

# CYTRINGAN LODGE

No. 4048



*Belated*

## CENTENARY CELEBRATION

*6th June 2022*

*Masonic Hall*

*York Road*

*Kettering*



# MENU

*Pâté*

☆☆☆

*Chicken wrapped in Prosciutto*

*served with mushroom sauce,  
new and croquette potatoes  
and seasonal vegetables*

☆☆☆

*Eton Mess*

☆☆☆

*Cheese and Biscuits*

☆☆☆

*Coffee or Tea*

☆☆☆

# TOASTS

**The Queen and the Craft**

Proposed by the Worshipful Master

**Most Worshipful, The Grand Master**

**His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent**

Proposed by the Worshipful Master.

**Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master Peter Geoffrey Lownes**

**Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Jonathon Spence**

**Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master, Sir David Hugh Wootton  
and the rest of Grand Officers Past and Present**

Proposed by the Worshipful Master.

**Deputy Provincial Grand Master in Charge, VWBro Charles Bennett**

**Assistant Grand Masters WBro Mark Constant and WBro Mike  
Caseman-Jones and the Officers Present and Past of Provincial Grand  
Lodge and holders of London Grand Rank**

Proposed by the Worshipful Master.

**The Worshipful Master**

Proposed by WBro Tim Lucy

**The Visitors Toast**

Proposed by WBro Glenn Page

**The Tylers Toast**

## **HISTORY of CYTRINGAN LODGE NO. 4048 1920–2020**

In order to arrive at a fairly comprehensive history of Cytringan Lodge it is necessary to go back into the development of Freemasonry in Kettering to establish:

- a)** Why Cytringan Lodge was formed in the first place
- b)** Which individuals felt it necessary and directed its course
- c)** Its own development over the ensuing years

Kettering saw Freemasonry start in the early 19th century. In 1826 the mention of a new lodge in Kettering was muted by Pomfret Lodge which met in Northampton but it was not until 1838 that a petition was raised. There was no entry into the Lodge of Perseverance's Minute book until 4th January 1839, however, a Masonic Quarterly Review has a date of 29th November 1838 in it which states: "the convocation of a new Lodge, Lodge of Perseverance, was solemnised this day in the presence of various members from Northampton, Peterborough and Towcester, assisted by many visiting Brethren. A procession was formed and the Brethren walked in full masonic costume to the Church, where an impressive discourse was delivered by Rev J. Daniels the Curate of Deene."

It is interesting to note that the Lodge of Perseverance banner was and still is an almost exact facsimile of the Arms which were adopted by the 'ancients' in 1751. Considering the two Grand Lodges amalgamated in 1813 to form a United Grand Lodge and as a consequence the Arms of the 'Moderns' and the 'Ancients' were impaled to produce a new Coat of Arms, perhaps indicates where this Province's allegiances fell.

The first recorded meeting of the Lodge of Perseverance was held in Bro Door's room – it appeared that the White Hart Hotel (the Royal Hotel) could not afford suitable accommodation for the holding of Lodge meetings. The meetings continued at the same place until

18th November 1839 and after that at the Peacock Inn up to the 23rd March 1840.

From the 20th April 1840 to 30th March 1841 the meetings were held at Mr Jenkinson's private rooms, then resuming at the Peacock Inn until 1845. The George Hotel was then utilised up until 1850 along with the New Inn. A period of stability then ensued with meetings being held at a private room off the High Street belonging to Bro George Eldred, afterwards to be called Freemasons' Hall. This arrangement continued until 1876 when Bro Eldred passed away and circumstances resulted in the Lodge having to move and pay rent at the Wesleyan School Room, Dalkeith Place where it remained until 31st October 1895.

Eventually the question of a new Lodge room was discussed and the long felt desire of both the Brethren and indeed the Territorials was satisfied by the erection of a new building in York Road during 1895, which provided accommodation for both. The Lodge of Perseverance having grown to such proportions as to make it necessary to consider further accommodation, on the 2nd December 1901 it was resolved to erect premises adjoining the existing building. A company was formed called the Kettering Masonic and Drill Hall Co. Ltd., the shareholders of which were the Brethren and the Officers of the Territorials. The new Masonic Hall was erected in 1902, the old Lodge room being used as an Institute for the latter.

The Lodge of Perseverance continued to grow and as a result of a Petition signed by 12 of its members, which was submitted by the secretary on 20th October 1919, another Lodge was formed and designated by the appropriate name of 'Cytringan'.

The warrant was granted on the 14th January 1920 and the new Lodge consecrated on the 3rd June 1920.

One of the Founders must have had an interest in the history of Kettering and suggested that the new Lodge ought to be given, what is believed to be the old Anglo-Saxon name for Kettering, namely

Cytringan. Between 1900 and 1904 much interest was generated in the town by the discovery of an extensive early Anglo-Saxon burial site on high ground along Stamford Road. Some 80–90 burial urns containing various items were discovered, which included part of a cruciform brooch, that symbol being utilised in the design of the original Founder's Jewel and indeed the Past Master's Jewel.



LATE ANGLO  
SAXON BROOCH



So we now come to the actual Consecration and Installation ceremony of Cytringan Lodge No 4048, which took place on Thursday 3rd June 1920 at 2.45 pm. The summons convening the Special Meeting of the several Lodges of the Province was issued by the Provincial Grand Secretary WBro G.F.E. Wilkingson PAGDC. It also indicated on that summons there would be a banquet held at the Masonic Hall in Kettering – ticket price six shillings.

Up until the consecration of Cytringan Lodge there were in existence 23 Lodges in the Province. In view of the distances involved and the mode of transport available in 1920 it is remarkable how many of those Lodges were represented at the Consecration. Indeed there were representatives from our neighbouring Province of Leicestershire and Rutland.

In total there were 68 brethren in attendance – 21 of whom were founders – the first WM was WBro Chas Cattell (PM of Hatton Lodge No 3041).

The Summons, Agenda and Minutes are attached along with a Transcript of a newspaper article reporting the event.

The first regular meeting was held on the 6th September 1920, the candidates for Initiation being W.S. Cattell (Accountant), son of the WM and H.D. Williams (Architect) the son of the SD. Both these brethren proved to be stalwarts and loyal members of the Lodge over many years both attaining the Chair in September 1932 and 1933 respectively. In the first year the Lodge initiated no fewer than ten candidates and received 16 Joining members (majority of who were members of the Lodge of Perseverance No 455). In order to elevate those ten candidates to Master Mason status in the first masonic year a number of Emergency meetings were sanctioned and double ceremonies carried out. There were 13 meetings during that year. It is interesting to note amongst the Joining members voted in on the 4th October 1920 was a Bro Edward Chandler Gravestock who eventually became the Deputy Provincial Grand Master in 1952.

The next four years saw an equally busy period with nine candidates initiated each year along with three Joining members being voted in, so that by September 1924 the membership was 77.

There is no record of the Lodge Banner being dedicated but a facsimile started to appear on the Lodge summons in 1923. The original banner was replaced in 1993 and re-dedicated by the then PGM RWBro H.B. Smith on the 1st November 1993. That original banner still exists and is now located in the annex room to the Lansberry Temple, which some of our members will recall was originally a two table snooker room.

The years between the Great Wars saw many initiations and indeed a regular flow of Joining members, not only in Cytringan Lodge but also our mother Lodge, the Lodge of Perseverance. The effect being the existing accommodation was becoming somewhat over stretched and issues relating to ventilation were raised and mention of an extension to the premises discussed. That was in March 1925.

By January 1934 those extensions were completed and a new Temple dedicated on Monday 15th January 1934. At that time Cytringan Lodge membership was 112 (Lodge of Perseverance 140). It is interesting to note that it was in 1936 a new organ was purchased which was made possible by a generous gift from the Seddon family. The Third Degree Wall Plaques, of which we are exceedingly proud, must have been sourced and donated by someone around that time but diligent search of minutes has not come up with a definitive answer. However, information from outside our Province gives us to believe that WBro R.J. Williams, one of our founders, who was an architect and undoubtedly intimately involved in the design of the new temple, was that person.

It has to be recognised that prior to both Great Wars the boot and shoe industry was of immense importance to the locality and those gentlemen interested in becoming freemasons would have been connected with the industry and the trades and professions associated with it. Hence the rapid rise in membership. At the outbreak of WWII we are still in the first quarter of Cytringan Lodge's history and within hours of the declaration of war the United Grand Lodge of England ordered that until further notice all meetings were to be suspended. Within a month, however, this was reversed but there were conditions put on Lodge meetings. These included the recommendation that meetings should not be held on Sundays; they should take place as early in the day as possible and that after proceedings, where held, should be brief and simple. The principal officers were empowered to cancel any regular meeting even if it had already been summoned, if circumstances appeared to warrant it.

It is difficult to imagine the problems of continuing normal Lodge or Chapter meetings during those times. Some members would have left for war service and many of those who remained would have had commitments for service locally with duties in the Home Guard, Civil Defence, the Special Constabulary, the Fire service, as Air Raid Wardens and in working long hours to keep local industry operating



despite the shortage of labour. Surprisingly our minutes over those troubled years indicate we held nine regular meetings every year and initiated, passed and raised three Brethren a year. Luckily no members lost their lives as a consequence of enemy action nor were any disabled. (War Record of Lodge members is attached to this history.)

As we now enter the second quarter of Cytringan Lodge's history it is apparent that becoming a Freemason was still very popular and desirable. On average over the next 25 years three candidates per year were initiated, passed and raised. We also continued to attract a number of Joining members during those years especially around 1947 when 12 masons of the Scottish Constitution joined as a preliminary to the formation and consecration of Thistle and Rose Lodge No 6644, which took place under the aegis of Cytringan Lodge on the 24th June 1948. Our membership peaked at 142 in 1948 but has gradually reduced over the following years the reasons far too complicated and involved to pursue in this discourse but suffice to say not restricted to this Lodge in particular.

At this point it is only right to mention those Brethren whose hard work and dedication not just to this Lodge in particular but to Freemasonry in general resulted in being recognised by the UGLE. Namely:

WBro W. C. Cattell.	PGStBr 1930, PAGDC 1936 and PGD 1941
WBro E.C. Gravestock	PGStBr 1943, PAGDC 1948 and Deputy Provincial Grand Master 1952
WBro C.E. Seddon	PAGDC 1949, PGD 1958
WBro H. Davis	PGStBr 1956, PGD 1969
WBro G. Thompson	PAGDC 1981
WBro J. Partridge	PAGDC 2005

The Lodge has also been fortunate to have had two of its members awarded the PGM's Certificate of Merit, viz. WBro Reg Guest and WBro Gordon Tye.

Cytringan Lodge from its early days has always been a supporter of the Masonic charities and even since the introduction of the Festival system has been successful in over achieving its allocated targets. There is no doubt whatsoever that the target of £26,910 for the 2024 MCF Festival will also be overtaken.

It has to be recognised that masonry in the Kettering Group has progressed extremely well and that is due in no small part to the existence of the United Lodge of Instruction. Cytringan Lodge members have played a significant role in its affairs over many years particularly as Preceptors. WBros E.C. Gravestock, C. Seddon and G. Thompson during first half of our history with WBros H.G Stafford, G. Tye, T. Wayman and T. Lucy being involved during the second half.

The Lodge's Golden Jubilee was celebrated on the 3rd June 1970 and it was WBro C. Seddon who was invited to be the 50th WM for that year. During that meeting WBro H.D. Williams PPrGSuptWks, the son of WBro R.J. Williams, gave a talk on the early years of Cytringan Lodge. Unfortunately no record exists of that talk. If it had the author of this particular history might have had some more pertinent facts to add. At this time I would like to point out that it is the Lodge's intention to frame the Centenary Warrant along with a Founders and a Centenary Jewel. Behind will be a time capsule containing this history and original documents relating to Cytringan Lodge's first 102 years.

The Lodge's 75th Anniversary meeting was held on Saturday 3rd June 1995 at 1200hrs, present were the WM Bro J. E. Partridge, PGM RWBro Brian Smith, PPGM RWBro Peter Palmer (Honorary Member) and five Grand Lodge Officers. After a short business meeting the Lodge was closed and the Brethren retired for a luncheon with the Ladies. We now arrive at our Centenary date Wednesday 3rd June 2020 – not quite to the day (the consecration day, as mentioned earlier, was held on a Thursday). However, all the hard work that had been put into preparing for celebrating that milestone was shelved until today 6th June 2022. We can all recount

that fateful day when our Grand Master, HRH the Duke of Kent, announced the suspension of masonic activity until further notice. The 17th March 2020 will go down in masonic history as the date when the Covid19 virus pandemic did what the two Great Wars failed to do – shut down normal masonic meetings for several months. June 2021 went by – still no celebration but here we are at long last third time lucky and the Lodge is very honoured to have so many in attendance on this auspicious occasion.

There is however one long standing member of this Lodge who unfortunately cannot be with us today, much as we would have liked him to be here to celebrate our 102 years. I refer of course to a member who sadly passed to the Grand Lodge above on the 1st December 2020 and had we been able to meet on our proper centenary date he would have been older than the Lodge itself. That WBro was John Hanger PPrJGW. WBro John born 26th October 1919, initiated into this Lodge on 6th December 1961 and became its WM on the 4th October 1973. We will remember him at our festive board later because that quiet, generous gentle man has left a bequest to this Lodge so that we can have a drink on him.

There is no doubt Cytringan Lodge and its members along with numerous other lodges have experienced an eventful 20th century with many technological and social changes occurring in its history. The advent of motorised travel; the development of telecommunications; the establishment of the NHS; the invention of the computer and the advances in medical science, all of these still affecting our lives in the 21st century. What the next 100 years will bring is anybody's guess but let's hope society in general learns to live together in harmony and that Freemasonry continues to play its part in achieving that goal by promoting our three Grand Principles of:

Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth

OFFICERS 3rd JUNE 1920		OFFICERS 3rd JUNE 2020
WBro W.C. Cattell PPrGReg	WM	WBro J E Partridge PAGDC
Bro A.G. Wills	SW	Bro M Emberson
Bro J.W. Coles	JW	Bro G Giffard-Tiney
WBro G.W. Loake PPrGSD	PM	WBro G Page PPrSGW
WBro W.H. Staynes	Chaplain	WBro K Riddle PProvGStwd
Bro T. Seddon	Treasurer	Bro J Hatcher PPrGSuptWks
Bro E. Lorimer	Secretary	WBro D Preece PPrJGD
WBro C.E. Speight PPrGStdBr	DC	WBro R Hutchinson PPrGSwdBr
	Almoner	Bro S Spriggs
	Ch Stwd	WBro J Brice PPrJGD
	Mentor	WBro D B Willis PPrSGD
Bro R.J. Williams	SD	Bro J Harrison
Bro H.T. Taylor	JD	Bro M Kilsby
	Asst DC	WBro M Chimes PPrSGD
Bro G.R. Wright	Organist	WBro C Winfield ProvGOrg
	Asst Sec	WBro I Watson SLGR
	Asst Alm	WBro G Page PPrSGW
Bro H.B. Judkins	IG	Bro P Mulliner
Bro D. McAllison	Stewards	Bro L Litchfield PPrAGStdBr
Bro B.J. Wood		Bro M Quitua
		Bro D Greening
		Bro L Warren
		Bro C Fox
		Bro S Marshall
Bro O. Spence	Tyler	WBro R Beeby PProvGStwd