Provincial Launch of Freemasonry Cares

As we entered the New Year we would all have wished our loved ones, relations and friends a Peaceful, Prosperous and Healthy New Year. However, the wisest of us knows not what is 'round the corner'. When the unexpected happens some of us will have the ability to cope. Others, less fortunate, will not. Some are aware of our Masonic charities and how they can help in times of need. Equally a large number of our Brethren and their dependents do not.

You might ask why? Is it perhaps because the they do not know how to access it or do not think they qualify? Or are they reticent or too proud to approach a Lodge member directly? That is why our Province is launching a service that is both unique and special. It is called



We all hope we will never face financial hardship or major health problems; need help supporting our children or require extra care in our old age. In reality thousands of people every year need a little extra assistance. We, as Freemasons, are fortunate to have that support to hand. The newly launched *Freemasonry Cares* service is there to make sure Freemasons and their dependents, who need that support, get it.

Freemasonry Cares is a joint initiative involving the four central Masonic charities and is a gateway to the help that they can provide. It aims to increase awareness of that help and to make it easier to access via the establishment of a national Freephone number; a new website and possible email contact.

Rather than expect a potential applicant to remember and understand there are four Masonic charities offering many different types of help, the message now focuses on themes.

Continued on Page 4



New Year Message from the Provincial Grand Master A Question of Strategic Priorities

With Arctic temperatures and Christmas snow it seems a far cry from the mellow days of September as we reach the halfway stage in a typically busy and happy Masonic season. However despite the problems of keeping warm and getting around we can surely look forward to more New Year challenges and the delights of springtime to come. Perhaps even more so with England retaining the Ashes, Saints topping the Rugby Premiership and even my beloved Hartlepools United challenging for a League I promotion place!! Whatever your thoughts at this Festive time, Joy and I hope you have enjoyed a relaxing and peaceful Christmas and wish you and your family a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Reflecting on the many Lodge and Provincial highlights since last autumn we have without doubt made considerable progress in meeting the challenges of the "3Rs" – Recruitment, Retention and Retrieval of members – and now of the "3Es" – even greater Enjoyment of our Freemasonry through an Enlightened and Entertaining understanding of this wonderful Craft Order. Long may we continue to meet these key challenges.

However in these increasingly turbulent economic times with constant talk of austerity and of personal and family hardship, the active implementation of our Grand Principals of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth become especially important. It is a challenge I believe we can meet with confidence, with



Provincial Grand Master RW Bro Barrrie Hall

enthusiasm and with typical Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire enjoyment and thoroughness. It is a challenge which will focus around the two key Offices of Charity Steward and Almoner but which needs the full and active support of every member of every Lodge. Its essence is to achieve an effective balance of fund raising priorities and the effective utilisation of those funds. Let me commend **three especial elements**.

Firstly the 2013 Festival Appeal on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution (RMBI).

Lodges have responded magnificently to the Appeal. In less than four years many have either reached and exceeded their target or are very close to doing so and our Provincial target of £1.6 million is already in sight – indeed we have now reached a total of over £1.5m. My thanks to Provincial Charity Steward, lain Lauder, his hard working team of Lodge Charity Stewards and to all the Brethren for their tremendous support. Likewise my congratulations to our hard working cross-Province Festival Committee chaired by Deputy PGM, Max Bayes and whose additional fund raising through sponsored events, social occasions and concerts has been so outstandingly successful.

Our support for the RMBI is vital in their work to sustain and develop our superb Residential and Nursing homes throughout the country. Their care for elderly Brethren and their dependants is simply first class and a source of great pride throughout the Craft. Please

continue to support the Appeal so that we may raise a total well in excess of our target and of which we can all be very proud.

A second element of our 2011 challenge is the Provincial launch of a major and quite remarkable initiative by our National Masonic Charities. I refer of course to Freemasonry Cares. Indeed it is perhaps the most significant and wideranging Masonic charity initiative ever launched.

Provincial Grand Almoner, John Partridge, has written at length in this issue of *Password* to detail the concept of *Freemasonry Cares*, its importance and the manner of its implementation. *Freemasonry Cares* provides a speedy and easily accessible route to a tremendous range of support for those in difficulty and distress. Support may relate to Financial problems, urgent Healthcare or Family care problems – all this without first needing to be aware of the detail of the many support services provided by our central Masonic Charities. *Freemasonry Cares* was launched at Northampton in January at a meeting of all Lodge Almoners. They in turn will launch the scheme at the earliest opportunity in their own Lodges. *Freemasonry Cares* has my total and unconditional support. I urge all Brethren not only to be personally familiar with the details of this remarkable initiative but to ensure – indeed guarantee – that their wife or partner and members of their immediate family are also aware of its contents. Separately, and crucially, Almoners will also personally advise Lodge widows of the scheme and its importance.

Remember, if you or your family are in any doubt that help is available, just ring 0800 035 6090. Freemasonry Cares really is as easy as 1 - 2 - 3.

Appreciating the amount of time, effort and resources required by Lodges and Brethren in meeting the first two elements of this "challenge," let me now add a third — a better use of Provincial Grand Charity (PGC) funds which, I would anticipate, will facilitate reduced Lodge effort in raising and directing charitable funds to deserving local charities. PGC funds are those provided by voluntary Lodge donations over many years and enhanced by investment income. Using these funds on the basis of Lodge recommendations, or even better on the basis of recommendations from Groups of Lodges, to assist local charities will not only ensure greater effectiveness in the use of (your) PGC funds but importantly create more opportunities for Lodges to raise funds for other aspects of Lodge and Masonic Centre work — including funds for equipment, regalia, Building maintenance etc, etc.

The foregoing "3-part strategy" is one I wholeheartedly commend to you. It will surely play a key role in ensuring that the continued practice of our Grand Principals is yet further enhanced for the benefit of all our Craft members and the communities within the Province of which we are all very proud to belong.

May I again wish you and your families a very Happy and Healthy New Year and may you continue to enjoy your Freemasonry in this very special Province.

RW Bro W Barrie Hall Provincial Grand Master January 2011

Continued from Page I



These themes are contained within the **Passport to Help** – a pack designed to look so special it can not be easily discarded.

Passport to Help encourages individuals to ask

- Do I have a Masonic connection?
- > Do I have a need with which Freemasonry might help?
- Is it a financial, healthcare or family need?

If the answer to each of the questions is Yes, the individual should immediately contact the Lodge Almoner or Freemasonry Cares.

This initiative provides a unique opportunity to make sure those who perhaps in the past have not been well-versed in our Masonic charities (especially wives, partners and widows of Masons) are brought up to date on the Masonic help available to them.

The Provincial Grand Almoner, W Bro John Partridge PAGDC commented, "I have always recognised the difficulty in reaching those who are outside our direct lines of communication. In particular those Brethren who resign from our Lodges, for whatever reason, and subsequently lose contact with us - those Brethren will probably have wives and partners. If they could take something with them that gives a simple point of contact for future reference then at least some link has been retained. This Province wants to establish that link by using the *Freemasonry Cares* initiative. This may not necessarily immediately re-establish links but some detective work by individual Lodges may help. However, if we are successful with the *Freemasonry Cares* initiative, coupled with diligence in keeping membership details up to date, then such problems as 'whereabouts unknown' will be a thing of the past.

Freemasonry Cares has the full backing of our Provincial Grand Master and his Executive. Its

success relies on the information explaining *Freemasonry Cares* being spread. That is down to each and every one of us."

Freemasonry Cares does not replace the Lodge Almoner.

On the contrary, it will supplement his work. If the message reaches areas it has not reached before then it is highly possible his workload might increase. In view of this, this Province has made the Lodge Almoner the key link in the distribution of the Passport to Help packs. He will personally present them to all the Brethren and widows associated with his Lodge.

Please support him in his onerous and important task. Please listen to him.

When you receive your Passport to Help, please look at it. Share it with your partner and then keep it safe.



Freemasonry Cares

A gateway to help available to people with a Masonic connection and a real need. Help available includes

Household expenses and goods

Education support

Home repairs and improvements

> Funeral costs

Emergency costs, arising from illness, death and redundancy

Operations

Dental treatmentMobility equipment and home adaptations

Hospital treatment

Medication costs

> Nursing and Dementia care

Children's maintenance and education costs

Care Homes and sheltered accommodation

Respite CareBenefits advice

> Support for children with talent in music, sport or performing arts

> Counselling, therapy and advice for children

➤ Holidays for the elderly

If you or someone you know needs assistance then contact Freemasonry Cares to discuss how they can help.

Freephone: 0800 035 6090

Email: help@freemasonrycares.org
Web: www.freemasonrycares.org

Post: Freemasonry Cares, 60 Great Queen St, London, WC2B 5AZ











Provincial Members Visit the Alamo

Your will remember from the last edition of Password an invitation to a especial meeting of the Alamo Lodge No 44 of the Grand Lodge of Texas. It was from the Worshipful Master, W Bro Scott J Mikos a US Air Force officer and member of Grand Junction Lodge No 9775 and the Croughton Square & Compass Club. Seven members of our Province took up the invitation, attending the meeting at the historic Alamo, Shrine of Texas Liberty on Friday, 10 December 2010.

This year's meeting marked the 29th Annual Called Communication in the old Spanish mission where so many Masons gave their lives 175 years ago for Texas independence from Mexico and where Alamo Lodge No 44 was chartered. Traditionally, the newly installed Grand Master of Texas makes his first official visit to the Alamo to begin his Masonic Year in the Grand East and so this meeting was graced by his presence.

Festivities began early that evening with light refreshments in nearby Alamo Hall where a special programme for visiting ladies was provided while Masons assembled and met in The Alamo. This special evening attracted its largest crowd of more than 220 Masons from Texas and other jurisdictions. At one point the floor was opened for presentations and W Bro Andrew Woodward presented to the Brethren of Alamo Lodge a hand painted windlass representative of the Grand Union Canal for which Grand Junction No 9775 was formed. Bro Nigel Morley presented a book on the formation of Pomfret Lodge No 360. Both items will be placed in the Alamo Lodge's museum.



(I to r) Bro John Brierley, Bro Nigel Morley, W Bro Andrew Woodward, MW Bro Gene Carnes,
Grand Master of Texas, W Bro Scott Mikos, W Bro Graham Minett, W Bro Martin Holiday,
Bro Ken Archer and W Bro Adrian Howerth

After Alamo Lodge closed a grand dinner was held at the nearby San Antonio Scottish Rite Cathedral to round off an excellent event. Future visits to The Alamo were discussed and W Bro Mikos is happy to host anyone interested in making the journey to San Antonio, Texas, in the future. Photos of the event are displayed on the Grand Lodge of Texas website.

Demonstration Group Start Work on New Play

Work started on a new play - *The Union of the Ancients and Moderns* - when members of the Provincial Demonstration Group visited the Library & Museum of Freemasonry at Great Queen Street London WC2 in early in November 2010.

"The purpose of this visit," said Demo Group Chairman Trevor Sherman "was to trawl through correspondence held by the Library and produce a short list of resource material to inspire the design, content and dialogue for the new play. The absolute thrill of the day for me was when the archivist brought the original boxed copy of the Articles of Union out of

the vault for us to see. This was the actual document drawn up and used in 1813."

Early in 2011 a research and writing team will start to develop a script dealing with the history leading in 1813 to the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England.

W Bro Sherman said "We were staggered by the unexpected and perhaps trivial issues that were part of the problem between the two Grand Lodges that formerly existed."



W Bro Peter Ayton studying some of the original documents held at the Library

What were those issues? To find out you'll need to wait for the premiere of *The Union of the Ancients and Moderns* due towards the end of 2011.

A Hit with Working Tools at Wilavestone Lodge



W Bro Mike Farrow uses the chisel to further prepare the stone

Risdene Lodge members, W Bros Mike Farrow and Barry Hales, thrilled the guests and members of Wilavestone Lodge 9829 in Wollaston on 30 November with their demonstration The Working Tools - a New Perspective.

Mike Farrow is a third generation stonemason who still has many of the tools used by his grandfather. He has added to his collection with a number of medieval replica tools to show the audience how our operative forefathers would have carried out their trade at the great stately homes and cathedrals of the country.

Wilavestone Lodge Worshipful Master, W Bro Mark Wilson was delighted with the evening. "We all see and hear about the working tools in each degree. Now we know how they were used in the past. We get the real meaning of them and how the tools were applied in operative Masonry."

The Provincial Website Address is www.northants-huntsmasons.org.uk



Grand Charity Support for Fund Raising in Province

As part of its support for National Charities, the Grand Charity has a scheme which offers to match donations to National Charities made by Lodges within the Province This is a one-off event to selective Provinces.

£10,000 Help for Heroes



(I to r) W Bro Dr Viv Thomas, APGM, Jane Bowley, Help for Heroes County Co-ordinator, RW Bro Barrie Hall, PGM and W Bro Wayne William, APGM

Peterborough and Counties Lodge No 2996, the Lodge of St George No 5978, the Lodge of St James No 6838 and W Bro Trevor Sherman have raised over £5,000 towards Help for Heroes.

The Grand Charity has generously matched this with an additional £5,000.

On Friday 13 August 2010, it was the pleasure of the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Hall to present the cheque to Jane Bowley, Help for Heroes County Co-ordinator.

£5,000 for Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association

The Grand Charity also made a donation of £5,000 to the Northamptonshire Branch of SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association).

This was presented by the PGM to Colonel John Royle.

He congratulated the Freemasonry movement and gave thanks for its considerable support.



(I to r) Colonel John Royle, RW Bro Barrie Hall, PGM, Frank Munns, County Secretary, SSAFA Forces Help Northamptonshire and VW Bro Max Bayes, DPGM

Remarkable Man Sets Remarkable Record



Proving that Freemasonry is a broad church, welcoming suitable candidates of all ages, perhaps the oldest candidate ever to be initiated in the Province became a Mason on 16 December last.

Eric Billson was initiated into England's Centre Lodge No 2555 in Northampton at the tender age of 91 years. In his most distinguished life he served in Bomber Command of the RAF throughout World War II and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and bar for "acts of valour and courage or devotion to duty performed whilst flying in active operations against the enemy." Back in civilian life in

Northampton he established and ran his own driving school and is a past Lord Mayor of Northampton. In thanking his proposer into Freemasonry, W Bro Mike Richards, he said he was confident of reaching the ripe old age of at least 115 but had been thinking about how he could leave behind a chronicle of his WWII exploits. This led him to have copies made of his flying Log Book, one of which he presented to W Bro Mike in appreciation of there friendship.

In the last edition of *Password* we reported the initiation of the Province's youngest ever candidate, Brendan Dimmock, initiated into the Lodge of Perseverance on 28 April 2010 at 19 years of age. Does this Province therefore hold the record for having initiated both the youngest and oldest candidate in Masonry - and both in the same year?

Craft Fair Benefits the Craft

Held to raise funds for local charities, the St Giles Lodge Christmas Craft Fair at Corby Masonic Centre was opened by Margaret Price, wife of W Bro Lyndon Price last November. There were 26 stallholders selling a variety of products from hand knitted clothing to homemade cup cakes. The turnout, despite a bitterly cold day, was very reasonable and



(I to r) W Bro Barry Cole, W Bro Lyndon Price, Bro David Genner, Mrs Margaret Price, W Bro Bill Rutherford

everyone had a good time. A tombola with some excellent prizes raised additional funds. For those feeling a peckish, a small snack bar was available.

Various charities benefited from the £900 raised including the Northampton Disabled Rowers Association (£200), the North Northamptonshire Ladies' Choir and the RMBI 2013 Festival.



Unique Installation for Dr Field Lodge

On 11 October 2010 twenty eight visiting Brethren representing nineteen Lodges from across the Province and beyond witnessed a unique event at Dr Field Lodge No 8158 in Northampton.



(I to r) W Bros Norman Coulson, John Matthews, John Wearing (Jnr), John Wearing (Snr), Jeff Lowe and Bob Allison

W Bro John Wearing, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, installed his son, Bro John Wearing, as his successor.

Father installed son in a professional manner and every member of the installation team rose to the challenge.

The outgoing Worshipful Master presented Bro David Britten with an engraved wine goblet for his contribution towards making the year an enjoyable one.

Coast to Coast Walk Raises £1,300 for RMBI Festival

Bro Clive Stainer of Waynflete Lodge No 4452 has completed a commendable personal challenge in aid of the 2013 RMBI Festival. It took him 16 days in May 2010 to complete the very strenuous 190 miles of the Arthur Wainwright Coast to Coast Walk.

The route is between St Bees Head, Cumbria to Robin Hood's Bay, North Yorkshire and transverses some of the most beautiful & spectacular (but also the hilliest) countryside in England in the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors.

As the cost of the walk was funded by Clive, all the money raised by Brethren, family & friends, totalling £1300, has been presented to the PGM on behalf of the 2013 Festival Appeal.



PGM, RW Bro Barrie Hall, receiving the £1,300 cheque from Bro Clive Stainer

In Brief

Canadian Trip for Mike

In September 2010 W Bro Mike Richards of

England's Centre Lodge No 2555 (on left) travelled to Saskatoon in Canada in support of the entry into Freemasonry



of his great nephew, Roger Blincow (centre). Roger, a PhD student at Saskatchewan University, was initiated into the Mystic Tie Lodge No 213 by the WM, W Bro Peter Derrick (right).

Your Masonic Centre Needs You

Many of our Masonic Centres rely heavily on income from non Masonic sources. In these difficult economic times they need this income more than ever if they are to be profitable or, at least, remain viable. Over



the last two years some of them have found the financial going quite challenging and would welcome any increase in business you are able to

provide, promote or introduce. Collectively we can make a difference by helping to market the facilities available, ensuring the financial viability of our Centres and helping keep down the costs of our Freemasonry.

Ellindon LAMs Show the Way

Members of Ellindon LAMs and their partners and friends enjoyed a Summer Supper at the home of their Secretary, Jenny Dunk, at Glinton. At the end of a very pleasant evening a cheque for £1,000 was



presented to Alan Valentine (pictured) and he accepted it on behalf of Peterborough Masonic Hall Ltd. This brings the total gifts from the LAMs to Ellindon Centre to £14.000 since their launch in 1973.

Freemasons' Grand Charity Donation

Corby Masons, W Bros Andy Nairn (left), Bill McGillivray (centre right) and Tom Hemsley (right) presented a cheque for £1,000 to the Lakelands Hospice on behalf of The Freemasons' Grand Charity. Ray Burke

Trustee and founding member of the Lakelands Hospice (centre left) and Staff Nurses Soyna



Davies and Julie Jackson received the cheque.

Palmer Court's New Extension

Planning permission has been granted for an ambitious extension at Wellingborough's Masonic sheltered housing scheme, Palmer Court. The extension providing an extra eleven self contained double rooms with a guest room for resident's visitors will be to the north of Broad Green and has been designed to fit in with local Georgian style terrace houses.



The front doors shown on the architect's drawing (above) are mock. For security reasons the only access will be from the existing building. The scheme caters for both Masonic and non-Masonic residents and once the building works start enquiries are welcome.

Lodges Combine Fund Raising for the Cynthia Spencer Hospice

Led by the Old Northamptonian Lodge No 5694, the Lodges of Northampton raised a magnificent sum of £3,950 for Cynthia Spencer Hospice. The Provincial Grand Charity added a further £1.550.



W Bros Gary Boddington and Terry Brothers with their wives Fiona and Joan present the cheque to the Cynthia Spencer Hospice Representative, John Helm (with his wife)

Two Past Masters of the Old Northamptonian Lodge, W Bro's Gary Boddington and Terry Brothers, with their wives Fiona and Joan, presented the cheque with this donation to the Cynthia Spencer Hospice.

When Lodges combine for the benefit of a charity the Provincial Grand Charity is happy to consider making an additional contribution – sometimes matching the original sum raised. (Other examples of Provincial Grand Charity providing funding appear in items on Pages 17 and 20.)

Steanforde Mark Lodge No 752 Support for Air Ambulance



Non crew members are W Bro Barrie James, W Bro Malcolm Plumb, W Bro Michael Chambers and W Bro Dr Viv Thomas

Members of Steanforde Lodge of Mark Master Masons have been raising funds for the Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Rutland Air Ambulance.

In early December 2010 at East Midlands Airport the Worshipful Master, W Bro Michael Chambers, Treasurer, W Bro Barrie James, Past Charity Steward, W Bro Dr Viv Thomas and the Secretary, W Bro Malcolm Plumb, presented a cheque for £500 to crew members.

Early Freemasonry in the Province

A room in Canon's Ashby House near Daventry is believed to have been used as a Masonic Lodge Room around 1580-90.

In August 2010 W Bro Kevin Corcoran of Eleanor Cross Lodge No 1764 conducted research to try and establish whether there is any provable basis for this connection.

His research revealed a fair representation of possible Masonic connections in a room believed to have been used in the past as a Lodge Room, in the form of symbols and paintings found in the room and other Masonic symbolism throughout the house.



Canon's Ashby House

Despite his best efforts, due to lack of available evidence, W Bro Corcoran was able to come to firm conclusions. A full copy of his research report can be downloaded from the Provincial website.



Compasses symbol at Canon's Ashby House

The first provable record of a Lodge in Northamptonshire is of the George and Dragon Lodge No 62. The date of its warrant (or constitution as it was then known) was 16 January 1730. By 1740 the Lodge had become the St George and Dragon Lodge No 64. On 29 November 1754 it was erased.

The second Lodge was the Lodge of Harmony No 544 (later becoming No 453). Its warrant was dated 20 August 1789. It met at the White Hart in the Drapery, Northampton. There is no record of the Lodge existing in Northampton after 1792. (It has no connection with the presently constituted Lodge of Harmony No 9048.)

To set this local history in context, it should be noted that the first Grand Lodge in England (whose members were known as the Moderns) was founded in 1717, the Grand Lodge of the Ancients, in 1753 and the United Grand Lodge of England in 1813.

2011 Appointments to Acting Provincial Ranks

D CC\A/	1-1 11 (1)	Literalista	1 7204	Old Kinch alsonianal
ProvSGW	John Henry (Jnr)		L7204	Old Kimboltonians'
ProvJGW	John Ernest	Rivett	L8486	Heigham
ProvGChap	Raymond	Hemingray	L2533	Fitzwilliam
ProvGTreas	Richard Neil	Bedells	L3039	Pemberton
ProvGReg	Trevor John	Cooke	L8041	Abington
ProvGSec	Trevor Frank	Boswell	L5694	Old Northamptonian
ProvGDC	Charles Anthony		LI9II	De la Pre
ProvGSwdB	Ronald John	Phillips	L466	Lodge of Merit
ProvGSuptWks	Gerald Raymond		L4990	Grey Friars
ProvDepGDC	Robert Andrew	Stokes	L2996	Peterborough and Counties
ProvDepGDC	Robert Thomas	Smith	L737	Wentworth
ProvGAlm	William Bernard	Wright	L8041	Abington
ProvGChStwd	lain Stirrat	Lauder	L3039	Pemberton
ProvGMen	Reginald	Hirst	L5694	Old Northamptonian
ProvGOrat	Michael Anthony	Gorrod	L7439	Willowbrook
ProvSGD	Roland David	Edwards	L2283	Euston
ProvSGD	Peter Henry	Ellis	L3964	Dr Oliver
ProvSGD	John Thomas	Blanchard	L4048	Cytringan
ProvSGD	Stephen John	Brame	L6838	Lodge of St James
ProvJGD	Gordon Sergent-	Chalmers	L3041	Hatton
ProvJGD	William Thomas	Diggins	L5978	Lodge of St George
ProvJGD	Mervin	Roberts	L8767	Petriburg
ProvJGD	Michael Clive	King	L9775	Grand Junction
ProvAGSec	Eric Brian	Ellison	L8041	Abington
ProvAGDC	Anthony Edward	Elsey	L442	St Peter's
ProvAGDC	Mark Robert	Constant	L7204	Old Kimboltonians'
ProvAGDC	Martin Frederick	Dimmock	L9165	Trinity
ProvAGDC	Dennis Fraser	Stewart	L9495	Lodge of Unity
ProvGOrg	David John	Sutton	L442	St Peter's
ProvGStB	John Michael	Booth	L8041	Abington
ProvGStB	Jack	Summerfield	L9155	Corbie
ProvAGStB	Anthony Christo	pher Etches	L2533	Fitzwilliam
ProvGPurs	Raymond	Lewis	L8079	Coritani
ProvGStwd	Richard James	Thurlow	L442	St Peter's
ProvGStwd	Peter George	Ayton	L445	Lodge of Fidelity
ProvGStwd	Robert Antony	Chalmers	L2283	Euston
ProvGStwd	Mark	Douglas	L3972	St John's
ProvGStwd	Alistair Stirrat	Lauder	L6838	Lodge of St James
ProvGStwd	Martin John	Branston	L8489	Ferraria
ProvGStwd	Barrie O'Dare	Higgins	L8845	Vale of Welland
ProvGStwd	Bill	Zarins	L9165	Trinity
ProvGTyler	James William	Tarry	L5694	Old Northamptonian
Prov Ed & Trg	James VVIIIIaiii	Boughton	L8486	Heigham
•	Richard Herbert		L9542	Meridian
Page 14	i Nicharu merbert	rui piiri	L734Z	r lei iulan

Jubilee Certificate Congratulations

Since the last edition of Password (Summer 2010) several members of the Province have achieved their richly deserved Jubilee Certificates after completing 50 years in Freemasonry. We congratulate each of them on their achievement. They are

W Bro Keith Williams of Burghley Lodge No 9364
W Bro Peter Carr of Old Kimboltonians' Lodge No 7204
Bro James Swan of Thistle & Rose Lodge No 6644
W Bro Roy Humphrey of the Lodge of Fidelity No 445
Bro Anthony Walker of the Scout Lodge No 9814
W Bro Kenneth Mallows of John Pyel Lodge No 5195
W Bro Arthur Bellamy of Euston Lodge No 2283
W Bro Peter Tye of Cytringan Lodge No 4048
Bro Peter Shaw of John Pyel Lodge No 5195
Bro Martin Lambert of Thistle & Rose Lodge No 6644



W Bro Viv Thomas presents the Certificate to W Bro Keith Williams



VW Bro Max Bayes presents the Certificate to W Bro Ken Mallows

Heigham Five Spark Membership Revival

For a few years prior to 2009 Heigham Lodge No 8486 had been struggling for new members. It is now very proud of its record of having initiated no less than five new members between November 2009 and December 2010.



(I to r) Bro Mike Harbison, Bro Shaun Masters, W Bro George Brutnall (WM), Bro Martin Myers & Bro Mark Benson (fifth initiate, Bro Tom Morrissey not present for photograph)

Most of the Ceremonies were conducted by the present Worshipful Master but, as Bro Martin Myers is a Lewis, he was initiated by his father, W Bro Geoff Myers.

Members are now looking forward to a period of second and third degree ceremonies!

Masonic Trout & Salmon Fishing Charity Casts Its Net

The Masonic Trout & Salmon Fishing Charity aims to bring an interactive fishing and countryside experience to people of any age with Special Needs. Participants from Special Needs Schools, Adult Day Centres and similar places are introduced to fishing by



Patience is rewarded

experienced fishing guides and helpers. Lunch is provided for them and their carers or teachers.

The Charity's own Lodge, the Lodge of Opportunity No 9777 is based in Hertfordshire but has a roving commission to meet elsewhere to advance its aims. In our Province the Charity has an active branch headed by the Chairman, W Bro John MacKenzie, of Rockingham Forest Lodge No 9491.

John and his team hosted a fishing day for children with special needs at Ringstead Grange, near Raunds, on 6 October 2010. On a beautiful sunny day, deserving children enjoyed both a wonderful day's fishing and a splendid picnic lunch. Brethren came from several other Provinces to join our own, enabling one-to-one teaching of the necessary skills. RW Bro Barrie Hall, described the Charity as 'Masonry in the community at its very best.'



...... with this one that didn't get away



(I to r) W Bro Ken Haslar (Charity CEO), RW Bro Gordon Bourne (Charity President), RW Bro Barrie Hall (PGM) & W Bro John MacKenzie (Charity N&H Branch Chairman)

Although, like any charity, it needs donations to survive, it desperately needs Brethren with any level of fishing experience to volunteer their **time**. They are guarenteed to derive just as much enjoyment as those they teach. Anyone interested should contact John MacKenzie.

Page 16 If you have a topic of wide interest, let us hear from you

Lodges' Fund Raising Topped Up by Provincial Grand Charity

Here are more examples of the Provincial Grand Charity supplementing Lodge fund raising.

Pedal Power Marathon Raises Over £2,500

During the summer, W Bros Richard Briers and Jamie Plowman of De La Pre Lodge No 1911 raised £1,000 through an eight day sponsored cycle ride from Lands End to John O'Groats (averaging 108 miles a day). Lodge Secretary, W Bro Tony Greene, ably assisted them in a support vehicle. The Provincial Grand Charity matched the £1,000 and Northampton's Cynthia Spencer Hospice therefore benefitted by £2,000. In December, W Bro Plowman presented the cheque to the Cynthia Spencer Hospice Fund Raising Manager, John Helm. The ride also raised over £500 towards the RMBI Festival.



(I to r) John Helm and W Bro Jamie Plowman.



(I to r) W Bros Lawson Walker and Lyndon Price with Nursing Staff at Kettering General Hospital

£2,600 for Specialist Equipment

Whilst a patient in Kettering General Hospital, WBro Lyndon Price was so pleased with the care he received that he started an appeal amongst Corby and Kettering Masons. £2,600 was raised for the purchase of a special adjustable bed and chair for the use of amputees. Another patient, WBro Lawson Walker, believes he still has both his legs due to the skill and professionalism from the dedicated

surgical and nursing staff. Last November, WBros Price and Walker presented the bed and chair to staff in Deene C Ward. The Lodges had raised £1,200 and the Provincial Grand Charity added £1,400.

£5,000 Masonic Donation Helps Scouts "Be Prepared"

Local Scouting Groups in Blisworth, Byfield and Daventry have received generous support from Lodges in Daventry (Coritani and Buckby Castle), Towcester (Towcestrian, Lactodorum and Fidelity), Stoke Bruerne (Grand Junction) and Wellingborough (Scout Lodge) and the Croughton Square and Compass Club. This was in the form of a donation topped up to £5,000 by the Provincial Grand Charity.



(I to r) PGM, RWBro Barrie Hall, Joe Moulles, Councillor Alan Hills and WBro Mike Sheppard (photo courtesy of Daventry Express newspaper)

Email for Editor:- password-editor@northants-huntsmasons.org.uk



Royal Arch Mentoring Initiative Gathers Pace

After the successes of existing Provincial initiatives to *prosper* the Art of the Holy Royal Arch and the forthcoming celebration of the Bicentenary of the Holy Royal Arch in 2013 to mark the official recognition of the Royal Arch as the *completion of pure* ancient Masonry, the Provincial Executive is adopting further ideas from 2011

For some time the Master Mason has been told that the Royal Arch is the essential next step for every Master Mason as and when he feels ready to progress. Now the Province will be inviting those qualified to take this next step and Companions who have been exalted but want to find out a little more about the Royal Arch to informal evenings at different venues throughout the Province. There will be a short presentation emphasing the link between the Craft and Royal Arch and an explanation of the reasons **why** these statements are made and the connection between the three degrees taken in a Craft Lodge and the Royal Arch. Master Masons and Companions will then mingle over a buffet to exchange views and ask any questions that may arise.



E Comp Wayne Williams MEGS - leading Holy Royal Arch initiatives

Watch out for further information on this exciting new development from your Provincial Team.

Salcey Forest Lodge Banner Dedication

On 27 January, in a glorious evening for Freemasonry, the banner dedication ceremony for Salcey Forest Lodge No 9854 was carried out by the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Hall, in magnificent style.

The Lodge Room, in Hackleton Village Hall, was crammed to capacity with over 120 Brethren.

Still in its first year, this contemporary Lodge catering for the contemporary working Mason, is proving so popular that additional meetings are being planned to cater for all the scheduled ceremonies.



The Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Hall, is thanked by his Deputy and WM of Salcey Forest Lodge, VW Bro Max Bayes

Important Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 2 February 2011 7 pm

Here are dates of events which our Provincial Grand Master and members of his Executive hope you will support:

Friday 11 February 2011	7 pm	Mentoring Co-ordinators' & Mentors' Meeting - Huntingdon
Monday 28 February 2011	7 pm	Mentoring Co-ordinators' & Mentors' Meeting - Peterborough

Saturday 19 March 2011 7.30 pm 2013 RMBI Charity Concert - Spinney Hill Theatre, Northampton

Monday 21 March 2011 6.15 pm The Richard Sandbach Annual Lecture on 'Masonic

Libraries and Museums - Past Present and Future' given by Diane Clements, Director of the Library & Museum of

Mentoring Co-ordinators' & Mentors' Meeting - Corby

 $\label{lem:sonry-Northampton} Free masonry-Northampton$

Wednesday 30 March 2011 6.30 pm Initiates' evening - Peterborough

for 7 pm

Thursday 31 March 2011 6.30 pm Wardens' Training Meeting - Peterborough

Friday 8 April 2011 12.30 pm Sporting Lunch & Auction - Northampton

for 1.30 pm

For a more comprehensive list of events please see the Events page of the Provincial website.

Order of the Secret Monitor Charity Donations

On 14 January 2011 the East Midlands Province of The Order of the Secret Monitor made



(I to r) Wy Bro Peter Green, Bev Bethell, Devonshire Court Home Care Manager, Wy Bro Barry Sayers, Stephanie Brown, Chairman of the Leicester Children's Holiday Centre & RWy Bro Richard Moss

two charity donations, each of £500, for the benefit of the Devonshire Court RMBI Care Home at Oadby and the Leicester Children's Holiday Centre at Mablethorpe.

The presentations were made at Devonshire Court by Wy Bro Barry Sayers, Provincial Grand Almoner, supported by RWy Bro Richard Moss, Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler and Wy Bro Peter Green, Deputy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler.

It is hoped these donations will be supplemented by matched funding from the OSM Benevolent Fund.

Page 19

St Ives Lodges Donate to Crossroads Care

The two St Ives Lodges, St Ivo No 2684 and Sothius No 8774, have raised £860 for the young carers of Crossroads Care in St Ives. The Provincial Grand Charity topped up this donation to £1,500.



(I to r) W Bro Mike Tuppen, Dr Helen Brown and W Bro Sid Bower

The cheque was presented to Dr Helen Brown at the Crossroads Care offices in St Ives last summer by W Bro Mike Tuppen, Master of St Ivo Lodge, and W Bro Sid Bower, Master of Sothius Lodge. W Bro Peter Theakston, a member of both Lodges, co-ordinated the event. W Bro Bro Bill Hensley, also of Sothius Lodge, is the local Communications Officer for the Huntingdon Group. Wearing another hat, he is the Managing Director of Huntingdon Community Radio. In this role he conducted a number of interviews at the presentation. These were with:



a young carer, Alice



the WM of St Ivo Lodge, W Bro Mike Tuppen



the WM of Sothius Lodge, W Bro Sid Bower



and a final word of thanks from Dr Helen Brown.

By logging on to the online version of this edition of *Password* you can hear these interviews by clicking on the appropriate highlighted link above (audio by courtesy of Huntingdon Community Radio).

Corby Masons Conquer Hadrian's Wall in Aid of Help for Heroes



Journey's end for W Bro Billy Glover and Bro Nick Brown

Two members of Corbie Lodge No 9155, the WM, WBro Billy Glover and Bro Nick Brown spent a harrowing five days last summer . They walked the entire length of Hadrian's Wall, from Wallsend to Bowness-on-Sloway - 84 miles in total - and raised £200 for Help for Heroes in the process.

Having conquered Hadrian's Wall they are now looking forward to walking the 96 miles of the West Highland Way.



To book your tickets Tel: 01604 711746

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TLC at Corby Masonic Golf Day 2010

The Annual Corby Masonic Golf Competition was held last September at the Blackthorn Wood Golf Complex. If little TLC was shown on the course Teddies for Loving Care certainly benefitted.



Participating golfers (I to r) W Bro Ronnie Stone, W Bro Glen Harman and Bro Aaron Devenney

On the first tee it was obvious that the Masonic Principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth had been left in the golf bags as the banter started. "Mind that fence! Out of bounds! Who told you that you could play golf?" Bro Billy Glover was congratulated by several Brethren on his first tee shot which landed in deep rough, and the rest of the day continued in the same vein - only the banter got better!

From the field of 29 emerged the winner Bro Cullen MacCallum (Ferraria Lodge No 8489) with a magnificent score of 37 points. In second place was Bro Matthew McKinna (Lodge of Unity No 9495) with 31 points. He only just pipped Bro Billy Glover (Corbie Lodge 9155) with 30 points on a count back. In keeping with the spirit of the day Bro Glover insisted that Bro McKinna's handicap should be checked before the next competition.

The Past Master's trophy (or Has-Been's as it is known) was won by W Bro Bob Kerr (St Giles Lodge No 8736) who posted a respectable score of 31 points. In second place W Bro Glen Harman (Thistle and Rose Lodge No 6644) with 30 points. The victorious guest was Mr J Allison with 29 points and second was Mr S Hampson with 20 points.

Bro Andy Nairn (Lodge of Unity No 9495) and Bro Billy Glover (WM of Corbie Lodge No 9155) who jointly organised the event sincerely thank all who supported it. The day raised £135 for Teddies for Loving Care.

Letters to the Editor

The views expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or views of the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire. For editorial reasons, letters may be edited but, where this is necessary, it will be done in such a way as to preserve the original sense.

In the Summer 2008 edition of *Password* we invited you views on Masonic matters in the form of Letters to the Editor. They are still most welcome. Here is the latest.

The Usage and Abusage of the Masonic Gavel - a response

Dear Editor

Having read the letter in the Summer 2010 edition of Password on this topic we jointly respond as the Provincial Grand Mentor & Education and Training Officer and the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

We very much agree with W Bro Geoff Smith in reminding Brethren of the important symbolism of the Master's Gavel and the importance of never usurping the authority of the Worshipful Master.

We find it disappointing to read the worthy Brother's opinion that the clear advice we offer at our regular meetings with Wardens approaching the Chair and Lodge DCs is not being totally heeded. The DC has a gavel at the Festive Board (not the one used by the WM in Lodge) and wields it at the discretion and behest of the WM. To ensure this the DC must be seated very close to the WM and in communication with him throughout, always ensuring the WM agrees with his timing and actions. The WM is under many pressures, has to consider official Lodge guests sitting near him and be prepared for announcements he has to make. It seems right then that the DC, who usually has a longer Masonic experience and a greater chance of avoiding distraction should be allowed to alleviate the WM's burden. At the Festive Board every Brother should fall silent at the Master's Gavel. However, because of the number present and (hopefully) cheerful noise, some Brethren may need time to quieten. It is reasonable for the DC to speak and draw attention to the WM rather than expecting the WM to have to raise his voice unduly. Clearly if the WM wishes to gavel and rise immediately to speak he has the right to do so.

On taking wine, we ask the DC to offer advice but ensure the Master has the last say. We also advise that taking of wine should be controlled. Too long a list detracts from the honour it affords and leads to an unwelcome number of meal interruptions.

Perhaps some Brethren approaching the Chair spend too little time preparing themselves. However, we at Provincial level offer constant advice through the various Provincial communication channels. If there are some Brethren who still fail to fully prepare themselves it truly saddens us.

Your Sincerely

Reg Hirst PAGDC
Provincial Grand Mentor & Education and
Training Officer

Neil Young PAGDC
Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies

Note from the Editor

If you have any comment on this topic or wish to raise or comment on any others, please email or write to the Editor at the Provincial Office.

Page 24 Have you an article for this page?

Not Just Any Old Excuse

Have you ever been late for a Masonic meeting, entered the Lodge room and, with all eyes on you, had to give your excuses? Was it leaves on the line, my hamster ate my Provincial tie or a plain old traffic jam?

What is the most original and amusing reason for lateness you have heard?

Please share you enjoyment of it by emailing the Editor (or writing via the Provincial Office). We will publish the best responses in the next issue.

The Future of Password

The way in which you receive your copy of *Password* is changing. In future those who use email will be sent a link to their copy online.

It is important to stress that those without email will not be left behind. They will still receive a printed copy.

Password is already published online - go to the *Password* download page on the Provincial website http://www.northantshuntsmasons.org.uk/news_password.php and click on the relevant link. This issue will be the last printed edition that will be automatically posted to every member of the Province.

From now onwards, instead of a printed copy landing on his doormat at his front door, each member with an email address will receive a link to each new edition of *Password* emailed to the email address on record in the Provincial Office. Those receiving an email, who prefer to read a paper copy can still do so by downloading and printing the page or pages they wish to read. Initially, printed copies will be sent to each Masonic Centre

in the Province. Lodge Secretaries will then be able to give a copy to each of their members without an email address in the same way in which they give them other printed Lodge communications.

In January each year, as part of the annual Lodge return, the Provincial Office sends to each Lodge Secretary a list of their Lodge members' details for review and (if necessary) update. This list shows members who do not have a recorded email address. It will help Lodge Secretaries to ensure records of members' email addresses are up to date and notified to the Provincial Office.

Hereafter, the Provincial Office will only post printed copies to widows within the Province. This change in the traditional *Password* delivery method will produce a substantial saving for the Province. This in turn will lessen the pressure on Provincial finances and lessen the need for an increase in Provincial dues.

It is also hoped that online delivery, for those with email, will prove to be a more efficient way of delivering Provincial news generally.

Errata

We apologise for the following errors in the last edition of *Password*

- on page 20 we incorrectly referred to W Bro Bill Benn as W Bro Brian Stanley Picton
- on page 15 the £700 was FROM the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire making a total donation of £1,200 to Marie Curie
- on page 23 part of the caption for the top most photograph should have read "APGM, RW Bro Benjamin Addy"



Brackley Bike Festival

On a glorious Sunday morning in August 2010 a large party from Graham Milton Lodge No 9796 gathered at the Fordham Arms, Sharnbrook, for a roundabout run to the Brackley Bike

Festival. By mid morning the party had joined no less than ten thousand bikers from many parts of the country in a closed off Brackley High Street and Market Place.

After a 6.30 am start, the Worshipful Master of Graham Milton Lodge, W Bro Mike Walton and Bro Steve Saunders, of the Lodge of St Paul No 6516, had transported a



Graham Milton Lodge bikers and friends prepare for their trip

marquee from Kettering for the day. The marquee was to be the Masonic stand and was visited by Masons from a wide area leading to many new friendships. Interested non-Masons also called in for a chat and were given Masonic literature. During his visit, the Mayor of Brackley had a long talk with the Worshipful Master. The many trade stands and clubs in the showground and the displays in the High Street also proved to be a great attraction.



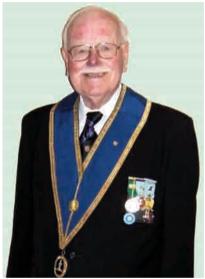
Their marquee at the Brackley Bike Festival

Arranged by a local motorcycle dealer, this was the second year of the Festival. The proceeds of £6,300 were divided between Autism Concern and Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance. Thanks are due to Bro Martin Smith, a past Chairman of the Northampton section of the Vintage Motor Cycle Club and member of Graham Milton Lodge who arranged the Masonic involvement. Thanks to his meticulous planning and the help of his wife Barbara, everyone had a most pleasurable day and they are already forward to the 2011 event.

In Memorium

W Bro Ray Thorpe PPSGW CoM - 1925 to 2010

It was with great regret that the passing to the Grand Lodge Above on 4 October 2010 of W Bro Raymond Thorpe was reported.



The late W Bro Raymond Thorpe

Born in Tydd Goat, near Wisbeach on 13 June 1925, his national service took him to Buxton, Derbyshire, where he met Eileen who was to become his wife.

He was initiated into Socrates Lodge No 373 in 1955 becoming its Master in 1969. In 1970 he became a founder member of Samuel Pepy's Lodge No 8330 Lodge becoming its Master in 1975 and holding the office of Charity Steward for many years. In 1994 Bro Ray was a founder of Meridian Lodge No 9542.

At Provincial Grand Lodge in May 2009, the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Hall presented W Bro Thorpe with his Certificate

of Merit, a very touching and memorable occasion for all involved.

At his death he was the longest surviving Past Master of both Socrates and Samual Pepy's Lodges and one of only three surviving Founders of Samual Pepy's Lodge. W Bro Thorpe was a prominent and successful businessman who never suffered fools gladly but, on the other hand, had a heart of gold.

His passing is an enormous loss to his Lodges and Freemasonry in general.

W Bro John Bull PProvJGW - 1943 to 2010



It is with great sadness the sudden passing to the Grand Lodge Above of W Bro John Bull. He passed away on 22 November 2010 after a short illness.

He was a member of Old Northamptonian Lodge No 5694, Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire Lodge of Installed Masters No 3422, Webb Ellis Lodge No 9740, Piscator No 7557, Salcey Forest No 9854 and also Kingsley Chapter No 2431.

The late W Bro John Bull In 2009 he completed a year as Provincial Junior

Grand Warden and had one of the most successful years in that role seen in recent years. He was a larger than life character and whose passing is a shock to everyone. He, too, will be sadly missed

INFORMATION OFFICERS' DETAILS

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T D	01/04/021/72	6838, 8041, 8158, 8576 & 9601
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Gareth Ogden	01536 483603	Kettering, Kimbolton, Thrapston & Oundle
Tom Hemsley	01536 393501	Corby
Bob Dennis	01933 317648	Wellingborough & Rushden
Guy Manners	01780 444724	Stamford
Russell Laxton	01733 237090	Peterborough
Bill Hensley	01487 823424	Huntingdon, Ramsey, St Ives & St Neots
Trevor Boswell	01604 711746	Provincial Grand Secretary

Please keep your Information Officer advised of any item of interest as it is only by doing so that he can know what is going on in your area or Lodge and have something published in your Provincial magazine Password or on the Provincial website.

New Local Information Officer

W Bro Tony Potter has taken over responsibility as the local Information Officer for a number of Northampton based Lodges (see above).

He was initiated into Kingsley Lodge No 2431 in 1996, is also a member of Sulgrave Lodge No 9462 and is a founder member of Salcey Forest Lodge No 9854. He is also a member of the Holy Royal Arch, the Mark Degree and Knights Templar Order.

He served for five years on St George's Hall Management Committee in Northampton and six years on its Marketing Committee.

He is self-employed in the Asset Finance Industry that he joined in 1986 and says he thinks he is getting the hang of it now! Tony has a love of singing. You may have heard him singing at a Lodge Festive Board, a Ladies' Festival or some other social event.



Tony is married to Barbara with a son and a daughter.

