

# Warwickshire

# Provincial Grand Lodge News

February 2004

## **New Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire**

The Assistant Grand Master, David Williamson, installed Richard Goddard as the Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire at the Three Counties Showground Malvern on 29 January. Robert Vaughan is the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Peter Band, Stuart Edwards, and Colin Young are the Assistant Provincial Grand Masters. We wish Richard and his team every success and happiness for the future and guarantee them the unqualified support of the Brethren of Warwickshire.

## **And a Grand Superintendent**

We also offer our warm congratulations to Richard Price who was installed on 29 January as the new Grand Superintendent in and over the Royal Arch Province of Worcestershire.

## **Unique ceremony**

Tudor Lodge celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in November with a ceremony not likely to have had a precedent in Warwickshire. The Master, John Thomas, had kindly donated a Tyler's Sword and Inner Guard's Poniard to the Lodge. These were dedicated and accepted by the Provincial Grand Master in a short but delightful ceremony.

## **Circulation of Lodge Minutes**

If the Minutes of Lodge Meetings have been circulated to Brethren in advance it is important that the item on the Summons clearly states that fact.

## **Arthur would have made three!**

Gary Askey installed his father Reg as Master of Athol Lodge in January in a delightful ceremony.

## **Good sense prevails**

Centro, the West Midlands Passenger Transport Executive, recently decided to require those of its staff who are Freemasons to declare so. A challenge to the policy by the Provincial Information Officer has resulted in the withdrawal of all references to Freemasonry in the employees' Code of Conduct.

## **Jamaican Church Leaders attack Freemasonry**

Anglican Church leaders in Jamaica have levelled charges against Freemasonry. They insist that "lodges of whatever sort are satanic and not sacred and that the Jamaican society should come out against the movement." They say that the 'oaths' taken by lodge members demand secrecy and exercise practices which are not consistent with Christian principles.

## **Welcome to another Warwickshire Lodge on the web**

Murdoch Lodge has recently launched its delightful and informative web site at <http://www.murdochlodge.co.uk> and we welcome it to the ever-growing number of web sites published by private Lodges in Warwickshire. We are proud to be associated with it and congratulate all those involved in its creation.

## **Freemasons' Generosity to the Hospice movement**

The Freemasons' Grand Charity has once again been generous to the hospices in the Province in 2003. The hospices and grants are:

Warren	Pearl	£3,650
Mary Ann	Evans	£1,000
Myton	Hamlet	£4,100
Shakespeare		£750

Acorns	Children's	£3,650
St Mary's		£4,750

202 hospices in England and Wales received a total of £500,000 from the Grand Charity.

## **More of what they say about us**

"Freemasonry is the reason why this country is falling apart morally and economically." "Masonic mafia police are known to take action against the anti-Masonic victims of crime and protect the criminal. They are most certainly aware that the courts are also infested by their brother Masons." True!

## **High Marks**

The Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, David Rawlins and Rodney Pitham, Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, and Malcolm Thomas, Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary, are all current Masters of Warwickshire Mark Lodges. David Old and Roger Mac, Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, are also Mark Masons in the Province.

## **Loyal magisterial service**

Mike Cotton has recently retired from the Coventry Bench after 39 years service as a magistrate, the longest of any in the City.

## **Another first for Warwickshire**

David Hampson was installed as the new Grand Superintendent for the Royal Arch Province of Staffordshire at Stirling Road, the Head Quarters of Warwickshire Freemasonry, on 24 November. We wish David and his team every happiness for the future.

## **A healthy gift**

At a recent meeting when only 14 Brethren were present, St Martin's Lodge raised the

magnificent sum of £270 for the County Air Ambulance. Congratulations to them for such a fine effort. The Lodge has also donated £1,500 to the Warwickshire Benevolent Fund.

#### **Dates for your diary**

Lodge of Security – Banner Dedication – 2 March  
Lodge of Hope – Banner Rededication – 18 March  
Initiates Luncheon – 20 March  
St Peter's Lodge – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – 14 April  
Newdegate Lodge – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – 22 April  
Barnard Lodge – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – 11 May  
Lodge of Serenity – Summer Ball – 21 May  
Annual Meeting – 22 May  
Annual Service at Warwick – 20 June.  
For details ring Barbara or Bridget on 0121 454 4422.

#### **Thoughts of charity**

If your Lodge would appreciate being brought up-to-date with the supportive work being undertaken by the Masonic Charities, Chris Grove, Provincial Grand Charity Steward, would be pleased to come and enlighten you. He can be contacted at the Charity Office on 0121 454 0554.

#### **End of a century**

Teddy Woolf, a member of the Lodge of Israel for nearly 74 years, died on 3 January aged 102.

#### **In at the beginning**

The Provincial Grand Master and his wife Dawn played a part in British maritime history by being passengers on the QM 2 on her maiden voyage in January from Southampton to Fort Lauderdale.

#### **Bro Dr Ed Doolan MBE**

Ed, of the Lodge of Israel, has the unique distinction of being the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Central England, the University of Aston and the University of Birmingham.

#### **Where there's hope**

Four Brethren named Hope (three of them triplets) could not believe their luck at the Lodge of Integrity recently. They each won a prize in the raffle and their brother-in-law won a fifth!

#### **Masonic farming for charity**

Some of our Irish brethren have driven a tractor around Ireland and raised £35,000 for a hospice.

#### **180!**

Harry Sutton of the Forest of Arden Lodge, Jack Coles of St Mary's and Stanley Batchelor of Composite Lodge, have all recently celebrated 60 years in Freemasonry. On the night of Harry's celebration Russell Powell was initiated – only another 59+ years to go Russell!

#### **Provincial Wardens**

The Provincial Grand Master has been pleased to appoint Alan Wellan as Provincial Senior Grand Warden and Keith Marchington as Provincial Junior Grand Warden for 2004/2005. We wish them a happy and rewarding year in their high offices.

#### **Prestonian Lecture for 2004**

Hurry to reserve your place for an official delivery of the Prestonian Lecture at the Regular Meeting of Tudor Lodge on Monday 8 March at Stirling Road. Apply to John Thomas on 01803 552721 or at [ajat@cath.co.uk](mailto:ajat@cath.co.uk) for tickets. An application form is on [www.warwickshirepgl.org](http://www.warwickshirepgl.org)

#### **Learn about the Royal Arch**

A Brethren's Evening is being held on Friday 19 March at Victoria House Willes Road Leamington Spa. A free buffet supper will be available. This promises to be a most instructive occasion with a presentation by the Grand Superintendent Richard Wallis. Applications to [Eddie@peplowwarren.freemasonry.co.uk](mailto:Eddie@peplowwarren.freemasonry.co.uk) (Eddie Warren) or to [peterhuckle@saqnet.co.uk](mailto:peterhuckle@saqnet.co.uk) (Peter Huckle).

#### **Howe about that?**

Richard Barker was installed as the Master of Howe Lodge in January. His great-great-grandfather J W Lloyd was the Founding Master in 1851.

#### **What's in a name?**

P H Gunning is the Vice Chairman of the West Lancashire Masonic Clay Pigeon Shooting Society.

#### **A Lodge's generosity**

Action in the Community, Multiple Sclerosis Society, University Hospital Oncology Unit, Myton Hamlet Hospice and NCH Action for Children are the non-Masonic charities which have benefited from substantial donations made in 2003 by Lord Leycester Lodge.

#### **Michael Porteus**

It is with great sadness that we record the death on 30 December 2003 of Michael Porteus at the age of 45. Michael had fought a long and courageous battle against cancer with dignity and good humour. He was the creative and innovative genius behind the Provincial web sites for the Craft and the Royal Arch. Michael was a much loved and respected Past Master of St Paul's Lodge No 43 where his father, Stanley, is the Secretary. He will be sorely missed.

#### **The Grand Lodge of India**

The Grand Lodge of India was constituted on 24 November 1961 in New Delhi, with delegations from the Grand Lodges of Scotland, Ireland and England. Visit their excellent website at [www.masonindia.org](http://www.masonindia.org)

#### **Sponsorship**

This edition has been sponsored by Bathroom World of 1205 Stratford Road Hall Green Birmingham. 0121 777 4444 or [contact@bathroomworldhallgreen.co.uk](mailto:contact@bathroomworldhallgreen.co.uk)

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