



DECEMBER 2003

Asst. Grand Master's Remarks

"I am convinced that one of the reasons for our longevity as an Institution is our ability to adapt our outward form to the needs of our time without changing our basic principles and tenets" So said R.W.Bro. Iain Ross Bryce, Deputy Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England on a recent visit to Molesworth Street. In saying so he was stating the firmly held and often repeated belief of our own Grand Master, under whose inspired leadership we in the Grand Lodge of Ireland have been endeavouring to carry out this policy.

The result is that now we have a much more open Order, one that is more openly and freely discussed by Masons and non-Masons alike, and one that is slowly but surely coming to be accepted as part of the community.

And one of the ways in which we are achieving this is very evident in this issue of Grand Lodge News. I refer, of course, to the numerous splendid events organised to raise much needed funds for worthy non-Masonic Charities.

The Round Ireland Vintage Tractor Run, organised by Masons from the Newry area, immediately catches the eye, especially because it eventually involved Brethren from all the Masonic Provinces in Ireland, and also because of the outstanding amount collected for the Southern Area Hospice. However, each effort, irrespective of size, irrespective of the amount collected, is of equal importance, and each plays a unique part in what our Grand Master stated should be one of the main aims which should be adopted by all - the Production and Projection of the best possible Positive Image of Irish Freemasonry. Long may we all strive towards that end.

R.W.Bro. William Mawhinney A.G.M.

MASONIC TRACTOR DRIVE AROUND IRELAND

This morning when I went into the bathroom there was a giant alligator devouring a red tractor and its driver. I was so happy.

Never again would we, in Newry Masonic Club, have to organise a Tractor Drive around Ireland.



The Grand Master in Arklow.

In the beginning, this venture was perceived as being small. How gullible we were.

Money began to pour in from numerous sources; Masonic Lodges; local businesses; personal donations; etc. By the end of the tour we had passed our target of £20,000 by several thousand and hoped to finish by presenting Southern Area Hospice Services with a cheque for £35,000.

The thanks of a small committee is given to the Brethren of Irish Lodges for their generosity. One begins to understand what Freemasonry is about.

A side effect of our effort was meeting fellow Masons throughout Ireland. Their hospitality was the highlight of the journey. In different areas they proclaimed what an honour it was for us to visit them. I disagree. It was an

honour for us to be accepted by such pleasant people.

The Assistant Grand Master set us on our way from Newry; the Grand Master welcomed us into the Republic in Arklow; and the Deputy Grand Master greeted us in Coleraine when we returned to the North. In between we met six Provincial Grand Masters, six Deputy Provincial Grand Masters,

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Grand Master meets the Press

The Grand Master's visit to Belfast for the October Communication of Grand Lodge provided an excellent opportunity for him to meet the News Media in the North and to further promote our Order, as he is so successfully doing in the South.

At lunchtime on Friday 3rd October, he was interviewed on Radio Ulster's Talkback programme by no less a personage than David Dunseith. In the afternoon, representatives from the Belfast Telegraph, Irish News and Belfast Newsletter interviewed the Grand Master in Rosemary Street, ably supported by his Deputy and the Provincial Grand Master of Antrim.

Full page reports were subsequently published on the Monday issues of the morning papers and a short article in



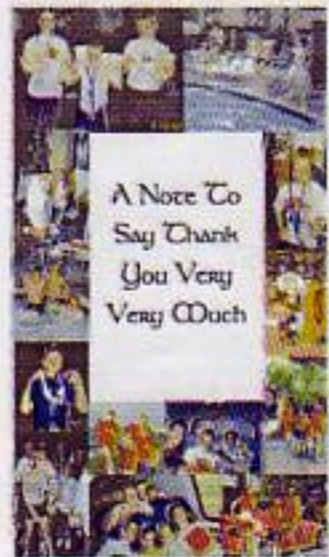
Deputy Grand Master, Grand Master and Provincial Grand Master of Antrim in Rosemary Street, Belfast.

the Saturday edition of the Belfast Telegraph. For those of us who were fortunate to listen in or read these reports, it was a treat to appreciate how proficiently our Grand Master represented us and how adeptly he performed. There is no doubt that our Order is in safe hands.

Good Shepherd Discovery Team

Dear Mr Walker,

Firstly let me offer my sincere gratitude for your contribution to what has been an unrivalled success; the Good Shepherd Discovery Team's trip to California this summer to participate in Anthony Robbins' Discovery Camp. We reached our target of €30,000 the day before we left!



I could not have anticipated the remarkably positive effect that this youth leadership camp would have on the children we brought. The camp was the most inspiring and motivating experience of the children's lives.

Each day was packed with inspirational and motivational talks and activities, all of which carried the same message: The only thing standing in the way of you being the very best you can be is yourself. In short, all of the attendees left Discovery Camp with a desire to be their best self and with all of the skills required to fulfil that desire.

The thing that impressed me most was that we were taught that one of the most significant human needs is contribution. Everybody went from setting goals that would better their own lives in the first day or two, to setting goals that would contribute towards their community or the world.

If these children choose to follow the advice and use the transformational technology now known to them, they know that the sky is the limit as regards their potential. How many children can we say that about?

My own goals include exposing as many children and teachers to this camp as I can, so that Ireland will benefit through the efforts of our fantastic young people.

Please rest assured that your contribution towards this cause has benefited these children in ways that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. The positive repercussions of the trip will undoubtedly unfold and the effect that it has had on their young lives is immeasurable.

Thank you so much for assisting in its success.

Yours sincerely,

Maria Corbet

On behalf of the 2003 Irish Discovery Team

50 Year Milestone in 216



At a Stated Communication of Carnlough Masonic Lodge No.216 on Thursday 11th September 2003, V.W.Bro. D B McCutcheon was presented with his 50 year Jewel. Shown in the attached picture is V.W.Bro. McCutcheon (centre) with R.W.Bro. Noel Millar (PAGM Antrim) and V.W.Bro. R Bashford (left). Following the Communication, the Brethren were treated to an excellent buffet supper provided by V.W.Bro. McCutcheon.

W.Bro. James Cahoon, Secretary.

Four Fifty Year Jewels Presented



Left to right:- W.Bro. Sam McVea, P.G.L. Inspector; R.W.Bro. Richard H Gray – P.A.G.M.; W.Bro. Gordon Catterall; W.Bro. Gordon Smith – Worshipful Master; W.Bro. Ernest McAvoy; Bro. George Greag; W.Bro. Alan Graham, P.P.G.L.S. and Secretary. Inset: Bro. Tommy Cooper

At a Stated Communication of Lilburn Memorial Lodge No. 731 held on the evening of Thursday 11th September 2003 the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Gordon Smith, asked R.W.Bro. Richard H Gray, Provincial Assistant Grand Master to present a number of 50 Year Jewels and Certificates.

Presentations were made to W.Bro. Gordon Catterall, W.Bro. Ernest McAvoy and Bro. George Greag. Unfortunately, due to illness, Bro. Tommy Cooper was unable to be present but his jewel and certificate were later presented by R.W.Bro. Gray during a short ceremony at Bro. Cooper's residence.

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and other high-ranking officers of our Order. Through their organisation we experienced the brotherly love of numerous brethren and enjoyed the company of their families. We made many new friendships in the Order which we hope to renew in the future.

We hope that our effort gave a better view of what Freemasonry entails to the non-Masonic population. In the words of Provincial Grand Master of Munster, R.W. Bro. Alan Campbell, we epitomised the three great Masonic ideals of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. We were doing something which would show the wider populace of the real Truth of Freemasonry.

In the beginning, last February, we admitted we would make mistakes, and we did. Some are known to us and there are probably others which are not known. To those brethren who were affected by our mistakes, our deepest apologies.

It would be remiss of us not to thank those non-Masons who helped us so willingly. Fiona and Edel from the Hospice who organised the P.R. and numerous other items; Arlene and Janet who used their typing and computer skills to our advantage; Gillian and Shirley who are collectors par-excellence; Gladys and Amy for their artistic talent; and Maisie for addressing those hundreds of envelopes.



The A.G.M. and D.P.G.M. of Down with the fund-raising team and representatives from the Hospice at the send off at Newry Masonic Hall on 16 July 2003.

The organising Committee was the best that I have ever known. Derek Stevenson was an excellent, hard-working Chairman, ably assisted by the Vice-Chairman, Kenny Hassan. Robert Patterson was an efficient Treasurer and Noel Magowan coordinated all aspects of a huge undertaking. Edgar Coulter raised thousands of pounds in the Kingdom of Mourne.

Many Masons of Newry and District gave their expertise willingly - Ian

Baillie, Alec McClimmond, George McCullough, Colin Whiteside.

What about the Tractor Driver, Derek Sneddon?

As we heard so often, "He had a dream". We all have dreams which quite often we never achieve. Derek has achieved his dream and we are happy we helped him realise it.

But, PLEASE Derek, either stay awake or have a peaceful and dreamless slumber in the future.

Robert Kelly

Amethyst Masonic Lodge No. 761



Pictured are the members and guests of Amethyst Masonic Lodge celebrating their 50th Anniversary.

The Worshipful Master for 2003 is W.Bro. Sam Geddis (left of Prov. G.M.) soon to be installed as

Honorary Provincial Grand Standard Bearer. In the centre of the photograph is R.W.Bro. Robert Armstrong who was attending his first official engagement in his position as Provincial Grand Master.

In the fifty years since the formation of Amethyst Lodge, sadly there is only one founder present. He is the ever-sprightly W.Bro. R.W. Hamilton (left of the W.M.) who still takes an active part in the running of the Lodge.

Both the working of the Lodge and the Festive Board were celebrated in a relaxed and happy mood, with music from Panache and entertainment from both the members of the Lodge and their guests. The W.M. gave an incredible rendition of folk songs from days gone by followed by rapturous applause. Everyone left the celebration in a relaxed and happy mood looking forward to another birthday celebration with Amethyst Masonic Lodge No. 761.

New Assistant PGM for Armagh



R.W.Bro. George Miskimmins (PGM) with R.W.Bro. Leslie Johnston (PAGM) to the right.

At the Provincial Communication in Richhill on Thursday 19th June, R.W.Bro. Leslie Johnston was installed as Provincial Assistant Grand Master of Armagh. A dedicated Mason serving the Order in many capacities, he had recently completed his tenure in office as Provincial Grand Secretary. His Sponsors and Chain Bearer were W.Bro. J Hamilton (St. John's Lodge No.230), V.W.Bro. T Stewart (St. Patrick's Senior No.623) and V.W.Bro. T Kenny (St. Patrick's Senior No.623), respectively.

There are "3 R's" in Harmony

Harmony Lodge 495 in Mohill, County Leitrim, have been following the Grand Master's lead by arranging a series of talks and events at their Communications based on his concept of the "Three R's". A number of prestigious Lecturers including the Deputy Grand Master R.W.Bro. George Dunlop have visited the Lodge and talked about relevant subjects.

As a continuation of this policy, the Lodge was honoured in May by visiting parties from Bishop Herbert Lodge in Norwich, England; Lodge 125 in Dublin and Lodge 14 in Galway. A substantial number of Brethren from local Lodges also gave appreciated support to Mohill by attending.

The visitors, including the Provincial Grand Master of North Connaught, R.W.Bro. George Ginnelly and his Deputy, the Past Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Treasurer, the Provincial Grand Secretary and the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, joined an almost 100% turnout of members of Harmony Lodge to see the English Brethren give a demonstration of the conferring of the Fellow Craft Degree under the Emulation Ritual of the United Grand Lodge of England. The demonstration was admirably carried out with W.Bro. Robin Bolton (the current Master of the English Lodge and also a member of 495 Mohill), in the Chair and members of



L-R: R.W.Bro. George Ginnelly PGM North Connaught; W.Bro. Raymond Latimer Lodge 495, Mohill; W.Bro. Robin Bolton WM Bishop Herbert Lodge 7859 UGLE; W.Bro. George Strouhair WM Lodge 125 Dublin and R.W.Bro. Ted Smith PDGM North Connaught. (Missing from the photo W.Bro. Dr. John Patching, WM Lodge 134, Galway).

his English Lodge taking the various offices.

Due to the numbers attending, the Communication could not be held in the Lodge Room and by Dispensation, it was held at the Barn Hall, Riversdale Guest House, Ballinamore. This provided an opportunity to end the evening with an outstanding Festive Board, beautifully catered by the Thomas family, where the wives of the Brethren were invited to attend.

All in all it was an excellent lead in to the summer break and the series of talks will continue during 2003 and 2004 with some really exciting Lecturers hopefully lined up.

Willowfield Charity Champions

From little acorns, big oaks grow – an old adage that aptly describes the Masonic Charities Bowling Competition, which this year celebrates its 75th anniversary.



R.W.Bro. Robert Armstrong presenting the Runners-up Cup to W.Bro. Pat Hayes (Pickie).

The first season of the Cup (1928) donations totalled £50, when compared to last year's it had risen to £8,000. "We get a tremendous response each year" said Secretary



R.W.Bro. Robert Armstrong (PGM Down) presents the Winners Cup to W.Bro. Andy Watt (Willowfield).

Stanley McIlroy "and this year we are aiming for £10,000".

In 1965, 73 Clubs participated in the Competition whereas today the numbers have fallen to only 24.

The Masonic Charities Cup is a knock-out event and is eagerly awaited each year by clubs from three of the four associations affiliated to – NIBA, PBA and PGL.

Willowfield, this year's winner holds the record for Cup wins with 17, followed by Larne with 10 and Forthriver with 6.

The Competition is open to all Members of the Order in the Masonic Provinces of Antrim, Down and Londonderry & Donegal.

Provincial Grand Lodge of North Connaught



Visitors with P.G.L. Officers.

At the June Communication in Sligo, the Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. George Ginnelly welcomed representatives from ten Provinces and was honoured to have 8 Provincial Grand Masters and 8 Provincial Deputy/Assistant Grand Masters present.

There was also a welcome, on their first visit to Sligo, for our Web Master R.W.Bro. Richard Gray and the Secretary / Editor of the Grand Lodge News, R.W.Bro. William Clarke.

As is often said "a picture is better than a thousand words" and here are some pictures recording the very successful meeting in Sligo.



L-R: G F Ginnelly PGM; R.W.Bro. Richard Gray - Web Master; R.W.Bro. William Clarke - Editor Grand Lodge News and E C Smith PDGM.



Lodge Room in Sligo.



L-R: J Greer PPGM (NC); J Keeley PGL Sword Bearer Suffolk UGLE; R A Keppel PGM South Eastern; J K Dunne PGM Midland Counties; E C Smith PDGM (NC); G G Ashton PGM North Munster; G F Ginnelly PGM (NC); R J Armstrong PGM Down; R G Quigley PGM Londonderry & Donegal; G Miskimmons PGM Armagh; J R Hadden PDGM Tyrone & Fermanagh; W Shortland PGM South Connaught; A J McKinley PGM Antrim.

MASONIC GOLF KEENLY CONTESTED

Almost 200 players took part, in excellent conditions, in the fourth annual Grand Master's Millennium Cup competition organised by the Freemasons of Ireland Golfing Society at the Killymoon Club, Cookstown, County Tyrone, on Friday 12th September 2003.

The competition continues to attract growing numbers of Masons, visitors and ladies who enjoy a superb day of golf competing for a magnificent array of valuable prizes worth more than £1,000 generously donated by sponsors.

The overall winner was Fred Mealiff, of Lodge 251, in the Masonic Province of Tyrone and Fermanagh, and the cup for the winning Province was accepted by the Provincial



L to R: R.W.Bro. Harry Weir (PGM Tyrone & Fermanagh); Overall Winner Fred Mealiff of Lodge 251; M.W. Grand Master; Billy Turner winner of the Londonderry & Donegal Provincial Cup and R.W.Bro. Robert Quigley (PGM Londonderry & Donegal).

Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Harry Weir.

Ian Blair, of Dungannon, carried off the non-Masonic title and top lady was Edith Duddy, of Coleraine.

The prizes were presented by the Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Eric Waller.

Tributes were paid to the organisers of the event, Right Worshipful Brother Noel Simpson and his wife, Pauline, and their committee and thanks were expressed to the secretary-manager of Killymoon, Valerie Wilson, for the use of the magnificent club facilities.

As a result, the Chairman of the Northern Provinces has decided that £4,000 be donated to "Diabetes UK".

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING IN BANGOR

On Wednesday 28th May 2003, W. Bro. Alasdair White, the W.M. of Chevalier Ramsay Lodge N° 4, Brussels, Regular Grand Lodge of Belgium, led a delegation of 14 Brethren and 10 wives from Belgium to Bangor, County Down. The Brethren who all work and reside in Belgium represented 9 different Constitutions including Canada, Australia and Turkey.

The highlight of the visit was on Friday evening, 30th May. The visiting Brethren attended a special meeting with Bangor Union Masonic Lodge N° 746, where the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. David Turner extended a very warm Masonic welcome to the visitors.

The distinguished Brethren included R.W. Bro. George Dunlop, Deputy Grand Master and R.W. Bro. Robert Armstrong, Provincial Grand Master Down. The distinguished visiting Brethren included R.W. Bro. Jerome Pascoe, Regular Grand Lodge of Belgium and W. Bros. Jan Stemerding and Ian Bonnett, Hon. Members of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

During the meeting W. Bro. White became an affiliate Member of



Lodge 746 and to commemorate the visit he presented a suitably inscribed Masonic sword to Lodge 746 on behalf of all the Brethren of Chevalier Ramsay Lodge N° 4.

The main business of the evening was the raising of Bro. Mark Brett to the Degree of Master Mason. This gave the many international visitors an opportunity to compare the workings under the Irish Constitution. This was of special interest to Bro. Patrick Dobbelaere, (Chevalier Ramsay N°4) who had only been raised to Master Mason two weeks before the trip.

At the conclusion of the Degree ceremony Bro. Jacque Hodeige, Senior Warden of Chevalier Ramsay Lodge N° 4, in accordance with Belgium tradition, presented Bro. Brett with a silver trowel to mark the occasion. When the Lodge closed the Brethren joined the Ladies at Bangor Golf Club where approximately 100 guests enjoyed an excellent banquet hosted by the Brethren of 746. Indeed at the end of this memorable visit none went home dissatisfied.

W.Bro. S T Monaghan Chevalier Ramsay Lodge No.4

The Lodge of Dunblane No. IX

On a recent visit to Londonderry by The Lodge of Dunblane No. IX the Brethren of Perthshire West visited Island of Inch Lodge No. 589 who were holding an Emergency Communication in The Freemasons' Hall, Bishop Street, to confer a Fellow Craft Degree.

In attendance with the Brethren of 589 were R.W.Bro. Dunlop Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Qugiley Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. John Frazer Provincial Grand secretary Antrim, Bro. Harold Ingram Provincial Grand Master Perthshire West, Bro. John Brockie Provincial Grand Secretary Perthshire West, Bro. Roger Bullard R.W. Master Dunblane No. IX and 8 Brethren from Dunblane.

After an enjoyable meeting during which W.Bro. Robert Mitchell W.M. of Lodge 589 and Bro. Bullard exchanged gifts to mark the occasion, the Brethren of 589 and the Brethren from Dunblane, accom-



panied by their wives, enjoyed some light refreshments.

R.W.Bro. Derek Stone and R.W.Bro. Noel Simpson were instrumental in organising the weekend visit which

included a civic reception with the Mayor, sight seeing tours and a most enjoyable social function held in Campsie Masonic Hall.

W.Bro. John Gault, Secretary

W.Bro. Robert (Bobby) Woods Celebrates 60 years Membership

Initiated on 29th March 1943 in Sir Henry Wilson Masonic Lodge No. 406 (Belfast) and raised to Master Mason on 9th August the same year, he was Worshipful Master in 1960. W.Bro. Woods affiliated to Union Star Masonic Lodge No. 624, Killinchy in May 1954 and served many years as its Director of Ceremonies. His Masonic Career has extended through the Royal Arch Chapter; Excellent King of Belfast RAC No. 88 in 1965; Eminent Preceptor of St. Patrick's Preceptory in 1971 and M.W.S. of Prince Masons Chapter No. 18 in 1981.

In recognition of his many years of devoted service to The Order, in 1988 W.Bro. Woods was invited to join the 28° and was later to receive further elevation in the Higher Degrees when he was again invited to the 30° and 31° in 1993 and 2001 respectively.

Believe it or not, this "full time career Mason" was employed as a fitter with the Co. Down Railway, transferred to the UTA (Ulster

Transport Authority – for those too young to remember it) and then took early retirement, only to take on a more gentle and less demanding lifestyle as that of a farmer!! Where does he get his energy from?



W.Bro. Bobby Woods is pictured here with R.W.Bro. Richard H Gray (PAGM Down) receiving his 60 year bar, at a meeting of Lodge 624, in March 2003.

A Special Occasion at St Pauls Masonic Lodge No. 142

Sixty years membership of a Co. Down Lodge has been marked with a special occasion at their Stated Communication on 13 May, 2003.

The Assistant Grand Master of Ireland, R.W.Bro. William Mawhinney presented a 60 year jewel and gift to W.Bro. Gerald Whyte, P.M., a member of St Paul's Masonic Lodge, No 142, Castlewellan at a special meeting of the Lodge.

The Asst. Grand Master informed the Brethren that W.Bro. Whyte joined the Order on the 13th May, 1943 and served as W.M. in 1953.

Thanking the Brethren for the honour of presenting the jewel, R.W.Bro. Mawhinney wished W. Bro. Whyte many more years of enjoyment and active participation.

W.Bro. John Smyth,
Secretary



A JAMAICAN EXPERIENCE

Lodge No. 390, Kingston, first brought the "word" to the white sands of Jamaica for the Irish Constitution. Last December, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Jamaica invited R.W. Brother Michael J. Ward and I to celebrate the Installation of the Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Brother Derrick V. McKoy.

The Installation was held in the LOJ Centre, New Kingston and it was attended by very many Delegations of the various Constitutions and disciplines. The ceremony was conducted with great dignity and precision under the guiding and experienced hand of R.W. Brother Maj. Gen. Rudolph Green, Hon. Past Gd. Superintendent of Works.



Picture: R.W. Bro. Michael J. Ward, R.W. Bro. Derrick V. McKoy, Provincial Grand Master, and R.W. Bro. James S. Moss Solomon, Past Prov. Grand Master.

The assemblage joined their wives that evening for a cocktail party and a luxurious banquet at the University of the West Indies Visitors Lodge and Conference Centre, amid the ambience of the adjacent illuminated church ruin and the warmth of a Jamaican evening. The banquet was attended by upwards of two hundred guests.

During our relatively short stay, on an island with much beauty, we had the opportunity to provide some ritual workshops of instruction and also enjoyed visiting the Irish Masters Lodge No. 907 at the Masonic Hall in McGregor Square, New Kingston.

On behalf of R.W. Brother Michael Ward, our wives and myself, I would like to extend our grateful appreciation for the sincere welcome and hospitality extended to us during our most interesting sojourn. We wish the Provincial Grand Lodge of Jamaica continued success now and in the future.

W. Bro. Sean P. McCabe

Successful South Eastern Fund Raisers

Waterford Lodges, in common with others, participated with a will in Grand Lodge's National Appeal for Alzheimer's Charities, some years back. The overall outcome, as we all know, was magnificent and the South East benefited and Brethren were most grateful when a minibus was allocated to Waterford.

The vehicle is put to good use by the local Alzheimer's Association and



With a bit left over – a good bit actually – as W.Bro. Christopher Hilliard (centre) receives his cheque for Masonic Charities from the PGM and PAGM.

organisers have expressed their appreciation, on numerous occasions, to the Order.

Stemming from that initial fund-raising effort, South Eastern Brethren have continued their association with and support to, the local Alzheimer's Association. Their latest undertaking was a Dance and Social Evening held in Dooley's Hotel and organised by local Lodges Nos. 5 & 32. It was of course given great support by the other Provincial Lodges and our friends and neighbours in Wexford. This was the second such event and was also enjoyed by members of the general public.

Prime movers within the Organising Committee were V.W.Bro. John Mitchell and the enterprising W.M. of Lodge No. 5 – W.Bro. Richard De Courcey.

The evening was a great success both socially and financially and thanks for the latter state of affairs is due in no small measure to the generous sponsors who provided a wide range of attractive prizes.



R.W.Bro. Arthur Keppel (PGM) presents a cheque to Derek Donnelly – President of Waterford Rotary Club – engaged in fund raising for an Alzheimer's Care Centre, likely to cost over €1,000,000. Also pictured the Provincial Assistant Grand Master R.W.Bro. Tom Nicholson (left) and Fintan Walsh, Chairman of The Waterford Alzheimer's Society.

And the result? Apart from the pleasure and enjoyment generated; a fairly hefty profit resulted also. Sufficient to permit our Provincial Grand Master to be in a position, later, to present generous cheques to Alzheimer's and to our own Masonic Charities.

W.Bro. Sean Murphy
Dir. of Ceremonies Lodge No.5

Window Dedicated at Maralin

On a warm June evening Maralin Lodge No. 184 held a dedication ceremony to the memory of a much esteemed member the late W.Bro. John Ervin who donated a stained glass window which has been installed above the main entrance to the hall.

The dedication service was conducted by The R.W.Bro. Canon K.W. Cochrane P.A.G.M. on the 12th June 2003 with members of the Ervin family present including Mrs Ervin who once again made the journey from Bangor. Each month over the last number of years she faithfully

drove to Maralin to allow John to attend our communications. This demonstrates a level of dedication and commitment not often seen in this day and age. In the late seventies John produced a booklet on the history of our Lodge going back to the formation of Iveagh No. 184 in 1909. Following on from this an example of John's work can be found on our Lodge website under the history section

During the ceremony some of our senior members told some amusing stories of the life and times of Bro.

Ervin and their family connections with Maralin which entertained all present. At the conclusion of the evening Mrs Ervin was presented with a bouquet of flowers by the wife of the Worshipful Master, Mary Wright.



R.W.Bro. Canon Cochrane and Mrs Ervin.



Mrs Ervin and Mary Wright.



Window representing the lodges at Maralin.