

Warwickshire

Provincial Grand Lodge News

November 2006

A first for Freemasonry

The first known Freemason to set foot on Australian soil was Sir Joseph Banks, the botanist who accompanied Captain Cook on his voyage along the east coast in 1770.

Fifty years apart

Michael Roper-Hall was installed into the chair of Lister Lodge in October exactly fifty years to the day when he first became Master.

Ladies Gift Fund Fayre

The Ladies Gift Fund Christmas Fayre will be held at 2 Stirling Road Edgbaston Birmingham on Saturday 18 November 2006 commencing at 10.30am.

300 years old

The Lodge of Journeymen Masons will celebrate its 300th Anniversary in Edinburgh in May 2007.

Not the left?

"Council starts their employees on the *right* foot" was the headline on the Coventry City Council web site recently.

Grand Charity Grants

A General Meeting of the Grand Charity held in Harrogate in September approved grants to 17 non-Masonic charities totalling £715,000.

A good combination if needed!

Stephen Terry and Nigel Dengate are both Past Masters of St Wilfrith of Sussex Lodge; Stephen is a Clerk in Holy Orders and Nigel is an Undertaker.

Visiting Officers

A Visiting Officer on his official visit is the Provincial Grand Master's representative

and as such sits immediately to the right of the Master in the Lodge Room and at the Festive Board. He takes precedence over all other Brethren.

Members needed

The Warwickshire Masonic Brass Band needs more bandsmen. David Diston would be pleased to hear from anyone who is interested on 02476 599612.

Very familiar

Jeff Postle, the Master of Fforest Lodge in South Wales, earlier this year initiated his three sons at the same meeting.

Celebration

Norman Lloyd-Edwards, the President of the New Masonic Samaritan Fund, has recently celebrated 50 years as a Freemason.

Grand Officers' Mess

The next meetings of the Mess will be held on 23 April and 30 October 2007.

Founder at the Golden Jubilee

Eli Parker, born in Boston Lincolnshire in 1865, was the founding Master of Warwick Lodge in Queensland in 1906. He was present at its 50 years celebration in 1956.

Worthy Masons all

The Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire attended All Saints Church in Kings Heath to present a sum of money for church building purposes. During the service a baby boy was baptised with the first name of 'Mason'.

Father and son

Terry Waters initiated his son Adam into Coleshill Lodge in October.

Father, son and uncle

Guy Mander, proposed by his father Peter Mander and his uncle David Mander, was initiated into St Michael's Lodge in October.

Masons interrupt the cricket

The radio microphone announcements at Elkington Lodge annual Sunday lunch at the Police Club in Edgbaston were heard by the players and large crowd at the cricket match between the Warwickshire Bears and the Durham Dynamos in September. Spectators even joined in the singing of 'Happy Birthday' to the wife of one of the Brethren. The umpires stopped play!

They know him well

"The proposer and seconder have known the candidate for 108 years between them", said a Lodge Secretary recently.

Christmas Concert

The Christmas Concert with the Provincial Choir and the Provincial Brass Band will be held on Thursday 7 December 2006 at 2 Stirling Road Edgbaston. Details and tickets (only £5 each) are available from Harry Owen on 0121 423 8085 or from your Lodge Charity Steward. The Provincial Grand Master expects Lodges to be well represented at this delightful event.

A member of the Chaingang?

Martin Orrill of the Lodge of Unity cycled 120 miles in one day through the French Alps in

July on one of the hottest days of the year. Martin was raising money for an incubator in memory of a friend's tragic loss of his wife while giving birth to twins.

A challenge for your brains

A quiz night in aid of the 2012 Festival is being held by the Lodge of Assembly on 30 March 2007 at Stirling Road. Details are available on k666wal@yahoo.co.uk from Keith Walton.

Ronald Eamonson

The correct telephone number for Ronald Eamonson is 0121 351 5360 and not the one given in the Year Book.

Learn about the Charities

At the meeting on 11 December of Vesey Lodge the Provincial Grand Charity Steward will be speaking about the Masonic Charities. Reg Harbidge, on 0121 580 8608, is the contact.

A little bit of history

The Lodge of St Catherine held its first Ladies Night on 10 June 1951 at the Masonic Hall Coventry with an attendance of 205.

More like X rated!

Lou Dilke of Arts and Crafts Lodge yodelled on the 'X Factor' TV show in his bid for stardom. Sharon Osbourn commented: "Bizarre !" Lou did not make it to the next round, but is available for Ladies Nights in Switzerland. He also failed the auditions for 'Maria' on the BBC!

Rather difficult!

In a London Lodge recently the Master Elect was told to "Kneel on both knees on the Volume of the Sacred Law!".

John Rishworth

John, who died in October, served Freemasonry well since he had completed in excess of 60 years in the Craft, Royal Arch and the Mark.

New man at the top

Peter John Turner is to be installed as the Very Illustrious

Inspector General for the Warwickshire District in the Ancient and Accepted Rite at Stirling Road, Edgbaston on Wednesday 29 November 2006.

Distinguished service award

Peter Waring, Peter Turner's immediate predecessor, has received the Order of the Eagle and the Rose from the Supreme Council, the highest honour that can be bestowed.

75 years as a Mason

Henry Backenson of the State of New Jersey has just completed 75 years as a Mason. He was initiated at the age of 21.

Outstanding record

Norman Welch, who died earlier this year at the age of 96, was a Past Master of De Montfort Lodge of which he had been a member for more than 65 years.

Trouble with his worms!

A Master, in paying tribute to the outstanding work of our Provincial Grand Master, said that we owed him a "grat of debtitude"! We know what he meant.

A donation of magnitude

As part of its 150th Anniversary celebrations in October the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons donated £3,000,000 to the National Osteoporosis Society.

Another woman?

The RW Provincial Grand Master has become very fond of Roaring Meg! (All is well – it is a beer he discovered in Atherstone).

Another good walk spoiled!

Congratulations to Stephen Fowler, Stephen Mingo, Michael Bartlett and Andrew Ibbitson who were all winners of Masonic golf trophies in September.

Discrimination or ignorance?

Freemasons in California have been prevented from laying a cornerstone with Masonic ceremonial by the local school board. A concerned citizen did

not want the pupils and their parents to be influenced by a satanic cult!

A London honour for a Warwickshire Freemason

Michael Ward of the Lodge of St Barbara is to be a Group Chairman in the Metropolitan Grand Lodge of London with responsibility for some 500 Lodges.

A must

The 'Information for the guidance of members of the Craft' booklet (edition of September 2006) should be presented to each new Master and every Candidate for Initiation.

Grand Chancellor

RW Bro Alan John Englefield is to be the first Grand Chancellor of the United Grand Lodge of England with responsibility for external relations with foreign Grand Lodges.

Romance is not dead

At a Gentlemen's Evening of a Women's Lodge in October Sean Cannell of the Lodge of Rectitude got onto his knees, in the middle of the dance floor, and proposed to his girlfriend Sara. She said 'yes.' Ah!

Sad

"Sad men do lots of stupid things: rugby league, freemasonry and growing moustaches to name but three", proclaimed Graeme Whitfield in the Western Mail on 30 September. The same could be said about sad journalists who clearly demonstrate their ignorance about Freemasonry and its members when they make statements like this.

London Warwickshire Lodge

The Installation Meeting of the London Warwickshire Lodge will take place on Monday 30 April 2007 at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London. Anyone who is interested in attending should contact me.

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