



FORUM

The Suffolk Freemasons Newsletter

Winter 2009



“Until time with us shall be no more”

See page 3

Editor's notes



I hope that you are all recovering from the festive season and wish everyone a prosperous New Year, however trite that sounds as the recession begins to bite. I know that many businesses are being affected which makes the continuing support of our advertisers doubly welcome. We need even more to ensure the continuing success of Forum.

My thanks, as ever, to those who submit articles for publication. If you have anything you want to say, either news or of some article of general interest, please send them in and we will do our best to publish them. We would also be delighted to publish any letters we receive on Masonic matters provided they are not too long. Something between 100 to 200 words is ideal. Make this the year you see your story in print.

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Finding Gunner Snow

By WBro Hugh Jefferson of St Luke's Lodge



In the way that "the earth had recently been disturbed" led to the finding of our Master, Hiram Abiff, this is a modern day story of a discovery and sacrifice.

My brother, Barrie, when initiated into Freemasonry, had had a long interest in the Great War regularly visiting the war graves in France and Belgium. Visiting Grand Lodge, he studied the Roll of Honour of Freemasons who had died in that conflict. There he came across Bro Frederick Snow, JW of St. Luke's Lodge, No. 225, recorded as Gunner FW Snow of the 166th Siege Battery who had been killed on 26 September, 1917 at the age of 37.

Local investigation revealed no relations of Frederick Snow. However, in September 2005, my brother took me to the grave in the Huts Cemetery in Belgium. There we planted a poppy cross on the grave with an inscription from St Luke's Lodge. We also left our details in the cemetery's address book. Two weeks later I received a letter from Frederick's grandson, Geoffrey Snow, living in Rochester, who had visited his grandfather's grave just days after our visit. He had been intrigued to find our poppy cross and reference to Bro Snow as Junior Warden of St Luke's Lodge, and contacted me. Here were the first steps to discovering so much more about our Junior Warden, but the next discovery was even more remarkable than the first.



Barely six or seven weeks later, the Secretary of St. Luke's lodge received a call from WBro Bill Hughes, our past Grand Superintendent. From among a random job-lot at a local auction, a framed photograph of Masonic brethren had been passed to him in which he recognised the banner of St Luke's Lodge, and he thought the lodge should have it. On closer examination an old newspaper was found stuffed into the back of the frame, dated 3 February 1917! Concluding that this picture was taken at the December 1916 Installation meeting of St Luke's Lodge, probably the four shown were the new Master, the Wardens and visiting Provincial Officer. Could this be our Bro Fredrick Snow in his Masonic regalia only months before his death in the battlefields of Belgium? This was, indeed, confirmed by further information supplied by Bro Snow's grandson,



This photograph now rests at the Junior Warden's pedestal at St Luke's Lodge November meeting when Bro Fredrick Snow, our past Junior Warden, remains in our thoughts.

The Masonic Peace Memorial and the Hall Stone Jewel

Last November 11th marked the 90th anniversary of the end of the First World War. It is appropriate that we look back to that period and the history of the Hall Stone Jewel.

In June 1919, a special Grand Lodge was held at the Albert Hall to celebrate the coming of peace. The MW The Grand Master, HRH the Duke of Connaught, absent through illness, sent a letter proposing that the best way of celebrating peace and the sacrifice of fallen Brethren would be to build a new home for Grand Lodge at the heart of the Empire. This would be funded by voluntary contributions.

The Masonic Million Memorial Fund was accordingly established to raise the sum required and a series of special jewels was authorised for both individual contributors and Lodges. The most famous was the Hall Stone Jewel and Collarette to be worn in perpetuity by the masters of contributing Lodges raising a minimum of ten guineas per subscribing member. This was a large figure then and would be worth several hundred pounds today. Individual subscribers received silver or gold jewels for contributions of more than ten or one hundred guineas respectively.

After much debate about where the new building should be it was agreed to redevelop the existing site in Great Queen Street. Various designs were considered with the contract finally going to the partnership of H V Ashley and Winton Newman with a design based on a steel frame clad in stone. It was to be one of the first steel framed buildings to be erected in England. A further boost to fundraising was made through a Festival and on 8th August 1925 over 7,000 brethren lunched at the Olympia in



West London. This is still the largest sit-down meal held in the British Isles. The sum then raised or pledged of £855,000 was announced at lunch.

Work began in 1927 and at a Grand Lodge meeting held at the Olympia on 14th July, the foundation stone for the new building was laid via an electrical relay. The building was completed in 1933 and named the Masonic Peace Memorial for it is not just the Memorial Shrine that commemorates the thousands of brethren who died on active service but the whole building itself. On the outbreak of the Second World War it reverted to being called Freemasons' Hall.

Freemasons' Hall is a Grade 2* listed building and is the only art deco building in London which has been preserved in its original form and still used for its original purpose. Apart from the special place it holds in English Freemasonry, it has become better known by non-masons in recent years through its programme of concerts and exhibitions and its appearance in many television series such as Poirot and Spooks.

There are 1,321 Hall Stone Lodges and their names and numbers are inscribed on commemorative panels in the main ceremonial entrance vestibule of Freemasons' Hall close to the Memorial Shrine itself. Of these, three Hall Stone Lodges reside in Suffolk: Royal Clarence, No 1823, Gippeswyk, No 4254 and Priory, No 4618.

Suffolk Hall Stone Lodges

The three Suffolk Hallstone Lodges held their Annual meeting at Sudbury.

Pictured, left to right, are the Worshipful Masters: WBro Robert Spring of Royal Clarence, WBro Phillip Covell of Priory Lodge, and WBro Gordon Carless of Gippeswyk Lodge.

WBro Phillip Covell, recently appointed Provincial Representative of Group 7 of Suffolk Lodges, said how honoured he



was to wear the Hall Stone Jewel, not only in the memory of those who died in the war, but also the members of Priory Lodge who had contributed to the building of the memorial.

JOTTINGS FROM THE Provincial Grand Secretary



Welcome to the Winter edition of Forum. There has been much happening in the last six months and much to look forward to in the next.

There have been three very successful Almoners Seminars conducted by the Provincial Almoner, WBro Dr Mac Speake. All the Brethren and their ladies who have attended have found them most interesting and informative.

The Lodges who have invited the Provincial Orator, WBro Trevor White, to their meetings have found his style interesting, educational and lively. I do commend any Lodge looking for a variation on a standard lecture to contact him.

Most Lodge Secretaries have been busy completing the necessary paperwork for the Historical Records Project. The Provincial Archivist, WBro Brian Woodall, has asked me to thank all concerned and to request the few who have yet to complete their return to do so as soon as possible.

The Annual Meeting will again be at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook at the earlier date of 3rd April, 2009. The booking form can be found in this copy of Forum. If you wish to dine, please complete and send in the form by return.

The members of the Province have supported the 2009 Festival wholeheartedly and I am sure we will achieve an excellent figure. The Festival Dinner on 21st May 2009 celebrates this achievement. The Provincial Grand Master is very proud of this effort and he hopes that every Lodge in the Province will be represented by having at least one table of ten. Bookings are already very strong with some Lodges asking for three tables. The Dinner, which includes a Champagne Reception and a five-course meal with wine, represents excellent value for money and I do urge you, if you have not already done so, to send in your booking so that each Lodge can be guaranteed a table.

Other items of interest include the move of the Provincial Office to a new room downstairs at Soane Street which has provided a better working environment for the volunteers who work so diligently on our behalf. This move also allows the archives to be stored in a safer and more accessible location.

WBros Trevor White and John Pitcher are to be congratulated for their work on the new Provincial Website which is now up and running. Please take a look.

Finally, a date for your diaries, to celebrate the completion of our Festival year. The Provincial Chaplain, WBro George Pipe, is organising a commemorative Evensong at Bury St Edmunds on Thursday 19th November 2009.



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FIRST MEETING IN NEW SECRETARIAT OFFICE



The photograph shows the Provincial Secretariat meeting for the first time in the New Provincial Office at Soane Street.

NEW WEBSITE UP AND RUNNING

The Provincial website has recently been completely re-designed and now has many new and attractive features. The basic details for all Suffolk lodges have been included with the ability to add further information as it becomes available.

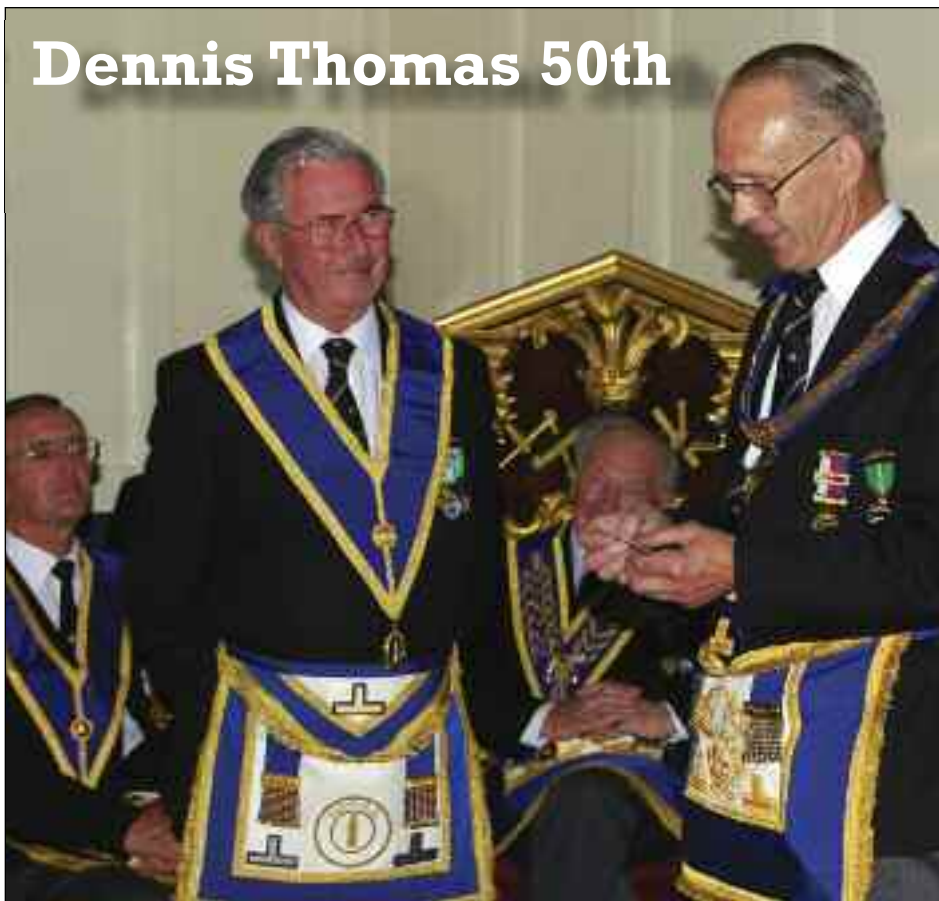
The address of the website is: www.suffolkfreemason.org.uk

This work has been completed by WBro John Pitcher and his company Unique Websites (www.uniquewebsites.co.uk). WBro Pitcher has been a member of the Craft since 1985. His mother Lodge is Kershaw No 3838 in East Lancashire. Since moving to Suffolk he has been a Founder member of both Brett Valley and Countryside Lodges, and is a member of Virtue and Silence.

Information Officer WBro Trevor White said: "We are delighted with the skill which Brother Pitcher has demonstrated with our new website, which also provides for further development. It is our ambition to introduce the facility of secretarial use in the exchange of forms and general communications with the Lodges." He added: "It is not our intention to provide Masonic education through our site, this is already available in an excellent format from Grand Lodge."

All communications concerning the website should be directed to WBro Trevor White, Information Officer (email: mrtjwhite@aol.com).

Dennis Thomas 50th



On 11th June, fifty years to the day after his initiation, WBro Dennis Thomas received his 50-year certificate at the meeting of St Luke's Lodge from the DPGM, VWBro Robert Mayhew. In presenting the certificate, the DPGM gave a brief personal history of WBro Dennis and of his contribution to the Craft in Suffolk. To the amusement of the Brethren, Dennis frequently corrected the information supplied to the DPGM. A corresponding gift from the Lodge was presented by the WM, WBro John Farrow. In response, Dennis thanked the DPGM, the members of the Lodge, the support received from his wife and, judging the weight of the Lodge gift, commented: "It can't all be whisky, can it?"

Sudbury Mayor at Babergh



At their October White Table meeting in Sudbury, Babergh Lodge had the pleasure of entertaining as guest of honour John Sayers, Mayor of Sudbury, and his lady. Some weeks before the event the Mayor approached the Masonic Centre with a request for his Charity Appeal to fund the annual old peoples Christmas party at the Town Hall. All three Sudbury Lodges participated in a donation of £650. This was presented to the Mayor by WBro Peter Holbrook of Babergh Lodge. The picture shows the WMs of Stour Valley, Priory and Babergh Lodges with the Mayor.

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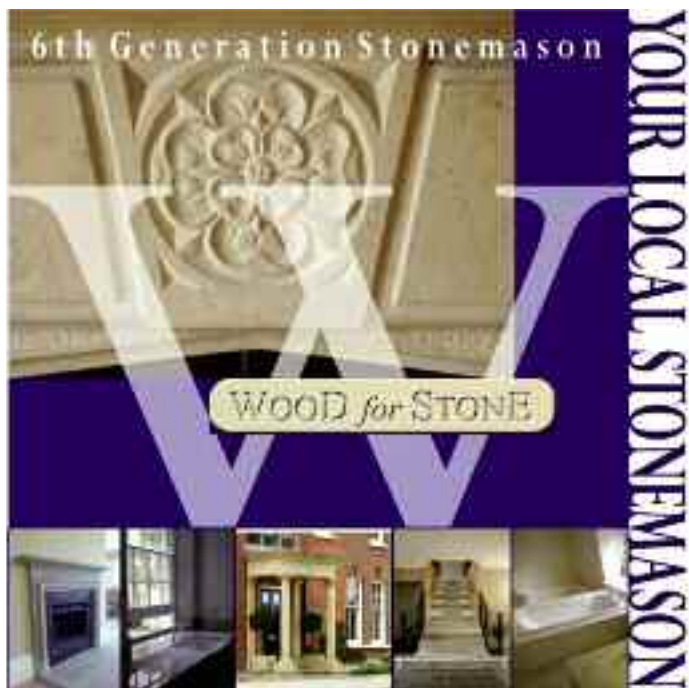
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STAMP INVADES GERMANY

A report on the latest trip by WBro Ralph Robertson

Last spring, the members and guests of STAMP set off for their 12th trip abroad in furtherance of fellowship and new masonic experiences.

The party consisted of the original members - the Grand Originals - other members and a few new faces to make up the party of 24. WBros David Deal, John Jarman and Peter Seaman undertook the arrangements and all other matters connected to the trip for which they are to be congratulated.

After the coach to Harwich and overnight ferry to the Hook of Holland one or two members exhibited signs of being "over served" during the crossing as the coach trip through Holland and into Germany was a little subdued. The mood changed as we neared our destination, the City of Bonn.

After settling into the Hotel President we spent the evening at the Bond of Friendship Lodge, No 890. This is an English-speaking lodge under the German Constitution. Membership was small in number but they worked very hard to make the evening a resounding success. They had a candidate who was passed and whose own evening was made memorable by the number of Suffolk Masons present during the ceremony. The Festive Board was a convivial affair and "Suffolk Fire" was sung to the appreciation of our German hosts.

The next day we took a cruise on the river Rhine from Bonn to Linz. The weather was kind, the scenery was lovely and the company was good. Who knows, there may have even been the odd glass of wine taken on board to slake one's thirst. After lunch in Linz we returned for a leisurely trip back to Bonn. On the last full day we were free to explore the City and, in the evening, held our final meal together along with a few of the members from Bond of Friendship Lodge.

Once again, the trip was regarded as a resounding success by everyone who came.

Festival Progress



The Festival Appeal in Suffolk will draw to a close on the 31st March 2009 and the Province are continuing to move towards a very commendable final total following the tremendous support given by the Suffolk brethren over the last seven years.

The planning of the Festival Banquet is now well advanced and is to be held on Thursday, 21st May 2009, at the Trinity Park Conference and Events Centre in Ipswich. The Provincial Organising Committee for the 2009 MSF Festival are pictured at a planning meeting. Left to right are Christine Bond, Commercial Manager; Graham Thurston, Events Manager; Assistant PGM Barry Rackham, Chairman; Past Assistant PGM Reg Rivett, Secretary and David Harries, Provincial Grand Secretary.



Congratulations!

Mrs Eileen Henningham celebrated her 100th birthday on the 31st of May. The Provincial Almoner, WBro Mac Speake went along with the Master and Almoner of Adair Lodge, WBros Nigel Suckling and Ken Hanham, (pictured with Mrs Henningham), to offer their congratulations. Mrs Henningham's late husband was a joining member of Adair Lodge



Every one a winner!

Last summer the Provincial Grand Secretary, WBro David Harries, organised a barbecue to raise funds for the refurbishment of the new Felixstowe Masonic Dining Hall. The picture shows WBro John Yeldham with a new friend from the raffle!

Festive Season Starts Early in Stowmarket



Phoenix Lodge had the pleasure of entertaining nine widows at the Old Newton Shoulder of Mutton PH on Monday 8th December.

We were also joined by the Almoner and a widow from Bosmere Lodge.

We were ably supported by a number of brethren and their wives including the WM and the WM elect.

Everybody enjoyed the traditional Christmas food and the entertainment in the interval, ably delivered by Audrey Mascall.

The WM presented Christmas Cards and a gift to all the widows present.



Carriages were called at 7.00pm and everybody was transported to the Stowmarket Lodge for the Nine Carols and Lesson Service. We were all treated to readings and carols, music played by Bro. Stewart Hines.

Many thanks to Ala Lodge for the Carol Concert.

A good start to Christmas.

Suffolk Masonic Golfing Society

The Society has enjoyed another very successful year, retaining the Essex v Suffolk and the four Counties Trophies. Membership has increased again this year and at a cost of just £5.00 offers excellent value. The Society meets eight or nine times during the season at different venues

and enjoys a very relaxed and friendly day out. A raffle is held at each meeting and, following the 2007 season, a total of £2,100 was donated to local charities. The beneficiaries were the five Sea Cadet Units in Suffolk which were presented with £200 each to assist deserving

Cadets to go offshore training on the Training Ship Royalist and the new palliative care centre being built at the James Paget Hospital.

If any brother would like further information about the Society please telephone WBro Mike Richards (2008 Captain) on 01359 271076 or the Secretary, WBro Nick Le Grys, on 01394 380990.



St. Mary's Lodge Gourmet Night

On the 4th November, and for the third consecutive year, members of St. Mary's Lodge and their company attended at the Hermitage Restaurant and Public House in Acle for a gourmet evening to raise monies for the Suffolk Festival Appeal..

The event, hosted by Bro Chris Carter, and organised by WBro Ron Hanton, comprised a gourmet meal and cookery demonstration. Bro Chris, a member of St. Mary's Lodge since 1974, has owned the Hermitage Restaurant for the last six years and the premise is renowned for its fine cuisine.

The cookery demonstration by Bro Chris was particularly interesting as he was trained in Paris and London in the tradition of George Auguste Escoffier,

However, the recipe for this evening's success was quite simple, with Bro Chris donating all the proceeds of the evening's entertainment, including the bar profits, for the purposes of the festival. In addition to the various donations on the night, an auction, and the obligatory raffle the sum of £1,610 was realised bringing the total for the three years of similar events to £4,400.

Last July, the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Barry Ross, invited all Suffolk Masons to a Golf Day at Thorpeness to compete for the Provincial Grand Master's Trophy and to promote membership in the Province of the Suffolk Masonic Golfing Society. An excellent day was enjoyed by the 68 competitors and culminated in the awards presentation at which the PGM's Trophy was presented to its first winner, WBro Dr John Elmore (pictured).



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Solea supports EACH

Pictured are WBro Peter Smith, IPM of Solea Lodge, with his wife Hazel presenting a cheque to Sue Meader of the East Anglian's Children's Hospices at their base at Quiddenham, on the 22nd October.

Following a good year of fund raising during his year in the chair Peter was delighted to present the cheque. Peter has supported EACH for the past 15 years by taking part in their forest cycle rides, held each May, and has completed 25 miles of off-road on every occasion.

The Lodge raised the money from raffles, Christmas and Easter lunches, a treasure hunt, etc, and continues to make EACH a focus for its fund raising.

The sun shone brightly in July for the annual Martyn Lodge garden party, held in the beautiful setting of The Pantiles, home of lodge Charity Steward WBro David Mayhew and his wife Mary. Thanks to the generosity of all those present, a grand total of £1000 was raised which will be distributed among several local charities including the East Anglian Air Ambulance Service.

Pictured is WBro David Mayhew (left) handing over a cheque for £400 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance.



Garden Party Success for Martyn Lodge



Bosmere Presentation

Pictured are David Bullock, WM of Bosmere Lodge, and Treasurer Roger Young presenting a cheque for £395 to Sue Gosling of Cornwallis Court, this being the proceeds of their Ladies Festival.

Last year, Orient Lodge raised £2,600 supporting the then WM, WBro Nick Creamer, for his choice of charities. This money was raised through dances, quiz nights and raffles, etc. The amounts given to the various charities was Alzheimers Society, £700, Parkinson's Disease, £700, NANSAs (Norfolk and Norwich Scope Association), £400, British Heart Foundation, £500 and £300 to the Laurie Bird memorial trust for inflatable beds for cancer sufferers at home. The photograph shows representatives of various charities at the Lodge presentation held at the Victoria Hotel in Lowestoft on 29th August.



Orient Lodge Charity Drive

On 14th September Freemasons' Hall in Soane Street was thrown open to the public from 10.30am to 4.00pm. Hallco, the board of Ipswich Masonic Hall Ltd, have for some time been considering the need to raise the profile of Ipswich's Freemasons' Hall. This is becoming a commercial imperative and when WBro Arthur Tydeman suggested that we participate in Ipswich's Heritage Open Day, the idea was enthusiastically adopted.

WBro Arthur (right) made the initial contact with the Ipswich Society who, acting under the umbrella of the Civic Trust, are responsible for the organisation and advertising of Ipswich's Heritage Open Day. After having shown the Ipswich Society representatives round Freemasons' Hall they were only too delighted to have our involvement.

The George Scott Room, the Bar, the Temple and the entrance hall were subsequently admired by the 450 plus visitors who flocked to take advantage of the opportunity to view what must be one of Ipswich's smaller architectural jewels. WBro Arthur provided an information sheet for distribution to the visitors and arranged a comprehensive display in the Robing Room which conveyed the full



Heritage Open Day

extent of the charitable work done and financed by Freemasons nationally and locally. Particular emphasis was given to the extent to which local charities had benefited from the efforts of individual Ipswich lodges. WBro Harry Watson (left), the Hallco managing director, said: "The Open Day was an enormous success. We had four times as many visitors as we expected and they were really

appreciative. They all went away with a much better idea of what Freemasonry is and the tremendous amount of charity that we support." He went on to say: "I would like to thank all of those masons, WBros Forbes Powrie, Colin Mayes, Peter Gotts, and Eric Richardson, who so willingly gave their time to show visitors around and explain some of the symbolism that they could see."



runs. The winning boundary in the last over came from their highest scoring batsman, WBro Tim Warner, on 34. The cup, which has changed hands at every match held so far, was presented to the Brett Valley Master, WBro Richard Robinson by WBro Andrew Wood, the Master of Virtue & Silence with the

JACK KEMBALL CUP

The two Hadleigh Lodges met again on 21st August to contest the Jack Kemball Cricket Cup. As usual it proved a very closely fought 20-20 match with runs gained and wickets falling at an almost identical rate for both sides. Virtue & Silence batted first reaching 98 runs for 9 wickets with WBro Mark Hainsworth their highest scorer on 24. In gradually fading light Brett Valley replied with 100

conviction that the cup would once again change hands next year.





Mark Charity Golf Day

The East Anglia Mark Benevolent Association held a charity golf day on 18th September at Thetford Golf Club in aid of the 2013 Festival. Sixty golfers took part from all corners of the Province.

The day started with a 13 hole Greensomes tournament in the morning, won by Geoff Spencer and his partner John Masters with a score of 27. The afternoon 18-hole better-ball competition was won with 45 Stableford points by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master John Elmore, assisted by his partner Terry Heggarty.

In conjunction with the afternoon's play, members of Mark Lodges in the Province played for a team trophy which was won by Basil Callaby, Peter Rollin, Brian Barton and Ted Wilkerson (pictured left to right) from the Philanthropic Mark Lodge in King's Lynn.

Towards the end of the afternoon the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Peter Rollin greeted the players on their return to the clubhouse and, after an excellent meal, presented the various prizes. A very successful event came to an end after the Provincial Grand Master had accepted a cheque for just over £1,600, the result of the fund raising during the day and the very generous sponsorship of John Bloom and Ian Leed. The day was so successful that it is intended to organise another in 2009. Once the date and venue have been finalised, brethren will be informed.



W.Bro. T. White - Pro. Orator

MASONIC EDUCATION - *The way forward*

"There are also many research lodges that do excellent work. The latest Grand Lodge initiative has been

the Orator scheme which I hope will encourage masons to look deeper into the meaning of the rituals on their personal journey of self discovery. I chaired a successful meeting with all our Orators recently and feel confident that the objectives of the scheme will be met."

This is a quote from the Pro Grand Master's Address to Grand Lodge in December, when talking about Masonic Education.

In our Province the Orator scheme is well under way with WBro Trevor White, having already presented orations on twenty separate occasions. He said: "This is a unique opportunity to discuss the various interpretations of our Masonic symbols in open lodge and to share our own personal Masonic thoughts."

If your Lodge would like a presentation of the Orations, he can be contacted by telephone on 01473 622580. Sometimes a planned meeting is unable to go ahead as the candidate cannot attend. The Orator will be pleased to fill that gap on the agenda, at short notice if he is available.

The Province of Suffolk is well served with Research Lodges. Gainsborough Lodge No 9332 was formed in 1989 as a study lodge in Sudbury to provide Masons with an opportunity to hear papers, lectures and look into Masonic subjects without worrying about the usual cycle of ceremonies. All are joining

members who are already Master Masons and in many cases Past Masters. Although formed in Sudbury, they still have 7 of the founders in the Lodge and have members not only from Sudbury itself but from a number of other Lodges in Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Essex and London.

They have a much sought after demonstration team who have perfected routines of how they envisage ceremonies took place in 1746 shortly after the Battle of Culloden and on board a ship in 1754 on the way to participate in the war against the French in Canada.

They will be hosting the 2009 Group 5 Cluster meeting on Wednesday, 8th April for the members of Stour Valley, Royal Clarence, Priory, Babergh and Court Knoll Lodges as well as all visitors who wish to come along.

They are always delighted to see visitors and new prospective Joining Members. Their next meeting is on Monday, 9th February 2009 when WBro. Brian Woodall (Provincial Archivist) will be presenting a paper on the history of the Provincial Grand Lodge in Suffolk.

If anyone would like additional information on our future meetings or on any aspect of Gainsborough Lodge contact the secretary WBro Paul Cammiss on 01440 704778 or by e-mail to p.cammiss@adams-harrison.co.uk.

Silver Jubilee Lodge, No 8811, meets in the Lowestoft area, and has a research paper presented at each meeting. The new WM presents his own paper at the Installation meeting in March. They describe themselves as "an Educational Lodge within which to work and enjoy

the company of like-minded Brethren"

This Lodge is well known for its annual McCarthy - Slatcher lecture which is named after two of the founders. Many leading Masonic lecturers have presented at this meeting and on Friday April 17th 2009 they have secured Bro Dr Robert Lomas, well known for his controversial books including *The Hiram Key*. His interpretations have caused some considerable controversy amongst some Masonic historians. His paper will be entitled "Will the real Knights Templar please stand up".

This meeting, which will be held at the Masonic Hall in Lowestoft, in regalia, commences at 6.15 pm and will prove very popular. To book your place for this meeting contact the secretary WBro Mike Hall, Tel 01493 751039, or by email at sjmeals@mico-tec.co.uk.

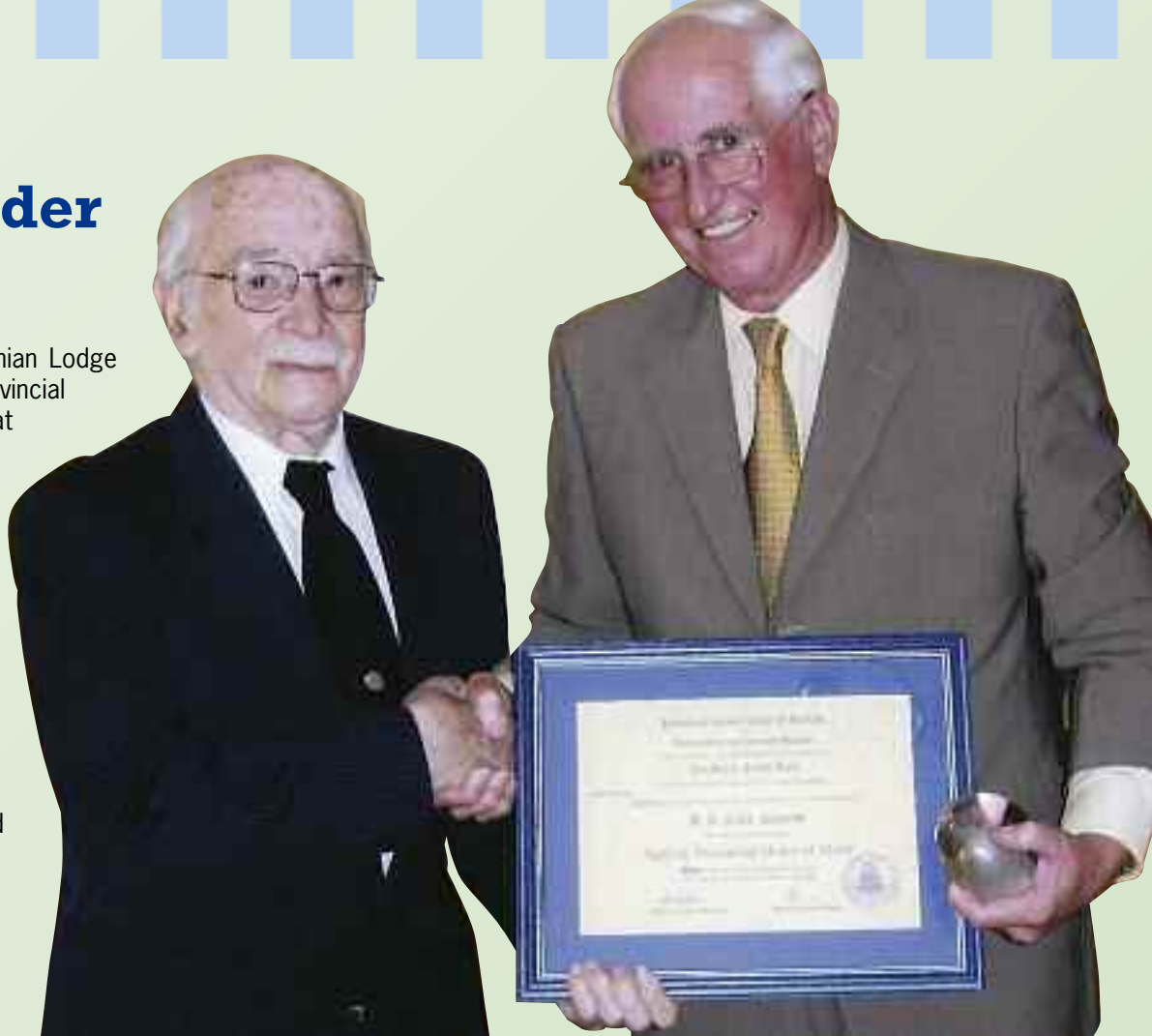
Silver Jubilee welcomes new members and visitors. Full details are available from the secretary.

The WM of Suffolk Installed Masters Lodge No 3913, WBro John Frew is encouraging their members to develop and present five minute lectures in their own Lodges to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of the meaning of Freemasonry. This initiative is fully supported by the Wardens WBro Ben Bullen and WBro Gordon Spindler who intend to continue the initiative during their respective years of Office.



Suffolk Order of Merit

WBro Percy Cook of Corinthian Lodge was unable to attend the Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting at Holbrook this year to receive the Suffolk Provincial Order of Merit. On 28th July, the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Barry Ross subsequently made the presentation at Percy's home. Percy, who is 94 years old, was initiated into Corinthian Lodge in 1963, became its Master in 1977 and was Provincial Grand Treasurer in 1986.



Sixty up for Bill Downing

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro Robert Mayhew, is pictured presenting a 60-year certificate to WBro Bill Downing, of St. Luke's Lodge at the meeting on 11th September. Bill, now an honorary member of the Lodge and one of the remaining Dunkirk veterans, was a fish merchant in Ipswich for many years and a JP. Members, and especially new masters, always welcomed his sage advice on masonic matters.



Stradbroke double celebration



Bro Derek Podd has been the organist of Stradbroke Lodge for 35 years until he became too ill to attend the Lodge on a regular basis. As he was unable to attend the Lodge itself to receive his 50 year certificate it was decided to present him with his certificate at his home on 27th May. The photograph shows, from left to right, WBro Victor Burton, WM, WBro Derek Howard, a friend of Bro Derek who has now taken over as organist, WBro Reg Rivett with Bro Derek in front.

WBro Fred Bowles, who was awarded the Suffolk Provincial Order of Merit at the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting last May, is shown with the WM and WBro



Reg Rivett at the presentation of his 50 year certificate at the regular meeting on 21st May.

Another 50

On 30th September, RWBro Bob Tile, together with WBro Ian Lankester, the Master of Seckford Lodge, and other Masons visited WBro Foch Harris and his wife Betty at their home and presented him with a Provincial Certificate celebrating his 50 years as a Mason.

