



FORUM

The Suffolk Freemasons Newsletter

Summer 2014



British Union

See Page 3

Editor's notes



Thank you all who contributed to this edition of Forum - both advertisers and those who submitted articles. For the first time in my memory we have a real problem fitting it all together and have had to drop or postpone one or two pieces we received. Please keep up the good work so that we can improve Forum further and continue to make it fully representative of member's activities across the Province.

For most of us our Lodges are taking a summer break but this does not, of course, mean that members are idle. The season of sports matches, barbecues and other social and fund raising activities will occupy many of us over the next few months.

Good luck to all and have a very pleasant summer.



Editor:

WBro H Spindler 01473 740882

Communications Officer:

WBro R Nash

01449 781911 or 07712 873675

Editorial news to:

WBro Harvey Spindler,

12 St Mary's Close,

Bramford,

Ipswich IP8 4DL

Layout Design:

WBro Colin Barber

Old Newton Graphics

01449 675548

codge@btinternet.com

www.codge.com

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JOTTINGS FROM THE P.G. Secretary

WELCOME TO THE SUMMER EDITION OF FORUM.

The Province has been through a very busy period in the months leading up to the Summer Break.

The Annual Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting was held for the first time at Trinity Park on Wednesday 4 June 2014, adopting a morning Meeting and Lunch format which was well received by our distinguished guests and members of the Province with an excellent atmosphere for both the Meeting and at the Festive Board.

After a dull and wet start to the day the weather improved by lunchtime enabling our brethren to enjoy pre-lunch drinks on the Terrace.

On behalf of the Province I would like to thank WBro David Deal, the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, WBro Ralph Robertson, Secretary of Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge and his team of Stewards for all of their hard work and attention to detail before and on the day of the meeting, ensuring a most successful day at the new venue.

The Province has received many letters and e-mails commenting on the excellent organization and success of the meeting from our Provincial guests, many of whom travel a great distance to be with us.

WBro Mac Speake is retiring after eight years as Provincial Grand Almoner, WBro Trevor White is also retiring after 10 years as Communications Officer and 6 years as Provincial Grand Orator and I am sure you will join me in thanking them both for their commitment to these roles, and their dedicated service to the Province.

The newly appointed Officers are Provincial Grand Almoner, WBro

Terry Lewis, Orator, WBro Peter Thorogood and Communications Officer, WBro Roger Nash.

WBro Roger Nash is to continue in Office as Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary.

I understand that the resurrection of the Provincial Bowls Association got off to a successful start at Ixworth Bowls Club in June and the Masonic Fishing Charity is also being promoted in the Province.

The Suffolk Provincial Clay Pigeon Shoot was held at High Lodge Shooting School on 5 July 2014 with a record entry of over 100 and proved, yet again, a very popular and successful event.

The completion of the construction phase of the Ashlar House, Masonic Centre at Bury St Edmunds will be concluded by a Dedication Ceremony at Bury St Edmunds on Saturday 6th of September followed by a Gala Ball in the evening.

I am also pleased to advise that the United Grand Lodge of England have acceded to a petition for a new daytime Lodge at Southwold.

The Lodge is to be called Southwold Lodge, No 9834, and to be consecrated by the Provincial Grand Master on 15 September 2014.

Finally I would like to thank all members of the Provincial Executive and Provincial Office including the Editor of Forum and the Communications Officer who continue to do so much work behind the scenes.

I wish you all a very enjoyable Summer break.

David Clarke

Provincial Grand Secretary

July 2014

WEBSITE PHOTOGRAPHS AND FEATURES

The Province is considering putting back issues of Forum on the Provincial website for a potentially wide audience. If you have any objections to having photographs or articles in which you feature appearing on the website please contact the Forum editor, Harvey Spindler at the telephone number, postal or email address in the box at the left of this page.

Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting 2014



“IT HAS BEEN AN EXCITING 11 MONTHS FOR ME SINCE MY INVESTITURE” the Provincial Grand Master informed the Brethren at the annual meeting. “At my many visits throughout the year, I have seen nothing but enthusiasm for Freemasonry and brilliance in the work in the temples and the atmosphere at the festive boards and each report that I have had from my Wardens attending installation meetings, echoed exactly that,” he said.

The meeting held at Trinity Park in Ipswich was well attended, at this new venue. Another first was the meeting concluding with lunch. A speedy turn-round of the meeting room to a dining hall was carried out by the caterers and the Stewards’ team of helpers.

The PGM said that he was looking forward to dedicating later this year, the new Bury Masonic Centre, which will provide the biggest permanent Masonic venue we have in Suffolk with bespoke catering within its confines.

Further news was shared when he told the gathering: “We also

have a petition with Grand Lodge awaiting their approval for a new Lodge to be consecrated in Southwold, which will allow the brethren to meet at lunchtime to enjoy their Freemasonry.”

Membership numbers have stabilised, much of which must be due to the efforts of our Lodge Mentors. Special thanks were expressed to Keith Huxley for all his efforts in co-ordinating the lodge ambitions.

The PGM thanked retiring Almoner Dr Mac Speake and Orator Trevor White who have served the province over many years.

The PGM concluded his address saying:

“Being your Provincial Grand Master is everything I hoped it would be. As I have said before, it’s a big chain - it’s a big office - and with your continued support we will do our utmost to give Suffolk a future we can all be proud of.”

“Please enjoy your well-deserved break and may we re-group in September to enjoy the finest Freemasonry in the finest Province”

A record for British Union?

For many years one of British Union’s longest standing brethren, Bro David de Lappe Winter, had just been a name at the top end of our membership List. He was initiated in February 1974, subsequently being passed and raised. For nearly forty years successive Lodge Secretaries had carried around his Grand Lodge Certificate as immediately after being raised he was posted to Darwin, in Australia, which was to have been a two-year posting but became permanent.

Through a chance meeting of a close friend of his in the UK, Bro Brian Wilks of Christchurch Lodge and WBro Andrew Sleath, it was discovered that he was making a

visit to England and Ireland to see family and through last minute planning it was found that he would arrive back into UK from Galway on 30th April before leaving for Australia. Arrangements were made for Bro David to attend British Union Lodge once again as a member together with Bro Brian and four other masonic friends from the past and to receive his Grand Lodge Certificate which was presented by WBro Andrew Sleath.

The photograph on the front cover shows Bro David after receiving his certificate with Bro John Horton, a member in 1974 and contemporary of Bro David who were both at prep school together, and our Current WM, WBro Peter Tubby.

All Change for Communications

ROGER NASH, THE ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARY, is taking over the role of Communications Officer following the retirement from that role by Trevor White.

Communications have changed and grown quite considerably over the years following the more open approach by Grand Lodge.

Roger will head the various teams involved in the production of Forum, Provincial websites, Social media and all aspects of Publicity.

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New Provincial Orator



PETER THOROGOOD has been appointed as the Provincial Orator and succeeds Trevor White who has held the Office since its introduction in 2007.

The Oration scheme was introduced to enable lodges to further examine and discuss Freemasonry, as an alternative to holding a formal ceremony. Trevor has presented to most Lodges within the Province and is very grateful for the kind and helpful reception he always received.

Peter Thorogood is a well known Masonic writer and researcher and he has a specialist knowledge of Masonry in West Suffolk.

He can be contacted by email at thorogoods@fsmail.net or tel 01787 379050.

In addition to his new duties as Orator, Peter has compiled a list of Masonic lecturers and topics which may be useful in planning lodge programmes. These are to be found on the Provincial website.

New Provincial Almoner



OUR NEW PROVINCIAL ALMONER WBro Terry Lewis was snapped recently at Mildenhall Lodge Ladies Night, pictured here with his wife Harriet.

Cornwallis Court (R.M.B.I.)

Hospital Road Bury St. Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 3NH
Tel: 01284 768028. Fax 01284 700709
Email: cornwallis@mbi.org.uk
Manager: Mr Peter Walton

Do you have any free time to give?
Volunteers are needed for:

Driving a 16 seater Minibus for trips out.
or Escorts for pushing wheelchairs and assisting Residents on trips.

If you are interested and can help out, please call and speak to:

Paul Boast or Amanda Rose
on 01284 768028

Hartismere Souvenirs

HAVING LOST ONE OF ITS OLDEST AND DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS earlier in the year in the person of WBro Keith Bloomfield who passed to the Grand Lodge above in March, the Past Masters gathered and brought with them the mementos that WBro Keith had made for them when they became either Worshipful Master of the Lodge or First Principal in the Hartismere Chapter.

The souvenirs had been presented to the recipient at the festive board after their installation by WBro Keith without any

fuss or bother but in the clear understanding that to receive one was something special.

WBro Keith was a self taught engineer running the family agricultural engineering works in Debenham. He was a stalwart in both the Chapter and Lodge during his 46 years as a member. The Tokens he made are produced from solid brass and personally engraved to a high standard. They remind the recipients of their year as Master of the Lodge and also of WBro Keith whose wise counsel and sagacity are missed by all.



Freemasonry Cares

10,000 ENQUIRIES SHOW FREEMASONRY CARES

Five years since its launch, almost ten thousand enquiries have been made to Freemasonry Cares, a free and confidential service set up to make sure more people understand, remember and seek out the financial, healthcare and family support available from Masonic Charities.

Every year a wide range of support is provided to many thousands of people during their time of need. Under the banner of Freemasonry Cares, the central Masonic Charities are now working together and in partnership with Metropolitan and Provincial Grand Lodges to spread the message about the support available to those with a Masonic connection, encouraging people to contact their Lodge Almoner or Freemasonry Cares on 0800 035 60 90 to find out more.

The hard work of Provinces publicising the confidential service has helped to make it a well-known path to support. As a result, many thousands of people have chosen to make a confidential enquiry, with many more people choosing to make a direct approach to their Lodge Almoner, which has often made a huge difference to their lives.

David is just one person who found Freemasonry Cares. Following his redundancy his sons received help towards the cost of uniform and other expenses related to their education, alongside ongoing support whilst David found a new job and got the family's finances back on a stable footing.

And David is not alone. Many more people could benefit from the wide range of care, help and assistance available but they are often missing out because they simply do not know what is available or feel uncomfortable asking for it. This is why Freemasonry Cares is so important.

Speak to your Lodge Almoner or Freemasonry Cares.

Please remember, your Lodge Almoner continues to offer the same support and guidance and you can always turn to him should you find yourself in need.

Freemasonry Cares offers an alternative route if, for whatever reason, you feel unable to talk to your own Lodge Almoner.

It doesn't matter how you choose to make contact. If you have a Masonic connection and a financial, healthcare or family need then you should see if help is available for you. Speak to your Lodge Almoner today or contact Freemasonry Cares in confidence on 0800 035 60 90 or help@freemasonrycares.org

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Another record?



IN DECEMBER 2013 Brother Michael Wyn Jones from Culford Lodge flew to New Zealand where he was raised by Onehunga-Maungawhau Lodge, No.168, Grand Lodge of New Zealand, the Lodge of his father-in-law, Tom Hackney. Bro Mike said he thoroughly enjoyed the occasion and the Festive Board, having to resist the pressure of the New Zealand brethren to join their Lodge.

Michael witnessed the warmth of Masonry from one of the furthest Lodges from England, an experience he will not forget. On 8th March 2014 he received his Grand Lodge certificate back in Suffolk from VWBro Dr David Watson, his proposer.

Has anyone in Suffolk been raised in a Lodge further afield?

Province Launches Regalia Sales



THE PROVINCE OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED ITS REGALIA SALES OPERATION at the recent Provincial meeting. Our regalia specialist, Rod Hellowell, is pictured with a display of items which are now available to Brethren from across the Province.

A website is currently under construction which will be linked to our own website and all regalia can be purchased direct.

We shall also be selling pre-owned regalia so if you have some regalia looking for a new owner or need some for your own use please contact Rod Hellowell on 01473 623533 or by e-mail rod.judith@dpsconnect.com

TLC

OUR PROVINCE CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE TEDDIES for Loving Care appeal which has now given over one million Teddies nationwide. We



provide Teddies to our local hospitals who then hand them on to children who are suffering trauma and distress when admitted to A & E at hospital. The Teddy then accompanies the child on its hospital journey, sharing treatment along the way.

John Jarman, who heads up our appeal, tells us that in order to maintain our commitment to this cause we need your continuing help and support. If every lodge in the Province could make at least one donation per year we could be very proud of our efforts, and the trauma of hospitalisation of many children would continue to be eased.

If your lodge wishes to make a donation please make cheques payable to "P.G.L Suffolk - Teddies" and post to J.Jarman, 7 St.Georges Road, Felixstowe. IP11 9PL. Email jjteddies@gmail.com

Phoenix Lodge donation to carers appeal



PHENIX LODGE has given £500 to the BBC Radio Suffolk 8 Day a Week appeal for Suffolk carers, an appeal looking to raise 250,000 for a mobile unit to take to carers all round the county. There is an estimated 90,000 people in the county of all ages caring for a family member or loved one, and only 14,000 have access to carer support.

Pictured is Phoenix WM Bernie Nunn presenting a cheque to Bro Mark Murphy of BBC radio Suffolk, and a member of Rotary Lodge, at a recent meeting.

Apollo Festival Donation



THE SUFFOLK PROVINCE OF FREEMASONS is entering into a Festival Period whereby each Lodge in the county is invited to contribute to raise as much money as practicable towards the festival by the Provincial Grand Master RW Brother Ian Yeldham.

Apollo Lodge in Beccles has kick-started the festival appeal by donating £20,000.

The Provincial Grand Master (seen here second from left) is shown receiving the donation from the WM, WBro Brian Keable.

RW Bro. Ian Yeldham thanked the members of Apollo Lodge saying: 'This means a great deal and is a very generous donation so early in the campaign.'

The WM commented: 'This is the first step for Apollo Lodge in its fundraising commitment to the Festival. We have raised this money thanks to the generosity of our members and their family and friends who have attended many of the social events we have put on over the years. We look forward to continuing our commitment to the Festival and hope to add to the fund in the coming months and years.'

Photographed (left to right) are WBro Mike Dobson, RWBro Ian Yeldham, Bro Alan Twitchett, WBro. Brian Keable, Bro Ade Titlow, WBro Rick Orme and WBro Mark Catton.

Not limiting their generosity, the Lodge has also just presented a cheque from their Ladies Festival account for £750 to the Breast Care Nursing Service Rejuvenate Project at the James Paget Hospital in Gorleston, Norfolk.

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Doric Ladies Silver Jubilee

IN 1989 THE LADIES CONNECTED TO DORIC LODGE launched a social group involving the wives, partners and widows of former members. It was an idea that has thrived for the past twenty-five years and Doric Ladies, as they named themselves, have enjoyed their own meetings ever since. These usually involve a meal and always some form of charitable fund raising. Both local and masonic charities have benefitted from their generosity, indeed they are Patrons' of the Masonic Samaritan Fund in their own right.

Doric Ladies have used their meetings to retain and forge friendships that have lasted over the years while enjoying the chance to meet away from the men and Lodge environment. Ladies of new initiates into Doric Lodge are invited to become part of the group. It enables them to feel part of the organisation their 'other half' has joined.

This year, the ladies celebrated their Silver Jubilee with a lunch at The British Larder. In addition to a very good meal, they raised funds for the fight against Parkinson's disease. Their founding member, Mrs Jenny Archer, could never have forecast that a good idea made by her twenty-five years ago would still be going. Following the May meeting of Doric Lodge, the Ladies were invited to the festive board. All those present enjoyed a slice of a celebration cake, made to commemorate the anniversary.

The photograph shows the Ladies enjoying their latest meeting on the 12th of April.



Hands across the Seas



Felix United Service Lodge held their Ladies Festival on 1st February at the Elizabeth Hotel, Felixstowe, under WM WBro John Studd.

The photograph shows WBro Studd taking wine with WBro Terry Owens who is the IPM of the Brookshire Lodge which meets in Katy, Texas, USA. WBro Owens went on to present WBro John with a Centenary Coin from the Brookshire Lodge together with two engraved wine glasses and a bottle of Texas wine. Linda, Terry's wife, presented a box of Texas chocolates to Mrs Pam Studd.

Terry and his wife, Linda, had flown in especially to attend the Ladies Festival and, while here, he also visited Prince of Wales Lodge in Ipswich on the following Monday evening.

Fraternal Visit of St Luke's Lodge No 225

FOLLOWING THE VISIT TO ST LUKE'S LODGE No 6540 in Bath last October the travelling brethren from St Luke's in Suffolk set off on the 18th March to a fraternal visit to its namesake in Liverpool, Lodge No 6006. Ten brethren, who travelled by mini bus to a Travel Lodge, were later escorted to the Lodge by the Secretary of No 6006 and arrived to find that other St Luke's Lodges were in attendance. There were five! Nos 225, 5371, 6540, 6564 and the host Lodge No 6006. The evening at the Litherland Masonic Hall went very well although the ceremony was slightly different from the ones practiced by all the other four Lodges. In fact, talking to each

other it was agreed that, although the same end result was achieved, we would all do it with our own local differences, this made for some very interesting conversations.

At the meeting there were 54 guests with 25 Lodges represented. WBro D J Parkinson represented the PGM and expressed his view that the meeting was a unique occasion. He thanked all the visitors for making the journey to Liverpool and he hoped that the liaison between the Lodges would continue.

The Festive Board which followed the meeting saw each of the St Luke's Lodges congratulate the Master and his Officers, wishing them a very good year in Office and our Master presented an inscribed



gavel to the host Lodge which he hoped would be a reminder of the visit. All the brethren from the St Luke's Lodges were guests of 6006 and thanks were expressed to all of the Lodge Members for their generosity at the Festive Board.

Names, addresses and e-mails were exchanged (25 in Ipswich, 5371 from Camborne in Cornwall, 6564 from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 6540 from Bath, 6006 from Liverpool) with a promise that we would all keep in touch and visit Installation Meetings if possible.

FESTIVAL 2019, MAKES GREAT STRIDES IN FOUR MONTHS

FROM THE VALENTINES BALL LAUNCH TO THE PGL MEETING ON 4th JUNE, nearly every day has seen an advancement in enthusiasm, money and preparation, from you all. On the 15th of February a sell-out Valentine's Ball saw 362 sit down and enjoy the evening. The PGM RWBro Ian Yeldham proposed the toast to the Queen, and the craft, followed by a toast to the Grand Master, Festival Chairman, WBro Neville Warnes, hosted the evening with some amusing anecdotes. He then formally introduced the PGM, who welcomed all who were there and thanked various people for their hard work, and wished the festival every success in the coming five years. WBro Warnes then made a short speech amusing his audience with the observation, in the nicest possible way, by asking the ladies to support their husbands' efforts as it was more than likely that they would outlive their husbands, and to look on a RMBI donation as more of an investment. There was a response from the President of the RMBI VWBro James Newman, who expressed his gratitude to Suffolk, and made all present much more aware of all the work done by RMBI throughout the seventeen Masonic homes around the country. At the end the PGM gratefully received cheques of £10,000 from the Provincial Stewards Lodge and £20,000 from Apollo Lodge. Additionally, there was a raffle held for an amazingly huge hamper, won on the evening by our APGM, but I am aware that it has subsequently been raffled at

least twice raising even more money! There are now only a few Lodges who have yet to advise us with their festival representative's details. I urge those to do so as soon as possible so that you can be made fully aware of what is happening during the festival period.

It is heartening to see so many lodges getting stuck in to their fundraising. Abbey Lodge Charity Steward, WBro Nick Hayward, has just recently completed his coastal path walk between Lowestoft and Felixstowe, joined by his wife and eleven year old son Morgan. They walked the 56.5 miles in 23 hours 45 minutes, which was a fantastic time all things considered. Nick's highlights of the journey was watching seals swimming up the Butley river and sun bathing off Orfordness. Assisted by a few friends and a couple of members £463.90 was raised for the Festival.

WBro Andy Gentle and Bro Gareth Evans of Priory Lodge, are still pursuing their aim to visit every lodge by bike. Well done to them and all other Lodges who are actively fundraising. Please let us know what you plan and what you are doing, so we can get it up on the festival website, which is, incidentally, a great way to advertise your event; particularly if you are looking for support from other lodges in the province. Just e-mail the details to david@ansta.co.uk It will be up online and posted on Facebook and Twitter in no time.

I am pleased to say the first delivery of the steward and patron festival jewels are expected during June. The cost of each jewel is £15, and your festival

representative will soon be receiving the order form. For more details on this and how to make donations go to the Festival website www.festival2019.co.uk.

The next events to be organised by the province are the Race Nights. We are holding events, the first on 31st October at Ashlar House, St Edmunds Masonic Centre and the second on 22nd November at the Lowestoft Masonic Hall. See the adjacent advertisement for full details. Brethren, these are intended to be fun and fellowship evenings, not costing the earth. Please come and give us your support.

WBro Peter Green. (Festival Communications).

Fundraising Race Nights
31st October 2014
ASHLAR HOUSE, 23 BARTON WAY, DAY ST. EDMUNDS IP02 7AB
22nd November 2014
LOWESTOFT MASONIC HALL
THE AVENUE, LOWESTOFT IP11 2JH

Arrival 6.30 pm
First Race 7.00 pm
Tickets £10.00 per person
Including Fish and Chip Supper

Profits to Festival 2019

Phoenix Lodge supports St Nicholas Hospice

AMONG THE DONATIONS FROM PHENIX LODGE THIS SEASON a major one was to the St Nicholas Hospice for £5,000, Pictured are WM Bernie Nunn and Charity Steward WBro Peter Green presenting the cheque to fundraiser Jordan Hughes in the garden of the Hospice. It is understood the money will go towards some much needed refurbishment projects.



St Lukes Supports CAB



THE WM OF ST. LUKE'S LODGE presented a cheque for £500 to the Ipswich CAB. The money was raised from the Lodge Ladies Night and it was the WM's choice of a local charity.

There have been a number of Freemasons who work or have worked with the CAB. It is seen as a charity that cares for local people with local problems. As a registered charity, it relies on local support to help it make a difference for the thousands of clients who contact them each year. They do this by supporting

their volunteers to help people with the problems they face, while campaigning to improve the policies and practices that affect people's lives. Research shows that 4 in 10 people have used a CAB at some point in their life.

Ipswich & District Citizens Advice Bureau is a generalist advice service. They give free, confidential, impartial and independent advice and information on a wide range of subjects. Their clients are all ages, men and women, from all walks of life. So are their volunteer advisers and assessors. They help a wide range of people with a wide range of problems. In 2013, Ipswich & District Citizens Advice helped over 4,500 clients with over 12,600 issues. A third of these were debt related, 2,500 related to benefits and tax credits, over 1,300 were employment problems and over 1,000 were concerned with families and relationships. Housing, legal, consumer and other issues totalled around 2,000 queries.

Solea Easter Eggs

THE PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS THE SOLEA LODGE WM, ROBBIE LUCCHI, with some of the residents of Cornwallis Court, at the presentation of the large number of Easter Eggs, collected at the Solea Lodge Easter Lunch on 13th April.

This social event has taken place regularly for the last 11 years, and first took place under the mastership of WBro David Thomas in 2003.

This year it was held at our new premises, Ashlar House, in the St Edmund Masonic Centre, in Bury St Edmunds. The event was almost sold out, and an



excellent meal was enjoyed by all who attended. Each adult who attended brought along an Easter Egg for Cornwallis Court, but the children who attended were given their own Chocolate Bunny as a gift from the Master.

Suffolk Masonic Bowls Association

FOR MANY YEARS FREEMASONS IN SUFFOLK HAVE ENJOYED A THRIVING BOWLS ASSOCIATION which ran competitions among members and wives as well as against adjoining provinces; and enjoyed the camaraderie and pleasures that playing a game of bowls on a warm summer's afternoon could bring.

We feel it is time to re-launch this association for the sheer enjoyment of playing the game, the resulting company and friendship and to expand the feeling of goodwill throughout the whole province; and if we raise a little for charity, so much the better.

However, before we can make any firm arrangements about games and competitions we need to know just how many there are of you out there. If you are at all interested in being involved, regardless of your ability (one of our team is a national coach) please reply to this email nickberry@talktalk.net with your name and contact details.

All subscribing brethren in the Province are eligible to participate. Inexperience or lack of bowling prowess is no barrier. Hopefully we can set up a 'bowls drive' so we can get to meet each other and get a feeling for the game. Wives are particularly encouraged to get involved and join in the games.

We decided to launch this association in the early part of this year so were too late to include ourselves in the winter edition of Forum. Consequently, we have also sent this information out by email.

If you know of any brethren who bowl and who might be interested in getting involved but are not on email, please spread the word.

Please let me know the following information about yourself,

Your name - Wife or Partner's name if they are also interested. - Address including post code - Phone number - Email address - Name of your bowls club if appropriate.

Yours S & F, WBro Nick Berry,
28 Kingsway, Mildenhall, IP28 7HW
Tel: 01638 714180
Email: nickberry@talktalk.net

Don Standish 64 RA years



IN APRIL FELIX CHAPTER CELEBRATED ECOMP DON STANDISH'S 64 years as a RA mason. He joined his father's lodge in Hastings at the age of 21 and the Royal Arch in the following year. EComp Don has enjoyed a full life having gained University degrees in both Mechanical and Civil Engineering. After leaving University he became a member of the University Air Squadron and became a qualified pilot gaining his license in Tiger Moths and Harvard's. He then joined the RAF as a pilot and flying Meteors being stationed here and in Germany.

Don came to Felixstowe and joined Felix Chapter in 1975 and has served the Chapter for 39 years being Z in 1987. Don has held all the offices, some twice or even three times, and was part of a great trio of ritualists - EComp Bill Hughes one of our former Grand Supt's and EComp Cyril Munnings who together at every meeting delivered the lectures and address's at our Installation until the new ritual came in. He served the Province as Grand Swordbearer. The Grand Superintendent EComp David Boswell attended this special meeting together with other members of Province and made a presentation of a Diamond Certificate and a fine piece of glassware from which to enjoy his favourite tippie.

Afterwards 57 Members, guests and their Ladies together, with some Craft masons, attended a White Table dinner at St John's Masonic Hall where EComp Dons health was toasted and a further presentation was made of a Flight Manual for one of the many aircraft he had flown.

A memorable evening was had by all to celebrate a truly remarkable man whose service to the Royal Arch will not be surpassed by many.

Provincial Grand Chapter 2014



Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter rehearsals.

ON 8th MAY, NEARLY 300 ROYAL ARCH MASONS FROM SUFFOLK AND THEIR GUEST assembled on a very wet day at Gresham's Sports and Social Club for the annual convocation of Provincial Grand Chapter.

After the formalities of the opening ceremony, the Provincial Grand Superintendent, EComp David Boswell, greeted distinguished guests, some of whom had travelled considerable distances to attend.

Notable changes in the Provincial Officers included the appointment of EComp David J Lillis as Third Grand

Principal in place of EComp Geoffery Spencer and EComp John Kirk as Provincial Scribe E in place of EComp Colin Birkbeck. A group of new RA members was presented to the Grand Superintendent who presented each of them with a copy of the new Provincial Guide to the Royal Arch. Afterwards he announced the award of the Suffolk Order of Merit to EComps Maurice Moore of St Andrew's Chapter and Ernest Hutton of St Margaret's Chapter. In the course of his address the Grand Superintendent thanked and congratulated all the officers and those who had helped to arrange and run the meeting.

Order of the Secret Monitor

JANUARY 2014 MARKED THE 25th ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF LANDGUARD CONCLAVE No 348, at Woodbridge Masonic Centre. The conclave was consecrated in Felixstowe in 1989 and the brethren were delighted that two founders were able to attend.

The fast-growing order is open to all Master Masons and is based on principles of friendship and compassion which elevate normal fraternal practice.

The Supreme Ruler, Wy Bro Chris Seston, welcomed 42 members and guests

including the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler R Wy Bro Dr. John Elmore and the deputy PGSR, Wy Bro Andrew Sleath.

The commemorative photograph includes the candidate for the evening, Bro Ian Norman, plus officers, members and guests. The Festive Board was marked by the presentation of gifts, good food and fellowship.

For more information about the order and the location and meeting times of the various conclaves within our province, contact may be made with Richard Wiggins e-mail richardjwiggins@aol.com



Bill gets 50 year certificate, and congratulations from his WM



BILL HAGGER (right) shows off his fifty-year certificate to John Gall, PM of St Margaret's Lodge in Lowestoft, and WM when Bill was initiated in 1963, but John already has a fifty-year certificate of his own which he proudly displays on the wall of his home.

Stories were shared when Bill visited John in Lowestoft and even more stories were shared when they met up again at a meeting of the Lodge. Bill was initiated in Lowestoft as a serving policeman, and later moved on to Ipswich.

Bill was presented with his certificate by Past APMG Barry Rackham at a meeting of Doric Lodge No 81 in Woodbridge. An outline of Bill's very distinguished Masonic career was given by the provincial representative Trevor White.



Chelsea Fun

THROUGH CONTACTS, PETER GOSLING, our Provincial Charity Steward, has, for several years, received invitations for Chelsea Lodge (the 'Entertainer's Lodge') meetings and events and this was the fifth or sixth year that he has arranged for a party from our Province to attend the Ladies Festival. Entering into the spirit of the evening the party took the opportunity to having photographs taken with the Show Girls on parade.

Appointment of a Chaplain to the Queen



IN MARCH, THE ACTING BISHOP OF ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH announced the appointment by the Lord Chamberlain's Office of our Provincial Chaplain, the Reverend Canon Kevan Sean McCormack, as a Chaplain to the Queen. This post is in addition to his current responsibilities as Rector of St Mary's Woodbridge, Chaplain to Ipswich Town Football Club and Officiating Chaplain to the Military. The appointment took effect from Monday, 10th March 2014.

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The Lodge, Harleston, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 3HP TEL 01449 737888 • EMAIL twscarff@aol.com



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