



# FORUM

The Suffolk Freemasons Newsletter

August 2005

## *Well done sir!*

### **The PGM'S First Annual Meeting**

At Holbrook on the 3rd June the Provincial Grand Master RWBro Barry Ross presided over his first Annual meeting, which was a resounding success. Many letters of congratulations have been received: these included praise for the meeting, compliments on the food, appreciation of the fine weather but they all mentioned the wonderful setting and the views over the river.

In his address to the Brethren the PGM said that we are making positive progress in terms of numbers of new recruits but he said that we needed to look far more closely at our ability to retain existing members.

"There is little point in having a positive recruitment flow if this is then undermined by retention difficulties" He went on to say that he had formed a small team to review the whole field of retention, based on our experiences in Suffolk and also measures that have been taken in other Provinces. "By this approach I am sure we will gain some positive pointers which I hope to be able to share with you early in the next masonic year" he said.

He reported that steady progress has been achieved as we move towards our NMSF Festival in 2009, and commented how encouraging it was to see so many members wearing the Festival jewel. On welcoming the President and Chairman of the Board of Management of the NMSF, WBro Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards he said that it was his first visit to Suffolk and we were honoured to have his company.

The PGM expressed his special thanks to the outgoing Wardens who had attended over 55 Lodges in the Province, on official visits. He also thanked the Group representatives who had decided to retire this year.

WBros Peter Whiley, Mike Alderton, Roy Whale, Andy Green and Mike Leighton.

A special date was announced for a Provincial Evensong service at Bury Cathedral, on Thursday 6th April 2006. The PGM said "WBro George Pipe is well advanced in the arrangements and has booked the well known cleric, the Very Reverend Keith Jones, Dean of York to be our Preacher on that day" The service will be available to all masons, wives, partners family and friends.

All the lodges in the Province were represented at the meeting which concluded in the traditional way with the Brethren singing 'Jerusalem'





# Teddy Appeal Going Strong



Photos at West Suffolk Hospital (from right to left):-  
Dr. Chris Day, Nurse Julia Saberi, Sister Denise Naughton, Nurse Louise Bland.

Our Teddy Bear appeal has been boosted by an additional £250 raised by the sale of lapel badges at the Provincial meeting held at Holbrook. "WBros Mac Speake and Anthony Lister were well supported by the Brethren" Information Officer WBro Trevor White reports. "Our fundraising to date has reached £5960, a very worthy amount which will enable us to keep our support going" he said. "The response to our appeal has been fantastic and we shall continue to look for further funding in the months ahead"

WBro Dr Mac Speake recently had to visit West Suffolk Hospital with his Grand daughter, who had hurt her arm, and she was delighted with her cuddly Teddy.



Photos of Katie Speake in a pink plaster and pink Teddy with her father Dr. Bill Speake and her brother Master Jack Speake

# Stowmarket 1st Responder Scheme Launch



Stowmarket Lodges Phoenix, Ala and Bosmere, presented a cheque for £1700 for the purchase of the 1st Responder Unit for Stowmarket and area.



## St. Margarets Lodge No.1452 Installation



WBro Philip Farnell was a proud father at the Installation of his son Stephen in St Margarets Lodge No 1452 at Lowestoft in April. Philip was WM in 2002 and had the honour of acting as JD when Stephen was initiated, whilst Stephen acted as JD at the Initiation of his elder brother William. Our picture shows l to r William, who is now a steward, Stephen WM and Philip who is now Lodge Secretary.

## "STAMP" Trip to Majorca 2005.



During the early hours of Wednesday 16 February, we Happy Band of Brothers who are "STAMP" assembled under the cover of darkness in the cold and wet of a Suffolk Winter. Our goal was to arrive at Stansted, catch an aircraft and head for the warmer climes of Majorca. Our group was in good form and we were all looking forward to getting away for a few days relaxation.

We arrived in Majorca to what can best be described as disappointing weather. After a short transfer we booked into the Hotel UTO PALACE, just outside Palma, and were met by W/Bro. Stephen BAGGALEY. W/Bro Stephen was the contact for our visit and proved to be an absolute delight as nothing was too much

trouble for him during our stay on the island.

The following evening was our visit to the "Ramon Lull" Lodge No.9 under the Spanish Constitution. This is an English speaking Lodge whose members are mostly ex pats. They seemed to attract visitors from various parts of the world including Denmark. They did not have a candidate but instead demonstrated an initiation, which was of a very high standard. At the festive board, we were very well served. Afterwards, VW/Bro Vaughan Pryce spoke eloquently and gave greetings on behalf of the Province.

Our farewell dinner saw us joined by some of the Ramon Lull Brethren. VW/Bro Pryce received a "Sustificate" (Suffolk Working) of Honour Membership into STAMP. The prestigious award of the "Bona Cup" went to W/Bro John Jarman for his efforts in composing a song to our "Matron" W/Bro Dave Deal. You would have to have been there to appreciate the full musical prowess of the song but it did cause uproar at the bar later that night. Matron the Musical is not likely to be a Broadway success however.

The full company this trip were Vaughan Pryce, Reg Rivett, David Harries, Bill Hagger, Peter Peck, Norman Long, Nigel Gibson, Mike Leighton, Arthur Spraggons, Rod Hellawell, Graham Colthorpe, Geoff Harvey, Des Band, Greg Phillips, Chris Ottaway, Ted Race, David Woodard, Adrian Watts, Peter Boughton, Jack Wright, John Newland, John Studd and Ralph Robertson.

*W/Bro Ralph Robertson.*

## Masonic Jewels

The next time you visit a Lodge take a few moments to see if you can spot any unusual Jewels that a brother may be wearing.

There is a wealth of history in these items: Founders, Centenary, Bi-Centenary, Past Masters, Stewards, R.M.B.I., R.M.I.B. and the R.M.I.G., all have significant meanings.

My interest started several years ago whilst looking in a Lodge Museum, their beauty and colourings are most fascinating, I became completely hooked and have got a sizeable collection. In fact I am building my own website [www.masonicjewels.co.uk](http://www.masonicjewels.co.uk).

The other evening visiting a Lodge I spotted a brother wearing an unusual P.M.s collar, instead of the usual Silver Line and Button his had a dark blue stripe.

Enquiring of this he told me that there are only 3 lodges permitted to have this his lodge being No12 originating in Cumberland and now meeting at Butchers Hall EC1 in London. He also told me that their Lodge warrant was not dated but bore the words 'from time Immemorial' needless to say the P.Masters jewel was something special.

These few words may have wetted your appetite and if any brother would like more information on this subject please feel free to contact me and I will be only too pleased to assist.

There is a study circle called "Jewels of the Craft" of which I am a member.

The interest in Jewels is endless and takes one into another sphere of Masonry.

**Good Spotting** W.Bro. P. King. Lodge of Virtue & Silence No.332.

## A GRAND RESULT

294 People attended the Grand Charity Ball and what a splendid evening it was, WBro Ian Yeldham conducted the Auction and raised £2500 plus with the raffle contribution and ticket sales a grand total of over £12000 was raised for the 2009 Festival. winner of 1st prize in the raffle was WBro Peter Martin who won £1000. This has been a stunning start to the campaign under our new Provincial Grand Master and he send his thanks to all who were involved with the organising and also those who supported him and his lady wife.

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## Jottings from Provincial Grand Secretary.



**Well, we've done it!** The first directly delivered issue of Forum, in colour and a more interesting and exciting layout and presentation. I'm sure you will all wish to join me in congratulating our editor, WBro. Peter Green who has been responsible for gathering in the articles and persuading the advertisers to take space with us. I would also like to thank WBro. Colin Barber of Phoenix Lodge for his layout and composition skills and WBro. Trevor White who, in his capacity as Information Officer, has been responsible for many of the articles and information in general. Also thanks must be recorded to the various members of the secretariat who, with our printer and his staff, have worked so well together with the production of labels and the stuffing of envelopes.

Most importantly, my thanks to you all for your contributions to this new-look issue, please take the time to read it and let us have your thoughts – you never know we may start a letters page!

Our aim is to produce an issue in June and December to keep you informed of what has happened and what will be happening in the future. If everything goes according to plan, application forms for dining at the Annual Meeting on June 2nd 2006 should be included in the December publication. Further details should also be included regarding a Provincial Evensong at Bury St. Edmunds Cathedral to be held on April 6th 2006 and being organised by our Provincial Grand Chaplain, WBro. George Pipe.

*Barry Rackham, Provincial Grand Secretary.*

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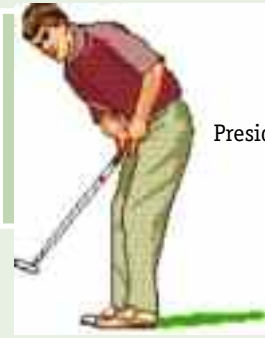
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## SUFFOLK MASONIC GOLFING SOCIETY

President: W Bro Norman Simper PJGD (Eng) Captain: Bro John Dover Secretary: W Bro John Studd PProvDGDC  
**Conifer Lodge, Aldringham, Leiston, Suffolk, IP16 4QJ**  
**Tel: 01728 453446 email: StuddyCL@AOL.com**

2004 which was another successful year for the Society in terms of not only some good golf, but good company, good food and an abundance of good fun and chatter. What's more we had our first Hole in One and our Congratulations once again to Charlie Birchmore who achieved this at the 9th Hole at Felixstowe and that soon settled the Prize for Nearest the Pin! Average attendance was up at 37, with the Invitation day at Felixstowe again the highlight, where 40 members entertained 58 guests, on a dry sunny day, amid two days either side of heavy thunderstorms and strong winds – which all goes to show that the Sun really does shine on the righteous – and to further illustrate our humility, we gave up possession of the Boswell Trophy in the Four Province Match, to Norfolk, albeit by a fraction of one whole point-and we had the good grace not to demand a recount !

*Winners of all our Competitions are given below:*

**ADAIR CUP** Keith Hawes 35pts,  
Peter Moss 35pts, Mike Cummins 33pts,  
**Nearest the Pin** Nick Le Grys

**TAYLOR SALVER** Brian Raby 42pts,  
Mike Orves 38pts,  
**Nearest the Pin** Alan Quinton & Michael Orves

**MATCH V ESSEX**  
**Winners** Suffolk  
(Individual - Maurice Sendall 42pts,  
Runner Up- Mike Anderson 41pts)

**SIMPER CUP** Colin Calver 40pts,  
Peter Moss 39pts, Charlie Birchmore 37pts  
(including his Hole In One)

**Simper Cup (Guests)** F Dowe 41pts,  
J Hines 40pts, N Saward 39pts  
**Nearest the Pin** Brian Raby,  
Charlie Birchmore, Terry Baxter, Mike Taylor

**Longest Drive** Fred Dowe  
**Putting Competition** Denis Cayless

**SWANN BOWL** Ted Thompson 34pts,  
Colin Calver 34pts,  
**Nearest the Pin** Geoff Spencer

### BOSWELL TROPHY

**Winners** Norfolk (ave 26pts),  
Suffolk (ave 25.94), Essex (ave 24.72),  
Bedford (ave 22.54)

### VERTIGEN TROPHY

John Dover who had the best aggregate of 113 points from three Trophy Cards

Amid all this, our Raffles continue to support our Charitable Giving and at the AGM in April our outgoing Captain Keith Hawes announced that he was donating the sum of £1200 raised during his year to "Sound On", a Talking Newspaper, reading to the Blind and providing this service right across the whole County of Suffolk. This followed a sum of £800 given to the Sandra Chapman Unit for general Cancer care at the James Paget Hospital, and nominated by Maurice Sendall from the monies raised during his year in 2003.

Our total membership is now just short of 100 and new members are always welcome so please do not hesitate if you would like to join us. There is no joining fee and we have no expensive dues ! - other than the Annual Subscription of £5 – just call 01728 453446 (John Studd- Secretary) or 01359 271076 (Mike Richards-Treasurer).

## 50 YEAR CERTIFICATES



Patrick Caird Daley receiving his 50 years certificate at the Rotary Lodge from the Deputy provincial Grand Master.

Vaughan Pryce being congratulated by the PGM on attaining his 50 years as a member of Craft masonry in Suffolk.



## 500th Meeting of Christchurch Lodge No.6829

At the 500th meeting of Christchurch Lodge No6829 held in November, the WM Roger Nash presented the Provincial Grand Master with a framed portrait. The PGM told the meeting that he had been requested to allow it to hang in Freemasons Hall at Soane Street, in Ipswich, to which he was pleased to agree.

At the meeting, attended by over 80 members and guests, the demonstration team from Gainsborough Lodge No9332 gave a re-enactment of an Initiation Ceremony held on board a ship in the mid 1750's.

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## The truth about your toothpaste will make you sick

Dozens of toothpastes sold at supermarkets are at the centre of a cancer alert as are many anti-bacterial cleaning products, including dishwashing liquid and handwash.

Recent research has revealed that a chemical used in the products; triclosan, can react with water to produce chloroform gas and if inhaled in large enough quantities, chloroform can cause depression, liver problems and in some cases, cancer. Brand name products on supermarket shelves including Colgate, Aquafresh, Dentyl and Sensodine contain triclosan.

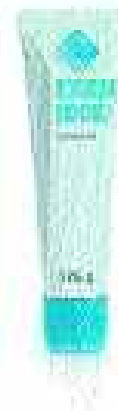
A recent investigation by the London Evening Standard newspaper also found that products from Tesco contained the harmful chemical.

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## FESTIVE JOY AT MAYOR'S PARTIES

Yuletide bashes thrown by the mayor of Sudbury for the town's elderly and disabled have been hailed as great successes.

The Christmas parties took place upstairs at Sudbury town hall on consecutive Wednesdays in the middle of the month of December.

Each of the festive afternoon sessions attracted the maximum 200 of guests permitted to be entertained at the venue.

Teatime treats and sherry helped get the parties in full swing and the festivities were completed with rousing renditions of traditional carols, performed at the first party by pupils from Woodhall Community Primary School and at the second by students from St. Joseph's Primary School.

John Sayers, mayor of Sudbury, said: "The parties were both great successes and were

very well attended as usual."

"The entertainment was exceptionally good and we at the town hall are enormously grateful to two schools for coming along and putting so much effort into their carols."

Guests were also entertained by Pearly King and Queen John Knowles and Natalie Ellis, who performed a host of cockney song and dance routines accompanied by a flute.

Natalie said: "Both times went really well, they were good old fashioned knees-ups. We've been coming here for six years and we always get a great reception."

Generous local businesses ensured that every party goer went home with a gift by donating a huge array of prizes to the parties' bumper Christmas raffles.

The second of the Christmas parties was sponsored by the four Sudbury branches of the Freemasons. Stour Valley, Babergh, Priory and Gainsborough Lodges who clubbed together and donated £850.

John Sharp, treasurer of the White Lodge of Suffolk, said: "We like to support local causes, part of our Masonic Brotherhood is to help other people that are perhaps not as well-off as we are.

Freemasons are great supporters of local charities, as well as our own. But perhaps sometimes we do tend to keep our lights under our bushels. It was really nice to come along and seeing it be put to use."

## The McCarthy-Slatcher Memorial Lecture 2005

### Re-discovering the Lost York Tradition,

The Provincial Grand Masters of Suffolk and Norfolk together with many distinguished Brethren and invited guests filled the Lowestoft Masonic Centre for the Silver Jubilee Lodge No. 8811 annual McCarthy-Slatcher Memorial Lecture, and were treated to an outstanding talk delivered by V.W.Bro. Rev. Neville Barker-Cryer, MA, PGChap.

Bro. Cryer, is a Past Master of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge No 2076, past Prestonian Lecturer, past Batham Lecturer, and a Grand Officer in every order in Freemasonry, is arguably one of the most well-known and best masonic communicators.

His impassioned talk on Re-discovering the Lost York Tradition, was a fascinating and illuminating tour highlighting this significant part of our English Masonic heritage from local building site lodges to new lodges attached to the Masons Guilds initially intended for the Freemen Masons in the mid 1600s. By the 1770s the Grand Lodge at York had devised a very precise pattern of working a five degree system comprising the 3 basic degrees, the Royal Arch and the Knight Templar. This arrangement was the origin of what was later to be called in North America the 'York Rite'.



The audience listened to every word of wisdom in a relaxed and purposeful learning environment, and from the answers to the

specific and general questions that followed ensured their daily advancement.

*W.Bro. Jonathan C. Mead, PAGDC*

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## Funds are handed out at annual ceremony

Local charities received funds from the English and American Freemasons at an event at RAF Lakenheath. English and American Freemasons conduct fund-raising events throughout the year and distribute them at the annual ceremony.

A total of £4,300 was given out on the base, with the East Anglian Air Ambulance and Suffolk Accident and Rescue Service each receiving £1,000.

Mildenhall and Brandon Citizens' Advice Bureau received £250, as did Dogs for the Disabled and Upbeat, for sufferers of heart attacks. Seven other small charities nominated by freemasons members also received donations.

Gordon Townsend, president of the English and American Freemasons, said the organisation was continually involved in various fund-raising ventures.

He nominated the top two charities for this year and said: "The East Anglian Air Ambulance needs money, as anyone could need their services at any time."

### The Arnold Page High Twelve Club No.298 Square & Compass Club No.1186 Charity for 2004

East Anglian Air Ambulance	£1000	
Suffolk Accident and Rescue Service	£1000	
Upbeat	£250	
Dogs for the Disabled	£250	
St. Nicholas Hospice	£250	
Citizen Advice Bureau	£250	
Wolcott Foundation	\$250	
Children's Society	£250	
Papworth HNS Hospital Respiratory Support and Sleep Centre	£250	
Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance	£250	
Project Cheer	\$250	
TOC H Holidays	£250	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4000</b>	<b>\$500</b>



## 50 Year Certificate

RW.Bro. Barry Ross, W.Bro. D. Cuthbert, R.W.Bro. Bob Tile At the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of R.W.Bro. Bob Tile's Initiation into Seckford Lodge

# TSUNAMI EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

## THE GRAND CHARITY

On 28th December 2004, The Grand Charity made an emergency grant of £100,000 to the British Red Cross Tsunami Disaster Appeal. A further £300,000 was also approved to provide long-term assistance to support the children orphaned or otherwise affected by the disaster.

Any Freemason who wishes to make a donation to the Tsunami disaster via The Grand Charity can do so by sending a cheque payable to The Grand Charity to 60 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5AZ and noting that it is to be paid into the Special Relief Chest established by the Grand Charity under the name The Asian Tsunami 2004 Floods Relief Chest No. E0091. Please confirm in your letter that you are an eligible tax-payer and that you wish The Grand Charity to claim tax relief on your donation. This will increase your donation by 28p for every £1.

As at 19th April, 2005 over £655,000 has been received in the Relief Chest. The Council of The Grand Charity is reviewing proposals from a number of International relief charities and hopes to announce an initial allocation of funds at the General Meeting of The Grand Charity in June.

In addition, The Grand Charity made an individual grant of £25,000 to the District of Sri Lanka for local charitable aid and grant of £10,000 to the District of Madras to help a local children's home.

Following the announcement in December 2004 by the Grand Charity concerning this appeal, the Provincial Grand Master authorised a payment of £2000 from the Province directly to the 'British Red Cross' with a letter to Grand Charity advising them that this has been done.

Many individuals and Lodges or Association of Lodges have made donations directly DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee). Brethren who pay income tax have used the Gift Aid facility for personal contributions.

Lodges are reminded to keep records of payments and include them in their annual return to the Provincial Grand Charity Steward.

Barry Rackham PGSec  
Richard Baker PGCharStwd



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## Japanese Connections

Two of our brethren from Suffolk W.Bro. Peter Gosling and W.Bro Len Howard had the pleasure of acquainting themselves with Freemasonry in Japan and of being instrumental in the initiation of a new member into a Japanese Lodge. W.Bro. Peter Gosling works closely with Japan in his business and his Japanese business partner Katsuyuki Kumano is the initiation in question. Peter takes up the story...



L to R W.Bro. Peter Gosling, RW Grand Master Savuro Katagiri, W.Bro. Len Howard.

### Letter to PGM from WBro. Gosling

Dear Barry,

I have received a fax from my business partner Bro. Katsuyuki Kumano in Japan, he is absolutely delighted to have received your letter to him dated 4th February.

Bro. Kumano stated that it was a pleasure in meeting three brethren at Babergh Lodge No8122, as this was the first time that he had the opportunity to visit a lodge meeting in England and to see how an English ceremony is conducted, he was very impressed with the

meeting, Bro. Kumano also confirmed that he was thrilled to meet with you and he considered it to be a personal honour that the provincial Grand Master of Suffolk should take the time to greet him and to receive the gifts in such a gracious manner in open lodge, Bro. Kumano could talk of nothing else during the rest of his visit to England, and would be taking back to Japan lasting memories of his meeting with you and the brethren of Babergh Lodge.

The past year has certainly been very busy for Bro. Kumano as it was only in January 2004 during one of our business meetings in London that Katsuyuki was talking about his involvement in charity with the Red Cross of Japan and the help given to the orphans in the Philippines, when my wife, Susan mentioned to Katsuyuki about my involvement as a Freemason and in particular as charity steward in Abbey Lodge, there followed a genuine desire for more knowledge about Freemasons and the charitable work.

The following day I took Katsuyuki on a conducted visit to Grand Lodge in London, he was very impressed and in particular with the chapel of peace and the fact that after the first world war the brethren of Japan donated a considerable sum of money to the chapel, from then on Katsuyuki wanted to know more about the craft and asked me to enquire about his possible acceptance as a freemason in Japan.

W.Bro. Len Howard kindly provided me with the contact name and address of the Grand Lodge in Japan, I then sent a letter to the Grand Lodge Secretary introducing Mr. Katsuyuki Kumano as a possible candidate as a freemason, several meetings were then arranged in Japan which resulted in Mr. Katsuyuki Kumano being initiated as an entered apprentice in June, and then being passed to a fellow craft in August, with his third degree taking place in October, I invited W.Bro. Len Howard and his wife Charlotte as our guest, to accompany Susan and I to Japan where we had the privilege of seeing Bro.



L to R Len Howard, Katsuyuki Kumano, Peter Gosling, Philip A. Ambrose PGM Grand Secretary.

Katsuyuki Kumano being raised in the third degree, it was indeed a wonderful ceremony.

The Masonic fraternity in Japan is not well known and is viewed with a degree of suspicion, Bro. Kumano hopes that with his involvement in the Lions and Rotary clubs who also provide charitable donations he can show that the Masonic way of life in Japan could also help to provide charity for the under privileged.

May I take this opportunity to thank for the kindness and courtesy extended to Bro. Kumano during his visit to Babergh Lodge on 26th January, I do believe that Suffolk Masons have adopted Brother Kumano who I know is looking forward to making further visits to lodges when next in the United Kingdom

*Yours sincerely and fraternally, Peter Gosling.*



*Eating out Japanese style.*

## St Luke's R.A. Chapter Bi-Centenary 16th November 2004



This Chapter celebrated its Bi-Centenary on Tuesday 16 November. This was a wonderful and exciting event and was enjoyed by everyone who was privileged to be there.

There is very little to the actual ceremony itself, there is of course the presentation of the 200 year Charter, which was read out and presented by E.Comp Godden, W.J. Curtis did an excellent job of reading a short history of the Chapter which had been prepared by the late E.Comp Ron Parsons, and in which Bill Curtis made reference to the many years of work and research which Ron Parsons had put into this event, but unfortunately did not live to see it, and E.Comp G.W. Pipe read an outstanding and interesting Oration.

L-R - E.Comp W. Hughes, E.comp R. Cawston, ME.Comp Iain Rossy Bryse and Comp. D. Thomas Scribe E of St. Lukes

## Two Grand Lodge Charity Cheques to Local Hospices



R.W. Bro. Barry Ross, Provincial Grand Master of Suffolk Freemasons, presents a Cheque for £3200 to Murray Staines, Fundraising and Marketing manager of St. Elizabeth Hospice, Ipswich, on behalf of The Grand Charity of Freemasons under the United Grand Lodge of England. Further cheques of £3100 and £2750 have been presented to St. Nicholas Hospice, Bury St. Edmunds, and Ipswich and Quidenham Childrens Hospices respectively. The Waveney Hospice received £500. The Grand Charity is supporting 210 Hospices throughout England and Wales and Donations amounting to £540,000 in 2004.

The total amount given to hospices through The Grand Lodge Charity Project is now over £5.4 million, although the overall figure for Masonic giving to hospices is much higher due to direct gifts from local masons.



Barry Rackham, Provincial Grand Secretary of Suffolk Freemasons, presents a Cheque for £3100 to Roger Curtis, Fundraising Manager, and Sue Meader Community Fundraiser of St. Nicholas Hospice, Bury St. Edmunds, on behalf of the The grand Charity of Freemasons

## Albert G. Mackey's List of Twentyfive Landmarks of Freemasonry

Albert G. Mackey's List of Twentyfive Landmarks of Freemasonry

1. The modes of recognition.
2. The division of symbolic Masonry into three degrees.
3. The legend of the third degree.
4. The government of the Fraternity by a Grand Master.
5. The prerogative of the Grand Master to preside over every assembly of the Craft.
6. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensation for conferring degrees at irregular intervals.
7. The prerogative of the Grand Master to give dispensation for opening and holding lodges.
8. The prerogative of the Grand Master to make Masons at sight.
9. The necessity for Masons to congregate in lodges.
10. The government of the Craft when congregated in a lodge, by a Master and two Wardens.
11. The necessity that every lodge, when congregated, should be duly tiled.
12. The right of every Mason to be represented in all general meetings of the Craft.
13. The right of every Mason to appeal from his brethren, in lodge convened, to the Grand Master.
14. The right of every Mason to visit and sit in every regular lodge.
15. That no visitor, unknown to the brethren present or someone of them as a Mason, can enter a lodge without first passing an examination according to ancient usage.
16. No lodge can interfere with the business of another lodge.
17. Every Freemason is amenable to the laws and regulations of the Masonic jurisdiction in which he resides.
18. A candidate for initiation must be a man, free born, unmutilated, and of mature age.
19. A belief in the existence of God as the Grand Architect of the Universe.
20. Believe in a resurrection to a future life.
21. A "Book of the Law" constitutes an indispensable part of the furniture of the lodge.
22. The equality of all Mason.
23. Secrecy of the Institution.
24. The foundation of a Speculative science upon an operative art.
25. These Landmarks can never be changed.

## Editor's notes

Welcome to the new format Forum its bigger, in colour and its delivered to your home,

Please take the time to read it and find out what's going on in other parts of the province, we've had a tumultuous year of changes and special occasions, and I know they're not all in this issue,(probably because you've left it to someone else to inform me) however read and enjoy you'll notice the advertisements, PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS they are paying for the distribution costs of getting it to you and if you know of anyone who would like to advertise in future issues contact me.

A by product of this is that you get all the news from the year during the close season plus forward dates for your diary before it happens.

This issue has been a huge team effort and my thanks go to all those who have contributed their time and expertise in getting it out .

I do try and do my best to accommodate you all but sometimes lack of space or quite frequently lack of sufficient information from contributors means the story is unusable.

I can't get a feel of a meeting from the minutes and to be honest I don't think it will be read by others either. However if your piece has not appeared don't be too disappointed it could be in the next issue or I will be finding time to contact you for more information in the meantime. Enjoy your newsletter and have a splendid summer break

*Peter R Green PPGSofW*

**Editor: W. Bro. Peter Green  
9 Heath Close, Hesselst, Bury  
St. Edmunds. IP30 9BL  
01359 270598**