



Password

Summer 2007

LAUNCH OF THE 2013 FESTIVAL

Friday 23rd March saw the fruition of twelve months planning, when the Launch Dinner was hosted by the Chairman, Very Worshipful Brother Derek Young in the presence of the President of the RMBI, Very Worshipful Brother John Moore, together with the Festival President, Right Worshipful Brother W Barrie Hall.

Provincial Grand Master was proposed by the Festival Chairman, and in his response the Provincial Grand Master announced that he had agreed with Grand Lodge that our Province would undertake to raise the sum of £1,600,000 for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution during the course of the Festival, which will run for six years and

culminate in a major celebratory event in the spring of 2013.



During this Festival our Provincial Grand Master has also agreed to transfer funds to the RMBI on a regular basis throughout

At the function, every Lodge in the Province was represented, and it was a truly magnificent sight to see the Ballroom so well arranged for the dinner. Some 212 brethren were present including 45 Grand Officers together with 34 Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge.

the whole of the appeal, hopefully every six months. It is therefore essential that Lodges support this commitment. In fact many have already endorsed this undertaking and have made arrangements to transfer funds into the new Provincial Relief Chest, which is designated E0102.

Following an excellent meal the toast to the

Continued on Page Four/

PROVINCIAL NEWS FROM THE PGM

A Good Year for the Three R's, or indeed, the Four R's in our Masonry

In writing this a few short weeks after a very happy meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge in May, I am well aware that we have come to the end of a particularly busy and memorable year in the life of this fine Province. The old adage that time flies when you are enjoying yourself has never been truer. A year of significant progress in the 3R's of Masonry - **Recruitment, Retention and Retrieval** - has, I believe, been enjoyed throughout the Province. Our **fourth R - Relief** - has also made major progress.

Lodges are to be congratulated on an outstanding **recruitment** record which has led to a further - albeit modest - increase in members during the year. Undoubtedly our improved recruitment procedures - most especially the development, by APGM W Bro Wayne Williams, of a structured yet flexible "White Table" format by which Lodges may introduce friends to the world of freemasonry in a relaxed and knowledgeable manner - have contributed to our continued success in this area. I commend the approach to any of our Lodges experiencing recruitment difficulties. In parallel the Province increased to eighty nine Lodges with the Consecration of Wilavestone Lodge - a Lodge based on strong ties with the village of Wollaston in East Northamptonshire. It was, as with previous Consecrations, an immensely happy and wonderfully attended occasion.

Improvements in our ability to **retain** Lodge membership continue to be secured through the adoption of Mentoring Programmes providing our younger Brethren with greater understanding, involvement in, and enjoyment of their Masonic activities. Let me again urge all our Lodges to build on their Mentoring experience to date and ensure that our newly Initiated Brethren are, to mutual benefit, successfully and happily integrated into the life and work of their Lodge.

"Making a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge" is likewise a key factor in membership retention. I have been delighted to see an increasing number of Lodges actively building into their monthly programmes appropriate lectures, demonstrations, re-enactments etc to explore and enjoy our wonderfully rich Masonic heritage. Their success and appreciation by the Brethren has been very apparent and we shall, under the leadership of DPGM VVW Bro Derek Young, be building on this aspect of our meetings in the coming year.

Our third "R" - **Retrieval** - is equally important in maintaining a happy Lodge. Ensuring that we understand the reasons underlying any Brother's regular absence from Lodge is, as every Almoner is aware, very challenging work, but it is only by so doing that we are then able to try and resolve the problem(s) and assist the Brother to once again enjoy his Freemasonry to the full. I urge every Brother to make regular contact with his Lodge Almoner - who does a fantastic job - and volunteer your precious time and effort to help him in all his work.

As with our efforts to ensure continued proficiency in the "3R's" we have enjoyed a number of major developments in our fourth R - **Relief** or Charity - most especially with the launch of our 2013 Festival Appeal in support of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution (RMBI). Attended by representatives from all the Lodges in the Province, the March 23rd Launch Dinner proved a most enjoyable occasion with a fine address by Past President VVW Bro John

PROVINCIAL NEWS *(Contd)*

Moore providing a great insight into the work and ethos of a very special Masonic Charity. Provincial and Lodge financial targets were also unveiled - all of which I am quite sure will be met and indeed well exceeded. During dinner we also presented an initial cheque for £20,000 to mark the beginning of this immensely important Festival Appeal.

Our January "Big Band" Concert, the May race meeting at Huntingdon and W Bro Max Bayes' unbelievably successful "Walk the Province" project which raised no less than an amazing £131,000 over a warm and sunny Easter Weekend, have all made for a tremendous start to our Festival fund raising - much to the delight of Provincial Charity Steward, W Bro Iain Lauder. Do please keep the smile on W Bro Iain's face by ensuring your wholehearted commitment and support to Lodge and Provincial fund raising events together with your personal commitment to regular contributions through the Gift Aided Regular Payment Promise (RPP) system. Your Lodge Charity Steward will be only too happy to assist you in any way possible.

W Bro Max Bayes has now taken over the Chair of the Festival Appeal Sub-Committee who are already in the early stages of planning a number of very enjoyable Provincial fund raising events for the coming years. I know that the Committee will be able to count on the support of every Lodge in ensuring the success of these special events and occasions.

In parallel with Festival Appeal fund raising activities may I again encourage all Lodges to re-examine their strategy for allocating their hard earned income. Firstly to secure the Lodge's financial stability and thereby avoid any major or regular raising of member subscriptions. Secondly to ensure an annual Lodge donation to Provincial Grand Charity funds - so important in providing support to petitioners within the Province. And thirdly to resolve to work with other Lodges in your area to identify and agree local needy charities and good causes. If each Lodge can then make an appropriate contribution to the selected charities/good causes and then collectively request Provincial Grand Charity to match or exceed the combined contributions, then a truly major grant could be facilitated. Indeed a number of examples based on this excellent approach are now being reported in Password on a regular basis.

Brethren, our summer break is now well underway. Do please make it a very relaxing summer with family and friends and re-charge your batteries for another busy but very enjoyable Masonic year ahead. Indeed when we come to our new season determined to continue to enjoy your Masonry, seek to achieve high standards in all your endeavours - Masonic and non-Masonic, and above all, continue to practice those three great principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth in their fullest light. In so doing we can ensure that this fine Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire continues to remain a very happy Province for us all.

RW Bro W. Barrie Hall/Provincial Grand Master

Provincial Carol Service Sunday 9 t h December

/Continued from Page One

During his address the Provincial Grand Master was able to present a cheque for £20,000 to Very Worshipful Brother John Moore as the first step on the road ahead. Towards the end of the evening the Launch packs were distributed to the Lodge Charity Stewards, which contained the targets for each Lodge including the as then, unconsecrated Wilaveston Lodge number 9829.

A new Stewards jewel is already available and may be purchased by any Brother who has contributed a minimum figure of £100 to the Appeal. The jewels are priced at £15, and are available from W Bro Iain Lauder upon the submission of the relevant certificate by the Lodge Charity Steward.

An innovation for our Province with this Festival is that we have designed and are offering for sale a range of Festival Merchandise. We currently offer four products namely Cuff Links, Ladies Silk Scarves, together with Braces and Napkins. It is possible that during the course of the Festival other products will be introduced, and already our "Provincial Senior Grand Merchandiser", Francis Margôt is in negotiations with a number of manufacturers. A number of Provinces have designed products to augment Festival funding, and in the pre-launch period Iain Lauder was able to visit and meet his opposite numbers in Warwickshire and Nottinghamshire who offered much help and advice, and continue to keep in close contact.

Yet another slight change is with Lodges who obtain Grand Patron status, which is by donating from their own funds the sum of £2400, a level set by RMBI. As well as the Executive presenting a certificate endorsed by the Charity, it is proposed to also present a pair of Alms bags, to mark the achievement suitably embroidered with the Festival logo. The feed back from the Launch evening and numerous calls since, leads the team to think that exciting times lie ahead for our Province, but reliant of course on the energy and drive of the splendid group of Charity Stewards upon whose shoulders the task rests.



Iain Lauder can be contacted on the following numbers should any Brother or Charity Steward require any help or advice:-

Home: 01604 499419

Work: 01536 416540

Mobile: 07802 972175

E-mail iainlauder@phoenixpaving.com

Possibility of a Round Table/Rotary Lodge?

Just a reminder for those Brethren who are Round Tablers or Rotarians (past or present) who might be interested in becoming a Petitioner or Founder Member of a new "special interest" Lodge. If the idea appeals, and you would like to find out more, contact the Provincial Secretary to register your interest.

MORE PROVINCIAL NEWS

Wilavestone Lodge Consecration

On 30th April, the Wilavestone Lodge was consecrated in a special meeting at Freemasons' Hall, Northampton, presided over by the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Hall. Over 160 Masons from across the Province and the rest of the country attended the event.

The Lodge was opened by W Bro Wayne Williams AsstPGM, and on his arrival, R.W Bro Barrie Hall PGM took the gavel and the chair in order to act as Consecrating Officer. The Provincial Grand Secretary, W Bro Norman Pope read out the Warrant, and the 27 Petitioning Brethren present unanimously gave their approval of the Officers named. The Provincial Grand Master consecrated the new Lodge according to ancient custom, assisted by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, W Bro Tony Avery, and the other members of the consecrating team.

The Lodge being formed, VW Bro Derek Young DepPGM took the chair and installed W Bro Max Bayes AsstPGM into the Chair of King Solomon. The first Master then invested his Wardens, W Bro John Rivett and W Bro John Lee-Thompson, and the rest of the first officers of the Lodge who took their places in the Temple.

The Worshipful Master conducted the first business of the Wilavestone Lodge. Notices of motion were given for the proposal of two initiates and two joining members, to be

balloted for at the first regular meeting in September, giving the Lodge an excellent initial membership and further basis for growth. The Lodge was closed in due form and afterwards, the Brethren present dined in harmony at the Festive Board. During the reply to his toast, W Bro Max Bayes commented on the number of old Wollaston families who were represented amongst the



Founders and present at the Consecration. The Wilavestone Lodge became the 89th in the Province, and the latest of the special interest lodges, with membership being restricted to those with a strong connection to the village of Wollaston. Any candidate for membership must either be a resident, or have been born, lived, educated or employed in the village, or have a strong family connection.

Regular meetings will commence in September this year and the Secretary, Bro Geoffrey Simmons (01933 664629 or by e-mail at fdcserv@tiscali.co.uk), will be pleased to hear from any existing Masons who are eligible and may be interested in joining.

EASTERTIDE CHARITY WALK RAISES OVER £130,000

Following the launch of the Festival, it has received its first big boost, from the Charity Walk, led by W Bro Max Bayes, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master. It started on Good Friday 6th April, from the Province's most northerly Masonic Hall in Stamford, Lincolnshire, and culminated on Easter Monday 9th April, at it's most southerly in Brackley, Northamptonshire, a total of 70 miles.



The walk was led off by the Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro Barrie Hall, who joined the walk each day for one of its sections and he was there at the end to see W Bro Max Bayes bring it home. Each day of the walk was split into three sections and Brethren were invited to raise sponsorship and join W Bro Max Bayes for one or more of the sections.



Well over 150 members from the Province participated, some raising as much as £1,000 in sponsorship. Over the four days eleven Brethren and one Lady accompanied W Bro Max by completing the 70 miles.

The walk was the inspiration of W Bro Max who used it, not only to give a great start to the new Festival, but to bring to all Province members attention the important and vital work of the RMBI, as well as gaining recognition that their continued support is beneficial to all those requiring its help.

As part of his address at Provincial Grand Lodge, the Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro Barrie Hall on expressing his delight at

the total raised and the support it had gained could not help saying that this start to the Festival was "a step in the right direction". He did compliment W Bro Max Bayes and all who had supported and helped organise such a great event.

There can be no doubt that this magnificent effort will act as an incentive to the Brethren of the Province to strive in every way to reach, and hopefully exceed, the Festival target and makes the "Walking Start" to our 2010 Festival a challenge to us all to raise funds imaginatively.



Big Band Gives 2013 a Flying Start

The Provincial Grand Master, seen here on stage at the Johnny Harris Big Band Concert in January with VW Bro Derek Young, the Festival Chairman, commented that it was a "flying start" to the pre-launch of the 2013 Festival. The event, organised by a team ably led by W Bro John Harvey and Mrs Pam Harris was enjoyed by all who attended the splendid performance put on at the Willow Arts Centre Corby by kind permission of W Bro Rodger Allanson.



Thanks to the generosity of many sponsors and advertisers, and those attending, the concert raised a total of £2,289.56 and an interim cheque for £1500 was presented to the PGM which he said would ensure a healthy start right at the beginning of the six year task ahead. RV Bro Barrie Hall thanked all those who had been involved in any way for their efforts and said that it augured well for the events that would follow after the official launch in March.

Next Years' Big Band Event

The 2008 Johnny Harris Big Band Concert is planned for Saturday 12th January, again at the Willow Arts Centre, in aid of the 2010 Mark Festival to which all Freemasons, their families and friends are welcome; thereafter it will revert to supporting the Craft 2013 Festival.

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A Racing Effort Towards 2013

The 'Provincial' Huntingdon Race Night on Thursday 3rd May was another significant date in the progress towards the 2013 Festival goal. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of a number of Brethren and Lodges all six races had a Masonic connection and the prizes were presented by the PGM and senior members of the Province who, prior to each race, also had the task of deciding which was the best turned out horse. RW Bro Barrie Hall, as seen right, was pleased to present the cup for the Installed Masters Handicap Race. The event was a most enjoyable one and raised a useful sum towards the Festival. It was even rumoured that some Brethren left the meet with more money than when they arrived with, but that was not confirmed.



Installation and Provincial Grand Chapter Convocation

A bumper turnout greeted the installation of Excellent Companion Wayne Williams, PPrGSwdB, as the Grand Superintendent in and over the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire.

Well over 300 Companions attended the combined Installation and Provincial Grand Chapter Convocation on 10 May at

when he was initiated at Cumpton Lodge, Castle Ashby by the Marquess of Northampton.

After his installation, the Grand Superintendent lost no time in conducting the business of Provincial Grand Chapter. This included appointing Excellent Companion David Jackson as Deputy Grand Superintendent, Excellent Companion Terry Roy as Second Provincial Grand Principal and Excellent Companion Trevor Cooke as Third Provincial Grand Principal.



Freemasons' Hall, Northampton. The fifty one guests included, twelve Grand Superintendents. Fifteen other Provinces were represented.

The ceremony was conducted by the Second Grand Principal, Most Excellent Companion George Francis who pointed out that he began his masonic career in this Province

In his address to the Companions, the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent said, "Today is a day I shall never forget. It represents a milestone not only for me personally but for the Province. I pay tribute to the Most Excellent Second

Grand Principal and his team for a most excellent Installation ceremony and to my predecessor for all his hard work. I promise you, Companions, that I will give this job my all. I look forward to working with you in taking the Holy Royal Arch forward by a process of evolution rather than revolution."

Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting

On 17 May 2007 the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Hall hosted his second Provincial Grand Lodge meeting and welcomed the many guests from other Provinces including 13 Provincial Grand Masters and Right Worshipful Brethren, 8 Deputy PGMs and 18 Assistant PGMs. The Province was also delighted to welcome the new Grand Secretary, VW Bro Nigel Brown and the Heads of several other Orders in the Province.

The PGM then appointed the new Provincial Officers. The new Provincial Senior Grand Warden is W Bro Jim Higham of the Chicheley Lodge who has been a stalwart of Freemasonry in Thrapston. W Bro Richard Dicks, the Secretary of Cumtton Lodge was appointed as the Provincial Junior Grand Warden.

In his address, the Provincial Grand Master reminded all the Brethren that such appointments are in no way automatic - service to their Lodge and to the Province was an important factor in his choice of new officers. He was especially keen to see them support the newer members of Lodges within the mentoring arrangements. The meeting was notable for the retirement from his office as Provincial Chaplain of W Bro Rev. Tony Avery. The Provincial Grand Master praised the dedication he had shown during 14 years in the office and his memorable work in Consecrations and Banner Dedications. W Bro Avery said how much he had enjoyed his office and he quoted from St.

John's Gospel that "the one who is coming is even greater than I", a clear reference to his successor, W Bro Dr Vivian Thomas!



In a surprise move, the Provincial Grand Master presented Certificates of Merit to W Bro John Mayes of the Old Kimboltonians' Lodge and to W Bro Arthur Piggins of Spelhoe Lodge, praising them both for the dedicated and selfless service to Freemasonry in both their Lodges and the Province. The proud recipients, seen above with the PGM (and with W Bro Brian Thomson of St Crispin Lodge, who was similarly honoured when the PGM visited earlier in the year, added in).

W Bro Richard Turpin OBE was appointed as Provincial Information Officer in succession to W Bro Christopher Smith who had retired after 5 years in the post and W Bro Reg Hirst was re-appointed as Provincial Education and Training Officer.

(The full text of the PGM's Address will appear, as usual in the Provincial Year Book for the forthcoming year.)

Forthcoming 2013 Festival Events

April 2008 Provincial Proms Concert in Peterborough Cathedral
May 2008 Provincial Variety Show at St George's Avenue

Booking information and detailed dates and times in next issue of Password



MASONS NEAR & FAR

"W Bro Mike Durrant, PPrGSwdB, a member of Sothius and Meridian Lodges, visited Tyrian Lodge No: 111 (F&AM) in Warner Robins, Georgia, USA in February and is seen here presenting his son-in-law, Bro William "Bill" Wilcox III, with a Masonic Bible after Raising him. The Master of the Lodge who kindly allowed W Bro Mike to take part in the ceremony is W Bro Don Parrott, (in the chair with the hat), on the left is W Bro Phil Booth who was Bill's "trainer". Note that in this State, (and in others) all EAs, FCs and

MMs wear white aprons until they become Past Masters."



'G'day' from Nelson, South Island New Zealand.

One of the Samuel Pepys members W Bro Peter Sherriff P P r G S t w d recently moved to reside in New Zealand where he has joined a Lodge of which he is already the Junior Warden.



Peter is still a subscribing country member of Samuel Pepys and also a great supporter of charity and the 2013 festival as a result he has become a Grand Patron and W Bro Ray Thorpe the Samuel Pepys Charity Steward organised his jewel to be sent to him in N.Z.

He was very thrilled with the arrival of his jewel and intends to wear same at his Lodge out there !

To prove the point he sent a photograph of himself decked out for Lodge although it rather looks as if it might have been after the closing ode had been sung.

A Mason Remembers

Very much nearer to home but with echoes from past 'travels' was the visit by W Bro Albert Shepherd, who flew as a Rear Gunner on Lancaster Bombers in the Second World War, when he recently joined about 30 old comrades at the Aviation Heritage Centre RAF Spilsby in Lincolnshire where a Lancaster was taxied along the runway with former crew members on board.

During 1944 and 1945 Albert flew a total of 38 missions over enemy territory which was

a truly remarkable feat given that their precarious position perched at the back of the aeroplane, meant Rear Gunners generally had a very short life expectancy during active service.



ELLINDON & NORTHAMPTON LAMS (Lady Associate Members)



Friday the 11th May 2007 was a memorable night for **The Ellindon LAMS** when W Bro Norman Manser, Chairman of Peterborough Masonic Centre, seen here with Pam Harris and Jenny Dunk, unveiled their Donations Board. Since they launched in May 2003, the LAMs have donated in excess of £7000 to Ellindon Centre

plus further sums to Charities and other deserving causes.

The unveiling was followed by a 'Welcome to the Cabaret and Honour the Gentlemen' event which comprised a superb dinner, with all the traditional features of toasts, singing, and the giving of a gift to each 'Gentleman'. The Cabaret comprised a professional performance by the 'Brothers in Swing', advice in song on 'How to Handle a Woman' by Bro Bill Zarins, and, as top of the bill, the well known and respected west end Pantomime Dame, Richard Westcott who performed 'Confessions of a Pantomime Dame'. Many colourful costumes and much laughter ensured a very successful evening which concluded with a finale of unusual music by The Martin Simmons Duo.

The Northampton LAMs held a Grand Charity Gala on Sunday 20th May 2007 when the Northampton Masonic Centre was opened to the public with all proceeds raised donated to three Charities, the Macmillan Nurses, St John's Home Appeal and The Northampton Youth Orchestra. The event was formally opened by Mrs Joy Hall, and supported by her husband, R W Bro Barrie Hall, Provincial Grand Master. In her opening speech, Mrs Hall complimented the LAMs on their efforts in raising money for Charity and wished them a successful and happy day. The Provincial Grand Master then thanked the LAMs for their continued support of the Northampton Masonic Centre and Masonry in general.

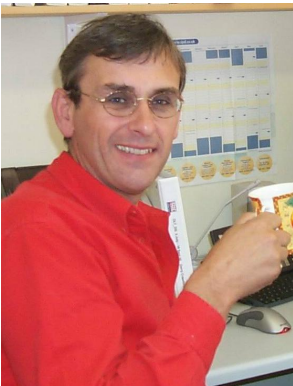
The Hall contained numerous Craft Stalls, as well as those selling cakes, plants and bric a brac, and the LAMs had arranged beautiful floral displays, many in memoriam to lost friends. There was entertainment by the Northampton Youth Orchestra, the Overstone Singers and an Irish Dance Group. Also in support of the day was a Regalia display and the Lodge Room was opened for anyone wishing to visit with Brethren in attendance to answer questions on Freemasonry.



The Mayor and Mayoress of Northampton toured the stalls and events and made their first visit to the Lodge Room and viewed the Regalia display. In total, over £2,000 was received on the day and a further £3,000 was raised previously by the sale of raffle tickets for a Grand Prize Draw. At the close, the Draw was made by the Mayor and an Auction, headed by Bro Tony Potter, was organised to sell the floral displays and other items. The Provincial Grand Charity agreed to match the amount the LAMs raised and therefore, an amount of over £10,000 will eventually be split between the above Charities

INFORMATION OFFICERS - NORTHAMPTON & PETERBOROUGH

W Bro Gerry Crawford has joined W Bro Trevor Boswell as Information Officer for Northampton. Born in North Lincolnshire in 1947, Gerry spent 33 years as a police officer - progressing from beat PC to senior Police Commander. His spell of 15 years in the CID started as a detective investigating theft from gas meters and ended as the Senior Investigating Officer in charge of murder and other serious crime investigations. After retiring from the Police he set up and ran an online learning company.



Now retired for a second time, he is a most enthusiastic caravanner and also likes to play golf and spend time with his seven grand children. He is married

to Jan and lives in Kislingbury near Northampton.

In January this year Gerry completed two consecutive years in the Chair of Grey Friars Lodge No 4990 in Northampton. He is Scribe E of St John's Chapter No 3972 and also in the Mark degree and Rose Croix order. In 2002 he set up www.4990.net (a web site for his Lodge) of which he is still the webmaster. He is also the webmaster for the Provincial Grand Chapter web site. At the recent Provincial Grand Lodge he was proud to be made a Provincial Grand Steward and very much looks forward to his year of office in support of Provincial Grand Lodge.

W Bro Russell Laxton was born and bred in Peterborough and having spent three years at University College, Cardiff, where he graduated in Accountancy



and Economics, he returned to the City. He entered articles with a local firm of Chartered Accountants in 1971 and completed his articles in 1974, the same year as he married his wife Chris. After qualifying in February 1975 he started a company business with his brother, although he did not work in the firm full time until the middle eighties, and retired in March this year.

He was initiated into Fitzwilliam Lodge 2533 in January 1992 and raised in March 1993. He became Master in 2002. He is currently the Secretary of the Lodge and is also the Preceptor a position he has held since he vacated the chair. He is a member of The Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards, and is currently the Treasurer of that Lodge. He is a member of various side degrees and was Eminent Preceptor of the Norman Wright Preceptory 513 in Stamford in 2005 and is currently 1st. Principal of Chicheley Chapter 607 in Thrapston. He is a director of Peterborough Masonic Hall Limited, the Company that runs the Ellindon Masonic Centre in Peterborough.

His main interest outside Masonry is Golf, he is a member of Peterborough Milton Golf Club and was on its board of Directors for nine years until November last year, and was Captain of the club in 2001. Other interests include walking and cricket.

Meeting of the Lodge of Installed Masters - 6 June

Many Brethren had been looking forward to the Lodge of Installed Masters meeting on 6 June when we expected a lecture on "communications" from no less than VW Bro John Hamill, the Grand Lodge Director of Communications. However, most unfortunately, VW Bro Hamill was suddenly taken ill and he suggested that the Lodge try W Bro Yasha Beresiner, a Past Master of the Quator Coranati Lodge and well known Masonic lecturer, as a last minute (actually on the day) replacement. W Bro Beresiner kindly agreed and arrived at St George's Avenue just before the start of the meeting at which he was warmly welcomed by RW Bro Barrie Hall, the Master of the Lodge.



At the appointed time Bro Yasha delivered a most interesting talk on the subject of attacks on Freemasonry noting that, despite the perception that they were a relatively recent phenomena, there was nothing new in them at all. He pointed out that over the years attacks had come from social, religious and political quarters since the first known incident in 1696 (well before the founding of the first "Grand Lodge" in 1717). This took the form of a 300 word leaflet addressed to Londoners. The first and most significant religious attack was the Papal Bull of Pope Clement XII issued on 28th April 1738. Subsequent attacks have ranged from tabling a debate at the General Synod of the Church of England, through the large majority vote against Freemasonry at the Methodist Conference in 1985 to ongoing significant hostility by the Southern Baptists in the USA.

Bro Yasha pointed out that free government and Freemasonry easily co-exist and, whilst there had been (unfounded) accusations of plots against governments being debated in Lodges, such as the 19th Century Latin American rebellion against Spain, they were invariably causes that Masons, in their private capacity, had simply supported rather than instigated. Another oft quoted example of Masonic interference in politics was that of the infamous P2 Lodge in the downfall of the Italian Government in 1981 but, that Lodge had in fact been disowned by the Grand Orient of Italy some five years earlier. Bro Yasha ended by saying that despite various attempts to discredit Freemasonry there were generally no "political" constraints other than the continuing insistence on the Judiciary, Police and Councillors being compelled to declare their membership; in any event, as we well know, political involvement by Masonic organisations is strictly forbidden these days. Following hearty acclamation from the Brethren present the WM thanked Bro Yasha most sincerely for making such an effort to attend the meeting and for presenting such a captivating talk at such short notice.

An Honour For The Stamford Masonic Centre

At the Annual Stamford Past Mayors' Guild Dinner at the Stamford Masonic Centre Lady Victoria and Mr Simon Leatham of Burghley House were guests of honour. This event was a special one because the Past Mayors Guild Trophy was unveiled by Lady Victoria who advised that the base was made from an oak, planted by Capability Brown in Burghley Park. It was a wonderful evening, complimented by a super dinner prepared by Bro Andy Binder.

After dinner, W Bro Cedric Cadman, PPrGStwd, the Mayor of Stamford in the year 1999/2000, invited Lady Victoria and Simon Leatham to visit the Lodge room, which they found most interesting.

Installation of New District Grand Master

The Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters, M III Companion J Alan Wright was present on Saturday 12th May for the Installation of the new District Grand Master for the East Midlands, R III. Comp Michael B Jolley. The Installation took place in the morning at Corby Masonic Centre followed by lunch with the Annual District meeting being held in the afternoon.

During the Installation Ceremony, the Grand Master especially impressed upon the new District Grand Master the importance of maintaining and developing a close bond between the Order and its parent bodies in both Craft and Royal Arch Masonry. This was particularly relevant following recognition of the Order by His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, Grand Master of the Craft, in his Annual Address on 25 April 2007.

There were many visitors from other

Districts including some 8 District Grand Masters together with the team of Officers from the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters.

R III Comp Jolley appointed Ill Comp W David Pittham OBE as Deputy District Grand Master and Ill Comp David Jackson as District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work.

In his inaugural Address,

the new District Grand Master paid a special tribute to his predecessor, R III Comp. Michael Richards who had played such a vital part in establishing the District and in promoting membership. He went on to say that since the Order required membership of both the Holy Royal Arch and Mark Masonry, its members needed to be of the highest calibre with a genuine interest in the lessons which the various degrees can impart and he urged all Companions to maintain the already high standards of ritual and membership.



Marking the End of an Era

At the Mark Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting on Saturday 16th June held at the Masonic Centre at Ellindon the PGM RW Bro George Bonham marked the end of an era by presenting two Certificates of Commendation; both were for outstanding contributions to the Mark Degree. W Bro Arthur Piggins having completed 8 years from his appointment as the first Mark Provincial Almoner in the country was overwhelmed to receive his certificate and a bottle of finest 'medicine' from the Grouse lable.

VW Michael Richards had been the Provincial Grand Secretary since the Constitution of the Province (when split from Bedford in 1985). He was at the time

of the meeting the longest serving Provincial Secretary in the Mark Degree and well known throughout the country for the number of visits he made to other Provinces.



RW Bro George Bonham paid high tribute to both Brethren with the grateful thanks of the Province for all that they had done over the years. He reminded the members of the Province of the need to continue to their support for the 2010 Mark Festival without detracting from their commitment to the Craft event in 2013.

Provincial Grand Master's Visits 2007-2008

Date	Lodge Number	Lodge Name
2007		
Tuesday 4th September	9805 (Ins)	Nantahala
Tuesday 11th September	8844 (Ins)	Anglo Scottish
Friday 21st September	9105	Schola Regia
Wednesday 3rd October	445 (Ins)	Fidelity
Monday 8th October	8158 (Ins)	Dr. Field
Wednesday 10th October	6977 (Ins)	Ceres
Thursday 18th October	8526 (Ins)	Lactodorum
Saturday 20th October	8041 (Ins)	Abington
Wednesday 24th October	6644	Thistle & Rose
Monday 5th November	8594 (Ins)	Danetre
Wednesday 7th November	2684	St. Ivo
Wednesday 28th November	9165 (Ins)	Trinity
Friday 30th November	8400	Whytewell
Thursday 6th December	3039 (Ins)	Pemberton
Friday 7th December	6838	St. James
Tuesday 11th December	9814	Scout Lodge
Friday 14th December	9282	Hinchingbrooke
Friday 21st December	9796	Graham Milton

2008

Tuesday 15th January	9489	Ferraria
Monday 21st January	455 (Ins)	Perseverance
Monday 28th January	4990 (Ins)	Grey Friars
Saturday 2nd February	9516	Chetene
Wednesday 6th February	5978	St. George
Wednesday 13th February	2380 (Ins)	Beneventa
Thursday 21st February	3535	Ailwyn
Tuesday 11th March	6516	St. Paul
Wednesday 12th March	7006 (Ins)	Vale of Nene
Monday 14th April	737	Wentworth
Wednesday 16th April	2283 (Ins)	Euston
Friday 18th April	9740 (Ins)	Webb Ellis

Contributions to Password (Information Officer contact details on Page 24)

After considerable thought about timing it has been agreed that publication of Password should be in early February and late July. This should allow us to keep matters fairly newsworthy and relevant and to inform you of significant events. However this magazine is yours and needs your input to make it work so, if you have anything you feel may be of wider interest to the Province, please let your local Information Officer know and make sure that someone is around to take a picture (remember they speak a thousand words).

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

PROMINENT MASONS

High Civic Honour for Well Known Freemason

W Bro Gordon Gentry is a very well known and busy Freemason in Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, being a member of the Craft in Northampton, in the Holy Royal Arch, Mark and RAM at Towcester and Rushden and PGM for the Royal Order of Scotland and he has just been given a prestigious civic honour in the City of London.



He was recently installed as the 99th Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, an appointment that entails over 100 engagements, meaning that his Masonry has had to come second for a while. Gordon is to be succeeded by the Princess Royal, HRH Princess Anne, who he will have the pleasure of installing next March.

Gordon, who joined the guild in 1980, met the Archbishop of Canterbury at St Paul's Cathedral, at his first official duty but, we are reliably informed, no mention was made of Freemasonry. No doubt everyone in the Province will want to wish Gordon well for his term of office.

Ivor Thulbourn 60 Years as a Mason

W Bro Ivor Thulbourn's 60 years service in Freemasonry was acknowledged by the PGM, RW Bro Barrie Hall, when he presented Ivor with his Certificate at the March meeting of Ailwyn Lodge. It was a very enjoyable occasion for all and as well as being presented with his certificate Ivor was presented with a gift from the Lodge, in the form of a splendid, engraved pen, by W Bro John Fountain.



Ivor and John then spent an amusing 20 minutes reminiscing about the old times. Unfortunately the photographer was not on hand to record these two Brethren in deep conversation so the rest of the Lodge could only look on with admiration.



W Bro Ian Graham's Golden Moment

At the March meeting of Lodge of Merit W Bro Ian Graham was presented with his Masonic Golden Jubilee certificate by the DPGM, VW Bro Derek Young, who praised Bro Ian for his outstanding contribution not only to Stamford Masonry, but to Masonry in general. W Bro Sam Howell on behalf of the Brethren of the Lodge, presented him with an inscribed Silver Salver marking his efforts within, and outside the Lodge,

The presentation was made more poignant by the presence of Bro Ian's brother W Bro Michael Graham and emotions ran high on a night that will undoubtedly prove to be one of the defining moments in Bro Ian's long and illustrious Masonic career.

PROMINENT MASONS (Cont'd)

RW Bro H Brian Smith 50th Anniversary Certificate Presentation MASONRY DOES HAVE ITS SECRETS

A meeting of Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards, on 27th March 2007, held a big surprise for everyone, but particularly for one of it's members. The meeting opened as normal and following a report the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Hall, and other members of the Executive were admitted. All seemed normal until after another report it was announced that the Pro Grand Master, the MW Bro the Marquess of Northampton, stood outside the door and demanded admission; an escort was formed and he was duly admitted. The Worshipful Master, W Bro Bob Beeton, offered him the gavel which he accepted. The Pro Grand Master advised that his reason for attending the meeting was to Present a 50 year Jubilee Certificate to RW Bro Brian Smith.

Our Past Provincial Grand Master was Presented with his Certificate and the Pro Grand Master paid tribute to his 50 years in



Masonry, mentioning his excellent service as the Provincial Grand Master of our Province as well as his more recent Chairmanship of the RMBI and the many other contributions he had given to Masonry. In his response, RW Bro Brian Smith said that he was duly honoured by so many being there for the occasion and felt very privileged that the Pro Grand Master had taken the time to Present the Certificate. He did state that the whole evening was a complete surprise to him and that even against his best beliefs, he had to admit that Masonry does have its secrets.

Grand Lodge Appointments & Promotion

On Wednesday 25th April four Brethren of our Province were honoured at the Annual Investiture with a first Appointment to Grand Rank by the Grand Master. They were W Bros George Bonham of Euston Lodge, Norman Pope, Provincial Grand Secretary (Old Northamptonian Lodge) and Lyndon Price,



Ferraria Lodge who were invested as Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies and W Bro Dr Kevin Williams Trinity Lodge who was appointed to the acting rank of Asst Grand Pursuivant by UGLE. At the same meeting the Grand Master reappointed MW Bro The Marquess of Northampton as Pro Grand Master and was pleased to promote W Bro Albert Shepherd of Lodge of



Perseverance, yes that really is Albert on the left (see page 10 for relevance), to the rank of Past Grand Junior Deacon.

In his address the Grand Master made an historic statement on the relations between the Craft and other Masonic Degrees which can be read on the UGLE website at <http://www.grandlodge-england.org>

OBITUARIES

Donald Frederick White PSGD, PAsstPGM

As the PGM, RW Bro Barrie Hall, noted at the memorial service held on Friday 4th May at Earls Barton Church "To reflect that Don White was a larger than life character would be to be guilty of gross understatement"; he was simply an immense presence



in all he did particularly his Rugby and his Masonry.

Don was Master of his Mother Lodge, England's Centre, in 1979, and a founder of Cumtun Lodge based at Castle Ashby. However, Don's twin passions of Masonry and Rugby really came together when Webb Ellis Lodge, the first ever Rugby Masonic Lodge, was founded in 2001 enabling many of Don's East Midlands Rugby friends to sustain and extend the fellowship enjoyed within the game of Rugby football through Freemasonry; it was fitting that Don became the first Master of this fine Lodge. He was a member of many other Lodges in the Province, and his commitment and contribution to Masonry culminated in his appointment to Grand Rank in 1988 and to the post of APGM in 1994 - a position which Don enjoyed to the full as he undertook his many official visits to Lodges throughout the Province, meeting old friends and always of course making many new friends.

Throughout his Masonic career both as a member of his various Lodges and as APGM, Don's work epitomised the three Great Principles of Freemasonry Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. People always came first with Don - he had time for everyone. He was truly "exemplary in conduct, courteous in manners, easy of address and steady and firm in principle".

Don also turned his considerable business talents to good effect in all matters charitable - always very close to a Freemason's heart. He was a most persuasive champion of local good causes and charities, an outstanding example being his support for the local Scout Appeal for funds to create the Sir John Lowther Scout Training and Activity Centre at

Kettering, when he persuaded our Grand Master - the Duke of Kent - to helicopter in to Wickstead Park to attend a fund raising dinner - Don played a key role in raising over a £1m towards that very worthy cause.

He exercised those same talents when he became a Director and later Chairman of the Northampton Masonic Hall Company in St George's Avenue. Once again his enthusiasm, driving energy and leadership secured funds for many, many key projects to enhance the facilities at that fine Centre - facilities greatly appreciated by our members and the many other local organisations who also enjoy their special occasions at St. George's Avenue.

The Freemasons of Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire will always remember Don White with the highest regard and respect, with love and deep affection. We were all so fortunate to have enjoyed the pleasure of his company and we are all the richer for having known him.

W Bro Peter Meacock PJGD

Freemasonry in general, and the Daventry area in particular, suffered a great loss with the passing of W Bro Peter Meacock PJGD, on 25 May, after a short illness.



Peter was initiated into the Beneventa Lodge No 2380 in 1961, in 1966 he became a Founder of the Coritani Lodge No 8079 and was Master in 1971. In 1993 he became a Founder of The Lodge of The Oldest Ally No 9524 and Master in 1994. He was exalted into the Fidelity Chapter No 445 becoming First Principal in 1977. Peter was Founding Scribe E of Beneventa Chapter No 2380 in 1978 an office he held for 25 yrs. He held Grand Rank in the Craft, The Holy Royal Arch, and was a 30° Rose Croix Mason, and a valued member of The Daventry Masonic Company Limited.

As a man he had so many fine attributes, not least his rich sense of humour and high sense of honour which endeared him to a very wide circle; Peter touched everyone. A thanksgiving service at Holy Cross Church Daventry, his Parish Church, attended by some 300 people, was a fitting tribute to this remarkable man who had lived a full and good Christian life: he will be sadly missed.

SCOTTISH MASONRY FLOURISHING IN OUR PROVINCE

On the Square Together At Last

On January 23rd 2007 Anglo Scottish Lodge No. 8844 held it's annual Scottish Night. However, this was a particularly significant evening for the Worshipful Master, W Bro Alex Thomson, and his family when his father, Bro Alex Thomson Snr, and his brother, Bro Stuart Thomson, sat in Lodge together for the first time. Bro Alex Snr is a member of Lodge Inchinnan No.1405 and Bro Stuart is currently Inner Guard of Lodge St Mirin No.129, both Lodges being in the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Renfrewshire in the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Bro Alex Snr said he was very proud to be sitting in Lodge together with both his sons at last.

On completion of Lodge business the ladies and visitors were invited into the Lodge Room where W Bro Reg Hirst, Provincial

Education and Training Officer, delivered a short lecture on Freemasonry. Following the lecture the traditional "white table" festive board was held in the Griggs Room at St George's Avenue with entertainment from Mark McGlaughlin, the piper, and the Elaine Skelton Scottish Country Dancers. The evening proved to be a resounding success and everybody had a great time.



More on a Scottish Theme

For the past seven years the Good Intent Rose Croix Chapter Installation Festive Board has carried the theme of a "Burns Night", as a tribute to the Scottish poet, Robert Burns, a Scottish Brother, and in recognition of the very strong Corby contingent among our membership. Highland dress was worn by many of the members and visitors, giving a very real Scottish atmosphere to this special occasion.



The haggis, carried by Bro John Cousins was piped in by Mark McLauchlan and was addressed with great gusto and flourish by Ill Bro Ian Calderwood in his very own inimitable style. During the evening, for the entertainment and delight of the members, the piper demonstrated his expertise on the pipes by delivering a piping medley of Scottish tunes.

The event would not have been complete without renditions by Bro Sam Hagan, of St George of England Chapter; Sam's singing, like good wine, improves with age - well done Sam. The attendance at this meeting, forty one members, was the highest that the Chapter has experienced; it is good to note that, what started out as a bit of an experiment, and a change from the routine, is now an established tradition enjoyed by all - long may it continue!

Real Value Added From Provincial Charity

The Provincial Grand Charity has supported the Tribes Youth Club of Beanfield Special Needs Primary School which is run by the Parents Support Group. They were delighted to receive a cheque from the Province for £625.



The cheque was presented by W Bro Bill Rutherford and W Bro Ronnie Steel who were able to see at first hand the wonderful work done to support some 33 statemented pupils with severe learning difficulties and profound and multiple learning difficulties; including up to 5 pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

Risdene Lodge aids two Cancer Charities

For personal reasons, both Risdene's IPM and Secretary, W Bros Steve Squires and Trevor Stringer respectively, have much reason to be grateful to the Macmillan and Marie Curie Nurses. It was therefore no surprise that much of Trevor's charitable work during his year as Master was in aid of these two charities.



Thus it was that at an informal meeting at Rushden Masonic Hall that the Provincial Grand Master, RV Bro Barrie Hall, himself a Risdene member, presented each charity with a cheque for £750. The photograph shows the PGM, three local representatives of the charities and Bro Ian Blair, Risdene's Charity Steward.

Province & Peterborough Lodge Make a Real Difference

On Wednesday 21 February the PGM, RW Bro Barrie Hall, accompanied by VW Bro Derek Young the DPGM, W Bro Norman Manser, Chairman of the Ellindon Masonic Centre and members from the Peterborough Lodges handed over a final cheque to Terry Griffiths of Marshfield School towards the cost operating their new Mini Bus.



Altogether the input from the Provincial Charity together with donations from the Peterborough based Lodges added up to over £22,000 which was a magnificent contribution to this special needs school. The picture shows RW Bro Barrie Hall and Terry Griffiths beside the bus which clearly displays the acknowledgement of support by "Local Masons"

Annual visit of Fitzwilliam Lodge to Devonshire Court

For several years it has been a tradition for members of Fitzwilliam Lodge to visit Devonshire Court and it is an event which is well received by the residents. It may well be that the company and wine are even more welcome than the presents but all are appreciated. The 'custom' was instituted by W Bro Laurie Whalley a previous Master of Fitzwilliam, who was matron of Devonshire Court prior to joining the Lodge. Some of the Residents that are able to travel are also invited to the April meeting of the Lodge and

8 or 9 are brought over by mini bus to enjoy an evening among the Brethren.



Last Living Link

The last living link with the founders of Ceres Lodge No 6977 has been severed with the sad death of Dr Ethel Hunter Waddy, who died on 30 December 2006, at the age of 100.



Ethel Waddy was a remarkable woman who led an interesting life. Before the Second World War she was, like her father, a GP in Warwickshire, later moving to Northampton.

At that time there was a national shortage of anaesthetists, so her husband trained her and she became the first female anaesthetist in Northamptonshire working at the Manfield and Kettering General Hospital.

Over many years Dr Waddy was a great supporter of Masonic social functions. Her son, W Bro David Waddy, entertained his mother at the Ceres Lodge Ladies' Festival in 2002, when she was 96 years old (just 50 years after her late husband, W Bro Frank Waddy had been Master of the Lodge). She was similarly entertained at a Ceres Sunday Lunch in 2005 when she was 99 years old and at a Buckby Castle Lodge Sunday Lunch in 2006 when she was 100 years old; she will be sadly missed.

St Crispin's Day?

A unique gathering took place in Leicester on Monday 23rd April when, at the meeting of St Crispin Lodge No 7832, the visitors included 5 members from St Crispin Lodge No 5627 (who meet in Kettering) and 3 members from St Crispin Lodge No 9046 who are Farnborough based.

The meeting took place in the magnificent Holmes Temple and was the first occasion

that the Masters of all three Lodges, bearing the St Crispin name, had met together. On the basis of the success of this happy meeting it is now hoped to turn this into an annual event.

Have you considered whether or not your Lodge has a 'twin' (or triplet) with the same name; if so get in touch and add what would undoubtedly bring a new dimension to visiting.

H a v e y o u a n a r t i c l e f o r t h i s p a g e ?

A new slant on Ladies' Festivals by W Bro John Cousin

Ladies' Festivals are an important part of the Masonic calendar when, the time after the festive board can be particularly rewarding in helping young Masons and their Ladies' to meet with others in a relaxed atmosphere. It also provides an opportunity to socialise with non-Masonic gentlemen who might be considering Freemasonry.

Nearing the end of my year as Worshipful Master of Thistle and Rose Lodge at Corby, at one such Ladies' Night my wife and I commented on the number of Brethren and their Ladies' who had 'sat out' every dance. My daughter's partner, a 'young' Mason, stated that, like him, they were probably unable to dance. When my wife offered to teach him, she was immediately asked by another brother if he could be included; a further request soon followed and before we knew what had happened there were too many to take on without the use of some kind of proper facilities. My wife, always the practical one, suggested that since there was such demand we should run a class.

Being no expert, how could I possibly offer help to others? "Easy", she said, "don't"; her idea was that we could offer 'tuition in Social Dancing' in an informal way by demonstrating the steps we use. Being 'half persuaded', I gave it some thought and received approval for the use of the Corby Centre for a mid-week night each week, during the Masonic 'close season', Wednesdays, being the least utilised, were allocated from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.

As I said I am no marvellous exponent of the art, but I know a man who is. Actually two men and their Ladies', I watch them with awe and not a little envy whenever they are on the floor; W Bro Sam Duffy and his wife May and their long time friends, Bro Tom Lumsden also of Ferrara Lodge and his lady Larainne. (May is registered blind and when Sam was asked how she manages to dance so beautifully

despite this, he modestly replied "She is dancing with me, and in any case she is moving backwards most of the time when we are dancing, so it doesn't really make much difference". May just smiled sweetly and said under her breath "A case of the blind leading the blind"; neither is without a sense of humour.)

Both couples, although thinking the idea had merit, were initially wary of taking part as none had ever had a lesson (making six of us), my wife eventually persuaded them that their involvement would add greatly to the chances for success of the venture. The then Steward offered his time free of charge, with the proviso that he be allowed to participate, for although he was great at jive he couldn't do ballroom dancing. Click! We don't jive, so that gave us another demonstrator for later on in the sessions.

You can imagine that it was with a great deal of trepidation that we turned up for the first session but fourteen people plus us, though less than hoped for, gave a nice number to start with. We were not as organised as we might have been, which led to many hilarious incidents, particularly with the music, which was very difficult to find in a suitable form, but this only served to enhance the enjoyment (if you can laugh at yourself you have an inexhaustible source of mirth).



**Christoph
Kies &
Blanca
Ribas Turon
courtesy of
Capezio**

Maybe Next Year, who knows? Cont on Page 23/

England has its Day!

The St George's Day themed Festive Board of the Grey Friars Lodge April meeting featured Morris men, the Family von Townley, Land of Hope and Glory and Gilbert and Sullivan and it all happened at St George's Avenue how patriotic can it get.

Now in its ninth year, this tribute to the Patron Saint of England traditionally closes the Grey Friars Masonic season. Following a good ceremony the members and guests enjoyed this glorious evening of entertainment. The finale encapsulated the spirit of the Last Night of the Proms with patriotic songs, hearty singing and much flag waving.

This year over 140 attended of whom the majority were visitors. The message at this rate is that Brethren should soon be thinking about their 2008 visit; book early to avoid disappointment!"



/Cont from previous page

The session went well, and others Masons within the complex, learning of us by word of mouth, soon swelled the numbers to the high thirties.

We soon established a format for the sessions, with most of the demonstrations being by Tom and Larainne or Sam and May who then assisted our 'dancers' when they were stepping it out themselves. It also soon became apparent that it was a great confidence booster if we taught a sequence dance, such as the Square Tango first, so we started each session with one of these. We ended the series with an 'end of term' buffet dance with local musician Peter Scatterry providing the music. Peter, having heard that he would be playing for beginners, was a bit worried that he might be playing to an empty floor. He was amazed when everyone got up for the first dance and was blown away when the whole available space was taken up by five sets of five pairs for Strip The Willow. He told us that, from his perspective as a musician, 'it had been one of the best nights of the year'. A sentiment echoed by a number of 'the dancers'. Being amateurs and volunteers we, of course, do not charge for these sessions but met all the expenses and were able to make a donation to the Centre, from the proceeds of a raffle held at each session.

By popular demand we are back again; this year's sessions started a little earlier and the first session attracted twenty six; many of them for the first time. I am sure that given the continued good will of all at the Centre, we will go from strength to strength. This idea, from a chance remark, has much enhanced the social life of several Masons and, by one of the 'pupils' starting floristry classes for the ladies, has already had a spin off that is proving to be very popular. Watch this space, for I am sure that there are other Brethren or their partners out there who have useful skills, talents and knowledge that they would like to pass on for the benefit and pleasure of others and for the good of Freemasonry in general.

W Bro John S Cousin IPM Thistle and Rose Lodge No 6644

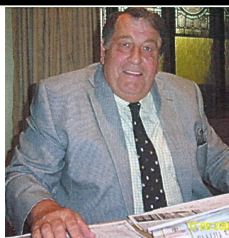
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* Know your Information Officer - See page 12 for introductory write-ups for Gerry and Russ

Brian Edward England

It was a sad loss to the Communications Committee when VV Bro Brian England died on 4th April this year. Brian had been a stalwart of the Committee for a number of years and acted as the Archivist for which purpose he accumulated many cuttings, articles and pictures of events throughout the Province. Brian was also very well known by many Brethren across the Province, and particularly in Northampton, for his skills as a 'Travelling Tyler' which he practiced across 10 Lodges.



Brian was Initiated into the Lodge of St James in 1987 and became Master of the Lodge in 1995. He was a member of the Holy Royal Arch and a staunch supporter of a number of other degrees.

Whilst he had suffered with some health problems of late Brian remained a dedicated and cheerful member to the end and his counsel among us will be sorely missed.

TO ALL LODGE CHARITY STEWARDS

Please note that any cheques from Lodge Accounts or Private individuals intended for the 2013 Festival must be made payable to Grand Charity and sent, in the first instance, to VV Bro Iain S Lauder, the Provincial Grand Charity Steward. If the cheque is from a tax paying Brother, then it is of course better to use the Gift Aid Form.

This is the **only** way to process a payment into the Festival Relief Chest, designated E0102. Cheques made payable for example "Northants Provincial 2013 Festival" will **not be accepted** by the Relief Chest Office. Please ensure this is brought to the attention of your Lodge Treasurer.

