



THE BRISTOL STANDARD

ISSUE 29 - JANUARY 2019

THE MAGAZINE FOR MASONS AND THE COMMUNITY



WELCOME

Many years ago, the Provincial Grand Masters for Bristol were drawn from the local Landed Gentry. These times have now returned. Our new Provincial Grand Master, Jonathan M W Davis, lives on the slopes of the Mendip Hills overlooking West Harptree in what can only be described as a country residence. It has been substantially enlarged and renovated. In addition, the PGM has planted a cider orchard and no doubt we shall be drinking his toast with this cider shortly.

The PGM went to Felsted School in Suffolk and when his family moved to Bristol, he studied to become an accountant. He subsequently worked in London and then back at Bristol, becoming Managing Director of a public company. He has therefore a very wide commercial background.

He is a Justice of the Peace, a School Governor and an active member of many voluntary and charitable organisations. He is an all round sportsman, specialising in real tennis, golf and supporting Bristol Rugby. He is a people person who gets on well with everybody.

He was Initiated in 1992 and Exalted in 1994 and is a very keen Mason. The Province of Bristol is indeed fortunate to have Jonathan Davis as its new Provincial Grand Master, being someone who is an eloquent speaker, has the ability and the time to guide us through what the Assistant Grand Master described as 'Exciting Times'.



Gardening tips from the PGM...

How to grow the perfect Mason

1. Select an initiate seed with care, with due regard for the future needs of the plant.
2. Sow in an entered apprentice bed of well draining compost soil mixture with a little bit of grit.
3. When the seedling has emerged, transplant carefully into a fellow craft pot and continue to water regularly and keep under cover to protect from frost.
4. Once the plant has established, it can be planted out into a master mason bed and allowed to flourish.
5. However, this is the most critical time for the successful growth of a mason. It still needs to be nurtured, watered during dry spells, staked during high winds and protected during cold snaps.
6. For the next couple of seasons, close attention and care will reward the grower with a strong and healthy plant which can then be transplanted against a Royal Arch to climb up and become the perfect Mason.



Mentoring In The Province Of Bristol

I thought it might be helpful if I updated our members on progress over the last few years. Most Lodges and Chapters now have their own enthusiastic Mentor. Details of your own Mentor can be found in the Year Book. The Provincial website now has booklets on Mentoring and all the Degrees plus The Royal Arch. These are, of course, password protected but can be accessed by all when they have attained the relevant degree. There is also extensive information on the Mentoring section of the website for anyone interested.

W.Br. Tony Baker has produced a series of short talks (called Snippetts) which are to be read out at the end of Lodge and Chapter meetings when time is available.

Br. Nigel Bacon has been appointed Assistant Membership Officer. Details of resignations from Lodges are sent to him, he then discusses these with the Lodge Secretary or Mentor and if it is thought to be helpful, he would then make an approach to that member to see if he can give any help such as in finding him another Lodge in or outside the Province. If nothing else, a letter or email from someone from the Province would show interest.

Annual meetings are arranged for both Lodge and Chapter Mentors. I also attend Regional and Grand Lodge Meetings of Mentors on behalf of the Province.

Basically, Mentoring is about keeping in touch with all Lodge members and making certain that newer members are kept well-informed of events and fully understand what Masonry is about.

I would ask everyone to ensure that if a Lodge member has to go out of the Lodge room when a degree that he has not yet reached is being performed, someone goes out with him so he is not left on his own to sit in the corridor. This is the best way to lose members.

Also, ensure that someone sits with him at the Aftermeeting. So often they are surrounded by members during their early days but then are left on their own when they have been in the Lodge for a year or two. This is when they drift away and this is when it is important to try and look after them. They may not wish to take office at this stage but they may be prepared to do some small part of the Ceremony or read out a Snippet. They might be able to assist the Treasurer, Almoner or Charity Steward. Try to keep them involved.

Also try and ensure that they join the Dunkerleys so that they will meet new members from other Lodges and get involved with a variety of activities.

If we get the right candidates then we will have good Masons who progress. It is important that proposers and seconders know what to tell prospective candidates and can pass relevant information onto the Interview Committee. We are looking at ways to help with this.

There is a general feeling that others than the Worshipful Master could perform sections of his ritual. This would add interest to the Ceremonies, involve Past Masters and newer Members and take the "heat" of WM's as well as encouraging more Masons to take the Chair

Chapter Mentors Meetings have produced many novel ideas. There is a general feeling that if sections of the Ceremony could be done by others rather than the First Principal this would be a good way of involving more people. One or two have expressed the view that there are too many Ceremonies which is good for onlookers but not good if this results in too many Candidates who then have to wait many years until they get an Office

Please contact me if you need any help or advice – I am more than pleased to talk to you.

John Allen
Provincial Mentor



Bristol Installed Masters Lodge No. 8168

On Wednesday 31st October 2018, The Bristol Installed Masters lodge was graced with the presence of the Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Sir David Hugh Wootton, who was the guest speaker for the evening with a talk entitled "The Future is Exciting". In excess of 90 brethren witnessed the occasion and the AGM commented on the various aspects of the Membership Pathway and how Masonry has to change in order to meet with the requirements of the 21st century.



Pictured Above from L to R
AGM RW Bro Sir David Hugh Wootton, WM, W Bro. Beverley Dyer, Provincial Grand Master for Bristol
RW Bro Jonathan Mark Walker Davis.



Pictured Above from L to R
Provincial Grand Master for Bristol RW Bro Jonathan Mark Walker Davis and W Bro Basil Woodward, PJGD.

A menu of outstanding quality was produced in conjunction with the Treasurer W Bro Stephen Simons and Freddy, which was well received by all that attended the after meeting.

The Provincial Grand Master for Bristol RW Bro. Jonathan Mark Walker Davis at the Bristol Installed Masters meeting, presented W Bro. Basil Woodward, PJGD with a gift from the Province of Bristol for his years of dedication to Bristol Masonry and the Freemasons of Bristol Limited.

The framed sketch is from the personal collection of the Provincial Grand Master, which was by Sir Henry Rushbury and captures St Pauls Cathedral, Mercifully, St Paul's didn't get hit in the blitz during the second world war, but the surrounding area was reduced to rubble. The Cathedral of which was designed by the well-known Mason Sir Christopher Wren.

Article By W Bro Stephen Carter
Secretary, Bristol installed Masters
No.8168.

Meet, Greet and Socialise

Established in 2014 by Bro's Mike Page and Nathan Parsons, the Dunckerleys Light Blues provides the opportunity to Meet Greet and Socialise with new Brethren in other craft lodges in the Province of Bristol.

Our only restriction to new members are those Brethren who have already received Provincial honours (Dark Blues) as well as performing many duties for the Province our aim is to support all new masons through their Masonic craft degrees.

With over 80 members, you will find fellow Light Blues wearing our distinctive Lapel Pin, which comes free when you join.

Membership runs from May-April and Costs £12.00 per year. There is a one off joining fee of £12.00.

For more details on how to join and our activities please contact: committee@dunckerleys.pglbristol.uk

David Collins 50 Year Presentation

In recognition of his 50 years as a mason W Bro David Collins was presented with a 50 Year Certificate by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W Brother Richard Lewis at the Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality meeting in November. W Bro David was initiated into that lodge on 13th November 1968. He was passed and raised the following year. He was installed as Worshipful Master in 1983 and was the Lodge DC for three years from 1991. David moved to the South Coast and became a joining member of three lodges in the Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight. Royal Sussex conferred Honorary membership upon him in 2017.



Picture shows DPGM (W Bro Richard Lewis), W Bro David Collins and Bro Andrew Farley WM of Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality.

Organisation	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1987 Xmas Tree Appeal		500	1000	1000	
Above & Beyond - Hosp Living Accn	15000		5114		
Age UK (Bristol)			500	2500	
Alive Activities Ltd		1000	1000	1000	1000
Asthma Relief at Work			500	500	
Avon Mesothelioma Assoc - Asbestos	1000	1000	1000	1000	
Avon Wildlife Trust		10000			
Barton Camp Bristol Children		2000	2000	2000	2000
Brace Research		2000	2000	2000	2000
Brain Tumour Charity	2000	500	500	500	500
Bristol Eisteddfod		250	250	1000	250
Bristol Soup Run Trust		2000	3000	3000	3000
Carers Support Centre	2500	3000	3000	3000	1000
Caring for Xmas	1000	1000	2000	2000	2000
Catholic Church - Pembroke Rd - roof			5000		
Cerebral Palsy Plus	2000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Cleft Palate Assoc		250	250		
Fare Share Food Dist for Charity		2000	2000	2000	2000
Forest of Avon			1000		
H Gravis (Myasthenia Gravis)	1000	1000	1000		
Hammer Out Brain Tumour Support		1000	1000	1000	
Handicapped Children Assoc (Bristol)	5000	500	500	500	500
Hartcliffe & Withywood Partnership			500	500	500
Jessie May Trust	4000	3000	6000	6000	5000
Julian Trust			2000	2000	2000
Kia James - Ramp at house			2000		
Life Education Centres Bristol	2000	2000	2000	2000	
Life Skills			500		1000
Link Age			1000	1000	
Lord Mayors Chapel - Organ Appeal		2500			1000
McMillan Cancer Support	1000	2000	5000	5000	
Mother for Mothers - Anti Natal			3000	3000	3000
Pride of Bristol			2000		
Project one 25	6200	5000	6000	6000	6000
Prostate Cancer - Southmead		2000	5000	5000	2000
Riding for the Disabled	5000				
Sequel Trust		1000			
Smile Train		500	500	500	
St Mungos Housing Assoc	500	500	500	500	500
St Peters Hospice	18995	12900	19595	20000	20000
Stroke Assoc (Bristol)			1000	1000	1000
Young & Free	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Cruise Bereavement Bristol		1000	1000	1000	500
Bristol Ensemble			2000	2000	1500
Quartet Raj Soni Appeal				1000	1000
The Park Poly Tunnels				2000	
New Street Games UK Ltd					
Bristol 2019 Festival Appeal		20000		20000	20000
West of England Therapy Centre				1000	

Organisation	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Hartcliffe Community Farm				1000	
Sams Charity Glos Young Children				500	500
Cauldwell Childrens Support				1000	
Bristol Oncology Unit (Chemo)				1000	
Great Western Air Ambulance Charity				5000	
RBL Charity Bike Ride				100	
Scout Support World Jamboree				250	
Emmaus Homeless Charity					3000
Greenhouse Project					3000
Lifelite					5000
Bristol Cathedral Organ Appeal					5000
Powell Lodge Bike Ride MSF					500
Southmead Project - Support youth.					1000
Young Bristol					1000
Style Ability					300
Prodicle Art for Prisoners					250
Help Bristol Homeless					650
Feed the Homeless					500
	68,195	82,400	94,209	113,350	101,950

NB: Additional donations will be added during the year. As agreed by the committee.



Emergency Grant to Indonesia



The Mark Benevolent Fund has approved a grant of £30,000 to provide relief for those affected by the recent earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia. The grant will be used to purchase 857 ShelterKits provided by ShelterBox Disaster Relief.

Amongst other items ShelterKits provide a tarpaulin, hammer, nails, a shovel and rope to help utilise existing materials that may be on hand to make quick repairs and provide immediate shelter.

To find out more about Shelterbox and Shelterkits click on this link: www.shelterbox.org/shelter/aid/shelterkits

Mark well Brethren, your support for the Mark Benevolent Fund continues to help those in need no matter who or where they are.

Thank you.

Issued by the Charities Office, Mark Grand Lodge,
Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St James's Street, London SW1A 1PL

17 Go To Prison

In August, members of the 2017 circle arranged a visit to The Lodge of Benevolence No: 666.

This lodge meets every month of the year and was originally formed by Prison Wardens & locals from Princetown Dartmoor. The lodge was constituted in 1856 and has always met in Princetown holding the number 666 since 1863.

One of the brethren from the 2017 circle had previously visited the lodge of Benevolence and had managed to persuade a number of masters and brethren to join him on a visit. The trip was arranged for Wednesday 8th August we were to return on the Thursday. The trip started well with the 10 brethren (Rob Hughes, Rich McGill, John Stokoe, Rob Palmer, Jon Hayes, Mike Page, Paul Wong, John Geater, Brian Yeatman and Paul Sidney) meeting up at the Gordano services before travelling down to Dartmoor. After a fairly uneventful journey to the outskirts of the national park, one member who was too busy chatting to the other members in the car realised that they were extremely low on fuel (never good in any vehicle let alone a diesel). "Never fear we can always rely on the trusty satnav!!!" Requesting the satnav to chart a course to the nearest petrol station; an interesting journey ensued. To quote a brother in a following car "its one thing for the flora to be rubbing the sides of the car something very different when it's rubbing the roof as well." After a few miles the convoy arrived at the petrol station, or would have, if a new housing estate had not been built on its site. Fortunately the IPM for Jerusalem lodge came to the rescue of the foolhardy brother (who, if truth be known had been told by his better half the day before to fill the car up). This was not a new act for W. Bro Rob Hughes who

in his previous experiences has had to rescue this brother from previous vehicular mishaps at work. Whilst awaiting rescue the brethren took shelter, as all masons have done since time immemorial, in a local hostelry.

Once both the brethren & vehicles had been filled up the adventure continued with another interesting trip back onto the moor where lunch was had at The Warren House inn, the third highest public house in England and where a fire has been burning constantly since the 1890's.

Having finished lunch, it was a short drive to Princetown, and the accommodation of a Bunkhouse, where we were able to fight over who was sleeping in which rooms or rather the heaviest snorers in one room and those who never snore in another!!!

Once we were ready as always on Dartmoor it decided to rain and rain and rain so although the lodge was a short walk, the brethren bundled into two cars and drove the short distance even then the walk from the car to the lodge saw us soaked. The lodge building was converted from the old Prison Governors home and we were met at the door by friendly faces and the phrase welcome to Dartmoor weather.

The brethren of the lodge of Benevolence were, as you would expect extremely welcoming and hospitable. After a chance to dry out and a wee dram, to keep out the cold the meeting started, different to that of Bristol as the brethren use common sense workings and we were treated to an excellent second degree tracing board lecture.

The after Meeting (or as they said the festive board) was a buffet, not as

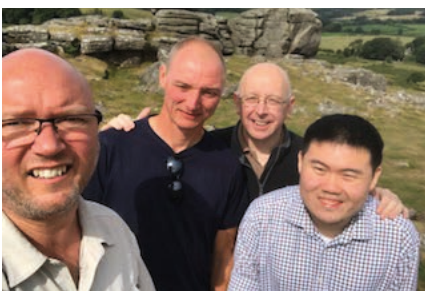
PROVINCIAL

expected in Bristol, it was a standing affair and everyone intermingled with each other which made it a very congenial affair. Unlike Freddy's three course offerings with standard veg, we had the chance to partake in pasties, scotch eggs, chips, curry and sandwiches combined with a plethora of cheese and biscuits and sweets.

We returned to the Bunkhouse where we had a few nightcaps before retiring for a good nights sleep.

Next morning, after a good full English, the group divided as some needed to return home early whilst others had the opportunity to enjoy some of what the national park had to offer. W. Bro. Jonathan Hayes, had suggested that we might like to visit a well known land mark in the Hound tor area (made famous by Arthur Conan Doyle's super sleuth Sherlock Homes). Un-known to us W. Bro Jonathan has a web site that lists all the places where Dr. Who has been filmed which included Hound tor. After a short walk up on to the tor and a romp over it to find the hidden geo cash. Jon fessed up and started looking for the exact location where "The Sontaran Experiment" was shot. For those who were interested W. Bro. Jon, informed us that this was filmed in 1975 with Tom Baker as the Doctor and in which he slipped on wet grass causing a fractured collar bone and the need to wear a neck brace disguised by that supper long scarf that he wore for the rest of filming. Having made our daily advancement in Doctor Who knowledge we started our journey home.

I would like to thank all the brethren of the 2017 circle who joined in this little jaunt to Dartmoor and for the comradely and fraternal sprit, which the circle has come to typify.





Another Instalment in the Activities of the 1985 Circle!

The 1985 Circle continues to enjoy an active social programme. We have now been around so long that we are 'recycling' our Presidents for the third time. The current incumbent, W. Bro Bryan Quinlan was invested with his collar at the Annual meeting held on Wednesday 17th January at the Rose and Crown, Rangeworthy.

The social calendar got off to a fine start with a trip to the theatre, to see 'Goodnight Mister Tom' presented by the Court Players, at Rangeworthy. Those of you with Masonic aspirations for grandeur in Bristol, will have supported this production as the lead role was performed by none other than the newly Invested Deputy Provincial Grand Master!

We then visited the Aerospace Museum at Filton which features Concorde.

This is a very worthwhile visit, and if visitors pay a small surplus, their ticket is valid for 12 months enabling the visitor to make numerous visits to the collection during the subsequent twelve

months; this is certainly good value for money. Aviation history is presented in a very interesting and informative manner, and the opportunity to make subsequent visits is well worthwhile. The café is an ideal venue for a bit of lunch. What a pity it took so long for the museum to reach this stage.

In April we enjoyed a Big Band concert with the Phoenix Wind Band, held at Mangotsfield School. What musical talent there was to entertain us, the band members are so versatile! A wonderful evening.

The annual caravan weekend was a great success, again this year. The barbeque nearly didn't happen due to an early morning thunder storm. However, the weather had improved by late morning leaving us to enjoy unbroken sunshine.

The most recent addition to the '85 Circle family' at 6 months old, was enjoying the attention!

Our outing in June commenced with lunch back at the Rose and Crown,

Rangeworthy. We then travelled along the road for a visit to the 'Beechgrove Collection' at Rangeworthy. This is an extensive collection of stationary engines dating back to 1898.

The collection was started in 1969 by the curator Derrick Hardwick. It is an amazing collection of machinery; a number of the engines were started-up for us to be able to fully appreciate the engineering. I understand that every engine is capable of being 'fired-up'.

The collection also includes two model 'T' Fords, and one shed is full of old household items, gadgets and tools of a past era.

Finally, we were entertained in the garden with a welcome cuppa and a slice of Margaret's delicious home-made cake. A great day out!

There are still more activities to come during 2018, so the Circle continues to keep active and to maintain its strong bonds!

Mike Huggins
Secretary





Bristol Masonic Golf Society

BMGS

Bristol MGS v Cornwall MGS

Played at The Mendip Golf Club

Wednesday 25th July 2018

"And so it goes on; and so it goes on!"

The record of this year's captain, Tony Whitmarsh is now 3 – 0 after a convincing win against Cornwall at The Mendip Golf Club last Wednesday.

With the temperature approaching 30 degrees, both teams duly arrived at the club for a 2.00pm first tee time. Spirits were high amongst the Bristol team after the last two matches had ended in a win for Bristol – and after all, Cornwall had just driven for 3 hours to get to the course!!!

The teams would be lead off by our captain and vice-captain, David Branch, on the first hole which was a shortish par 4 up the slope away from the clubhouse.

All their first drives were straight and true – a great way to begin any game of golf.



The next players away were our resident low handicap team of John Bamford (11) and Mike Collins (4); however, things did not begin well for Mike as he had to undertake several strenuous exercises after his first tee shot – which went miles, but slightly off to the left.

The Bristol team were honoured, not only with the company of the Past Provincial Grand Master, Alan J Vaughan, Jo Davis – who lives the closest to Mendip but was the last to arrive!!! It was noted that he was improperly dressed and immediately fined a week's wages for not having a BMGS Shirt.

Unfortunately one of the Cornwall team was taken ill on the morning of the game, so they were left short in that match – which happened to be against our PGM ad Nathan Littleboy. Although the match went ahead under the normal rules, Alan convinced the Cornish player to play a group stableford competition and took £5 off the poor lad. (Alan though did play well and recorded a score of 41 points on what was a difficult course!)

Although the fairways were very dry; with the ball running for what seemed to be miles, it had to be a case of managing your way around it if you wanted to score well.

The greens were all in great condition – very green but true and fast.



After a great day in the sun, everyone was glad to retire to the comfort of the clubhouse for a well-deserved drink and a two-course meal.

After a very enjoyable two course meal with coffee, the trophy was awarded to the winning team, which once again proved to be Bristol.

Both captains commented on the friendliness of this fixture and how much everyone had enjoyed the course, the meal and the service provided. The Cornish Captain thanked Tony for organising the event and looked forward to taking the trophy back again next year.

Other prize winners were:

Nearest the pin in 2 on the Par 4 6th hole –

Tim Brunton (Bristol)

Longest Drive on the 9th –

Alan Vaughan (Bristol)

Nearest the pin on the Par 3 17th –

Mike Rees (Cornwall)

Another special prize was awarded to Ian Kerslake from Cornwall, who achieved a hole in one on the par 3 8th Hole. He was awarded a BMGS Tie and a pack of golf balls.

Our next game is against Somerset at the Clevedon Golf Club on Thursday 9th August with a 2.00pm first tee time. Hope to continue the run of wins!!!



Bristol Masonic Golf Society v Somerset

Played at Clevedon Golf Club
Thursday 9th August 2018

This turned out to be a great day for Bristol as after several years of trying, we took back the trophy which had been held by Somerset for the past 7 years.

It was great to see some new faces playing in this very competitive match. It was also good to see some players returning to the fold after a long absence.

Our new PGM, Jo Davis and our Past PGM, Alan J Vaughan, both ready to do battle on the 1st Tee

The advantage for these matches is very much in the hands of Somerset, who through their Fairways lodge can draw upon a greater number of players than Bristol. So assembling a team of

twenty players has not, in the past, been easy. However, this year we had no problem in turning out a strong team, with several players playing off very respectable handicaps.

The teams were equally matched as the first games set off on what was to prove a testing course. The fairways were in very good condition, but the greens were quite slow due to the previous couple of days rain.



Rhys Hughes making a welcome return to BMGS action

As the first teams set off, the sun shone, but a quite strong breeze began to blow from the South West, making some of the holes quite testing – especially for some of the higher handicap players.

The 7th hole, playing into the setting sun with the strong breeze blowing from the south west was particularly testing. Although not a long hole, the carry to the fairway, some 180 yards was quite testing, with several players finding either trees on the right or left, or not carrying to the fairway.

The last four holes at Clevedon make for a difficult conclusion to the days play – and so it proved for some of the teams; with games being won and lost on these holes. The pond in front of the 16th proving too strong a pull for some players with other trying to avoid it and playing well over the back.

As each game came to a conclusion, it was obvious that the outcome of the match would be tight – after five matches played the match was all square with two wins for each province and one halved.



Our new PGM, Jo Davis and our Past PGM, Alan J Vaughan, both ready to do battle on the 1st Tee





After the next three matches Bristol were leading 4 ½ to 3 ½ but the outcome was assured when the last two matches recorded wins on the 18th hole – a great result for the whole team and our captain who still remains undefeated.

After the meal in the clubhouse, the trophy was presented to the winning captain by Martin Hares from Somerset. In reply, Tony Whitmarsh thanked the opposition for giving us such a stern test; to the club for presenting the course in fine form: the catering staff for producing such a splendid meal – but lastly, he praised the whole team for bringing about this wonderful victory.

Our final match, against Wiltshire MGS, will take place at Wrag Barn on Thursday 30th August with a 1.00pm first tee time. Lets hope it's a clean sweep for Tony!!

Scorecards

BMGS

Bristol v Cornwall

Time	Team	Name	H/Cap	Score	W / L
2.00pm	1	Whitmarsh Tony	20	3 and 2	WON
		Branch David	24		
2.10pm	2	Mike Collins	4	1 Up	LOST
		Bamford John	11		
2.20pm	3	Vaughan Alan	11	2 and 1	WON
		Littleboy Nathan	12		
2.30pm	4	Bragg Jim	20	5 and 2	WON
		Brunton Ron	17		
2.40pm	5	Brunton Tim	16	Halved	HALF
		Davis Jo	22		
2.50pm	6	Unwin Roger	18	5 and 3	WON
		King Wilf	19		
3.00pm	7	Grannan Arthur	22	5 and 3	LOST
		Rogers Colin	18		
RESULT				BRISTOL WIN	4 ½ - 2 ½

Bristol v Somerset

Time	Team	Name	H/Cap	Score	W / L
2.00pm	1	Whitmarsh Tony	20	3 and 2	LOST
		Jo Davis	22		
2.10pm	2	Hughes Rhys	7	4 and 3	WON
		Williams Tom	8		
2.20pm	3	Vaughan Alan	11	4 and 2	WON
		Hawkins Ashley	12		
2.30pm	4	Littleboy Nathan	14	1 Down	LOST
		Timms Adrian	14		
2.40pm	5	Huskisson Drew	14	Half	HALF
		Brunton Tim	16		
2.50pm	6	Biggs Mike	19	2 and 1	WON
		Brunton Ron	17		
3.00pm	7	Carter Steve	18	3 and 2	WON
		Rogers Colin	18		
3.10pm	8	Branch David	24	3 and 2	LOST
		Unwin Roger	18		
3.20pm	9	Grannan Arthur	22	1 Up	WON
		Cross John	22		
3.30pm	10	Glenn Sam	21	1 Up	WON
		Irwin Keith	29		
RESULT				BRISTOL WIN	6 ½ - 3 ½

2000 Circle Visit to The Royal Mint – Sunday, 30th September 2018

This was another well supported event for the 2000 Circle, which filled a 49-seater coach, winding their way from Downend to Llantrisant near Cardiff, for an afternoon's tour of a building which contains, literally millions of pounds worth of coinage for distribution to all four corners of the globe.

When you stand next to six containers which hold a million pounds worth of £1 coins, you begin to realise what a million really looks like. No samples I'm afraid but you could mint your own mint condition £2 coin. The metal in this particular coin, is pristine and better than a coin stamped/minted for general circulation.

The technology and expertise in creating all this coinage is quite 'mind boggling' and all staff have to go through personal airport type checks every shift.

Our tour guides were exceptionally knowledgeable and left no details out.

The history of the first man-made coins for the earliest Kings, using a hammer to the present day electronically managed machinery is quite astounding, and I definitely recommend a trip for anyone.

Even Paddington Bear, Beatrix Potter and many well know people and events have been given a special place in the displays and what a commemorative place is this, *The Royal Mint Experience*.

The former Royal Mint at Tower Hill, London is given space for its own history and the last coin ever singly minted has its own display.

The first 1p coin pressed at this new site, by HM The Queen on 17th December 1968, is also on display to start Decimalisation Day back on 15th February 1971. Remember those very large pennies (1d)?

We finished our excellent tour and made our way to a nice country pub for our evening meal, before returning to Downend about 9.30pm.



My thanks to Gill Wills and Barbara McKenzie-Jones for organising this event and I believe that everyone came home having had a very enjoyable and time.

Mike Satherley

2000 Circle President



The Circle XV is off the mark

After the last of the 2015 Masters to finally finish their 2 years in the chair an inaugural meeting of the XV Circle was called for Saturday 9th June at Freemasons Hall Park Street. 9 Members were in attendance with 11 apologies due the holiday season.

The constitution was discussed and agreed and officers elected. 4 Honorary Members were elected

Rt W Bro Alan Vaughan, V W Bro Chris Williams, Rt W Bro Jonathan Davis and W Bro Richard Lewis who were the 4 principle Provincial Officers in 2015.

The circles inaugural President, W Bro Paul Yeo quickly got the circle into action and its first activity was organised.

On Sunday 5th August, 6 of the Brethren along with wives and children met at the Ashton Inn and began the walk around Ashton Court Estate. The President had prepared a potted history of Ashton Court Manor which he gave his captivated audience with the wonderful building in view. The house was visited before the tour of the rose garden and surrounding estate and then on to the Angel Inn, Long Ashton where some less energetic brethren of the province and their families (30 in number) met for a buffet lunch in the secret garden. The garden was a closely kept secret as the President had lived in the village for over 30 years and had no idea it was there!

After lunch the President thanked all of those who attended and a collection was made and raised £308 (plus gift aid) for the MSF 2019 festival which was in honour of the momentous achievement of circle member W Bro

Tony Griffiths recent bike ride along with W Bro Brian Yeatman who had recently cycled from John O'Groats to Land's End. The money raised was presented to Tony who thanked everyone for their generosity as well as all of the support he had received along the journey.

On Sunday 9th September the circle met outside of the Lord Mayors chapel and were treated to a historic 'pirate' tour of the city by Bro Gary Williams who entertained them at regular stops with many facts regarding the history of this wonderful city, including stories of Captain Edward Teach and other 'privateers'. After the pit-stop outside of the Ostrich for a well deserved refreshment break the tour continued until it finished in the Hole in the Wall where everyone enjoyed Sunday lunch.

There are several visits to lodges planned in the autumn and the President is starting to plan many more events for early 2019, so any Masters of 2015 who have not attended yet we would love to see you very soon.

We look forward to many more events, and keep alive the fraternal bonds and friendship which we all made during our wonderful year together in the chair, for many years to come.

Richard Blacker

XV Circle Vice President



Bristol Masonic Clay Shooting



Bristol winners at Devon Regional Finals
High Gun – Richard Keen (Centre)
Second – John Hemmings (Right)
Third – Steven Carter (Left)



Left to Right; Clive Best, Richard Keen, Steven Carter, Mike Parsons, Kevin Wills, Mark Spray, Nigel Bacon, Tom Hemmings (Guest), John Hemmings, Andy Reed (Guest)



Live Music Now

Live Music Now was awarded £5000 from the MCF. I met with Evan Dawson who explained what the charity achieves. Evan explained that each year they deliver over 1,250 music sessions for older people, in care homes, communities and specialist hospital wards. The charity will do individual visits to care homes etc, bring people together for joyful live music events which appeals to the lonely and those with early stage dementia, or long term programmes providing regular activities which includes special schools and other

The Clay shooting in Bristol has seen great improvements, we have had some great days out, the members have increased but best of all we are without question a team, helped by new team polo shirts and matching skeet vests with individual names and the Bristol logo all thanks to Mike Parsons and Mark Spray.

On the 29th September the Bristol Clay Shooting team visited Cefn Tilla Court in Usk for the 2nd leg of the 3 Provinces Shooting Competition hosted by Monmouthshire Province. It was a fantastic day with Bristol coming out on top followed closely by Monmouth and in third place Wiltshire. Prior to this Bristol hosted the 1st leg of the competition, which saw the Bristol team finish with the most points, in 2nd place was Monmouth and third place Wiltshire. The final leg of this competition is to be hosted by Wiltshire (date TBC).

The Bristol Clay Shooting team have gone from strength to strength with many new members joining and showing improved talents. We have regular practice days aimed at helping each other to achieve some high scores within the team.

The National Masonic Clay Shooting Championships were held on August 10th at Bisley hosted by the Province of Surrey. Over 18 different provinces attended from as far as the South of Wales to the Isle of Wight. The total amount raised on this day was £5,500. The day started off slightly overcast and unfortunately finished with heavens opening up drenching everyone

in attendance. Given the weather conditions, I am very proud of the way the Bristol team supported each other to achieve high scores within the team.

On June 17th of this year, John Hemmings (representing Bristol) and representatives from five other provinces had the pleasure of donating a cheque in the sum of £2,000 to the Disabled Clay Shooting Society in Chessington. This donation came from the money raised at the 2017 National Masonic Clay Shooting Championships. During the day a competition was held with the 1st place prize money (won by John Hemmings) of £100 also being donated bringing the total donation to £2,100. This donation will help funding the next Olympics.

On the 28th of October the Bristol team went to Newnham Park in Plympton Devon to shoot against Devon and Cornwall in the regional finals, which I am very pleased to say that Bristol once again won with a fantastic high score with high gun going to Richard Keen 2nd place to John Hemmings and 3rd place to Steven Carter. Whilst the day was dry the wind was very strong which meant shooting was very difficult as the wind was blowing them all ways, so a very good effort by all.



SEN settings. Live Music now is training on average 350 musicians to work in outreach contexts. If you wish to find out more visit : livemusicnow.org.uk

Tim Brunton

Charity Steward Bristol Freemasons'

I am very pleased that this year the John Hemmings trophy goes to Richard Keen which has been won by Steven Carter for the last two years.

If anyone would like to come and join us even if you are not a regular clay shooter, but just fancied having a go please contact John Hemmings on 07816 601488 or email johnhemmings1975@gmail.com, you are all welcome.

Beamish Museum visit

Having joined St Vincent Lodge through the Universities Scheme, now that I am living in Newcastle to undertake my higher Surgical training, I have also joined the scheme Lodge here, namely the Hotspur Lodge No. 1626. During one of our recent meetings, one of the Brethren visiting from the Province of Durham suggested that I would enjoy a visit to the Masonic Hall at the Beamish Museum in Durham. Beamish is a world famous open air museum, covering an area of 300 acres and telling the story of life in North East England during the 1820s, 1900s and 1940s. www.beamish.org.uk

I duly visited Beamish with my partner, Andreea, earlier this year. During our step back in time at this amazing place, we learned that Masons have been meeting in County Durham since the 1600s. But before moving to purpose-built premises, most masonic lodges used to meet at inns - for example the Marquis of Granby Lodge was named after the inn where it used to meet. Records show that the first solely owned and occupied masonic premises in England was built by Phoenix Lodge No. 94 at Freemasons Hall, Queen Street East, Sunderland in 1785. As the Provincial Grand Master expressed his wish for masons never to meet at inns again, by 1870 most of the masonic Lodges in County Durham met under their own roof.

The Masonic Hall at Beamish was originally erected by St John's Lodge in Sunderland in 1869. By the late 1980s it had fallen into disuse and was about to be demolished when the Beamish Museum decided in agreement with the Province of Durham to raise money and transport the building brick by brick to

the Beamish site.

Today, the Lodge room layout reflects the original as well as it could be achieved - but few realise that only the frontage is original! Most of the paintings and furniture from the original room and many items are sourced from masonic halls around the Province of Durham. The finished building was officially opened in 2006 by the Grand Master, HRH Prince Edward, Duke of Kent.

I would recommend this trip to masons and non-masons alike. Visiting Beamish makes a brilliant day trip, even if you are not into Masonic Architecture, as there is so much else there to see and all the staff exude passion and enthusiasm for preserving the history of the area, dressed in period costumes. It's also a great opportunity to show your partner and friends what the inside of a traditional English lodge looks like - Andreea was intrigued!

Bro George Nita



Charity Winston

The MCF awarded the Charity Winston's Wish [Giving hope to grieving children] £50,000. This funding will allow the charity to set up a centre within the Bristol area, as their South West base is in Cheltenham. I had the greatest pleasure to represent the MCF and the Bristol Freemasons' at Bristol City's Hall with the Lord Mayor and Mayor of Bristol in attendance at the Charities launch event where they thanked all large benefactors including the Freemasons'. The charity

provides help for parents, carers and professionals supporting children and young people affected by death, there help line is 08088020021. They are also looking for Family Services Volunteers. info@winstonswish.org

I met and had an informative talk to Fergus Crow CEO [on my right] and Helen Fisher as well as talking to other charitable organisations present and mentioning our significant donation from the Freemasons'.

Tim Brunton

Provincial Charity Steward

Bristol Masonic Classic Car Club



Three enjoyable events took place during the summer

The first event was a "drive it" day on the 22nd April. Organised by BMCCC we were joined by members of the Worcestershire Masonic Motor Club and Classic car enthusiasts from the Province of Gloucestershire.

Good weather assured a really good turnout with 50 cars assembled at the Whitminster Inn Gloucestershire at 10:00.

We then set out to drive a fantastic route very well constructed by Jim and Jennie Shine, returning to the Whitminster at 14:30 for Sunday lunch. Over 100 dined, and during the afternoon everyone enjoyed a good chinwag as you would expect classic car enthusiasts to do. Our (soon to be at the time) PGM Jo Davis thanked the visitors from Gloucestershire and from Worcestershire for joining us. The club



presented an award to the best modern Classic car being the Ferrari 458 Spider owned by James Bragg, and the best pre 1970 Classic being a 1954 Bristol 403 owned by Clive Best.

The next event was at the Hoggs Head Classic car show in Abergavenny, organised by the Province of Monmouthshire. The weather was kind again, and after a pleasant steady drive we had an enjoyable afternoon.

The final event was the Highnam Court family day and classic car show, hosted by the Province of Gloucestershire. A really good turnout of BMCCC cars, many of them meeting at the Masons Arms near Thornbury for breakfast, then a nice drive to Highnam in Gloucestershire. Strawberries and cream were presented to us all on arrival. A really pleasant day was rounded off by a drive home through the Wye Valley stopping for a bite to eat.

Thanks to all the BMCCC members for their support in 2018, and the committee members who were always keen to help. Thanks also to the President of the club our PGM (himself a classic car enthusiast) who attended all of the events in his Morgan.

We look forward to another good year for the club in 2019.

Anyone interested in joining the club please email info@bmccc.org You will be made very welcome.

Steve Hall

Secretary and Treasurer
BMCC

2000 Circle Sunday Lunch At The Anchor Oldbury.

The 2000 Circle continues to be active and seems that each event is well supported by the members and friends. This year under the current President W Br Mike Satherley, the circle continues to prosper with fully subscribed events as a visit to The Royal Mint, a skittles evening and now the ever popular and annual event,,, a lunch at this beautiful pub. The Anchor at Oldbury is a nice cosy place with a menu that meets all tastes.

The usual banter, leg pulling and laughter reaching a crescendo made all the other patrons want to join such a happy band of people. We share some photos for your enjoyment.

Prakash Dewani

PJGW.



Valentines Day Dinner

Partners and Guests Welcome

Saturday 16th February

7 for 7.30pm

Prosecco and Canape Reception

5 Course Gourmet Dinner

Including Wine Selection

£65 per person

Black tie

for Reservations....Please contact

Graham Pegg 0117 962 1513

megastarpegg@hotmail.com

We look forward to your company...



WHAT A MEAL ! MUSHROOM SOUP
CHICKEN IN WHITE WINE SAUCE
APPLE STRUDEL WITH CUSTARD
FOLLOWED BY COFFEE AND MINTS
GAR

Worcestershire Province Cubit Club Visit To Jerusalem Lodge

The Jerusalem Lodge welcomed the Worcestershire Province Cubit Club at their April meeting.

The Cubit club is equivalent to our own Dunckerleys, as they look after newly initiated masons and visit other lodges and provinces to enhance their enjoyment and understanding of different ceremonies.

The party consisted of 2 Entered Apprentices, 3 Master Masons, 9 Worshipful Brethren, including the current Provincial Senior Grand Warden, Worshipful Brother Martin Lawrence and the current Provincial Junior Grand Warden, Worshipful Brother Richard Macey.

Our Provincial Senior Grand Warden, Worshipful Brother Dr. Jonathan Hayes was present together with the Provincial Junior Grand Warden, Worshipful Brother Stuart McKendrick who stood in as the Jerusalem Junior Warden for the ceremony.

The lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, Worshipful Brother Peter Neale and after the minutes were read welcomed all guests and visitors before the main business, which was to initiate Mr James Worley and Mr Lawrence Dowding.

The Cubit Club members were most impressed by our ancient Bristol

Ceremony particularly the circle of swords and the writing test which one of the candidates passed and one did not allowing the Worcestershire Brethren to see the Tyler in action.

At the after-meeting the Visitors were seated next to the Jerusalem members so there was plenty of time to discuss the details of the Bristol Ritual and the difference with their own. It was of particular interest to the Worcestershire Entered Apprentices that our entered apprentices wear their aprons with the flap turned up whilst their own are not.

The lodge was presented with 2 Packs of Special Ale which had been brewed especially for the Worcestershire Province's Festival, 8 bottles of which were included in the Jerusalem Lodge charity raffle and won by a visiting master, Worshipful Brother John Stokoe of Temple Lodge.

After the toast to the visitors, the responder gave great praise on the standard of the ceremony and the welcome they received, also the opportunity to view the Chapter Room.

At the completion of the response at very large bottle of Worcestershire Sauce was presented the Worshipful Master.

All brethren enjoyed a special and enjoyable evening together. The Worcestershire Brethren departing



after a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge.

Worshipful Brother Allan Badman

Mentor Jerusalem Lodge.



Cabot Lodge No.3884 visit to Cabot Lodge No.13 in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador



On 2nd May 1997, the replica of John Cabot's Ship, the Matthew, set sail from the port of Bristol to cross the Atlantic commemorating the 500 Year Anniversary of the first crossing in 1497.

"As I stood on Battery Point, Portishead, on the morning the Matthew set sail and witnessing this tiny ship fighting its way down the Bristol Channel against a strong headwind, little did I know that some 21 years later, I would be making that same crossing to Newfoundland as part of the Cabot Lodge Centenary Year." (Arthur Grannan)

The replica of the Matthew carried a letter, sent by the Master of the Cabot Lodge No.3884 to the Master of Cabot Lodge No.13 in Channel Port aux Basques – "the only other Cabot Lodge in the world."

So as part of the Bristol Cabot Lodge Centenary Year Celebrations, W.Br Graham Pegg made contact with the secretary of Cabot No.13, in respect of a visit to Newfoundland. Originally, it was hoped many of the lodge members and partners would be able to make the trip, but the lodge calendar and work commitment precluded this. However, contact with Cabot Lodge No.13 continued and so it was that on Sunday 9th September 2018, myself, and W.Br

Graham Pegg boarded an Air Canada flight to St John's Newfoundland for the first leg of an historic visit.

The first night spent in St John's and the next morning we set off on a 917 Kilometres drive to Channel Port aux Basques – a journey that would take 8½ hours

The most worrying aspect of the drive for us were the warnings from locals and the highways signs about the dangers of "Moose Crossing the Road!"



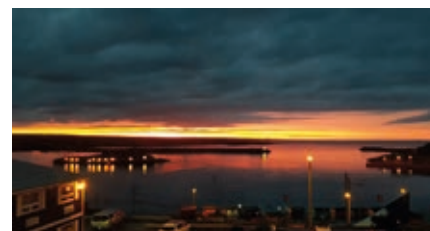
Arriving in Channel Port aux Basques we rendezvoused with Br. Ian Hughes, who had flown in from Halifax, Nova Scotia to join us. Once we had all safely met up, we contacted W.Br Bruce Burton, secretary of Cabot Lodge No.13, and arranged to meet the following morning.



Before retiring that evening, we re-charged our batteries and sample in a local restaurant sampling some of Newfoundland's culinary delights. Needless to say there was plenty of fish on the menu!

Our Hotel was situated close to the main ferry port in Port aux Basques, with magnificent views over the harbour and adjoining town – Ian, (who was still working whilst on this visit was up, literally), at the crack of dawn

to do some work, and witnessed a most stunning sunrise over the approaches to the harbour.



At the appointed hour, W.Br Bruce Burton, and W.Br Dave Davis joined us for a very hearty breakfast in the hotel restaurant. It was a good time to get to know each other and talk about the similarities and differences of our respective ceremonies – particularly the Installation Ceremony, which we were due to witness later that evening.

W.Br David Davis then took us a tour of the surrounding area to the east of Port aux Basques. Bruce was unable to join us for this most enjoyable drive as he had been detailed to cook the food for the evening Banquet. There were many small hamlets along the way, but we eventually reached the end of the road at Rose Blanche.



It was here that we saw the Newfoundland Flag flying alongside the Canadian Flag. Dave explained that Newfoundland is the newest of Canada's 10 provinces having joined the confederation only in 1949 – its name officially changing to Newfoundland and Labrador in 2001. Although part of Canada, the local population retains a strong sense of its identity by flying the flags together.

After lunch back at the hotel, we met W.Br Joseph Jeans, our tour guide to the area to the west of the town. Joseph could trace his family history

back to the early days of the settlement of the town – and once had links to the development in the area and the railways. Now, sadly, the railway no longer runs between Port aux Basques and St John's, as the Trans-Canadian Highway made the railways unprofitable.



That evening the Bristol Cabot Lodge members were invited to attend a lodge Banquet. Also in attendance were several Provincial and Grand Officers joining – The Most Worshipful Bro. Cluney W. G. Vincent, Grand Master for Newfoundland, and Labrador; R. W. Bro. C. Conrad Mullins, Grand Director of Ceremonies; R. W. Bro. Lloyd C. Walters, Grand Junior Warden; R. W. Bro. L. John Braye, Provincial Grand Master, District 2, Lodge Members, and their Partners.

The Banquet took place in a local hall as unfortunately in 2012, the masonic hall was destroyed when a gas cannister leaked in the kitchen, whilst cooking turkeys for a Christmas Community event, causing a huge explosion. Fortunately no-one was in the building at the time. The menu was interesting – Newfoundland Seafood Chowder, Baked Newfoundland Codfish with seasonal vegetables followed by Newfoundland Berry “Grunt”. We later discovered that the “Grunt” was a steamed pudding with local berries. We all agreed that the meal and service were excellent and that we had been most warmly welcomed. The meal was followed by the usual toasts, and presentations. Arthur Grannan responded to the toast to the visitors and concluded with the “Cabot Toast”.

A presentation was then made by W.Bro Pegg and Bro Hughes to Cabot Lodge No.13 (Centenary Pin, Cufflinks, Bristol Provincial Tie, to be worn by the WM) and an engraved Bristol Blue Vase.

After the Banquet, brethren moved to the lodge room for the Installation of Cabot Lodge Worshipful Master, W.Bro Lloyd Francis. After the opening of the lodge the M.W.G.M. Cluney W. G. Vincent and his officers entered. There followed the Installation of the W.M.



The ceremony of Installation was quite different from the one we are used to in Bristol but not unfamiliar to anyone who has witnessed and Installation in Emulation.

The ceremony and addresses were particularly well presented by the all the officers taking part. The ceremony concluded with a motion that the brethren from Cabot Lodge No 3884 should be made Honorary Members of Cabot Lodge No.13. This was unanimously passed by all present – a great honour. We also received from our hosts a signed print of Port aux Basques. This will be framed and presented to our lodge at a suitable occasion.



At the end of the evening we had a chance to mingle with our hosts over drinks and nibbles before retiring to our hotel in preparation for our journey home.

After breakfast the next day, we faced the long journey home – Bro Ian Hughes travelling to Deer Lake to catch an internal flight to St John's before taking the evening flight back to London.

Graham and I had to face the 9-hour return trip to St John's. Overnight the weather had changed from bright sunshine to a misty rain and the remnants of hurricane Caroline.

LODGE

The late flight back to London on the final day gave us the opportunity to explore St John's.

A “Must” for us was a visit to Cabot Tower; guarding the entrance to the port of St John's. It was erected “To serve as a perpetual memorial to celebrate the 60th year of the glorious reign of Victoria Queen and Empress and in commemoration of the 400th Anniversary of the Discovery of Newfoundland by John Cabot”.



Cabot Tower, St John's Newfoundland

We also visited the Museum in St John's, named Rooms. This was a fascinating building. Each room contained information about the island – its geography, geology, history, culture, industries, and its people. We spent the remainder of our day wandering through each room, admiring the displays, and soaking up the information about the places we had visited.

All too quickly, our time to leave Newfoundland came and we boarded the overnight plane back to London. When we woke the plane was making its approach to Heathrow – the sun was just rising above the clouds – turning them into, what looked like a furnace of hot coals – a magical end to what had been an experience to remember for a long time.

On our journey we had seen so many new things and met so many wonderful people, that it would be good to think that this is now just the beginning of a long and fruitful coming together of the only two Cabot Lodges.

Hopefully we won't have to wait until our Bicentenary Celebrations for this to happen!!!!

**Arthur Grannan, Graham Pegg
and Ian Hughes**

Scoutcraft Lodge (Lodge No 9936) an after-meeting with family and friends.



On Saturday 17th November 2018, Monty (below) had much pleasure in welcoming all families, friends and visitors to the after-meeting once the ceremonial part for the Scoutcraft Lodge in No 1 Temple at Park Street was over.

The after-meeting, was well attended and all were treated to a sumptuous fair prepared by the "in house par excellence Chef" Fredy Eyermann .

..was very touching and spoke volumes for the values of being a good human being.

As Worshipful Master of The Scoutcraft Lodge, I thank all those who attended on Saturday and for making the day very special for me and my wife.



W Br Peter Peter Lorymer Wills when proposing the toast to the families, friends, guests and visitors, reminded everyone that The Lodge was set up the aim of being inclusive of family, friends and be a fun lodge.



The aims of the lodge being met by the presence of grand parents, parents, young children and teenagers... who were so interactive at the lunch.

In my mind the sharing of their prize of a box of chocolates by W Br Lee Preece's charming young daughters ...with all



News from Scoutcraft Lodge L 9936 the newest Lodge in The Province

After a tremendous year in Office as the first Worshipful Master of the Lodge, W Br Peter Wills PAGDC, handed the reigns over to W Br Prakash (Kash) Dewani in April 2018.

The year under the new WM started off well as he was expertly installed in The Chair of King Solomon by W Br Wills in presence of the PGM R W Br Alan Vaughan and the No 1 Lodge full of Brethren.

The photographs below show the wonderful interaction between the brethren. At the after-meeting, the Friendship Cup presented to the Lodge by W Br . was used for the first time.

The Port within being enjoyed by the new W Master ,Provincial Grand Master and the two wardens !

In October this year, the Worshipful Master had a Fun Evening at his house and this was an event well attended by Brethren of the Scoutcraft Lodge accompanied by their partners. The presence of members of other lodges and non-masonic friends provided a

wonderful blend of banter at the dining tables .

The attendees were well impressed by the sumptuous Indian meal prepared by the Head Chef of a well known restaurant. The variety of dishes cooked to perfection certainly tickled the taste buds and certainly provided for enough energy for all the 80 people present to take to the floor.

The expert Salsa and Bollywood dancers, Br Panchal of Lodge of Harmony and Vijay led the way. Many tired legs must have been the excuse for the long lie on the next day!

The evening raised some £710 which was matched by the hosts making a total of £1420 raised for charities chosen by the Lodge. One of the beneficiaries being St Peter's Hospice.

W Br Keith

Powell/Francis Rawdon Lodge Bbq

On Saturday the 1st of September the Lodges of Powell and Francis Rawdon joined together to hold a combined BBQ to raise funds for the Great Western Air Ambulance Charity (GWAAC). The idea came about when some of us thought it would be good to kick start the new Masonic season with a social event.

W Bro Robert Durose of Francis Rawdon Lodge and his wife Rose very kindly offered the use of their house and garden for the event which was gratefully accepted. After many anxious looks at the weather forecast during the preceding week the day dawned fine and sunny.

About 45 members, family and friends attended and enjoyed a pleasant afternoon with various games, a quiz provided by W Bro Mark Gregory of Powell Lodge, who also did a superb job as our chef, and a well-stocked bar provided by the members of Francis Rawdon Lodge. A good time was had by all and after a raffle and a game of "heads and tails" we managed to raise £500.

A cheque for this amount was duly presented by W Bros John Markley and Robert Durose at the next Powell Lodge meeting to our Deputy Provincial Grand Master W Bro Richard Lewis who, amongst his many other duties, is an enthusiastic volunteer for the GWAAC. The Charity receives no money from either the Government for day to day running costs or from the National Lottery. They rely on donations from the public and require £3M a year to provide the life saving service 7 days a week/365 days a year.

A successful joint venture and a good result!

W. Bro. John Markley.
IPM Powell Lodge.

Mother Lodge acknowledges appointment of DPGM

The brethren of Powell Lodge recognised the appointment of W Bro Richard Lewis (PM 1996 and 2000) as Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Bristol by presenting him with an engraved timepiece at their Installation meeting in May. The presentation was made by the Worshipful Master, Bro Brian Yeatman accompanied by his officers and brethren.



LODGE



Brace

I was invited by the Deputy Chair of Trustees to The Brace 1987 Foundation Luncheon hosted by Jonathan Dimbleby at The Mansion House. Professor Stephen Lisney explained the type of research that Brace is pursuing. He also talked about the Brain Trust where people who have had dementia donate their brains for research. One of the most interesting areas of research is M.I.C. the Mild Cognitive Impairment Clinic at Southmead Hospital where people who believe they might have dementia can be referred too and tests are conducted including lumbar puncture to look for Alzheimer related proteins to see if they have early signs or not. Also by catching a diagnosis early this helps provide valuable data for research in trying to find how this disease is activated. They are currently fund raising for a Dementia Clinic Nurse and have £5000 to go. I was able to talk to the Trustees about the charitable works of the Bristol Freemasons and advised them to contact the Masonic charity MCF in London and they had myself as a contact if they had any further queries.

www.alzheimers-brace.org

Tim Brunton
Provincial Charity Steward

Demonstration of Bristol 3rd Degree

By St Augustine Lodge No 3108



To Crescamus Lodge and The Foundation Club (Surreys' Light Blues) Croydon.

On the 9th October last year I received an email from The Provincial Secretary for Bristol, W.Bro. Peter Wills, informing me that the St Augustine Lodge had been selected by the Provincial Grand Master to carry out a demonstration of a Bristol First Degree ceremony on Saturday 27th April 2018 to the Foundation Club of Surrey (the equivalent of our "Dunckerleys"). The demonstration was to be hosted by the Crescamus Lodge in the Croydon & District Masonic hall on their behalf.



Although the demonstration was to be some months away I immediately contacted the Secretary of Crescamus Lodge, W.Bro. Sam Norman, to set up a line of communication. Although he was delighted we were to carry out a demonstration of a First Degree he said that they rather hoped to see a "Bristol Third". As it happened, this fell in rather neatly with our projected program of ceremonies for the coming months as we were scheduled to carry out Raisings at our March and April meetings giving us plenty of preparation rehearsal, especially as we would be demonstrating the long closing. I contacted The Provincial Secretary W.Bro Peter who immediately got the PGM's consent and so we were committed. Needless to say W.Bro. Sam was delighted.

As I was staying in the Watford area in late October I thought I could nip around the M25 to Croydon and visit the Croydon and District Masonic hall. I duly set up a meeting with W.Bro Sam and set off on a Friday morning to Croydon. At this point I must say that I have had some good ideas in the past. Unfortunately this was not one of them. The M25 proved to be stationary from Watford to somewhere past The



Croydon /Gatwick turn-off. My sat-nav directed me around the London South circular, which I am convinced to this day is a figment of someone's imagination.

The main purpose of my visit was to make them aware of what equipment would be required for a Bristol ceremony and establish what they could provide.

The Masonic Hall proved to be a most impressive building having been Saint George's Presbyterian Church and then, after becoming disused, a store for Oxo during the war.

It now houses some 120 Lodges and Chapters of Masonry and boasts 8 Lodge rooms many of which are transformed into dining rooms as the need dictates. The bar and lounge with a dining area are open from lunchtime for members to pop in for lunch etc. The main Lodge room seats approximately 200 and is rather cavernous with no pillars, pedestals or centre table.

The W.M.'s chair lit up in a most glorious fashion but not quite the glimmering ray we required.

Thankfully when we arrived on the day it was out of order so we able to rig up a light more suited to our purpose.

In January we set up a planning committee of our W.M., W.Bro. Peter Balchin, our D.C., W.Bro. Mike Oates, our IPM, W.Bro. Henry Vincent, W.Bro. Mike Huggins and myself. We decided at the outset that we would maintain the same officers of the Lodge from the rehearsal in March through to the April ceremony. Unfortunately due to the sad passing of W.Bro. Peter's Mum he was unable to take part in the March rehearsals or ceremony, however he came through with flying colours in April. This was due in no small part to the extra work put in by himself and our D.C.

On the day, with equipment lists sorted and transport arranged the demonstration team left Downend Masonic hall in Shrubbery road at 9:30am on Saturday 28th April arriving in Croydon at about 1:30pm. The Crescamus Lodge had arranged to tyle at 4:00pm giving our D.C. time to



arrange a short rehearsal and to meet with the Surrey Provincial D.C. to arrange the format for the afternoon.

The meeting was attended by the Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, R.W. Bro. Ian Chandler and some of his Provincial team including his D.C. It was also attended by 150 Freemasons, some from far away as Guilford and I believe two or three from Northampton.

The Crescamus Lodge opened the Lodge into the Second degree. They then "called off" and W.Bro. Henry Vincent gave a brief summary of the origins of the Bristol Workings after which members of the St Augustine Lodge left the Lodge room, which was then set up Bristol fashion. We duly paraded in and the Officers of St Augustine Lodge took their places as they would in Bristol.

We had previously suggested that the candidate to be raised should be from Crescamus Lodge. As it happened the Foundation Club had a draw, which was won by a member who happened to be about 6' 5". He was duly asked the questions by Bro. Aubrey Saxon of St

Augustine Lodge, the answers being provided by our Senior Deacon. He was duly removed for preparation and the meeting opened in the Third Degree.

The ceremony was delivered with utmost composure, being word perfect throughout. The floor work was excellent. The delivery of the Worshipful Master's work by W.Bro. Peter Balchin was crisp, assured and absolutely word perfect as it was for every one of the Officers taking part in the ceremony.

The resultant acclamation at the end of the ceremony was very loud and prolonged. As a measure of their appreciation W.Bro. Sam wrote to me explaining that, at a meeting of the Crescamus Lodge of Instruction held three days after the demonstration, no work was carried out due to the meeting being devoted to a discussion of the demonstration of the Bristol Third Degree and the proposal a visit be arranged to witness another ceremony in Bristol.

At the Aftermeeting a succession of speeches of appreciation were given by the Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, R.W.

Bro. Ian Chandler, The Worshipful Master of Crescamus Lodge and the Chairman of the Foundation Club of Surrey to which W.Bro. Peter Balchin replied.

A very happy and proud bus full of members of the Lodge finally arrived back at Shrubbery Road at about 1:00am on Sunday morning. The Lodge Officers taking part were as follows;

W.M. Bro. Peter Balchin
I.P.M. W.Bro. Henry Vincent
Chaplain W.Bro. Mike Anstis
S.W. Bro. Chris Murray
J.W. Bro. Michael Daburn
Secretary W.Bro. Jack Mason
D.C. W.Bro. Mike Oates
S.D. Bro. Steve Hudson
J.D. Bro. Rhys Erwood
A.D.C. Bro. Rob Yandell Organist
W.Bro. Miles Harding (68)
I.G. Bro. Michael Burnell
Tyler W.Bro. G Williams (7356)
Questions - Bro. Aubrey Saxon
Raising - W.Bro. Mike Oates,
Secrets - W.Bro. Mike Huggins,
Working Tools - W.Bro. Jack Mason

Mark Benevolent Fund in this, our 150th Anniversary Year

Seven Provinces have had their official St John Ambulance hand over and 5 more were due before the end of May 2018. There will also be a significant event in Cardiff for the handover of 4 Wales vehicles. I had the pleasure of meeting with representatives of the Priory of Wales. The occasion was to celebrate the Centenary of the St John Priory of Wales. The enthusiasm and dedication of the trustees and volunteers for their organisation rivals our own at the Mark Benevolent Fund. The M.B.F. has donated £3.2 million to St John Ambulance to fund a combination of 52 ambulances, treatment centres and support vehicles throughout England, Wales and the Islands. Our partnership with this organisation highlights the M.B.F.'s continuing commitment to supporting projects with a wider community impact.

Following on from the M.B.F. Charity Walk in May 2017 which raised £434,934, grants totalling £350,000 have been made to Blood Bike charities

throughout England and Wales. The official Blood Bike handover took place in August at the National Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham.

The Lytham St Anne's lifeboat naming took place in May, when £80,000 was given from the M.B.F. in conjunction with the Province of West Lancashire. The ceremony was attended by the President of the M.B.F, Dr John Wright, RD, P.G.S.W. along with many local Mark Master Masons.

Lawson, the new 'Dogs for Good' golden retriever puppy has started his 2-year training plan. He was named in memory of R. W Bro Michael Lawson, P.G.S.W., an M.B.F. Trustee, who passed away in October 2017. This is the second puppy to be sponsored by the M.B.F. Our first puppy, Suzie, is now one year old and doing fine.

Finally, the 150th Anniversary Festival was held in Lincolnshire on Saturday 7th July, which had a great attendance (hopefully

a report will appear in the next issue of the Standard).

We also continue to help those Brethren, and their families, who are struggling and need a helping hand every now and again. I urge you all to look out for your fellow Brethren, whether in Lodge or during your daily activities. If you have any concerns at all don't hesitate to have a chat with your Lodge Almoner.

As you can see we are keeping busy and making sure that we are using your donations to the M.B.F. wisely and conscientiously. As always, I thank you all for your contributions to our fantastic charity. I am sure that our founder, Revd Canon George Portal, would be as proud of our achievements, as he was in 1868.

Brethren, Mark Well.
W Bro Darren Coleman-Heald,
P.A.G.D.C
Charities Manager

Why join a Royal Arch Chapter?

The Royal Arch is a very special order in Freemasonry, one which we hope all Freemasons will wish to join.

Craft masonry gives us a sound and moral framework which exhorts us to improve our relationships with those around us and to practice our three grand principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. The Craft Degrees use the temple building, its architecture and aspects of operative masonry as the framework for the teaching of this moral code. Finally, we are exhorted to discover more about ourselves. The Royal Arch takes this further and makes all that has been presented in the craft complete and perfect in a beautiful and inspiring ceremony. The language, symbolism and teachings of the Exaltation ceremony, (the admission of a new Royal Arch mason), are profound, colourful and spiritual and considerably enrich all that has gone before in the craft. There is a very different, mystical atmosphere in Royal Arch.

The Royal Arch is very closely aligned with the Craft and is generally held to be the “next step” for Master Masons and the culmination of pure and antient masonry. Progress through the Royal Arch completes an individual’s journey through Freemasonry. It also opens the doors to becoming a member of a number of additional degrees and orders.

Master Masons are, therefore, actively encouraged to become members of the Royal Arch in order to further develop and enrich their understanding of Freemasonry

The Royal Arch is more commonly known as ‘Chapter’. Whereas Craft Masons meet in a Lodge, Royal Arch Masons meet in a Chapter and are known as “Companions.” Some Chapters are attached to a Craft Lodge and the name and number is taken from that Lodge. Members are distinguished by the Jewel that they wear on the left breast, the colour of the ribbon varying in accordance with their rank.

The Chapter breast Jewel is the only Jewel which is permitted to be worn

together with Craft Jewels in a Craft Lodge. HRH The Duke of Kent heads both the Craft and the Royal Arch; being the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England and the First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter. In our Province our Provincial Grand Master RW Bro. Jonathan Davis is also head of the Bristol Province of Royal Arch Masons with the title Most Excellent Grand Superintendent.

Who can join?

Any Master Mason in good standing, one month and upwards following his Third Degree ceremony.

Does it cost much?

Significantly less than the Craft. There also is a one-off Exaltation fee.

What is the regalia?

Apron, sash and breast jewel.

Is it really worth it?

Undoubtedly, yes. Craft masons who join the Royal Arch never fail to be impressed by the beauty and profound nature of their Exaltation. The Royal Arch represents the best means to extend your enjoyment of and

engagement with Freemasonry.

Which Chapter should I join?

There are fourteen Royal Arch Chapters in the Province, the details of which are available in the Province of Bristol Year Book and on the Provincial website. You are free to join any of the Chapters listed (with the exception of Bristol Installed First Principals which is open to those Companions who have ‘gone through the chair’). Many choose to join the Chapter attached to their lodge. Others may join another Chapter for a variety of reasons e.g. the meeting night suits their work or family life, they may have a friend or friends in that Chapter or they are simply seeking to expand their circle of masonic friends.

If you are considering joining a Royal Arch Chapter, simply talk to your Lodge Royal Arch Representative or to Excellent Companion Steve Hawkins who is Provincial Royal Arch Membership Officer. They will be able to provide you with more information and answer any questions you may have.

A New Companion says.....

A recently Exalted candidate in our Province said....

“The Royal Arch had been suggested to me by many brethren and I eagerly put my name forward. Once the evening arrived I was excited and slightly nervous but in a good way and I was greeted with nothing but assurance from my soon-to-be Companions. The Exaltation ceremony was a truly unique experience. The Chapter Room was stunning and the ritual was performed to a very high standard. It washed over me in a spiritual and uplifting way.

I would say to any Brother who is thinking about joining the Royal Arch, “don’t think; just put your name forward!” Believe me; it’s that good!”



First Charitable Donation By Province's Newest Lodge

A group of 15 from 2 local Bristol ranger units took part in Denmark Dash International. The group was made up of 10 senior members and 5 leaders. Guiding Group includes members with additional needs of cerebral palsy, sight impaired disability requiring use of wheel chair assistance and a member with Downs Syndrome.

This trip was made possible because a shortfall of £500.00 was made up by the Brethren of Scoutsraft Lodge no 9963. WM Prakash Dewani and IPM W Br Peter Wills had much pleasure in visiting the West Senior Section Unit of the rangers who meet at the Methodist Church in Westbury-on-Trym. The two representatives of the Lodge met up with group leaders and rangers enjoying one of their fortnightly

scheduled sessions. On this occasion a demonstration of how and orange is eaten by a range of animals and humans!

The donation was much appreciated by the Rangers and parents of the participating young people.

Prakash Dewani JP

PJGW.



St Vincent Lodge AGM visit

The April meeting of St Vincent Lodge was an auspicious occasion. The Lodge was honoured with a visit by the Assistant Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Brother Sir David Hugh Wootton, visiting in his capacity as the President of the UGLE Universities Lodge Scheme. He was accompanied by the Chairman of the scheme, Worshipful Brother Mark Greenburgh PGRG, the Regional Coordinator of the scheme, Worshipful Brother David Roberts-Jones PAGOrg and Worshipful Brother Capt. Matthew Burrows, AGDC. The meeting was exceedingly well attended, with the full Provincial Executive, several Provincial Grand Officers and over twenty Grand Officers present from within the Province.

The AGM came across as extremely personable and approachable and he was delighted to be greeted with traditional Bristol salutes. The evening then saw the Officers of St Vincent carry out an excellent double initiation ceremony, to welcome Bro. Albert Jasansky and Bro. Jake Stone into our order. Also in attendance was Jake's uncle, who had made the trip up from Devon in order to witness first-hand his

nephew becoming his "brother". Both of the candidates conducted themselves excellently throughout the ceremony, paying close attention to its every aspect and demonstrating their commitment and enthusiasm in the responses to their toasts at the after meeting. The evening proved an excellent demonstration of the commitment of the Province to the Universities Scheme along with the quality of energetic and enthusiastic

young masons that are attracted to Freemasonry through the scheme.

The visit also happily saw Matt Burrows return to his roots as, only twelve years previously, he had been initiated in St Vincent Lodge whilst a student at Bristol University. At the end of the ceremony, the Assistant Grand Master rose to thank the brethren of the Province and the members of St Vincent for their hospitality, reflecting on the history and traditions of the order.

The Assistant Grand Master then introduced W Bro Mark Greenburgh, the Universities Scheme Chairman, who explained that the purpose of the Grand Lodge contingent's visit was to meet and exchange ideas with the members of St Vincent regarding the recruitment and continued engagement of young masons in the Craft, and to witness first-hand the legendary Bristol ceremony.

The After Meeting was conducted with customary St Vincent hospitality, with over 90 brethren dining. The Assistant Grand Master proposed a special toast to the Provincial Grand Master, thanking him for everything he had done to innovate, support and promote Freemasonry within Bristol and in the wider community, during his eight years in office.

The Worshipful Master, Bro Julian Frost, presented the AGM with a bottle of Bristol "Dockers" Gin as a memento of his visit, along with a pair of Provincial cufflinks to each of the three University scheme officers. Matt Burrows' status as a Bristol initiate was acknowledged with the presentation of a Provincial tie and an open invitation to return to future meetings of the Lodge.

The evening concluded with informal drinks in the bar, giving the visitors further opportunity to spend time with Bristol brethren, discussing how the Universities Scheme benefited masonry in general, and what challenges it posed to individual lodges in securing engagement from young and eager masons. The conversation and liquid refreshment flowed freely, continuing into the early hours. It was certainly a night that will be long remembered, for those who can.

The Making of St Johns Gin.



Bro Brett Hirt, owner of the Rummer, is a Gin distiller with a growing reputation for excellence.

To celebrate the Feast of St John he and his Master distiller Bro David Blatch, Brunel Lodge, produced a St John's Gin especially for the day.

Ever the perfectionist and for authenticity Bro Hirt was determined to use the water from the ancient St John's spring and conduit that rises on Brandon Hill.

In early May Bro Hirt and Bro Felipe Carmargo accessed the St John's aquifer in Park Street and the intrepid duo went underground to one of the ancient

water tanks to take the St Johns water for the Gin production.

In medieval Bristol, fresh clean water was a valuable commodity. For most the only way to get water was to travel to Rivers that could be potentially polluted or go to springs and wells. The St John's Conduit still pipes fresh water from springs at the top of Park Street. The water travels under Park Street and the Centre through pipes, cisterns and tanks. It emerges at the Church of St John's in the Wall, Nelson Street

During the aftermath of Second World War bombing raids, this tap was the only source of water available in the old city area.



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Province of Bristol





Blaise Primary School

The MCF provided a grant of £240,000 to 'Achievement for All' whose CEO has said "The UK education system is not meeting the needs of at least one in five children and young people: the disadvantaged, vulnerable and underachieving". The £5000 granted to Blaise Primary School has allowed the Head Teacher Massimo Bonaddio and Emma Robinson (the SENCO) to receive training and support over time to give these children the best start in life. Kash Dewani and myself had the great pleasure of being shown around the school by some very confident and inspiring young people. The school is also looking for volunteers to help with reading time. If you are able to help please contact Blaise School Henbury.



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Bristol Lewis raises money for Prostate Cancer UK

When W Bro Dr Richard Hayes of St Vincent Lodge, was suddenly and unexpectedly diagnosed with metastatic prostate cancer in March of this year, his grandson Edward felt pretty powerless. Ed was uncertain what he could do to help, so he decided to undertake a series of challenges to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK. Even though he had no symptoms, Richard was having an annual PSA blood test, due to a family history of the disease. On this occasion, his PSA level was a little bit raised, which prompted referral to a specialist. He was quickly investigated, but unfortunately the cancer had already spread to his bones. The date of his diagnosis coincided with a visit to St Vincent Lodge by the Assistant Grand Master Sir David Wootton as President of the Universities Scheme, so it was a particularly emotional day for both him and his son Jonathan.

Edward spoke to his Dad and the teachers at his school about what he could do in order to try and raise money for the national charity. "I go to Beechen Cliff school and the teachers there are brilliant at giving us lots of opportunities to do outdoor activities and they organise training and supervision to allow us to take part in a number of different events. Normally, we would do one or two of these, but this year I thought I would do the Ten Tors, The March for Men, National 3 Peaks Challenge and Centurion Challenge all together, to try to raise money to support Prostate Cancer UK and make sure that more people are aware of this disease and try to help men get diagnosed earlier so that they can be treated."

"For the Ten Tors, I was the leader of my

team and we had to hike 35 miles over the rough terrain of Dartmoor, visiting ten different nominated tors in under two days. We had to be self-sufficient, navigate the route with a map and compass and carry everything we needed to complete the route and stay out overnight safely on the moor. This was at the end of May and I think it was the start of the hot weather."

"In the middle of June, I took part in The March for Men in Bristol. This is an event organised by Prostate Cancer UK to do some extra fundraising and raise awareness of the disease. It also gives families the opportunity to walk together to support or remember someone they know with prostate cancer. I did this walk with the rest of my family, but to make sure it was a proper endurance challenge I ran the whole 10k course twice."

"On the last weekend in June, I did the National Three Peaks Challenge with some other pupils from my school. This involved climbing the three highest mountains in Scotland, England and Wales over one weekend – Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Mount Snowdon. We walked 23 miles and climbed an overall total of 10,052ft. It was really hot and sunny the whole time but we had some amazing views and sunrises from the top of the mountains and there was still snow on the top of Ben Nevis."

"I finished my challenges five days later with my school's annual Centurion Challenge. This event has been running at my school for 50 years now and is basically a 100 mile walk from Bath to Hungerford and back. You have to complete it within 48 hours in order to be a "Centurion". Because it was so hot this year, for safety reasons the walk was shortened to 50 miles in 24 hours. I was really disappointed, because I wanted to do the full 100, but the teachers had to make sure we were all safe. Even though he was on chemotherapy at the time, Grandpa got to watch me come in at the finish and



gave me a massive hug. We were both a bit emotional. I had a big blister on my heel, but I managed to complete the course in 8hrs 57 minutes. It was really hot, so I think it was the right decision to make the walk shorter this year."

"When I got home after the Centurion Challenge, my great uncle Roy came round to see me. He used to be in St Vincent lodge, too. He presented me with an old ice axe. He was one of the first young people to do the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award in 1959 and went on an expedition to Greenland with Sir John Hunt and Sir Edmund Hillary. This was the axe that he took on that expedition and he gave it to me to celebrate successfully finishing my challenges. I'll be completing my Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award this autumn, but I don't think I'll need to use the axe, as we will only be doing our expedition in the Brecon Beacons."

"I am really grateful to all the members of the different Bristol lodges who sent me lots of nice messages of support and sponsorship money to support my fundraising. It's brilliant what the Masons do to support lots of different charities. I had hoped to raise about one thousand pounds for Prostate Cancer UK, so I was totally amazed that so many people got behind me to support this charity. Altogether, with massive

support from so many generous people, I've raised almost £6,000 for Prostate Cancer UK. When I finished it all, I got a brilliant letter from the Provincial Grand Master, congratulating me for raising a lot of money for a good cause and telling me about how important it was to help raise awareness about the risks of prostate cancer. When I'm old enough, I hope that I will be able to join my Grandpa's lodge, too, and I hope that he'll be there to see me do it."

Prostate Cancer affects one in eight men in the UK. A man who has a father or brother who has been diagnosed, is two and a half times more likely to also be affected. The risk increases for all men over the age over 50 and black

men are three times more likely to get prostate cancer than white men of the same age. The average age for men to be diagnosed is currently between 70 and 74 years of age.

If you would still like to make a donation to this important cause to try to help stop men dying from prostate cancer, please visit: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ed-hayes1

If you are concerned about your own risk of prostate cancer and would like further information, then visit: www.prostatecanceruk.org or alternatively, contact one of the Prostate Cancer UK nurse advisors on 0800 074 8383



Age UK

I had the pleasure in meeting with Mark Baker CEO of Age UK Bristol who are based at Canningford House 38 Victoria Street Bristol BS1 6BT. The charity aims to improve the lives of older people through better support and information. 58,000 people aged over 65 live in Bristol. 22% of people aged 60 and over are living in income deprived households. Around 40,000 Bristol residents are providing unpaid care for others and when care giving becomes a full-time activity social isolation often increases. 15% of people aged 75+ say they never talk to family or friends.

Age UK Bristol provides Information and advice for over 55's from benefits and allowances, wills, housing support, Dementia Buddying Project, IT courses, Friends Ageing Better Cafes, Health Clinics including foot care as well as running New Beginnings Day Support at the Withywood Centre. The MCF has also entered into a 3 year £1 million partnership with Age UK which is the umbrella organisation for the Independent local Age UK charities like Age UK Bristol. The MCF aim is to provide a Later Life Goals delivery programme to help with bereavement, serious health diagnosis, and care issues across 13 areas in England and Wales and thus helping 10,000 lonely older people. Age UK Bristol is always looking for volunteers, support, donations and trustees. Tel 0117 9297537

www.ageukbristol.co.uk or Facebook and Twitter @ageukbristol

Tim Brunton

PCharity Steward



The Longwell Green W.I. get the 31st Christmas Tree Appeal off with a bang

When Four Members of the Longwell Green Branch of the Women's Institute delivered the Branches contribution to the 31st Annual Christmas Tree Appeal, both Provincial Grand Master, Joe Davies and Appeal Organiser, Tony Rance could only stare in amazement.

Branch President - Lynne Sherman, The Immediate Past President - Margaret Bryant and Members - Liz Langley and Sandra Hill carried in bag after bag of presents for the Children and Mums as well as bags of toiletries, nappies and everything you could think of, which may be needed by families who are in care over Christmas. Sandra's husband, W.Bro. Peter Hill also joined in the task of bringing in the bags from the car park.

Well over 150 presents were donated by the Ladies and it certainly got the Appeal off to a flying start. The Provincial Grand Master not only thanked the Ladies who had taken the trouble to venture to Freemasons Hall on a wet and windy Wednesday Evening in late November but asked them to pass on our sincere thanks to all the Members of the Longwell Green Branch of the Women's Institute

Some FACE BOOK postings by our Provincial Junior Warden



W Br Mike Page last night had the wonderful privilege of presenting a Grand Lodge Certificate to his son! That just added so much to the evening in which he had already carried out an inspirational initiation ceremony for the new candidate!

I have Never before seen an initiation charge done better, Br Junior Warden!!!!

Beaufort Lodge is yet another Lodge in the Province of Bristol that has benefited so much from the wonderful work carried out in the community in the past three years by the Provincial Membership Officer... W Br Stephen Carter! The membership in the lodge flourishes and the future is indeed exciting!

It was wonderful to be back assuming my duty as treasurer and being amongst the brethren of my mother lodge, Lodge of Harmony no 7127 in The Province of Bristol!

The raising of Br Knott was witnessed by number of guests, who all agreed that W Br Simon Firth is an amazing ritualist! It is absolutely no wonder , W Br Simon Firth, you were earlier selected to do the demonstration at Grand Lodge in presence of some 800 Brethren!

The surprise guests from our sponsor lodge, The Bailey Lodge, was much appreciated. we indeed look forward to re-establishing the fraternal visits between the two Lodges from 2019!

Being a Round Table Lodge, the after-meeting was as usual livened up with humor with Brs Adrian Smith and Steve Davis leading the way! Thank you!

Lodge no 3884, The Cabot Lodge, is prospering under the guidance of their well skilled Worshipful Master! W Br Simon Whitson must have "treaded the boards" at some time, as evidenced by the truly amazing delivery of the ceremony last night!

An entertaining night ...especially the outstanding presentation of trophies for the Bristol Province Golfing Society by W Br Arthur Edward Grannan.

Masonry in Bristol has so much to offer!

Today, a hundred years on, it was a privilege, on Armistice Day, to march with the Bristol Masons led by The Provincial Grand Masteralong with the various other organizations ! What an experience for the 40-50 Brethren from The Province of Bristol, on a lovely day when the St Augustine Circle and the area around in Bristol was filled to brim with spectators

The ambulance donated by Bristol Mark Masons was on duty too !



It may be that if other brethren from the Province too could use social media to let their friends and connections know about the evening they enjoyed at their Lodge and bring awareness of the various activities whether they be social or charitable giving!

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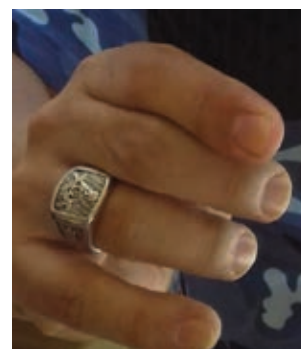
LODGE



Whilst on my travels, cruising the Mediterranean, and visiting the Greek Island of Santorini and exploring the narrow shopping alleys, I spotted at some distance in front of me a gentleman wearing a masonic t-shirt. I stopped the young man who was wearing it, along with a matching cap! to find he was Jose, a hospitality steward on the very ship we were traveling on! He told me how much he enjoyed being a Freemason and was happy to promote Masonry at every opportunity in the Philippines and wherever he was on shore! We met for a coffee and a chat during our voyage and it was extremely interesting to share our Masonic tales!

Visiting George Washington's mansion at Mount Vernon, Virginia, on a recent trip to the US, my attention was drawn to some plaques on the wall of the entrance. On further investigation I discovered that the gate had been erected to commemorate the 100th anniversary of George Washington's death. During the last century visitors coming to see the estate at Mount Vernon were increasing all the time and it was decided a gate was needed to control the visiting crowds. Funds were raised by schoolchildren in Texas donating Nickels and Dimes, while members of Masonic Lodges organised a grassroots effort that swept across the Texan State. The gate was dedicated on December 14th 1899. The name 'Texas Gate' is in recognition of the state that raised the funds to see it constructed.

Chris Cook



FROM THE EDITOR

Keith Irwin

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Firstly, a belated apology for the delay in Issue 29, but due to holidays and the lack of sufficient articles, it was in discussion with the Provincial Grand Master, that it would advantageous to publish it in December 2018. I hope that the wait has been worthwhile, and that the front page is an appropriate tribute to our new PGM, who has also as you will have read and seen, an amusing ditty on the gardening and masonic link.

Now, that we are in full flow with masonic business, I am hopeful that you will submit article, photos, plus any other things of interest to me ASAP, as this will help speed up the publication of Issue 30, which as at the moment I cannot give you a date, hopefully in the new year I will be able to advise you all of the intended date.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy & Happy New Year.

Regards Keith Irwin

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“Tell me, Mike, just how did you get involved with the Diy SOS Big Build in Hartcliffe?”

So began a bar-side chat with the then DPGM, Jo Davis that explored a variety of related bits and pieces and, maybe, the germ of an idea was formed – but that’s where we left it.

And my answer? An emailed request from strangers for help on a ‘community’ project; a personal desire to be more practical and helpful, and to do more than just put money in a tin or envelope; meeting up with like-minded individuals at the intended build-site; and an availability of a scarce commodity – Time.

Then, in late June, a good friend asked if I knew of any local charities that could provide practical help in things like hedge removal, and garden clearance?

His daughter, a council tenant, had a problem with a hedge. She suffered a complex mix of disabilities that made it impossible for her to work. She was totally dependent on benefits. She had a 10 year old Autistic son. She wanted the council to replace the boundary hedge separating her garden and the adjoining allotments. She wanted a secure fence to provide a safe outdoor area. She wanted a large-ish ‘shed’ built in the garden as a chill / time out / sensory room for her son during his “melt downs”. The council would install the secure fence. They would not remove the hedge. If the hedge was there when the fence contractors arrived, the fence would be erected 1 metre inside the hedge.

Well, I didn’t know of any charities in this field, but I knew a charitable organisation in general, and a brand-new PGM in particular! A “WhatsApp” to The Dunckerleys



produced a team of willing helpers, and tools with (professional) manpower were set up for the agreed date. Just 2 days before the event, the council contractor called to postpone the fencing by a month, so the volunteer team were stood down.

Finally, on 10th August, the team of Jo Davis, Richard Lewis, Paul Constant, 3 guys from Pro-Tidy and me, met up in the garden in Brently

(Jack Deakin had to finish a job and joined us later). In just 21/2 hours the 18m x 1.5m x 0.5m hedge was gone, shrubs had been dug out, the whole garden strimmed and the neighbour’s hedge trimmed & tidied, and all the waste was on its way to Avonmouth. The fence went up the following week. The allotmenters are happy because they have more growing space. The next door neighbours liked the fence so much they replaced their hedge with a similar fence.

And the Family? This is my friend’s public Facebook post:

“Thank you to the Bristol Freemasons for their outstanding work on clearing the hedge ready for the new fence. Also for clearing the garden and trimming the other hedge, totally unexpected. Totally transformed the garden and only 2 1/2 hrs from start to finish first class. Thanks to Mike Whitworth for organising this with the lodge, and all the freemasons who gave up their time to carry out this project.

Very much appreciated

A Life Changing Experience, part 2

Would I do it all again? That's the question I posed at the end of the Hartcliffe Big Build story, in Issue 27.

The answer is, of course, YES, and it really is another story, though shorter than the previous one because the majority of the things you see happening when the programme is transmitted are the same, or very nearly the same, from one build to the next.

My second Big Build started just 8 weeks after the first one ended, when another volunteer army of assorted trades (including some of us from the Hartcliffe Big Build) arrived in the Gloucestershire village of Avening to help the local community complete the project they'd started, to reunite a family in their own home again.

This is all we knew: *"In April 2016, while on a family holiday in Cyprus, dad-of-two Ben slipped walking along the side of the pool. Tragically he landed on his head in the shallow-end breaking his neck in three places, leaving him paralysed. In that split-second, the young family's world was changed forever and Ben faced losing the life that he loved so much with his Ella and daughters Iris (3) & Olivia (8). After months of treatment in both Cyprus and Germany (Ben was resuscitated for hours on an airport runway) he was finally flown back to the UK, where the Salisbury Spinal Unit made amazing progress with him over the last 12 months."*

The community had raised just enough money to remove 600+ tons of rock and soil to create a building space, prepare the foundations and erect a 2-storey extension; then the money ran outand then DIY SOS stepped in.

With the road 2m below and 6m from the front door, access to the house was challenging, especially

as it was at the end of a cul-de-sac, on a steep hillside. Empty rubbish skips were craned in, deliveries were off-loaded 50+ metres from the house and hand-balled onto the building site, every bucket of rubble and waste was hand-balled to the waiting skips which were then craned off-site to the waiting lorries.

Within an incredibly short time walls had come down, a 2 storey and a 1 storey side extensions had gone up, and the newly worked-out rear "quarry" was being transformed into a wheelchair and family-friendly back-garden. All rooms in the old house and new extensions received the Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen 'vision' and it was up to the army of trades to create it.

The bespoke bridge, linking the upper floor of the house with the garden, generated heart-stopping moments as it was craned over the house, just missing the ridge tiles, and lowered into place only 10mm from the wall exterior - brilliant co-ordination between the crane driver (who could not see through 5 walls) and the project manager, Mark Miller - and we had a white-hatted incognito Princess watching it all happen from over her "back-garden" fence!

A hectic final build-day allowed the house-dressers time to do their stuff and, after nine very long days (in both time and distance travelled) the build was finished, and Ben and his family were finally back in their own home, a complete family unit again.

The Hartcliffe Big Build really taught me that the most precious commodity that can be donated is Time, and the The Avening Big Build reinforced that lesson

Who knows when the learning will stop?



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OTHER STORIES

Breaking News

At the Grand and Provincial Officers' Mess Dinner held on Friday 16th November 2018, the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro John Douglas Arthur Platts, announced that he would be

retiring from office the day before the Annual Grand Lodge meeting on the 9th March 2019. He will, of course be remaining in full charge of the Province until his retirement.

The name of his successor will be announced by him at the first Bristol Mark Lodge meeting that he is able to attend. This will be either at the postponed Baldwyn Lodge meeting if it takes place before Christmas, otherwise it will at the Goodwin Mark Lodge meeting on the 10th January 2019. He is unable to attend Brunswick Mark Lodge meeting on the 11th December 2018 owing to Grand Lodge business.

He will, of course be making a fuller statement at that time, but in the meantime, please note that at the next meeting of Bristol Installed Mark Masters on the morning of Saturday 26th January 2019, he has been asked to preside over a banner dedication for the Lodge and the dedication of three Provincial cushion/falls, for the purposes of which he will hold a Provincial Grand Lodge – the last in his present capacity as Provincial Grand Master

Ian McKenzie-Jones
Provincial Grand Secretary



Temple Lodge charity cheque to Blind Veterans UK

Worshipful Brother Phil Legg was recently able to present a cheque for £1,000 to Blind Veterans UK, on behalf of Temple Lodge. Blind Veterans UK had been Phil's chosen charity for his year in the Chair, 2016–2017. Temple Lodge has many connections with the Armed Forces, so it was felt that this was an appropriate charity to support. It was also felt that this organisation needed renewed publicity with so many other forces' charities seeking help. Blind Veterans UK adopted its new name in 2012 to clarify its purpose, after being founded as St Dunstan's in 1915. Phil is shown here presenting the cheque to Community Team Leaders Colin Crawley and Jo Lawson at the charity's Bristol headquarters.



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Members changing addresses, please inform your Lodge Secretary ASAP to ensure continuity of receiving your magazine.

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