



password

Winterer 2009/10

A Daily Advancement - Have You Made Yours Today?

Understanding the ritual, history, symbolism and purpose of Freemasonry, not only adds to our enjoyment, but is probably critical to the future of our Order. Masonry provides a goldmine for the curious mind and there are many 'young' Brethren hungry to learn more. We all remember that point in our Masonic journey, where we were encouraged to "make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge", but what should we learn, where do we learn it, and how? Education is now seen as a vital ingredient in our Lodges for the retention of our membership.

In 2007, the topic of Education was given a huge shot in the arm within our Province. The "Provincial Education & Training Committee" was significantly expanded, by the recruitment of several new enthusiastic members, and was entrusted with a variety of new tasks. Now, three years on, its scope extends to all areas relevant to education – Libraries & Museums, Mentoring, Officer Training, Orations and Lectures, Lodges of Instruction, a new Demonstration Team and the Provincial Daily Advancement Web Site. There is much work to do, to assess the current status and practices, gather information, report back to the Executive, plan and then implement new ideas and policies.

In order to provide a communications platform, to share data and information supporting all



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Remember that day when you first joined as a Freemason, not knowing what to expect or what it was all about? Everything seemed to go over your head, a complete mystery.

In the past, few were willing (or able?) to assist you understand the origins and meanings of the ritual. But things are changing fast. A whole new range of initiatives have been launched, both from Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge, to ensure you get the best out of your membership of this ancient and honourable fraternity.

E&T activities. Now well into its second year, the site has grown substantially, both in the volume of material and the breadth of its subject matter.

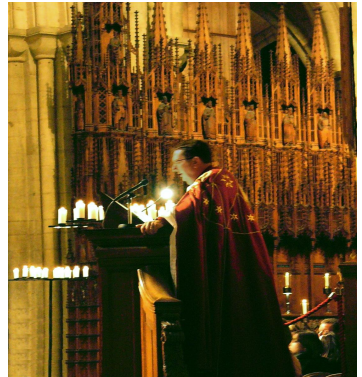
Access to the site is restricted to Master Masons within this Province, following a manual Registration process to ensure security. The site is constructed in the form of a bulletin board, or forum, broken down into Main and Sub-Categories, each of which then contain

this new activity, in the Summer of 2008 a new educational resources Web site was l a u n c h e d - www.dailyadvancement.com (yes, the web address was still free!). The site acts as a repository, providing Lodges with access to lectures, mentoring material and other data generated by these new

"TOWARDS THE THREE E'S - A NEWYEARS CHALLENGE"

From the warm, mellow days of a September Indian summer to the snow and ice of a White Christmas, our Masonic year seems to be passing more quickly than ever before. A very happy New Year to you and your families from Joy and myself and our hope that you have enjoyed a relaxing and peaceful Christmas.

As always our Festive Season began in fine style with another memorable Service of Lessons and Carols in the stunning surroundings of Peterborough Cathedral. A congregation, quite literally filling the Cathedral to capacity, of Brethren, their families and friends together with many distinguished guests, were warmly welcomed by the Dean, Very Revd. Charles Taylor, (pictured right) before enjoying a truly memorable Service – indeed a delightful and seasonal Christmas Concert. Our thanks to APMG, W Bro Vivian Thomas and W Bro Barry Weigleb for their tremendous work and top class organisation of the occasion.



In recent years, and certainly during the last twelve months, each Lodge has grappled with the key challenges of member Recruitment, Retention and Retrieval - the "3Rs". Throughout the Province we have continued to meet these challenges with considerable success and I congratulate each and every Lodge for their many and varied efforts. The advent of new approaches including "White Table" recruitment, our "Mentoring" scheme as a key route to membership retention and an increasing use of "Almoner teams" within Lodges to achieve retrieval success, are but some of the many approaches being applied and developed in meeting the "3Rs" challenge.

Whilst we must, like all good builders, continue to develop on such sure foundations, I would ask Lodges to additionally meet a new challenge in the coming year – the "3Es" challenge. The challenge of ensuring even more Enjoyable Freemasonry through Enlightenment and Entertainment as we make our journey through Pure Ancient Masonry – a journey of self discovery, of mutual awareness and of knowledge of the world about us as we endeavour to become better members of society in general and our local communities in particular. So how do we make that journey of enlightenment even more entertaining and even more enjoyable? We all learn a little of the lessons of our ritual as we memorize and enact the Degree Ceremonies and indeed we continue to enhance that understanding each time we witness or take part in those ceremonies. More recently however we have been enabled to gain an even better understanding of the teachings of those ceremonies and of Masonic history, traditions, and writings in general through a host of other "windows of opportunity" now easily accessible to every Brother and Lodge in the Province.

We all have the opportunity to take part in a well structured Mentoring programme within each Lodge – a programme designed not just for our new members but for every Brother seeking further Masonic insight. We likewise have the opportunity to enjoy the Orations programme being progressed throughout the Province with presentations by the Provincial

"TOWARDS THE THREE E'S - A NEW YEARS CHALLENGE" " (Contd)

Orator and his team. Each ten to fifteen minute Oration is structured to be appropriate to particular stages of our Masonic journey and with each Oration making lively contributions to the "3Es".

Added to these Mentoring and Orations initiatives we now have the newly established Provincial Demonstration team creating a fascinating, entertaining and enjoyable portfolio of historic Masonic ceremony re-enactments for presentation to Lodges within and indeed outside our Province. Their inaugural presentation of a 1759 Initiation ceremony has been received with universal acclaim on several occasions and new presentations are already being prepared.

Through Group Officers we are also exploring Lodge ideas as to how we might develop our Lodges of Instruction to include a wider spectrum of Masonic understanding rather than simply the practice and rehearsal of Degree Ceremonies. This would give us even more opportunities to expand our knowledge and understanding of this wonderful Order of Freemasonry in an informal and enjoyable manner. For those Brethren more interested in exploring their Masonry through the medium of IT technology, a whole world of Masonic knowledge, history and tradition is available through the Provincial Data Base. At the touch of a button access can be gained, on www.dailyadvancement.com/discussion, an ever increasing and fascinating bibliography of lectures, presentations, and countless published articles. And by no means least, the quiet and relaxing atmospheres of our two Provincial Masonic Library and Museums and a veritable treasure trove of Masonic literature and artefacts is available at the Northampton and Peterborough Masonic Centres.

All of these splendid facilities, separately or in combination, have the potential to provide a wonderful store of Masonic knowledge and experience. Each can provide personal Enlightenment of our Degree Ceremonies and the myriad symbolism of our Order. Each can provide delightful Entertainment in gaining a greater understanding of our journey through Pure Ancient Masonry. And each and every facility can add greatly to our Enjoyment of Freemasonry in all its many aspects.

So, as we continue to thoroughly enjoy our Degree Ceremonies, our Festive Boards and our many and varied Masonic social occasions, let me also offer the challenge of the "3Es". A challenge which can be met individually or as a Lodge and which can be met on timescales appropriate to the needs and experiences of our journey through Freemasonry. Whatever the nature of your journey I simply encourage every Brother and Lodge to take up the "3Es" challenge – it really will be a pathway to even more enjoyable Masonry throughout our happy Province.

Once again a very happy New Year to you and your families and my best wishes for an enjoyable and successful year of Freemasonry with our Grand Principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth always in our thoughts and actions.

RW Bro W. Barrie Hall
Provincial Grand Master

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various 'Topics' of material or discussion. Within each Topic, members can 'Post' their own contribution, which is then available for all to read and 'Reply' to. Simply put, it acts as a hierarchical 'tree' of subjects and is surprisingly easy to navigate and use. Another useful feature is the text Search facility, to help find Topics that contain your chosen criteria.

In addition to the text in Posting and Replying on Topics, Members also have the ability to attach images and documents (eg. Lectures, Articles etc.) Some categories also have 'Polls', with various questions and the voting results to-date, which helps gather opinion on specific subjects. Many Members have used the forum for asking Masonic questions, subsequently receiving answers from other Brethren. Some prefer just to visit and browse through the diverse and interesting material. To date, the site has gained nearly 300 members from within our Province and regularly reaches up to 7,000 page views per month. There are currently nearly 300 Topics of information and discussion which have been contributed by various members. Some of the more interesting categories include Mentoring, Lodges of Instruction, Craft Ceremonies, Historical material, Book reviews, Questions & Answers (very popular), Philosophical views, Site links, Jokes, Sales & Wants and much more. There is generally something for everyone, whether junior or senior.

Whilst this all sounds impressive, the vision for the future of the site is far more exciting. Daily Advancement is already fulfilling its role as a repository, or database, of interesting material, and is expanding every week ... but this is just the beginning. Its future lies in becoming the focal point for sharing views and discussing ideas. It is a forum where you

can have your say, among friends, on how you would like to see Masonry progress and stay strong. There are already many threads of discussion on areas such as "What do you want from your Lodge of Instruction" and "The future of the ritual".

It is shortly planned to feature listings of the contents of the Northampton and Peterborough Libraries (following cataloguing), to assist researchers in finding material. Further Lectures are being sourced and added and it is hoped, from this article's appearance, that a much wider range of contributions and discussion topics will ensue.

What the site really needs now, is for more Members to get involved; to contribute opinions and ideas; to tell us what support is needed; to share their combined knowledge; to question and learn; to meet and discuss with Brethren from all around the Province. Every single member has something to give, or learn, and getting started is as simple as making ones way to the site at www.dailyadvancement.com/discussion and Registering. Shortly after you will receive an email to confirm your identity and will then be granted access.

As they say, Rome wasn't built in a day, but it is hoped that all the projects taking shape under the auspices of the Education Committee, will help to feed the members' curiosity for learning, provide the material for what to learn, the opportunities for where to learn it, and the resources and practices for how! I look forward to your input on www.dailyadvancement.com.

W Bro Alan Kersley PPrAGDC

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ANNUAL RICHARD SANDBACH LECTURE

The Grand Secretary Visits The Province

The Richard Sandbach Lodge of Research No. 9600 was delighted to have as their Guest Speaker, VV Bro Nigel Brown, The Grand Secretary, at their meeting, which was held in Northampton on Monday 18th January 2010. In his address, Presenting the 3rd Annual Richard Sandbach Lecture, the Grand Secretary gave an enlightening and often humorous vision of his view of "The Future of Freemasonry". This covered many aspects from the Ritual to Recruitment and Mentoring, but the whole theme was underlined with what he believed must be more openness for Freemasonry in the future and a continued commitment to working in and for our local communities. The Provincial Grand Master and members of the executive were in attendance, which also added to the excellent evening.



Prestonian Lecture

Some 45 visiting Brethren joined members of the Lodge of Perseverance No 455 for their November meeting when the 2009 Prestonian Lecture entitled 'Go and do thou likewise' – English Processions from the 18th to 20th Centuries was delivered by this year's Prestonian Lecturer, W Bro Dr John Wade PPrJGW (Yorks W Riding). Bro John is the Worshipful Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No 2076 the premier Lodge of Research in England. In his presentation Bro John outlined and illustrated the historical regular practice of Masonic involvement, along with Civic and Ecclesiastical representatives, in public processions celebrating major events from Coronations to Foundation Stone laying at Cathedrals to Memorial Services.

Brethren dressed in full regalia were regularly seen on such occasions, usually accompanied by marching bands and with much pomp and ceremony. It is only since the 1930's that such public displays have all but ceased. In summing up his thoughts, W Bro Wade expressed his



wish to see a return to more open involvement in public ceremonies by Brethren dressed in regalia to reinforce our claim to be an integral part of public life in our communities. During question time after the lecture it was highlighted that anti-Masonic propaganda is nothing new and that public opinion on Freemasonry has been mixed though all ages. Reaction to public displays of Freemasonry in the 18th and 19th centuries differed little to that of today!

The Province was proud to have been able, through the good services of the Lodge of Perseverance, to host such a prestigious event and our grateful thanks were extended to W Bro John Wade and the Lodge of Perseverance for an exceptional evening in Kettering.

W Bro John Wade and the Lodge of Perseverance for an exceptional evening in Kettering.

W Bro George Sidney Osborne PSGD - Sixty Years a Freemason

Bro George Osborne is a well-known and much loved member in many parts of the Province. At the age of 84, his ritual, his memory, and the twinkle in his eye, are the envy of many a younger man. After distinguished war service as a navigator in the RAF, George was initiated into the Bishop of Barking Lodge No 3050 at Ilford, Essex, on 17th November 1949; he became its WM in 1962 and again in 1994 for their Centenary year.

He was a founder member of the New Elizabethan Lodge No 7561 in 1958 at Upminster (Essex) being its WM in 1963 by which time George had qualified as a dentist and moved to Rushden where he has lived ever since. He joined Risdene Lodge No 6532 in 1967, was its WM in 1971, and helped to found Heigham Lodge No 8486 in 1973 becoming their WM in 1993. He is also a member of the Lodge of Installed Masters No 3422 and Three Counties Lodge No 9278. He was appointed ProvJGW in 1978 and was honoured to receive the remarkably high first appointment to active Grand Rank as Senior Grand Deacon in 1981. George is also a member of the Royal Arch, Mark, Knights Templar (in which he was for a time Provincial Sub-Prior) and numerous other Orders, in most of which he has achieved Grand or Provincial Grand Rank.

At what had seemed to be a routine meeting of Risdene Lodge on 18th November last, during which George had delivered a typically superb explanation of the Traditional History in the 3rd degree, RW Bro Barrie Hall, Provincial Grand Master, presented George with a Sixty Year Certificate. The PGM delighted all present with a history of George's career, dotted with anecdotes such as his pickpocketing of the candidate during an Initiation. George was then given a celebratory bottle of champagne and a standing ovation, following which, probably for the first time in his life, he was lost for words! At the Festive Board, the PGM spoke for everyone in wishing George many more happy years in Freemasonry.



50 Year Jubilee Certificates

An increasing number of Brethren are achieving the 50 years in Freemasonry and in this edition we offer congratulations to W Bros John Bogan, John Cunningham, Sam Hagen, Peter Nilson, Brian Picton, George Short and Robert Steward whose certificates were in the past few months presented in Lodges by the PGM and others on his behalf.



One other recipient, W Bro Harry Hooper, had his certificate presented by VW Bro Derek Young at the Hunters Down Care Centre in Huntingdon on Monday 23rd of November just one week before he sadly died. At the 'Tea Party' put on in a private lounge at the Home for the occasion were Harry's wife Jean together with two of the Huntingdon Group Officers and half a dozen members of Sothius Lodge. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jean.

The Important Overall Concept of Mentoring

A mentor is defined as "a close, trusted and experienced counsellor or guide". The Past Pro Grand Master, Lord Northampton, has championed the appointment of such Councillors, not only at Lodge level, but also as a Provincial appointment. There has even been a national conference on the subject, so important is the overall concept of looking after our newly-made Masons. There is no doubt whatsoever that the future of our wonderful Craft relies not on the "old and bold", but on our younger members, whose enthusiasm we must encourage. It is pleasing to see that our Province is well in the vanguard of this initiative, with all Lodges that have Initiates appointing Mentoring Coordinators. It is also a welcome sound to hear this being announced at an Installation Meeting. I was very pleased to see, at a recent Initiation Ceremony, that the candidate was being looked after by his Mentor while the Lodge was opened and stayed with him until he was admitted. This ensured a friendly face was there to assure him throughout, which I have no doubt eases any anxiety that may have arisen.

The Mentor must be well-chosen, but we must also recognise that in many Lodges, there may well be insufficient "experienced" Masons to assist in this venture, but there are Mentoring Booklets to help the helper! There are the Introduction and Guidance booklets available on the Provincial Website, as well as the Degree Booklets which can be downloaded from the Dailyadvancement.com site. As those who know me will realise, I speak as a true computer expert!!! The booklets will be revised as time passes and our experience of using them will suggest any modifications, but much of what we can do will be aided by the feedback we receive from the users, so please, Mentors, do not be slow in letting us know how we may improve on what we have, so that we may the better serve those who are new to our Craft.

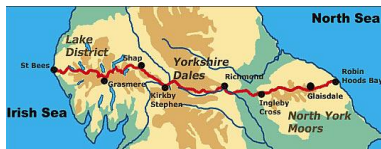
Our very hard-working (and some will say under-paid) Prov Mentor, W Bro Reg Hirst has done an absolutely wonderful job in bringing us to the position we are at, but it behoves us all to continue to support both him and the Lodge Mentors if we are to succeed in our aim of retaining those we attract into Freemasonry. Thank you all for the commitment you have shown thus far, which is another reason why our Province continues to be such a happy and successful one.

Viv Thomas APM

Chairman-Education and Training Group

"Coast to Coast" Charity Walk

As he approached retirement, perhaps inspired by the cross-Province walk last year by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and feeling in need of a challenge, Bro Clive Stainer of Waynflete Lodge 4452 has opted for the 190 miles "Coast to Coast" Arthur Wainwright Walk in May. Convinced that there would be a need for a stimulus, when the walk becomes difficult, Clive decided to make it a Charity Walk in support of Masonic Charities. The cost of the walk is totally funded by Clive so all monies raised will go to charity. Unlike many other Charity Walks the maximum donation for this one is suggested as a Fiver (£5) Further information can be obtained from the Lodge website at www.waynfletelodge4452.org.uk



Burghley Lodge Installation...Thomas workings!

This year, the Installation of the new Worshipful Master of Burghley Lodge No. 9364 was something of a rarity. Few things could make a father more proud than to install his son into the Chair of King Solomon...other than to have installed two sons into the Chair! Add onto this that the father in question is W Bro Dr Viv Thomas, APM and you have the makings of something extremely rare. Under the highest level of security, with only a few select members aware, the Lodge opened and the APM entered in procession. Unusually, and only spotted by some keener eyed Masons, the WMM, W Bro Ray Taylor, did not proffer the gavel at that time and the ceremony proceeded.

The Installing Master thanked his Officers and having done so, turned to the APM and offered W Bro Viv Thomas the gavel, which was graciously accepted. The look of surprise on the Master Elect's face was an absolute picture! Having recovered from the initial shock, he recited his obligation and his 'Bro Father' then proceeded to install son, Bro Martyn Thomas, into the Chair of King Solomon, in what could only be described as a flawless ceremony, full of sincerity and fraternal...and paternal affection. Continuing the theme of keeping it in the family, the Toast to the Master was proposed by his Father and followed by a rendition of the Master's Song sung by W Bro Jeremy Thomas, who later went on to reply on behalf of the visitors!

All three Worshipful Brothers Thomas thanked the IPM for his kind generosity in allowing such a marvellous, rare and moving evening to be made possible.



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Scottish Masters Lodge No 6



On Monday 9 November a new banner was dedicated for the Scottish Masters Lodge no 6 St Bernard of Clairvaux (part of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City - KBHC) which meets at Peterborough. Pictured from left are Revd Knight David Walters (Worshipful Deputy Master of St Bernard of Clairvaux) who was reappointed for a second year, Revd Knight Dr Viv Thomas, Senior Warden, and donor of the banner, Bro Knight Richard Bedells, Junior Warden and Rt Revd Knight Phil Collins, District Prefect Heart of

England Prefecture, who carried out the banner dedication.

Record Numbers Attend Red Cross Meeting

122 members attended the Red Cross of Constantine meeting in Leicester on Saturday 16th January 2010 where 16 Candidates received promotion to become Knights of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist. The Intendant General, R III KT Max Bayes, expressed his delight at the numbers attending and he was also pleased to say that the Military Order of The Red Cross of Constantine was increasing in popularity, which was underlined by the number of Candidates present.



The Mark Benevolent Fund Festival 2010



The year 2010 is proving to be a really busy one for the Mark Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire. On 29th April the St Ivo Mark Lodge celebrates its Centenary with a meeting at the Ellindon Masonic Centre when the Lodge is to be honoured by a visit from the Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Benjamin Addy, who will be supported by the full Provincial Team. The Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at St George's Avenue, on Saturday 26th June, will mark the 25th Anniversary of the date when Bedfordshire broke away from the former three County Province of Northampton, Huntingdon and Bedford to form a separate Province. At that meeting a new Standard will be brought into use for the first time and the following month it will take pride of place at the MBF Festival at Peterborough on Saturday 17th July. The PGM, RW Bro George Bonham, is looking forward to the support of the Province on this once in 34 year event and encourages Brethren to get their bookings in at the earliest opportunity well before the cut-off date of 30th April (cheques may be post-dated until 31st March). Full details at <http://www.northants-huntsmark.org.uk/events.htm>



The PGM Goes Back Into a Chair

At a packed Ceremony in Rushden on Thursday 29th October last our Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro Barrie Hall, 33° who is the Past Inspector General of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, was Installed as Most Wise Sovereign of the Castle Ashby Chapter Rose Croix No. 1138. The Ceremony was attended by the Grand Secretary, M III Bro R E Furber, 33° and eight Inspectors General, all accompanied by their respective District Recorders.

During the meeting the Grand Secretary gave a very interesting talk on the day to day working of the Duke Street Office. Seen right is V III Bro R W Bro Barrie Hall 33° with the Grand Secretary, visiting Inspectors General, our own Inspector General, V III Bro Tony Avery 33°, and the Installing Principal, III Bro Fred Dixon, 31°.



A Very Rare Occurrence in any Royal Arch Chapter

On Monday 7 December 2009 The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E Comp Wayne Williams, led a large team to participate in what must, even in these days of people living longer, be a rare opportunity in any Province. E Comp Ivor Thulborn PPGSN, who, in 1989, was one of the founder members of Ailwyn Chapter 3535, in the market town of Ramsey, Cambridgeshire, celebrated 60 years of Royal Arch Masonry. Comp Ivor was exalted into Caldwell Chapter 2727 in the Province of Cambridgeshire in October 1949 and has since served loyally in numerous ways in both his Mother and his present Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire throughout those 60 years.

The Diamond Jubilee Certificate was presented by the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent who was accompanied for the pleasant task by E Comp Rodney Wolverson, The Grand Superintendent of the Province of Cambridgeshire, and all the members of the Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire Provincial Executive together with six senior Provincial officers.



65 Comps - 46 local and 19 visitors from Cambridgeshire - joined in fraternal companionship for this very special occasion. They all enjoyed the wonderful celebration, wishing Comp Ivor many more happy years in Freemasonry.

Pictured (l to r) E Comp Rodney Wolverson, E Comp Ivor Thulborn, E Comp Wayne Williams & E Comp Ivan Greaves Prov GScribeE.

Open Sesame !

Corby Masonic Complex saw an afternoon of laughter, magic and mystery on Sunday 10th January, when the Corby Masonic Players presented their inimitable version of the pantomime Aladdin. Postponed from early December, due to a break-in at the Complex, the Corby Players were far from disheartened, and their two excellent performances were hugely enjoyed by very enthusiastic audiences who defied the wintry weather to support what has become a much-anticipated and very popular annual Corby event. Masterminding the whole project was Bro Jack Summerfield, who wrote, produced and performed in the pantomime as "Wishee-Washee". The Summerfield family's contribution didn't end there, their home was turned over to rehearsals and props making for weeks before the performances, and Jack's wife, Sandra, looked after sound effects and props for the performances.

It was truly a Corby "community" presentation, with representation from almost all the Corby Lodges, with family and friends also in the cast, including yet another Summerfield – this time Bro Wayne as Aladdin. Among many unforgettable moments there were a few hair-raising escapades with a tumble-drier, a washing machine and an ancient mangle, all of which combined to somehow magically change the shape and size of various cast members and audience volunteers, but luckily all were returned to normal before the curtain came down and the evil Abanazar, played by Bro Billy Glover, got his just desserts in the form of the cultured and elegantly groomed Widow Twankey, known at Corby as W Bro George McGarry.

Romance was not forgotten as the beautiful Princess Jasmine, played by Nicola Gourlay, found love with her Aladdin, and magic of another kind was also literally in the air as Sandra Montgomery, the funkiest of Slaves of the Ring, transported the cast on her flying carpet!

Ensuring that everyone kept on the right side of the law (just), we also had an arresting appearance by Bro John Cummins as Inspector Pong of the Peking



Police, sniffing out trouble, even where none existed! So not only was world domination avoided, and Aladdin found his princess, but the Corby Players made their contribution to reducing global warming by having a green Genie of the Lamp, magically played by W Bro John Cousin. Whilst there was fun and laughter a-plenty, with the traditional boos, hisses and "he's behind you!" from the two lively audiences, other important aspects were not forgotten, and more than £500 was raised to be shared between the Kettering General Hospital Children's Appeal, and the Corby Masonic Complex. Congratulations to the Corby Masonic Players for their enthusiasm, skill and commitment in giving an afternoon of such great entertainment, and a reminder to all to look out for next year's pantomime, which no doubt promises to be another superb show – "oh, yes it will!"

W Bro George McGarry



The Masonic Samaritan Fund provides financial help to Freemasons and their dependants in support of: **Medical Care and Treatment:** The MSF will consider applications for a wide variety of medical treatments from hip replacement to cardiac surgery, from digital hearing aids to drug treatment for cancer or degenerative diseases, from stomach banding to macular degeneration. **Respite and Domiciliary Respite Care:** Grants are available to support carers. Funding is available towards the costs of short periods of residential care or to provide regular short breaks at home. **Dental Care and Treatment:** Applications are welcome where treatment on the NHS is unavailable or where costs are in excess of NHS charging rates. Funded treatments are those licensed for use by the NHS. Grants are not available where the proposed treatment is purely cosmetic or where an applicant simply prefers to receive private treatment.

Vehicle and Home Adaptations: The Fund also gives grants for specialist equipment or home adaptations in response to a specific medical need. There are no age limits, no qualifying period of membership and no requirement for the Freemason to still be active. Within the last 5 years 38 grants have been made to Freemasons and their dependants from across the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire at a total cost of £176,564. Whilst this is clearly a tremendous boost to those who have received help surely there should have been more applications on behalf of our members and their families. These figures equate to just one application per year for every 12 Lodges. If you know someone who you think needs our help **PLEASE** tell them to contact the Fund on **0207 404 1550**.

Learn more about the Fund. If your Lodge or Chapter would like to receive a presentation on what the Fund does please contact the Development Director, John Williams, on 07931 533648 or email john@msfund.org.uk.

Caring for the health of Freemasons and their dependants

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Lodge of St. Giles Christmas Craft Fair

Lodge of St. Giles No 8736, held their first ever Christmas Craft Fair at the Masonic Complex, Corby on 15th November 2009. The event started out as a low key fund-raiser towards the Lodge contribution to 2013. However, through a lot of hard work from the Brethren (and some equally dedicated wives) the Complex was filled with 26 Stalls selling local produce ranging from toys, cakes, jewellery, fudge, hand-made soap, paintings and Christmas items.

The Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W Bro Wayne Williams, opened the event and 300 people attended; raising over £900.00 from which it was decided to make a significant donation to W Bro Bill Rutherford's Appeal for Recovery Equipment for Kettering Hospital. Due to the positive feedback from the Stallholders and the Public, plans for a repeat in 2010 are now well underway. Future events include a Burns Night, a Charity Dance and a Sponsored Walk around Rutland Water.



Reflections of a Provincial Secretary

How many Brethren recall the comments probably made when they were first considering joining Freemasonry "it's only once a month for 6 or 7 meetings"! No one ever tells you that becoming a Freemason can be a life changing experience. From my Initiation in 1990 until I became Worshipful Master in 1997 Masonry to me consisted of some 20 or so Lodge visits, 5 or 6 Chapter visits and a few rehearsals each year. The year in the Chair increased those visits to some 100 Lodges but I assured the family it was just for one special year only. How was I to know that the offices of Password Editor, Assistant Provincial Grand Secretary and Provincial Grand Secretary would follow? What wonderful experiences each role have given me and how, once again, I look forward to 'retirement' and time to reflect on the past five years as Provincial Secretary in particular.



Co-ordinating the administration of this Province of ours is a great challenge. If you were to blend the advice abilities of The Samaritans, The Citizens Advice Bureau, The Charities Commission and The Health & Safety Executive, the decision making abilities of Sir Alan Sugar and King Solomon combined with the organising expertise of Sir Humphrey Appleby (Yes Minister) and Noel Edmunds you begin to appreciate life in the Provincial Office. We are taught to believe that "there is scarcely a case of difficulty likely to occur in Masonry which the Book of Constitutions will not set you right". Given the number and variety of questions posed to the Provincial Secretary over any Masonic season there is good reason to question this! Interpretation of rules and regulations becomes second nature and if it can be done with an air of authority and confidence then you have your foot on the first rung of the ladder.

Day to day communication with the Provincial Executive and 90 Lodge Secretaries – not to mention Grand Lodge and other Provincial Offices – ensures an active start to most days. During the past 5 years we have progressed from a predominantly letter based communication system to email communications as the preferred media and it has been a steep learning curve for all, particularly myself. The Masonic Year starts with the preparation and issue of the Provincial Yearbook, a real test of patience and precision. (When the "Summer Break" in Masonic activity is mentioned in May each year it brings a knowing smile to the Provincial Office faces – that is when Yearbook preparation commences!). Official Visits to Lodges and Training Days for various Lodge Officers have to be co-ordinated with Lodge, Chapter and Other Orders meeting dates and incorporated into the Masonic Calendar for the year ahead. Before the end of August meetings with every Lodge Secretary are held across the Province. Once the season starts, work commences on recommendations for Provincial Honours culminating in notification to the selected Brethren at Christmas. The Provincial Carol Service is the first major annual event and its success is reward enough for those responsible for the organisation. The New Year sees the despatch to each Lodge of Provincial Annual Returns and Dues payable. In addition to routine operations we start the preparation for Provincial Grand Lodge and all the add-ons associated with this special meeting. This process is continuous right through to May and the many subsequent expressions of appreciation normally received from across the Province and beyond make all the hours of planning for this key event (and the Promotions Meeting of Three Counties Lodge a few days after Provincial Grand Lodge) worthwhile.

For the statistical minded Brethren the Provincial Office handles on average some 40 emails and 30 telephone calls per day. In addition arrangements are made for 15 training meetings, 5 meetings of Grand or Provincial Officers, 5 Special Lodge meetings, 4 Executive meetings and attendance at 18 other Provinces Annual Meetings during any Masonic Season. Over 400 lodge meeting returns, 170 Official Visit reports, 250 Registration Forms (Initiates and Joining Members), 90 Grand Lodge Returns and 90 Provincial Returns and Lodge Accounts are processed each year. The challenge of ensuring that the national database is kept up to date with membership and contact details for every Brother ensures that the Provincial Office is a hive of activity each weekday from 8.30am to 1.30pm.

The occasional Installation of a new Provincial Grand Master, Consecration of a new Lodge (6 in 6 years), Banner Dedication or re-Dedication (7 in 6 years), White Table Recruitment Evenings (8 in 5 years) together with the introduction of the Mentoring Initiative, Oration evenings, the Annual Richard Sandbach Lecture evening and the annual visit to Grand Lodge Quarterly Communications adds to the variety of tasks undertaken.

Needless to say none of the aforementioned would happen if it were not for the tremendous support from within the Provincial Office and the co-operation of officers and brethren (particularly Secretaries) across the Province and beyond. It has been a privilege and an honour to serve this happy Province and I know its continued success is in good hands.

Norman Pope ProvGSec

75th Anniversary Masonic Golf Day held at Wellingborough.



The 75th Anniversary Masonic Golf Day held at Wellingborough Golf Club was played in excellent conditions on a wonderful day. We were especially grateful to the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Hall, and the RW Bros Derek Young, Viv Thomas and Phil Collins for attending and taking part. The Secretary, W Bro Wayne Stocks, thanked all the members and guests for playing on the

day.

The winners on the day: The Humphries-Jones Trophy was won by Perseverance Lodge with 99 pts – Peter Robinson 35 pts, Mark Alderman 33 pts and Paul Slater 31 pts. The Palmer Salver was won by Perseverance and individual winners were:

Gerry Harding Trophy -	Bro Tom Webster	35 pts	Petriburg.
Eric Samler Trophy -	W Bro Leo McCormick	1 pts	Petriburg
Keith Smith Trophy -	W Bro Peter Robinson	35 pts	Perseverance
Harris-Jones -	W Bro Tom Webster	35 pts	Petriburg
Secretaries Shield -	W Bro Peter Robinson	-	Perseverance
Guest Prize	Rod Cairns	31 pts	

The RW Bro Barrie Hall was asked to become President of the Association and upon his acceptance, was duly elected by the members present. The Secretary extended his thanks to

Teddies for Loving Care (TLC)



After a traumatic, personal emergency in 2001 which thankfully was quickly and successfully treated by the staff of the local Accident & Emergency Unit, a senior Mason and his wife in Essex later reflected on what a stressful time a young child would have endured under similar circumstances. The challenge was how best could they help to relieve such a frightening experience for a youngster and hence, the initiative of Teddies for Loving Care began to emerge in the Province of Essex in 2001. It was adopted by the Province enthusiastically and after a formal presentation at Grand Lodge, the concept was quickly adopted by others to such an extent that we now proudly boast no less than 37 out of 47 Provinces actively engaged in promoting TLC.

In this Province, we successfully piloted TLC in the A&E Unit of Hinchingsbrooke Hospital in May 2003 for six months with the enthusiastic support of the A&E Unit and with grateful thanks to the Huntingdon Group of Lodges for the local funding provided. Based on the immediate success of the pilot, TLC was soon to be rolled out to A&E Units at Northampton, Kettering, Peterborough and Stamford in January 2004. An appeal was made to all Lodges for a modest donation of £100 per annum to help fund the cost of the teddies, initially with a five year commitment. Lodges responded magnificently – we were up and away!

Fired by the primary and sole objective of bringing relief and comfort to young children in times of distress and anxiety, the appeal reached far and wide and as an extension to Freemasonry in the Community, we have

benefited greatly from much favourable spin-off, creating a wider appreciation and awareness of the Craft in the eyes of the public at large. Over a period of just 6 years, we have now distributed in excess of 50,000 teddies to A&E Units throughout the Province and additionally to Paramedic Ambulances, Fire & Emergency Units, Air Ambulances and in other smaller establishments within the Emergency Services where a traumatised child might be involved. Our achievements in this Province represent approximately 7% of the total distribution of teddies under UGLE – a quite remarkable record but begging the question as to how such a success has been funded over and above the modest but so important contributions received from Lodges in the early part of 2004/2005.

TLC in this Province remains eternally grateful to the Trustees of the Douglas Compton James Charitable Trust, based at Kettering, who also shared our belief in TLC from the outset and who have to date, generously supported us to the tune of £38,000. Words cannot express the extent of our appreciation – as a consequence, we have not needed to seek additional contributions from Lodges for some time but the recessionary effects of late could still have some bearing on the future generosity of the Trustees. We should not discount therefore the possibilities of having to seek further but modest support from Lodges once again in the not too distant future but where we trust that the successes we can proudly claim hitherto will be sufficient to warrant their favourable consideration.

Our thanks are also due to those senior, nominated Brethren who have monitored supply and distribution at the five A&E Units from the outset as well as maintaining a close, working relationship with the Hospital authorities – their contribution also remains invaluable. /Cont'd next page

To quote from a local nurse in an A&E Unit, "It's not just a teddy bear, it's so much more". I invite you all to visit the TLC Website – www.tlcappeal.org – and check out the letters of appreciation, the comments made by the A&E Staff, the Consultants and so importantly, the parents of those little ones who have benefited in a small way from a fairly modest and unassuming teddy bear. Makes you proud to be a Mason – try it!

Wayne Williams APMG
Chairman TLC Committee

Banner dedication – Scout Lodge No 9814

Probably only the Provincial Grand Chaplain, W Bro Frank Pickard PAGChap, could have woven his first love affair (with a 2nd class Girl Guide!), the principles of Masonry, the lessons of the 3rd degree and the significance of a banner dedication into one Oration. Those Brethren privileged to attend the dedication of the new banner of the Scout Lodge partook of a true feast of Masonry at Rushden on December 8th.

The meeting started normally enough, leading into a superb 3rd degree ceremony with the WM, W Bro Norman Pope PAGDC, ProvGSec, presiding. Bro Alan Roberts proved an able candidate, and all the Officers were on fine form. Before the ceremony, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VW Bro Max Bayes PGSwdB, had been received with a retinue of Grand and Provincial Grand Officers. After it, he took the chair for the dedication, starting with a description of how banners have been focal points for armies and organisations for thousands of years, and congratulated those responsible for the design of this new banner.



Under the direction of W Bro Neil Young PAGDC, ProvGDC, an escort was formed. The banner was carried into the Lodge by the WM while the first of three special hymns was sung, led by a choral group under the direction of W Bro Bill Wright ProvGOrg. After it was placed on its stand and unwrapped, the ProvGGhap blessed it and those who will serve under it. The DepProvGM then formally dedicated it, after which the Oration was delivered.

Although never a scout himself, the Provincial Grand Chaplain described his admiration for the movement, drawing comparisons between the aims of the two organisations. Both teach their members to be faithful to their God, their country and their laws, and explained how the teaching of the 3rd degree could be summed up in the scout motto "Be prepared". He concluded by saying that just as scouting instilled standards that raised boys above the "hoi polloi", so does Masonry to adult men. The Festive Board was of course a Christmas meal, well up to the usual superb Rushden standard, and the consensus was that a beautiful banner had been given the best possible start to its Masonic life.

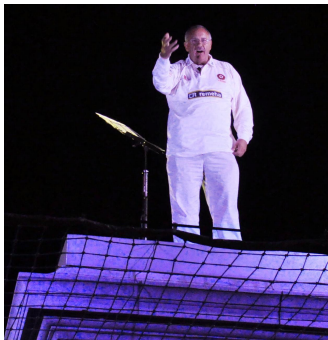
A Freemason on the Square – Literally

As everyone is aware Help for Heroes provides practical direct support to those servicemen and women wounded, many of them seriously, in the line of duty in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Last year W Bro Trevor Sherman was delighted to announce that both he and his wife Sue had been chosen to occupy the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square, London – a space normally reserved for statues of Generals and Kings. Even after his own hour had finished he worked hard to encourage friends and colleagues to continue to donate to the charity in support of Sue's hour.

They were part of Anthony Gormley's Living Art Project entitled One and Other. Every hour, 24 hours for 100 days between July 6th and October 14th, a different person made the plinth their own - as a representation of humanity as a whole. Trevor used his hour to lead community singing, to give recitals and to read out dedications (for which he asked for donations of at least £10 with all the money going to Help for Heroes). Sue welcomed suggestions on what to include, and among other things read dedications to family and friends. Everything either of them incorporated became part of a national archive - so together, they had the opportunity to be involved in leaving behind a footprint of fun for future generations.



Trevor's 60 minutes from 1.00am – 2.00am on Monday 17th August, and he commented "I can't tell you how exhilarated I felt taking part in this historic event". Sue's spell on the plinth was from 10.00am – 11.00am on Tuesday 15th September. Her 60 minutes aloft was spent reading out light-hearted poetry, prose and jokes on Trevor's chosen subject: The Wit and Wisdom of Women. She liked to think of it as a 'Girl's Day Out', thirty feet up in the air! Whilst not a call to Freemasons as such it came as no surprise that many Brethren from around the world supported Trevor and Sue and he offers heartfelt thanks to all those Brethren who attended on the day or who made contributions large and small. His appeal was so successful that he upped the original £600 target a number of times eventually set at £4,000 and finished the project by raising a magnificent £4,178.00; well done Trevor and Sue.



"Clavis - A masonic Lodge for bellringers"



The above was the title of an article in the Ringing World (the Bellringers weekly journal) dated 15th January. It describes how Ringers and Freemasons have mingled together over the centuries and gives the detail of how Clavis Lodge No 8585 came to be formed and Consecrated in the Province of Oxfordshire in 1974. The article can be viewed on the website www.clavislodge.org.uk

Members of this Province who are or have been members of Clavis Lodge include W Bros George Bonham, Frank Coales, Bob Dennis and Nick Parsons. W Bro Peter Wenham and Bro Richard Waddy, although not members, subscribe to the correspondence circle. **GEB**

Four Lewises in One Lodge?

The Fitzwilliam Lodge No 2533 has Initiated four new Brethren in three months. Nothing outstanding in that you might say, but the remarkable fact is that each of these Initiates was a Lewis. Four Lewis's in three months, could this be a record?

In November, a month after he was installed as Master, W Bro Richard Hibbins, initiated his twin sons Jolyon and Marcus in a superbly executed double first ceremony. It was truly a family affair as their uncle W Bro John Watson, who travelled down from the North, presented the North East Corner and their brother, Bro Jonathon Hibbins, the senior Warden of the Lodge presented the Charge after Initiation, after which he presented his brothers with commemorative bibles as a reminder of this unique event. This was followed in December when the Senior Deacon, Bro John Flavill, was fully involved in the Initiation of his son Peter Flavill when he invested him with the distinguishing badge of a Mason. The January meeting saw the Lodge Organist, Bro Heaton Spires, have a night off from his music duties enabling him to take a front row seat for the Initiation of his son Alexander Spires. Alexander was obligated by W Bro Peter Deakin a long time friend of the Spire's family. All the ceremonies were charged with emotion and the members of the Lodge considered that it was a privilege to share in the joy of these three fathers bringing their sons into Masonry.



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Oundle School Supports TLC

Bro Mike Bolger, the Senior Warden of St Wilfrid Lodge No 4453, is a House Tutor at Oundle School and on 25 November 2009 he brought a group of three pupils of the School's Upper Sixth, Rory Preston, Charlie Hill and William Dugdale to visit Freemasons' Hall, Northampton.

Earlier this year they had been involved in an 'Auction of Promises' a charitable fund raising event. They had heard about and were impressed by the objectives of Teddies for Loving Care scheme. With the enthusiastic support of their parents and the encouragement of their Tutor, Bro Mike, they decided to make a generous donation of £2,000. The Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W Bro Wayne Williams, welcomed them to St George's Avenue then gave them an explanation of the principals of Freemasonry and answered their questions. He then received their cheque for which he expressed his sincere appreciation. The boys visit was rounded off by a conducted tour of the building which included a look round the Palmer Temple.



Pictured (l to r) Bro Mike Bolger, Rory Preston, William Dugdale, W Bro Wayne Williams & Charlie Hill

Freemasons' Support for Northampton General Hospital

A number of the Freemasons and their families in the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire have been given medical treatment for various reasons in Northampton General Hospital. To show their gratitude the Northampton Group of Lodges has over the past few years raised funds to purchase various pieces of medical apparatus which the hospital did not have because of the lack of financial resources.



To encourage this joint approach the Provincial Grand Charity gave additional support by providing further amounts, which cumulatively in the past four years totalled just short of £50,000. The photomontage at left, which is displayed in various parts of the hospital in gratitude for the help received from Freemasonry, shows some of the cheques being presented to the hospital by the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Barrie Hall and other Brethren from the Province.

Help Needed!

To ensure the continued success of Password we need material that is likely to be of interest to Masons and their families Province wide. Please don't just leave it to someone else. If you have an article, a report of an activity or a letter to share please contact me or one of the Information Officers on the back page - Remember it's your magazine. Ed

Provincial Coup Plot Foiled - So Not a New PGM After All

A very successful Initiates Evening took place at the Masonic Centre, Ellindon on Friday 22nd January. The evening started with informal drinks, after which all were invited to take their seats in the Lodge Room. The PGM, RW Bro Barrie Hall, introduced the evening, with an outline of what was to follow and a 15 minute presentation on the basic principles of Freemasonry. This was followed by Trevor Boswell, the incoming Provincial Grand Secretary, who gave a short talk on Masonic Charities, and the varying ways Freemasons support them. Joy Hall, the wife of the PGM then gave a 'Masonic Wives' perspective of Freemasonry referring inevitably to the early commitment made by all Freemasons 'just one night out a month is not too much for a man to ask for is it'?

Then followed a very amusing and informative explanation of the Lodge Room and regalia by W Bro Reg Hirst, Provincial Education & Training Officer, who, much to the amusement of the Brethren present, ended his presentation wearing the regalia of the PGM (however it was safely returned at the end).

All in all it was a very enlightening and enjoyable evening, with some very good guidance and explanation of what Masonry is all about for the newly initiated, the Ladies and indeed most of the Brethren present learned something too. The evening concluded with informal chats over a drink and a buffet supper.



Northants & Hunts Working Half Way Round the World

During 1842 to 1853 four EC Lodges were constituted in New Zealand. They were Pacific (Wellington), Unanimity (Lyttelton), St Augustin (Christchurch) and Southern Star (Nelson). The first three subsequently transferred to the New Zealand constitution but just one Southern Star has remains under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of England.

Until last October the WM was a former Northants and Hunts Mason, W Bro Peter Sheriff of Samuel Pepys Lodge, who hopes he has made a good impression in his year during which he tried his best to bring some English Emulation ritual back into this English Constitution Lodge but has found it a little bit of an uphill battle. Nonetheless he 'gave it his best shot' and trusted that he'd upheld the good training received in Samuel Pepys Lodge.



On his last full night in the Chair of Southern Star he decided (with wife Sandy's help) to put on a mini banquet with free wine on the table instead of the normal finger food they usually serve at the refectory. It was a well attended occasion with lots of visitors from the NZ Constitution; including two DPGM's of the region. On the same night he Initiated his friend and Kiwi neighbour, Ian, into Freemasonry and they finished the evening in the refectory with a five verse English Tyler's

Toast and Auld Land Syne after which Bro Pete (centre of picture above) and Sandy, finally got home in the early hours, when both were more than ready for bed!

Provincial Grand Master's Diary to May 2010

Date	Lodge Number	Lodge Name
Tue 16 February 2010	2996	Peterboro' & Counties
Mon 22 February 2010	9495	Unity
Thur 25 February 2010	Metropolitan Grand Lodge	London
Fri 26 February 2010	2431	Kingsley
Sat 6 March 2010	Provincial Grand Charity	Northampton
Mon 8 March 2010	8845 (Ins)	Vale of Welland
Fri 12 March 2010	5627	St Crispin
Sat 13 March 2010	9854 (Consecration)	Salcey Forest
Wed 17 March 2010	8774 (Ins)	England's Centre
Mon 29 March 2010	Initiates Supper	Northampton
Fri 16 April 2010	9282 (Ins)	Hinchingbrooke
Mon 19 April 2010	455	Perseverance
Wed 21 April 2010	9580 (Ins)	Town & Country
Thur 22 April 2010	8079 (Ins)	Coritani
Sat 1 May 2010	9524 (Ins)	Oldest Ally
Fri 7 May 2010	9462 (Ins)	Sulgrave
Thur 20 May 2010	Provincial Grand Lodge	Northampton
Mon 24 May 2010	Provincial Officers Meeting	Northampton
Wed 26 May 2010	9278	Three Counties

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Progress and Changes in The Royal Arch

Nearly three years into the job and with no signs of enforced early retirement – unless you know something I don't – the learning curve at almost vertical I faced way back in May 2007 is beginning to ease. Indeed, there is still much to do; still a great deal to learn but there is not a single day when an unexpected daily advancement in Masonic knowledge doesn't bring me back to earth with a bump.

But I genuinely sense that we're getting there – the Royal Arch is beginning to stir with a renewed vigour and a real sense of purpose. The message is actually getting across that we have such a vital role to play in that final stage of the journey through Pure Antient Masonry – the rediscovery of those long lost secrets, a cause for celebration in itself, and a re-awakening of one's own spiritual wellbeing and awareness. It's certainly not just down to me – the foundations laid down for us over many years in the past have allowed us to drive the Royal Arch forward together as a team with a shared enthusiasm and determination, no longer to be seen as a passive optional extra to be pampered and cosseted from time to time when considered convenient and then discarded until the next time. The profile has been raised and long may it so remain.

Reverting to more mundane statistics, the fruits of our efforts are borne out again in a small, yet most welcome increase in membership for 2009 following on from our success in 2008. I mentioned at the Annual Convocation last year that one swallow doesn't necessarily make the proverbial summer but, at least for the time being, we can now proudly but cautiously boast two. Yet, we know only too well that progress can be so easily thwarted by a number of influences well beyond our control; the aging demographics of the Royal Arch in particular always warrants a cautious note. There is one area however which will present us with a challenge over the next year or two. We will need to address it, certainly in part, within a timescale set down by Supreme Grand Chapter and it is right that we share our concerns with you.

You may well recall earlier references to the "Lowndes Report", published in August 2007,

when E Comp Peter Lowndes, whilst Deputy Grand Master in the Craft at the time, was asked to chair a Committee to review fully the anomalies and the wide variations which existed when it came to awarding Provincial appointments and promotions. His brief included reference to both the Royal Arch and the Craft; his aim was to introduce some uniformity and harmonisation to a system where interpretation could differ so much from one Province to another. The Committee's recommendations were approved and both Royal Arch and Craft Provinces were asked to review their own procedures and where variations exist, to adopt the new proposals within a timescale of five years.

From the Royal Arch perspective in this Province, the new arrangements do not present us with a problem, save for one particular area and that relates to the speed at which we make First Appointments to Provincial Grand Rank. The "Lowndes Report" recommends a period of seven years from installation into the First Principal's chair – as most of you will be aware, our qualifying period has been considerably less. We have to take note but I do believe that a seven year imposition presents too big a challenge; we must again bear in mind the aging demographics of the Royal Arch as well as the motivation necessary for our younger Companions but, over the next year or two, we will have to make a small gesture and endeavour to work a little way towards the target set by Supreme Grand Chapter.

I hope that our efforts in due course will not cause too many disappointments; we will endeavour to minimise the initial impact and gradually the process will settle down. In those early stages however I would simply seek your understanding and patience. That said, we move forward to continue to enjoy our Royal Arch Masonry and, most importantly, be seen to be enjoying it so that those still hovering on the sidelines, undecided, will soon appreciate that we have something very special to offer. I look forward to catching up with you all again soon; meanwhile, my sincere thanks for your continuing support and companionship.

Wayne E Williams
Grand Superintendent

Provincial Honours 2010 - 2011

The Provincial Grand Master has been pleased to make the following appointments as Acting Provincial Officers for the period 2010 - 2011:

ProvSGW	W Bro	David Burton	L8767	Petriburg
ProvJGW	W Bro	Michael Branch	L6516	Lodge of St Paul
ProvGSec	W Bro	Trevor Boswell	L5694	Old Northamptonian
ProvGSwdB	W Bro	Graham Minett	L445	Lodge of Fidelity
ProvGSuptWks	W Bro	Tony Pullen	L7439	Willowbrook
ProvSGD	W Bro	David Hargreaves	L6838	Lodge of St James
ProvSGD	W Bro	Peter Brown	L5627	St Crispin
ProvSGD	W Bro	Patrick Clark	L3972	St John's
ProvSGD	W Bro	Paul Johnstone	L9364	Burghley
ProvJGD	W Bro	Henry Leitch	L8767	Petriburg
ProvJGD	W Bro	Richard Evans	L6977	Ceres
ProvJGD	W Bro	Graham Rogers	L455	Lodge of Perseverance
ProvJGD	W Bro	William Johnson	L4048	Cytringan
ProvAGSec	W Bro	Eric Ellison	L8041	Abington
ProvAGDC	W Bro	Mark Charteress	L360	Pomfret
ProvAGDC	W Bro	Michael Walton	L6516	Lodge of St Paul
ProvAGDC	W Bro	Stephen James	L8869	Cumton
ProvAGDC	W Bro	David Stones	L442	St Peter's
ProvGStdB	W Bro	Andy James	L7557	Piscator
ProvGStdB	W Bro	Michael Matthews	L6516	Lodge of St Paul
ProvAGStdB	W Bro	Chris Baxter	L6532	Risdene
ProvGPurs	W Bro	Neil Hodkin	L8526	Lactodorum
ProvGStwd	W Bro	Roger Hutchinson	L4048	Cytringan
ProvGStwd	W Bro	Dale Gilbert	L6532	Risdene
ProvGStwd	W Bro	George McGarry	L6644	Thistle and Rose
ProvGStwd	W Bro	Alex Henderson	L9155	Corbie
ProvGStwd	W Bro	Kevin Foreman	L8158	Dr Field
ProvGStwd	W Bro	Leo McCormick	L8767	Petriburg
ProvGStwd	W Bro	John McGuinness	L8774	Sothius
ProvGStwd	W Bro	Roger Bates	L6838	Lodge of St James

In addition the PGM has also been pleased to reappoint the following Officers: W Bros F E Pickard as ProvGChap, R N Bedells as ProvGTreas, N O Young as ProvGDC, R A Stokes and C A Bennett as ProvDGDC, J E Partridge as ProvGAlm, I S Lauder as PrGChStwd, R Hirst as ProvGMentor, D G Young as ProvGORator, W B Wright as Organist and J W Tarry as ProvGTyler. The investiture of the above will take place at the Annual Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at Freemasons' Hall St George's Avenue, Northampton on Thursday 20th May to which it is hoped as many Masters of Lodges and Wardens will attend in support.

If you haven't done so already now is the time to make a firm note in your diary for the **Provincial Grand Lodge meeting on Thursday 20 May 2010 at St George's Avenue, Northampton - book early at the Provincial Office**

New Information Officers for Huntingdon and Northampton

W Bro Bill Hensley ProvGStdB,
PPrAGDC(Essex)

Recently appointed as Information Officer for Huntingdon, St Ives, St Neots, Ramsey and Oundle, Bill was Initiated into Charles Dickens Lodge 2757 in June 1991, went through the chair in 2000, 2004 and 2005,



and has been Secretary since 2006. He joined Sothius Lodge 8774 in St Ives in February 1994, and has been secretary since March 2004. He was exalted

into the Holy Royal Arch No 2684 in May 2001, and joined Knights Templar in February 2007.

Bill was born in 1952 in Highgate, London, moved to Warboys near Huntingdon in 1973, and lives with his wife Pam, and youngest son Wills (24) who is a Lewis.

Radio is Bill's passion, and he now heads up a team of 70 at Huntingdon Community Radio, who have recently secured a full-time broadcasting licence on FM, and start broadcasting in April 2010. He is also a director at Woodgreen Animal Shelters, director of Blackcat Media, a production company, Chairman of the Huntingdon & District Sea Cadet Unit, Chairman of Hospital Radio at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, and a Parish Councillor, after having served as a County Councillor for Cambridgeshire for 12 years. In his spare time, he enjoys clay pigeon shooting, logging and off road 4X4.

Please see the back page for Bill's areas of responsibility and contact details.

WBro Stephen Rodwell
PPGstwd

W Bro Steve Rodwell was born and raised in Northampton (St James) from where he was educated and started his career as an apprentice at the Express Lift Company. After completing his formal training and periods working overseas, he formed, developed and operated a successful shop fitting and furniture production company. He is happily married to Anne with three daughters Katy, Suzy and Jen.

Stephen was Initiated into Spelhoe Lodge in 1989, filled all of the Officers chairs whilst progressing and became Master in 2004. He is a member of The Palmer Lodge, Abington Chapter and is to be a founder of the new Salcey Forest Lodge. Currently he is acting as assistant D.C. for Spelhoe Lodge.

He is a keen ocean sailor with many hours spent before the mast having recently completed a two year circumnavigation of



the globe. His many adventures took him to remote islands and distant communities and one of the many unexpected joys was discovering hidden Lodge temples from our Empire of former times.

Steve takes over the Lodges previously covered by Trevor Boswell (see details on the back page)

2013 RMBI FESTIVAL AND GENERAL FINANCES

I am delighted with the progress that has been made to date towards our target of £1,603,613. The total currently stands at just over £1,250,000 and that has been achieved since the launch in March 2007. It is pleasing to notice that more than ten Lodges have already exceeded their allotted target and many more are approaching that landmark. It is essential that these successful Lodges continue to add to their totals as we do want to raise as much as possible for this very important Masonic Charity. It is the wish of the Provincial Grand Master that every member of the Province makes a contribution and this will ensure a satisfactory result.

The Executive has decided that it would not be proper to press our membership too hard and to aim for a final figure that would vastly exceed the original target. We recognise the current difficulties that many people are experiencing and know that Masons are not exempt. We also need to consider the Provincial Grand Charity and also our desire to support local non-Masonic Charities. The priorities should, therefore, be to support the 2013 Festival, then Provincial Grand Charity, then individual Lodge finances and finally non-Masonic charities.

Every Lodge should make an annual contribution to Provincial Grand Charity. Although substantial funds have been accumulated, it is essential that these are distributed for charitable purposes. Charity Commissioners quite rightly insist that charitable funds are used to relieve distress and we need to have an income from our Lodges so that we can achieve that requirement. We are also able to help individual Lodges with their wishes to support local charities when application is made. The basic advice must be for Lodges to raise funds by traditional methods and then use those funds to support Provincial Grand Charity, to place money into general Lodge funds and then to support local Charities with substantial assistance from Provincial Grand Charity. As an example, a Master of a Lodge recently raised £1,500 during his year from Festive Board raffles, Summer Bar-B-Qs and a Ladies night tombola. He wished to support three local charities, so, after discussion with Province, he donated £500 to Provincial Grand Charity, and then received a total of £1,000 back, enabling him to give £500 to each of his local charities. This left £500 that was placed into the Lodge funds. The overall effect was that Provincial Grand Charity satisfied the requirement to receive and distribute funds, the local Charities received more than the Master could have given on his own and the Lodge received the equivalent of a £10 reduction in Lodge subscription. (The Provincial Grand Master is convinced that the control of Lodge subscription levels is essential to the future well being of the Craft.)

Whilst Freemasonry is not a charitable organisation, it is an organisation that supports charity. Please help your Lodge Charity Steward as much as you can to enable us to service this support. We can then all be justifiably proud of our efforts.

Max Bayes
Chairman of 2013 Festival Appeal
December 2009



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Keep your Information Officer advised of any interesting Lodge activities because it is only by doing so that he can know what is going on in your area and thereby get something published in 'your' Provincial Magazine - Password.

The new Salcey Forest Lodge No. 9854

The new Salcey Forest Lodge No. 9854, to be based at Hackleton, Northants, will be Consecrated on Saturday 13th March and a warm invitation is given to all those Brethren of Master Mason rank or above, to attend. The Consecration of a Lodge is a very special occasion and this could be one of the few opportunities, for you to attend and witness the birth of a new Lodge. Luncheon will be provided, at a cost of £18 per head. Numbers are limited so please contact the Provincial Office as soon as possible to make your reservation.



Installed Masters' Lodge No 3422 Centenary

On 24th March the Installed Masters' Lodge No 3422 will celebrate its Centenary with a special meeting at Freemasons' Hall, St George's Avenue, Northampton. The Lodge is the principle Lodge of communication in the Province and its meeting are open to guests who are Past Masters or Wardens. As all current and Past Masters are aware, the Provincial Grand Master encourages them to consider joining the Lodge and this meeting will give those who may still be thinking about such a move a great opportunity to come and meet the members at the same time as listening to VW Bro John Hamill, the Director of Special Projects at UGLE, talk to us about changes in Freemasonry over the past hundred years.

Anyone interested in obtaining details should approach a Brother in their own Lodge (look at your Lodge No under 3422 on Page 73 in the year book) and ask them to book a place once they have received the Summons and booking slip some time later this month.