

arena



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WINTER 2017



**LONDON MASONS AT
THE LORD MAYOR'S
SHOW 2016**

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A selection of London Events:

Secretaries/Scribes E Seminar

17th January 2017

DC Seminar

30th January 2017

Website Workshop

3rd February 2017

RA Representative Seminars

6th February 2017

3rd May 2017

Lodge & Chapter Mentoring Training Workshops

8th February 2017

Welcome Seminar for New Companions

15th February 2017

19th April 2017

Treasurers/Auditors Workshop

15th March 2017

ALO Course

8th May 2017

Secretaries/Scribes E Seminar

16th May 2017

See Porchway for more information and details

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FOREWORD

E Comp Chris Clark Deputy Metropolitan Grand Superintendent



Brethren and Companions,

The 2017 Tercentenary Year of Freemasonry is now upon us and we have a large number of enjoyable events planned to celebrate this remarkable milestone. The main event is at the Royal Albert Hall on 31st October, with dinner at the Battersea Evolution, and is open to all, including Entered Apprentices, Fellowcrafts, and Master Masons. There will be live streaming at other centres for those who fail to secure tickets in the ballot. Amongst other events planned are the Guildhall Banquet on 29th June, the Summer Party in Berkshire in July (date to be confirmed). There is also the Sky television series 'Inside Freemasonry'

to look out for early in the new year.

After the great success of our London Air Ambulance Appeal, the Metropolitan Tercentenary theme for London is "volunteering". The focus is as much on donating time and effort as it is on financial giving. Freemasons are individually and collectively an important part of the wider community and we should all try to improve the public's awareness of the good work that we do, while maintaining a sensible balance between our families, work, and masonic commitments.

It would be remiss of me to not to mention what we are doing in the Royal Arch in London. Our two playlets - "Talking Heads" and "In

Camera" - continue to be performed across London and within the Provinces. The Metropolitan Grand Stewards are showing us how to add theatre to the Exaltation ceremony and how to share the ritual between several Companions. Performance dates are usually posted on Porchway and all qualified Companions are welcome to attend.

We have two important Annual Installation meetings on the horizon - Metropolitan Grand Lodge on 2nd March and Metropolitan Grand Chapter on 6th April - and I hope to see as many London masons as possible there to support those receiving honours.

EDITORIAL

Dear arena readers

There has been a lot going on recently for the London Brother and Companion, but also much to look forward to. Many brethren have received recognition for their commitment to Masonry and the community through being invested with either, London Rank, London Grand Rank or indeed Senior London Grand Rank. I am sure that they all are particularly looking forward to wearing their new regalia and receiving congratulations from their Lodges and from their friends across London. In this edition of Arena we

look at the investiture and all the other events which have been going on recently.

We consider the Volunteering Initiative so close to the Metropolitan Grand Master's heart and also what's been going on with both the Connaught Club and Kent Club. Our series of 'Men at the Top' looks into the careers, both personal and masonic, of two of our Metropolitan Inspectors and we have our usual updates from the various sports clubs. We look at the Lord Mayor's Parade and also The Metropolitan Ladies Night, both of which took place in the run up toward the festive season.

It is clear to regular arena readers that within Metropolitan Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter there is a vast array of things going on, and yet more

to be done. However so many brethren remain only a member of one unit and are, accordingly, largely unclear as to the scale of London Masonry. arena readers are well aware that retention statistics leap substantially when a Brother joins a second lodge, goes into the Royal Arch or in some other way broadens their masonic horizons. We all know brethren who might benefit from being shown this arena magazine and hopefully it will open their eyes to all the opportunities Masonry in London affords them.

I trust you've all enjoyed the festive period, and are looking forward to your Masonry across London and beyond.

W.Bro Rod Glyn-Thomas, LGR
Deputy Editor, arena



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GRAND FINALE TO LONDON FREEMASONS TWO-MILLION-POUND DONATION

W. Bro David Neale, LGR, reports

The end of the Metropolitan Grand Lodge pledge to provide two million pounds to help fund a badly needed second emergency helicopter for London's Air Ambulance was marked by three important events. At the first, in Freemasons' Hall, before leading figures from London's business community and representatives of London's Livery Companies, the Metropolitan Grand Secretary, W. Bro Capt. David Swain, RN, PJGD welcomed the guests and played the Metropolitan Grand Lodge's film about the helicopter entering service in February this year.

Mark Davies, Interim Deputy CEO and Director of Development for London's Air Ambulance said in his address, "I would like to give special

thanks to the Metropolitan Grand Lodge of London for making the introduction of the second helicopter possible through the generous support of London Freemasons."

Two weeks later, at a reception on the terrace of the House of Commons hosted by the Rt Hon Boris Johnson PC MP and Rushanara Ali MP for Bethnal Green and Bow, where the Helicopter is based, Dr Anne Weaver, a consultant with London's Air Ambulance, said "In particular I'd like to thank London Freemasons for their significant contribution that has made the second air ambulance possible".

In early November Air Ambulance doctors and pilots paraded into the Metropolitan investiture meeting to a standing ovation from the brethren

to receive the final £500,000 instalment from the Metropolitan Grand Master, RW Bro Sir Michael Snyder.

Bro Michael said, "London Freemasons have responded magnificently to the challenge, totally embracing the initiative and allowing us to complete the fundraising in only 18 months rather than the expected 24! Our members have undertaken all sorts of charity fundraising events from garden parties to bridge walks and running many marathons. It hasn't just been our members either, as they have been joined by their families and friends in totally supporting our pledge to support the communities of London with this very special and now completed project."



THE MEN AT THE TOP: JAMIE INGHAM CLARK



*W. Bro Rod Glyn-Thomas,
LGR, interviews...*

Bro Robert James (Jamie) Ingham Clark was born in 1959 in West London. Coming from a family with a history of Masonry, he has always focussed on volunteering, kindness and charity when he could, outside of his working life in the city. Bro Jamie has been involved in volunteering since he left school. This includes being the weapons training instructor at East Barnet Rifle Range for the Scouts. In this role he taught Scouts from the age of 12 years old how to shoot air pistols and air rifles. Bro Jamie is a particularly good shot, having earlier won the Honourable Artillery Company's prize for the best aggregate score with pistol, rifle and sub machine gun when he was in the Territorial Army. Bro Jamie is proud that whenever the scout group was entered into the National Scout Competition at Bisley, at least one podium place was achieved. He has also used his professional skills to support numerous church groups and local charities by providing free auditing and accountancy work to them over a protracted period of time. To understand where this focus on voluntary work stems from it's necessary to go back to the beginning.

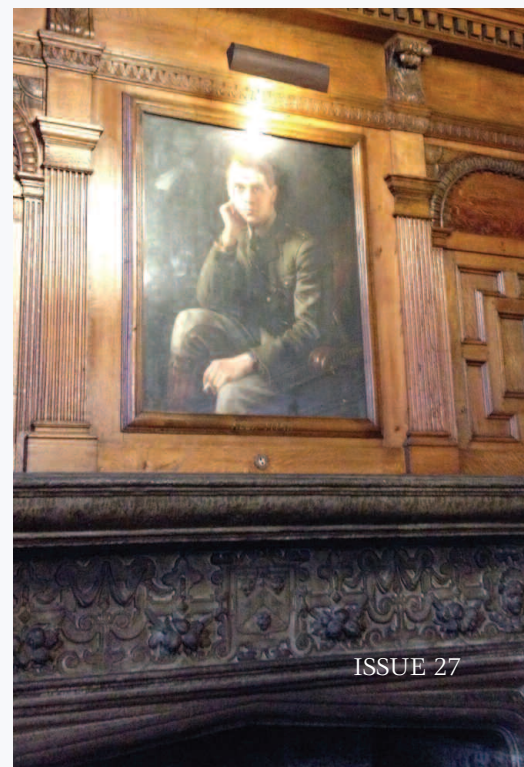
Bro Jamie was born into a family that had a particularly strong masonic and charitable focus. His father had been Grand Secretary General of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite (often referred to as 'Rose Croix' although that is only one of

the degrees of the Rite). Bro Jamie's grandfather had been Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Berkshire and his great grandfather had risen to Grand Master Mason Depute in Scottish Masonry, this particular role being equivalent in some ways to the role of Pro Grand Master in our constitution. The list of relatives who have been involved in Masonry extends into the mists of time but from what Bro Jamie can tell he's at least a fifth generation mason across both sides of his family, his maternal grandfather having been a DepPGM in the Mark.

Bro Jamie, as a boy went to Harrow school in London, where a number of his relatives had gone also. Amongst these relatives was Bro Jamie's great uncle, 2nd Lieutenant Alex Fitch who was killed in northern France in September 1918 towards the end of the First World War. Alex Fitch was one of the 644 Old Harrovians who had died in the Great War and his parents were determined to ensure the school remembered the sacrifice made by all these lads who'd attended the school. To that end a memorial to him, the Alex Fitch room, was created in the school's War Memorial Building. In the room above the fireplace is a copy of a portrait of Fitch in uniform. His head rests on his right hand and he is holding a cigarette in his left. Over the portrait burns a light and it burns permanently. The original is in Bro Jamie's care. The room was built for a specific purpose. Fitch's family, especially his mother Lady Fitch, wanted a place where parents visiting the school could meet their sons. Subsequent generations of the Fitch

family have made use of the room. Bro Jamie's father was also at Harrow, according to him, mostly because of the fact that Alex Fitch had been there. Bro Jamie takes pride in the school's memorial both when he was there and to this day.

Although Bro Jamie did well at school he wasn't entirely the model student. For a number of years at the school he'd built up a friendship with the family of Guy Elgood (who went on to be the first Metropolitan Grand Director of ceremonies). In return for building benches and other handy items for the Elgood family he was allowed to store his motorbike in the Elgood garage. All motor vehicles were strictly forbidden in the school and Bro Jamie was occasionally spotted with a motorcycle helmet but no motorcycle. For some time he engaged in a game of cat and mouse with his house master





who was determined to catch him with the motorcycle and hence have him punished for the obvious flouting of school rules. Bro Jamie, to this day, takes great delight in the fact that he was never caught with it whilst at school. This was capped by revealing all to the said house master some twenty years later at a school function.

After school Bro Jamie trained as chartered accountant (FCA) at the City of London Polytechnic (now part of London Metropolitan University) which he particularly enjoyed. Pretty much at exactly the same time he joined the Territorial Army through the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC). This was a natural extension to having been a member of the City of London Cadet Force whilst at school. Bro Jamie always loved being part of the HAC and served for sixteen years as a Lance Corporal.

When Bro Jamie was twenty one he was initiated into Jerusalem Lodge No. 197. Jerusalem is one of the nineteen red apron lodges and has the distinction of being one of the two non-original red apron lodges having taken over the honour from Pilgrim Lodge in 1834. He distinctly remembers distinctly being led into the temple for the first time, and recognising every voice he heard. Which, when you consider all the masons in his family were members, is hardly surprising!

Bro Jamie was quickly moved into office and found himself a Grand Steward at twenty-six years old. On reflection, he probably found himself in that role too young and didn't really appreciate the honour being bestowed on him. He was also heavily involved in the Territorial Army and setting out on his career as an accountant working for Ernst & Whinney, chartered

accountants in the City of London. Bro Jamie chose to be a Grand Steward again in 2008 and as he puts it himself, this time he got far more out of doing the role and did it on his own terms rather than doing it as extension of his relatives who'd been masons.

In 1986 Bro Jamie started work for Chandler Hargreaves Limited (Lloyd's brokers) as its financial controller. This was the beginning of nearly thirty years working within the Lloyd's framework of insurance and underwriting, where he's always enjoyed the challenge of the work involved. His working life moved through various finance director roles within the sphere until in 2006 he set up TIC Consulting Limited with W. Bro David Thomson, PAGDC, Metropolitan Grand Treasurer, providing consultancy services across the Lloyd's markets. Bro Jamie and Bro David have been friends

Five things you didn't know about Jamie Ingham Clark:

- 1) He proposed to wife Celia six weeks after their first date and they were married within nine months!
- 2) He's a member of the Marylebone Cricket Club and regularly attends test matches. He has an ambition to travel to Australia to watch all five tests of an Ashes test series.
- 3) Bro Jamie has played at Wembley. To be precise he played the Flute for the Honourable Artillery Company at half time of the Community Shield Match
- 4) Is Lay Vice Chairman of the Church St Lawrence Jewry
- 5) Is a Vice President of the Circuit of Service Lodges

Masonic Career

Craft

Jerusalem Lodge No. 197

Initiated 16th Dec 1980 Raised 17th Nov 1981

WM Jan 1986 & 2008

Grand Steward 1986-87 & 2008-09

(Board Chaplain)

Grand Stewards' Lodge Joined 1986

Ingham Clark Lodge No. 8164 Joined 1992

Victoria Rifles Lodge No. 822 Joined 2007 (WM 2013)

Corium Lodge No. 4041 Joined 2008 (WM 2013)

Facta Non Verba Lodge No. 3409 Honorary Member 2010 (now closed)

Guildhall Lodge No. 3116 Joined 2013

Combined Services Lodge No. 9900 Founder IPM 11th Nov 2014

Appointed AGDC 2008

Appointed Metropolitan VO 2011

Appointed Metropolitan SVO 2013

Appointed MetGInsp 2015

Promoted PSGD 2015

Scottish Constitution

Life Member Kyles of Bute Lodge No 1120

Royal Arch

St George's RAC No. 5 Exalted 10th April 1986 (MEZ 1993)

Old Shiburian Chapter No 3304 joined 2013

Britannic Chapter No 33 Elected Honorary member 2015

LGCR 2000

Metropolitan G Soj 2007

SLGCR 2008

Metropolitan DepGDC 2009 - 2012

Appointed GStB 2011

Appointed VO 2011

Appointed Met G Insp 2015

Promoted PGSoj 2015

Bro Jamie is also a member of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, Knights Templar and the Mark through his Scottish Lodge

for over 15 years and have both the City and the Craft in common over that time.

When Bro Jamie was Grand Steward in 2008 he was at the same time appointed Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. This led to some significant debate as to which role he would perform during the four quarterly communications meetings of that year. After some discussion, and changing plans during the year he ended up acting as AGDC for one meeting and three as Grand Steward.

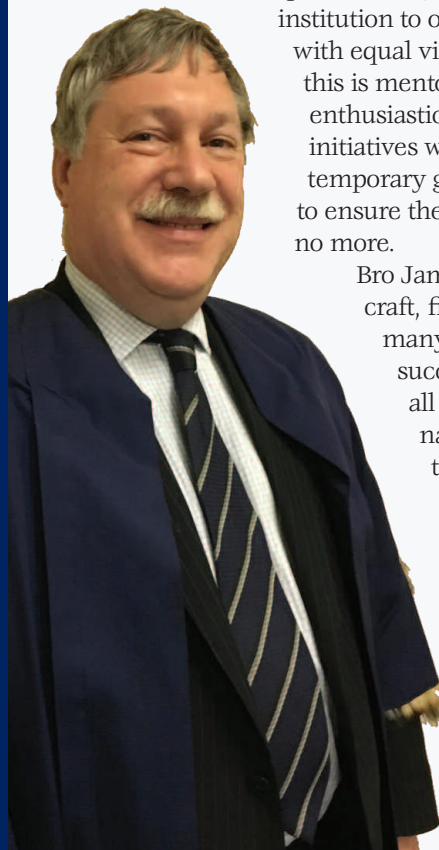
In Metropolitan Grand Chapter, he was appointed a MetDepGDC in 2009, which he found to be a defining moment in his masonic experience. The close-knit camaraderie and shared experience have meant so much to him had he is the secretary of the 'Met Dep Mess' where he hopes he is able to pass on some of his enthusiasm to those subsequently appointed to that post. He was appointed Metropolitan visiting officer in Craft and Royal Arch in 2011 and then senior visiting officer in the Craft in September 2013. He enjoyed working in these roles, particularly when he had the opportunity of presenting fiftieth certificates to brethren who've demonstrated a substantial contribution to the Craft. He considers this a particular honour. In 2015 he was appointed to Metropolitan Grand Inspector and also Past Senior Grand Deacon.

Outside of work and the Craft Bro Jamie is married to Celia who is a Consultant Surgeon at the Whittington Hospital and also heavily involved in NHS policy work. They met underwater through a scuba diving club, but only actually got chatting when Celia spotted him reading an Isaac Asimov book. This peaked her interest as she'd been the chair of the Science Fiction Club at Cambridge University. They have two adult sons, both following in their mother's footsteps, one as a medical student and the other as Lacrosse coach, both of which she excelled at herself. Bro Jamie enjoys following the English national cricket team and cooking. Although he points out that he can follow a recipe with great success, his skills at creating a menu for others is somewhat haphazard.

Bro Jamie has also followed his father into the Order of St John, one of the chivalric orders of the Crown but, importantly, not the State. This he enjoys and currently is one of the senior members of the Ceremonial Staff of the Order. He's also a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Clothworker's and a member of the Court of Common Council for the Corporation of London.

Overall Jamie has great pleasure in being able to impart his skill, and the history and ethos of an institution to others and seeing them be taken on with equal vigour. He realises in retrospect that this is mentoring in its widest sense and is an enthusiastic supporter of the recent mentoring initiatives within Masonry. We are after all just temporary guardians of our traditions with a duty to ensure they continue after time with us shall be no more.

Bro Jamie, on looking back on his time in the craft, firmly believes that it has given him many of the life skills that have made him successful both professionally but also in all other avenues of life. He says he was naturally an introvert when young and these skills he's picked up along the way have enabled him to become the person he is today. He considers that it has helped him in being better organised and particularly in confidence and public speaking.



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CONNAUGHT CLUB UPDATE

W. Bro Lewis Clement keeps us abreast of events

Just as the cold winter frost sets in, the Connaught Club's year is only just heating up! On Thursday 10 November, members and guests of the Club packed into the Courthouse Hotel Cinema to enjoy a feature length masonic surprise. I am advised that there is a fashion in amongst the beard billed hipsters of East London, to book a night at the cinema without knowledge of what film is to be shown. Well, we tried it with our own "Masonic Secret Cinema" evening.

The lights dimmed, and with popcorn at the ready our unsuspecting audience was treated to around two hours of murder, gore and Masonic references. Ian Currans loved it. The film was "From Hell" which, in a nutshell, graphically blames the Freemasons for committing the Jack the Ripper

murders. Despite the gore, we all enjoyed a sociable evening in each other's company once again. Although I did have to explain to my wife at some length that it was not a documentary.

The other highlight of the winter months for the Club is our annual Christmas Dinner which at the time of writing has not yet taken place. The Club's Christmas Dinner has become somewhat infamous in the Club's calendar, and certainly not an event to be missed by the membership. As it will seem a little silly to report on our Christmas Dinner in the summer edition of Arena, I will now prospectively report on the evening's events: We met promptly at the East India Club around 7pm for champagne and small talk; proceeding then to dinner where each obsequious member

gleefully ate (and did not throw) all his vegetables. After dinner, we listened to a witty, compendious and highbrow speech from Brother Chairman without gambit; sang four verses of God Save the Queen, and went to bed by twelve. At least that's how it's supposed to go!

After our tame and well behaved Christmas dinner, we are looking forward to our annual pub quiz, Worshipful Mastermind, that is taking place at the Freemason's Arms at 6.30pm on 6 January 2017. Again, this may have taken place by the time this article is published, in which case, I can report that I still haven't found my trousers after the Christmas Dinner, and that my quiz team came second, again!

In all seriousness, the Club is once again looking forward to an active and jam-packed year. In January we





have our Club Quiz; on 25th February the Club Lodge, Burgoyne 902, will be raising a member of the Club on behalf of his mother lodge; in March we are hoping to host our own mentoring course; in April we are planning a visit to Rome to see whether their festive boards are as good as ours; and in May we look forward to our annual Open Reception where we invite prospective Club members and guests to join us for talks and drinks in the Grand Temple. Along with these events we always meet on the first Friday of every month at the Freemason's Arms for a casual after work drink. If any brother would like to introduce prospective candidates to us, or knows of any younger Masons curious about the Club – please do bring them along!

Many members of the Connaught Club were very upset not to get tickets to the Grand Lodge's Grand Ball, celebrating the tercentenary of

organised Freemasonry. Well, to remedy this, the Club is hosting a grand ball of its own on Saturday 15th July at the St John's Museum, Clerkenwell. Further details to follow shortly, however we are planning a dazzling black tie event with music, magic, dancing, champagne and a whole lot of laughs. The event will be open to friends and guests with tickets expected to be in the region of £60. So please keep an eye on our website for forthcoming information!

Those eagle-eyed readers will recall that in the last issue of arena I said we were shortly going to announce our charity for the year – well I can now tell you the Club is supporting Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust as our chosen charity. Jo's Trust gives support and advice to women suffering from cervical cancer, promotes research in to the disease, and seeks to remove the stigma and embarrassment

surrounding this terrible disease. As Freemasons, we are used to supporting our fellow brothers and the charities which affect us; so, by supporting raising funds to eradicate a disease that only affects women, we are saying a big thank you to our wives, sisters, mothers and girlfriends for supporting us in all that we do.

On the evening of our Tercentenary Ball we will continue to raise funds for our "Bros for Jo's" appeal, and we are also in the process of preparing a sponsored cycle ride. In the meantime, we would be grateful if you could please support our cause by purchasing one of our Bros for Jo's charity pins for the extremely reasonable price of £5.00.

Please see the Connaught Club website for details of how to support our charity, come to our events, or join our Club!



UNITY & FIDELITY CELEBRATE PRESENTATION OF A 50TH CERTIFICATE

*W. Bro David Payne, PGStB,
describes the celebrations*

At the regular meeting of the Lodge of Unity & Fidelity No. 7026 on Wednesday, 2nd November 2016, W. Bro Peter Smith, SLGR, was presented with a certificate for fifty years of service in the Craft. The certificate was presented by Metropolitan Grand Inspector, W. Bro Robert Grant, PSGD, celebrating a Brother who has served his Lodge, and indeed the Craft, well for half a century. Bro Smith was initiated in November 1966. He was raised two years later and installed into the chair of Unity & Fidelity in September 1976. Having held most offices in the Lodge at some time or other, and being an accountant by profession, he has mainly supported

this Lodge and indeed other Lodges in the office of Treasurer.

Bro Smith, having been interested in railways since a young child has been a member of various railway societies and the treasurer of several of them including The Locomotive Club of Great Britain and the Bluebell Railway Preservation Society.

Bro Peter was a member of Chanctonbury Lions Club from October 1992 until June 2016. During that time the club raised over £450,000 through collecting and selling books and other fund raising activities. This, I think, exemplifies the Metropolitan Grand Master's

views on the sort of volunteering work that Masons should be doing outside of the craft.

Before her passing in 2009, Peter's beloved wife, Brenda, was also involved in charitable work, mainly volunteering for Arthritis Research with Peter often working by her side. Between 1992 & 2007 some £95,000 was raised by them and those other volunteers they worked closely with. As was stated on the evening 'We proudly acknowledge his family and an exceptional Freemason in W. Bro Peter Smith'.



Those pictured include WM W. Bro David Smith, MetGI Insp W. Bro Robert Grant, W. Bro Peter Smith, W. Bro Gerry Pulman, PJGD, and Visiting Officer W. Bro David Payne, PGStB, together with other proud members of Unity & Fidelity.



Newly installed WM Jan Cowper with Bros. Tagg, Perry and Oram.

DOUBLE 50TH PRESENTATION AT THE MILITARY LODGE

arena looks at a double 50th

On Saturday 10th September 2016 at a regular meeting of The Military Lodge No. 2621 held at the Royal National Hotel Masonic Centre, W. Bro John Arthur Tagg, LGR, and W. Bro Sydney Jack Perry, SLGR, were presented with fifty Year Long Service Certificates by W. Bro John Oram, PAGStB, the Lodge SVO.

Bro Tagg was Initiated 50 years ago while Bro Perry was Initiated in Canada some 66 years ago before coming to Britain and joining a London Lodge in 1965.

Bro Oram reminded the Brethren of those times in the 1960's when they were Initiated, and in particular when petrol cost £1.00 for 18 litres, a

loaf of bread was nine pence and a brand new Mini cost £600! The Lodge congratulated these distinguished Brethren with great applause and satisfaction and presented them both with new Grand Lodge ties to mark the event. The day finished with a most enjoyable and happy festive board.



L to R: Bros. Michael Lindeman, Willie Shackell, Rick Lindeman, Peter Lindeman & Stephen Lindeman.

Photo credit, W. Bro Steve Sanders, Lodge Secretary

LODGE OF ASCENSION HAS A FINE LEWIS HISTORY

W. Bro Steve Sanders reports

Throughout its 62 year history, the Lodge of Ascension No. 7358 has had a long and distinguished record of Fathers and Sons as members of the Lodge.

On Monday 19th September at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, the Worshipful Master W. Bro Rick Lindeman had the honour and

privilege of raising Bros. Peter and Stephen Lindeman, two of his sons and was assisted by the Senior Deacon, Bro Michael Lindeman, another of his sons.

This historic, unique and memorable occasion, was well attended by the Brethren of the Lodge and their many distinguished

guests, including the Grand Secretary, RW Bro Brig. Willie Shackell, CBE, PJGW.

Later, at the Festive Board, the Worshipful Master said "I can't wait to introduce my three younger sons to the Lodge at some time in the future".

FIFTY YEARS AN OLD TONBRIDGIAN

The Lodge Visiting Officer W. Bro Simon Dodd, SLGR looks at this masonic career

At the November meeting of Old Tonbridgian's Lodge No.4145, the masonic life of W. Bro Jeremy Skipper was celebrated with the presentation of a 50th Certificate.

The meeting had a packed agenda with the installation of the new master, W. Bro Richard Higginson, LGR, held over from the last meeting as well as the initiation of Bro Richard Hill was further augmented by the presence of the Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Sir David Wootton accompanied by his escorting officer, W. Bro David Cresswell, PAGDC.

The lodge was opened by the acting Worshipful Master, W. Bro Michael Khajeh-Noori and the minutes of the previous meeting, already circulated, were approved by the members. A proposition to donate £250 to the London Air Ambulance Appeal was

also approved, as well as the confirmation of the change of by-laws and a short report from the Almoner.

A visitor to the lodge, and a long-standing friend of Bro Jeremy, VW Bro Canon Michael Wilson of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland then gave a very informative and well received account of both Bro Jeremy's masonic and personal careers, including his sustained support of farming livestock in the Rutland area. As the lodge visiting officer I then presented a framed certificate on behalf of the Metropolitan Grand Master marking the fifty years since Bro Jeremy's initiation into Old Tonbridgian's and thanking him for his support to London Freemasonry.



The lodge then installed W. Bro Richard Higginson into the chair of King Solomon with great aplomb before the new master then initiated Bro Richard Hill, with the charge after initiation given expertly by W. Bro's Edward Hickmott and Ian Mitchell.

The lodge was closed and the brethren retired to the Festive Board at which speeches and replies given to and from the Assistant Grand Master, the Worshipful Master and the new Brother Initiate.

SUPPORTING 8TH HOLBORN SCOUT GROUP AND ST PANCRAS GIRLGUIDES



W. Bro Alan Austin, AGPurs, reports

As well as contributing towards the major charitable initiatives of Metropolitan Grand Lodge such as the London Air Ambulance and Cyberknife, members of the Templars Lodge No 4302 and Templars Chapter No 4302 have been supporting children in London by giving regular financial assistance to a group of London Scouts and Girlguides.

Following the combined donation of £1,000 in 2015 to 8th Holborn Scout Group and St Pancras Girlguiding, both the Lodge and the Chapter agreed to each donate a further sum of £500 in 2016, again to be split equally to the Holborn Scout Group and St Pancras Girlguides.

The presentation of the donations was made in May of this year by W. Bro Richard Austin, Worshipful Master of Templars Lodge and E. Comp David Clayton, First Principal of Templars Chapter to Julian Fulbrook, leader of the 8th Holborn Scout Group, and Jane Palmer, Divisional Commander of St Pancras Girlguiding.

Julian Fulbrook, says: "Your very generous contribution has been put towards funding camp scholarships for a Ski camp at the Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland in February 2017. Inevitably some of the Scouts and their families are struggling to raise the camp fee needed, so any additional amounts would be extremely welcome."

Jane Palmer, says: "We put the monies towards our summer Brownie trip, taking 18 girls to Northern Heights for a weekend themed around Friends to Animals badge. We had a simply super time. We were able to hire a minibus to transport the girls and that made it so much easier!"

The Templars Lodge and Chapter are continuing their support in 2017. At the recent Christmas Meeting of Templars Lodge a sum of £520 was raised, which it is hoped will be matched by Templars Chapter. This will produce a further sum of £1,040 to be donated in 2017.

However, the support for the 8th Holborn Scouts and St Pancras Girlguides does not end there! I'm currently a member of both the Lodge and Chapter and the current Master of Metropolitan Grand Stewards Lodge No 9812, who at their recent meeting in December very kindly donated the Alms collection to the same causes. This will raise a further sum of £500 each to the Holborn Scouts and St Pancras Girlguides.

Still further, W. Bro Bernard Easton, another member of both Templars Lodge and Templars Chapter, is the current Master of Earl of Chester Lodge No 5018, who also at a recent meeting stated that Lodge will be supporting the same same two groups.

These collective monies will approach £5,000 and make a real difference to children within the two groups to enable fuller participation in initiatives which otherwise finances may preclude. An excellent example of London Masons supporting their community.



Comp. Ian Currans, AMetGSupt, presents the Centenary Warrant to E.Comp. D. Clarke, First Principal, E.Comp. S. Harris, Second Principal, and E.Comp. D. Syrett, Third Principal

A MOST UNUSUAL CENTENARY

E. Comp Jerry Livings, LGCR, describes these celebrations

On Saturday 8th October 2016, a most unusual event took place at the Southgate Masonic Centre in North London: The Centenary Convocation of Five Orders Chapter No. 3696. A Chapter's Centenary is most certainly a cause for celebration, but the event, in itself, would not normally be described as unusual. However, this Centenary is one of only two to be celebrated in London this year.

Back in 1915, five Founders of the Five Orders Lodge held the view that the Craft is not complete without the Royal Arch, and petitioned the Lodge to sponsor a Royal Arch Chapter to be attached to it. Accordingly, the Summons of the Five Orders Lodge meeting held on 23rd February 1916 contained a notice of motion "That the consent of the Lodge be given to the petition for the formation of a Royal Arch Chapter attached to the Lodge and named The Five Orders Chapter". The minute book records that the proposal was carried unanimously.

The Consecration by E. Comp Sir Edward Letchworth, Grand Scribe E. took place at the Holborn Restaurant on 14th June 1916, less than three years after the Consecration of the sponsoring Lodge, and when the Great War was at its height. Given the

somewhat difficult circumstances surrounding the Chapter's Consecration, it came as no surprise that during its history, the Chapter was faced with many difficulties, at first considered insurmountable, but proven otherwise by the staunch support of its members. The Installation Meeting summoned for the 8th May 1926 was not held "owing to the inability of the Companions to attend", presumably occasioned by the General Strike of that year. Following soon afterwards, in the winter of 1928, the Scribe E. reported that the Chapter's Warrant could not be found. One wonders if attempts were made to tighten security after this calamitous event, but it was not until 1933 that E. Comp A.C. Grosse, PAGDC, was Installed as First Principal, he was the first Chief of Scotland Yard's Flying Squad.

The closing of the Holborn Restaurant at very short notice in the Summer of 1954 could have precipitated another crisis, as the Chapter had none of its own equipment, but the Companions agreed to provide by purchase or actual manufacture themselves every piece of Chapter furniture, subject only to acquisition of certain items for

which specialised factory treatment is essential. The new venue, being The Shaftesbury Hotel, in Monmouth Street, at that time held no other Chapter Meetings. By arrangement, the Chapter agreed to loan its furniture to other Chapters desiring to meet there. Unfortunately, the switching of hotels among speculators brought havoc to London Freemasonry and entailed other changes of venue with the Chapter now meeting at the Southgate Masonic Centre.

Two officers of active Grand Rank were appointed in the Chapter's first fifty years. The honour and dignity of Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies fell on E. Comp Roy Wells in the Chapter's Jubilee Year of 1966, following a similar honour in 1942 on E. Comp A.F. Holland.

Worshipful Brother Roy was exalted into the Five Orders Chapter in October 1946, leading to his Installation as First Principal in 1957. Excellent Companion Roy was appointed Secretary of the Domatic Chapter of Instruction No.177 in 1956. His knowledge of the Royal Arch was second to none. He was First Principal of London First Principals' Chapter in 1973, lecturing in Supreme Grand Chapter on no less than four occasions.

Roy's lecturing circuit extended both home and abroad and was recognised with numerous honours, including the James Hurd Jnr. 'Meritorious Medal' from the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts in 1985.

Comp. Roy was admitted to membership of The Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Research, whilst as Prestonian Lecturer, President of the London Grand Rank Association, and Scribe E. of the Domatic Chapter of Instruction and so he was brought into contact with Masonic students the world over. His works include the widely published, and still highly relevant, "Royal Arch Matters", "Some Royal Arch Terms Examined", and a plethora of research papers including "A Short Study of the Symbols on the Principal Banners", "Concerning Royal Arch Installations", "The Royal Arch in the USA", and "Hebrew and the Royal Arch".

At the Centenary Convocation, the

Chapter was indeed honoured to receive E. Comp Ian Currans, AMetGSupt, accompanied by two Metropolitan Grand Inspectors, E.Comp. J. Hubbard and E.Comp. G. Lovett; E.Comp. J. Wood, MetDepSE; the representative of the Metropolitan Grand Chaplain, E.Comp. A. Davey, PGStB; and a host of Grand Officers and representatives of Metropolitan Grand Chapter. The Chapter's First Principal, E.Comp. D. Clarke, PGStB, presented a cheque for £500.00 to Comp. Ian Currans for the benefit of the Metropolitan Masonic Charity, in commemoration of his attendance at the Centenary celebrations. Thirty-Nine Companions dined at the Festive Board, and the celebration continued (for some time) in the bar afterwards.

Whilst keeping one eye on the past, the Chapter has firmly fixed the other on the future: recent Exaltations have been of Brethren in their forties, and the Chapter plans to share the work of

the Principal Sojourner with his Assistants, providing a clear progression of enthusiastic and experienced Officers into the Principals' Chairs. From a difficult start, the Five Orders Chapter is in fine shape to begin the next Centenary's adventure.

Perhaps the last word should be left to our Chapter's most famous son: "The Third Degree has proved to be the breaking off point for many Brethren who find ample fulfilment in Lodge affairs: it has been a convenient halt for many reasons and in some cases a proper one. The enrichment and reward for the truly speculative Mason is determined entirely by the limit of his own capacity or ability. For him the Holy Royal Arch is yet another storehouse that awaits." (E.Comp. R. Wells, PAGSoj)

With sincere thanks and the greatest respect to those Companions of our Chapter who served before us.

WHATSAPP LODGE GROUPS

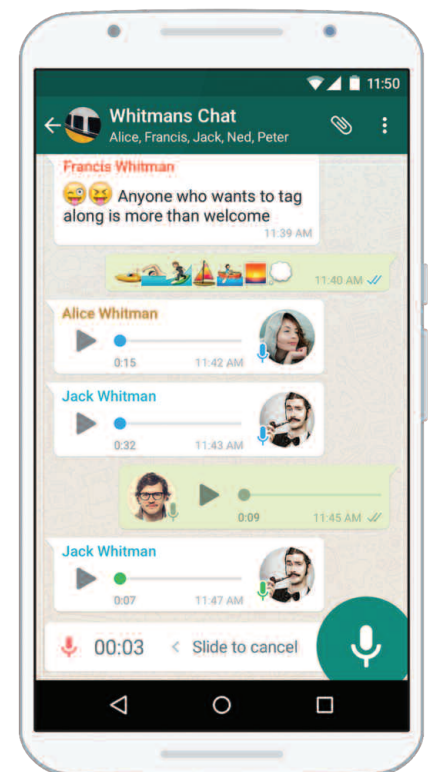
Bro Mano Hadjilias inspires us to set up one for our own Lodge or Chapter

WhatsApp Lodge Groups have become a growing trend and London's Horistic Lodge No. 2822 believe their use of WhatsApp has undoubtedly had a stimulative effect over the last two years. Bro Mano thinks their ongoing communication via WhatsApp has encouraged more socials and higher attendance for their Lodge's of Instruction and regular meetings. Horistic's visitors have been inspired to set up their own Lodge Groups, creating a broader community of lodges using WhatsApp to keep their members and visitors up to date.

Bro. Mike Viney, a marketing communications professional, adds "WhatsApp has reported that their number of active monthly users has surpassed one billion, which means effectively one in seven people use the platform." Installing and operating the app is straightforward. To create a group chat, select "new group" from the app menu, follow the instructions and

before you know it you will have a festive board in your pocket! If the messages become distracting, you can mute them so that you can choose to engage only when it suits you. Lodge group discussions are completely private and secure.

W. Bro Matthew Altass, a member of the Metropolitan Grand Lodge Communications Team, and administrator for the MetGL Facebook Page and Group added "Like WhatsApp, 'Secret Groups' within Facebook, are also a fantastic way to communicate just with the Brethren in your Lodges. Groups are easy and free to set up; content and information pertinent to the Lodge can be shared and viewed without the perceived urgency of a WhatsApp message. As Almoner of one of my Lodges, I also use the Lodge FB Group to inform the Brethren of any pressing issues relating to the Brethren rather than having to wait until the next regular meeting."



METROPOLITAN LADIES' NIGHT, 19TH NOVEMBER 2016

W.Bro JR Mabb, LGR, Secretary Taurus Lodge 3981, describes this fantastic evening

When one of our members suggested going to the Metropolitan Ladies' Night in November, several others were keen to join in and soon we had enough for not one, but two tables; and what a super night we enjoyed.

The Grange St Paul's Hotel is a terrific five star venue and for those of us who stayed there, too, the rooms were extremely spacious and very comfortable. Indeed, the wifi in the room was so good that using Sky Go on my Kindle, my wife and I could enjoy the England thrashing of Fiji without any problem!

As is inevitable with these functions, two of our guests could not attend on the night, but the hotel staff were quick to adjust one of our tables to seat 8 and we were able to take our seats without any issue.

A champagne reception gave us a chance to reacquaint ourselves with other members' wives and Masons from other lodges. The theme of the evening was 'The Musicals' and we were all keen to discover how that would be interpreted. We were not to be disappointed but first we went through to beautifully decorated tables set for dinner.

Grace was said by the Rev John Hughes and an air of anticipation was apparent on both of





our tables as food has played an important part in our members' careers. We are all Liverymen of the Worshipful Company of Butchers and members of its private lodge, Taurus, so are used to City Livery dining, so the quality of any meat we consume is always open to careful scrutiny. We always say with mock seriousness that 'God sent the butchers but the Devil sent the chefs!' But it was the smoked and marinated Norwegian salmon starter which excited our taste buds and set the scene for an excellent meal.

Much debate was had over the main course of black pepper crusted grilled lamb loin. It was cooked to perfection with a beautiful pink colour when cut, but there was so much of it, several said that they struggled to eat it all. Being butchers, we discussed its origin for a while and concluded that it was probably from New Zealand, the experts in portion control and tenderness. Of course, we didn't ask its origin of the waiters, but the banter between those in the British trade and those using Third Country meats was as lively as ever!

The crisp honey and praline cheesecake made a delicious dessert and left us all feeling well satisfied, and open for some entertainment. But firstly, the raffle prizes were announced and on each table, the table prize was awarded to the lady whose birthday was closest to the 30th of any month. This was followed by the Loyal Toast and welcome from the Metropolitan Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Stephen Fenton, in his usual relaxed style.

With the formalities over, the entertainment began in the excellent form of the Ross Mitchell Band. There was an immediate population of the dance floor which was always full when they were playing. It is a rare skill for a band to vary its music throughout an evening without dancers coming and going in droves, but Ross Mitchell was certainly an expert.

Sometime into the band's first set, lots of straw boaters, black hats, feather boas, canes and Union Flags were handed out. Fuelled by generous quantities of wine, the imagination of the Taurus members came to the fore. Flags were inserted into hat bands and several attempts to emulate Flanagan and Allen using the canes was gently tolerated by our better halves. Some, however, did look more like they had yet to return home from the Last Night of the Proms!

With the Ross Mitchell Band taking a well-earned break, we were treated to some excellent singing from Jacqueline Faye. She held us captive with songs from many famous musicals and for her finale, she sang Nessun Dorma which was first class.

Then it was back to dancing with Ross Mitchell before Lewis Dixon took to the stage to sing many songs in a tribute to Broadway which were enthusiastically applauded.

As midnight came and went, numbers began to thin, although the dancers were still keen, but at 12.45am, a resilient last four from the Taurus tables finally decided to call it a night and return to their rooms in the hotel.

What a night we had enjoyed and to any reader who missed it, look out for the next Metropolitan Ladies Night. You won't be disappointed!

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LONDON FREEMASON WINS BEST GARDEN IN KENT

W. Bro Ivor Macklin of Paynter Stainers Lodge 4256 and his wife Wendy are celebrating after winning Best Amateur Garden in Kent whilst also contributing handsomely to Charity

My wife and I have worked together over the past twelve years to create a series of loosely linked garden rooms with abundant planting of cottage favourites, from roses adorning pergolas to cheerful massed daisies, to try and create an idyllic scene that suits both our home and the surrounding landscape.

It was important to us that the garden suited the 15th-century house, be somewhere to relax in and also encourage wildlife. Backing on to a

meadow and stream, it has been important for me to keep areas wild and maintain the cottage garden tradition of growing native plants and letting flowers self-seed.

Structure from hard landscaping and clipped hedging is softened by the billowing effervescence and seating is placed to take in the vistas. The garden is shared with others, who also delight in its ambience, when it has opened for charity through the National Gardens Scheme. I think

gardening is a mixture of exhilaration when it works and frustration that it will not remain, and teaches me to enjoy and live in the now but plan for the future.

The Garden is open to the public through the National Garden Scheme and has raised many thousands of pounds for both National and London charities including over £13,000 for the Lifelites Masonic Charity. It will next be opening to visit on the 24th and 25th of June 2017 from 1 to 5 pm.



BROTHERS ACROSS THE POND

W. Bro Mark S. Rosen LGR, MetGPurs, describes a masonic journey to America

An international visit took place on the 5th September 2016 to kick start the 300th Tercentenary celebrations of the United Grand Lodge of England for Masons of the Grand Lodge of California when twelve Masons from America Lodge No.3368 who meet at Freemasons' Hall, Gt Queen St. London along with ten of their wives travelled to the city of Pasadena, California, to give a demonstration to Pasadena Lodge No. 272 of a third degree ritual. In attendance at the celebration were more than 260 Californian Masons, Grand Lodge officers, including the Grand Master of California, David Perry, California Deputy Grand Master John R. Heisner, and California Junior Grand Warden Stuart Wright. Nearly 70 American lodges were represented including more than 40 past masters.

The visit took place after two years planning when W. Bro John McDannel, now master of Pasadena Lodge No. 272, invited me to a Rotarian lunch in Pasadena and presented me with a unique challenge: to bring the English ritual – and the lodge – to Pasadena for an international Masonic experience in celebration of the fraternity's 300th anniversary, which will be recognised in June 2017. Much to Bro John's delight, I and my lodge enthusiastically embraced the idea.

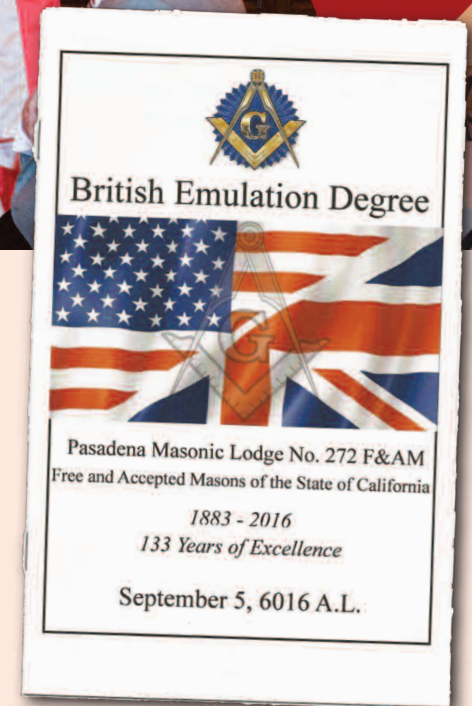
So the organizing began on both sides of the Atlantic. From the USA Bro Younes Safa, senior steward of Pasadena Lodge, the event's

chairman, travelled twice to England to help strengthen the lodges' fellowship in advance of the visit and to help facilitate with the planning process. At the same time Bro John and other Pasadena Lodge members began publicising the upcoming event to brothers throughout California.

I travelled to Pasadena three times to meet with Bro John and Bro Younes to continue the planning for the demonstration. As well as travelling to California many emails and late night phone calls were needed to confirm the details, dates of the arrival of the English demo team, which props we would need, the names and ranks of the demo team for their souvenir packs, the details of social events that were to be planned, transportation; the list went on and on.

The America Lodge demonstration team took off on 1st September 2016 from Heathrow airport and landed in a sunny Los Angeles and experienced the 95 degree Southern California heat. They settled in their hotel located on the Disneyland resort in Anaheim California and waited to give their demonstration, not knowing what kind of welcome they would receive and how many California Masons would be in attendance.

Come the day I paced the pavement outside the Pasadena Lodge nervous and relived that after two years of planning finally we would give our demonstration. But



what would the English Masons who came all this way think of American Masons and the Pasadena Lodge Masonic Centre? Equally, what would the American Masons think of our ritual and demonstration? I'm glad to say that it went really well and many Californian Masons individually thanked us for coming all the way from England to demonstrate the third degree ritual in the English style for the Master Masons in attendance.

Following the degree ceremony, over 500 Masonic family members English and American united for a traditional Thanksgiving-style dinner – a menu that was selected by America Lodge brethren. Evening festivities began with a formal entrance of Grand Master Perry and an officer from the United Grand Lodge of England, flanked with their respective countries' flags. The lodges then exchanged gifts and spoke of a 2018 visit to England from Pasadena Lodge No.272. And we'll all look forward to that!

LORD MAYOR'S PARADE



W. Bro John Parry SLGR describes the day and encourages us to take part in the next one.

In a procession unlike any other, three miles long and with some 7,000 participants, 200 horses and 50 marching bands, our Masonic float sat perfectly alongside golden carriages, Segways, and military tanks and added to the riot of colour and wonderful hubbub of the Lord Mayor's Show.

We had the youth and exuberance of the excellent Surbiton Royal British Legion Youth Marching Band, setting the tempo, keeping us in step and entertaining the crowds around us. The soundscape was superbly

enhanced by the continual peeling of bells from the towers of the ancient city churches along the route, encouraging the crowds to cheer even louder.

Among our 70 eager participants, this year we had everyone from Entered Apprentices to Metropolitan Grand Officers all having a great time.

To add to the fun, it was a special honour to parade past a fellow freemason, the newly appointed Lord Mayor, Rt. Hon. Alderman W. Bro Dr Andrew Parmley, who rose and

flourished his tricorne hat in greeting as we processed in front of Mansion House. We even made a brief appearance on BBC TV.

In 2017 there may be numerous celebrations to mark the Tercentenary of UGLE but none as public and unique as taking part in the Lord Mayors Show. To reserve your place in history contact John Parry, Organiser, Lord Mayor's Show. john@wobbly.co.uk.



BREAST CANCER HAVEN

W.Bro Steve Turner LGR, looks into our help for those affected by breast cancer...

It is a sad reflection on the prevalence of cancer that “everybody knows somebody” who has been affected by it. Fortunately, earlier detection has led to increased chances of recovery, and medical approaches to dealing with cancer are continually improving.

This, however, has not reduced the need for additional support to be provided to those affected by breast cancer. The NHS and other medical providers often simply cannot stretch to helping people on an emotional level. This is where charities like Breast Cancer Haven provide invaluable specialised care to complement other cancer treatments.

A recent donation from the Metropolitan Masonic Charity (MMC) of £3,000 is enabling Breast Cancer Haven to provide this important care at its London centre, whether just after diagnosis or much further into a cancer treatment programme.

Breast Cancer Haven works to help those suffering the physical side-effects of cancer treatment and hormone therapy as well as those affected emotionally by a diagnosis. They offer both physical and emotional support as appropriate. Physical courses include ‘touch’ therapies such as reflexology, aromatherapy and acupuncture, whilst emotional support is provided in counselling sessions comprising up to ten hours of counselling. This is complemented by a further two hours with a clinical specialist. The courses offered to each person are tailored to dependence on that person’s need at the time.

Breast Cancer Haven recognises that emotional support can also be needed by carers, such as family members of those with breast cancer, and offers up to four hours counselling to support those in this position.

Providing individualised treatment enables a more focussed, directed approach which allows the charity to home in on the areas where a person most needs the help. According to Hannah Daws, a director of Breast Cancer Haven, this approach allows the charity to maximise its positive impact on those suffering as a result of breast cancer.

Each treatment course can cost up to £1,500 to provide, and as the charity is dependent on fundraising for revenue, Ms Daws gratefully acknowledged the donation from the MMC and thanked London Masonry for its generosity.

Finally, we should remember that whilst most of the 60,000 new diagnoses each year are women, 400 of the cases will be men. Thus in raising awareness of breast cancer, it is important to do so amongst both our female and male family members and friends.



‘YOU CAN’ CANCER YOUTH CHARITY OPENS SEASIDE RESPITE HOME AIDED BY MASONIC DONATION

W. Bro John Little SLGR reports...

A donation of £25,000 from the Metropolitan Masonic Charity is being used by the youth cancer charity YouCan to help fund the purchase and refurbishment of a seaside property in Westgate, Kent. This will provide respite care for young cancer sufferers from the London area together with their friends and family.

YouCan is a youth cancer support charity that provides funded short holiday breaks, well-being and activity weekends, complementary therapies, counselling and nutrition/ exercise workshops. The property, which is in the process of being renovated, will be used by young people and their relatives to take a break away from the day to day stresses of living with cancer. There can often be a heavy financial impact on families where parents may have to stop work to care for their child and a break away that would be so beneficial is simply not possible. Rest, time together and a seaside environment can be of enormous benefit.

The purchase of ‘Hinton House’ as it will be called - and the refurbishment - has been made possible by the support of the Metropolitan Masonic Charity and a legacy from a freemason, the late Bro Hinton, which he left to

St Paul’s Column Lodge 7197 and London freemasons. The total cost of the property, which will be a memorial to Bro Hinton, is £75,000, the residue being funded from his generous legacy.

Natalie Tegg, Head of Fundraising at the charity said “Evidence has shown that after cancer treatment is over, ongoing support is needed and this is a time when young people find it especially hard. For a lot of young people a cancer diagnosis can mean interrupted education for up to two years. While their friends can go to university, on a gap year or start work a cancer sufferer can be left feeling very isolated. YouCan supports young people to regain their confidence and to find the positives in their lives again through individual and peer support.

The support from the Metropolitan Masonic Charity has been amazing. YouCan cannot thank everyone enough for their outstanding contribution of £25,000. It has meant that work on Hinton House is underway and it will be ready on time for the New Year for young people impacted by cancer and their families to come and have a vital break away during an incredibly stressful time.”



DROP-IN BEREAVEMENT CENTRE, NEWHAM, EAST LONDON

W. Bro David Lawrence, SLGR, reports on how a donation of £2,000 is helping the bereaved

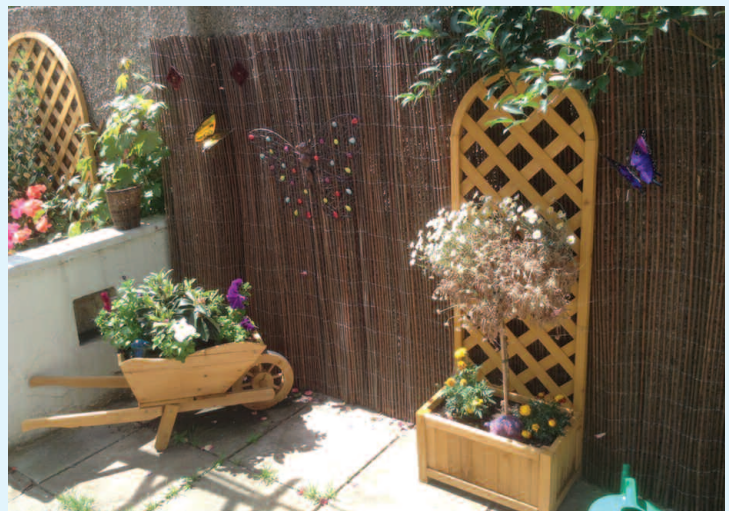
Unfortunately, most of us will, at some stage in our lives, suffer the loss of a loved one. Sandra Smith was 44 when her partner, Martin committed suicide, leaving her to bring up her four children aged 17, 10, 7 and 6. Martin had been suffering from depression and work pressure. Sandra said: "I couldn't believe the love of my life was gone". At that time, she was prescribed pills by her GP and attended counselling sessions.

She struggled to cope with her loss until she met another widow, Olive Brade, who had also lost her husband, both had shared experiences and gave each other much needed support. They also realised the value of talking to other people who had suffered bereavement.

They decided to set up the "Drop-in Bereavement Centre" in Newham to help others in the same situation. Established in 2011, the Centre was made possible thanks to funds raised by Red Nose Day, and has now helped some 400 people come to terms with their loss. The Centre caters for people between the ages of 18 and 75 and is open to everybody.

Speaking to Olive it becomes very apparent how the Centre can help people get through such a difficult time by ongoing support and one-to-one counselling as well as other well-being activities such as Reiki, Reflexology, Yoga and Tai Chi. She believes that this holistic approach avoids the more conventional route of GP's prescribing anti-depressants and sleeping tablets. More than that, it helps people get on with their lives and to help others by passing on the benefit of their own experiences. An example of this is Bill Yeoman who is a gardener and was one of the first people to attend the Centre shortly after it first opened, having suffered the loss of his wife. Having been helped to come to terms with his own loss, he volunteered to turn the back yard of the Centre in to a garden space. Since then, he has transformed it in to a holistic tranquil area where other users can sit, relax and meditate.

Olive says that the recent donation by the Metropolitan Masonic Charity of £2,000 which was received with much thanks, will be specifically used "to help establish separate small peer support groups for men and women, so that they can continue to help others who will unfortunately suffer loss in the future."



MMC GRANTS £3,500 TO PRISON DIVERSION PROJECT 'KEEPOUT'



Bro Adrian Fox reports ...



KEEPOUT
The Crime Diversion Scheme

Diverting young people from crime and aiding prisoners' rehabilitation, is what makes KeepOut unique

"You go around doing stuff and you don't think about it. When I heard the prisoners talking, I thought 'I better sort it out. That might be me!'"
Young person's feedback

find us on  

www.crimediversionscheme.org.uk

KeepOut is the first ever crime diversion scheme to be delivered by dedicated teams of serving prisoners – managed by civilian staff at Her Majesty's Prisons (Brixton, Coldingley and Send) with the message 'learn from our mistakes'. With two main objectives, the prevention of

crime amongst young people and the rehabilitation of offenders.

Prisoners are trained to run intervention workshops from within the prison, delivered to visiting groups of young people. These inform, support and divert those between 13 and 17 years old who are either at risk of entering the criminal justice system or are already involved in criminal activity. In 2016, the charity provided workshops to 1,841 young people (1,411 boys and 430 girls), all of whom were referred and identified as in urgent need of a KeepOut intervention.

They also help the rehabilitation of serving prisoners. Prisoners experience an opportunity to break the cycle of offending and give back to society. Benefits include interpersonal skills as well as a BTEC qualification aiding employment upon release; it provides direction in life, such

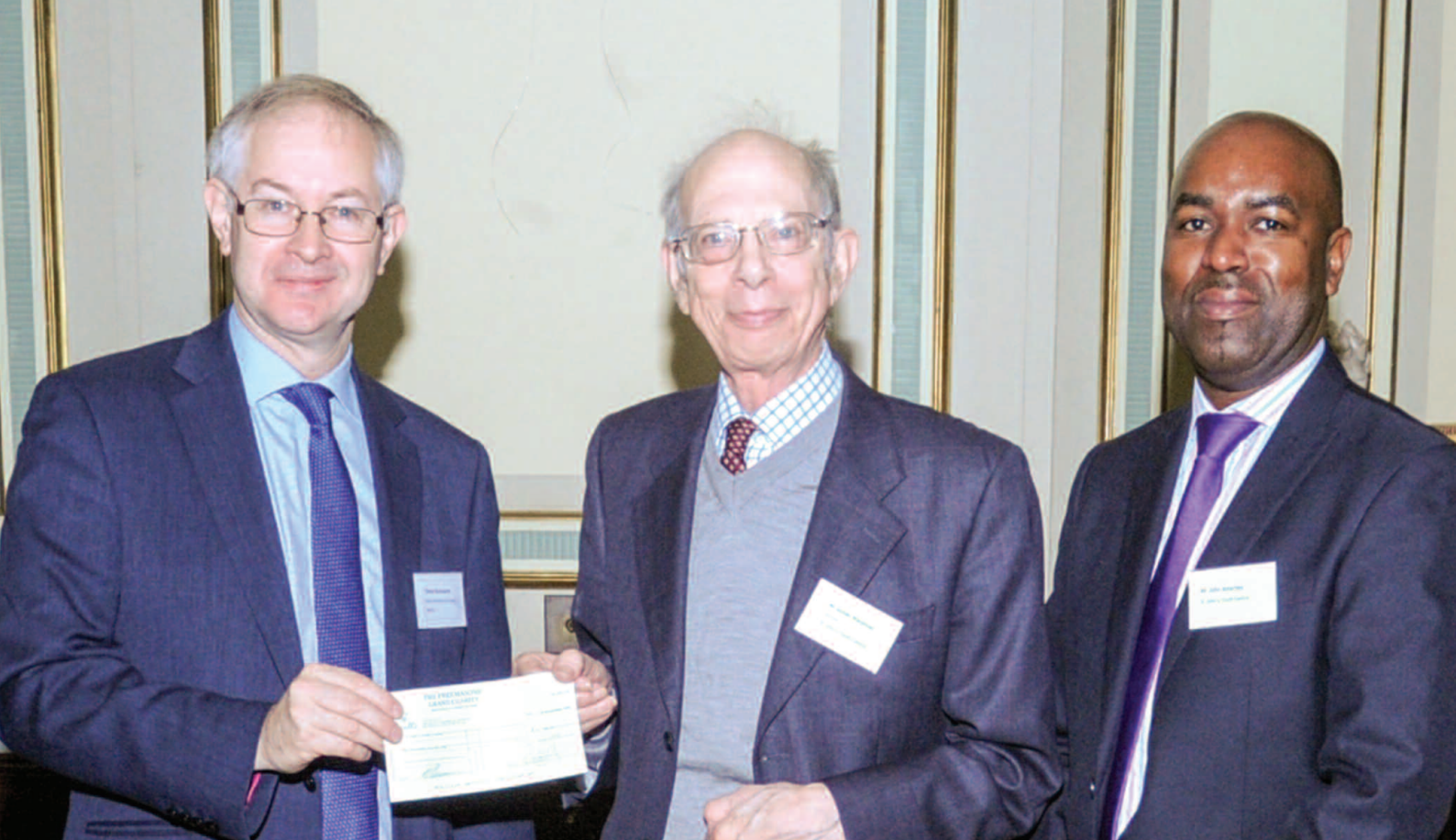
direction often for the first time.

Bro Adrian met with Jo Green (KeepOut) and Miranda Millward (operations manager KeepOut HMP Send) and was surprised to learn that the prison is hosting 2-3 workshops per week. Miranda says "the way prisoners give personal testimonies of their life stories and the triggers to offending behaviour makes a lasting impression".

Ben, 15, after a workshop says, "I know that if I continue on this path I will end up in prison. I did listen and have made changes in my life, don't go out as often with my friends, because I know I will get dragged into bad things. I am trying to behave at school as well. You said something that stuck in my head - stop being a gangster and get your head into a book".

James Marlow, Fundraising Officer for KeepOut said "we are extremely grateful to the Metropolitan Masonic Charity for their tremendous support of our work, enabling us to work with hundreds of young people in need of our help. During 2017, we will make 2,000 places available on our schemes for young people in desperate need of support and guidance."

The grant of £3,500 will be used to fund this work. It costs just £100 to deliver a workshop, representing extraordinary value, especially considering the cost of imprisoning a youngster is currently around £44,000 per annum – not to mention the future costs to society and the potential victims.



METROPOLITAN MASONIC CHARITY AWARDS £2,000 TO AN ISLINGTON YOUTH CLUB

W.Bro David Wynne Fitzgerald LGR, reports...

The Crypt of St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in Islington is the home of the St John's Youth Centre which also has use of the playground of a primary school situated next to the church.

The club has around 24 young people attending on a regular basis, the numbers being restricted by the number of adult staff available to supervise the group. The staff consist of a Youth Leader a Deputy Youth Leader and a Youth Supervisor.

There are two sessions each week, the session on Tuesday is open to both young women and men between the ages of 11 and 15 years. The Thursday session is open only to the local young women. This user group does not pull any punches as the sessions address issues such as sex, drugs,

violence and alcohol. These issues are relevant to the youngsters in the Islington area and the aim is to divert them away from gangs and drug culture prevalent on some of the local estates. The club has a zero tolerance to both drugs and alcohol.

The leaders try to steer the members away from aggression by providing education in how to change themselves and become better people. The relationship between the club leaders and members has been developed so that they present a positive role model and have built a level of trust, so that they can discuss in confidence some quite difficult issues affecting member's lives.

The club is in the inner city and is near to some large council estates where drugs, alcohol abuse, and violence and are

unfortunately all too common. As residents of the estates, the club members are open to falling prey to any of these problems. These club nights are an oasis of safety for the young persons in the area.

The grant of £2,000 given by the Metropolitan Masonic Charity will be used for the daily running of the club and assisting in the payment of the leader's wages and in the planning of future projects.

The club is proud of the activities which include such things as IT projects, cookery and healthy eating programs, outings as well as the normal club activities such as disco dances and the usual sports for both genders. The grants make it possible to carry on serving this local community.

MCF AWARDS £65,000 TO THE INSPIRE FOUNDATION

W. Bro Trevor Koschalka PAGPurs reports...

The INSPIRE Foundation a national charity funding research projects into spinal cord paralysis with facilities at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital in Stanmore was recently awarded £65,000 to fund research to improve the quality of life and independence for people with spinal cord injuries.

Sean Docherty a young research scientist who will lead the NEUROMOD project, has a personal stake in this work as he broke his neck in 2008 whilst mountain biking and now must use a wheelchair having lost function below his waist.

The medical professionals say that the public perception is that the strongest wish of people suffering from paraplegia would be to walk again, whereas research carried out in the United States shows that most paraplegics' greatest desire is to recover control over their bodily functions (bladder, bowel and sexual function). The loss which they have suffered is both sensory and motor which means that both sensation and control are lost.

The work undertaken by the team at Stanmore will be to develop a body worn device which will be used to control bodily functions. There are already systems available to assist with the control of bodily functions, but these involve the device being inserted under the skin and are only possible with surgical intervention and all the inherent extra costs and risk of infection. The system being developed at the RNOH will be worn like a wrist watch and therefore much easier to use and with lower costs and easily accessible for maintenance.

One of the benefits of this project being based at the RNOH at Stanmore is that the medical professionals and the engineering team are both based on site, so that they can work closely together. As one of the team says, it is very easy to have a brilliant idea from a medical perspective, but if it is not feasible from an engineering stand point it is a non-starter. By being co-located any problems can be addressed by both disciplines very quickly.

Rory Stevenson, Director of the Inspire Foundation said, "One of my biggest worries with our research programme is whether we can afford to run projects as we receive no government funding. The Masonic Charitable Foundation grant has covered the remaining cost of NUEROMOD and will guarantee it can continue to full term. This is the best possible news we are so grateful."





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INSIDE FREEMASONRY

W. Bro Paul Brown gives us the inside view.

On a cold December morning last year I received a phone call enquiring if I would attend a casting interview for an upcoming documentary being commissioned by UGLE entitled 'Inside Freemasonry'. Whilst in a state of shock, flashes of Hollywood and red carpets appearing, I was asked, before responding, to discuss it first with both family and work colleagues as filming would include aspects of my life outside freemasonry. Having gained acceptance from my 'higher authority' at home and with work being supportive, I duly confirmed I was both delighted and excited to be considered.

I attended the casting interviews early in the New Year. The casting was divided into two parts, a panel interview consisting of Emporium Productions and the Grand Lodge communications team, where the aims were explained along with how the film team would seek to follow those selected over the next six months or so. This was followed by a Q&A session in front of the camera.

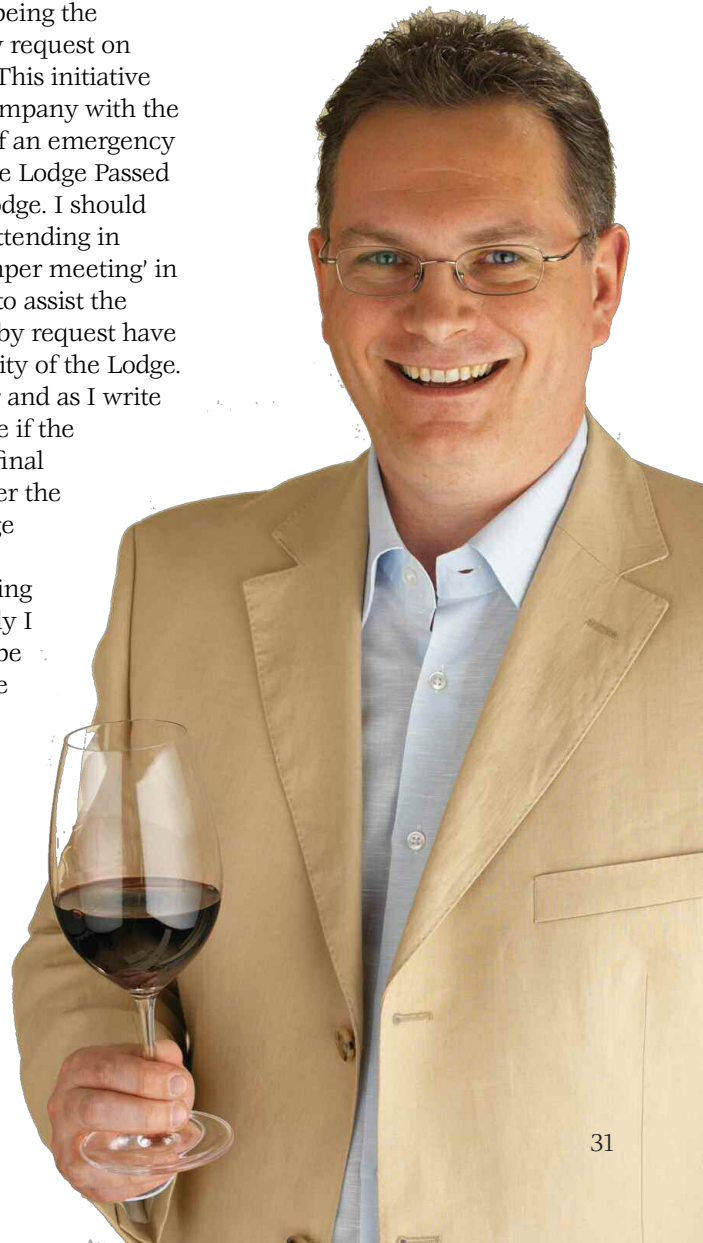
Shortly after the casting interview I received an email from UGLE confirming that I had been cast in the production. Emporium Productions began my filming in February by coming to my work during which my colleagues asked me some very direct and searching questions about Masonry: I think there was an element of wicked enjoyment in their questioning of me!

After this general filming the production company progressed to focusing on specific story lines centred on the cast's activities within Freemasonry. The producers decided my role as a Visiting Officer working with a struggling Lodge would make an interesting story line to explore. The producers also felt it would show an alternative view to all the positive story lines already filmed. I believed it would be a great way for the Lodge to gain exposure, highlighting to a wide audience all the advantages of the Lodge and what it had to offer potential joiners and initiates. Very much to its credit, the

Lodge was supportive of the idea of its difficulties being discussed on camera and remained so during filming.

The storyline began with the filming of the Worshipful Master and Secretary meeting with myself, Metropolitan Grand Inspector W. Bro Ray Ride, PSGD, and W. Bro Richard Greenhill, PSGD, Project Leader Metropolitan Recruitment and Rejuvenation at Freemasons' Hall, which saw both an open and honest discussion of the Lodge's current situation. This then progressed to filming at the next meeting of the Lodge where both I, as Lodge Visiting Officer, along with the Lodge Senior Visiting Officer, W. Bro Tony Shields, PGStB, were filmed attending and discussing several potential initiatives, one being the conducting of a degree by request on behalf of another Lodge. This initiative excited the production company with the result being the filming of an emergency meeting in July where the Lodge Passed a Brother from another lodge. I should commend the brethren attending in support, making it a 'bumper meeting' in turnout. Work continues to assist the Lodge and more degrees by request have followed, such is the quality of the Lodge.

Now the filming is over and as I write this article we await to see if the storyline makes it to the final screening on TV. Whatever the outcome, I hope the Lodge members agree that the experience was entertaining and interesting. Ultimately I hope the real legacy will be the assistance given to the Lodge, through its strengthened relationships at all levels within Metropolitan Grand Lodge and I look forward to watching it grow and thrive over the years to come.



THE MEN AT THE TOP:

DAVID NUNN



Masonic Career

Craft

Aesculapius No 2410
Initiated 4/12/1996
WM 2001 & 2002

Metropolitan Grand Stewards Lodge 9812
Founder Member
City of London Lodge of Installed Masters 8220
Globe Lodge 23 WM 2016 & Grand Steward
Malling Abbey Lodge 1063
Grand Stewards Lodge

MetGStwd & LGR 2005
Board Member Masonic Samaritan Fund
2007 - 2013

Metropolitan Visiting Officer 2007
SLGR 2009
PAGDC 2011
Senior Visiting Officer 2012
Metropolitan Grand Inspector 2015
SGD 2015
GStwd 2016

Royal Arch

Aesculapius Chapter 2410
exalted 1998
Z 2004 & 2005
Paviors & City Livery Chapter 5646 joined
2011

Metropolitan Visiting Officer (RA) 2008 - 2012
MetAGDC & LGCR 2008
PAGSoj 2015

Bro David is also a member of Mark Masonry,
Royal Ark Mariners, Ancient and Accepted Rite,
Knights Templar and Royal Order of Scotland

W. Bro Rod Glyn-Thomas, LGR, interviews...

In 1954, St Thomas' hospital, in central London, saw the arrival of Bro David. The hospital, no doubt, thought that, like most babies born in its wards, once he was carried out of the hospital by his parents, he would never darken its doors again. Little did it know that as an adult he would return as an Orthopaedic Consultant. Bro David's mother and father were both clerks at Waterloo Station. Bro David spent his formative years growing up in Vauxhall before the family moved to Sittingbourne in Kent. This would have been a straightforward move educationally had it not involved moving from the London to the Kent educational system. This meant that, educationally, Bro David had to sit around in class for eighteen months to do the 11+ which had been scrapped in London but not Kent.

Having successfully negotiated that particular exam, he moved to Borden Grammar. He greatly enjoyed his time there and particularly enjoyed the academic side of grammar school. Bro David wasn't particularly keen on team sports and was actively discouraged by his Sports master. Not one to let such negative feedback get him down, Bro David embarked on torturing his sports master, who doubled up as a history teacher, by working extra hard on his history essays. To the extent that said sport master had to get advice from other teachers on just how good the essay was due

to being blissfully ignorant of the historical events Bro David was describing!

Although he joined in all the different aspects of school he wasn't particularly interested in subjects such as woodwork. However, his woodwork teacher was a good teacher and a good chap. Many years later once Bro David was well settled as an orthopaedic surgeon he got a call from one of his school masters saying that his woodwork teacher wasn't quite right. Having a look at the x-rays Bro David realised that there had been a misdiagnosis. He organised for a slot in theatre and just before he went in to perform the hip replacement a familiar voice said "I hope you're better at surgery than woodwork lad". Needless to say, all was fixed and his old teacher made an excellent recovery.

Having finished his A-Levels Bro David started at St Mary's Medical School which is now part of Imperial College. The first day included the obligatory trip to the dissection room and being encouraged to get riotously drunk with all the other freshers. During this time at medical school, Bro David found his enjoyment in several endurance sports including rowing and water polo.

Once he qualified as a doctor at the age of twenty-three he managed to get his first job at the same hospital. In his first day of seeing patients for real, an elderly lady was admitted and the diagnosis was she needed a pace-maker fitted. Bro



David's senior (the registrar) was blessed with a giant blonde hairdo. When the old lady came to from the surgery she asked whether she'd died and gone to heaven!

In 1979 Bro David was appointed to his first surgical job at the Whittington Hospital, Archway, in North London. He'd won the anatomy prize whilst at Medical School so when he and his fellow medical students were posed an anatomy question, he knew the answer, which led him being propelled into surgery work far in advance of what was expected of students of his level. In 1981 he was appointed a Casualty Officer at Battle Hospital, Reading, where he met his wife to be, Lynda, who was working as a nurse in the hospital. Soon after he had a cardio-thoracic job in Oxford. During this time, he was continually applying for the next stage of his medical career—a senior house officer job. This was somewhat unsuccessful and he applied to every hospital in England, without success. His boss at the time pointed out his strength was surgery and that he was well ahead of the game on that front, so why not apply for a registrar job (the level above the stage he was meant to go into). Lo and behold his evident ability was recognised and he got his registrar job at the age of 26—unusually young for this stage of a medical career. This role was in South Wales which wasn't particularly enjoyable but did lead to him getting a general surgery registrar job at Singleton Hospital, Swansea. During this role in 1983 his first child, Lucinda, was born. Bro David went to the registry office to register the birth and was met by a cantankerous official. Having had a particularly testy discussion with the

registrar Bro David arrived home and thought it would be a good idea to tell Mrs Nunn that having been born in Wales the registrar had insisted the nipper carried a truly Welsh name. "Blodwyn" was duly chosen and he opined that Mrs Nunn wouldn't mind. Cue explosive description of what she thought of that!

Fortunately, Lynda saw the funny side when he came clean and explained it had all been a bit of jape.

Soon afterward, in 1984, Bro David gained his fellowship from Edinburgh and started an Orthopaedic role at St Charles in Ladbroke Grove, London. Here he met a legendary doctor and newspaper columnist called Nigel Harris. It was from this friendship that he found his love of writing letters and articles for the press. He then moved to St Georges in Tooting where he met Peter Reginald French (PJGD). This was a classic example of meeting and making friends and not knowing Peter was in the Craft. Many years later they met through Masonry and enjoyed discussing this missed opportunity. Again, there was a lack of jobs to progress into and to add another string to his bow Bro David took a sideways move into medical academia. During this time, he wrote several papers on what would become one of his specialities, hip replacements. This academic work stood him in good stead and once he reapplied to get into medical work he quickly found himself working at Guys Hospital, where



in 1990 he was appointed to a Consultant role.

In 1995 he became assistant clinical director and in 1997 he became the clinical director in his speciality. Now, he became more involved in policy and started to write pieces for the national newspapers on these particular issues. Here he discovered quite how erratic the press could be. In one letter, he noted that his nurses in his speciality had all been trained abroad, which was factually correct. However, to his horror, the tone of the article that was published was along the lines of "surgeon cancels operation as nurses can't speak English". Needless to say Bro David was not impressed!

In 1996 Bro David was initiated into the Craft. His father was a mason, but sadly died before David's initiation. However, he's very happy to recall that at his initiation his father-in-law was present to witness his first regular step in masonry. Bro David was actually introduced to the Craft by a work colleague. For years, there had been a running joke between the two about being a mason, until one day his colleague asked him if he was ready to join the lodge. Bro David was astounded by this due to having always believed this was some work banter without any premise in actual fact!

From day one Bro David loved the Craft. He soon realised that he had a talent for learning ritual and was quickly moving through the offices and joining other orders. He found himself as Worshipful Master of Aesculapius Lodge in 2001. During his Mastership the lodge amalgamated with King's College Hospital Lodge. It was also decided that it would also amalgamate with Lanesborough Lodge, so Bro David was asked to stay in the chair for a second year. Soon after this he was appointed a Metropolitan Grand Steward (2005) which

meant he found himself ahead of his expected progression at London Grand Rank. He then was asked to become a visiting officer, first in Craft and soon after in the Royal Arch. As his professional career, had now reached its peak Bro David found he could manage his time to allow him to allocate time to his masonic roles. Soon afterwards he was a senior visiting officer and asked to join the grants committee of the Masonic Samaritan Fund, which he particularly enjoyed.

In 2011 he was appointed Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies and continued with his various masonic roles. In 2015 he was appointed Senior Grand Deacon and found himself doing work for Grand Lodge which certainly focusses the mind on the job in hand.

Bro David's focus as an Inspector has been on the masonic experience of the initiate. He sees this as the key issue for such candidates, along with ensuring all brethren and companions are happy in their craft. He has also had the pleasure of initiating both his son and son-in-law. Outside of medicine and the Craft Bro David particularly enjoys spending time with his grandchildren and keeping fit. He enjoys both singing, the Opera and completing crossword puzzles.

Bro David, being a medical man is acutely aware of the briefness of life and is always keen to remind brethren that we are not owners but mere custodians of our lodges and the Craft in general. As such he's always keen to ensure that all lodges and chapters are continually planning their demographic over the next decade to ensure their units' existence going forward. As such he's always happy to support initiatives to improve the masonic experience for all.



Five things you didn't know about David Nunn:

- 1) Has run the London Marathon on three occasions
- 2) Went skiing once, dislocated his left thumb and has never skied since.
- 3) Once rowed in the Ladies Eight at Medical School.
- 4) Allergic to Rhubarb
- 5) Addicted to crosswords-can't start the day until the Telegraph Crossword is completed.



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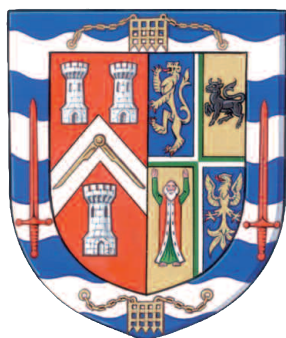


METROPOLITAN VOLUNTEERING INITIATIVE

W.Bro Roger Friend PGStdB describes...



#MetHelpingHands



As 2017 and the Tercentenary Approach, Metropolitan Grand Lodge is keen to support this Masonic landmark by promoting the idea of getting London Masons to help in the community by undertaking some form of volunteer work. The launch of the initiative has taken off very slowly, but the Metropolitan Grand Master has every confidence that the usually modest London Masons will talk about the voluntary services they provide in community. A short questionnaire has been included and it would be very helpful if you could complete and return it to me at r.friend@metgl.com. It will help to find out the spread of volunteer activities and to quantify the level of voluntary work undertaken by London Masons and, hopefully, inspire others.

Although we are generally inclined and willing to help one another, we may not be archetypal good Samaritans, but neither are we heartless to those in need. Sometimes there is a reluctance to help others when it is felt that we do not have enough time or that it may encroach or disrupt our lives significantly. However, the reality is that any amount of time, no matter how little, can be sufficient to make a difference in someone else's life. For instance, a lunch time spent in a homeless shelter or drop in Centre serving meals could be sufficient to keep someone alive for another day. The load on all volunteers could be reduced if we all shared a part of that load.

Volunteering provides an opportunity to change people's lives and that includes the lives of those that volunteer. It has been described as the "glue that keeps the community together". It engenders satisfaction in the volunteer by playing a helpful role with people who may not be able to help themselves. It is a way of giving something to your local or wider community, while developing social skills with fellow volunteers and beneficiaries, as well as gaining valuable

work experience. It is an eye opening experience to realise that even minor levels of support can have an exponential effect on others and the community they inhabit.

Volunteering can improve a community, by bringing people together to work on a goal. It is not uncommon to hear of a local person being diagnosed with a medical problem for which there is little chance of long term survival and the immediate community will formulate a series of initiatives to help fund research. This is usually done by door to door collections, coffee mornings, sale of unwanted items, sponsored walks or runs and so many more ideas. When it comes to getting the job done effectively, it is often a case of the more the merrier.

A volunteer gets to see how their contribution has made a difference, which can often be more uplifting than money or fame. Volunteering can strengthen current skills and open the way to learning new skills. The employers of volunteers can witness the enhancement of skills, such as communication, the willingness to work as part of a team, time management and the ability to prioritise their work schedule. The inclusion of voluntary service on a resume can act as a plus factor for a prospective employer when considering CVs, as employers are aware that most people that offer their time tend to be conscientious, generous, compassionate, good hearted, honest and hard-working individuals; qualities which cannot be bought.

The Porchway volunteering webpage, (www.porchway.org/craft/tercentenary-2017/tercentenary-metropolitan-volunteering-programme/) was set up to launch the initiative and it has been supported by Twitter using #MetHelpingHands. To maximise use of social media, James MacDonald, known affectionately as Macca, who has a media communications background, has agreed to manage this area of operation. It is likely that the number of hashtags will increase to cope with the expansion

of the messages. Facebook will also be introduced to capitalise on the wider profile available. If you have a Twitter account, please follow @MetVolunteerin1 and retweet whenever you can.

One of the key areas where volunteers are at a premium is in activities involving young people. We have to look to today's youth to take us forward into the future. That means that we must invest in them by ensuring that not only their educational needs are catered for, but also their recreational and vocational needs are met. Due to the lack of skilled adult helpers, 35,000 boys and girls are on the waiting list to join the Scout Association. If you would like to know how you can help, www.scouts.org.uk/home details the types of volunteer roles available. There are many other similar youth organisations in the same situation seeking adult helpers. A search on Google will give you more information.

If you would like to volunteer and are unsure of what would suit your skills and the time you have available, a good place to start is at the Do-It website doittrust.org. It claims to be a national volunteering database and it provides a platform for national and local charities and voluntary groups. There are over 1 million volunteering opportunities listed and a scroll through the list could provide some ideas for consideration.

A volunteering site operated by the Mayor of London, could be of particular use to London Masons. It encourages you to register and then helps you to find a role in a location you specify using your skillset at times and durations that fit your schedule. See volunteerteam.london.gov.uk.

David Neale was prompted by Sir Michael Snyder's address at the

Metropolitan Grand Lodge Investiture to recall his volunteering activities. Following his mother's stay in a hospice, he wanted to give something back, after he noticed the support given by the volunteers. It was the catalyst for him to walk into a local hospice with an offer to help. His services were put to good use until a job move took him away, but he redirected his community spirit to Leukaemia Research. In his role there he met the President, none other than the Duke of Kent. He was also President of the Medway Chamber of Commerce and, after a family tragedy; he became a Marie Curie volunteer. In addition he immersed himself in Masonic charities.

This wide range of activities undertaken by David shows that skills are transferable and that it is possible to devote time to more than one initiative. It would be interesting to hear about your experiences which can be communicated via my email address above.

At the time of going to press, ITV Breakfast is running their "pledge a minute" campaign. The idea is to help the elderly over Christmas and in one morning pledges totalling 9 million minutes were recorded. The concept of measuring acts of volunteering in minutes could be the basis for quantifying the scale of volunteer work carried out by London Masons. For instance, four hours of voluntary work a week equates to c12,000 minutes a year. Please email the minutes of voluntary work you do and for who/what it is devoted during 2017 to r.friend@metgl.com.

By the time arena reaches you, the first seminar on Trusteeships will have been held at Freemasons Hall. Details of further seminars will be announced on Porchway.

Volunteering Questionnaire

Do you volunteer in a community project or organisation? Y/N

If so:

A What is the project?

B What is your role?

C What is your time commitment?

Are other Lodge/Chapter members involved in local activities? Y/N

Would you like to become a volunteer? Y/N

Name

Lodge/Chapter Name and Number

Email address

Please return this information to r.friend@metgl.com

SPORTS NEWS

METROPOLITAN BOWLING UPDATE



W.Bro Ian Keech, LGR, describes success... and with it, problems!

Back in 2011, the London Masonic Bowlers' Association (LMBA) inaugurated the Masonic Annual Charity Event (MACE), an inter-Provincial Bowls competition which is held in rotation around the UGLE Provinces. All profits from MACE are donated to charities selected by the Host Province each year.

The success of MACE was followed in 2014 with a second competition under the auspices of LIMBO, the London Inspired Masonic Bowls Occasion. Still open to all Masonic Provinces under UGLE, the competition for the Green Diamond Trophy was held outdoors in London,

and the LMBA alone allocated donations to its chosen charities. But then came a problem: LIMBO had become so popular, and the weather so inclement, that a separate, indoor competition was needed for those blue-fingered bowlers struggling with the cold. And so, the Blue Diamond Trophy was born, and with it, two different designations for the competitions: LIMBOW, being the Indoor, Winter Competition for the Blue Diamond Trophy, and SLIMBO running the Outdoor, Summer version. The 2016 Outdoor Season ended with the Inter Provincial Charity Gala

Day, raising £150 for The Metropolitan Air Ambulance Appeal, with Bedfordshire MBA winning the Green Diamond Trophy at their first attempt.

The start of the Indoor Season saw the LMBA compete in 6 Triples against Finchley and District at the Glebelands IBC, just off the North Circular. Unfortunately, we didn't win...

Please contact Ian Keech -- ian.a.keech@btinternet.com 07904 525988 to learn more. Happy Bowling!



Dates for your Diary (2017):

Indoor Bowling

Thursday 23rd Feb	Charity Crystal Trophy	Herts BC, Watford	2.15pm
Wednesday 26th April	LIMBOW	Herts BC, Watford	2.15pm

Outdoor Bowling

TBA	Charity Crystal Trophy	Woodcock Park BC	2.30pm
Friday 12th August	M.A.C.E	Dorchester BC	9.30am
Thursday 14th Sept	SLIMBO	Woodcock Park BC	2.30pm

METROPOLITAN MASONIC CHARITY PRESENTATION AT FREEMASONS' HALL

*W. Bro Trevor Koschalka reports (additional reporting
W. Bro Ivor Macklins and W. Bro Adrian Fox)*



A large group of volunteers and staff from charities and hospices gathered at Freemasons' Hall on a bright and sunny winter morning in December to receive the latest round of grants from the Metropolitan Masonic Charity.

The event was organised by W. Bro Tony Shields, PGStB, the Metropolitan Charity Steward and the presentations were made by the Deputy Metropolitan Grand Master, RW Bro Simon Duckworth, PJGW, representing the Metropolitan Grand Master who was unable to be present due to a prior commitment. A wide variety of London's charitable organisations were represented, from youth clubs to those providing support for the bereaved and people suffering from breast cancer, to hospital charities and the hospice movement.

The Deputy Metropolitan Grand Master said, in his address to the group, that two of the core principles of Freemasonry are brotherly love and relief. He explained that this was not just to fellow masons but was expressed in wider support to the community. He mentioned that over £18 million had been disbursed on behalf of London masons in the last ten years. He also highlighted the £2 million raised for the second London air ambulance and the support for many other London projects both large and small. He said that all the money that was awarded to the charitable organisations came directly from London Freemasons as it was personal giving and not from fund raising.

After the presentation, the charity representatives were treated to a tour of

Freemasons' Hall by one of the guides who was able to explain the significance of the building as a memorial to those Freemasons who gave their lives during the 1914-1918 War. He also gave a fascinating explanation of the symbolism of the decoration of the Grand Temple. The group members were fascinated with the explanation and were surprised that they might recognise parts of the building from television programmes such as Poirot and Spooks. They were then entertained when the Deputy Metropolitan Grand Master gave a short impromptu recital on the Grand Organ.

The representatives of the charities and hospices then returned to the Drawing Room where they were provided with refreshments and could meet several London Freemasons who were in attendance, after which they were given the opportunity to visit the Tercentenary Exhibition.

The attitude of the charities present, was one of thanks to London Freemasons for their support and was summed up by one of them, Noel Cramer, Director of Fundraising and Marketing at the St. George's Hospital Charity.

"We are most grateful for the support from the Metropolitan Masonic Charity this year, which has helped us acquire additional equipment for patients and staff. This has a significant impact on the experience of patients and this is our mission as a charity - to enhance the patient experience. Your support this year has helped us in ongoing efforts to achieve the charity's mission for which we are most grateful."

Among the charities receiving or already in receipt of grants:

You Can Youth Cancer Support

Electric Umbrella

The Drop-in

Bereavement Centre

The tbap Multi-Academy Trust

The St. John's Youth Centre

KeepOut

Breast Cancer Haven

The Children's Trust

Barons Court Project

Gingerbread

Masonic Trout and Salmon Fishing Charity (brings a fishing and countryside experience to people with special needs)

Richard House Hospice

St Joseph's Hospice, Hackney

North London Hospice

St Christopher's Hospice

St John's Hospice

Nightingale Cancer Support Centre

STOKER AND TERRY

W. Bro Stan Marut considers the lives of two prominent Victorians, Bro Bram Stoker, author of Dracula, and W. Bro Edward O'Connell Terry, actor and theatre owner.

Masonic Feast and Masonic Famine

The Victorian period had an abundance of newly consecrated Lodges, in which many prominent men in the public domain became freemasons in this rich period of masonic development. These two masons lives ran in parallel, being born within three years of each other and both dying in 1912. Indeed, both worked in the theatre, one as an actor and subsequent theatre owner (Terry's Theatre in the Strand), the other as a business manager for Henry Irving, the famous actor and owner of the Lyceum Theatre in Covent Garden. Of the two, Stoker became the name that lingered in the history of English Gothic literature being the creator of Dracula, whilst Terry, a well-known actor of the late 19th century, managed to share his time with freemasonry, even having a Lodge named after him, Edward Terry Lodge No 2772.

Bro Bram Stoker

Bram Stoker was, of the two, less prolific as a freemason. He was born in Dublin in 1847 and educated at Trinity College where he graduated in Science and later gained a Master's Degree in Pure Maths. He was noted as being striking in appearance and good at sports. One of his interests was the theatre and in his spare time acted as an unpaid theatre critic for a Dublin newspaper. It was in this role that he met Henry Irving in Dublin and they became firm friends, an association which lasted twenty seven years. In 1878 Irving and Stoker became business partners; Irving having been initiated into freemasonry in 1877. (See *arena* 25 for article on Sir Henry Irving).

Despite their working relationship and the companionship that developed between them it appears that there was not much congruence in their masonic

activity in that they were not members of the same Lodges. Indeed, Stoker is shown in Grand Lodge records as having joined only one Lodge: the Buckingham and Chandos Lodge No 1150. Named after the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, who neither was at the time nor ever became a freemason, this Lodge had been consecrated in February 1867 and amongst its founding members were Officers and Sergeants of the 1st Middlesex Artillery Volunteers. Early days saw members from a variety of occupational backgrounds including solicitors, wool brokers, architects and stock brokers. Stoker gave his occupation as author and, although he had not yet achieved the renown he would gain in later life, he did write novels whilst continuing with his day time job. Initiated in February 1883, he was passed in April of the same year and then raised on the 20th June 1883. He remained a mason for only six years according to records available and appears not to have taken any office in the Lodge.

So, Bram Stoker, who may not have been a prolific mason, certainly left a literary legacy. Hopefully we can redress the masonic anonymity and respect him for having been a brother who perhaps by way of the pressing emergencies of his public and private avocations meant that he was unable to pursue a fuller role in freemasonry.

W. Bro Edward O'Connor Terry

A native of London Terry also worked in the theatre. He was three years older than Stoker. His legacy endures in the annals of freemasonry as well as in the histories of Victorian theatre. Regrettably it appears that resources are limited in relation to an understanding of his theatrical career which might have either enabled his participation in

freemasonry, or hindered it. Looking at his acting and masonic chronologies there seems no doubt that time was never a problem.

He became a mason in 1868 being initiated in Royal Union Lodge No 382 where he is entered on the records as "gentleman". His membership more or less coincided with his career debut in 1867. Very soon he moved from this Lodge and joined Lodge of Asaph No 1319 (a London Lodge) where he gave his occupations as drama. Asaph Lodge particularly suited musicians and those employed in the acting profession allowing them an opportunity to participate in freemasonry which had previously been impossible due to their working hours. He became Worshipful Master in 1877. In 1881 he joined St Alban's Lodge No 29 and eventually became Master in 1886.

In 1887 he became the owner of Terry's theatre in the Strand which had more than 800 seats. By this time he had been a mason for a substantial amount of time. It would have been highly likely that he would have met both Irving and Stoker in their professional and social capacities being near neighbours in that theatre district. Indeed, both Terry and Irving were petitioners for the formation of the Savage Club Lodge No 2190 in 1887: Terry succeeding Irving as Lodge Treasurer the following year. It seems likely that Stoker and Terry would have both been present at the consecration, as the masonic press of the time reported Stoker's name as being one of those attending.

Terry reached the pinnacle of his masonic career in 1889 when he was elected Grand Treasurer at Quarterly Communications in March. Amongst those who attended the consecration of Savage Club Lodge was Edward Letchworth who was subsequently



Bro Bram Stoker



W. Bro Edward C. Connor Terry



knighted and became Grand Secretary in 1891 (see arena 26 – Sir Edward Letchworth). In 1898 Terry was honoured by the formation of a Lodge which was, indeed, named after him; the Edward Terry Lodge No 2722 meeting at Barnes, which in those days would have been classified as Surrey.

Edward Terry was a prolific mason and philanthropist. He held Stewardships of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the Masonic Schools for Girls and Boys as well Life Governorships. He also served as church warden at Barnes Parish Church as well as devoting time to other charitable organisations. His masonic parting shot, so to speak, in relation to being petitioner for a new Lodge was, Birkenhead Lodge No 3294 which was consecrated in 1908. Once again this would be a Lodge which had a number of “showmen” and variety personalities including Sir Harry Lauder, who had wished to become a petitioner but was excluded, as such, due to his being a mason of the Scottish Constitution only.

Both Terry and Stoker died in 1912. Stoker had lived in Chelsea for more

than thirty years but subsequently moved to a flat in St George’s Square, Pimlico where he died quietly on April 20th. Terry had died a few days earlier at his home in Barnes on April 2nd. His remains were interred at Brompton Cemetery, Fulham Road in the Royal Borough of Kensington where his brother mason Sir Edward Letchworth, former Grand Secretary, would also be laid to rest in 1917.

Terry’s estate was valued at the time as £44,056/14s/6d which might be calculated as being on today’s terms as more than £3 million. Stoker on the other hand left £5,269/12s/7d a near equivalent value in today’s money of about £300,000.

I have tried to illustrate how two men working in the theatre world of the late 19th century embraced freemasonry in their own way. The biographers seem not to consider this very important part of their lives and if you were asked who you were more familiar with, your answer would no doubt lead you to the author of Dracula, unless you were an aficionado of the late Victorian theatre.

Sources:

Stoker: Bram Stoker – A Biography of the Author of Dracula, Barbara Belford, Phoenix Giant 1996. Sir Henry Irving- A Victorian Actor and His World, Jeffrey Richards, Hambledon Continuum, 2005. Abraham Stoker – Oxford Dictionary of National Biography – www.oxforddnb.com, Lodge History Buckingham and Chandos Lodge No 1150.

Terry: Edward Terry – Oxford Dictionary of National Biography – www.oxforddnb.com, Lodge histories of the following Lodges available at the Freemasons’ Library at Great Queen Street – Lodge of Asaph No 1319, Bohemian Lodge No 3294. Other information on Terry’s Lodge memberships supplied by courtesy of the staff at the Freemasons’ Library from Grand Lodge records, The Freemason 1889.

Acknowledgements: I would like to thank the staff at the Library of Freemasonry for their valued support and assistance especially Peter Aitkenhead, Martin Cherry and Susan Snell.



TERCENTENARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

18th April	Opening of Freemasons' Memorial at the National Arboretum
24th April	Victoria Cross Paving Stones
14th June	Summer Organ Concert -FMH
24th June	FMH Open Day
25th June	London Palladium
29th June	Guildhall Banquet
8th July	Summer Picnic, Queensmere
30th September	Grand Ball FMH
31st October	Royal Albert Hall
11th November	Lord Mayors Show



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SUNDAY NIGHT AT THE PALLADIUM

Tercentenary Show Announced

As part of its celebrations of the Tercentenary, Metropolitan Grand Lodge and Chapter are pleased to announce that they will be staging a night of variety at the world-famous London Palladium Theatre on Sunday 25th June 2017. The 'Sunday Night at the London Palladium' show will feature a host of stars from the worlds of comedy, theatre and music and is to be produced in celebration of 300 years since the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England, and in aid of the Royal Variety Charity.

Producer of the event, W. Bro Giles Cooper, a member of Chelsea Lodge No. 3098 (and Executive Producer of the very

popular annual Royal Variety Performance) said,

"It will undoubtedly be a fabulous night of variety. Acts are being approached as arena goes to press, but those in the pipeline so far (subject to their availability), include legendary Motown singer Mary Wilson from The Supremes, Bryan Ferry, Rick Wakeman, Alfie Boe, Michael Ball, Bradley Walsh and the winner of 'Britain's Got Talent 2016', Lance Corporal Richard Jones."

The evening is open to all but advance availability is being given to Freemasons, their friends and families, with the general public being invited to buy up any remaining spaces. Tickets for the

event range from £15 to £65 and will be available from the London Palladium Online Box Office (www.reallyusefultheatres.co.uk/buy-tickets), from January 23rd 2017, with a special advance ticket code for London Masons of "METGL". Please note that all tickets are being sold via this web address and NOT via the Met Office. There will also be a special VIP 'Meet and Greet' package available, offering a glass of champagne with some of the stars from the show, at £150 per ticket.

As Bro. Giles says, this will be a fabulous evening out – make sure you are ready to buy your tickets on the 23rd January!

INVESTITURE OF METROPOLITAN RANKS

arena takes a look at the investiture on 3rd November 2016



For many brethren, having put on their new Aprons for the first time, having sat down in their seats they turned to the Investiture agenda and supporting documentation. The Metropolitan Grand Master, RW Bro Sir Michael Snyder, made a number of interesting observations in his foreword to the day's events. Particularly he said:

"My warmest congratulations to those receiving London honours today. These awards are not only an acknowledgement of many years of devoted service given to your lodges, but also to our wider London masonic community".

Clearly referring not only to those who run masonic initiatives outside of the day to day running of their lodges but also to those who volunteer their time for good causes both within masonry and in the wider community of London.

The day was split into two investitures due to the sheer scale of the event with an investiture luncheon in-between. The morning investiture was for brethren with a lodge number numerically less than 3800 and the afternoon was for those from Lodges with a higher number.

The doors to the temple opened at 10am and a steady stream of Brethren, family and friends were escorted to their seats by the legions of stewards on duty. A common theme in the chatter of the day was quite how much it was appreciated by those receiving honours that every Steward who spoke to a recipient of honours congratulated them and was as helpful as they could be. Touches of generosity like this made all the difference to the recipients.

Metropolitan Grand Lodge was opened in a separate temple and called off. Then there were four processions into the Grand Temple of Grand Officers and guests from the majority of provinces under the United Grand Lodge of England, but the most notable and important to the day being that of the Metropolitan Grand Master, RW Bro Sir Michael Snyder, accompanied by the officers of Metropolitan Grand Lodge.

Bro Michael welcomed all present, particularly commenting on the attendance of the multitudes of wives, family and friends sat up on the mezzanine level seating, there to support the brethren being invested. The investees were then presented

individually to the Metropolitan Grand Master to receive their awards. Bro Michael spoke briefly to each, often asking them about their Lodge or their Masonic career. Following the Investitures, Sir Michael thanked all the family and friends for their support and understanding thereby allowing the Brethren honoured to make the contribution they do to both Masonry and the wider community.

Members of the London Air Ambulance Service were escorted into the temple to long and loud applause. They were then welcomed by the Metropolitan Grand Master and asked to speak on behalf of the Air Ambulance. To illustrate just how vital the Air Ambulance Service is to London, the consultant doctor who flies in the helicopter described the story of a young man who was in a park with a friend and had been set upon and stabbed for no apparent reason. The Air Ambulance was called out and the team performed lifesaving surgery in the street thereby saving the young man's life. It was described that a particular procedure was undertaken, which is so rare it has been done less than a dozen times. However the LAA have



done it four times to date-all with the patient surviving. This helicopter service clearly provides world class cutting edge care and all London Masons should be proud of the massive contribution made to funding this second helicopter.

The meeting continued with the collection of Alms, the national anthem and then the Metropolitan Grand Master and his officers retired from the Grand Temple in recession.

There was then the Investiture Luncheon held at the Grand Connaught Rooms. This was described in the speeches as being the largest Metropolitan Luncheon ever organised and Bro Michael spoke glowingly about the efforts undertaken to put together such an event by the staff of the Metropolitan Office.

The Luncheon opened with a wine reception in one of the adjacent rooms. A particularly well appreciated element of this reception was the manner in which various Metropolitan Officers simply strolled in and chatted to whomever they came across. Bro Michael followed suit and was seen chatting to a number of family and friends before

going into the dining hall.

The lunch itself was particularly well received, being generously proportioned and accompanied by an enjoyable standard of wine. Bro Michael then spoke to the attendees, again applauding their combined efforts which had led to their recognition and also stressed the importance of volunteering and Masonry's place in the wider community. Time started to press on and Bro Michael departed to be ready for the afternoon session of the investiture. Those brethren who'd been invested in the morning were able to sit back and enjoy their puddings at their leisure. Those being invested in the afternoon session, suddenly realising the time, made haste to the Grand Temple so as to avoid the wrath of the Stewards in attendance.

The afternoon session of the investiture followed much the same pattern as that of the morning. After the Pilot and Consultant of the Air Ambulance spoke, they were presented with a cheque for £500,000 by Bro Michael. Bringing the total to £2,000,000 raised by London Masons for the London Air Ambulance over

just 18 months-a feat of charitable giving of which all London Masons should be justly proud.

Again Bro Michael and the officers of Metropolitan Grand Lodge recessed from the Grand Temple and the brethren and their guests met up and headed far and wide into the darkening skies of London. Some however didn't make it particularly far as both Wolfes and the Pillars seemed to be doing a roaring trade that evening. Clearly many had heeded Bro Michael's words;

"Today above all is a time for the recipients of honours to share their celebrations with friends and family, so I trust you enjoy the whole occasion, and return to your lodges with renewed enthusiasm and determination to make them ever more successful and welcoming."

*Editor Note:
Porchway's records of holders of Metropolitan ranks has been updated to include all the recipients at the 2016 investiture.*

SO WHY SHOULD I VISIT...

FIDENTIA ET LUTINE LODGE NO 6272



*W. Bro Jeff Thomas LGR describes
this fascinating lodge.*



Every Lodge I know will tell you that when you visit them, you will receive a warm and hospitable welcome and experience excellent Ritual, and who are we to differ? So why Fidentia et Lutine I hear you ask, well if you are based in or around the City of London, so are we. We meet in the City, the members are almost all currently or previously working in the City and our Lodge of Instruction meets in the City, so yes we are a City Lodge and therefore easy to access.

If you are interested in history, you might find us interesting. Despite being a relatively young Lodge (Fidentia only being formed in 1946) the Lodge has strong connections to the history of the City. The present lodge was created in 2008 when Fidentia Lodge No 6272 merged with Lutine Lodge No 3049. The latter had been formed in 1904 having been supported by Rosemary Lodge No 2851. The name Lutine refers back to the British vessel of the same name which despite being escorted by the Royal Navy, had foundered and sunk in October 1799 off the coast of Holland with a valuable cargo of Gold on board. It had been insured by Lloyd's of London and when items from the

wreck were salvaged in 1858, the Ship's Bell went to the Lloyd's and can still be seen in pride of place in the current Lloyd's building.

The Lodge has acquired a number of "Firing Bells" cast from the molten cannonade recovered from Lutine. These are still used at every meeting, in the same manner as "Firing Glasses" but with somewhat more care for the furniture! The Master has a larger bell to use at the Festive Board rather than the usual Gavel.

As is commonly known, the Craft experienced a surge in popularity immediately after the War and Fidentia Lodge was founded in 1946 primarily to cater for younger men who had returned from the War and found employment in the Insurance community in London. Although other Lodges existed in that environment, not least Lutine, those Lodges were also experiencing demand and had long waiting lists so it was easily decided that a new Lodge could be formed which was consecrated at Freemasons' Hall on Monday 17th June 1946.

The close connection with the Insurance markets has continued to the present day, as have connections with other sectors of the Financial

community. However, such businesses have changed significantly over time and I have no doubt the worthy Founders would not have recognised the nature of Insurance today and the skills of its participants.

In this modern world where we all find time a precious commodity, adapting to the requirements and limitations imposed upon us by employers is essential to maintain and develop membership. We have found that our regular LOI which takes place in a central City location on Monday lunch times, has been a significant factor in allowing current members to develop their Masonry and to provide a service to Brethren from other Lodges who might otherwise not be able to attend their own LOI.

So in summary, a strong connection with the City and the Insurance and Financial communities; varied historical connections and unique traditions are just some of the reasons why you should consider visiting Fidentia et Lutine. We will be delighted to receive you and you will be guaranteed that time honoured warm and hospitable welcome.



KENT CLUB UPDATE

W. Bro Richard Criddle gives us all the gossip



The Kent Club is open to all London-based Freemasons over the age of 35, and provides a forum to socialise and develop masonically through networking, learning and visiting. Since the last edition of *arena* we have held a Social Evening in the recently refurbished Mark Masons' Hall which was well attended, with plenty of lively conversation across a number of subjects. This was followed at the end of November by a private tour of the Guards Museum by the curator, Andrew Wallis MBE, for a group of Kent Clubbers and their family members. After the redevelopment of the Wellington Barracks, the museum was opened in 1988 and is full of the collections of military ephemera amassed by the five Regiments of Foot Guards, including a very humbling display of Victoria Crosses won by Guardsmen since the medal was first awarded over 150

years ago. Following the tour the museum graciously laid on tea, coffee and fruitcake so that we had a further opportunity to discuss what we had seen. Andrew is an exceptional guide and kept all of us riveted with stories and facts that we would never have learnt had we visited the museum by ourselves. Such were the rave reviews from the attendees that it is highly likely we will run this event again next year.

In the last edition of *arena* we reported that the Club was assessing what we could achieve in the area of charity, starting with a sponsored run by one of our Committee members, Seirios Kokkalis, on behalf of the Club. Well, Seirios successfully completed the Athens Marathon and, although we are still counting the money, it looks as though he has received the Club's target of £1,200 for the Metropolitan Masonic Charity. Well done, Seirios!!

Looking ahead, our Events Officer, Bro. Noël Haynes, is currently putting together a programme of events such as a museum tour of the Battle of the Somme as well as some family-friendly activities. The details of these 2017 events are still being finalised, so please keep an eye on the website, the Facebook group or the Kent Club app for more information.

If you have any thoughts or suggestions on what more we can be doing for our 150+ members, please do get in touch via info@kentclub.org. Otherwise, details of all our activities and how to join the Kent Club can be found on our website (www.kentclub.org) or by contacting our Membership Officer via membership@kentclub.org

MetDepGDC's Advice

E. Comp Andy Norman, SLGCR provides guidance on sharing RA ritual

In recent years, Metropolitan Grand Chapter has introduced several initiatives to help its members in London to develop a greater understanding of the Royal Arch.

These initiatives have been wide ranging, including the introduction of the Exaltee's Guide, the Next Step in Freemasonry leaflet, the Talking Heads presentation, Community Chapters of Instruction as well as supporting the changes to the layout of Aldersgate and Domatic Rituals to stress the importance of the Permitted Alternative Version. These initiatives all help to make Chapter ceremony more enjoyable and engaging for all.

Directors of Ceremonies and Preceptors have a valuable part to play by promoting the involvement of more Companions in ritual. The advantages are clear. It is better for the candidate, because the quality of the ritual is improved, by reducing the amount of learning required for each office, allowing Companions to concentrate on the quality of the work they deliver, rather than be swamped by the volume of learning. It is better to do a smaller amount of ritual well, than too much, badly. It also means that the Principal Sojourner's work does not have to be so daunting to the less experienced RA mason, while giving opportunities to allow those who have been through the chairs to continue to participate, if they are not in active office.

There are several ways that ceremonial work can be shared, and the most recent editions of the main rituals even show how the work of various offices can be divided; those who haven't been through the chair, for example 1st and 2nd Assistant Sojourners, can assist with the Principal Sojourner's work (marked as PS1, PS2 etc. in the ritual books), while Past Principals can share the

Lectures (individual sections allocated H1, H2 etc.), Scripture Readings, etc. There is excellent guidance on Porchway called "Sharing the Ritual" which shows how up to 23 participants can be involved in the ceremony – should you so desire!

In addition, the newly formatted Exaltee's Guide sets out three explanations to be given before the Candidate's entrances which can be read to both the Exaltee and Companions in the Chapter. Each explanation is to be read to the Candidate by one of the Sojourners in the ante-room whilst at the same time another Companion gives the same explanation to all Companions in the Chapter. This will assist newer Companions in their understanding of the Royal Arch story, as well as filling the gap when the Candidate retires from the Chapter. Although not compulsory, it is hoped that Metropolitan Chapters will adopt them.

The Metropolitan Grand Stewards Chapter is currently undertaking a series of events in London entitled "Adding More Theatre". They demonstrate how to share the ritual whilst adding a few theatrical features which can greatly enhance the ceremony and I would thoroughly recommend attendance. Two such demonstrations have already taken place with the next scheduled for Clerkenwell Chapter of Installed Principals on 17th January at Mark Masons Hall.

The reception of a Brother who is undertaking Exaltation should be a moving experience and the involvement of several Companions, especially if family and friends can also be involved in some part, will go a long way to achieving this aim. In simple terms, the more we share - the more we have!

