

# metro



MAY 2012

ISSUE 32

# m a s o n

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN MASONIC LODGES**

## The Lodge of Fidelity No. 125 175th Anniversary



*Officers and Members of The Lodge of Fidelity No. 125 photographed at a recent meeting in the Grand Lodge Room.*

This year the Lodge of Fidelity No. 125 proudly celebrates its 175th Anniversary. The Warrant for the Lodge was issued on the 20th November 1837, a year that heralded a momentous period in World affairs, being the Coronation year of Queen Victoria. These were exciting times for the formation of a new Lodge, the founding Brethren embraced the enthusiasm of the Victorian age and their Masonic activities with a vigour and so laid the solid foundation upon which this Lodge still flourishes today.

Fidelity was not the first Lodge to hold this Warrant, it appears that it was in existence almost one hundred years earlier with an unknown Lodge in either 1741 or 1742. During the Napoleonic era it was reissued as a Military Warrant to the 5th Garrison Battalion then based in Cork in 1808. This Battalion had been drawn from two Scottish Militias, the 26th Regiment of Foot (later to become the Cameronians) and the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment of Foot (later to become the Black Watch). The Warrant was returned in 1814 when the Battalion was disbanded. It then returned to Cork in 1817 and was somewhat controversially issued to a new Lodge in Ballincollig.

The Munster Brethren of the time did not appreciate the granting of an old Warrant to a new Lodge, this Lodge only survived until 1833. The current chapter in the history of Warrant 125 is happily one of longevity.

The Brethren were inveterate diners in those Victorian times, when there was a separate dinner account for cigars and chocolates. They were not slow to castigate the caterers when standards did not meet their expectations and accordingly they frequently dined in the Hotel Metropole. Summer picnics in June became a popular part of the Lodge's social calendar, no doubt arising from Queen Victoria's fondness for them, where in accordance with Victorian etiquette, the Brethren waited upon their Ladies. They also held an Annual Summer Supper, the preferred venues being in Howth and Malahide.

The names of the founding Fathers of the Lodge, read like a who's who of Dublin's Victorian Society, to mention just a few;- John Ringland M.D., Master of the Coombe Hospital, Sir Charles A. Cameron C.B., President of the College of Surgeons etc., who later joined Lodge No. 2 and became Deputy Grand Master and whose portrait hangs in the Grand Lodge Room, Sir Robert Sexton, Alderman in the City

of Dublin, Sir Robert Jackson, Sir Thomas F. Brady the Commissioner of Fisheries who once brought 400,000 Salmon Ova to New Zealand by ship, Charles Eason the founder of Eason's Bookshops, Major Laurence E. Knox the founder of the Irish Times, Judge William Keogh and John Graham Purser the "Founding Father" of the Lodge of Research 200.



In 1997 the Lodge made the inspired decision to "Twin" with Harmony Masonic Lodge No. 228 in Gorey. A close and harmonious relationship had built up between the Brethren of the two Lodges over the preceding years and this has grown in strength since then. Today the two Lodges exchange very pleasant visits on a regular basis and support each other's activities.

There is a noticeable "Buzz" about the Lodge activities and Festive Boards in this 175th celebration year. Some new Brethren have joined and are enjoying our fellowship. A very successful Bottle Auction was held in March to raise funds for the Charities.

On Friday 16th November 2012 the Lodge will hold its Ladies Night which will be an ideal opportunity to celebrate its 175th year in Bewleys Hotel in Ballsbridge, a fitting location for such an event, as the venue is steeped in Masonic tradition as it was formally the "The Masonic Girls School". An enjoyable night is planned and we will have as entertainment, Ladies Quiz, a Monster Raffle and we plan to launch the newly researched and printed History of the Lodge.

Our Secretary W. Bro. James Gibson would be delighted to hear from any friends or Brethren who would like to join us in Bewleys on the 16th November on what promises to be a memorable evening.

*Edwin Handcock.*



## *Introducing the New Assistant Grand Master*



At the October Communication of Grand Lodge, the Grand Master announced the appointment of R.W. Bro. Rodney McCurley as the new Assistant Grand Master. Born in the East end of Belfast, Rodney spent the first 4 years of his life living on the Castlereagh Road, prior to moving to West Belfast, where he was educated at Springfield Public Elementary School. "Life was very different then, sixty years ago. My grandfather was in World War 1 and lived in Earl Craig Crescent and my father was in World War 2 and after the war his work took us to the other side of the city" remembers Rodney. At the age of sixteen Rodney went to work for a computer manufacturing company known as TAB, "It wasn't what I wanted to do and I knew I could never work in a factory, that wasn't my nature, but in those days if you got work you took it." The following year saw the career change he was really looking for and he joined the General Post Office as an apprentice engineer. Staying with the General Post Office throughout his whole working life as it went onto be a public corporation before finally being sold off as British Telecom in the 1980's; he progressed through to management within the organisation, retiring in 2002. Rodney married his wife Mary and moved to Glengormley. In 1974 his father-in-law introduced him into

Freemasonry, Abercorn Masonic Lodge No. 114, in Newtownards Road. There wasn't any previous family tradition of Freemasonry in Rodney's family, so the experience was new to him, although Mary had grown up knowing the routine and adapted successfully to Rodney's Masonic Career. Being nominated for Provincial honours by his Lodge, Rodney took the office of Provincial Grand Lodge Sword Bearer in 1992; following that, he went onto become a Lodge Inspector, which he enjoyed thoroughly. Serving as a Lodge Inspector, Rodney was approached to become Provincial Grand Lodge Secretary in 2000; before progressing to Provincial Assistant Grand Master in 2006. Then in 2008, when R.W. Bro. Richard Gray was promoted to Provincial Grand Master, Rodney was invited to become Provincial Deputy Grand Master. The week following the funeral of the past Assistant Grand Master, Rodney was preparing to make a trip to Chicago to visit his son, when he received the call from the Grand Master to ask him to become the next Assistant Grand Master. "After getting up from the floor, I asked if I could take time to think it over and give a response following my holiday. I always like to be sure I'm doing the right thing and don't like to take a job without knowing what it entails. Ambition is not the driving force of my Masonic career, being useful and competent are much more important." added Rodney. On being asked what he considered to be a highlight of his life within Freemasonry, he said that it was probably the Grand Master's Festival. Raising £600,000 for charity, by the Brethren, was a tremendous achievement and being a part of that was a privilege. Continuing the work with the Charities as Assistant Grand Master is something he shall relish and is looking forward to. The new Assistant Grand Master was installed at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin on St. John's Day, following which he visited his Mother Lodge in Newtownards Road, before beginning any other of his official duties, for which we wish him health and happiness.

# *A Different Kind of Ancient Craft*

## **Lodge 2 is hosting a unique event which will be of interest to many Brethren and its friends.**

On Friday 25th May at 7.30 pm in the hall, it will host a Charity Craft Beer Tasting and Tutorial chaired by celebrity beer master Dean McGuinness of Newstalk fame and owner of Co. Meath craft brewers - Premier Beers. Dean is Ireland's foremost authority on Craft Beers and one of Europe's top beer experts. It promises to be an entertaining and interesting night with the opportunity to learn about the ancient skill of Craft Beers and of course sample some of the amber nectar made here in Ireland. It must be pointed out that this is not a booze up. Indeed, this is the appreciation of one of the most important products in our history. That sounds a tall claim, but many leading scientists and historians agree that beer actually carved out the history of mankind and gave birth to civilisation.

How? Consider this, the need to grow more barley to produce beer was the reason the ancient Sumerians changed from being hunter gatherers to farmers. It was the first crop ever farmed by ancient civilisations in Mesopotamia, leading to a cascade of inventions, the wheel, the plough, irrigation, the written language, arithmetic and accounting. It effectively started the world's agricultural revolution. It helped build the Pyramids, it saved millions of lives during the Middle Ages. It's at the foundation of modern science and germ theory, it was the reason Louis Pasteur discovered pasteurisation (he was investigating why beers sometimes went off, not milk!) it's even the reason behind the invention of the modern fridge sitting in your kitchen! So if you'd like to learn a little about the ancient and important art of craft brewing and modern

Craft Beers, why not bring a friend or two and come along for an entertaining and educational night in the hall and have the chance to sample some history in a glass or two. Entry is €20 per person, all friends and family, male and female are welcome. Tickets and bookings available from Kevin McParland, Michael Curran and all members of Lodge 2. Email [kevin@masonic.ie](mailto:kevin@masonic.ie)

The Lodge is also having its Annual Funday Shooting and BBQ Event at Newtownmountkennedy on the 22nd July.

There'll be Clay Pigeon Shooting, Target Shooting. There will also be Archery and Laser Shooting for the under 14's and all other interested participants. The event will open at 10.00 am and start at 10.30. The BBQ will be at lunchtime.

All Brethren and their families, friends and kids are welcome. There's something for everyone to enjoy and participate in. Price is €30 per head including either clay or target shooting and BBQ. BBQ on it's own can be enjoyed for only €5.

For tickets and reservations, contact Kevin McParland on 0863536519 [kevin@masonic.ie](mailto:kevin@masonic.ie) or Kerry O'Brien 0868537722 [irishshooters.kerry@gmail.com](mailto:irishshooters.kerry@gmail.com)

The Lodge will end this year's fundraising activities by holding its Whiskey Tasting Night. This event has become synonymous with Lodge 2 and some members even claim to remember how enjoyable the event has been in the past.

*Details of dates and times to follow in next issue.*

### **MetroMason – Adobe PDF format**

Keep postage costs to a minimum and receive MetroMason in Adobe PDF format direct to your desk. MetroMason is available in Adobe PDF Format and if you would like to receive MetroMason by email please email [metromason@eircom.net](mailto:metromason@eircom.net) with your name and Lodge number.



# Summer Lodge

The 14th Annual Summer Lodge will take place on Wednesday 18th July 2012 at 3.00 p.m. where we look forward to meeting many old friends and many new ones. All Masons are welcome to attend and the Metropolitan Board would encourage you to attend this unique meeting. The Metropolitan Board of General Purposes is again sponsoring this event and complimentary refreshments will be provided following the meeting, providing an opportunity to catch up with your fellow Brethren.

The meeting and the proceedings will be under the direction of the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board, R.W. Bro. Philip Daley and the Board is delighted that W. Bro. Patrick Wilkins PAGDC, PPJGW, Provincial Grand Orator (Essex) will be joining us as our special speaker and we look forward to hearing about the "The firing glass that held more than wine".

Lunch will be available prior to the meeting at a cost of €20, and tickets are available from the Hall Porters office or any member of the

Metropolitan Board.

The Claret Jug will be presented at the Summer Lodge Meeting to a Lodge in the Metropolitan Area that in the opinion of the Board has worked together as a team to enhance all aspects of the Lodge. The criteria covers areas such as membership, new candidates, ritual and degree work, charity giving and the social aspect including Festive Boards and visiting other Lodges. The Board encourages all Lodges to consider these criteria when planning their annual programme.

The Captain Alan Guest trophy will also be presented. The trophy commemorates the memory of Captain Alan Guest a Past Master of Dublin Garrison Lodge No. 730 and founder of the Alan Guest Ritual Class now known as the Metropolitan Craft Ritual Class. The trophy is presented to a Metropolitan Lodge with the best attendance at the Metropolitan Craft Ritual classes during the preceding year.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES

## Barbeque & Raffle



*in Freemasons' Hall,  
Moleworth Street, Dublin  
on Saturday, 16th June 2012  
at 7.00 pm.*

**ADULTS €20**  
(STEAK & WINE)

**CHILDREN €5**  
(BURGER & SOFT DRINKS)

Proceeds in aid of Masonic Charities

The Metropolitan Board with the Green Committee proudly present

# A Touch of Magic

at Freemasons' Hall,

On Sunday 2nd December Freemasons' Hall  
Will Mystically Transform into  
Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

*A day of enchantment for children aged 7 to 12. Applications from sons, daughters, grandchildren, godchildren, nieces & nephews are most welcome. Successful applicants will be notified of their acceptance by owl mail and should present themselves for lessons at 17 Molesworth Street at the appointed hour. Correct attire is essential, and students should present in their current school uniform. Alternatively Hogwarts uniform will be permitted.*



*Students shall first collect their wand at Ollivander's Wand Shop before proceeding to the Great Hall at Hogwarts for sorting into their respective houses.*

*Each house shall then advance in turn to their classroom for the prescribed arcane lessons.*

*Potions, Ancient Ruins, Defence Against the Dark Arts and Divination shall be covered, and will be taught by professors highly distinguished in their area of expertise.*

**O.W.L. (Ordinary Wizarding Level) certificates will be presented to those children who have passed their respective examinations and each child will receive a personalised letter from Hogwarts in September.**

Places are extremely limited so early booking is essential.

To register your interest please contact Bro. Gareth Walsh on 087 9215462 or at [Gareth@garethwalsh.ie](mailto:Gareth@garethwalsh.ie).



## To the Manor become Accustomed

Living in Carrick Manor, as I have been for the past 10 years, is really LIVING - no more worries about maintaining a house and garden, no fears of intruders and alarms, no dread of going home to a dark empty house. Now there is time to go places and visit friends, join a club, enjoy music, reading and the arts, do voluntary work, play more golf, bridge or whatever. I am convinced that living in sheltered housing in a caring community like this adds years to a person's lifespan.

Carrick Manor is a small retirement complex, accommodating about 20 people, men and women, mostly with Masonic connections. We all live separate lives and pursue our various interests, but we meet daily for an excellent lunch and for regular social activities organised by our own Sydney Ingram.

While there are no nursing facilities here it is comforting to know that there is someone on call 24/7 and the staff give unstintingly of T.L.C. It is no wonder that quite a number of residents live beyond 90.

It is very conveniently situated near the DART and 2 bus routes, with the Health Clinic, Post Office, Pharmacy and shops close by. It is



surrounded by 2 churches and a Meeting House so we are very well served spiritually.

I love my bungalow and garden and enjoy doing a stint in the communal gardens. Walking along the seafront is another pleasure and watching all the activities in the bay. Life is never dull and it's good to feel safe and surrounded by people who have become my friends.

Ann Peters



**Parking is now available at:  
Royal Irish Automobile Club  
34 Dawson Street, Dublin 2**



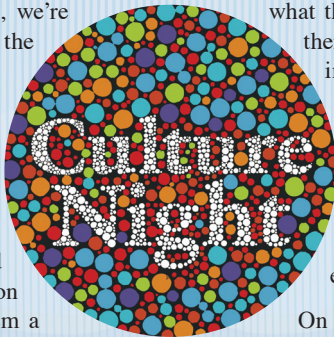
**Monday to Friday 6 pm 'til midnight €5  
Monday to Friday 6 pm 'til 10 am (overnight) €8**

Members are requested to advise the car park attendant that they are a member of the Masonic Order and pay the appropriate fee.

# Culture Night at Freemasons' Hall

Freemasons' Hall will be open on 21st September from 5.00 pm -10.00 pm for those interested in seeing our Victorian gem! Yes, we're taking part in Culture Night for the third year running.

So as not to disappoint the crowds we have come to expect we will keep to our semi self guided format, which enables us to welcome larger numbers than conducted tours would allow. We provide an information sheet to visitors which tells them a little bit about each meeting room, then if they have the time or inclination they can learn more about the building and the Masonic Order from the guides who are placed strategically around the Hall.



You can tell that Dubliners and those from further afield are fascinated and impressed by what they see and are told and though there are always a few challenging individuals to contend with, for the most part feed back is positive. The staff and members who have experienced this special night are looking forward to the event this year, expecting to be simultaneously exhausted and exhilarated by 10.45 pm.

On the Culture Night map we are part of the South Georgian Quarter. Watch out for the coloured balloons which will adorn our brass rails and those which will mark all the participating venues around the city.

*Rebecca Hayes – Curator*

## Diary Dates at Freemasons' Hall

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday, 26th May</b> <b>Biker Outing</b> <i>Departing Molesworth Street 9 am. sharp</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>September 2012</b> <b>Metropolitan Golf Outing</b> <i>in Rathfarnham Golf Club</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday, 7th June 2012 at 2.30 p.m.</b> <b>Grand Lodge Meeting</b> <i>Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth Street</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday, 11th &amp; Saturday, 13th</b> <b>October 2012 at 3.00 p.m.</b> <b>The Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year 2012</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday, 16th June 2012 at 7.00 p.m.</b> <b>Metropolitan BBQ</b> <i>Tickets now available</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Grand Lodge Room, Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth Street</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday, 18th July 2012 at 3.00 p.m.</b> <b>Summer Lodge</b> <i>Special Speaker W. Bro. Patrick Wilkins – "The firing glass that held more than wine". Lunch will be available prior to the meeting.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday, 2nd December 2012</b> <b>A Touch of Magic at Freemason's Hall</b> <b>Harry Potter style</b> <i>The Hall will undergo a mystical transformation into Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.</i></p>



# One Hundred Minutes of Magic

Sunday 9th October 2011. It's 4.45 in the early morning. The shouts of a few stragglers from their Saturday night revels carry over the silent streets, but Molesworth Street is almost deserted, a light rain causing the two solitary remaining pedestrians to draw their coats around them and scurry along towards shelter. All the buildings except two are dark and deserted. The night lights of the foyer of Buswells Hotel barely penetrate the gloom. Only Freemasons' Hall is ablaze with light on the first and ground floors.

The second year of the Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year had ended at midnight on Saturday and brilliant young pianist Alexander Bernstein has been sent off into the night, warmly congratulated by The Grand Master and the whole audience, proudly clutching his Certificate and cheque. Everyone else, discussing what was to be described the following week by the Sunday Business Post as 'a superb competition of very high standard', had gone off to their homes well satisfied with a wonderful evening of music.

The united aim of everyone is to produce over the Semi-Finals and Finals of the competition, what we call "one hundred minutes of magic" in wonderful surroundings, with a welcome, which reflects well on Freemasonry. Feedback received shows that we are achieving this and it is building year on year.

The whole process starts as soon as the previous year has ended with a review meeting, the Chairman of the Jury, one of our Patrons, Mrs Jane Carty, writes to the Music Colleges to

confirm that they wish to enter semi-finalists for the following year. So far every Music College in Ireland awarding third level degrees in Music Performance has nominated entrants except Queens University Belfast, which although asked, have so far declined our invitation to participate.

October and now everyone becomes involved.

IFYM takes over the Grand Lodge

Room from Tuesday, the lighting is delivered and the hired Steinway Grand Piano put in place, tuned, and checked by our Patron, Dearbhla Collins.

The Grand Lodge Staff commence the very complex job of rearranging all the seating to turn the Grand Lodge

Room into a Theatre. The Jury arrive in Ireland from all over Europe

on the Wednesday of Competition week. The

Jury is absolutely and completely independent of the Competition Organisers and Grand Lodge and once the Competition commences, has no contact with them except through R.W. Bro. Robert Winters.

The Semi-Finals on Thursday eventually result in the Jury announcing the four Competitors who will perform on the Saturday. Everybody holds their breath for the final, which arrives on Saturday. A culmination of hundreds of hours of everyone's work, with everyone centred on our goal of "one hundred minutes of magic".

As a part of our outreach programme, great importance is placed on the first impression which the audience receive on arriving at Freemasons' Hall. A large number of them will never have been there before. Front-of-House welcoming is therefore extremely important.



Saturday is the culmination. The RTÉ sound engineers arrive and set up their equipment to record the Final for broadcasting by RTÉ Lyric fm two days later as 'The Lyric Concert'. The four finalists, very nervous, await their call. Patron, Eamonn Lawlor, as the presenter for the evening goes to the microphone and welcomes the audience, and introduces the Jury, and then the first finalist. The Final has started. Downstairs the work carries on – but very quietly – preparing the main dining rooms for the Grand Master's Reception. The other finalists pace up and down silently in their dressing room awaiting their call, or nervously tune and retune their instrument.

The Grand Master hosts a Post-Competition reception, and this again provides a valuable

opportunity to promote Freemasonry to people with influence in Ireland. Conversation is easy as the subject is of course the results of the competition. Did you get it right? Did you have the same order? I thought "xxxx" was going to win!

The time drifts towards midnight, and guest start to wander from the building. Slowly the room empties, and the fatigue on some of the faces of the people who have been there all day is beginning to show. Farewell is said to the last guests as they go to their cars.

Saturday, 13th October 2012, sees this year's Finale of the Young Musician of the Year Competition. Tickets will be available in early September from the Hall Porter's desk.



Supported by

RTÉ lyric fm



## Emerald Masonic Lodge No. 49 Greystones

### OPEN MEETING

**Friday, 8th June 2012 at the Lodge Room in Greystones, Co. Wicklow.**

*All Brethren are invited to attend, particularly those attending Lodges in the Metropolitan area but living in the Greystones and surrounding areas.*

Our Principal Speaker on the night will be

R.W. Bro. Harvey Heavener,

Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Wicklow and Wexford.

The Brethren of Lodge No. 49 welcome Brethren to what will be an interesting and enjoyable meeting. Please advise Stuart McBain, Secretary (Phone 087 1387801 Email: [stuartmcbain@eircom.net](mailto:stuartmcbain@eircom.net)) of your intention to attend in order to facilitate our usual catering arrangements.

**The views expressed in *MetroMason* are those of the contributor and are not necessarily those of the Editor, Metropolitan Board of General Purposes or Grand Lodge of Ireland.**



# New Members Committee

In recent years the volume of enquiries received by the Office and the Grand Lodge website concerning membership of Freemasonry has increased dramatically. All have a very common theme, ‘How do I go about joining?’ and ‘Do I have to know someone?’ being the most commonly asked questions. It became apparent that there are a significant number of potential candidates who are genuinely interested in Freemasonry and may make excellent Masons and, in the absence of any information about joining, their only option is to email us or, in the case of the bolder ones, to call in and ask.

In December 2010 under the authority of the Grand Secretary’s office, a “new members committee” was formed. This committee is made up of W. Bro. Morgan McCreadie, Assistant to the Grand Secretary, V.W. Bro. Peter Fellows McCully, W. Bro. Daniel Stanford and Bro. Keith Stent. The task was seemingly simple; to meet these potential Masons, and pass those with a genuine interest in the Craft to Lodges for Scrutineering. The following is the mission statement of the Committee.

- i) The Committee is not in favour of the “get ‘em in and sign ‘em up quick” policy that could prove to be disastrous. All applicants have been in contact with the Committee for at least six months prior to a letter recommending them to a Lodge. The applicant will have been given at least one tour of Freemasons’ Hall which incorporates a Question and Answer session with W. Bro. McCreadie, W. Bro. Stanford and Bro. Stent, and will also have met with one of the aforesaid on at least one other occasion.
- ii) It is NOT the purpose of the Committee to pass applicants as suitable for Freemasonry. That is the duty of the Lodges themselves, and ultimately, of the various Metropolitan and Provincial Committees of Inspection,

and we would suggest that extra care is required when Scrutineering. The Committee would appreciate feedback from Lodges on all applicants, successful or not.

Since its foundation the New Members Committee has recommended over 40 gentlemen to Lodges. Of these over half are now members of Lodges in Dublin, Wicklow and Wexford and Counties Down and Antrim. Some of the others are awaiting Ballot and to be passed at the appropriate Committees of Inspection. Those who are passed to the Provinces are parties who have emailed us through the Grand Lodge website. So far we have had excellent feedback from all the Lodges which have initiated candidates and that feedback is one of the most important parts of the process. The New Members Committee relies on Lodges to tell it how a candidate is progressing.

Those applicants who have been initiated or are currently going through the scrutineering process are from a wide range of cultural backgrounds, ages and occupations. Military historians, archaeologists, salesmen, students and musicians from Ireland and indeed from a range of Countries in and outside of Europe. The Committee takes great care in suggesting gentlemen to Lodges and is particularly concerned that these men suit the requirements of Freemasonry and that they will suit that particular Lodge they are referred to.

There are currently 23 applications being reviewed at April and May’s New Members’ Committee meeting and a further 15 who are due to come in and meet with us. We look forward to hearing from the Lodges who have helped future generations of Masons into the Craft and to meeting many more.

# Metropolitan Golf Outing

It has come to the attention to the Metropolitan Board of General Purposes that many Lodges who traditionally organised their own Annual Golf Outings are no longer doing so. This has happened due to a wide variety of reasons. The Board has decided to organise a Metropolitan



Golf Outing this year. The event will take place on Friday, 28th September at Rathfarnham Golf Club and the tee has been reserved from 1.30 to 2.30 pm. The 15 hole competition is open to all Members, Wives, Partners, Friends and Family.

Many Lodges will have Golf Trophies from their own Golf Outings and are being given the opportunity to present these to their members by using this event as their own. Prizes will be awarded to Masonic Brethren, Non-Masons and Ladies. The presentations will take place at the Dinner that follows the Golf which has been organised to start at 7.30pm in the Club House. During the Dinner and Presentation of Prizes there will be a Raffle with proceeds going to the Masonic Charities.

Green Fees €20 (Rathfarnham Golf Club Members €10) Dinner and Presentation of Prizes €30.00. It is hoped that this will be a very well supported occasion and we look forward to making it an annual event. Looking forward to seeing you there.

## Now in Stock

		
<p><i>Bow Tie</i></p>	<p><i>Neck Tie</i></p>	<p><i>Pin Badge</i></p>
<p>€15</p>	<p>€15</p>	<p>€5</p>

*Available from the Hall Porters' Desk*



# Knight Masonry in Dublin

The Metropolitan Area contains six Councils of Knight Masons (a large concentration!). The Great Chief's Council was among the first Councils to be formed in 1923. Great Chief's Council holds a position similar to that of the Grand Master's Lodge or the Grand Master's Royal Arch Chapter. Babylon Council No. 6 is one of the largest Councils on the Roll, having extensive international membership. Media Council No. 13 is a very lively and friendly group, both in Council and at its Festive Board. Cyrus Council No. 29 recently celebrated its 75th anniversary and is enjoying much increased attendances. Darius Council No. 38 is currently instituting a programme for the immediate development of the Council. Sassena Council No. 33, as the name suggests, has a substantial membership from England, drawn from the ranks of the famous Military Lodge, Glittering Star No. 322. Council 33 meets in Dublin twice a year and no visitor will leave dissatisfied.

Knight Masonry has much to offer the active Freemason, its elaborate and colourful Ceremonies and Degrees representing allegorically the building of the Second Temple by a Prince of the House of Judah. This branch of the Order is also known for its friendly hospitality to strangers, as well as its lively and informal Festive Board.

Knight Masonry thrives in many areas outside Dublin, and it is hoped that Metropolitan Knight Masonry can build a firm structure of Masonic, Chivalric friendship. To this end, Grand Council is informally considering possibilities which could encourage greater participation and cooperation between Metropolitan Councils. Ideally, a group could be formed, drawn from both the more experienced Sir Knights and from the active, more recently created Sir Knights. The aim of the group would be to provide a forum for discussion of development within the area.

One suggestion which could be considered is the viability of a "Summer Council". The aim is not to reproduce the very successful Summer Lodge, but instead to draw on the experience of the Craft in arranging events which are both Masonic and social. While no immediate plans are in place, initially a Summer Council may be a modest event; all Metropolitan Knight Masons may meet under a Warrant in the Grand Council Chamber (or elsewhere if the numbers demand). The meeting, to which a guest speaker may be invited, may be followed by an informal Festive Board.

Knight Masonry is increasing in membership along with the Craft, and every Knight Mason is encouraged to promote interest in this Chivalric Order.

## *Father and Son Strengthen Victoria Lodge IV*

W. Bro. Paul Gerety of Victoria Lodge IV with his son, Andrew, who recently received his Sublime Degree as a Master Mason with W. Bro. Joseph Byrne, Victoria Lodge IV Secretary. W. Bro. Paul is a Past Master of the Lodge and a well known ritualist throughout the Metropolitan Area.



# Dalkey Lodge News

## OUR NEW TENANT & CARETAKER:



The good news is that we have filled the post of Tenant/ Caretaker and thank all those who applied for the post which was advertised in late 2011.

The successful Applicant is Madeleine Doherty who took up the post in early March and has already settled in very well. Moving house is not an easy task as I know only too well having moved no fewer than 16 times during my life so far! Madeleine provides the Lodge with supper after our labours and is to be complimented on the high standard she has adopted.

Madeleine is a Harpist by profession and her musical and singing skills are well known in Ireland and many parts of the United States of America. She participates at many private and public functions such as her popularity and professionalism.

I am sure she will be demonstrating her abilities with the harp and voice at one or more of the musical concerts in Grand Lodge Room in the near future.

We wish Madeleine good health and happiness at 9 Castle Street, Dalkey, and if you happen to be passing by you may even hear the harp strings being plucked!

## GARDEN PARTY

Dalkey Masonic Lodge No. 261 invite you to its Garden Party to be held at Treetops, Greenlands, off Sandyford Road, Dublin 16 (Sandyford Rd. from Dundrum – Greenlands is cul de sac on left) Parking is available on the approach road to Treetops on Saturday 9th June 2012 from 3 pm to 7 pm.

So please come along, have a relaxing hot meal and enjoy yourself whilst supporting the Masonic Charities.

For only €20 you will get the best of hot food, a glass of wine (or soft drink) plus a cup of tea or coffee. There will also be a Grand Raffle with super prizes.

It will be a fun event and we have been promised good weather from the Man above - but in the unlikely event of rain we promise to feed you indoors

By kind permission of W. Bro. Alan Tomlin and his wife, Barbara, to whom the Lodge is most grateful.

**MASONIC BIKERS:** I have just learnt that several of the Young Members in the Metropolitan Area have taken to cycling and intend to undertake a tour of Lodge Buildings from Dublin to Gorey and their first port of call will be Dalkey (the only Metropolitan Lodge which holds its meetings outside Molesworth Street). We wish them well on their long cycle trek on Saturday 25th May and trust they will have fully recovered by the Monday morning!

**ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF RESEARCH NO 222:** News has reached me and my colleagues in Dalkey Lodge that the Royal Arch Chapter of Research No. 222 plans to hold a Meeting of the Management Committee in our Lodge Room on Saturday, 13th October during the early afternoon. This will be followed by a Convocation and dinner afterwards. This is most interesting and welcome news and I know that many Brethren of Lodge No. 261 will wish to attend. It's good to know that we are back on the Masonic Map!



# An Invitation from Canada



My wife Heather and I are interested in doing a Home Exchange with a like minded Mason in Ireland. This Home Exchange, or Trade, would take place during the Month of September. We realize that many people will have already planned their vacation for this year. So perhaps next September might be more suitable.

### We prefer September for three reasons.

1. Most Lodges are at labour in September
2. The busy months for our B&B are July & August
3. It's still reasonably nice weather outdoors

My wife and I have participated in two successful Home Trades. ["HomeLink International"]

**1996** - We did a 5 week Home Exchange in England. Of course the Lodge visits & correspondence were wonderful.

**2000** - We did a 4½ week Home Exchange in Scotland. The gentleman at the other end turned out to be a Mason. This time the exchange went to a different level as his son just happened to be the Junior Warden of their Lodge and we correspond to this day.

**2012** - Ireland! We have a school teacher, in our Village, who's currently doing a professional exchange with his counterpart in Australia.



Queen Anne Turret Bed & Breakfast 401 Nelson Avenue, Nakusp.

### Why not Freemasons?

It makes vacationing very affordable and you have a house & car at your disposal. In our experience, your home is usually cleaner when you arrive home than when you left it. I can't think of a more trustworthy person than a Brother Freemason. My wife Heather and I live in the Village of Nakusp, British Columbia, Canada. Our Village gets it's name from the Native term for "Bay of Quiet Waters" (Not always true) Nakusp is situated on the Upper Arrow Lakes, nestled between the Selkirk and Monashee Mountain Ranges.

- *Trails, Lakes, Hotsprings and Sightseeing*
- *Breathtaking mountains*
- *Isolated location with towns & cities readily accessible by car*
- *Our Village has one Masonic Lodge {Star of the West No. 61}*
- *New Denver {Slocan Lodge No. 29} is 35 minutes down the highway*
- *Others - Down the highway*

The Brethren of Nakusp will be happy to welcome you.

If a sense of adventure is in your heart you can contact me at - [mdhpeters@telus.net](mailto:mdhpeters@telus.net)

You can also Log onto - Nakusp and Arrow Lakes. ( You'll also find our B&B Website.)

*Fraternally,*  
*R.W. Bro. M. Douglas Peters*  
*Maple Leaf Park Lodge*  
*Grand Lodge of British Columbia & Yukon*



# Thank You

Following the introduction of the new form designed to provide a faster and more accurate record of the Metropolitan membership, its activities and the widows it supports, I would like to offer my grateful thanks to the many Lodge Secretaries who have taken the time and trouble to complete this form at their regular monthly meetings.

In addition the Board is indebted to the Tylers for ensuring the forms are with the Secretaries for each meeting and for the collection of same following the meeting.

One side of the form includes information on attendance and what business took place at the meetings. This information is assisting the Board in creating a true up to date picture of attendance and more importantly the exciting and varied programmes that Lodges are undertaking and their plans for the future covering Lodge meetings, social outings and fundraising.

The reverse of the form permits Lodges to keep us right up to date on changes to Lodge membership and widows that your Lodge care for. Particularly the inclusion of new members as soon as they have been initiated is of great importance and ensures that they are kept abreast of what is happening in the Metropolitan Area through their inclusion on our email database.

For those Lodge Secretaries who are not completing these forms, we would ask for your cooperation in assisting the Metropolitan Board in keeping our database right up to date and in turn keeping all members in the Metropolitan Area informed.

The Tylers office will issue the forms for each of your meetings and they can then be returned to the Tyler when your Lodge finishes its business.

*R.W. Bro. Philip Daley  
Chairman, Metropolitan Board*

**METROPOLITAN BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES**  
Please complete at each of your Lodge meetings

Lodge \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Members on the Roll \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number Present \_\_\_\_\_ Members \_\_\_\_\_ Visitors \_\_\_\_\_

Business at the meeting \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees  Ballot  Candidates Proposed

Has the Lodge a Programme for the year? if yes, please give details: \_\_\_\_\_

*If there are any changes to your Lodge membership, Resignations, (Deaths) Deceased or Struck Off, complete the*

Lodge Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

*Please leave with the Tyler or post to The Metropolitan Board, Freemasons' Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin 2 or email to [general@metboard.com](mailto:general@metboard.com)*

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**METROPOLITAN BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES**  
Please amend the Membership or Widows Database as follows:

Lodge \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick all the relevant boxes:

Member  Widowed

New  Deceased  Resigned  Struck Off  Change of Address

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Landline \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Lodge Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Please leave with the Tyler or post to The Metropolitan Board, Freemasons' Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin 2 or email to [general@metboard.com](mailto:general@metboard.com)*

# 50 Year Jewel

W. Bro. Albert Styles receiving his 60 year Certificate and Bar to his 50 year Jewel from W. Bro. Wayne Sheridan, Secretary of Clontarf Lodge No. 249. Albert was initiated in Freemasonry in 1951 when he joined Garrison Lodge No. 730. Sometime later Albert affiliated to Doric Lodge No. 343 and when they returned their Warrant he affiliated to Clontarf Lodge No. 249. Due to Albert's mobility difficulties he is unable to attend his Lodge meeting in Molesworth Street.

