



# FORUM

The Suffolk Freemasons Newsletter

Summer 2010



## **New Stour Valley Banner**

Full story on page two

## Editor's notes



We regularly thank our contributors and advertisers. Without the former we would have no magazine and the latter could not afford to publish and distribute it. While we are forever in their debt we should also spend a moment thinking about those who make publication and distribution possible: those who sell the advertising space, the designers, proof-readers, the printers and the volunteers who stuff the envelopes. Nice things were said about the magazine in the reports at the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting and it is nice to spread the compliments a little wider.

We wish all our readers and supporters a happy, relaxing and sun drenched summer and look forward to a rush of new stories during the new Masonic season.

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At the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting **WBro Keith Huxley** was appointed the first Provincial Grand Mentor for the Province.

Keith, who is a member of St. Andrews Lodge in Great Yarmouth, has for the last six years been the Provincial Representative of Group 1.

As well as holding regional meetings with Lodge Co-ordinators in February and May of this year, Keith has given talks to Lodges within the Province on the recommendations of the Working Party set up by Grand Lodge in respect of Mentoring. With over 90% of Lodges within our Province having now appointed Mentoring Co-ordinators, Keith feels that we now have the opportunity of exchanging ideas and initiatives which can only improve the way in which we support and care for

our members, especially in their early and formative years.

If any Lodge would like to arrange a talk on mentoring, Keith can be contacted at keith\_huxley@sky.com

Appointed Charity Steward at the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting in June, **WBro Peter Gosling** was already working at taking over the reins of office from WBro Richard Baker and is heavily involved in the PGM's support for the EACH Treehouse Appeal reported elsewhere in this magazine.

Peter was initiated into Abbey Lodge in Bury St Edmunds in 1985, is a member of White Rose Chapter as well as a member of several other orders. In craft he was appointed Provincial Junior Deacon in 2004, and last year was



PROVINCIAL MENTOR  
**Keith Huxley**



PROVINCIAL CHARITY STEWARD  
**Peter Gosling**

## New Stour Valley Banner

The Provincial Chaplain, WBro George Pipe, dedicated a new banner for Stour Valley Lodge at their meeting in May with the Provincial Grand Master also in attendance. A history of the Banner was given by WBro Peter Thorogood who explained that the setting of the glorious water meadows in their pastoral calm represented the longest worked meadow lands in East Anglia and preserved by the Freeman of Sudbury,

many of whom have been members of our Fraternity.

The Chaplain gave a delightful overview of the rivers of Suffolk and referred to the journey through our County of the River Stour.

Members have been raising funds for the banner over a considerable period with the Lodge of Instruction being a major contributor.



Picture shows (left to right) WBro G J W Pipe, the WM of Stour Valley Lodge, WBro Derek Stokes, the PGM, RWBro Barry Ross and the Director of Ceremonies, WBro C Pocięcha.

Provincial Senior Warden through which he became known to a large number of members of the Province.

**David Clarke**, who is our new Assistant Provincial Grand Secretary, is an Ipswich boy where he lives with his wife Pat. Since 1978 he has pursued a career in Building Design through his own Company. He is a past Round Tabler and Rotarian.

His spare time is spent relaxing on the rivers Orwell, Stour and Deben on his motor cruiser 'Time Out' which is based at Levington.

He was Initiated into Christchurch Lodge No 6829 in 1987, He is also a Founder & current Secretary of Countryside Lodge No 9830, also a member of Round Table Lodge of Suffolk No 9830 and Priory Chapter.



ASST. PRO. GRAND SECRETARY  
**David Clarke**

## JOTTINGS FROM THE P.G. Secretary



The Provincial Grand Lodge was again held at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook. The weather was marvellous, there was a record attendance and those who dined enjoyed an excellent meal. Our many visitors from other Provinces tell us that they particularly like to come to Suffolk because of our imposing venue and the warm hospitality they receive.

At the Provincial Meeting, the Provincial Grand Master presented three very worthy Brethren with the Suffolk Order of Merit. I am examining ways in which the 30 holders of this honour can be easily recognised, but I would suggest that in Lodge, their past commitment to Masonry could be acknowledged by inviting them to parade out of the Lodge immediately after the Grand Officers.

The Provincial Archives are now established in their new room at Soane Street. WBro John Jarman has taken over as Provincial Archivist and he tells me that the Archives are generally manned on a Tuesday morning. There is a wealth of information available for Brethren who are interested. If you consider that you have something to add, please contact Bro John.

I am writing this the day after the Budget and pondering what the next few years will hold, not only for our country but also for us as Freemasons. What is certain is that there will be increased pressures on the cost of Freemasonry, particularly at those venues where VAT has to be levied. Attending Lodge meetings regularly, followed by the Festive Board, is the crux of our Masonic fellowship and it would be disappointing to see a decline in the number of members dining.

I notice when attending meetings that some Brethren always bring a guest, whereas some either never or very rarely do so. I do urge us all to invite guests on a regular basis as they add not only greatly to the enjoyment of all attending, but also help with the cost of maintaining our premises by increased use of the bar and support of raffles, etc.

The Provincial Mentor, WBro Keith Huxley, although only appointed officially in June has been very busy since Christmas organising meetings with Lodge Mentors. The Provincial Grand Master has been strongly encouraging the scheme and I would suggest that we are all Mentors now and by maintaining contact with our members during the Summer, we will surely get off to a flying start in the Autumn.

As last year I would like to thank all the members of the Provincial Office for their continuing support and the Information Officer and Editor of Forum for this excellent magazine.

## Back to SCHOOL

Culford Lodge was greatly honoured by the attendance of 10 Grand Officers, led by the Deputy and Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, VWBro Robert Mayhew and WBro Barry Rackham.

The occasion was the 150th regular meeting of the lodge and which included the rare treat of a father, WBro Michael Jones, installing his son, Stuart, in the chair. which made the evening a unique event.





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## Provincial Grand Lodge

The Provincial Grand Lodge meeting took place at Holbrook School on 4th June, once again in glorious sunshine and with almost all seats full and every Lodge in the Province represented.

After congratulating all the newly appointed or promoted Brethren for their past and future efforts on behalf of the Craft the PGM went on to thank those senior and long serving Provincial Officers standing down from their current offices: WBros Jervis Kay QC (Registrar), Richard Baker (Charity Steward), Andrew Catton (Assistant Secretary), Brian Woodall (Archivist) together with the retiring Group Representatives: WBros Keith Huxley (Group 1), Stephen Bayfield (Group 4) and the late Bernard Horstead (Group 3). He especially commended WBro Baker



for his many years of effort supporting the Provincial Festival in aid of the Masonic Samaritan Fund. Not only was a great sum raised but the Province had achieved one of the highest per capita donations in the country. The Tercentenary of Grand Lodge in 2017 required all Provinces to send in accurate historical records. WBro Brian Woodall, as Archivist, was thanked for his work in managing this process for the Province and, as a consequence, for providing the Province with its own set of up-to-date records.

He was pleased to record a small increase in membership, especially in view of the economic climate.

The Mentoring scheme was now in place across the Province and the appointment of a new Provincial Grand Mentor, WBro Keith Huxley, who had already been heavily involved in putting the system in place, had been charged with its implementation.

The EACH Treehouse appeal was commended by the PGM and is covered elsewhere in the magazine.

The PGM thanked the Deputy PGM and Assistant PGM for their support during the year and all those who had made the day a success: the Provincial Secretariat, the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies and the Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge.

## Province Supports EACH Treehouse Appeal

There can be few members in the Province who have not heard about the Provincial Grand Master's wish to support the East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) Treehouse Appeal although not everyone may be aware of the background. EACH provides care and support for life-threatened children and their families. The Treehouse Appeal aims to raise in excess of £3 million to build and equip a brand new children's hospice for Suffolk and North Essex. They currently deliver care from a bungalow in Ipswich but this is small and there are not enough beds or rooms to deliver the dedicated specialist services required by families.

EACH has already been donated a four-acre woodland plot located between Felixstowe Road and Bixley Road in Ipswich from a local charitable trust. The charity now needs to raise £3 million to make this project a reality.

At the appeal launch, Melanie Chew, EACH Director of Fundraising, said: "The current EACH hospice in Ipswich has

played a vital role in the delivery of children's hospice care services across Suffolk and North Essex since it was opened as a pilot project in 1999. Demand for the care and support we provide has increased and we have subsequently outgrown our current building. We currently care for more than 80 families in Suffolk and North Essex, but there are more than 400 in the area that could benefit from our support. The Treehouse Appeal can make this happen. With the donation of land we are well on our way to seeing our dream come true. I am now appealing to people all over the region to help us raise the funds needed to complete the project."

The contemporary new hospice will be set in mature woodland, allowing children and their families to relax and spend time together in a tranquil setting where first class care and accommodation will be delivered. It will provide overnight accommodation and private support areas for families as well

as increased specialist equipment and improved facilities.

The Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Barry Ross, has commended the appeal to the members of the Province stating: "We all know what a worthy cause this is and I feel sure that we will support this with the same enthusiasm as was shown for the Festival in aid of the Masonic Samaritan Fund."

The new Provincial Charity Steward, WBro Peter Gosling, who will manage the Provincial Appeal, added: "The appeal will last two years with a target of £100,000. It is gratifying to record that so many Lodges have already made considerable donations and that Provincial Grand Chapter and other orders have shown their support for this very worthy cause. Members should make any donations through the Province, rather than directly to EACH, so that we can keep a proper track of donations and that we can add any applicable Gift Aid."



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## Doric Lodge



Wednesday 14th April 2010 saw the renewal of an old Masonic tradition once practiced in Woodbridge of initiating servicemen garrisoned within the cable tow of Doric Lodge and its predecessors.

It would seem that the Lancashire Militia came to Woodbridge in 1803 bringing with them their own Military Lodge, No 309, to which became attached several civilians of the town. It is perhaps not surprising that there were Military Lodges in the location. Woodbridge was at that time a significant military station. Bromeswell Camp held at least four Regiments, and Woodbridge Barracks were built to accommodate 7,000 cavalry and infantry. Latterly, American servicemen were stationed at Woodbridge and Bentwaters.

23 Regiment (Air Assault) Royal Engineers are now stationed at Rock Barracks near Woodbridge as part of the Army's 16 Air Assault Brigade. This has resulted in a new influx of service personnel into the local area and the first initiate, and hopefully not the last, was Captain Neil Thomas MBE. Since his arrival in Suffolk, Neil has become involved in many local charities and community projects, particularly those concerned with children and adults with disabilities. He represented Great Britain in power lift and won world titles in 2005

and 2006. In March 2009 he was awarded the MBE for services to the Community and the Army.

Neil has family connections to masonry. His Uncle, WBro Anthony Taylor, is the Provincial Secretary of Oxfordshire and was present on the night.

*The photograph shows (L-R) WBro Taylor, Bro Thomas, WBro Carter, Master of Doric Lodge, WBro Harries and Bro The Revd Canon McCormack, Rector of St Mary's Church Woodbridge and an Officiating Chaplain to the Military for 23 Regt. (Air Assault) Royal Engineers.*

## Apollo Lodge Donations



WBro Tony Neale is shown handing over cheques for £775 to Beccles First Responders and Friends of Beccles Hospital. In addition to donations to local charities Tony also allocated from his master's list £1,200 to Prostate Cancer Research and £1,000 to Asthma UK making a total given to non-Masonic causes of £3,750. This was matched with an amount of £3,850 donated to the 2009 Festival. This followed a very successful year of fund raising and Apollo Lodge would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our regular visitors who support our social events, making them both enjoyable and financially rewarding.

## Local boy makes good

Forum has just heard from Peter Rogers, a former local boy, who on 12th June was appointed Deputy District Grand Master, Athabasca District in Canada.



Peter, who was born in Great Yarmouth in 1952, was educated at Technical High School (now Oriel Grammar) and after further education was employed by Great Yarmouth Publicity and Entertainments Department. He was ultimately promoted to Manager of the Marina Theatre. He moved to Martham while still with the department and it was in this period he was initiated into Freemasonry in St Mary's Lodge in Great Yarmouth in 1976 by his father who was Master that year.

After emigrating to Canada in 1982 he became affiliated with Balmoral Lodge, No185. He became Master of Balmoral Lodge in 1988 and remains an active member. He has chaired the lodge charity committee for the last 10 years as well as the Balmoral Lodge Education Bursaries scheme. Peter is an active member of the Al Shamal Shriners AANOMS and is the treasurer of the TLC Corps, Al Shamal Shriners. He served as the Chairman of the Speakers Bureau for two years and Deputy PR Chairman for Al Shamal in 2008.

After a very successful career in Information Technology of over 30 years Peter took early retirement from IBM Global Services in February 2010.

He is married with two children and two grandchildren. He claims that between his years in IT and bringing up two sons he feels that he gained his grey hair honestly!

## Review of 'Brother, whence come you? A history of Sudbury Freemasonry & our home',

by Peter Thorogood, published at £15.



I imagine that every Suffolk Freemason knows Peter Thorogood, many will know him as a researcher and a student of Freemasonry, who has built up a considerable authority. This book is his latest project, and he brings to it all the insight and humour which is his hall mark.

History has several functions. Firstly an account of people and events and the impact of those people and events at their own time, and on the future. Secondly, a revision of received knowledge, in order to provide an alternative account of those people and events, in other words to make us think again.

The telling of a history should persuade the reader that the story is worth the telling, that is worth attending to, that it has something of interest to us, that we shall be the wiser for so reading, and in this process the style of the telling is crucial. No one wants to read a book that is boring, humourless, the mere recitation of names and dates. So often histories of Lodges overlook this last consideration and make no appeal to a wider audience. They do not sufficiently explain or inform.

Peter Thorogood's story takes certain key elements in the story of Freemasonry in Sudbury. The choice of material is excellent. It is humorous and easy to read, it is informative, it illuminates people who, and events which, were crucial in the development of the Craft in the town. It is not merely a chronological unfolding, but rather expands certain key events, providing flesh for the skeleton. It is a history which moves well beyond Lodge Minutes, and ties the history of the Craft in the town to events within the town. In other words it places Freemasonry in its context, that is within the society in which it has its roots, a feature

that is commonly lacking from many such histories. It is well presented and extensively illustrated.

The history should be on every Sudbury Mason's bookshelf, since it reveals events hitherto unknown until Peter's book reveal them. but more, it should be owned by everyone who claims to have an interest in Freemasonry, since the book moves beyond the purely local and has a universal appeal. One does not have to be a Sudbury Mason to enjoy and be informed by this book. It has a universal appeal, and I have no doubt that the author will soon be ordering a reprint.

Brian Woodall

*Peter Thorogood was born in 1945 at Braintree. He was initiated into Priory Lodge in 1990, became WM in 1999/2000 and is now Chaplain. Other Lodge memberships include London Lodge, Gainsborough Lodge, Suffolk Installed Masters and the Grand Master's Lodge of Ireland. He is a copywriter and journalist and became a lecturer, historian and writer. He is the Manager of Sudbury Masonic Hall with his wife Marilyn.*

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## Dawn at Papworth



Last November the Almoner of Lodge of Dawn, WBro Tom Wallace, had to have a quadruple heart by-pass at Papworth Hospital. He is now fully recovered. At the December meeting the Lodge decided to donate £100 to the hospital as a mark of appreciation and, as shown in the picture, WBro Tom was delighted to present the cheque in person.

## Babergh Lodge Family addition

The family that is Sudbury's Babergh Lodge welcomed the increase to its extended numbers when the Lodge Inner Guard, Bro Louis Brooks, his wife Anna and baby Poppy were presented with a 'Nappy Cake' from the Lodge members. Baby Poppy, sister to Daisy, was a most welcome addition; not only to the Brooks household but to Babergh Lodge in particular. It is some years since the Lodge was able to welcome a member's new child into its fold instead of the more usual grandchild! Bro Brooks was a joining member last year from the Fulham Lodge which meets in Ealing in London.



For the curious, a Nappy Cake is made from the following recipe:

- a. 32 size 2 Pampers Nappies.
- b. One pink body suit.
- c. One pink Velcro bib.
- d. Soft wash cloths.
- e. One wind up musical Teddy Bear.

Mix generously with love, sprinkle well with good wishes, wrap & deliver with fraternal greetings.

## New Minibus for Heathside School in Ipswich

One of the members of St. Lukes Lodge had a relative attending the school which provides a very good education for children with physical/mental difficulties. They were in need of a new minibus and requested that the Lodge consider supporting their efforts to raise the necessary funds. After due consideration and a meeting with the head teacher, the Lodge set a target to raise £10,000 in a year. This target was achieved through various functions: a golf day, Ladies night, student walk from Bury St. Edmunds to Ipswich, a barbecue, and other lodge and individual donations.



The bus was delivered in February 2010. In the words of the head teacher it is 'an all-singing all-dancing vehicle' with all the refinements needed to transport the children in comfort either in their wheelchairs or on adjustable seats. It means that the children can continue to be part of the local community and are able to reach their own potential with respect to the extended learning activities available to them.

The bus has the words "Ipswich Freemasons working with the Community" and the Provincial Logo, on both sides. WBro John Elmore represented the Craft at a small gathering to see the finished bus and representatives from the Lodges who contributed were there also to hear the head teacher thank Freemasons for their efforts. The bus can be seen daily in and around Ipswich and our message is seen daily by the community we support.

## Solea Support Motor Neurone Charity



Solea Lodge donated £1,722 to the Motor Neurone Charity. The picture shows WBro Malcolm Smith, WM of Solea 2008/2009, presenting the cheque to Janet Oliver (on his left) from the charity. On WBro Smith's right is his sister, Mrs Janet Brummage. Malcolm and Janet lost their father to this condition and wished to support this particular charity during his year as Master.

## Gainsborough Doubles Membership

Gainsborough Lodge in Sudbury has doubled its membership overnight. The Master Elect, WBro John Yeldham, embarked on his own recruitment drive and there were 28 new joining members at the Lodge meeting in April, more than doubling the membership. Gainsborough Lodge was founded in 1989 as a research Lodge with a very successful demonstration team who are currently training a new team which recreates a ceremony from the 1760's.



*Joining members of Gainsborough Lodge with WBro John Yeldham.*



noting that the future of our Chapters depended heavily on the active and continuing support of our senior members. He added that all attending should be active in talking about and encouraging membership of the Royal Arch. Of the awards of the Suffolk Provincial Order of Merit to EComps James Miller and Albert Jones he noted that the latter was 100 years old last April.

He stated that the Travelling Tools scheme had helped encourage visiting over the last four years since its introduction by EComp John Adams.

## Provincial Grand Chapter



The annual meeting took place with a near capacity attendance at Gresham's Social Club on 18th May. The meeting open, all stood to order to mark the memory of those who died during the year including EComp Bill Hughes, our much respected Provincial Grand Superintendent from 1997 to 2004. After welcoming the Provincial hierarchy and prominent visitors, the Grand Superintendent welcomed three of the Companions exalted during the year and presented them with a copy of the book 'Understanding the Royal Arch'.

In his formal address he congratulated all those he had appointed or promoted to Provincial Grand Rank, thanking them for their past efforts on behalf of the Royal Arch and their future commitment



The Royal Arch Carol Service had been well supported again and he presented the Revd Canon Kevan McCormack, Vicar of St Mary's Church in Woodbridge which hosted the event, with a large wooden candlestick for the church, on behalf of the Province.

He pledged the support of the Royal Arch for the Provincial Grand Master's



## Never too late to learn

EComp Tom Horton was just 94 years 5 months and 20 days young when he was Installed as First Principal of Royal York Chapter last February. He served with distinction in the Royal Navy and after a long career retired with the rank of Commander. He maintains, amongst many other interests, active membership of the Arctic Convoys Association.

Tom did not join Freemasonry until 1996 when at the tender age of 80 he was initiated into Doric Lodge progressing to its Master 2002. He was exalted into Royal York Chapter in 1998.

*The photo shows EComps Tom Horton and David Deal, Provincial Third Grand Principal.*

# Victor Farmer: Grand Superintendent of Suffolk, 1968 - 1974.

Victor Farmer, former Grand Superintendent of Suffolk, was remembered at an Abbot Baldwin Chapter at the end of last year where his life and Masonic career were commemorated in an address by EComp Brian Woodall and a display of associated memorabilia. The Patent appointing him Grand Superintendent of Suffolk had been held in the Masonic Hall at Framlingham. The Companions who meet at Framlingham, supported by EComp Mike Manley, thought that it should be reunited with Victor's Craft Regalia which has been displayed for some years at the Masonic Hall in Bury St Edmunds. The framed Patent is now displayed along with Victor's Craft Regalia at Bury. The story of Victor's life has been taken from Brian Woodall's address.

Victor was born in 1898, educated at Framlingham School, served in the Suffolk Regiment during the First World War and joined ICI in China in 1921 where his father, William, was the Manager of the Peak Hotel in Hong Kong. He was a keen collector of Chinese artefacts. In 1925 he married and moved around China finally reaching Tien-tsin and eventually rising to Company Chairman.

Initiated in the Star of Southern China Lodge No 2013 in 1923, he joined Sungari Lodge under an American constitution in Manchuria in 1930. In 1933 he joined the Coronation Lodge, No.2931, English Constitution, which was held at Tien-tsin becoming Master in 1935. He joined the Northern Lodge of China in Shanghai in 1940, the same year that joined the Old Framlinghamians Lodge, and was appointed District Grand Master of Northern China in 1946. He was exalted in Jubilee Chapter No. 2013 in Canton in 1923, joined the Northern Crown Chapter 2931 in 1935, becoming First Principal in 1938. He rose to become Grand Superintendent of that District in 1946.

The area was occupied by the Japanese in 1937, but they tolerated foreign concessions up to 1941. Where was Farmer, I wonder? Was he still in China? If he had stayed it is more than likely that

he would have been interned. Interestingly Farmer appears to have been granted an extension to stay in China, after the communist takeover in 1949, and was even granted permission to transfer his valuable collection of Chinese artefacts to England in 1953, the same year that his wife died. Farmer, appointed to District Grand Master of China in 1946 was to have but a short reign as his role officially ended in 1951.

In China, he joined both the Mark and Knight Templar Orders, but it is not known whether he continued in these Degrees on his return to Suffolk.

He returned to England sometime after 1949-50. As well as becoming Master of Old Framlinghamians in 1957, he is described in the Provincial Register as a member of Lodge 2931, now erased.

He joined the Henniker Chapter in 1955, and was Grand Superintendent of Suffolk from 1968 to 1974. Farmer was perfected in the St Edmund Chapter Rose Croix in 1970. In 1964 he joined Royal St Edmunds Lodge, remaining a member until his death in 1977. In its register he is

described as a member of the John Bunyan Lodge, No.5973, Bedfordshire, but there is no mention of this elsewhere.

In his retirement he joined the Church of England. He was made a Deacon in 1961, and ordained in 1962. He served the parish of Stradbroke with Horham and Athelington from 1961-63, convenient for his membership of OF's and Henniker Chapter. He moved subsequently to the parish of St James in Bury St Edmunds where he was a Chaplain from 1963-67, and was made a Minor Canon in 1967. Two years after joining the Cathedral he was appointed Rector of Whepstead with Brockley in West Suffolk, in which he served from 1965-71.



# ICE (In Case of Emergency - help others to help you)

The Provincial Almoner, WBro Mac Speake, came across this idea which he felt should be more widely publicised:

In an emergency, should you be unable to communicate or be unconscious, it can be very difficult for the emergency personnel dealing with you to access your contact details. Most people nowadays carry a mobile phone with their contact numbers in the directory. It is recommended that you put your contact details under "ICE" or if more than one "ICE 1", "ICE 2" etc.

**The emergency services are aware of this.**

## Centenary for Albert

The 100th birthday of WBro Albert Jones of Ala lodge in Stowmarket took place on 2nd April. Celebrations were held at Woodfield Court Residential Home in Stowmarket where he lives. The Mayor of Stowmarket and other guests attended. On 1st April 2010, so as not to clash with the formal celebrations, members of Ala Lodge attended at the home for a tea party with Albert. Also in attendance were the PGM, RWBro Barry Ross, and the Provincial Grand Superintendent, EComp David Watson. Both Provincial officers congratulated Albert on his 100th birthday and on his service to Stowmarket masonry. The Grand Superintendent presented Albert with the Order of Merit and a tankard to mark the occasion. He received many cards including cards signed by all the members of Ala Lodge and the Phoenix & Ala Chapter of Royal Arch of which he is a member. Both these orders have made Albert an Honorary member. Albert joined Ala Lodge in January 1951 and was Master in 1964. In 1971 he was appointed to the active rank of Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.



## ADDRESS TO THE YORKSHIRE PUD

Gippeswyk Lodge in Ipswich decided to hold a social event with a difference and having held a Burns night supper for many years decided to stage a traditional English night. To make the evening a bit unique Past Master, WBro Trevor White, who is also the Provincial Orator, had written an 'Address to the Yorkshire Pudding'. The pudding was carried shoulder high to the table accompanied by two bottles of London Pride beer and the music of Rule Britannia.



A copy of the poem can be obtained by contacting Trevor at [mrtjwhite@aol.com](mailto:mrtjwhite@aol.com) at a cost of £7.50 which will be donated to the PGM's Hospice appeal

## LODGE ORGANISTS APPEAL

We are all aware how the Lodge evenings are enhanced with the accompaniment of an Organist. The Provincial Organist, WBro Graham Colthorpe, has kindly offered to assist in finding the hidden talent within our lodges. "If you can play the piano or perhaps another instrument, the lodge organ is not as difficult as you may think," he says.

"I would be pleased to arrange tuition for anybody wishing to become an organist. It really can be quite easy if you have the basic knowledge and sometimes the Brethren only need a key in order to get them going. I also have some simplified versions of the Masonic music that I have written, with just the top line and an alphabet form of the chord below it, so you wouldn't even need to be a strong reader."

If you would like to help your Lodge and need some assistance, Graham can be contacted on 01394 275824. He is also looking out for tenors for the choir.