



# FORUM

The Suffolk Freemasons Newsletter

Winter 2005-06

Brethren of The Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk  
Dear Brother,

## CATHEDRAL SERVICE

Many of you will recall the wonderful evensong at St. Edmundsbury Cathedral in July 2002 during our 'Week of Awareness' in the Province.

I am pleased to announce that we are holding another Choral Evensong on Thursday, 6th April, 2006 at 7.00 pm. This special occasion is to celebrate the opening of the new Cathedral Tower, a truly outstanding feature, which the Brethren of Suffolk so generously supported.

All Brethren will be most welcome to attend with their families so please make every effort to be there. I would like to see our Cathedral packed as it was in 2002.

The arrangements for the Service are, once again, in the capable hands of the Provincial Grand Chaplain, W.Bro. George Pipe, who will be pleased to answer any queries you may have. He is delighted to confirm that the Dean of York, The Very Reverend Keith Jones, has accepted an invitation to be our preacher at the Service.

In writing this personal letter to every Freemason in the Province I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the service. It will be most helpful to gain some idea of numbers planning to attend so I have asked the Provincial Grand Secretary to seek the help of Lodge Secretaries for their assistance in this.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

I.B.J. Ross, Provincial Grand Master

## Editor's notes

Brethren thank you once again for your contributions to this issue it seems we have a very active and busy province after all, and the interest created certainly justifies the decision to post it to every member, remember though that this is brought to you by the contribution made by our advertisers and I urge you to support them wherever possible.

You will see that Thursday April 6th 7pm is a notable date for your diary with the evensong at Bury Cathedral. This not just a craft service but for all our degrees, so lets make this a night to remember as before there will be no regalia or aprons but Masonic clergy are invited to robe. If you require any further information please contact our Provincial Grand Chaplin W Bro George Pipe.

*Peter R Green PPGSofW*

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Following a long battle with illness, The Rt Hon Lord Belstead sadly passed to the Grand Lodge Above on 3rd December 2005. He was being cared for at St Elizabeth Hospice in Ipswich. Lord Belstead was appointed to the acting office of Grand Junior Warden in 1978.

## Jottings from the Provincial Grand Secretary

One of the benefits of posting *Forum* to every member is to be able to include, as separate inserts, items such as the application form to attend the Annual Meeting at Holbrook on Friday 2nd June 2006, which should be with this issue, I hope you all have one.

It was our intention to have this distributed to you at the beginning of the New Year but, unfortunately, the best laid plans of mice and men do go wrong and it had to be this year that the Royal Hospital School decided to renegotiate the terms for the use of the school and dining arrangements.

Without going into unnecessary detail, this set things back somewhat whilst other possible venues were considered, the outcome has been an increase in the price although far less than was being sought by

Holbrook. I know that in attending annual meetings of other Provinces we do enjoy good facilities at RHS and in a great setting which is difficult to match and as such they are worth hanging on to if we can. Please remember what you pay for your meal is what it costs allowing for a few pennies in rounding-up.

Congratulations to all brethren who have received their first Appointment or a Promotion this year, I look forward to announcing your name at Holbrook to be presented with your award and I trust you will be well supported by members of your Lodge, particularly the Master and Wardens.

*Barry Rackham, Provincial Grand Secretary  
JANUARY 2006*



## THE NAVIGATORS GO NORTH

**15TH SEPTEMBER 7.30AM** 8 members of Magi Lodge 9747 gathered at the Norfolk Showground in preparation for their annual trip to northern provinces, this year taking in Edinburgh and Newcastle.

This is the 10th consecutive year W.Bro. Ray Jackson has organised a group of Freemasons to make this pilgrimage. Initially called The Navigators, the group consisted of Suffolk and Norfolk Masons who's interest was to visit Lodges. Through these annual visits, the formation of a new Lodge was thought of, with the common purpose of it being a visiting Lodge. Hard work by some members, in particular W.Bro. Ray Jackson and W.Bro. Frank Barber, brought this idea into fruition. In 2001, the dream became a reality with the consecration of Magi Lodge 9747.

These annual visits have since been maintained and eagerly looked forward to and the group are still call The Navigators.

The visit to Edinburgh was of particular significance for W.Bro. David Hickenbottom. He joined Edinburgh City Police in 1968 and served on the Leith division where we stayed and worked in Portobello where the Lodge meeting was held. This visit brought back many happy memories.

In anticipation of a long night ahead, 2 taxis took us to the Masonic Hall in Portobello where we were met and entertained by members of Portobello Lodge No 226, Province of Midlothian. Each member of the party was greeted by the RW Master of the Lodge and invited to sit in the East. Unfortunately there was no ceremony but the meeting was, nevertheless, an interesting one.

The Festive Board consisted of two Scotch pies and copious amounts of whisky. The RW

Master and members of Portobello Lodge were very generous with their whisky and their knowledge. The Navigators were somewhat overwhelmed by this generosity.

**16TH SEPTEMBER, FRIDAY**, following a hearty breakfast, with no visible signs of hangovers, we left for a guided tour of Rosslyn Chapel, particularly renowned for its world famous carvings. Unfortunately some misguided couple had decided to get married on that day and our tour was cancelled with the chapel due to close, but not before we had been given the chance to spend about 20 minutes inside. What a magnificent and inspiring few minutes that was. If any Freemason as a chance to visit, I would certainly recommend it.

We then set off for our next destination and lunch at a particularly nice pub on the sea front at Whitley Bay. A superb range of cask ales and delicious fish and chips was the order of the day. This was followed by a couple of quality hours resting in our hotel. A mini bus was to take us to the Masonic Centre in Wallsend, to visit St. Luke's Lodge 6564, Province of Northumberland. W.Bro. Ray Jackson has been a member of St. Luke's for more years than he cares to remember and it is his Mother Lodge.

At the Festive Board which followed we were invited to take a whisky with the W. Master. At this stage one or two noses were turned up at the thought, so we kept to the Newcastle Brown Ale instead. Nevertheless, a thoroughly entertaining evening, with many friends being made. It has to be said at this stage that Magi Lodge has 2 members of St. Luke's Lodge who are founder members. W.Bro Jack Scragg and his son W.Bro. Alan Scragg and it was very nice meeting up with them again.



## Faithful Lodge Tracing Boards

At the November meeting of Silver Jubilee Lodge No 8811, held at Bungay, members and guests were honoured to have present the original tracing boards from The Norfolk Faithful Lodge No 85.

W.Bro Tim Baldry had made all the arrangements and gave a highly interesting lecture on the history of the Boards.

He told the meeting that they are thought to be the oldest dated ones in existence and are signed by the artist Barlow, and dated 1800. They were painted in oils on canvas and at the time of the Bicentenary meeting

of the Lodge in 1953 appeared to be in danger of disintegration and so later were boxed and covered in perspex to preserve them. They are now only exhibited in the lodge on Installation meetings. The First and Third degree boards vary greatly from those in more common use and exhibit some emblems normally now associated with other degrees.

Silver Jubilee Lodge meets three times a year and is dedicated to Masonic research, for more details of their meetings contact the secretary, whose details are in the Provincial Year Book.

## £1/2 MILLION SUPPORT FOR HOSPICES ANNOUNCED BY THE GRAND CHARITY

£1/2 million of grants for hospices across England and Wales have been announced by The Grand Charity, taking its total support for the movement over the last 21 years to nearly £6 million.

216 independent hospices and palliative day care services, including children's hospices providing palliative and respite care will receive grants ranging from £500 to £9,000 towards their operating costs.

For more than 100 years Freemasons have supported hospice services, and their work to offer the best possible quality of life to individuals during the final stages of incurable illness. Today, support for the movement continues to be popular amongst Freemasons and the grants from The Grand Charity make an important contribution to the millions of pounds needed each and every year to enable hospices to continue their valuable work.

The donations for Suffolk are as follows:

- £1,200 East Anglia's Children's Hospice - Ipswich
- £1,550 East Anglia's Children's Hospice - Quidenham
- £3,200 St Elizabeth's Hospice
- £2,750 St Nicholas' Hospice
- £500 Waveney Hospice Care

## New York Marathon Run for Breakthrough Breast Cancer



On Nov 6th, Bro. Paul Excell of the Lodge of Prudence No 388, ran 26.2 miles through the five boroughs of New York to raise money for Breakthrough Breast Cancer.

Breakthrough have a simple vision - a future free from the fear of Breast Cancer. This year, 40,000 women in the UK alone will be diagnosed with Breast Cancer and 1 in 7 women throughout their lifetime.

Breakthrough runs a £10M global research programme - based in the UK - that is searching for cause and a cure to a condition that will have affected most people with loss of a close family member or friend.

Bro Excell was inspired to run by a local woman, who, despite being terminal herself, is raising funds to help future generations. "We owe it to them to drive for a future free from the fear of Breast Cancer", said Bro Excell

"Sponsorship so far has exceeded £4,000 with generous support from my Lodge and fellow brethren" said Bro Excell, "As someone new to Freemasonry, the support I have received has been fantastic"

If you wish to donate to Breakthrough to help break the £5,000 barrier for the run you can do so on-line at: [www.bmycharity.com/PaulExcell](http://www.bmycharity.com/PaulExcell)

Or via cheques may payable to:  
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In the London of 1788 amidst the accepted poverty, filth, pollution, drunkenness, violence and debauchery, emerged a group of enlightened people who set out to make the lives of those less fortunate than themselves somewhat better. Amongst the foremost of these was an ardent Freemason, W.Bro. Chevalier Bartholomew Ruspini who enjoyed the patronage of the Prince of Wales, becoming a founder of the lodge that bears that name. Through his idea and by his efforts a Freemasons' school for girls was founded in 1788. The School had the full backing of the Grand Master HRH Henry Federick, Duke of Cumberland, and became known as "The Royal Cumberland School for the Daughters of Indigent Freemasons", later to be known as "The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls".

At the end of the first and very successful year in 1789, it was decided that the First Anniversary should be celebrated by a Church service followed by a banquet for the distinguished guests and the children. The collection made £29.2.3 and at the well attended dinner, £58.8.3 was raised, giving a grand total of £82.10.6. **This was the First Anniversary Festival, 1789.** A Festival that has been celebrated every

# 2009 Festival

year since, only ceasing in its own right in 1985.

In 1798, nine years after the founding of the Girls' school, W.Bro. William Burwood, together with other members of the "United Mariners" Lodge, established the "Institution for Clothing and Educating the Sons of Indigent Freemasons"; the beginning of the "Royal Masonic Institution for Boys". This Charity followed the anniversary fund raising Festival system as instigated by the "Girls". Unfortunately there are no records of the amount raised until the 8th Anniversary Festival in 1806, when a total of £33.9.6 was declared.

Following the success of the Boys and the Girls institutions in 1837, and with thanks to the initial work by W.Bro. Revd. Gilbert Gilbert, a unanimous decision was taken by Grand Lodge, which advocated the formation of charity called the "Asylum for the Aged and Decayed Freemason." However, the Grand Master, the Duke of Sussex, opposed the motion on the grounds that it would adversely affect the two institutions already in existence. Eventually a Masonic Anxiety fund for Brethren was opened in 1842, and one for their widows followed in 1849. A year later a home was opened in East Croydon. The two funds were joined together and became the "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution". The First Anniversary Festival in 1843 raised the sum of £400.0.0 attracting 21 stewards.

Initially the festivals were held under the Patronage or Presidency of one of the Senior members of Grand Lodge, usually the Grand Master, but gradually as Freemasonry spread throughout the country, the Provinces wanted to show that they too could raise monies for the Charitable Institutions.

The first records of Provincial Festivals show

that: the RMIG in 1822 Dorsetshire declared £400.0.0; in 1837 Essex declared £1000.0.0, **the first £1000.0.0 Festival.** The RMIB in 1836 Essex declared £525.0.0; in 1838 Staffordshire declared £350.0.0. The RMBI in 1843 Northants & Hunts declared £400.0.0. In 1847 Essex declared £500.0.0.

The first £million Festivals were: the RMIG in 1972 East Lancashire declared £1,129,544.00. The RMIB in 1976 Yorkshire West Riding declared £1,120,220.00. And the RMBI in 1976 South Wales Eastern Division declared £1,508,825.00.

## WHAT OF THE PAST FESTIVAL AFFECTING THE PROVINCE OF SUFFOLK?

So far we have hosted 10 Festivals: 1864 RMIG, Lord Waveney PGM, £3,300.0.0, 71 Stewards; 1874 RMBI, Lord Waveney PGM, £5,200.0.0, 135 Stewards; 1889 RMIG, Lord Henniker PGM, £5,354.0.0, 156 Stewards; 1903 RMBI, 3rd Earl of Stradbroke, £27,026.0.0, 736 Stewards; 1928 RMIG, 3rd Earl of Stradbroke, £44,049.0.0, 2131 Stewards; 1945 RMBI 3rd Earl of Stradbroke, £97, 073.14.3, 3909 Stewards; 1956 RMIB, 4th Earl of Stradbroke, £135,453.0.0, 4406 Stewards; 1970 RMIG, 4th Earl of Stradbroke, £233,680.0.0, 2950 Stewards; 1982 RMBI, 4th Earl of Stradbroke, £772,827.00, 2161 Stewards; 1996 MTGB, RJR Tile, £1,694,656.00, 1163 Stewards.

Every year, without exception each Institution has held an Anniversary Festival, the tradition not even being broken throughout the Great War and the Second World War. It was not until 1985 when a rethink of the Masonic Charities took place, when the needs of the membership and their families, the running costs of the Institutions, together with the social changes over the years, led to the change from the Three Great Masonic Charities to those four we have today.

## THE FOUR GREAT MASONIC CHARITIES

1) **The Grand Charity**, which gives to Masonic and non-Masonic charities in the order of approximately 50% Masonic and 50% non-Masonic.

2) **The Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys**, an amalgamation of the Girls and Boys Institutions.

3) **The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution**, which retains its title, and looks after our older Brethren both in and out of Masonic homes such as Cornwallis Court.

4) **The New Masonic Samaritan Fund**, the aims of which are stated as: *The New Samaritan Fund is an independent charity which provides support for sick and infirmed Freemasons, their families and dependents who are in need. The Fund gives relief to those applicants who cannot afford full cost of private healthcare and who are unable to obtain their treatment on the UK's National Health Service without undue delay or hardship.*

These Four Masonic Charities continue the Anniversary Festival system that was stated with the foresight of W.Bro. Chevalier Ruspini back in 1789, with the founding Girls School. **The Festivals celebrating the anniversary of their own charity have continued unbroken each year since then.**

As the 11th Earl of Scarborough said on his

Installation as Grand Master in 1951, "I cannot, however, avoid remarking that, owing to rising costs, the standards of our Institutions will only be maintained by even greater efforts in the future. The Craft has never failed in its duty- it is not Charity- to the more unfortunate of its members, and for that reason there is every ground for confidence, that the Practice of a Masonic Principle will be carried on, and that the Service which our Masonic Institutions have been founded to give, will not, in our time, be curtailed."

Brethren, please support our Masonic Charities, particularly the 11th Anniversary Festival of the New Masonic Samaritan Fund in 2009, which will be presided over by our own Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro. Ian Barry James Ross.



## St Lukes Lodge Charity Golf Day 2005

St Lukes Lodge N°225 held their 3rd Annual Charity Golf Day at Hintlesham Golf Club on the 17th June 2005. Twenty teams of 4 entered who were Masons, friends and relatives. The results were very close with a team from Cambridgeshire coming in first. Pictured is Bro. Keith Beckley (St Lukes Lodge N°225) who is "teeing off" to start the day. Keith has just had a hip replacement operation for which the New Masonic Samaritan Fund was a prime supporter. Within weeks, he was "back in the swing"! The day's event raised £1,600 towards the 2009 Festival.

## Lodge of Prudence N°388 GARDEN PARTY

July the 10th saw the Annual Seafood Lunch and garden party of the Lodge of Prudence at Holton Orchards the home of W.Bro and Mrs A Dunce. The weather was excellent and the only need for umbrellas were as sunshades.

W Bro M Cole and his team of helpers (his wife Shirley and two friends) provided an excellent array of seafood fare whilst some of the younger Brethren of the Lodge organized a barbecue as an alternative menu.

Bro Michael Glaysher and his group entertain us with a variety of music whilst other Members of the Lodge organized Tombola and other prize draws.

The function was well attended, some staying on well into the evening. A good time was had by all with the total sum raised in aid of the 2009 festival and other Charities of £1131.

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## Ancient and Accepted Rite

Inspector General: V.W.Bro. Dr. Graham A. Bracewell 33° District Recorder: W.Bro. Gilbert Corbett 32°

The Ancient and Accepted Rite, more familiarly known as the Rose Croix, developed in the 18th Century. It spread across Europe to the West Indies and thence to Charleston in the United States. It is based on a set of Constitutions reputedly formulated by Frederick the Great of Prussia in 1786.

The first Supreme Council (Governing Body) was set up in Charleston, U.S.A. in 1801. By the end of the 19th Century the Rite consisted of 33 degrees (levels of attainment) The Rev. Dr. Robert Thomas Crucifix brought the Rite to England in 1845, after receiving a Patent from the Supreme Council of the Northern Jurisdiction of the U.S.A. The oldest Chapter in our District is Victoria, No.22 founded in 1867. Incidentally it was supposed to be named 'Royal Victoria Chapter' after the reigning monarch of the period, but an inadequate clerk in the Supreme Council left 'Royal' off the Warrant by mistake.

If you consult the Suffolk Year Book from pages 283 to 293 you will see that the Suffolk District consists of 10 Chapters widely distributed around the County and I am sure you will find a Chapter reasonably close to where you live. In this county membership is only open to Master Masons who are Christians so if you fulfil these qualifications then why not consider joining this Order? If you glance through the list of Officers and Past Officers of a Chapter near you then I am sure you will discover someone you know who will only be too pleased to introduce you to Rose Croix Masonry. If not, then please do not hesitate to contact me, the District Recorder, address and telephone number with email address are shown on page 283 (blue Book) and I will be pleased to set the wheels in motion. Be assured you will receive a warm and friendly welcome

G. A. Corgett, District Recorder

## The Royal Sussex Chapter of Perfect Friendship, N°376

On Friday 25th November 2005 the Royal Sussex Chapter of Perfect Friendship, No.376 will celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the granting of its warrant on 3rd November 1830. We are to be honoured by the presence of the Provincial Grand Superintendent, Dr D Watson and we are sure that it will be happy and joyous convocation. Any organisation that has attracted men wishing to join it for 175 years must have something going for it. Long may it continue.

At the September convocation the chapter discussed the proposed ritual (except those which are mandatory) changes from Supreme Grand Chapter. As the changes did not apply to our ritual, convocation decided not to incorporate any of the proposals.

A younger companion asked if the biblical readings could be taken from one of the more modern translations like the Good News Bible etc. rather than the present Authorised King James version. After all nearly all churches have been using one of the newer bibles for some time also religion is now taught in schools from one of these bibles. They read more easily and use present-day language rather than the more antiquated Authorised King James Bible. There is a problem in that not all the names given in the Authorised King James Bible are used in the modern bibles. The chapter is considering this further as there is merit in the suggestion, but it is food for thought.

## Order of the Secret Monitor

### Ipswich Conclave No.227

Tuesday the 27 September 2005 saw the 25th Installation meeting of this conclave when Bro. R. Philips was installed as Supreme Ruler, this was very much a first for Bob who is in many degrees, this being the first time in a 'Chair'.

The Conclave was honoured by the presence of R.Wy.Bro. Oswald Theodore Harvey Prov. Grand Supreme ruler and several guests. The meetings was followed by an excellent Festive Board and Toasts.

Details of this order can be obtained from W.Bro. M. E. Staff 63 Christchurch Street, Ipswich. IP4 2DF Tel 01483 213460.

### Landguard Conclave No.348

Landguard Conclave having moved from Felixstowe to Woodbridge held their first meeting at this venue in November 2005, and further details can be obtained from the Secretary C.R. Dearing, Palm House, 14 Elmers Lane, Grange Farm, Kesgrave. IP5 2GW.



The members of the East Anglian province of knights Templar assemble before the annual church service at Bury St Edmunds cathedral and Rt Eminent Knight David Woolnough Provincial Prior on his last Official duty before his retirement

## Consecration of a New Mark Lodge in the Province of Suffolk

On Thursday 2nd September 2005, a new Mark Lodge No.1866 was consecrated at Freemasons Hall Ipswich. The new lodge, which will meet during daytime at Stowmarket, was named Columbyne from Columbine Hall, a moated house near Stowupland an adjacent village to Stowmarket.



W Bro.E.R. Hymer Senior Warden. W.Bro R.A. Jones master and W.Bro A. J. Rollings Junior Warden

The different spelling came about because of recent development in Stowupland was called Columbyne Close and the Master Designate and Organising Secretary decided that if a modern builder could name a Close called Columbyne there was no reason that the successors of this ancient Brethren should not spell the name and their new lodge the same way!

It later emerged that the word columbine is a descriptive noun for doves, as bovine refers to cattle; and that the plant columbine, or aquilegia, is so named because its flowers resemble doves in flight. Co-incidentally, the names of the 2 crafts lodges at Stowmarket are Phoenix, a bird rising from its own ashes, and Ala, a wing.

The consecration Ceremony was conducted by the Right Worshipful Grand Master for the Mark Province for East Anglia, R.W.Bro. P.H. Rollin, assisted by the Deputy P.G.M. W.Bro. J.D. McKee, the Asst. P.G.M. W.Bro. Dr. J. A. Elmore, the P.G.D.C., W.Bro. C.G. Devereux, the P.G.Sec. W.Bro. I.H. Notley and other Provincial Grand Officers.

Thirty of the Thirty-two founders and their guests were present. W.Bro. McKee installed the Master Designate W.Bro. R. A. Jones as the first Master of the Lodge. The Master then appointed and invested his officers, including W.Bro. E.R.H. Hymer, as Senior Warden and W.Bro. A. J. Rolling as Junior Warden.



As most of you know, the RMBI runs the Cornwallis Court residential care home in Bury St Edmunds, but the RMBI provides more than just Homes.

### **Care Advice Team**

The Care Advice Team was initially set up to help prospective residents and annuitants and now works increasingly alongside Lodge Almoners to help older Freemasons and their dependents. Over 3000 people living in the community benefit from this service.

Many people's problems can be alleviated by the advice and support offered by the Team. They work by visiting people in their own homes to offer their wide range of experience and knowledge relating to health and welfare rights as well as benefits. In addition to being able to advise about all aspects of the services offered by the RMBI, the Care Advice Team can advise on the services and benefits available from other statutory and voluntary agencies.

### **Respite Care**

Temporary stays for respite or convalescence are also available in RMBI Homes. This has previously only been available for self-funding applicants or those in receipt of Local Authority funding. In recognition of the fact that it can often be difficult to get Local Authorities to fund respite care, the New Masonic Samaritan Fund has initiated a trial programme in conjunction with the RMBI. People in need of respite care, who are unable to gain Local Authority support and who cannot afford to meet the cost themselves, will be able to apply for help from the NSMF.

If you or someone you know would benefit from this service, they should call the RMBI to discuss an appropriate location. There will be an assessment by the RMBI to ensure that the chosen Home has the correct facilities to meet the individual's needs. At the same time there will need to be a financial assessment in order to determine eligibility for support from the NSMF.



It is the intention that once a respite need has been registered, subsequent stays will be offered according to need and the availability of suitable accommodation.

### **Freephone Number**

The RMBI has a Freephone number to help improve access to care information and the activities of the RMBI. More general leaflets on a range of subjects affecting older people are also available for free.

The number for the RMBI's Information Line is: **0800 068 7624**

### **RMBI Website**

[www.rmbi.org.uk](http://www.rmbi.org.uk) The RMBI website has some new pages and has been updated with information on all our Homes.

There is detailed information about the care we provide, news about the RMBI and ideas about how you can help us.

The RMBI website is an excellent resource for anyone who is thinking about entering one of our Homes themselves or for someone who has the responsibility of finding high quality residential care for another person.

We would also encourage Lodge Almoners to pay a visit to familiarise themselves with the services we offer.

### **Cornwallis Court**

Cornwallis Court in Bury St Edmunds does have vacancies at present so if you know anyone who could benefit from any of the RMBI services then please get in contact with the Home Manager, Mr Alan McMahon on 01284 768 028.





# Around the Lodges



At a recent meeting East Point Millennium Lodge No 9704 enjoyed the dedication of their new Lodge banner by the Provincial Grand Chaplain W.Bro G Pipe. To help celebrate the occasion the WM, W.Bro Tony Neal presented a cheque

for £5000 to the New Masonic Samaritan Fund. Our picture, which is dominated by the large cheque which reflected in the flashlight of the camera, shows the Assistant PGM W.Bro Reg Rivett, the PGM and the Provincial Chaplain.

## STOUR VALLEY TRAFALGAR NIGHT



Stour valley members celebrated Trafalgar night in style with "England expects" in flags borrowed from the Royal Hospital School Holbrook, decorating the walls, not necessarily though in the right order. Sea shanties were sung and Death of Nelson was sung with great feeling by Bro Joe Cooper. A Trafalgar medal was presented to The PGM by the Master W.Bro. John H Finbow.

## ORIENT LODGE 4085



During the year 2005, Orient Lodge has been carrying out a number of Charitable events to aid not only the 2009 Festival but also something near to Orient Member's hearts too, non-Masonic local charities. The W.M., Colin Hall and the charitable organisers have held many events at the Masonic Hall, Lowestoft such as Quiz and fish and chip evenings, Brass Band and BBQ night, Line dancing and tucker night, coffee morning at the W.M. and his wife's home and the main event held at the Victoria Hotel, Lowestoft, of the Summer BBQ and dance evening. At least two raffles are held at each Regular Meeting and its is all for charity. As of this writing, Orient has raised: St. John's Housing Trust, Reg. 270160, £2,000; James Paget Healthcare Urology Oncology Endowment Fund, £1,000; Harris Middle School Special Education Needs, £500; Wrentham Brass Band of £500; and continue to make donations for the 2009 event.

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAGNA CARTA LODGE N° 8017



Having been elected Honorary Members at the 2005 Installation Meeting in September, the two remaining "Founders" of MAGNA CARTA, namely W.Bro. John W.H. Knight O.B.E. and W.Bro. Kingsley Young, were presented by the Master, W.Bro. Stephen Williams (centre), with a suitably engraved "Firing Glass" to mark the Lodge's appreciation of their support in it's formation.

Both Honorary Members thanked the Lodge for the honour accorded to them.

## PRUDENCE GOES SAILING

On Tuesday, 27th September, 12 members of the Lodge of Prudence (N°388), in the Province of Suffolk had a most enjoyable day out— sailing from Ipswich, Wet Dock, down the River Orwell, out to sea, off Harwich and back, in a traditional Thames Spritsail Sailing Barge, "THALATTA". The trip was arranged by W.Bro. Peter Norton, who is a Trustee of the East Coast Sail Trust, which is a children's Charity, providing 5-Day sailing cruises for youngsters aged between 9 and 16 years, where they can explore the estuaries and rivers of the east coast in an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment, whilst learning the rudiments of seamanship, ropework, etc. and learn the values of helping each other and living together. The Lodge guests enjoyed a superb buffet lunch and wine, and the braver members had a turn at the helm, under the watchful eye of the Skipper. The day produced the magnificent sum of nearly £500 which will help boost the Charity's funds, which also helps maintain part of our Maritime Heritage— the barge being 100 years old next year.



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 Please quote "FORUM"

# Around the Lodges



Members of St Margarets Lodge N°1452 at Lowestoft, raised £766 at their recent Trafalgar dinner, and a cheque for this amount was presented to the Nancy Oldfield Trust, a Charity which provides boating opportunities for handicapped

children on the Norfolk Broads. The presentation followed the Annual Lodge Church Service held at St Margarets Church. Pictured are Charity Steward Mitch Mackay, Ted Fenn from Nancy Oldfield and Colin White Junior Warden.

## VISIT TO LODGE ST. HELIER, JERSEY

Monday 10th of October 2005 saw the visit to Lodge St Helier on the fair island of Jersey by 36 Suffolk Masons. The trip had been organised under the auspices of S.T.A.M.P. to commemorate a visit undertaken 10 years previously. The visit, headed by V.W./Bro Vaughan Price, was well received by the Jersey Masons and old acquaintances were renewed on both sides. During the meeting, the Brethren were treated to an extremely well researched lecture that was presented by W./Bro Dennis Perrin OSM. The paper, titled *Jersey Freemasonry & the German Occupation 1940-1945: Before, During and After*, was extremely enlightening and had been presented to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Jersey to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the island's liberation.

At the meeting, the Suffolk Brethren presented a cheque in the sum of £500.00 to the Master of Lodge St Helier for their charities. A further £500.00 was raised as a result of the visit and will be donated by S.T.A.M.P. to the Suffolk Provincial 2009 Festival.

The next day, the Suffolk Brethren enjoyed a coach trip around the island followed by a very good lunch over looking Gorey harbour. That evening we were joined by the Master and some of the members of Lodge St. Helier at our hotel for a final meal. All agreed that the visit had been a resounding success and enjoyed by all. Thanks once again goes to W./Bro's David Deal & John Jarman and Bro. Peter Seaman for their hard work and organisation.

**W.BRO. RALPH ROBERTSON**

## Corinthian Lodge N°3093 Centenary Celebrations



The Temple at Soane Street Ipswich was full to capacity to mark the Centenary Celebration of Corinthian Lodge N°3093. The Province was well represented by the attendance of R.W. Provincial Grand Master, his Deputy, Assistant, Secretary and both Wardens. The 42 visitors present represented 26 Lodges covering the length and breadth of Suffolk. There was a strong representation of brethren from St. Lukes Lodge N°225, marking the fact that Corinthian was their daughter Lodge

The R.W. PGM I.B.J. Ross occupied the Chair of King Solomon and proceeded to open a Provincial Grand Lodge. He explained that this was necessary to enable him to recognise the considerable efforts over a long period of time of one of the members of the Lodge. He wished to bestow the rank of PPSGW on W.Bro. William Curtis to recognise his work for Corinthian Lodge which included many years of D.C. of the Lodge. Although W.Bro. Bill was now in his Eighties, he was still a stalwart of the Lodge, a regular

attendee at all meetings and still much sought after to render the visitors song at the Festive Boards. A man with a truly remarkable CV in masonry that was well worthy of such recognition. The R.W. PGM had kept his intentions as a complete surprise to all present, which really added to an already auspicious occasion. During the meeting the R.W. PGM presented the Lodge with a Centenary Warrant and also presented the incumbent Master with a special Masters collar that the Lodge had purchased to mark the occasion, adding that he felt sure that future Masters of the Lodge would wear it.

To mark the Centenary a special summons was issued and a booklet, compiled by W.Bro. A. Martin, tracing the first 100 years of Corinthian, was given to each person present. A copy of each was sent to the Librarian at Grand Lodge for their archives. The meeting was complimented by a banquet that truly marked this very special masonic occasion in style.



50 Year Certificate presented to Canon K.W.A. Roberts G.C.

# Results of the Cricket Match Between Virtue and Silence, and Brett Valley

- Score V and S all out for 99 runs.
- Brett valley 102 for 9 wickets.
- Top scorer 25 runs Christian Elliott son of Shaun Elliott of Virtue and Silence.
- Top wicket taker Brian Tattersall three wickets all taken in one over.



Bro. James Fry of Virtue and Silence N°332 Wicket keeper. W.Bro Paul Mellor of Brett Valley N°9479 batting.

## SUMMARY

On the 18th of August teams from The lodge of Virtue and Silence No 332 and Brett Valley lodge No 9479 met to play for the Jack Kemble cup which was donated by the oldest member of V and S. With Brett Valley being one of the daughter lodges of V and S the first problem was to decide teams from a group whose membership spanned both lodges. This done then play began.

Virtue and Silence went into bat where a maximum of two overs per batsman and two overs per bowler were the rules. However after an early collapse it was decided that the incoming batsman could use up the unused balls of those already out before completing their own two overs. After an hour and a half Virtue and silence were all out for 99 runs.

After tea Brett valley began to bat whilst Virtue and silence spread out around the field to field and to digest the fantastic tea supplied by Bro Bev Berridge of V and S. The highlight of the innings was when W Bro Brian Tattersall took three wickets in one over. Although buoyed up by this the V and s team failed to take the last Brett valley wicket and on hitting the final runs both teams retired to the pavilion where W Bro Dick Beechener and his wife had been preparing the bar-b-que. A rematch has been arranged for next year.

## TEDDY APPEAL GOING STRONG



The Provincial Information Officer, W.Bro Trevor White, reports that there has been tremendous support from across the Province, for our Teddy Bear appeal.

"To those Lodges who have made donations, we are extremely grateful."

"Our fundraising to date has reached £6000 which will enable us to continue with support for 2006, at our current levels. However we must not remain complacent we need to ensure that we have enough funds to continue the following year with this wonderful initiative."

"If your Lodge has already supported us Thanks, if you are still considering, please look favourably upon this worthy appeal"

The project team chaired by PassPGM Angus Graham, together with W.Bro. Mac Speake will be pleased to supply Teddy Bear lapel badges to your lodge, in return for a small donation.

For any further details telephone the Information Officer on 01473 622580

## MASONIC CARAVANNERS

There has been some interest expressed in a Masonic Caravanners group, if you are at all keen to caravan with fellow masons get in touch with W.Bro Phil Gooch of Priory Lodge on 01787 372013.

## MASONIC JEWELS

### The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls

From 1900 until 1985 when the Girls merged with Boys to become The Masonic Trust for Girls & Boys, there was a Festival Jewel each year the exception being 1943 when there is no record of a Jewel or Certificate issued.

The Jewels made between 1900 and 1940 were made from silver and Hall Marked, after this they were made from base metals the exception being the war years when card or plastic was used. The Festivals were generally hosted by a Masonic Province with the P.G.M being the Chairman, on occasions this may have been a prominent member of the Craft.

The years of 1928 and 1970 saw the Province of Suffolk being host and the Chairman being The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Stradbroke on both occasions.

The amount announced in 1928 being £44,049 and in 1970 £233,680 quiet a difference. 1941 and 1942 saw badges made of cardboard and 1944 and 1945 the jewels were made of plastic and interestingly made by The London

Association for the Blind. In 1940 Grand Lodge circulated all Lodge secretaries asking for brethren to donate Masonic Jewels to the war effort these being melted down, some several thousand pounds being raised this way. Each donor was given a receipt for his offering.

A Steward for a particular Festival was given permission to wear his Jewel for his life time in his Province only.

Whilst Jewels for the Girls ceased in 1985 there are many available from different sources for any budding collector, antique fairs and car boot sales being good examples.

Lodge Museums and rooms often have good collections for viewing. Festival Jewels for the Girls in the main have a white ribbon but in the years 1911 1914 1917 and 1918 they carried a blue stripe. The 1904 Cheshire Jewel carried a Red stripe.

I hope this article will be of interest and stimulate collectors.

*W.Bro.P.King P.P.J.G.W.*

*The Lodge of Virtue & Silence 332.*



# MQ

## ARE YOU GETTING MQ ?

When the MQ Magazine was launched we supplied the publishers with a list of names and addresses of all members which enabled you to have your copy posted direct to your home.

We have recently updated this information. However if you have recently moved home or do not receive your copy the number to call is 02392 313890, and they will be pleased to update your information.

## Diary Dates

### Cathedral Evensong

Thursday 6th April 7pm

### Silver Jubilee Lodge N°8811

McCarthy/Slatcher Memorial Lecture  
Saturday 29th April

### Provincial Grand Lodge Holbrook

Friday 2nd June

### Sudbury Golf Day

Wednesday 17 May