your guests (male or female) relax upstairs in the library room and museum. The AGM should be completed by 6.45 p.m.

I am pleased to confirm that our treasurer has negotiated a price of €50.00 per person for the dinner and any requests for special meals should be made by Friday 25th March 2011.

### “FAREWELL TO RICHVIEW”

Gerald Hill, in conjunction with Alan Martin, will launch “Farewell To Richview” which Gerald has researched during the past 16 months. This book covers the last 13 years of Richview from 1967 -1980 and Jim Ryan, the last Headmaster, will give a short talk at the dinner, on the closure of the Masonic School. This should be of particular interest to those who attended Richview during the 1970's. I would like to thank the Masonic Boys Benevolent Fund for their generous contribution to finance the publication of this limited edition.

**[www.richviewmasonicschool.com](http://www.richviewmasonicschool.com)**

A special thanks to Dennis Morrow who has worked tirelessly on the development of the new website which is growing by the week and to all those who have contributed to date. If you have still to register, please contact either Dennis or myself by email or telephone.

Finally, I would like to thank you for bestowing me the honour of President during the past 3 years. I have worn the chain with pride and pleasure and I am absolutely confident that Alastair will continue to develop the Association as previous Presidents did before me. The highlight of the past 36 months must be the Reunion Dinner in Bewleys Hotel, Dublin on Friday 31st August 2009 when past pupils from both the girls and boys school and their partners, gathered together for a memorable evening.

Moving forward, we have much to discuss on Friday 1st April 2011 and I hope you will be there to renew friendships of yesteryear and perhaps consider another reunion dinner sometime during 2012 to celebrate the foundation of the Girls School in 1792 (220 yrs) and the closure in 1972 (40 yrs) together with the foundation of the Masonic Boys School in 1867 (145 yrs). Food for thought.

Lee Willdrige



# MASONIC OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

**AGM /Dinner**  
**Friday 1st April 2011.**

I plan to attend the Masonic Old Boys' Dinner / Old Boys' AGM at Freemasons Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin on Friday 1st April 2011 (AGM at 6 p.m., dinner at 7.00 p.m.)

I expect to invite \_\_\_\_\_ guest /guests

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Guest/Guests \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose €50.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = € \_\_\_\_\_ **Total**

Cheques made payable to Masonic Old Boys Association

Please complete and return before Friday 25th March 2011 to:  
 Jonny Bell, c/o Vivien Hood, 13 Taney Road, Dundrum, Dublin 14; or confirmation by email to tvhood@eircom.net

*Note: Car parking is available at Dawson Street Car Park till 1.00am Enter via Kildare Street, behind Buswell's Hotel*

## Freemasons support Cancer Charity

A cheque for £1,740 was recently presented to the Ulster Cancer Foundation in Spa Masonic Hall. This was the proceeds of a Pig on a Spit night held by three local Masonic Lodges.

The Ulster Cancer Foundation is a Northern Ireland charity dedicated to helping patients and their families cope with cancer and all the funds are used within the Province.

The photograph shows W. Bro. Tom Wilson Lodge 717, Eden-navadie; Kirsty Thompson, Ulster Cancer Foundation; R.W. Bro. Noel Sufferin Lodge 703, Spa and Bro. Raymond Kerr, Lodge 301, Ballynahinch.



## Freemasons support funds three new posts at Children's Hospice

A donation of €200,000 from the Freemasons of Ireland, raised through a major fundraising campaign in 2009 for Children's Hospice, has been used to pay for the appointment of three new staff.

Marina Lacey and Susanne Johnston, Hospice Community Nurses will work with life limited children and their families in their own homes (coordinating) and managing their care as and when they need it. Anne O'Reilly was appointed in early summer 2010 as a Transition Nurse to work with the teenagers and young people in hospice care as they move to adult services.

The fundraising campaign which made this possible was supported by Senior Officers of the Grand Lodge and thousands of Brethren who worked tirelessly to fundraise over an 18 month period. Their efforts reflect not only the generosity of the Freemasons, but their open and active participation in the life of our community. Hundreds of life limited children and their families will benefit directly as a result of their efforts.

With kind permission of N.I. Hospice



## St. Alban's Celebrates 150 Years

St. Alban's Lodge No. 719, Limavady, celebrated 150 years continuous working in 2010.

Although the Lodge was originally instituted in 1790 it had a few gaps in its history before being reformed in 1860.

The 150th Anniversary was marked by producing a commemorative Lodge tie and by hosting an occasional meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Londonderry and Donegal in Limavady on the 25th March 2010. The Lodge was further honoured by having the Most Worshipful Grand Master George Dunlop, present at this meeting.

To mark the occasion the Brethren of St. Alban's presented the Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Robert Quigley with three candle holders to be used by Provincial Grand Lodge on their visits around the Province.



In September, the Lodge invited guests from Provincial Grand Lodge to the stated communication and the photograph shows the Worshipful Master Ken Wilsdon with his guests and Brethren at the close of the meeting. The assembled company then retired to The Lime Tree Restaurant for a celebratory Festive Board and entertainment.

Victor White – Secretary

## M.B.E. for Strabane Mason



V.W. Bro. P Hill Robinson, a Past Master of Abercorn Masonic Lodge No. 251, Strabane, and a Founder Member and P.M. of Mourne Masonic Lodge, No. 823, Strabane, at 90 years of age, was recently honoured (Nov.9th, 2010) with the M.B.E. by H.M. The Queen at Buckingham Palace.

It was in recognition of his 53 years of continuous service to Cancer UK, Strabane Branch, of which for 47 years he was Chairman.

V.W. Bro. Robinson also holds the 50 year jewel plus bar for 60 years in Freemasonry and if he continues in good health for a few more years, the Grand Master may possibly present him in due course with a 70 year bar.



## Groomsport 337 Centenary Year

Groomsport Masonic Lodge No. 337 in the Province of Down extended a very warm welcome to their Provincial Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Richard Gray and other distinguished guests on Saturday 8th January 2011 to the Maxwell Hall Groomsport. 2011 is the Lodge centenary year and an excellent turn out of members and guests was very encouraging.

The Lodge is particularly looking forward to the Centenary Church Service to be held in the local Parish Church and conducted by the Rector, the Rev. Duncan Pollock on Sunday 1st May. In 1911 following their quest for accommodation in the village and with the approbation of the Maxwell family the Lodge was permitted the use of the Parish Halls.

Lodge 337 was constituted on 2nd December 1911 and the first Worshipful Master and founding member was the Rector of the Church, The Rev. Brother S.S. Holmes MA, who also served as Secretary of the RNLI at Groomsport between 1898 and 1900.

The Installing Officer, W. Bro. Ronnie Piper conferred an excellent degree in installing V.W. Bro. William A Graham as W. Master for 2011.

In a short and simple ceremony W. Bro. Graham Eve, Lodge Secretary was presented by the Brethren with Provincial Grand Lodge of Down regalia prior to his formal investiture as Provincial Grand Lodge Steward by the Provincial Grand Master on 29th January 2011 in Belfast.

R. W. Bro. Gray presented Centenary Jewels to Brother Ross Caughey, R.W. Bro. Ernie Woods and W. Bro. Teddy Larmour both having over 50 years continuous membership.

The W. Master explained the inspiration leading to the design and commissioning of this special jewel. He described how in appreciation for the use of the Maxwell Halls the Brethren on 27th November 1911 presented Miss Isabella and Annabella Maxwell with a beautiful illuminated address. This address is a fixture in the halls and in addition to the text displays images of Groomsport Harbour, Cockell Row, Groomsport House, (The Maxwell family Home) and a Lifeboat. All of which embrace the culture of this fishing village in 1911.

These images illustrate the culture of this fishing village and the inextricable links 337 have with the coast line of the area and the sea. It is a documented fact that many of its original membership were local fishermen and members of the lifeboat crew.

Following considerable research and superb cooperation by the RNLI and "Friends of Hilbre Island" in the person of Valerie Burnett this particular lifeboat on the illuminated address was after 100 years identified and traced.

CHAPMAN as she was named was a legacy of Mrs M.H. Chapman, West Brompton, London. Described in its day as a "Liverpool Class Lifeboat"; Chapman measured 35 feet by 10 feet, weighed 4 tons and was built to RNLI design in 1900/1901 on the River Thames London.

Chapman was a non self righting lifeboat with a crew of 15. Twelve oarsmen, a coxswain, an assistant coxswain and a bowman. This overall description perfectly matched the image on the address, i.e.

six oars men either side. This was replicated on the centenary jewel against a background of sea and sky.

Chapman was on station in Groomsport from 1901 to 1920; she launched 16 times and rescued 18 lives.

Her Coxswain between 1901 and 1920, Henry Watterson, was a member of the Lodge as was her final coxswain at Groomsport, between 1918 and 1920, Robert Watterson. Chapman was withdrawn from Groomsport in 1920 and was held in reserve by the RNLI until 1924 when she was relocated to Hilbre Island, off the Wirral peninsula. Her final launch as a lifeboat was in July 1937 being decommissioned in 1939 and sold privately.



Chapman was later used as a pleasure craft in Blackpool and a Pilot boat until abandoned on the banks of the River Ribble in the late 1990's.

At this time Chapman now in a distressed state was purchased by Mr. John Parr, a Wirral business man with a particular interest in old lifeboats. Mr Parr brought Chapman back to Cammel Lairds Yard, Birkenhead and totally restored her.

On Bank Holiday Monday, August 2003 Chapman was unveiled at Hoylake Lifeboat Day for the first time since her restoration. Hoylake Lifeboat Station was celebrating its 200th Anniversary as one of the world's oldest lifeboat stations.

Chapman is the oldest surviving Liverpool type lifeboat in the World and proudly stands recorded alongside such famous vessels as H. M. Victory, The Cutty Sark and similar ships. In 2003 Chapman was registered on the national register of Historic Vessels.

It is the intention of Mr. Parr to eventually purchase Hoylake Old Lifeboat station and after turning it into a museum have Chapman as the centre piece.



V.W. Bro. William Graham with the Installing Officer W. Bro. Ronnie Pyper and W. Bro. Herbie Curlis prior to the cutting of the Anniversary cake.

## Grand Lodge represented at the Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration

The Holocaust has left an indelible mark on European History. The Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration recalls the millions of innocent men, women and children persecuted and annihilated during the Nazi Holocaust because of the ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliations or their religious beliefs.

As a signatory of Stockholm, Ireland has undertaken to cherish the memory of those who perished and to teach the lessons for the future. The theme of the moving, dignified and impressive ceremony was Learning from the past – lessons for today. The ceremony in-

cluded candle-lighting, readings, survivors' recollections and music and was attended by politicians, ambassadors, religious leaders, academics, representatives of communities and organisations and people from all walks of life.

R.W.Bro. Philip Daley, Chairman of the Metropolitan Board and V.W.Bro. Jim Smith, Metropolitan Board were honoured to represent the Grand Lodge of Ireland at the Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration held in the Round Room at the Mansion House, Dublin on Sunday 30th January 2011.

## APPOINTMENT AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GRAND LODGE OF IRELAND AT THE UNITED GRAND LODGE OF QUEENSLAND IN AUSTRALIA

On 2nd October 2010 the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland acknowledged a nomination from the M.W. Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Queensland, Australia, and appointed V.W.Bro. Robert Louis Grimshaw A.G.S. Works as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland at or near the United Grand Lodge of Queensland. V.W.Bro. Grimshaw succeeds R.W.Bro. Stan Rawlings P.A.G.M. who held the Commission for the past twenty two years and gave sterling service as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland over this period.

Besides being an active Grand Lodge Officer, V.W.Bro. Grimshaw is also a member, and the Director of Ceremonies, of the Duke of Leinster Lodge No. 8 UGLQ, which was consecrated No. 283 I.C. in 1864. He is also a member and Secretary of Theodore Unmack Lodge No. 60 UGLQ (337 IC 1889). He follows a long line of Representatives for the Grand Lodge of Ireland, which began in 1912 under the Sovereign Grand Lodge of Queensland, all of whom have been members of the Duke of Leinster Lodge.

The first to hold the Commission was M.W.Bro. Hutton P.G.M. G.L.Q., soon to be followed by M.W. Bro. Theodore Unmack P.G.M. G.L.Q. who held the office until his death in 1919. M.W. Bro. Hutton was the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Queensland in 1904 and the last Provincial Grand Master of the Irish Constitution in Queensland in that same year. M.W. Bro. Unmack was also a Provincial Grand Master of the Irish Constitution in Queensland

from 1881 to 1892 and was a leading light in Freemasonry in Queensland for over fifty three years.

The Representative wears a distinguishing collaret jewel which was struck by the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1913 and which bears the



V.W. Bro. R. L. (Lou) Grimshaw wearing the GLL collaret jewel.

words Representative Grand Lodge of Ireland. This jewel was manufactured from sterling silver by J. B. Ryan & Co., Watchmakers and Jewellers, College Green, Dublin.

V.W. Bro. Grimshaw, Australian born and a 4th generation Freemason, comes from an Irish background as his father, a Freemason, was Irish, being born in Lurgan, Co. Armagh, in Northern Ireland and his maternal Irish great-grandfather came to Australia in 1849 from Co. Cavan to become one of Australia's early pastoral pioneers. His sister has lived in Ballymoney, Co. Antrim, for the past fifty-years and his wife's mother came from Dublin – so it can be said that he has a vested interest in all things Irish. From his earliest time as a Freemason he has shown a keen interest in Irish Freemasonry. This interest is embedded in the Grand Lodge of Ireland, early Irish Freemasonry in Australia in general and in Queensland in particular. He has done much research in this field of interest and has compiled several papers relating to Irish Freemasonry.

He has said that it is his intention to ensure that the Grand Lodge of Ireland recognises that they are well represented in the United Grand Lodge of Queensland by his presence there.



V.W. Bro. Grimshaw (R) receives his Commission as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland at the United Grand Lodge of Queensland from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the U.G.L.Q., M.W. Bro. Adrian Burton G.M.

## Sephar Masonic Lodge No. 810 moves to Ballylesson



*Brethren attending the inaugural meeting*

The first Communication of the Lodge was held in Milltown Masonic Hall on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>

February 2011 and was very well attended. Apart from this being the inaugural Stated Communication, the Lodge was privileged by a visitation from Bro. Christian Shields, a serving member of the U.S. Forces, a member of Corinthian Lodge No. 573 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA and also a member of Lodge Ireland 2000 – The Internet Lodge.

Bro. Shields was most impressed with the similarity of the workings between his mother Lodge and Sephar. This was only to be ex-

pected as the founding fathers of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania originated mainly from Irish Military Lodges.

Sephar Masonic Lodge wishes to place on record their appreciation for the help and assistance offered by the Brethren of Farmers Friendship Masonic Lodge No. 978 in making this a smooth transition to their new home.

A full set of images taken on the night can be viewed on the Lodge's website at:

[www.sephar810.co.uk](http://www.sephar810.co.uk)



*Outside of Milltown Masonic Hall, Ballylesson*



*Bro. Christian Shields from Lodge No. 573 Pittsburgh*