



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



MAY 2006

## Freemasonry Honoured in Sligo

Text of Reception Speech by the Mayor of Sligo, Councillor Rosaleen O'Grady on 4th March 2006 to the delegation from Grand Lodge lead by the Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Eric Waller.

"Members and friends of the Masonic Order, it is a unique privilege for me to welcome you to City Hall for a reception to honour the work of your Order. In particular, I extend a warm welcome to all of you visiting Sligo this weekend.

I say 'unique' as this is as far as I can establish, the first time in recent years that your Order has been welcomed to a reception in City Hall and I am pleased that this has occurred during my term of Office. I trust that this reception will only be the start of many such receptions to recognise your involvement in our Community.

The Masonic Order has a long and distinguished history, its origins dating back over 500 years. It is one of the world's oldest secular fraternities with around 4 million members worldwide.

While the Order has been prominent in different activities over the centuries, one strand that has remained constant is its support for members and their families who have fallen on hard times. It is this quality that characterises your Order and you should be very proud of this fact.

The Masons have made a valuable contribution to numerous deserving groups and individuals across all strands of society. This distribution of assistance and resources is testament to a high value of charity and care for fellow human beings by all of you. On behalf of the people of Sligo I wish to acknowledge these generous contributions to our society.

A membership in Ireland of over 30,000 speaks volumes for the popularity of the Masons in Ireland and the goals and objectives you set for your members.

I feel that in recent times the Freemasons have been active and forthright in their use of the print and broadcast media. More and more people are aware of the Order and the force for good it is in our society.

Occasions like this provide another opportunity for inclusiveness and for me as first citizen to reach out to you in appreciation of your good work in our society.

Indeed a reception such as this is another opportunity to become familiar with the Masonic Order and to broaden the knowledge and awareness among the Sligo public.

On behalf of the people of Sligo I wish you well in your endeavours and welcome the opportunity to engage with your Order and acknowledge its good work".

Councillor Rosaleen O'Grady,  
Mayor of Sligo



M.W. The Grand Master with Councillor Rosaleen O'Grady (Mayor) & R.W.Bro. George F Ginnelly - P.G.M. N. Connaught.

### A DOUBLE CELEBRATION FOR CONCORD 332

At the November Stated Communication of Concord Masonic Lodge No. 332, two members were presented with 50 year jewels. Bro. Desmond Black, who was initiated on 29th March 1955, received his jewel from R.W.Bro. John Hadden, D L, Provincial Deputy Grand Master of Tyrone and Fermanagh. W.Bro Ivan Brown, who was initiated on 12th December 1955, received his jewel from R.W.Bro. Norman Humes, J.P. Assistant Deputy Provincial Grand Master.



Pictured in the photograph (from left to right) are: R.W.Bro. Norman Humes, Bro. Desmond Black, W.Bro. Ivan Brown and R.W.Bro. John Hadden and looking on at the back, is W.Bro. Bert McCrory W.M.

## Long Service Awards



The November Communication of Leslie J. Thompson Lodge No. 61, in the Province of Down, was an evening of celebration and presentation. The Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Robert J Armstrong was in attendance to present long-service awards and commemorate a total of 166 years of service, to three stalwarts of the Lodge, namely:-

W.Bro. George Ferrett, who received a 50 year medal and is a Past Treasurer and Past Secretary. On accepting his medal, he recalled how in the 1920's, Lodge Festive Boards were something of a family affair with spouses and girlfriends attending and crèches being organised for the children. In the 1930's an embargo was placed on membership because of the large number of new members wishing to join and during the May meeting in 1941, wartime bombs shattered the windows of the

Newtownards Road Hall while their meeting was in progress.

W.Bro. Tommy Ferrett, who marked 60 years, was presented with a bar to his 50 year medal; he was Secretary for 25 years and a Past Provincial Grand Master's Standard Bearer.

Tribute was also paid to 90 year old W. Bro. Reggie Baston, who has completed 56 years membership, was Secretary of the Newtownards Road Hall Committee for 16 years and despite battling illness, is still as keen as ever to attend lodge meetings.

Long service in office is indeed a feature of Lodge 61. The Lodge also has a long tradition of family membership. George and Tommy's father George and their Uncle Albert were members of the Lodge. The late W. Bros. Eddie Sye and J.R. McCaffrey were Secretary and Treasurer for 45 and 40 years respectively.

## ROSEMOUNT CELEBRATES A 50 YEAR JEWEL



At the November Communication of Rosemount Masonic Lodge No. 702, the Provincial Grand Master of Down, R.W.Bro. Robert J Armstrong presented R.W.Bro. Robert Macauley with his 50 year Jewel and Certificate.

Congratulations were extended to R.W.Bro. Macauley as the first Brother to receive a 50 year Jewel within Rosemount 702 Lodge.

Pictured left is the P.G.M with R.W.Bro. Robert Macauley.

## 50 Year Jewel & Certificate

W.Bro. Charles Fyfe was manager of The Parish Football Club, Bangor around 1940. He also played rugby for Newtownards. He worked for the Prudential Insurance. He was a member of Ballyholme Yacht Club and was the proud owner of a "Waverley Class Yacht" named "Rob Roy" which he raced very successfully. He won the Regatta Cup at Cushendun in the "Enterprise Class" race.

Charles was Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge No. 286 in 1972 and presented his father with his 50 year jewel on 7th August 1978. He moved to Canada in 1975 and joined Freemasonry there and has remained in contact with the Lodge ever since and when home on holidays makes a point off visiting Harmony. W.Bro. Charles has received many offices in all parts of Masonry in Canada – too many to mention. He is also a Pipe Major of Rameses Pipe Band – a very busy man!!



W.Bro. Fyfe is pictured receiving his 50 year Jewel and Certificate from R.W.Bro. Robert J Armstrong (P.G.M. Down). Left of picture is the W.M. W.Bro. Alan Lovell and W.Bro. S McCartney, Director of Ceremonies.

## 60 Year Certificate



Pictured above is V.W.Bro. Joe Dugdale receiving his 60 Year Certificate from R.W.Bro. George F Ginnelly P.G.M. of N. Connaught. Included (L-R) W.Bro. Raymond Latimer (Secty.); W.Bro. Rev. Paul Twomey (W.M.) and R.W.Bro. George Miskimmins P.G.M. of Armagh.

## D-Day Veteran is W.M. of Lodge 15, Skibbereen, Co. Cork

Thomas Richard Roberts is the current Worshipful Master of Lodge No.15, Skibbereen, not a remarkable thing you may say, but in his case it is very remarkable indeed, as he is 90 years of age. This excellent member of our Order was born in England, one of 11 children, 9 boys and 2 girls. He and his twin sister are the sole survivors and indeed he has been a widower now for a number of years.

Prior to the war he worked in a tyre company closely associated with The Dunlop Tyre Co. In 1939, because of his training with the Red Cross, he joined the R.A.F. Medical Corps and was mainly stationed with Fighter Command, all over the British Isles. After Dunkirk, as invasion seemed imminent, he and thousands of other military personnel, Government Officers, women and children were evacuated to Canada. Tom spent 2 years in Canada and from the distinct lack of information forthcoming, the suspicion is that he had a rather good time there!

On his return to England he volunteered for the R.A.F. Parachute Regiment and went into training for D day. On 6th June they successfully landed in France ahead of the main army in and around Caen. They spent about 3 weeks shuttling the most seriously wounded back by air



V.W. Bro. Tom Roberts.

to Britain. After all that, he still wasn't let off as he was sent to India, from there to Burma but, in his own words, "as luck would have it, the Japs surrendered when they saw me!"

After the war he worked for Royle's Printing & Publishing Co. of London and lived with his wife and family in Lewes. In 1958 he joined South Saxon Lodge No. 311 (E.C). This Lodge had 92 members so the progression to the chair was very slow indeed. His excellent ability as an administrator

was recognised however and he was Secretary of the Lodge for 4 years. Later he helped to found Circle of Sussex Lodge No. 7905 where he had been elected Inner Guard when he and his wife decided to come to live in Ireland. That was 26 years ago and when his travels in this country finally found him settled in west Cork, he affiliated to Skibbereen Lodge and at last, became a Worshipful Master. On leaving the chair he worked as Secretary of the Lodge for several years and was again elected W.M. for 2005 & 2006 - celebrating his 90th birthday on 12th February 2006. What a headline to us all.

Age has not wearied this old soldier nor has his courage diminished. He travelled alone to New Zealand in October 2005 and toured both North & South Islands. He enjoyed it all so much he plans to return there as soon as funds allow.

At the May 2005 meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster, the P.G.M., R.W. Bro. Alan J Campbell, invested this outstanding Mason as an Hon. Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden, an honour he richly deserved.

We all wish V.W. Bro. Tom Roberts many more years to enjoy his Masonic activities.

## Have Clubs, will travel...

Bro. Andrew Cochrane, (known to all as Drew) will once again pack his golf clubs and fly off to Tokyo, Japan, in early April 2006 to compete in the World Championships. Drew would never claim to be the best golfer in the world, but without doubt he is one of the best blind golfers in the world.

In 1980 he lost his sight, up to then he was a keen golfer, playing off an 11 handicap at Ballymena Golf Club. When his sight deteriorated, he sold his clubs, thinking his golfing days were over. It was ten years later, having attended a seminar at the Blind Centre in Belfast, that golf for the Blind was mentioned. In Drew's own words, "I thought, I'll give it a go, and having done so, found the enthusiasm returning." He now competes off a Blind Handicap of 28, with a blind disability grade of B2.

He has been competing and winning prizes all over the world ever since. Twice in Australia, three times in

Japan, two events in the U.S.A, two visits to Canada and one to South Africa. In one of his visits to Japan he came 2nd in the World Championships. He was 4th in Australia; he won the Order of Merit in Stockport in 2000 and in so doing, earned himself an all expenses paid trip to Australia in the same year. He even picked up a prize at our own Grand Masters Millennium Cup at Killymoon Golf Club in Cookstown in 2002.

Not a bad record for a Brother in his 65th year who seems to have enough energy for 10 sighted men.

Drew joined Masonry in 2000, becoming a Member of Three Brothers Lodge No. 775 in Ballymena,



where he was recently invested as Junior Deacon.

So early in April, Drew, with his guide, W. Bro. Warren Stewart will once again tread the fairways of Tokyo in search of further glory and that elusive World Championship.

We wish him well in his quest.

## Irish Night Creates History in Queensland – Australia

History was made in the Masonic jurisdiction of Queensland, Australia, when the Grand Hall became New South Wales soil for the first time in March this year. This occurred when the Irish Lodges Association of Queensland held its Annual Irish Night Communication to celebrate St Patrick's Day and invited the visiting Worshipful Master, Officers and Brethren of Lodge Ku-ring-gai, from Sydney, to constitute and form a Lodge under the New South Wales Constitution and confer a Second Degree on one of their own candidates.

Theodore Unmack (337 IC-1889) No. 60 UGLQ was the host Lodge for the event. All attending brethren were assembled inside Grand Hall prior to the Lodge being Tyled. The Officers of Theodore Unmack Lodge entered and occupied their respective stations. The Worshipful Master of Theodore Unmack Lodge, W.Bro. Bill Gregson, then called on the Director of Ceremonies to present to him separately the Masters and Brethren of the Lodges of St Patrick (279 IC-1863) No 5 UGLQ; Duke of Leinster (283 IC-1864) No. 8 UGLQ; United Tradesmen's (288 IC-1865) No. 12 UGLQ and Southern Queensland (312 IC-1878) No. 29 UGLQ; the Masters being invited to occupy the chairs of SW, JW, SD and JD respectively. Theodore Unmack Lodge was then opened for labour.

*L-R: Bill Gregson,  
John Menzies GM,  
Kerry Jeffers,  
Trevor Martin,  
Stan Rawlings.*



During the proceedings a team of Grand Officers led by the Grand Master, M.W.Bro. John Menzies, accompanied by R.W.Bro. Stan Rawlings P.A.G.M. – Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland at or near the United Grand Lodge of Queensland, entered and were duly greeted with the traditional C ad M ile Failte; Gaelic for 'one hundred thousand welcomes'.

W.Bro. Trevor Martin, Worshipful Master of Ku-ring-gai Lodge No. 1033 UGLNSW, and his Brethren were then presented to the WM of Theodore Unmack Lodge and afterward they were invited to

constitute and work a Lodge under their own Constitution, to which they readily agreed. Theodore Unmack Lodge was then declared Closed and un-Tyled.

Lodge Ku-ring-gai was then duly called up to labour under the New South Wales Constitution in the Grand Hall of the United Grand Lodge of Queensland and an historical event was in the making. Lodge Ku-ring-gai conferred a Second degree on Bro. Kerry Jeffers in the presence of the Grand Master of Queensland and in the midst of the grandeur of the beautiful Grand Hall of Queensland Freemasonry; thus creating a landmark in the Masonic life of Bro. Jeffers and his Worshipful Master. The Working Tools were presented to the candidate by his son Bro. Andrew Jeffers. A daily advancement in Masonic knowledge for all Queensland Freemasons attending this meeting was one of the useful outcomes of this event.

On behalf of Theodore Unmack Lodge, the Grand Master presented the candidate with a gold square and compasses lapel pin and a copy of the booklet "The Life and Times of Theodore Oscar Unmack – Freemason" as mementos of the occasion.

An Irish Festive Board followed where the Brethren were joined by their ladies. Those who wished to indulge shared a Guinness or two while the gathering was entertained with harmony by W.Bro. Don Fenwick singing traditional Irish ballads accompanied by W.Bro. John Henriksen on piano and organ.

R. L. Grimshaw  
Duke of Leinster Lodge No. 8 UGLQ

## Provincial Grand Master of Down Visits 787



On Wed 28th December 2005 Sapphire Lodge No.787 was proud to play host to The Provincial Grand Master of Down, R.W.Bro Robert J Armstrong. The Provincial Grand Master's visit was to coincide with a visit from V.W.Bro. Laurence Vennell, a visiting Brother from the 19th District in Maine U.S.A. The Provincial Grand Master warmly welcomed V.W.Bro. Vennell and took the opportunity to address the Lodge and guests with a most informative and interesting update on Irish Freemasonry in general and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Down in particular.

W.Bro. Richard Chambers - Secretary

## Dedication Service in Memory of the Late R.W.Bro. Brian Dourish

The memory of an active and dedicated Freemason was marked by a Masonic Church Service and presentation of a Communion Set, by members of Victoria Masonic Lodge 473 Enniskillen.

R.W.Bro. Dourish died suddenly aged 47 years and at the time of his death was Secretary of Lodge 473, Provincial Grand Lodge Steward of Charities and a Foreign Grand Representative. He had also completed 10 years as Treasurer of the Enniskillen District Charity Committee.

The service was held in St. Johns' Parish Church, Florencecourt, Co. Fermanagh and conducted by the Rev. Bro. Mark Watson. Brian's widow Viola and children Alan and Sarah and family circle were present, together with parishioners and 180 Masonic Brethren.

During the service a Chalice and Ciborium were presented to the Parish by the W.M. and Treasurer of Victoria Masonic Lodge, W. Bro. S Magwood and W.Bro. J Magwood, both personal friends of the Dourish family:- A set of Communion Linen was also presented by the family. The Old Testament Lesson was read by R.W.Bro. D H Weir, P.G.M. of Tyrone and Fermanagh, with the New Testament Lesson read by



Rev. Bro. Mark Watson (centre) is pictured together with the Dourish family, Sarah, Viola and Alan along with W. Bro. J Magwood Treasurer (Left) and W. Bro. S Magwood W.M. (Right) Lodge 473, with the gifts for Dedication.

R.W.Bro. G Dunlop, Deputy Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ireland.

The Offertory taken up during the service amounted to £1,364.30, benefiting the N.I. Chest Heart and Stroke Association and St. Johns' Parish.

Though borne out of sad circumstances the service epitomised the best features of Freemasonry. A fitting tribute to a wonderful and enthusiastic Brother who was literally cut off in his prime, when he had so much to offer as a husband, father and a Freemason.

## Suidhe 355 welcomes Honorary Office bestowed on W. Bro. Albert Chapman

W.Bro. Albert Chapman was greatly honoured when Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. R J Armstrong presented him with his 60 year bar to be added to his 50 year jewel. While at this meeting R.W.Bro. Armstrong announced he would like to invest Albert as an Honorary Past



W.Bro. Albert Chapman with R.W.Bro. R J Armstrong, P.G.M.

Provincial Grand Sword Bearer to which Albert gratefully accepted.

W.Bro. Chapman was invested in his office at the stated communication of Provincial Grand Lodge of Down which was held in the Church Hall, Ballywalter Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Ballywalter on 28th September 2005.

W.Bro. Chapman joined Suidhe Lodge No. 355 in September 1939 and received his 50 year jewel in 1990. Albert became W. Master of our Lodge in 1994 and went on to hold the office of Treasurer from 1999 to present day.

Suidhe 355 are very proud to have had W. Bro. Albert Chapman as a dedicated member for the last 66 years and hope to have him as a member for many more years to come.

## KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY



This is the first time in the Lodge's 55 year history that a father and two sons have held the three principle offices of the lodge. Pictured above are: Bro. Glen Flanagan, J.W.; W.Bro. Jim Flanagan, W.M.; and Bro. Darren Flanagan S.W.

W.Bro. Ian McIlhagger Secretary

## 50 YEAR CELEBRATION



Pictured above is W.Bro. Hugh Gates of Carleton Masonic Lodge No. 231, receiving his 50 year Jewel from R.W.Bro. L V Johnston (P.A.G.M. of Armagh). Looking on is R.W.Bro. G Robinson, W.M. of the Lodge.

W.Bro. Gates first joined the Polytechnic Lodge No. 756 where he received his Entered Apprentice Degree on 7th May 1955. He received his Fellow Craft Degree later that year and his Master Mason Degree on 7th January 1956. He was Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 1970. Later he affiliated to Carleton Masonic Lodge No. 231 on 21st March 1989, where he remains an active member.

W.Bro. S Conn – Almoner

## Randalstown 598 Installation



Members of Randalstown Masonic Lodge No 598 pictured with their Worshipful Master W.Bro. Graham Brown, (centre front row) who was Installed as Master of the Lodge on Saturday 21st February, in the presence of special guests R.W.Bro. John Dunlop, Provincial Grand Master of Antrim, R.W.Bro. Noel Millar, Provincial Assistant Grand Master of Antrim and V.W.Bro. John Frazer.

## A Unique Occasion



On Thursday 23rd February 2006 at Stormont Lodge No. 560, Rosetta Hall, Park Road Belfast, W.Bro. Harry Wilson was presented with his 50 Year Jewel and Certificate and was then installed as Worshipful Master for the 3rd time, in his Masonic career.

Incidentally, all Brethren shown in the attached photograph are Past Masters.

W.Bro. J D Moore (PPGS) Secretary

## Union Band 35



Pictured above is the presentation of a 60 year bar and certificate to Bro. Jack Maxwell by R.W.Bro. Robert J Armstrong, Provincial Grand Master of Down. The presentation took place at a Lodge meeting in the Masonic Hall Saintfield on the evening of December 7th last. The photograph also shows W.Bro. Archie Cochrane, Worshipful Master of Lodge 35 for 2005.

Bro. Maxwell having been unable to take up the position of Worshipful Master many years ago because of the onset of a bout of ill health, is currently again moving through the "offices" heading for the chair.  
W.Bro. Henry Saville Secretary

## PGM & Sons



The Provincial Grand Master of Down, R.W.Bro. Robert J Armstrong installed and invested his youngest son Roy, as Worshipful Master of Malcolm McDonald Memorial Lodge No. 657. His eldest son, Trevor, is Secretary of the Lodge.

## St. Patrick's Masonic Lodge No.195



Members of St Patrick's Masonic Lodge No 195 pictured, with guests, at their Installation which was held in the Provincial Masonic Hall, Rosemary Street. Included are W.Bro. Sam Hughes, Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Gavin Hughes, Senior Warden, W.Bro. Pat Shannon, Junior Warden and W.Bro. William Halliday, who was the Installing Officer.

Photograph Courtesy; Pat McGuigan Photography, Randalstown

## Celebrations in St. Patrick's Lodge No. 468 I.C. Dunedin, New Zealand

V.W.Bro. Alex J Weir having completed 50 years of unbroken and dedicated service to The Order, was presented with his jewel by R.W.Bro. David Kirkwood (P.A.G.M. New Zealand), on 26th October 2005 in St. Patrick's Lodge.

Three 50 year jewel members of St. Patrick's Lodge are pictured below (L to R): R.W.Bro. David Kirkwood P.A.G.M.; V.W.Bro. Alex J Weir P.P.S.G.W. and W.Bro. Derek Earle P.M.

By way of interest, R.W.Bro. Kirkwood was initiated into City Temperance Lodge No.481 in Belfast in March 1953 and W.Bro.



Earle was initiated into Lodge Tuscon No. 484, Belfast in July 1950, prior to coming to New Zealand.

R.W.Bro. David Kirkwood P.A.G.M.

## PGM Antrim attends Crumlin Lodge No.140

R.W.Bro. John Dunlop, Provincial Grand Master of Antrim, is pictured with W.Bro. Jackie Milliken who was installed as Worshipful Master of Crumlin Royal Blue Masonic Lodge 140 in Crumlin Masonic Hall. Also pictured are R.W.Bro. Noel Millar, Provincial Assistant Grand Master of Antrim, R.W.Bro. W.S. Cummings, I.P.M. Crumlin 140, V.W.Bro. James McClurg, Installing Officer and W.Bro. Rodney Mairs, Director of Ceremonies.



Photographs By; Pat McGuigan Photography, Randalstown

## Victory Masonic Lodge Coagh No. 459

Installation night on Friday 13th January 2006 was a memorable and unique occasion for Victory Masonic Lodge Coagh No. 459, when for the first time since the Lodge was Constituted in 1919, a Worshipful Master elect was Installed by one of his sons.

W.Bro. Ian R L Spiers of Richhill Lodge No. 328, who is currently the Provincial Grand Sword Bearer in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Armagh, made a return visit to his mother Lodge to install his father R.W.Bro. Alexander McL (Sandy) Spiers B.E.M.

R.W.Bro. Spiers who has been a Member of the Lodge 459 for 35 years, was Worshipful Master in 1985 and is currently the Representative of The Grand Lodge of The Czech Republic at The Grand Lodge of Ireland.

After the Installation, R.W.Bro. Sandy Spiers presented the Lodge Senior Warden with a carved wooden Senior Warden's Column and W.Bro. Ian Spiers presented the Lodge Junior Warden with a carved wooden Junior Warden's Column for the enlightenment of the Ceremonies of the Lodge.

W.Bro. W G Shaw  
Lodge Secretary



Left to right: R.W.Bro. Alexander McL Spiers B.E.M. and W.Bro. Ian R L Spiers.

## RECHAB MASONIC LODGE VISITS LONDON

On the 20th October 2005 a party of 15 Masons and partners left Lisburn to travel to London. This party made up of Brethren from Rechab Masonic Lodge No. 667 and guests. Its purpose was to visit The Ulster Lodge No 2972 working under the English Constitution. Our party was lead by our Worshipful Master V.W.Bro. S Murphy (Provincial Grand Treasurer of Antrim) and included V.W.Bro. J Fraser (Grand Lodge Inner Guard), W.Bro. J A Walker (Provincial Grand Steward of Antrim) and many Past Provincial Officers and Worshipful Brethren of the Lodge.

The Ulster Lodge established by expatriate Ulstermen residing in and around the London area has a long history with Irish Masonry and many of our Principle Officers are Honorary Members of this Lodge. The contact between the Lodges had started some 9 months before the actual visit. On arrival we booked into the hotel and a guided tour of the Grand Lodge Building had been arranged for all the party including partners.

At 5.00 p.m. the Brethren were met and escorted to the Lodge Room where after due testing were invited to join the Ulster Lodge meeting. During this meeting the Ulster Lodge "called off" from labour (break). This enabled Rechab Masonic Lodge, having received agreement from Grand Lodge, to arrange the Lodge Room and then performed an opening and closing under the Irish Constitution. During this time the Worshipful Master of the Ulster Lodge was presented with a Mall and a bottle of 16-year-old Malt Whiskey,



*Brethren and ladies from Rechab Masonic Lodge No. 667.*

Bushmills of course. Afterwards the Ulster Lodge (Called on) recommenced and closed their Lodge.

A white Festive Board in which wives and partners were able to join us, followed the Lodge Closing. After the meal one of our ladies Marina Walker read a poem she had written about being a Masons Wife. It was well received and several of the Brethren there requested copies, which have been e-mailed to them. It was a most informative and enjoyable experience to see how different Constitutions perform the ritual and for our English Brethren how we in Irish Masonry perform ours. I can assure all that it is very different and worth a visit to see how it is performed.

The Saturday was a free day and was spent mainly in shopping or sight-seeing.

I would like to thank the Worshipful Master Edgar Buckley and the Treasurer Ivor Gillespie of the Ulster Lodge for the effort and help given in arranging this most interesting trip and would recommend to all Irish Masons, if in London, to contact the Ulster Lodge as they are most happy to meet all Brethren from Ireland. It would also be very worth while to visit the United Grand Lodge, Freemasons Hall, Great Queen Street, London WC2. The contact details for the Ulster Lodge is: F. C. Parr Esq., 80 Deepdene Road, Loughton, Essex, IG10 3PH, tel: 020 8508 1739, or email: [fredrick.parr7@ntlworld.com](mailto:fredrick.parr7@ntlworld.com)

As for Rechab, we are now planning our next trip to Canada in 2007. Any Mason interested in information please contact Terry Fuller by e-mail at the following address: [terry.fuller@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:terry.fuller@tiscali.co.uk)