



WYP Monthly Newsletter

Staffordshire Freemasons Digital News



Issue 27



Light Blues Communication:
Page 7

Who will claim the Gavel next?

On Monday, February 24, 2025, Lodge of Honour 526 proudly received the Traveling Gavel from Dormston Lodge 7821. Our Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. John Lockley introduced this symbol of unity, fellowship, and friendly competition to strengthen the bonds of our fraternal order. The gavel's journey between Lodges serves as a testament to the enduring spirit of Freemasonry.

The ceremonial handover of the Traveling Gavel is always a moment of great significance. It fosters camaraderie, encourages Lodge visitations, and reinforces the principle that Freemasonry is a universal brotherhood. When Dormston Lodge passed the gavel to Lodge of Honour, they were welcomed with warm hospitality, sharing an evening enriched with ritual, education, and reflection on our shared Masonic values.

Worshipful Master Kevin A. Hall of Dormston Lodge graciously presented the gavel, highlighting its deeper meaning: "This gavel serves as a reminder that no Lodge stands alone. We are all part of a greater whole, bound by our commitment to brotherly love,



relief, and truth."

As tradition dictates, the receiving Lodge safeguards the gavel until another visiting Lodge arrives with a sufficient contingent to claim it. This custom encourages engagement, promotes visitation, and

strengthens the fraternal ties that unite us.

The evening concluded with a festive board, where toasts were raised in honour of the visiting Brethren and the timeless spirit of Freemasonry. Stories were shared, bonds were renewed, and new friendships formed, reaffirming that our Craft thrives through the dedication and fellowship of its members.



As the Traveling Gavel continues its journey, it is a tangible representation of our enduring brotherhood. May it inspire Lodges far and wide to seek light, unity, and the true essence of Freemasonry.

W.Bro. David J. Evans

Secretary Dormston Lodge 7821

Phoenix Lodge No. 9319

On Tuesday 27th May 2025, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master W. Bro. Jeremy F. Roberts accompanied by the Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies W. Bro. John Birchill, four Grand Officers, and seventeen other visitors attended Phoenix Lodge No: 9319 meeting at Wretham Road, Handsworth.



This being their Installation meeting, and the Lodge, which is already low in numbers, has been faced with several resignations, some owing to age, family and health issues. The Lodge is literally rising from the flames and is currently undergoing in its transition to a special interest Lodge which embraces

Filipino History and Culture.

In these circumstances only six current members of the Lodge were

present when the Lodge was due to be opened,

therefore some of the visitors were invited to occupy various vacant offices so that the Lodge could be quorate and be opened in due form.

The Lodge has been pleased to receive applications from two Grand Officers and six Filipino brethren, all light blues, who have been proposed and seconded, and all will be balloted as joining members at the next meeting on Tuesday 24th June 2025.



W. Bro. Kevin Pegg P.Prov.J.G.D.(Warks) was proclaimed as Worshipful Master of the Lodge in an excellent ceremony by W. Bro. Mark Rea P.Prov.G.Reg. (Warks). At a very convivial festive board twenty-nine brethren sat down to an enjoyable evening of laughter and fraternal fellowship.



Phoenix Lodge meetings will be of special interest to brethren who find attending a lodge in the winter months difficult owing to driving during the dark nights but also to those who wish to continue their Masonic activities during the summer months.

Brethren, you can be assured of a very warm welcome and a most enjoyable evening.

W.Bro Jim Cairns PPrSGW

Andresey Lodge 6408

The Provincial Grand Master RW. Bro John Lockley, accompanied by three Grand officers and several Provincial officers attended the February meeting of Andresey Lodge No 6408 who meet in Burton-on-Trent. This was to celebrate and to present W. Bro Peter W. Scragg with a certificate on completing exactly 50 years in freemasonry. Peter having joined Andresey Lodge on Tuesday 11th February 1975.

The PGM sat with W. Bro Peter in front of the assembled Lodge and discussed with Peter his life and career as a solicitor, congratulating him on his long service and dedication to Freemasonry.

The certificate was read and then presented to Peter by the PGM who then promoted him to PPrSGW much to the surprise and delight of not only Peter but all the brethren present.

Present to witness the presentation was Peter's son-in-law, Mark Pegg, holder of Senior London Grand Rank and Peter's grandson Charles Pegg a Master Mason.

The Province sends its congratulations and best wishes to Peter and wishes him many more happy years to enjoy his Freemasonry.



The Not Forgotten Association

Royal Garden Party

The Province is proud to be assisting the Not Forgotten Association (The Not Forgotten) in September by facilitating a Military Veterans Day as part of the Armed Forces Covenant.

Founded in 1920 by an American opera singer, The Not Forgotten (TNF) has a rich and fascinating 105-year history supporting its beneficiaries in the aftermath of two world wars and countless other conflicts.

TNF Founder wrote in 1937 "... as long as there are sufferers so long will The Not Forgotten be needed" and they are. The charity has gone from strength to strength throughout the decades, continuing to adapt to meet the changing needs of serving personnel and veterans living with injury and illness - embracing changes in society and digital technology and the increasing understanding of mental and moral injury.

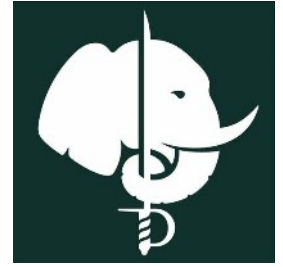
Despite the loss of their records in an air raid in 1941, the Charity is confident that around one million men and women have benefitted from their activities since 1920 - quite a legacy on which it continues to build and invest.

Across UGLE via the Armed Forces Covenant, Provinces are assisting in the delivery of the Military Veteran Days in a two-week period during September. Staffordshire has been selected to assist in the delivery of an event on 16th September for which planning is already at an advanced stage.

As a thankyou the Charity requested this year's Masonic representatives to attend their Royal Garden Party in the grounds of Buckingham Palace on Friday 16th May 2025 to join with many serving military and veterans, Freemasons, and supporters of the Charity. Over 1,000 guests attended in the glorious sunshine to be treated to the Irish Guards Band performing on the lawn, Matt Goss singing his new signature tune for the Charity ('Not Forgotten' by Matt

Goss), and a moving finale with a medley of songs by Russel Watson that moved many in the audience to tears.

Throughout the day, ambassadors of the Charity were on hand to be photographed with the guests, to chat and enjoy the glorious weather, in the presence of the Countess of Gloucestershire who hosted the event at the Palace.



From Staffordshire, W Bro Trevor Cowell, W Bro Robbie Cormie, W Bro Paul Molley and W Bro Tony Coates were delighted to be in attendance with their partners for a memorable day.

Brethren from across the Province who have a military background and wish to assist on 16th September should contact W Bro Reg Sargeant (reg.sargeant@hotmail.co.uk), the Armed Forces Covenant Lead for the Province.

W. Bro Paul Molley PAGDC

Provincial Superintendent of Works



W. Bro Bernard McCarthy - Bridge Trust Lodge No. 2878

On Wednesday 23rd April 1975 Bro Bernard McCarthy was initiated into Bridge Trust Lodge, he was subsequently passed and raised and so 50 years to the date, on Wednesday 23rd April 2025 the Lodge were pleased to welcome the Provincial Grand Master RW Bro. John Lockley and several other Provincial officers to their meeting, to join the celebration with Bro Bernard.

The PGM invited Bro Bernard to join him, and they sat in front of the Lodge members and guests, to discuss Bernard's family life and masonic history. Bro Bernard was born in Witton in 1944 in the shadow of Villa Park and as a youth he would sell space to supporters

wishing to leave their bicycles in the family front garden. Bernard managed to get into the ground at half time to watch the match for free and be back home before the fans returned, a business mind from a very young age.

Bernard later moved with his parents to Aldridge, he was accepted to attend Handsworth Grammar school but due to circumstances attended Great Barr Comprehensive. Bernard's father was an engineer, and he would repair and service his own cars, Bernard grew up helping him in his garage and thus his interest in engineering and classic cars began. Bernard is also a keen fly fisherman and has enjoyed fishing many rivers

particularly those in Scotland and Ireland. Bernard has been married to Mary for 56 years and they have a son Steven, both Bernard and Steven being involved in the family engineering business McCarthy Group Plc.

Bro Bernard became Worshipful Master of Bridge Trust lodge in 1984 and 2003 and for many years after he held the office of Lodge treasurer and mentor. Bro Bernard was promoted to the active rank of Provincial Grand Steward in 1990 and he was a founder member of Staffordshire Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge, he has held many Provincial ranks since this and was last promoted to PPrJGW in 2011. He was Exalted into St James Royal Arch Chapter in 1993 and was MEZ in 1990 and 2017.

The PGM congratulated Bro Bernard on his long service to Freemasonry and presented him with a certificate to commemorate this, and much to Bernard's surprise the PGM promoted him to PPrSGW. W. Bro Bernard thanked the PGM, and all the brethren present. A most enjoyable festive board followed.



The Light Blues Communication

The Pro Grand Master has emphasised the importance of involving all members of the fraternity to achieve the objectives set forth in the Strategy for Freemasonry 2022 and Beyond. In line with this goal, a historic gathering was authorised for the first time in Freemasonry's 307-year history, as Quarterly Communications have been held with the minimum qualification for attendance as being that of a Master Mason.

On Saturday 31st May 2025, an emergency meeting of Lodge Sine Nomine No 10000 was held at Freemasons' Hall, Gt Queen Street. The Lodge having been consecrated on Tuesday 22nd February 2022 at Freemasons' Hall by the Pro Grand Master, for promising younger Freemasons. It was duly granted 'unattached' status meaning it is administered directly by UGLE, a status shared with only five other Lodges in the country. The gathering represented a significant step towards engaging all levels of Freemasonry and ensuring that even those in the early stages of their Masonic journey are included in the fraternity's future.

Light Blues Clubs—groups for newer Freemasons—from around the country

had been invited to attend and submit presentations at the meeting showcasing how they are supporting the pillars of the Strategy. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master VW Bro David J. Thomas together with the Most





Staffordshire Light Blues

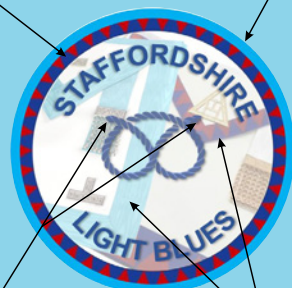


The rationale of the new logo having both Craft and Royal Arch aprons in the centre, indicates the progression from an Entered Apprentice to an Installed Master, making all under the Rank of Provincial Officer, a Light Blue

The Royal Arch Crimson and Blue pattern indicates the relationship between progression through Craft Masonry to Royal Arch.

The Light Blue Circle represents the start of the Light Blue Masonic journey and the Royal Arch Circle its completion.

This Masonic journey is represented by the circle which has no ending or beginning, indicating that the Royal Arch part of journey can be commenced anytime, from four weeks after Raising as a Master Mason



The Stafford Knot is strategically positioned; that the ends of the knot link the Craft Tassels to the Triple Tau.

All those below Provincial Rank in Craft and Royal Arch are Light Blues or equivalent, reminding us of the one journey approach to our Masonry.

The Craft and Royal Arch aprons encompass the theme of one organisation and one journey, with Companions now benefiting by being part of the Light Blues Group. A single entity.

The outer circle is light blue and encompasses the Royal Arch crimson and light blue of the Craft. Together they illustrate the "one organisation" ethos. The circle has no beginning and no end, portraying the everlasting and eternal relationship of Craft and Royal Arch Masonry.

www.facebook.com/groups/staffslightblues/?ref=share_group_link

Excellent Grand Superintendent E. Comp Michele Santopietro and 34 Brethren / Companions from the Staffordshire Light Blues Club were pleased to attend and represent the province. At the meeting held in the Grand Temple there were more than 1,000 Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts, Master Masons, and Past Masters, who have not yet received a Metropolitan, Provincial, or District rank.

The Lodge was opened with all the grandeur typically seen in a meeting of Grand Lodge, complete with ceremonial pageantry led by the Grand Director of Ceremonies. The active Grand Lodge Officers, along with Metropolitan, Provincial, and District Grand Masters, processed into the Grand Temple, with the Pro Grand Master taking the gavel. In addition to the presentation by the Light Blues, representatives of the Committee of General Purposes for the Royal Arch also addressed the meeting, reinforcing the message that Freemasonry is a unified journey, encompassing both Craft Freemasonry and the Royal Arch.

The Pro Grand Master emphasised the importance of Light Blues to the Constitution and outlining the support that will be provided by both Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Chapter in the future. Also, how this momentous Light Blues Communication underscores the fraternity's commitment to embracing all Freemasons, ensuring that Freemasonry remains a vibrant, inclusive, and forward-looking organisation for generations to come.

All of the Staffordshire Light Blue club really enjoyed the opportunity to experience this unique and memorable meeting in the Grand Temple with so many other 'Light Blues' from around the country and abroad.

Bro Harkesh Ram

Chairman Staffordshire Light Blues

St Giles Lodge No. 1587

The Worshipful Master of the Lodge W. Bro Geoffrey Slinn held a number of fund-raising functions during his year in office and raised over £1,000 for charity and it was decided that he wished to support Fulford and District Community Responders. At a recent Lodge meeting a cheque was presented Jane White, their Secretary and their Group Coordinator Allen Gilbert.



Izaak Walton Lodge No. 4281

Bro Andrew Collier together with Bro Colin Rowell were pleased to recently visit Oak Tree Farm Rural Project near Hilderstone, Stone, this was to present a cheque for £800 to the Project manager Wendy Robinson. Oak Tree Farm Rural Project is a charity that has a small holding which provides training and supported occupation for adults with learning difficulties



The Lodge have also been able to support other local charities and make further donations of £150 to Penk Moneywise, a Community Advice centre in Penkridge and Artemis Minds, a women's support group in Stafford.

W. Bro Ian
Whatmough,
Charity Steward.



Smith Child Lodge Celebrates 50 Yrs with W. Bro. David Sumberg

The January meeting of Smith Child Lodge No. 2064 was a celebration of 60 years in Freemasonry by W. Bro. David A. G. Sumberg and over a 100-year history of the Sumberg family's association with the Lodge.

David was initiated in January 1965 by his father W Bro Joshua Sumberg and there was 78 Past Masters, Officers and visitors present. He was installed as Master at the meeting in October 1974 by his father and there were 108 brethren present, which is a testament to the family's commitment to the Lodge.

David's father, W. Bro. Joshua Sumberg was initiated into the Lodge in February 1935 by his father, W. Bro. Coleman Sumberg, who duly installed him in the chair as Master in October 1944. David's grandfather had been initiated into the Lodge in 1914, and became the Master in 1923, also serving the Lodge for over 60 years.

At this time the Lodge were initially meeting at the Town Hall, Tunstall but the Ministry of War took over the building and in 1939 the Lodge moved to Burslem and then in February 1942 to Shelton.

The Assistant Provincial Grand Master W. Bro. John Derry was in attendance together with several Provincial officers to celebrate the event. The Lodge was called off to enable W Bro David's son, Jonathan to enter the Lodge to celebrate with him. The APGM W. Bro. John Derry spoke to W. Bro. David in detail about his time as a young solicitor and then as the



Conservative MP for Bury South for over 10 years. He also recalled his time as a Euro MP for 14 years before retiring from politics.

The APGM W Bro John Derry presented W. Bro. David with his 60-year certificate but commented that W. Bro. David was incorrectly dressed as the 60-year certificate stated that the rank was that of a PPr JGW and promoted W Bro David to that rank, to the surprise of W. Bro. David and the brethren of Smith Child Lodge who gave spontaneous applause and congratulated W Bro David on his promotion.



The celebrations continued at the Festive Board when the Brethren of Smith Child Lodge enjoyed the company of the APGM and W. Bro David and everyone commented on the warmth and good conversation that was had by all.

Grand Lodge honours for Staffordshire Masons

A great day at Grand Lodge on Wednesday 30th April, when around 1,700 brethren witnessed many members who received promotions and first appointments in Grand Lodge. Staffordshire received four honours.



The Grand Superintendent and Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Michele Santopietro was promoted to the active rank of Deputy Grand Sword Bearer, Assistant Provincial Grand Master Jeremy Roberts was promoted to Past Senior Grand Deacon, the Provincial Almoner Tony Coates received a first appointment as Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies and Chris Priestley, the Provincial webmaster and Provincial Grand Secretary, also received a first appointment as an Assistant Grand Standard Bearer.

The Province sends hearty congratulations to these worthy brethren.



Happy Birthday Phil Thompson - 100 Not Out

On Wednesday 21st May

Seagrim Lodge No. 8161 who meet at Newcastle had a very special meeting to celebrate their current Junior Warden W Bro Philip Gordon Thompson's 100th birthday.

The Assistant Provincial Grand Master Jeremy F. Roberts was in attendance to present Phil with a certificate to mark his long and devoted service to freemasonry and on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master, he promoted Phil to Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden.

Phil was initiated into Composite Lodge No 5727 (Warwickshire) on 16th December 1986 and some members of that Lodge were also present.

More gifts were bestowed on Phil at the Festive Board including a Birthday cake, and a bottle of his



special tippie Kraken black rum, which he says he partakes in a small dram before going to bed every night.

A birthday card signed by all present was also presented to him to go with the letter Phil has also received from His Majesty King Charles.

The Province sends its best wishes to Phil and congratulations on reaching this amazing milestone.

Exciting 2025 Golfing Season Ahead for The Staffordshire Masonic Golf Society

Calling all members of The Staffordshire Masonic Golf Society

and anyone who is interested in joining! Let's make the 2025 season our best yet by coming together for a fantastic lineup of events and competitions. Whether you're a seasoned pro or new to the game, your participation and enthusiasm are what make our society great. Join us on the greens and let's create unforgettable memories this season! Check out our new website at <https://staffordshiremasoniccgolfociety.mystrikingly.com> or get in touch by e-mail to paul_smgs@icloud.com



**Staffordshire Masonic
Golf Society**

The Staffordshire Masonic Golf Society is thrilled to announce its upcoming golfing season for 2025, promising a series of exciting competitions and matches across some of the finest golf courses in the region. Members and enthusiasts alike can look forward to a packed schedule filled with camaraderie, competition, and the love of the game.

Midland Region Competition

- Date: Wednesday, 30th July
- Venue: Ross On Wye Golf Club

Valon Cup & Denne Shield Competitions

- Date: Tuesday, 12th August
- Venue: The Manor Golf Club

Six Counties Competition

- Date: Thursday, 21st August
- Venue: Maxstoke Park Golf Club

Match vs Shropshire

- Date: Friday, 5th September
- Venue: Oswestry Golf Club

The PGM's Trophy

- Date: Wednesday, 17th September
- Venue: Branston Golf Club

Captains Day

- Date: Friday, 26th September
- Venue: Fulford Heath Golf Club



Walton Walker & Sandwell Lodge No. 3847

On Thursday 27th March 2025, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master W. Bro Jeremy F. Roberts PAGDC accompanied by the Assistant Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies W. Bro. K. L. Gibbons, together with eighteen visitors and twenty brethren of the Lodge attended Walton Walker & Sandwell Lodge No. 3847 meeting at Edward Street, West Bromwich.

This meeting was to celebrate with the Worshipful Master, W. Bro Derek Percival PPrJGW and to present him with a certificate to mark his long and devoted service to Freemasonry. The APGM took the time to have an informal discussion with Derek about



his his working life, family and Masonic career, the assembled brethren learnt more about our Worshipful Master than they did before. At the end of which, the APGM, much to the surprise of Derek and to the delight of the brethren present, promoted Derek to the rank of PPrSGW.

At the meeting the APGM also presented Grand Lodge certificates to Bro's John Gordon and Paul Felton. The evening continued and Bro Calum Staines was passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft. A very convivial festive board the brethren enjoyed each other's company and once again Bro Callum gave an assured delivery of the visitor's toast.

Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) Testing at Chase Golf Course

In support of the UGLE Strategy for 2022 and beyond, the Craft Province of Staffordshire organised a Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) testing event on the 12th of April 2025 at the Chase Golf and Country Club in Penkridge, Staffordshire. The choice of venue was important as it was very central within the Province, and it also had one of our Masonic Halls and a thriving Golf Club on site. The event was open to Freemasons and the Public and would enable the Province to promote and support the 3rd Pillar of the strategy which focuses on engaging with our communities.



Organised by the Provincial Membership Officer W.Bro Ralph Ritchey with the support of The Graham Fulford Charitable Trust there were initially 60 appointment slots made available. However, demand quickly outstripped the availability which was then increased to accommodate 100 appointments.



The Province had also taken the decision that the cost of £28 per test would be met by the Province irrespective of the end user being a Freemason or not.

The Chase Golf and Country Club were also very supportive and provided a room for the tests to be taken as well as an endless supply of tea, coffee, and biscuits for everyone that attended. The Province gratefully thanked the General Manager Matthew Southwell and his staff for their support.



What does a PSA test identify? A protein, produced by the prostate with elevated levels may indicate the presence of cancer. By taking a simple blood test the result can show those elevated levels. This in itself does not mean you have anything serious, or a cause for concern but early action can be taken if necessary. The earlier prostate cancer is caught, the more likely it is for a man to get successful treatment and remain disease-free. The overall prognosis for prostate cancer is among the best of all cancers.



The day went very well with two nurses and four volunteers ensuring that everybody was seen in a timely and efficient manner and the PGM R.W.Bro John Lockley dropped by to show his support and to thank the volunteers.

A raffle and a donation bucket were on hand which raised another £200 and was won by W.Bro Clive Andrews-Lewis and W.Bro David Watt took the 2nd prize.



The day was a total success with 97% of appointments being tested. The results from the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust have identified 10 individuals with abnormalities and a further 4 being told to seek medical advice as soon as possible it could be argued that what was delivered on the day has potentially saved 14 lives! An excellent result for the individuals concerned and the wider community in general

There are plans afoot to have another event in the future, but it is strongly recommended if you are experiencing problem in relation to your prostate then go and see your GP it could save your life!

Please don't delay or put it off!



St Martins Lodge – Installation and a Celebration of 50 years in Masonry

The meeting of St. Martins Lodge No. 98

Burslem on Thursday 16th January was to be a special evening in the history of the Lodge. Not only was W.Bro. Stan Malpass installed as Master of the Lodge but W.Bro. Alan Whitmore celebrated 50 years membership of Freemasonry and of St. Martins Lodge, 50 years to the day since this was initiated. This, probably a unique event, was possible because at the time of Alan's initiation the Lodge held its installation meeting in December, changing to January in 2010.

With a well filled temple, swelled by the attendance of members of North Staffordshire Round Table Lodge No. 8355 who had held a short business meeting earlier, the first event of the evening was conducted with W.Bro. Stan Malpass being installed into the Chair of King Solomon by W.Bro. Neil Russell, with the Inner Workings being opened and closed in the ancient form as practised by the Lodge. Light blues members of North Staffordshire Round

Table Lodge assisted in the ceremony by taking part in the perambulations and presenting the Working Tools in each degree.

After the appointment and investiture of the Officers the business proceeded to the most important event of the evening.

With the Deputy Provincial Grand Master V.W.Bro. David J.Thomas and W.Bro. Alan Whitmore placed in seats on the floor of the Lodge a discussion about Alan's life and masonic career took place. This opened with the Deputy Provincial Grand Master outlining events that took place in 1951, the year Alan was born. The discussion initially covered his personal life: he has been married to Denise for 48 years and they have two daughters Victoria and Elizabeth. One of his passions has been Competition Air Rifle Shooting – he was invited to compete as a member of the Staffordshire County Air Rifle Team in 2006, and was a member of the team winning the National League in three



consecutive years from 2010. Professionally he started work at Clyde Chappell Botham Solicitors in 1970 qualifying as a Solicitor in 1980. He continues to work there but now for 4 days a week.

Alan's masonic career started on the 16th January 1975 when he was initiated, the ceremony being performed by his father W.Bro. Richard S. Whitmore with his brother Brother Richard J. Whitmore acting as the Junior Deacon. The family connection with the lodge also includes Alan's Grandfather and Great Grandfather, all of whom have been Master of the Lodge, his Great Grandfather being Worshipful Master in 1888. Alan was installed as Worshipful Master in December 1987, three years after his brother. His first Provincial appointment was as a Past Provincial Junior Grand Deacon in 1993, followed by promotions to his current rank of Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden. He now wears the apron that was worn by his father and grandfather before him.

The Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies W.Bro. John Cameron then read the 50 Year Certificate, after which it was presented to Alan by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who congratulated him on attaining this milestone in his masonic career.

Alan thanked the Deputy Provincial Grand Master for attending to present his certificate, stating that he had had enjoyed his membership and also that there had been many memorable moments.

The Worshipful Master then presented to Alan a gift of a small set of working tools from the members of the lodge in recognition of his 50 years membership. Alan thanked the Worshipful Master and the lodge members for the gift, stating that it was greatly appreciated.

After the meeting had concluded the brethren retired to the Festive Board where everyone enjoyed good food and friendship, especially with the Lodge's 'noisy neighbours' (North Staffordshire Round

Table Lodge No. 8355).

In March Alan attended Ready Lodge No. 4008 to support his good friend W.Bro. Stan Evans who was receiving his 50 year certificate from the Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. John Lockley.

Whilst St. Martins Lodge No. 98 Burslem has a small membership those members are determined to keep the Lodge alive and add to the 220 years of its history.



Celebrating 50 Years in Freemasonry

Valentines Day, Friday 14th February 2025 was a special evening for W. Bro Michael Robert Powell PPrJGW a member of Bromwic Lodge No 6773 who meet at West Bromwich, as he was celebrating his 50th anniversary in Freemasonry.



The Provincial Grand Master R.W. Bro. John Lockley was in attendance, he thanked W. Bro Mike for his dedication and service to freemasonry before formally presenting him with a certificate to mark the event and promoting him to PPrSGW.

There followed a presentation by W. Bro. Jonathen 'Jonty' Powis, who gave the lodge a most interesting talk and shared his memories of being the Navigation Officer on the submarine HMS Conqueror during the Falkland War and the sinking of the Argentine General Belgrano.

A four-course festive board ended a most enjoyable evening.

Congratulation to Bromic Lodge organizing a great evening.

