



WYP Monthly Newsletter

Staffordshire Freemasons Digital News



Issue 17

Rent a Ruler - Marmion Lodge 1060 - Tamworth

On Wednesday 12th April 2023, Marmion Lodge 1060 had the pleasure of welcoming V.W. Bro. D.J. Thomas - the Deputy Provincial Grand Master to occupy an office for their April 2023 meeting and assist them with an Initiation Ceremony, as a result of the Lodge winning one of the 'Rent a Ruler' initiative prizes, in support of the 2024 Festival.

Not only did the Lodge receive the services of V.W.Bro. Thomas, he was also supported by The Provincial Grand Master - R.W.Bro. John Lockley, The Assistant Provincial Grand Master - W.Bro. Michele Santopietro, The Provincial Grand Secretary - W.Bro. Matthew Gibbons, a Provincial Senior Grand Deacon, a Provincial Grand Steward and the Provincial Visiting Officer for Marmion Lodge.

Marmion Lodge were naturally delighted to be one of the winners of this fantastic initiative and when V.W.Bro. Thomas was approached, he eagerly accepted the opportunity to occupy the office of Junior Warden for the meeting and also offered to deliver the Charge to the Initiate.

The 45 Brethren present were treated to an excellent Ceremony and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master's performance was nothing short of excellent and his delivery of the Charge to the

Initiate flawless.

For the initiate, this being his first real experience of Freemasonry, the occasion of having such a large number of Provincial Grand Lodge Officers present for a regular Lodge meeting would have naturally been lost on him, and only in the fullness of time will he realise what a remarkable occasion his Initiation Ceremony was.

As a thank you for assisting the Lodge with the ceremony, V.W.Bro. Thomas was presented with a pair of Marmion Lodge cuff links, which were produced to commemorate 150 years of Marmion Lodge.

The Rent a Ruler initiative was created to help boost the 2024 Festival funds, and Marmion Lodge were delighted to report that the Charity collection and the Raffle raised £541.00 towards that wonderful cause.



UGLE and Supreme Grand Chapter Investitures

The annual investitures of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter took place on the 26th and 27th April respectively. A very special occasion for the recipients and those who attended to support them.

Craft



This year, Staffordshire brethren received very high ranks. Our Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies was given the rare honour of being an Active Grand Director of Ceremonies. We wish him the very best year in office, and the opportunity to represent Grand Lodge on as many occasions as he can. He can be seen here with the others who have achieved that rank this year. He stands head and shoulders above them, in my opinion!

In addition, The Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch, VW Bro Robin A Stubbs was promoted to the high rank of Past Grand Sword Bearer, a rank that brings with it the style of Very Worshipful Brother. Congratulations Robin, a worthy recipient of this honour.

Finally, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W Bro John Derry received a promotion to the rank of Past Senior Grand Deacon. Again, a very worthy promotion.

Congratulations to all three from us all.



Royal Arch



In a similar manner, Supreme Grand Chapter honoured two Staffordshire brethren with appointment and promotion.

The Assistant Grand Master, Right Worshipful A Steven Varley who is a member of two Lodges and one Chapter in Staffordshire, was promoted to the rank of Past Third Grand Principal. Congratulations to you Sir.

In addition the 3rd Provincial Grand Principal, and the 2nd Provincial Grand Principal, E Comp Paul J Lockley was appointed Past Grand Standard Bearer.

Here are some photos of the occasion, as well as the traditional meal at Trattoria Verdi afterwards.



Earl Shrewsbury Chapter Celebrates and Remembers



The 222nd convocation of Earl Shrewsbury Chapter No.1520 saw E Comp Phil Sawyer Installed as MEZ by E Comp Bob Osbourne, in a well-attended and supported ceremony conducted in an excellent manner by E Comp Peter Hill. Staffordshire Craft APMG E Comp John Derry was Installed as H and Comp John Richards Installed as J. The Deputy Grand Superintendent E Comp Eddie Ford was in attendance.

A wonderful but emotional ceremony and Festive Board was enjoyed by all as the convocation was dedicated to the memory of E Comp Max King who passed to the Grand Chapter above just a year ago, and was due to Install E Comp Phil Sawyer whom he seconded into Freemasonry and mentored throughout.

Also, a moving eulogy to E Comp Mike Paull was delivered by E Comp John Richards who passed away Easter Sunday, a year to the day as E Comp Max King.

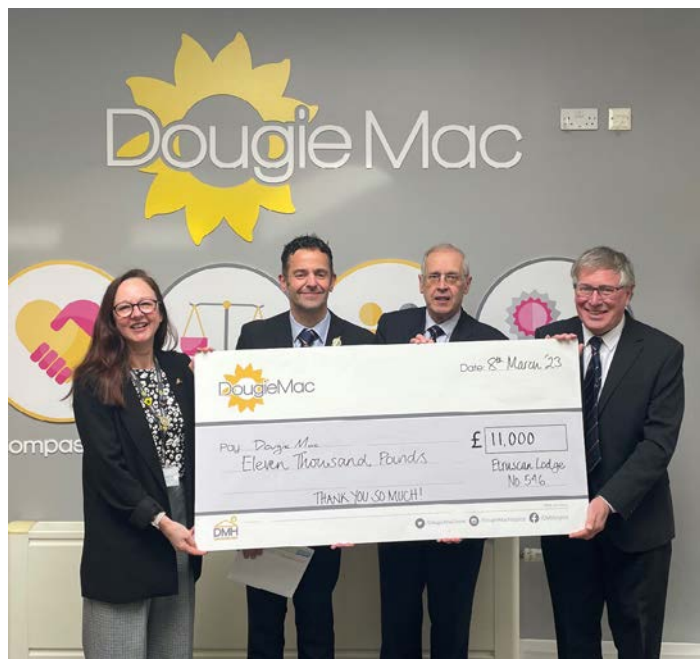
Looking forward, the Chapter is looking

busy with five candidates in the pipeline and an emergency meeting already booked for June will give the Principals and Officers plenty of work to do this year.



Donations by Etruscan Lodge

At the end of 2019, Etruscan Lodge was informed that it was to receive the sum of £50,000 from the estate of Mrs Iris Davis. The money was to be distributed to good causes chosen by the Lodge in memory of the late W.Bro. W H Timmis a former Lodge member.



After much discussion, the Lodge decided to spread out the donations over time, inviting individual Lodge members to nominate their choice of good cause. The last donation was made in March and the total amounts donated and the causes were:

- Douglas Macmillan Hospice
£11,000
- Katharine House Hospice
£11,000
- Prostate Cancer UK
£3000
- Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group
£8000
- Tracheo-Oesophageal Fistula Support
£2,000
- Dravet Syndrome UK
£3,500
- Alzheimer's Society
£3,500
- Greyhound Gap
£2,075

- Alice Charity
£2,500
- Staffordshire Sight Loss
£2,500
- Lodge Relief Chest
£600
- Hanley Masonic Club Development Fund
£400



Etruscan brethren are extremely pleased to have been in the position to make these donations.

Greyhound Gap
Lisa Cartwright · 15 h · 🌐

A huge thank you so very much to David from Etruscan Lodge Freemasons who visited us today alongside his wife Margaret. We are absolutely overwhelmed by their generosity and a cheque presented to us here at Greyhound Gap for £1075. Here we are with Millie saying thank you so much



Whittington St Giles Lodge No. 8826 celebrates with W. Bro. J. M. Snowdon

On Thursday 23rd March 2023 the brethren of the Lodge were pleased to receive the Provincial Grand Master R. W. Bro John Lockley who was accompanied by W. Bro. Turner-Farmer the Prov.A.G.D.C. to celebrate with W. Bro. James Muirhead Snowdon his 60 years in Freemasonry.

At the meeting the Provincial Grand Master invited W. Bro Snowdon, known to all at the Lodge as "Jim" to join him and asked two chairs to be placed on the square for them to discuss his Masonic career. Jim was initiated into Freemasonry on Wednesday 6th February 1963 when he was proposed into the Lodge of Good Counsel in Sale, Manchester, which was founded by Barristers, hence the name. Jim joined the Lodge following advice from his Vicar, the Rev Joseph Lowry, who happened to be a Grand Chaplain and who believed he would enjoy it. He was right.

Despite having contracted Polio at the tender age of three, the disability has never stopped him from achieving what he wanted to do. Jim progressed through the offices of the Lodge and in 1970 became Worshipful Master, but in 1973 Jim moved from Manchester to Sutton Coldfield. However, he continued to commute back to Sale for each Lodge meeting for several years. In 1980 Jim wanted to enjoy his Freemasonry closer to home and so joined Whittington St Giles Lodge where he became Worshipful Master in 2003. He continued to be active within the Lodge as Secretary for several years and then as Chaplain.

The newer and younger brethren of the Lodge may not know that Jim, who was born in Middleton, Manchester and was evacuated to Sabden in Lancashire during the war years. At the end of the war, he returned to Manchester and continued his



education at Manchester Grammar School and then at Manchester University where he graduated in Economics and Russian. Jim has a keen interest in languages and surprisingly was taught Russian by an ex-KGB officer. He is also fluent in Spanish and French.

Jim's education in Economics initially led to a career lecturing in Statistics and he wrote a book on the subject, which was published in 1969. He later became a self-employed Chartered Secretary but has also been the Head of Personnel at Aston University during his long and varied career path.

Jim's love of Russia started in 1959 when he started charity work and helped at a soup kitchen in Moscow and with a 'Big Issue' type newspaper and in 1965 Jim was presented with The Order of Peace for his charity works in Russia. In 1990 he established a Children's Home for orphans which has now been developed and rebuilt and it is still functioning today.

He was also a Lay Preacher of the Church of England and holds a Diploma in Theology and a long service award. Jim and his wife were blessed with four children.

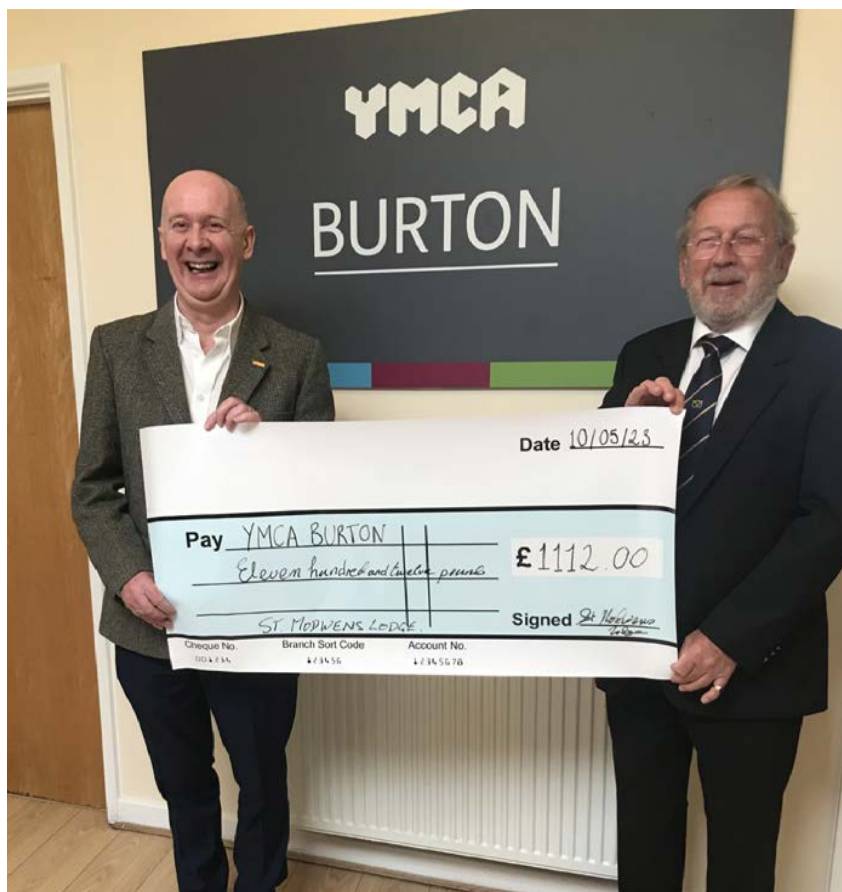
Bro. Jim who had been promoted to P.Pr.S.G.D in 2009 and P.Pr.J.G.W in 2013 was promoted that evening by the P.G.M. to P.Pr.S.G.W. with immediate effect and presented with his certificate.

W. Bro. Geoff Cooper P.Pr.S.G.D. (Churchgate lodge No. 7276, Herts) provided a personal tribute to Jim and his many achievements, both as a mason and also as his Father-in-Law. All the Brethren gave a warm round of applause to acknowledge and celebrate Jim's achievements, a most enjoyable evening was had by all.

St Modwen's Lodge No: 4850

W. Bro Ian McGlynn the Worshipful Master of St Modwen's Lodge who meet at Burton upon Trent recently celebrated a Ladies evening with his wife Sue and many guests.

They raised a substantial amount of money and Ian was pleased to be able to present a cheque for £1112.00 to Mr Paul Laffey (CEO YMCA) who thanked Ian and the Lodge, commenting "This donation allows the YMCA to support a lot of lives, and it's most welcome during one of the most challenging times in history".



European Masonic Association

The E.M.A. spring meeting and A.G.M. was held in Stirling, Scotland on Thursday 18th to Sunday 21st May 2023 and members from across Europe together with wives and partners arrived at the prestigious Stirling Highland Hotel on Thursday for registration.

On Thursday evening, whilst the Ladies enjoyed a sumptuous evening meal followed by entertainment, the Brethren attended a Third Degree Ceremony at Lodge Stirling Royal Arch No.76, and a superb evening was had with around 100 masons present. W. Bro. John Sharratt presented the Lodge with a donation of £300.00 as is the usual custom of the E.M.A.



The A.G.M. took place the following morning with some 34 Brethren present and the Cup of Friendship was raised, a eulogy was given to departed Brethren and Absent Brethren were remembered.

Apologies were confirmed along with the minutes of the previous meeting which was held in Breda, Netherlands on Saturday 8th October 2022. The Treasurer gave his report after which the Officers for the forthcoming year were elected.

New members were then ratified, and a discussion was held regarding future venues, these normally include a visit in the Spring in the UK and a visit in Europe in the Autumn. A vote of thanks was given to the organisers of

this event and the A.G.M. was closed.

Later that evening there was a superb Gala Dinner followed by dancing and entertainment, a most enjoyable evening was had by all. After

breakfast on Saturday morning there was a trip to Loch Lomond with a visit to Balloch Village.

In the evening after there was another superb meal and the members were once again entertained in the hotel. Sadly, after breakfast on Sunday morning goodbyes were said and all departed for home.



John Royden Clarke 50th Certificate

On Wednesday 10th May 2023, at the May regular meeting of Marmion Lodge No. 1060, W. Bro. John Royden Clarke celebrated 50 years in Freemasonry. The meeting was attended by 25 members and visitors, including a delegation from Marmion Chapter No. 1060.

V. W. Bro. D. J. Thomas the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, PGSwdB presided on the evening on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master, and he was ably assisted by W. Bro. N. Collumbell the Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.

W. Bro. Roy (as he is known to everyone) was initiated into Marmion Lodge in May 1973, passed in November 1973 and raised in February 1974. He quickly progressed through the lodge and served as Worshipful Master in 1983.

Roy remains a very active member of the Lodge, often gladly jumping in to cover absentees at very short notice, and despite his modesty his ritual is still of the highest standard. He was appointed P.Pr.S.G.D in 1989, P.Pr.G.Registrar in 2000, and promoted again to P.Pr.J.G.W. in 2012.

Roy is also a member of many other orders including Marmion Chapter No. 1060, St. Editha's Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 1426 and St. Editha's Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No. 1426 (holding Grand Rank in both) also St. Chads Rose Croix No. 233.

Following the usual May business meeting V.W. Bro. Thomas invited W. Bro. Clarke to join him on the Lodge floor and he conducted an interesting informal discussion with Roy about his life and Masonic career.

Roy openly chatted in his usual warm and charming way about his family, his work life in farming and his Masonic career and achievements. He also corrected his date of birth as recorded! Following the meeting this error was explored and the Lodge concluded that it is far easier for Roy to get his birth certificate amended than attempt to alter Masonic records!

V. W. Bro. Thomas congratulated Roy on his amazing achievement of 50 years in Freemasonry, Roy thanked him and the Lodge for their support. W. Bro. Collumbell read the salutation on the certificate marking his 50 years in Freemasonry and V. W. Bro. Thomas duly presented the certificate.

However, the D.P.G.M. drew W. Bro. Clarke's attention to the Provincial rank recorded on it and announced that he had the great pleasure in promoting Roy on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master to the rank of Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden. The Worshipful Master W. Bro. R. S. Scott P.Pr.S.G.W. later announced that the Lodge would have great pleasure in acquiring and presenting Roy with a new apron badge and jewel.



A £38,000 Donation to the Wolves Foundation.

Wolves Foundation, the official charity of Wolverhampton Wanderers FC, has launched a new project aimed at supporting over 100 older people in Wolverhampton who are experiencing loneliness and social isolation, thanks to a grant of £38,000 through the Masonic Charitable Foundation.



The 'Golden Wolves' project will provide support for men and women aged 60 and over who are experiencing or at risk of loneliness and social isolation due to various factors such as transport, finances, living / housing situations, loss of friends / family, and



anxiety.

Rachel Smith, Health and Wellbeing Manager at the Wolves Foundation said: "We're extremely grateful for the full funding provided by Staffordshire Freemasons. Their grant will enable us to reach even more older people in need of support and companionship. We're proud to be working with them to make a positive impact in our



community."

On Friday 12th May the Provincial Grand Master R.W. Bro. John Lockley, John Skellern, the Provincial Grand Charity Steward, and Selwyn Burton the Communications Officer visited the Molineux Stadium, home of Wolverhampton Wanderers to visit and see the group having fun in a quiz.

The PGM said: "I'm very pleased to be able to help the Wolves Foundation and support the excellent work they are doing in our community. The 'Golden Wolves' project is an important initiative that will provide much-needed companionship and support to older adults who may be experiencing loneliness and isolation. I'm proud to be able to contribute to such a worthy cause."



Barr Beacon Lodge No. 6109 visit to Trearddur Lodge No. 6110.

On Wednesday 12th April 2023, five members of Barr Beacon Lodge No. 6109 made a second visit to their “numerical” neighbour Lodge, Trearddur Lodge No. 6110.

Barr Beacon Lodge meet at the Compass Suites in Aldridge and Trearddur Lodge meet in Holyhead on the Isle of Anglesey and operate under the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales.

Barr Beacon WM. W.Bro. Mark Fullwood, and W. Bro's Chris Hill, Jock Planck, John Hession, Gerry Magee made the long journey to Anglesey to attend a third degree ceremony at the Lodge rooms in Holyhead.



Also attending the same meeting were visitors from St. Elbod Lodge No. 6111 making it three consecutive numerical neighbours meeting on the same evening. All three Lodges were consecrated in the year 1945, 78 years in existence and all still going strong. Masonry thriving and great to see.

It is hoped that this association will continue to grow and demonstrates the strength of our Masonic fellowship.

The connection between Trearddur and Barr Beacon has developed over the last year since WM Mark Fullwood made the initial contact between the two Lodges and has since resulted in visits to Barr Beacon by Trearddur members in this Masonic year.



Trearddur Lodge No. 6110



Consecrated 4th September 1945

Worshipful Master **Bro Colin Hardie**

23rd March 2023

Dear Sir And Brother,

By command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of the Lodge at the Masonic Hall, Holyhead on **Wednesday 12th April 2023 at 6.00pm for 6.30pm.**

Your faithfully and fraternally
W.Bro Brian Sion Jones Secretary

It

Masonry Universal

On the 1st of September 2022, I set out on a trip of a lifetime to Australia.

I flew to Perth, Melbourne, and Adelaide, where he stayed for 2 nights before catching the 'Ghan' railway train from Adelaide to Darwin, 2,797km (1,846 miles), 3 days and 2 nights.

The first stop was Maguire to watch the sunrise at 05:30, with bacon and egg baps tea & coffee. Then on to Alice Springs for a 4km walk in the outback and then to Simpsons Gap. Incidentally, in Alice Springs there is the riverbed of the oldest river in the world, some 4,000,000 years old. The next stop was Katherine where I embarked on a trip down the river, through a gorge, and saw saltwater and freshwater crocodiles.

On to Darwin and the terminus for the train. The temp was 37c with 60% humidity!

Two nights in Darwin then on to Sydney on a three-hour flight to stay with my relatives for three weeks. Whilst I was in Sydney, I met up with some Masonic contacts kindly introduced by W.Bro. Peter Hill, Earl Shrewsbury Lodge. I was invited to attend a meeting, but no ordinary meeting, it was the Proclamation of the Grand Master of New South Wales's second term of office, he is the equivalent of our Grand Master.



I was picked up at 15:00hrs and after tea and coffee and before the meeting started, I was introduced to the Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Lesley Norman Hicks. I was mentioned in dispatches in his speech where he

welcomed me and informed me that I had won the prize for the furthest travelled attendee, 12,000 miles takes some beating he said.

Masonry in Australia is traditionally Scottish Rite and a privilege to see. I was treated with all due respect and humility; I was not allowed to pay for anything.

During the festive board, I learnt that one of the Brethren had flown down to Sydney from Brisbane in his aircraft to be at the meeting. I was also invited to a family day out at Broken Hill, 800km and 12hrs driving from Sydney, which I graciously declined.

I was chauffeured home and arrived back at 01:00hrs, with many memories of a wonderful night.

I continued with an excursion into Sydney by train and saw some of the famous sites. I also travelled on the River Cat which winds its way down the estuary from Paramatta to Circle Key in the city.

I was taken to Penrith for the day with lunch included by a couple that I met on the train. They are hospitable and friendly people.

The highlight of my trip though had to be the Sydney Harbour Bridge walk. Complete with windproof overalls, a complementary hat, and a safety harness I traversed the Bridge to its apex 4,040ft above the water. The views are breath taking and after a 4hr excursion, I proceeded to the nearest bar for a schooner or two of VB (Victoria Bitter).

It was indeed a spectacular trip, one that I'll never forget, and feel blessed that I was able to do it.

W. Bro David J. Evans
Dormston Lodge No. 7821

Bro. John C. M. Chambers - 55 years in Freemasonry

On Thursday 27th April 2023 at the regular meeting of Walton Walker and Sandwell 3847 the Provincial Grand Master RW Bro. John Lockley was pleased to present Bro John CM Chambers with a certificate and to promote him to the rank of PPrSGW after he had completed 55 years in Masonry on the 19 April 2023.



John Claudius M. Chambers was a Lewis to his father, Percy Chambers, himself a Lewis, in Lewisham Lodge No. 2582. He was initiated on 19th April 1968, and was raised on 12th November 1968.

John is an electrical engineer by trade and worked for Crabtree in Walsall for many years as well as lecturing on Engineering at the

local college. He served his National Service with the Army in Germany as part of a REME unit attached to the Tank Regiment. He is a widower having sadly lost his wife Margaret in 2015 and has a married son and a daughter. They are members of Wesley Methodist Church West Bromwich and are regular attendees.

John found that ritual did not come easy but persevered to complete the Junior Warden chair of Lewisham Lodge No 2582. He did not progress to the Chair of King Solomon.

After his father died John asked his friend WBro. Derek H. Percival if he would propose him as a joining member of Sandwell Lodge No. 4673 which was fulfilled on the 19th December 1989.

He served Sandwell Lodge as the Lodge Secretary for some twenty years, for which he received Provincial honours of P Pr JGD as a Brother. On the amalgamation of Sandwell Lodge with Walton Walker Lodge No. 3847 on the 10th June

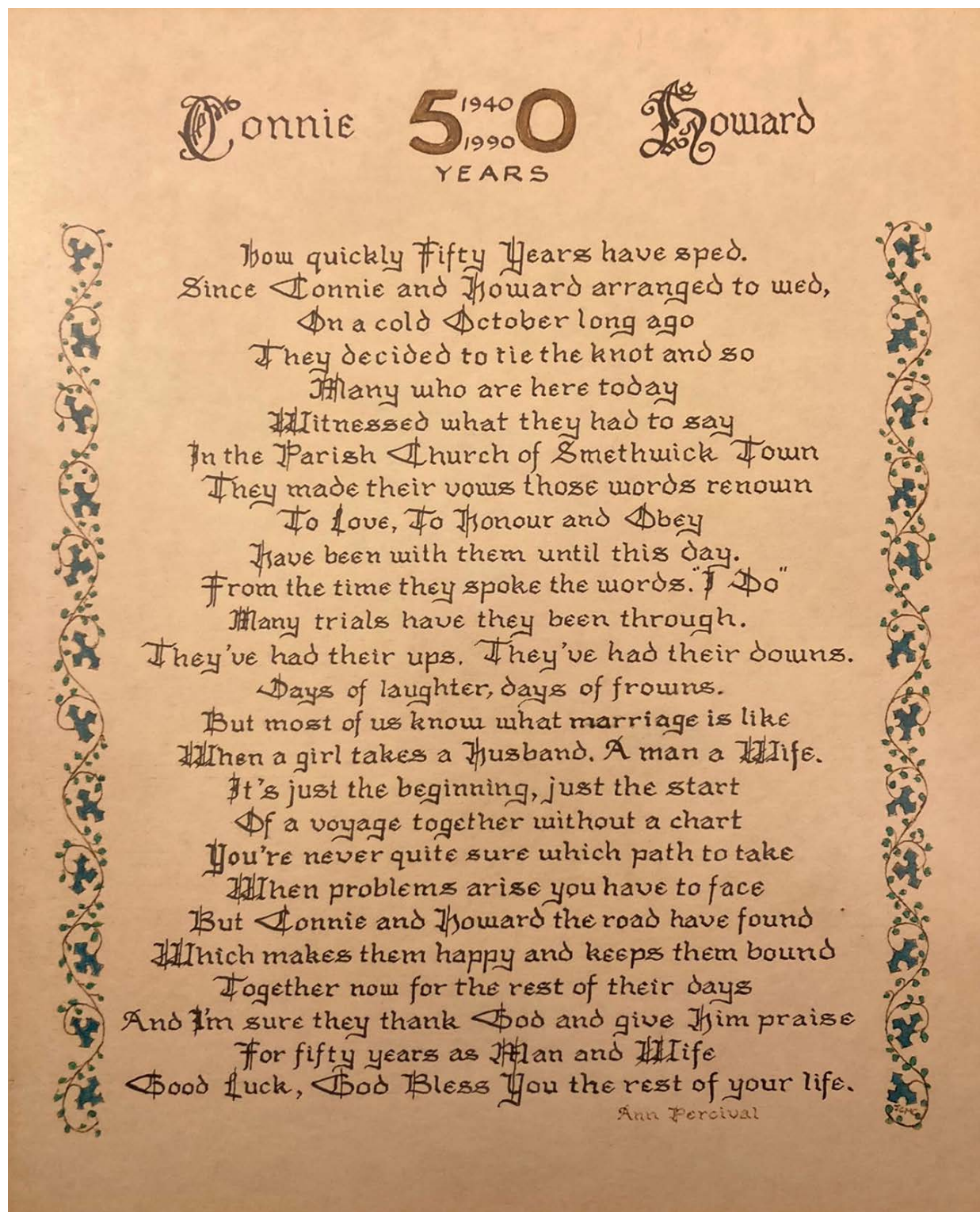


2009 John again took the office of Junior Warden and is currently an honorary member of Walton Walker & Sandwell Lodge No. 3847.

John is a man of many skills and talents. He is a skilled silversmith and also skilled in wood and metalwork. He made a beautiful lectern for his local church and a set of miniature working tools in silver to be given to his friend W Bro Derek H Percival when he was in the chair of Sandwell Lodge No 4673 in 1988. Another of John's skills is Calligraphy

which he used for Table Plans and also for presentations. Ann Percival wrote a poem to celebrate the golden wedding of Derek's parents which John then prepared and framed it ready for presentation.

John is a true mason who will help whenever he can more often than not having given great thought to a problem and offering a solution before being asked for his help, always given with love.



Minerva Lodge No. 1942 Celebrate with W. Bro. N. C. Joughin PJGD

The Lodge room at Hanley Masonic Centre,

Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent was nearly full to capacity on Tuesday 7th March 2023 at the regular meeting of Minerva Lodge. There were present 13 officers of the Lodge, 3 members and 39 visitors !

The Lodge were pleased to receive not only the Provincial Grand Master R. W. Bro. John Lockley, but also P.PrGM R. W. Bro. A.I. Stewart, and both the Asst.ProvGM's W. Bro. J. Derry PSGD and W. Bro. M Santopietro PSGD, a member of the lodge.

There were many officers of Grand Lodge from within the Province also in attendance and many active Provincial officers including the Prov.JGW W. Bro. R. Sergeant.



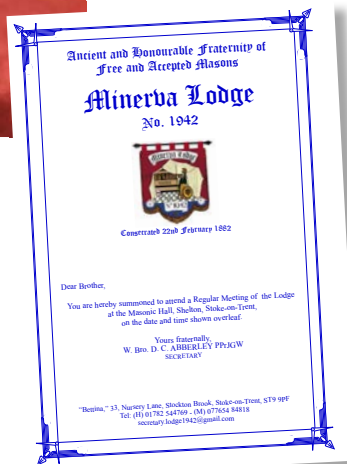
But also present, were a significant number of brethren from the Holy Royal Arch, led by VW.Bro. R. Stubbs PGSwdB the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, V.W. Bro. D. Hampson PGSwdB and V.W. Bro. J.A.E. Winter PGSwdB both Past Grand Superintendents, and W. Bro. E. A. Ford OSM PJGD Dep.Grand Superintendent.

The highlight of the meeting and reason for the attendance of so many brethren was to celebrate with W. Bro. Norman Joughin his 50 years in Freemasonry and present him with a certificate in recognition of this. So, after the salutations and approval of the Lodge minutes from the last regular meeting, the PGM requested two chairs be placed on the square and invited "Uncle Norman" to join him, there followed a most interesting discussion about his Masonic journey, his life and hobbies.

Bro Norman was initiated into Minerva Lodge on Tuesday 6th March 1973, having moved to Stoke-on-Trent to take up a career in teaching, where he remained so employed, in various capacities for the duration of his working life. He has passionate love of sport, particularly Rugby Union and began his career as 'Games Master'. It was whilst learning his profession that he met Pat, who was at the time was also training to become a teacher, and who shared his love of sport. Bro Norman and Pat married, raised a family of two boys and are now proud grandparents.

Bro. Norman, who is well known and respected around the Province has held many high offices in the Craft, but particularly in the Holy Royal Arch where he held the office of Deputy Grand Superintendent. At the conclusion, the certificate was read and before presenting it, the PGM thanked Bro. Norman for not only the tremendous amount of effort and work that he had practised in

freemasonry, but also for being a good friend and leading example to others. Bro. Norman thanked the PGM, all the brethren present and those who had sent their congratulations and best wishes. At the conclusion of the meeting the brethren retired for a most enjoyable festive board.



Streetly Lodge 7448 celebrate with W. Bro. John 'Brian' Roberts (D.D.J. Ret) P.Pr.S.G.W. his 50 years in Freemasonry.

Streetly Lodge were pleased to receive the Provincial Grand Master R.W. Bro John Lockley at their February meeting to celebrate with W. Bro. John Brian Roberts, known to all as Brian, his 50 years in Freemasonry. The meeting was well attended by family, including his younger Brother Peter and son Jeremy the PrGDC.

The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of a certificate to Brian by the ProvGM which was made after the ProvGM requested two chairs were placed on the

square, he then conducted a very interesting 'This is your life' style interview which was well received by all the Brethren present.

The younger and even some of the older members learnt interesting facts about Brian and his family they did not know. Brian's mother Marion was a concert pianist and his father Francis, who was awarded the OBE, was the local GP in Walsall Wood. So, perhaps you could understand why they were a little disappointed when he failed his 11+ exam and was asked to leave Lichfield

Grammar school. But things didn't end badly, and he completed his studies obtaining O levels, then A levels at Wednesbury College before going on to study Law at London University.

Brian's career in Law started in Walsall where he became an Articled Clerk and after 6 years hard work, he qualified as a solicitor in 1963. Brian moved to Birmingham in 1966 and joined Cartwright & Lewis where he practised Criminal and Matrimonial Law. He met and married Rosemary, a Nurse in 1966 and they went on to have three sons. After winning a case in the firm's first murder trial in 1971, Brian was offered partnership in the firm, and he began to specialise in high profile ground-breaking cases in the field of Industrial disease. In 1983 he became a



Deputy District Judge and eventually retired in 1993 to spend more time gardening.

Brian was initiated into Streetly Lodge by his father Dr. Francis Reginal Roberts and quickly progressed through the offices and became Worshipful Master in 1987 and then again in 2004. He introduced both his brothers Peter and Phillip and then later, youngest son Jeremy into the Lodge. Brian commented how he was inspired by many Past Masters of the Lodge, such as The Rt Rev. Bro. Vernon Nichols PProvGM (Warks), W. Bro. Leon Jessel MBE JP PGStB, W. Bro. Richard Vann PPrSGW and W. Bro. Burt Ball MBE to name but a few.

Brian, who is currently Chaplain of the Lodge, served for several years as Director of Ceremonies, but he was also active in other Orders including Holy Royal Arch,

Rose Croix, Royal Order of Scotland, and Knights Templar. He also served as Chairman of the Walsall Masonic Company and was instrumental in many aspects of the development of the Masonic Hall at Aldridge.

The conversation with the ProvGM was most interesting and amusing with Brian giving little anecdotes of his life and cases he had dealt with. At the conclusion the certificate was read and then presented to him. Brian thanked the ProvGM and all present for making the evening special. This brought about an instantaneous round of applause by all present. After the meeting the brethren retired to a festive board, where a lively and enjoyable time was had by all.



**‘ Is it
your Lodge’s
end of season**

**. . . . starting to feel a little lost -
missing your Freemasonry?’**

Here’s the answer - join us at:

Phoenix Lodge No. 9319

**Staffordshire’s Premier Summer Lodge, meeting
at the Handsworth Masonic Centre in Birmingham
Programme for the Summer Season:**

23rd May 2023 Installation

An ideal event for newly-appointed Provincial Officers to have their first visit

27th June 2023

Our current Fellowcraft’s Third or a Second/Third Degree Ceremony
for another Lodge (*details of which are to be finalised*)

25th July 2023

Our current Fellowcraft’s Third or a Second/Third Degree Ceremony
for another Lodge (*details of which are to be finalised*)

26th September 2023

Ladies & Guests to Dine

**For booking or further information, contact The Lodge Secretary at:
jim@jamescairns.f9.co.uk**

Clarendon Lodge No: 8023

The Provincial Grand Master, R. W. Bro John Lockley attended Clarendon Lodge No: 8023 who meet at Wednesbury on Wednesday 1st March 2023 for the presentation of a 50-year Certificate to W Bro Nick Emerton-Court, who had been



Initiated into freemasonry in Devon on Tuesday 20th February 1973. There were present many members of the Lodge and guests from Provinces far and wide, including Northumberland, Derbyshire, Yorkshire WR, Shropshire, Nottinghamshire and Gloucestershire. All were entertained with a fascinating masonic and life story of Nick - in both England and Italy.

The Provincial Grand Master was pleased to promote W Bro Nick to P.Pr.J.G.W. and he was also able to present a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro Karl Hamilton.



A double celebration at Tibbington Lodge No 4927

A double celebration at Tibbington Lodge No 4927 meeting in West Bromwich. On 6 February the RW Provincial Grand Master attended and presented a certificate celebrating 60 years in Masonry to W.Bro Tony Usherwood and a certificate celebrating 50 years in Masonry to W. Bro Jim Wilson.

W.Bro. Jim Wilson was also given a field promotion by the RW Provincial Grand Master to the rank of PPrSGW.

A wonderful occasion enjoyed by all present.





INTER-PROVINCIAL CRICKET FESTIVAL



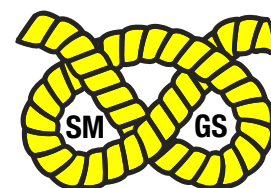
£25 PER PERSON FOR THE DAY

PLEASE CONTACT PAUL HARVEY, ST MICHAEL'S LODGE, STONE FOR MORE DETAILS
ON 07850 596509 OR PAHARVEY69@GMAIL.COM

MONIES RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS THE MASONIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



Staffordshire Masonic Golf Society Spring & Wardens Trophies



The start of the golfing season for the Staffordshire Masonic Golf Society began with a tee-rific day at Penn Golf Club in Wolverhampton. Situated in a beautiful countryside valley, Penn Golf Club is a high quality heathland golf course set in the picturesque surroundings of Penn Common. This charming venue hosted an Individual Stableford competition for the Spring Trophy, with the same scores being used for the Provincial Wardens Team Trophy.

On this occasion Richard Archer and Mark Sewell our Provincial Wardens Designate, one week before the PGL AGM, joined us for the meal after the golf.

The weather played its part, with a glorious afternoon of early May sunshine, although the



course was a little wet underfoot, and the view to the Clee Hills in the distance was magnificent.

Brian Cockersole emerged victorious and took first place, whilst Mark Ashton and Sandy Stewart claimed second and third positions respectively.

The festive board was followed by a presentation of

awards for the winners and the highly coveted Wardens Trophy was presented by our Past PGM Sandy Stewart to this year's winning team captain, Richard Archer.

We are always on the lookout for new members of this friendly golf society, so any and all golfing brethren should contact Mark Ashton using the e-mail address on the next page.



In My Hand I Hold A Ball,
White And Dimpled, And Rather Small,
Oh, How Bland It Does Appear,
This Harmless Looking Little Sphere.

By Its Size I Could Not Guess
The Awesome Strength It Does Possess,
But Since I Fell Beneath Its Spell,
I've Wandered Through The Fires Of Hell.

My Life Has Not Been Quite The Same
Since I Chose To Play This Stupid Game.
It Rules My Mind For Hours On End;
A Fortune It Has Made Me Spend.

It Has Made Me Curse And Made Me Cry,
And Hate Myself And Want To Die.
It Promises Me A Thing Called Par,
If I Hit It Straight And Far.

To Master Such A Tiny Ball,
Should Not Be Very Hard At All.
But My Desires The Ball Refuses,
And Does Exactly As It Chooses.

It Hooks And Slices, Dribbles And Dies,
And Disappears Before My Eyes.
Often It Will Have A Whim,
To Hit A Tree Or Take A Swim.

With Miles Of Grass On Which To Land
It Finds A Tiny Patch Of Sand.
Then Has Me Offering Up My Soul,
If Only It Would Find A Hole.

It's Made Me Whimper Like A Pup,
And Swear That I Will Give It Up.
And Take To Drink To Ease My Sorrow,
But The Ball Knows... I'll Be Back Tomorrow.

New members, of all golfing abilities, are given a warm welcome and encouraged to contact Mark Ashton using msg.ashton@gmail.com to find out more.

SMGS fixtures for the 2023 season

Event	Date	Venue
Spring Comp & Prov. Wardens	Thursday 11th May	Penn GC
Warwickshire & Worcestershire	Tuesday 6th June	Bromsgrove GC
Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire	Tuesday 27th June	Drayton Park GC
Midland Region	Tuesday 25th July	Morley Hayes GC
Six Counties	Tuesday 15th August	Ruddington Grange GC
Valon Cup & Denne Shield	Thursday 24th August	The Manor GC
Shropshire	Friday 8th September	Bridgnorth GC
PGM's Trophy	Thursday 21st September	Wolstanton GC