



ISSUE 30 - MAY 2019

THE BRISTOL STANDARD

THE MAGAZINE FOR MASONS AND THE COMMUNITY



FESTIVAL RESULT

£1,053,206

Average Per Capita £829



The Pro Grand Master Peter Lowndes & W Brother Rick Wakeman

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

President

Rt W Bro Alan John Vaughan

Vice President

V W Bro Christopher Williams
PGSwdB

Chairman and Treasurer

Steven John Bennett PAGDC

Festival Secretary

Michael John Searle PPrGChap

Provincial Grand Charity Steward

W Bro Timothy John Brunton

Gala Ball Organizer

W Bro Kevin Taylor

W Bro Anthony John Griffiths
PPrGChap

W Bro Christopher John Cook
PPrGChap

W Bro Beverley Norman Dyer
PProvGSuptWks

W Bro Steven Karl Mallinson
W Bro Adam Watts



An outstanding result!

A remark made by Richard Hone QC, the President of the Masonic Charitable Foundation at The Gala Ball following the Grand Reveal – **over one million pounds** equating to an **average per capita of £829** – the seventh highest across all Provinces! This could only have been achieved by the support, sheer hard work and endeavour of so many brethren in every lodge.

The intention at the start of the festival was to raise enough money to put back into the charities an amount equal to that received by brethren, and their dependants, in this province since the last festival – this figure does that and adds over £200,000!

Most of the Lodges and all Chapters exceeded expectations by raising amounts well beyond that asked of them and in some instances achieved incredibly higher totals.

The Province wide support was key to achieving a seven-figure total and the magnificent donations received from our own Provincial Charity, The Bristol Masonic Benevolent Institute, was amazing. The Mark Degree, Bristol Masonic Charitable trust and the many associations and clubs were unstinting in their support.

The personal endeavours of many brethren to make a difference has been humbling – Bill Doody running seven marathons in seven consecutive days, Tony Griffiths and Brian Yeatman cycling from John O'Groats to Lands' End, Alin Achim competing in the Iron Man Competition are just a few of the hundreds of events – large and small – which have raised money in support of The Festival Masonic Samaritan Fund

I must thank the members of the festival committee who have worked so hard and tirelessly during the six years of the appeal, and the year prior,

for their endeavour and application in making the preparations for the way forward – including putting on and organising of fund raising events like the Valentine Balls, Trafalgar Nights, barn dances and many other events. Attending fifty-four Festival Committee meetings during the past seven years is testament to their determination to guide the festival to this successful outcome. The enthusiastic support of the Provincial Grand Wardens during the appeal was also a major factor in the successful outcome and greatly appreciated.

The Festival Ball held at Ashton Gate was a hugely successful, enjoyable extravaganza and celebrated the completion of the appeal in true Bristol Fashion- and a lot of style!

It was a superb night of massive entertainment and congratulations must go to W Bro Kevin Taylor the event organizer and the other members of the committee who assisted.

It has been an honour and a privilege for me to have been the Chairman of the Festival and to have worked with so many dedicated brethren throughout the province who supported, raised funds or donated to the appeal – I am amazed, and in many cases humbled, by the generosity shown by the brethren of this unique province.

W Bro Steve Bennett
Festival Chairman

Summary of Donations

Presidents List	£161,641
Craft Lodges	£854,946
Chapters	£36,619
Festival Total	£1,053,206

Summary of Donations - President's List

Name	Amount Raised
Provincial Grand Lodge of Bristol	£12,237
Bristol Masonic Benevolent Institution	£83,290
Bristol Masonic Charities	£11,011
Bristol Masonic Clay Shooting Association	£9,023
Bristol Masonic Golf Society	£4,088
Bristol Masonic Society	£3,211
Bristol Tercentenary Committee	£3,071
Bristol 2019 Festival Committee	£15,000
2003 Circle	£106
2009 Circle	£1,944
2011 Circle	£17
Bedfordshire First Principals' Chapter No.7301 (Bedfordshire)	£250
Bristol Lodge No.4522 (London)	£880
East Kent Provincial Grand Stewards' Chapter No. 5866 (East Kent)	£250

London Grand Rank Association Mercia	£25
Province of Monmouthshire	£2,500
Province of Somerset	£1,000
Suffolk Provincial Grand Stewards' Chapter No.9215 (Suffolk)	£500
Warwickshire General Chapter of Instruction (Warwickshire)	£405
OTHER ORDERS	
Camp of Baldwyn	£113
Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons Bristol	£10,509
Red Cross of Constantine: City and County Conclave No.510	£251
Royal and Select Masters: District Grand Council of Somerset and Wiltshire	£825
Allied Masonic Degrees: St Paul Council No. 12	£103
Royal Order of Scotland South West Counties	£1,020

Summary of Donations - Craft Lodges

Lodge Number	Lodge Name	Amount Raised
68	Royal Clarence	£21,440
103	Beaufort	£35,921
187	Royal Suddex Lodge of Hospitality	£26,545
326	Moirs Lodge of Honour	£34,403
610	Colston	£17,660
686	Jerusalem	£31,908
1388	Canynge	£20,514
1404	Saint Vincent	£27,243
2257	Powell	£24,539
2943	Whitson	£12,246
3108	St Augustine	£20,176
3145	St Stephen	£16,028
3663	Robert Thorne	£24,246
3884	Cabot	£26,058
3992	Peace	£34,806
4464	Dolphin	£38,640
4503	Redcliffe	£28,970

4561	St Nicholas	£23,635
4701	Lodge of Virtue and Industry	£29,642
5052	Semper Fidelis	£15,629
5239	Baily	£32,626
5386	Chatterton	£24,178
6400	Saint Paul	£14,192
6502	Anchor	£47,195
6673	Temple	£14,752
6688	Castle	£27,079
6726	Francis Rawdon	£15,917
6789	Burnett	£10,255
7051	Saint Katherine	£19,147
7127	Lodge of Harmony	£19,791
7356	Brunel	£17,200
7401	Lodge of Unity	£21,233
8168	Bristol Installed Masters	£13,794
9522	Bristol Patrons	£3,125
9688	Matthew	£31,582
9841	Sportsmen's	£27,144
9936	Scoutcraft	£5,488

Summary of Donations - Chapters

Chapter Number	Chapter Name	Amount Raised
	Provincial Grand Chapter of Bristol	£4,064
	Past First Principals 2010	£50
68	Royal Clarence	£1,182
103	Beaufort	£2,272
187	Chapter of Charity	£3,652
326	Moirs Chapter of Honour	£3,054
686	Jerusalem	£1,789
2943	Whitson	£1,399

3108	St Augustine	£3,445
3884	Cabot	£2,075
3992	Peace	£2,454
6400	Saint Paul	£1,476
6673	Temple	£2,123
8168	Bristol Installed First Principals	£366
9688	Matthew	£6,103
9841	Sportsmen's	£1,115
9688	Matthew	£6,103
9841	Sportsmen's	£1,115

GALA BALL



Rick Wakeman captivates the audience

2019 Festival – Gala Ball

The Bristol 2019 Masonic Samaritan Fund Festival came to a tumultuous climax on Friday 12th April; six years and fifty-eight days after it was kicked-off on Valentine's Day 2013. The idea of a Gala Ball to celebrate the achievements of the Province first appeared in the committee meeting minutes on 27th January 2016 where the President, and then Provincial Grand Master, decreed that it was to be a "fun evening". Worshipful Brother Kevin Taylor was appointed to organise the event and it soon became clear that the only venue able to accommodate the kind of numbers we were hoping for, would be the new (at the time) function suite at Bristol City Football Ground.



The Pro Grand Master Peter Lowndes –
our Guest of Honour



Planning started almost immediately and Emissaries were dispatched to London to discuss entertainment possibilities with the Chelsea Lodge No. 3098 - the Entertainers Lodge meeting at Great Queen Street. True to that great Masonic virtue of silence, very few details were revealed of the headline act, other than it would be an internationally renowned artist. Experience from our Trafalgar Night Mess Dinners, showed that advertising the percentage of tickets sold was a great marketing tool and so was the case here. By new year 2019, the full quota of 600 tickets were pretty much spoken for and a reserve list was started.

The honoured guest for the evening, and we were truly honoured to welcome him to Bristol again, was The Most

GALA BALL



Worshipful Pro Grand Master, Peter Lowndes, accompanied by amongst others, Right Worshipful Brother Richard Hone QC, President of the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

The evening opened with the Signature Rouge Dancers, supporting Daniel Dean and his team of Close-Up Magicians. The Colin Roy Band then entertained us with songs, old and new, prior to a first-class meal, expertly prepared and served by the staff at Ashton Gate. Daniel Dean compared for the entire evening to ensure there was no lull in the fun and frivolity around us.

Arguably, the entertainment highlight of the evening was Worshipful Brother Richard Christopher Wakeman, or Rick Wakeman as he is more widely known. To fans of Top Gear in the “Clarkson” era, he is the gentleman with long hair who likes cars and can make a Bontempi organ sound like a symphony orchestra. To Prog Rock aficionados of the seventies (like myself), he is musical royalty. His CV is mightily impressive and he has played keyboards for countless household names with two in particular as we were about to find out – Cat Stevens and David Bowie.

The shopping list of equipment that he would normally employ would have filled the stage of even the largest concert venues but with our Chairman keeping a very tight rein on the budget for the evening, a small portable keyboard was placed front and centre for Rick to do with as he pleased. Having casually mentioned Cat Stevens and David Bowie as close friends, Rick then played the immediately recognisable classics for which he provided the keyboard parts – Morning Has Broken and Life on Mars. A number of other songs were delivered in the style of various classical composers and musicians (including Les Dawson), interspersed with interesting and hilarious anecdotes about the many musicians he has played with over the years.

Adger Brown continued the enjoyment with his hilarious stand-up comedy routine. Personally, I liked the Undertaker/Traffic Cop joke. Many others thought the best one was the



The Deputy PGM Richard Lewis, The Pro Grand Master and the PGM



The Colin Roy Band



Chairman Steve Bennett announces that Bristol surpassed the national per-capita average

GALA BALL



The Festival President Alan Vaughan and the MCF Chairman Richard Hone

two monkeys in the bath. Shame I can't remember the punchline. The Colin Roy Band then performed the second half of their set and made sure the dance floor was full, and the atmosphere full of noise for the remainder of the evening.

In amongst all the entertainment, was of course, the real reason we were gathered together. To celebrate the 2019 Festival and the funds raised for the Masonic Samaritan Fund or as we decided to call it, The Grand Reveal. Our President, Right Worshipful Brother Alan Vaughan gave his address and had great pleasure in handing over to the Chairman, Worshipful Brother Steve Bennett, who could not contain his pride in announcing that the Grand Total raised was £1,053,206 and that the per-capita sum for Bristol was £829 compared to the national average of £673. Superb. No other words will do.

The Pro Grand Master and the Chairman of the Masonic Charitable Foundation were both glowing in their praise for the efforts of the entire Province, not forgetting our families and friends, who have also given their unstinting support in helping us surpass all expectations. The Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Jo Davis thanked the honoured guests for their words of praise and offered his gratitude to all involved for the wonderful evening and the festival in its entirety.

I'll finish off with some quotes from those who attended:-



Strictly comes to Ashton Gate

"The highlight of the evening for me was the £1,053,206 total and Rick Wakeman".

"The sports bar at Bristol City was the scene of wild celebrations from last year's World Cup as fans celebrated every England goal hit the back of the net. On Friday 12th April the long campaign of 6 years of joint labours were celebrated in our own Cup Final with the unveiling of the Bristol MSF 2019 total donations".

"This was my first experience of this type of event but the anticipation was already at fever pitch and the atmosphere of expectation was at such levels that a few more volunteers for the save a life campaign might have been recruited".



The Provincial Grand Master Jo Davis



Worship Brother Kevin Taylor and his brothers

GALA BALL



Dancing the night away



The Festival President Alan Vaughan and the MCF Chairman Richard Hone



Watch out eBay

"A brilliant evening, the best Masonic event I have been to. The Chelsea Lodge were wonderful, the whole evening out of this world. For those who did not attend, you missed the greatest night ever".

"From our ever growing Dunckerleys Light Blues, this night made us proud to be Bristol Masons and our partners and

guests were equally proud that we had all contributed to something very close to our hearts".

"It certainly was a great, no fantastic evening. Good food, good company, and great entertainment. Thanks to all that made it possible".

Those words sum up the evening far

better than I can. Kevin Taylor, take one last bow. It certainly was a fun evening.

Mike Searle
2019 Festival Secretary

Lodge totals per capita

The average per capita Target across all provincial festivals is currently **£673**

Bristol Freemasons have achieved an average of **£829 PER CAPITA**

Lodge Number	Lodge Name	Amount Raised
6502	Anchor Lodge	£1,475
9688	Matthew Lodge	£1,047
4503	Redcliffe Lodge	£769
326	Moiria Lodge of Honour	£751
3992	Peace Lodge	£738
3663	Robert Thorne Lodge	£724
5386	Chatterton Lodge	£722
7127	Lodge of Harmony	£694
68	Royal Clarence Lodge	£681
686	Jerusalem Lodge	£660
187	Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality	£635
7356	Brunel Lodge	£633
4464	Dolphin Lodge	£623
6726	Francis Rawdon Lodge	£620
5239	Baily Lodge	£618
4701	Lodge of Virtue and Industry	£609
4561	St Nicholas Lodge	£601

6400	Saint Paul Lodge	£595
2257	Powell Lodge	£594
7051	Saint Katherine Lodge	£583
1404	Saint Vincent Lodge	£562
7401	Lodge of Unity	£559
5052	Semper Fidelis Lodge	£558
3108	St Augustine Lodge	£555
1388	Canynge's Lodge	£545
103	Beaufort Lodge	£542
6688	Castle Lodge	£519
3884	Cabot Lodge	£519
9841	Sportsmen's Lodge	£512
3145	St Stephen Lodge	£471
6789	Burnett Lodge	£470
2943	Whitson Lodge	£451
610	Colston Lodge	£422
6673	Temple Lodge	£387

Per capita total is based on the average annual membership figure during the festival period

IN MEMORIUM

At the end of October Andrew led a five-mile walk. Who would have thought we would be here just three months later remembering and paying tribute to a dear friend? The speed at which his illness took hold and his condition deteriorated was a great shock to us all. It was hard to believe and difficult to accept.

Kind, thoughtful, helpful, honest, supportive – all attributes of Andrew which I guess every one of us here today has seen directly or indirectly. He was an advisor, an arbitrator, an IT consultant, good company and a lovely man.

I am just going to give you an outline with some examples of what I know about his life rather than risking going into too much detail with dates etc and missing somethings out. I could list all the organisations Andrew belonged to or all his achievements or all the people he has helped in various ways but I'm afraid time doesn't permit.

Freemasonry played a large part in Andrew's life. He was initiated into the Semper Fidelis Lodge in 1990 becoming its Worshipful Master in 1995 and again in 2011. He was also Worshipful Master of the Bristol Installed Masters Lodge in 2017. He was exalted into the Royal Clarence Chapter in 1992 and was First Principal in 1998. He was also First Principal of the Bristol Installed First Principals Chapter in 2014. He was promoted to Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden in 2017 and Past Provincial Grand Scribe Nehemiah in 2012. He was also Worshipful Master of Dunckerley Mark Lodge in 2001 and was promoted to Past Provincial Grand Junior Warden in 2013.

Andrew joined the Camp of Baldwyn – a unique part of English Freemasonry and it was here that Andrew found his niche and together with many other side Orders probably enjoyed the most. Because of his Christian upbringing it's not surprising that he gravitated towards the Christian Orders of which he was a member. He was in the Chair of the Nine Elected Masters, Knights Templar, and Rose Croix degrees. Latterly he was the Registrar for the

Camp where his administrative and organisational skills kept everyone in order. Andrew had a different briefcase for his regalia for each order he was a member of. He seemed to be in everything. Sometimes in the Chair, Secretary or Treasurer.

Andrew liked gadgets – long before apps' and gadgets were the norm. His lounge lights would come on, the music would play and sometimes with the voice activation of a teddy bear sat on a chair! You would hear a ringtone on his phone. "What was that?" you'd say, "Oh I've just won the auction on eBay and bought such and such an item." You'd be driving along and his phone would play a fanfare. Again what was that you'd enquire. "Oh, we're within ¼ of a mile of a Wetherspoons!" he'd reply.

He worked in the systems and computing department of Rolls-Royce which was later out sourced to EDS and then to Hewlett Packard. He designed some of the computing programme systems at Rolls-Royce Bristol, Derby and nuclear plant at Raynesway as well as Rolls-Royce/BMW Ltd in Munich and Berlin. He enjoyed travel and walking – he was a leader for a walking group in Henbury and would lead a walk most Thursdays. He was a member of two Probus clubs and was Chairman of one of them and enjoyed their outings.

Andrew was of course well into computers. He was probably first to upgrade to the latest operating system version. His computer skills saw him introduce the first Province of Bristol website and he also assisted with the computer system at Freemasons Hall in London.

If you ever asked Andrew a question he would always research the subject fully before giving you an answer. If you asked him something in Park Street on an evening by the time you had returned home there would be an email waiting for you with an answer.

Andrew always had time for people. Time which he gave freely. He didn't have to do it. He did it because he wanted to. It could be a listening ear, transport to a hospital appointment, a courtesy car while your car was in



for repair, a rescue service, advice for anyone in a difficult situation, visiting loved ones and caring for and helping others.

If you went on a day trip or a holiday he would always research the venue or event so that you knew what to expect. Andrew always tried to support his friends in their particular activities.

Right up until his last days Andrew was thinking of others and the lodges and orders he belonged to. He regretfully tendered his resignation so that he wouldn't leave the Orders or his estate with unnecessary liabilities.

Right up until his last days Andrew was thinking of others and the lodges and orders he belonged to. He regretfully tendered his resignation so that he wouldn't leave the Orders or his estate with unnecessary liabilities.

Andrew got a lot out of freemasonry and it's principals. That is not surprising considering the amount of time and effort he put into it. He probably did more for all of us than we ever did for him. His mind was upright and he acted with integrity and decency. I exhort you all to work with that fortitude and fidelity which he had in abundance.

If you ever saw a photograph of Andrew you would generally see him with a smile on his face and a glass of wine in his hand. Although Andrew's body is dead, his soul lives on. Andrew was a good man. A good mason. A good friend and brother. Celebrate his life, remember his smile and thank God that he was a part of your life.



GUNROOM

Province of Bristol Clay Shooting Team Newsletter



Issue 1
Jan - March

Welcome to the first edition of 'Gunroom' the official newsletter for the Province of Bristol Clay Shooting Team. During the ensuing months/year it is intended that this news letter will provide you with a focus of up and coming events, contact details, scores sheets from events, Captains column, members input, individual profiles, Items for sale, team clothing plus Q &A. Over the course of the year we will also be looking at the top guns, young guns, most improved and a host of other topics.

We are also in the process of trying to raise a ladies team, so if you know of any ladies who would like to shoot please contact one of the three at the foot of the page.

We would encourage your input to this newsletter.



Some of the members Bristol Masonic Clay Team who recently visited Lady's Wood shooting ground Nr Yate to take part in a practice shoot, it is intended that these type of events will in the future be held on a regular basis

Putting a face to a name



From L-R Mark Spray, John Hemmings and Mike Parsons

Captains Column



2009 saw the birth of Bristol Masonic Clay Clay Shooting. It was founded by W. Bro Steve Carter and W. Bro Steve Bennett. At the time Steve Carter was representing Gloucestershire and Steve Bennett was representing Somerset. After several conversations they decided that they both should be representing Bristol, and so the journey began.

In 2010 the first national clay shoot was held along with 9 other provinces on which occasion Bristol finished victorious. The tournament has now expanded, and we regularly compete against 22 other provinces. Over the last 2-3 years the Bristol team has grown along with various guests and it is my intention to take the team to the next level. We are already a team that regularly finishes in the top four. With the help of Mark Spray and Mike Parsons we now have team polo shirts and team skeet vests carrying the team members name and Bristol logo. In 2018 I started regular training sessions which has proven extremely valuable especially to the new members, as it has shown on the score cards.

This year in 2019, my plan is to build a lady's team to represent Bristol. We currently have 3 lady shooters with varying ability from beginner to novice who have shown great interest in taking part in the soon to be team. If anyone would like further information on joining our Bristol team, ladies or gents, please do not hesitate to contact me on the details below.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,
John Hemmings
07816601488



Top Gun 2018

This year the John Hemmings trophy for Top Gun has been awarded To Richard Keen. Richard has shot consistently well over the entire year, so congratulations to Richard, and another one for the cabinet.

3 Province Shooting Competition

The 2nd leg of the 3 Provinces shooting competition took place on September 29th at the beautiful setting of Cefn Tilla, South Wales, the late Lord Raglans ancestral home. Under clear blue skies and almost perfect conditions the Province of Bristol clay shooting team held off the challenge of Monmouth and Wiltshire to take 1st place.

Bristol having already won the first leg, will compete for the title of overall winners at the 3rd leg to hosted by Wiltshire, date TBA.

Plimpton 3 County Challenge

The Bristol team travelled to Newnham Park in Devon to compete against the Provincial teams of Devon and Cornwall. The conditions were very testing with high winds and lots of high birds. Despite the elements Bristol beat the challengers and took first place.



Current Team Members:-

John Hemmings, Richard Keen, Steve Carter, Mike Parsons, Mark Spray, Nathan Parsons, Steve Bennett, Nigel Bacon, Justin Ellison, Kevin Wills, Clive Best, Tom Hemmings, Andrew Moore, Chris Lowe

Team Captain – John Hemmings – johnhemmings1957@gmail.com. Editorial – Mike Parsons – mike.parsons246@hotmail.com
Secretarial – Mark Spray/Mike Parsons – mspraycbs@btinternet.com



Province of Bristol Evensong

Saturday 16th March at Bristol Cathedral

At the appointed hour over 100 brethren, their partners and family assembled inside the beautiful venue of Bristol Cathedral.

Those who arrived early were treated to some wonderful singing from the choir as they practiced ready for the Evensong Service.

For this service, seating had been arranged within the choir, with the remaining visitors seated in the Nave just in front of the Nave Alter.

Once assembled, the our PGM, Jonathan Mark Walker Davis, accompanied by his wife; DPGM, Richard Lewis and his wife, were lead through the main body of the Nave to take their seats in the choir.

Once seated the Lord Mayor of Bristol, Cleo Lake accompanied by her consort, Bianca Durrant were escorted though the Nave to their seats in the choir.

Other invited dignitaries included the Lord Lieutenant of Bristol, the Past Lord Lieutenant and the Lord Mayor's Chaplin and his wife.

The service itself was lead by Very Revd Dr David Hoyle, who welcome the Freemason's of Bristol to the Evensong

and thanked them for their donations over the years.

The Cathedral Choir were magnificent in their support of the service. What wonderful acoustics there are in this ancient building.

At the conclusion of the service, the brethren, partners, and family adjourned to Park Street for a drinks and canape reception.

A wonderful scene was created in our newly decorated main hall as the guests began arriving and served by a very professional group of waitresses.

The hall was filled with chatter and laughter as our PGM and DPGM mingled amongst those present.

The canapes created by Fredy were splendid and much comment was made by all those who tried them.

Most stayed in the hall for well over an hour, enjoying the food and champagne provided by Tony Griffiths for the occasion.

Everyone commented on what a wonderful occasion it had been and hoped that this would be something that we would continue to do in the future.



Bristol Province hosts Prostate Awareness Day

On the 3rd November 2018 the newly formed Bristol Province Health and Wellbeing Group (BPHWG) were hosted by the Provincial Grand Master, Jo Davis, to hold their inaugural event, a health promotion and awareness talk on prostate disease, with a specific focus on prostate cancer. The event was Chaired by W Bro Mike Page (WM of the Beaufort Lodge) and the talk was delivered by two members of the St Vincent Lodge, Dr Jonathan Hayes (PPrSGW) and Mr Stefanos Bolomytis (Consultant Urologist at North Bristol Hospital Trust & Senior Warden of St. Vincent Lodge). The first event was specifically focussed on raising awareness about the most common cancer affecting men in the UK, and was open to both Masons and non-masons alike.

Currently, one man dies every 45 minutes from prostate cancer. It has now overtaken breast cancer as a more common cause of death in the UK. Prostate Cancer affects 1 in every 8 men, with the risk of the disease being higher in men over the age of 50 years. In black men, the risk increases to 1 in 4. The average age for men being diagnosed with the condition is between 65-69. If a man has a father or brother who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer, or a mother or sister who has been diagnosed with breast cancer, he will have a 2.5% higher risk of developing prostate cancer.

The event aimed to raise awareness of the signs, symptoms & treatments available for a range of male genitourinary complaints, with the main focus being on prostate cancer, emphasising that early identification of disease was generally linked to better outcomes, increased life expectancy and the potential for curative intervention.

The event was very well supported with over 80 people attending. Following the presentation, all attendees were given a medical history and self-assessment symptom screening tool to complete, which allowed for them to be risk-assessed for prostate cancer. Blood tests for PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen), urine dipstick testing and a physical examination of the prostate were also available for anyone who wished to have them following the explanation of the relative advantages and disadvantages of testing during the presentation.

Due to the high level of demand, there was considerable delay in getting everyone through their blood and urine test, taking

two members of the team 2 ½ hours to complete 52 individual blood and urine tests. However, all those in attendance were extremely patient and co-operative, expressing their gratitude to the team for the service that was provided. At the end of the event everyone was asked to complete a feedback sheet & pay a small fee of £5 to cover the cost of the blood tests and other consumable item, including a contribution towards the cost of the buffet lunch, which had been largely sponsored by the Province.

At the end of the event, the speakers were presented with a cheque for £150 on behalf of the PGM and Brethren of the Mark Master Masons of Bristol in support of prostate cancer research.

Within a week of the event, all attendees received individualised and specific information about their personal relative risk of developing prostate cancer, along with advice and guidance about next steps, particularly for those considered to be at high risk. They were sent a personal medical assessment sheet that they could then copy to their GP to be added to their personal medical records, should they so wish.

Inevitably, with a high number of attendees, several brethren were consequently identified as being at significant risk of developing prostate cancer and were subsequently fast tracked for further investigation & treatment.

13 brethren were deemed to be at significantly high risk of prostate cancer requiring further investigation. 7 of these have subsequently been diagnosed with prostate cancer and are now receiving appropriate treatment or monitoring.

8 additional attendees were considered to be at higher than average future risk and were recommended to see their GP for annual review.

7 other attendees were unlikely to have prostate cancer, but did have other urinary symptoms worthy of further investigation (including 2 possible bladder cancers) and were advised to see their GP.

From the total number of 80 attendees, 9 turned out to have previously undiagnosed and relatively asymptomatic prostate cancer – just over 11% and in keeping with the 1 in 8 overall risk figure. If we extrapolate these figures across the nearly 2,000 men in the Province, who are members in various Orders, there are likely to be 240 other men within the Province who have prostate cancer and may not know about it.

The BPHWG intend to re-run the event in November to increase awareness of prostate cancer. It is one of the few diseases that affects only men, but the condition has a wider impact on the families of men who have the condition.

If you have a family history of prostate or breast cancer, or experience any of the following symptoms, then please discuss them with your GP:

- Pain or discomfort during urination, or increased frequency of urination.
- Difficulty urinating, or decreased flow or velocity of urine stream.
- Blood in urine (haematuria) or blood in semen (haemospermia)
- New onset of erectile dysfunction.
- Testicular swelling or new lumps in the scrotum.

For further information on prostate cancer, visit www.prostatecanceruk.org/freemason or telephone the Prostate Cancer UK specialist nurses on 0800 0748383

If you would like information on future Health and Wellbeing talks in the Province, or would like information on arranging a talk for your own personal group or community, please contact: BPHealthandwellbeing@gmail.com

W Bro Mike Page



GWAC Presentation

The Provincial Grand Master RW Bro Jonathan Davis accompanied by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master W Bro Richard Lewis and the Provincial charity steward W Bro Tim Brunton were pleased to present a cheque of £4000 to Emma Carter of Great Western Air Ambulance from the MCF at their new base by Almondsbury. Since 2006 the MCF has funded the 22 air ambulance rescue services in England and Wales to the tune of £2.2million. G-GWAC has the Masonic Square and Compass on the tail. This new purpose built place of operation is within 70 acres and cost £1.8 million. They now have dedicated training, ops, conference and quiet rooms. This is a far cry from the old draughty hangar at Filton which was one of the oldest in the country. GWAAC does sterling life-saving work and also goes into schools talking about CPR. For more information or to pledge support please visit: greatwesternairambulance.com or talk to our DPGM who is a volunteer for the charity.

Also W Bro Bryan Quinlan president of the 1985 circle presented a cheque which shows the way forward on how matched funding or combined donations can have a larger impact!



Children's Hospice SW

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master Richard Lewis with W Bro Chris Cook and W Bro Tim Brunton met with Fran at the Children's Hospice SW, Charlton Farm, Bristol to see how they had spent the £1000 donated to them from the Masonic car rally held to celebrate 300 years of Freemasonry at Tyntesfield House Wraxall. They had purchased a large TV with a stand and a blue ray player all of which can be easily moved from room to room for the children. They also bought several other gadgets including an Alexa devise. We were made very welcome with tea and cakes and helped to maintain the long Masonic tradition of supporting this hospice.

Tim Brunton PGCharity Steward

Mothers for Mothers

MCF Awarded a grant of £5000 March 2109 to the charity Mothers for Mothers based at the New Fulford Family Centre in Hartcliffe. I met with Maria Viner who showed me around the facility and explained how their charity helps mothers with post natal depression via support groups within the Bristol area, a telephone help line, counselling, community home visits and support from other mothers. They can also help those with depression in the pregnancy stage and fathers. Post natal depression affects 1 in 10 women and not everyone has a strong support net work around them or are capable to confidently access the relevant services. I was also invited along to one of the drop in sessions for mothers and babies and met the staff. This worthwhile charity is also supported by Children in Need as well as other charitable groups. www.mothersformothers.co.uk



Mothers for Mothers



Older Peoples Benefit Advisor

**Tim Brunton
PCharity Steward.**



St John Ambulance



At the turn of this century St John Ambulance had a mixed fleet of aged, worn-out vehicles. Post millennial ambulance legislation rendered most of the fleet redundant and this led to the development of the Crusader 900 Ambulance, a purpose built £40k vehicle jointly designed by the SJA and Renault.

St John Ambulance estimated they needed 100 Crusaders almost immediately and committed to raise £2m by public subscription. This was matched by The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons and the Mark Benevolent Fund committing to fund 50 of the Crusaders, and these were duly handed over in local ceremonies across the country during 2001/02, including Bristol.

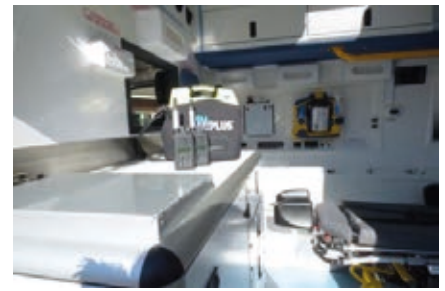
By 2017, those vehicles had also worn out and needed replacing. Once again the Grand Lodge of MMMs, the MBF and the St John Ambulance charity joined forces to replace these 2001/02 vehicles and a £3m fund was donated, sufficient for up to for 52 state of the art ambulances and support vehicles, to be handed over during 2017/18. This latest donation marks the 140th anniversary of St John Ambulance in 2017 and the 150th anniversary of the Mark Benevolent Fund in 2018.

On 26th June, after a short Service of Dedication by St John's County Chaplain, the keys of a new ambulance

were handed to His Honour Simon Darwall-Smith (Chair of the Avon County Priory Group of the Order of St John) by the President of the Mark Benevolent Fund, RW Bro Dr John Wright PGSW. The hand-over was at the Raleigh Road HQ of Bristol's St John Ambulance and was attended by PGM W Bro John Platts, DPGM W Bro Steve Rawlings and a plethora of Bristol Mark Masons and supporters.

PGM RW Bro John Platts congratulated and thanked the assembled Brethren for their fund raising efforts which had resulted in the purchase of two essential pieces of ambulance equipment: a) a portable defibrillator and b) a twin-pack mobile radio phone for use by the on-duty crew; both pieces of equipment had already been installed in the ambulance.

The St John Ambulance volunteers were very enthusiastic about their new vehicle and set about discovering its features, and there was even talk of "drawing lots" to see who should drive it



first – but that may have been a degree too far!

And, to top off a lovely evening, we retired into the main hall and there enjoyed a refreshing buffet, prepared and served by our own Fredy Eyermann, who else could it have been?!

W Bro Mike Whitworth
PGSO (then)
PGReg (now)



Freemason's Hall

Park Street, Bristol. BS1 5NH

Saturday 15th June 11.00am - 4.00pm

For more information about the building visit—
www.provinceofbristol.co.uk

Open Day

Come along and enjoy a Guided Tour of this Historic, Grade II* listed building.

Refreshments served throughout the day



CHARITY

MCF Donates £3600 to Womankind Charity

On 14 January I had the pleasure of meeting with Kyra Bond at the Womankind offices on Brunswick Square, who made me most welcome. This is the Bristol women's therapy centre. It is a centre run by women for women. They help hundreds of women every year to improve their mental health and well-being so they can experience a better quality of life. They receive referrals from the NHS via the hospital or GP setting. Many of those seeking help have either experienced sexual abuse or abusive relationships. With all the local cut backs their services are under even greater pressure than before, however they are still keeping their waiting period to see referrals to 3 months at the moment. The charity regularly links up with other charities working in this field, some of which the MCF and BMBI have already donated to like-The Green House. info@womankindbristol.org.uk

Tim Brunton - PCharity Steward



OVERVIEW OF OUR WORK IN BRISTOL IN 2017/18

We helped **24** people from the masonic community

Support for masonic families totalled £43,631

This includes:
£9,972 of grants for daily living expenses
£19,637 of support for health needs
£14,022 to cover educational opportunities and quality care

4 people accessed our counselling careline

Our Advice & Support Team carried out 12 home visits to support the masonic community

We also supported 7 of your local charities with £59,500 in grants

Support for masonic families totalled £43,631

“When my daughter became ill four years ago, we took in our two young grandchildren – we didn't realise just how much two extra mouths to feed would increase our outgoings and we started to struggle. Thankfully the MCF agreed to help us out, not only with the everyday stuff, but also with grants for karate, swimming and gymnastics lessons. The children used to be so shy, but it's really brought them out of their shell. The MCF have been absolutely wonderful.”
Roy, freemason and grandfather

To find out more about our work, visit impact.mcf.org.uk

Masonic Charitable Foundation

The BMC made the following donations in November 2018

- The Wheels Project £500
- Babbasa Youth Empowerment £500
- Southmead Project £500
- Lord Mayor's Chapel Organ £500
- Easton Families Project £500
- Little Treasures –South Glos £200 matched funding with Baily Lodge
- Lord Mayor's Children's 2018 £1000 cheque handed to Lord Mayor in December 2018 at the Carol Service Dinner.

**Tim Brunton
PCharity Steward**



The Green House grant update for the Masonic Charitable Foundation, December 2018

Our team are hugely appreciative of the generous support of the Masonic Charitable Foundation over the last 12 months. The £4,000 grant has been used to support our Children and Young People's Service for families affected by sexual abuse.

The work that has been funded

As detailed in our original application, the Foundation's grant has enabled The Green House to support some of Bristol's most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people. Over the last 12 months our highly skilled team have:

- Provided specialist art and drama therapy for 49 sexually abused children and young people. Many children often don't have the words for their traumatic experiences so the use of art, drama and play have provided accessible, non-threatening ways for them to make sense of what has happened and build their resilience and self-esteem.
- Offered practical emotional support to 80 parents and carers of children referred to The Green House. Discovering that your child has been sexually abused can be deeply distressing. Our Family Support Practitioner has provided telephone support and face-to-face sessions for parents, helping them to understand more about their child's needs and how they can care for them.



Milestones achieved in 2018

We are pleased to have delivered on each of our annual objectives for the year (as per our application). We:

1) Have supported a record number of children and families

In recent years The Green House has experienced unprecedented demand for our therapy services. Between Jan-Nov 2018 our Children and Young People's Service has taken 98 referrals and offered 787 hours of therapy, an 18% increase compared with the previous year.

2) Enabled more children and young people to heal and recover from sexual abuse

We are really proud of the lasting difference our therapy service has made for children and their families. We use both quantitative and qualitative methods to track this and our data shows improvements in children's health, resilience, and relationships. For example, of our clients who have completed therapy in 2018 so far:

- 88% demonstrated an improvement in their health and wellbeing.
- 77% showed an improvement in their self-esteem.
- 88% demonstrated improved confidence.

Furthermore, here are examples of how our beneficiaries have summed up the impact in their own words- *"It was helpful because I feel like I can share all my emotions and thoughts without being judged." Client, aged 12*

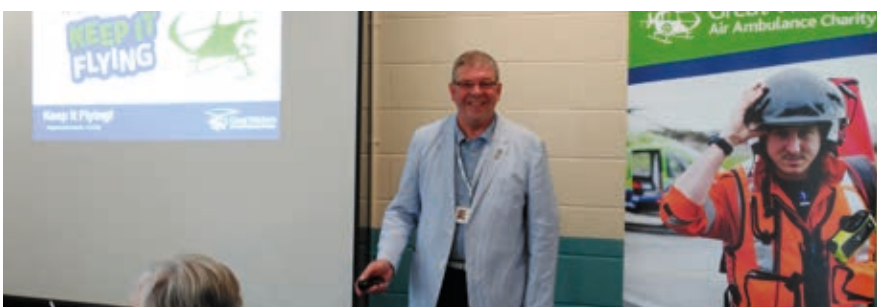
"Without the help and support of The Green House my family would have fallen apart. They have shown us that we can get through this." Parent of a child completing therapy

3) Published cutting-edge research on the importance of therapy for sexual trauma

Over the last 12 months our team have also worked with the Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse, a national research body, on a pioneering Social Return On Investment study. Published in October 2018, it is one of the first evaluations of its kind within our sector, providing valuable evidence on the impact and effectiveness of our therapeutic provision. The study found that for every £1 invested in therapy, at least £4.17 was generated in social value. The full report is available on [our website](#).



St Peter's Hospice



GWAC Baileys Court

South Bristol Advise Centre Awarded £4500 by MCF

On 23 January I was warmly welcomed by Fran Begley at their offices at The Withywood Centre, Withywood BS13 8QA.

SBAS provides free professional, confidential advice and information to residents of South Bristol seeking help with welfare benefits and debt. They work with local agencies, including Bristol Credit Union, Avon and Bristol Law Centre and Bristol City Council. They have a 99% successful appeal rate with DWP. They have the Pennywise Project funded by the National Lottery which aims to give people financial skills to make their money work better for them. Mentors meet with beneficiaries on three occasions in a range of locations.

They also run a home visiting project for older and disabled people. During the initial six months they assessed 1205 clients at drop in sessions to determine health issues. SBAS is also deals with people with mental health problems. They also work with Bristol City Council to work with tenants in rent arrears to help stop evictions that can cost the council up to £10,000 for such an action.

The £4500 was to help fund the salary of their older peoples benefit adviser. SBAS consists of local people doing a vital job helping people from some fairly deprived areas of Knowle, Hartcliffe and Withywood. www.southbristoladvice.org.uk

Tim Brunton
PCharity Steward

GWAC Volunteering

Masonry has given financial support to Air Ambulance Charities nationwide over a number years. If it wasn't for those donations and also those from members of the public some air ambulances wouldn't be flying today.

As well as making a financial contribution there is another way people can help – that is by giving of their time. By becoming a volunteer for the local Great Western Air Ambulance Charity (GWAAC). A couple of hours a month makes all the difference. It could be helping with supermarket collections or manning the stall and selling merchandise at exciting events.

Deputy Provincial Grand Master Richard Lewis says “There are certain events I would never have attended had I not been volunteering for GWAAC – a windy and muddy Lansdown, a rain drenched Castle Coombe Race meeting or learning new terminology at Cirencester Polo Club! But all good fun and all in a good cause.”

“In the couple of years in which I have been giving talks on behalf of GWAAC

it has certainly been very interesting and very rewarding. There are some places you would never find without a Sat Nav which is a very good reason why the helicopter route is planned manually using string and weights! You meet and speak to a diverse section of the community. From Cub Scouts to Women's Institutes and a group of off road motorcyclists. You also get different types of questions from each group.

However, they all have one thing in common. The don't realise that GWAAC receives no money from Government or National Lottery for their day to day running costs and they are most surprised when told this. In fact GWAAC require £3M for this year to keep flying and providing this often life-saving service. This figure obviously rises year on year.”

Richard tailors his talks to suit the audience giving additional information which is relevant to their locality. For example, a talk to Cubs at Almondsbury included a map of the new base (opposite the RAC building near the M5) which makes them “neighbours”. The map also showed the Almondsbury Motorway Interchange which is depicted on the badge of the Cubs neckerchief. The “Thank-you's” by a WI member at Portishead was a thank-you to Air

Ambulance Service in general as a family member was helped by the Cornwall Air Ambulance many years earlier. He has also received comments like “Now where do I know you from?” and then find out it was probably 30 or more years previous!

Richard says “You may be fortunate enough for the audience to put some money in your bucket on the night but probably more important than anything it raises awareness about GWAAC; how much is needed to keep it flying; how many people's lives are potentially saved and how grateful people are for the work of GWAAC in saving either themselves or their loved ones.

People volunteer for all sorts of reasons. It could be with a view of meeting new people or just getting out and about. But it could be as a “Thank-you” for assistance given by GWAAC and their stories are always touching and heartfelt.

Volunteering is a virtuous circle of giving back and getting back. Research shows that volunteering is good for you as an individual; it improves your health and well-being and provides both meaning and fulfilment. Volunteering also benefits our communities, it strengthens bonds, it brings people together around a common purpose who otherwise might not meet.

If you fancy volunteering for GWAAC why not visit their website www.gwaac.com It's great fun and you will potentially be helping to save lives. Alternatively, if another charity is a “better fit” for you then why not volunteer for them? All charities need volunteers. In fact some of their fund raising events wouldn't run without them!

**“It's certainly
a case of
'practicing out
of the Lodge
that which
we are taught
in it' and a
great example
of Masonry
in the
Community.”**



Our Silent Worker Continues

Brethren, I thought it would be a good idea for you all to see in detail some more work our W Br Richard Cridland from The Moira Lodge of Honour has been doing. I refer to him as the silent worker as he does not personally seek recognition of his efforts which keep the furniture in our temples in a real presentable state!

His skills in this refurbishing of our furniture is truly remarkable! So

Next time you are at lodge, please do have a look around the candle holders or the chairs and think of the Silent Worker!

Prakash Dewani



The Bristol Cathedral Organ Appeal

For nearly 900 years the walls of Bristol Cathedral have been alive with sound. Its renowned organ consists of a historic Renatus Harris case from 1685 and a 1907 Walker instrument that sits inside. It is a true mechanical organ. However over time, parts of the instrument can no longer be heard and even on a good day only 90% of the sounds issue forth. Bristol Cathedral has almost raised £2 million for the restoration fund which will give the organ a new lease of life for the next 50 years.

Our RW Provincial Grand Master Jonathan Davis presented a cheque for £10,000 to The Very Revd Dr David Hoyle, Dean of Bristol at the Masonic Hall, Park Street in January. Also present was the DPGM W Bro Richard Lewis, W Bro Paul Binding of the BMBI and W Bro Tim Brunton MCF. The donation was via matched funding between the Provincial



Charity [BMBI] of Bristol and the MCF of UGLE. This is a perfect example of where Masonic charities, from Lodge level to Provincial to UGLE can if co-ordinated make for a significant charitable impact.

Tim Brunton
PG Charity Steward

Learning and Development: Beyond Lectures

Have you ever wondered what particular words and phrases in ceremonies you are memorizing actually mean? Where they have come from? What is their significance?

Have you ever wondered about origins and significance of all the fantastic symbols that surround us and procedures we follow during ceremonies?

Have you ever wondered more broadly about why you have become a mason and what it means to be a mason in the 21st century compared to past generations of masons? What might the phrase I have often heard and used mean – that someone is a *good* mason?

Have you ever wondered why Bristol ceremonies are different from those in lodges elsewhere and what those differences signify?

If any of these questions have crossed your mind, Learning and Development is for you.

Learning and development comprises a series of activities underpinned by a searchable online library of materials called Solomon. see <https://solomon.ugle.org.uk>

We are developing a Bristol focus to Learning and Development. To that end we have assembled a group of Learning and Development Ambassadors to spearhead our efforts, but much of their work will be to encourage others to organise and participate in Learning and Development activities.

Solomon is based on an *Emulation* approach. It is therefore a priority to develop materials that will make clear which bits of Solomon are appropriate for Bristol, and to supplement Solomon with Bristol materials.

Think of Bristol's approach to Learning and Development as a set of activities surrounded by a philosophy. The philosophy is that Learning and Development should not be something taught or lectured about, but rather something experienced collectively by as many masons as possible. Those activities are intended to be fun as well as informative, but more specifically they are intended to be engaging and interactive.

Activities are connected, but only loosely to Solomon. We have been reading snippets in some lodge meetings. Under the Learning and Development philosophy snippets will have attached to them questions or comments which are meant to be posed by brethren other than the readers in order to encourage discussion. Part of the activity will be to reserve time, either during ceremonies or at after meetings for this. In Solomon these short pieces are called nuggets. We prefer to hang onto snippets: the Bristol label.

Another activity planned is narrated demonstrations to be carried out when there is no candidate or at a lodge of instruction. The idea would not be to produce a polished ceremony. Rather it would be to interrupt proceedings at certain points to discuss interpretations of what has been going on. How much of the ceremony is performed will be limited by the time for discussion.

In addition a team to perform a 'Talking Heads' introduction to Royal Arch Masonry for craft lodges is being formed.

Have you ever wondered about origins and significance of all the fantastic symbols that surround us and procedures we follow during ceremonies?

Finally ambassadors are planning Province-wide events such as a Lodge of Instruction for all based on the Learning and Development philosophy. Other activities involving more than one lodge or the whole Province are being discussed among ambassadors.

We do not plan to replace the Lodge of Installed Masters or the Bristol Masonic Society but rather to encourage them to think of ways of adopting the Learning and Development philosophy.

The names of ambassadors are available on the Provincial website. Please contact one of them for further information on Learning and Development. Offers of help are welcome.

We hope you will participate in Learning and Development activities and most importantly, that your Masonic life will be enriched by them.

Andy Friedman, Head of Learning and Development for Province of Bristol

Our Disappearing Organs

I am concerned that unless something is done in the near future then we will not have much live organ music here in Park Street. Let me give a brief outline of the instruments we have. Lodge Room 1 has an electronic instrument that is some 45 years old. It sometimes has a mind of its own and one can never be sure what sound is going to come out. As many of you have seen behind the Senior Wardens seat is a wooden ornate panel, and behind there is a pipe organ that was used some 20 years ago in the lodge. It was a total disaster when it was built, and presented problem up until the present electronic was installed. This is now doing the same thing.

The cost of rebuilding this instrument is prohibitive we had a quote for some £180,000 + VAT.

The Chapter organ is a really good instrument, but it again is presenting problems as the internal wiring of it is old and crumbling away. The organ builders have told me that it could possibly last about another 5 years. We received a quotation for £86,000 +VAT again a large sum.

The instrument in Lodge Room 3 is in good condition but sadly lacks the ability to lead or produce anything like a good rousing sound, this could be achieved by adding a further rank to the instrument, I have not looked into a cost re this.

As for Lodge Room 4, the electronic instrument there is quite adequate for use by those who use it, but if it is going to be used at any other venues it could present problems by moving it about.

When I think of the cost relating to the Grand Temple in London nearly a 6 figure sum and then I read in the FMT Masonry today Issue 44 Winter 2018 that for lodge Room 10 they have raised £65,000. So are we sadly lacking in looking after our organs?

I realise that the virtual organ has a place in some of the lodges but live music will always be preferable. The number of times that I have had the comment "It was great to have live music in our ceremony" which is something we need to achieve and make these instruments worthy of the Province of Bristol.

I know that we cannot bring Lodge Room 1 as a pipe organ again, but a reasonably priced electronic instrument around £10,000 + can be achieved. If we can help both the Lord Mayors Chapel with money for help with their organ fund and now give we give £10,000 to Bristol Cathedral surely we could do something for ourselves. Is not there a saying "Charity begins at home."

ARTICLES

We were asked by Grand Lodge some while ago if our organs were suitable instrument for budding organists to practice upon, it was a resounding No from me, but if we were to have good instruments here, then it could encourage them to join a lodge and become masons and then organist.

An organ fund needs to be set up for us to get for this Province something that is for the benefit of every one coming to the ceremonies. The persons on the floor are doing their best and live music helps create an even better atmosphere for this to be achieved. The virtual organist cannot anticipate the times to fade properly when required, but a live organist can.

I would ask that all persons reading this to ask themselves "DO I WANT THIS TO HAPPEN" I certainly hope so and that we create an organ fund for the future.

Des Eastup PrGO



ARTICLES

Litter Pick

On Saturday 30th March 2019 several members of various Lodges in the Province of Bristol gave up their Saturday morning to take part in the Bristol City Council GREAT Spring CLEAN event. Many were joined by their partners to carry out a litter pick along Wellington Road and into Riverside Park and were supported and lead by our PGM Jonathan Davis and DPGM Richard Lewis.

The 20 strong Masonic Team of members and partners, were kitted out with picking and bagging equipment, loaned from the Bristol WASTE Company and adorned with 'Bristol Masons in the Community' Hi Vis vests. The area to be attacked followed the Frome Valley Walkway, past Riverside Park and through the subways under A4320 Easton Way. The morning became warm and sunny and the Park was very attractive in its spring vestment with the trees beginning to bear green and a scatter of daffodils. The park presents a green strip between the M32 and the River Frome which rises from its hidden culvert under Easton Way, before disappearing again under Wade Street.

This short area of about a mile offers a green retreat in an otherwise populous area and was a worthy challenge for the "Masonic Litter Pickers." Parking was arranged in the Nisbets Kitchen shop car park and the Office Supplies car park, for which we thank the respective companies for their support. The obligatory team briefing was carried out and we then proceeded in small groups along the footpath and into the park. Although not strewn with rubbish, there was plenty of items discarded along the way, including broken bottles and unfortunately several discarded hypodermic needles. Apart from collecting the litter and dodging the passing cyclists, the team were approached by members of the local community with warmth and thanks for taking the time to care about the area.

I am sure that by the presence of our team and being seen in the area, it may have activated the conscience of some of the local residents and bystanders, to view their amenity with empathy and become caring stakeholders themselves. It gave the masonic team a great sense of purpose and added to the

sense of self achievement by cleaning up the area for the benefit of others.

We collected an amazing tally of 20 sacks of waste, including 7 sacks of recycling waste, as well as at least a dozen hypodermic needles. The removal of these potentially dangerous items was also important as they were easily in the reach of young children. The sight of used and discarded needles always presents a sad indictment of our society and that these users need help when all is lost, and they turn to drug use.

The team ended the day back in the car park for a de brief and a sip of sparkling Welsh water to quench their thirst and moisten their parched lips. We even had the added bonus of someone leaving a bag full of empty paint spray cans, found by the side of my car. I can only assume that it was a local graffiti artist who must have spotted us when we were briefing, at least it saved them from being dumped in some corner of the park! I am sure we all left for home with a sense of achievement and pride in completing a job well done by Bristol Masons in the community.

Our thanks for the support we received from Nisbets and Office Supplies for free parking and the Bristol Waste Company for the loan of litter picking equipment.

I am sure we will organise similar events in the coming months. In fact, a number of our members are regular clean up addicts, with Mike and Jackie Whitworth's forthcoming clean up in Sea Mills and Richard Blacker, who carries out a daily clean up in his area.

Our thanks to everyone that took part in this event.

Peter Neale – WM Jerusalem Lodge



A Flavour of the Provincial Junior Grand Warden's Postings On Social Media

These postings have gained much popularity over the year and demonstrate that if Social Media is used other brethren from within and without the Province and family and friends get to know about interesting lodge meetings. This helps with the awareness, attendance and in the right way recruitment into lodges.

In the Province of Bristol, every lodge on average once in 10 years has what is termed The Provincial Visit. This is when the Provincial Grand Master accompanied by all is active officers and the Grand Officers, demands an entrance into the Lodge. It is an occasion of pomp and ceremony that is worth being at. The procession of the officers clad in their Full Dress Regalia is magnificent and so worth watching. The Director of Ceremonies W Br Phil Harrill directs the proceedings with precision and command adding so much dignity on each of these occasions!

Last night Dolphin Lodge were the recipients of this visit and it was even more special in that The Provincial Grand Master W Br was visiting his mother lodge. The Brethren of the Lodge did him proud! The Lodge Room filled with over a hundred brethren, the officers of the Lodge under the guidance of their Worshipful Master Br PC and Director of Ceremonies Bro j Shine performing an initiation. On behalf on the Masters in the Corner, I must say how great it was to see the results of the very hard work put in the last few weeks by W Br PC.....well done PC!

Brother Farrell, welcome to the fraternity and you will in time realise how extremely special this night was not only for you but to the Lodge itself!



- Welcoming Daniel Peter Lambert into the Lodge of Harmony was an immense pleasure. There were so many Brethren from different lodges present to witness his initiation into what we refer to as The Premier Province!
- My personal thanks to all the partners of all the Brethren who gave up their Valentine time to be at my Lodge and support me whilst I took the chair in absence of our Worshipful Master Simon Firth who was away somewhere in Tokyo!
- Lodge of Harmony has very strong connections to the Round Table movement and many of its members are or were a part of this esteemed organisation.
- The Lodge follows the principles of Adopt, Adapt and Adept of Round table and have fun meetings. So, those brethren who like visiting please take this as an invite to experience this!
- This forthcoming year the Lodge has decided to support some of the Bristol Round Table Charities with matched funding. The following charity's will benefit from this
 1. Kids Cancer Charity
 2. Royal Blind Society
 3. Cerebral Palsy Plus



The brethren of the Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, a lodge of lots of historic traditions by the virtue of their "age", demonstrated last night the unity amongst the Brethren is so characteristic of our order. The experience and wealth of the Past Masters' skills in the craft helped their Worshipful Master Br Andrew Fairley to pass his 18 year old son in the most wonderful way! They shared the labour of the day with each performing their task with compassion! W Br Paul Hankinson and W Br Dave Nugent demonstrating that stepping into roles at short notice to assist the Worshipful Master was a privilege!

Handing over reigns is usually a time of a bag of mixed emotionsspectrum between sadness and exhilaration. However, when one is handing over a chair to a young man with humour and confidence that the new Worshipful Master Br Adam Watts has, the experience can only be exhilarating as expressed by W Br John Bassett the outgoing Master of the Matthew Lodge.

The Saturday "family dining experience" Lodge's installation day was an exceptional experience for those who were able to attend. The working in the Temple being expertly performed by the brethren who obviously are well skilled in the art and held in high estimation!

The pictures depict in a small way the quality of food and the happy atmosphere that was the order of the day!! The toast that summed up the principles of this lovely lodge, was the one made to "Our Children are Our Future"

Those who may be fortunate enough to be invited to this Lodges' Dining Experience, be prepared to allow for the whole day.....as Neil Sage, Sabrina will confirm!

Prakash Dewani PJGW



Frederick Charles Husenbeth

**Deputy Provincial Grand Master
Province of Bristol
1810 to 1815
1825 to 1830
1843 to 1845**

The Husenbeth Regalia was re-discovered crammed into a small cabinet and left in a storage room at Freemasons Hall, Park Street. It was in a very poor condition but contained a small note stating that it was the regalia belonging to W.B. Husenbeth.

Firstly, the regalia had to be positively identified to confirm that it was indeed that belonging to Husenbeth. Brother Felipe de Carmargo of The Brunel Lodge is a PhD research student studying material Freemasonry. Through his research at The United Grand Lodge the regalia was positively identified and the restoration process began.

For that Alison Lister, the Principal Conservator at Textile Conservation was called in to undertake the work and the results of her expertise can be seen hanging on the staircase wall on the first floor.

Frederick Charles Husenbeth A brief history

Frederick Charles Husenbeth was born at Mainz, Germany in 1765. In his early life he became a teacher of classics and languages in Mannheim Germany before settling in Bristol in 1787.



He married Elizabeth Maria Francis on 17 June 1795 and they raised two sons and a daughter. He is reputed to have been initiated as a Freemason at the age of seventeen, by dispensation, in Charles Theodore Lodge, Mainz, Germany.

In the Bristol records of the time Husenbeth was initially described as a pork butcher situated at St. Nicholas Steps, Bristol. Later in the English census of 1841 he is recorded as a wine merchant trading in Baldwin Street and living in St. Pauls with his wife and daughter.

It was recorded that he was an excellent musician and is said to have been a friend of Samuel Taylor Coleridge. He was a Roman Catholic but did not let Freemasonry interfere with his religion.

In Bristol, Husenbeth was initiated in The Beaufort Lodge on 7 May 1799 and served as Worshipful Master in 1803 and 1819. He became a joining member



of Lodge of Hospitality in 1806, where he served as Worshipful Master in 1807.

He played a most prominent and distinguished role within The Province of Bristol as he served as Deputy Provincial Grand Master on 3 separate occasions; from 1810 to 1815, from 1825 to 1830 and from 1843 to 1845.

In his greater Masonic career he assisted with the foundation of Philanthropic Lodge, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire in 1814, working under the Antients Grand Lodge. This Lodge was formed by French prisoners of war released after the end of the Napoleonic Wars. In Royal Arch he was exalted in The Chapter of Liberty and Sincerity, on 8 August 1799.

In Bristol he became a joining member of Chapter of Charity in 1807, where he served as First Principal in 1831 and 1835, and Second Principal in 1839.

The “Resurrection” of the Ancient Feast of St John the Baptist

Over 40 brethren met on the 24th June at The Rummer, All saints Lane to celebrate Ancient Masonic Feast of St John the Baptist.

The event was such a success that it again be held on Monday 24th June 2019.

The Rummer Tavern first held the Feast on the 24th June 1735, so Bristol Masons could be considered to be “going back to their roots”.

In honour of our historic Masonic association with the Rummer the menu was taken from an authentic 1750s Cook Book avoiding such items as uncooked jugged hare, boiled lampreys and Widgeon stuffed with song birds.

The cuisine was outstanding and special thanks should be given to all the staff of the Rummer who worked so hard to make the day a success

The owner of The Rummer, Brother Brett Hirt of the Brunel Lodge is as a renowned distiller of fine quality Gins. In celebration of the day he produced a special distillation of St Johns Gin. A glass of which was given to all attending. Coupled with this Brother Hirt provided Champagne. A “new tradition” was perhaps started with all the bottles being opened by the slash of a sabre.

A brief History of the Masonic Feast of St John the Baptist.

The Feast day of St John the Baptist

is one of the oldest festivals of the Christian Church.

Freemasons historically celebrated two feasts of St John. The Feast of St John the Baptist falls on the 24th June. The Feast of St John the Evangelist falls on the 27th December; roughly marking mid-summer and mid-winter solstice.

The Council of Agde in 506 listed it as a principal festival. It was a day of rest akin to Christmas and was celebrated with 3 masses. It is also one of the Patronal Feast of the Order of Malta.

In ancient times the 24th of June was the traditional day for the installation of Worshipful Masters as well as the Feast day marking the end of the Masonic season. Today there are still ancient Lodges that adhere to this custom

The first Grand Lodge of England was formed at The Goose and Gridiron on the 24th June 1717. This may arise from a very old tradition. John the Baptist appears to have been regarded as the patron saint of stonemasons in continental Europe during the Middle Ages. The Guild of Masons and Carpenters attached to Cologne Cathedral was also known as the fraternity of St John the Baptist.

The earliest surviving record of Grand Lodge of Ireland installing a Grand Master on the Feast Day of St John is dated 24th June 1725.

The Rummer Tavern held its first Masonic Feast of St John the Baptist on the 24th June 1735.

He was installed as a Knight Templar in Encampment of Seven Degrees of Time Immemorial (now the Camp of Baldwin Preceptory), held at the Talbot Inn, Bristol in 1808, where he served as Grand Prior. He later served as Grand Superintendent for the Province of Bristol.

He was an avid collector of Masonic

books and donated his collection to the Province of Bristol, where a library was formed. This gift included a collection of French ritual books.

Sadly, Husenbeth became bankrupt in 1847, in consequence of his business partner’s financial imprudence. The Bristol Freemasons arranged for funds



to be made available to assist him in September that year, but he sadly passed away before he could use them. He died at Clifton, Bristol on 15 March 1848.

Gary Williams
Provincial Grand Librarian and Archivist



1985 Circle

At the end of his year in office, our Past President W Bro Bryan Quinlan presented a cheque to Emma Carter of the Great Western Air Ambulance, when he visited the new base at Almondsbury.

Another year and another President. At the annual meeting and lunch at the Rising Sun, Frampton Cotterell, our new President, W Bro Roger Harford an Honorary Member of the St Paul Lodge, was Installed for 2019. 'New' being an over statement as it is the third time for this nonagenarian. Now in our 34th year as a Circle we are certainly making our contribution to recycling Past Masters! It was a very enjoyable occasion, excellent food, comfortable venue and a very convivial atmosphere, with almost all members in attendance.

In February the Circle were pleased to support their Past President, W Bro Bryan Quinlan, at the Court Players production of the musical "Oliver!" at Rangeworthy. The group has been at the heart of the local community and have been presenting drama in its various guises for sixty years. Bryan directed the show as he did the group's first production of this musical in 1972 when his late wife Helen played the part of Nancy.

The audience was considered "one of the family" as the cast took us back to the days of Dickensian London with child mistreatment, homelessness, thieving, and murders - not really the subject for an uplifting evening's entertainment. But entertained we were with Lionel Bart's familiar lyrics and toe tapping tunes.

There were some familiar faces from Park Street in the cast and crew, particularly from Powell Lodge. W Bro



2000 Circle AGM Saturday 23rd February 2019

2000 Circle must be the first to have ladies as President and Vice President! What a wonderful way to also mark the contribution our partners make to the success and enjoyment we have as Masters in any circle year.

This year's AGM held in the beautiful dining room 3 of the Provincial Building, was even after 19 years well attended and the very enthusiastic Beryl Cavell - our new President had already planned exciting events for the year ahead.

Those who have attended our weekends away in January should sign up quickly for the 2020 one in Sidmouth! The circle weekends are always much fun and the team that organises these for 2000 circle have always come up with trumps as far as making each year that more special.

Those who were not there were missed and held in our thoughtsjust to mention a couple...W Br Roy Williams and Sandra, W Br Richard Collins and Rose, W Br Mark King , W Br Gary Woodruff and Kathy

Cuisine Eyermann provided an excellent buffet as usual and the service by the staff at the lodge is to be commended. The circle would like to extend appreciation to Freddy for all his efforts in providing great meals through the year for the Province!

Prakash Dewani PJGW

Mark Gregory played the hen-pecked undertaker Henry Sowerberry, W Bro Paul Binding was the local GP Doctor Grimwig and W Bro Richard Lewis, the DPGM, played the murderous Bill Sykes. Richard's daughter Hannah gave us an emotional and heart rendering interpretation of "As Long As He Needs Me" as Nancy while her husband Bro Dan Long was the Stage Manager. Richard's wife Lin welcomed the audience as Front of House Manager and Bro David Williams was in charge of lighting and sound and his wife Ali supplied the liquid needs of the audience by serving at the bar. Readers will note from the photograph that our DPGM 'scrubs up well' when he appears at Park Street!!

Thank-you Court Players for a great evening's entertainment and for entertaining us, the 85 Circle, during the past 34 years.



As usual, our Circle has a programme of activities taking us through the year, although as we 'mature' we are becoming more circumspect in choosing a less ambitious programme than was the case in past years.

Mike Huggins - Secretary

Bristol 99 Circle

York Weekend March 21st – 23rd 2019

I believe that this is only the 2nd publication about the 99 Circle in the Bristol Standard. Certainly about our Annual Weekends away anyway! The Circle has consistently over these twenty years enjoyed many and various activities which have included Sunday lunches, walks and days out in the countryside followed by a pub meal, barbecues, Cream Teas, Wine Tasting and even the occasional trip to the Races at Chepstow. We celebrated our 10th Anniversary with a weekend away in the New Forest, which was published in the Bristol Standard.



Martin Cox (Baily Lodge) and Jackie decided that we ought to have some weekends away which was readily agreed by everyone. Martin and Jackie undertook the necessary research to find a suitable hotel and after some discussions the weekends away were ON!!



Our Badge (above) indicates our sense of humour and the Wacky socks that we all wore to each other's Ladies Nights (and occasionally to a Lodge meeting) were legendary and merited a trophy, last seen in the hands of Tony Driffield!



Our weekend away in 2016 was to Ironbridge and this proved to be a great success with 18 of us trekking up towards Telford for a really great weekend with so much to see and do and to act rather silly! We may be older, but we still haven't grown up! There was of course the obligatory 'sock check', jokes to tell and quizzes to fill in.

The museums and scenery made this a weekend to remember and cemented in our minds the wish to repeat this annually.

Our weekend to Portsmouth in 2017 was equally good and although it was cold it was dry! On the Saturday we had a great time visiting the Historic Naval Dockyard, and afterwards the ladies dragged us blokes, (kicking and screaming) to the nearby outlet centre!

Our Saturday evening as always was fun and of course the whacky socks were out in force. Quizzes and jokes were obviously part of the entertainment and all in all another super weekend.

Our Weekend in 2018 was to Oxford and wow did the weather do its best to

CIRCLES

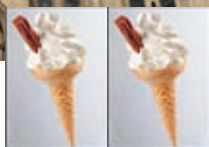


dampen our spirits. I think that we all managed to see quite a bit of a rather grey Oxford and arrived back at the hotel pretty much like drowned rats! The Saturday evening was the usual mix of food, drink and fun which was completed by a Horse Race competition.

99 Circle 20th Anniversary Weekend in Historic York 2019

This Year saw us wend our way all the way to York. A long drive so many of us added extra time either before or after the weekend which helped us see some more of the many sights in and around York. Some even came by train!! Sadly, quite a few of us coming up on the Friday were delayed by a horrific accident on the M1 which saw the motorway closed for some 6 hours. Whilst many of us were delayed for a few hours, Tony & Bev Driffield, who had driven up from Brixham early on the Friday and had to attend a meeting in Bristol before leaving for York, took well over 8 hours to get there arriving just in time for the food. They had however missed the pre-dinner drinks so were probably a little bit more sober than some of us! The food however, was worth waiting for, and after a late-night snifter it was off to bed to prepare for the marathon day of exploration on the Saturday.

Martin & Jackie had organised a Guided Tour which started from our hotel just outside Monks Gate, one of the main



CIRCLES

entrances to the walled city area. Upon leaving the hotel we were confronted with the poster (pictured) leaving us to wonder whether we should try to find some Bile Beans to improve our health etc (in my case to be slim???)! Our tour took us along the walls, along winding streets, to the wonderful York Museum Gardens which included the St Mary's Abbey sadly 'sacked' by Henry VIIIth, Barley Hall, dating from 1360, the Shambles (which was originally all Butchers Shops and houses), past the Mansion House and much, much more!

Chris, our Guide, was full of information and interesting stories which brought the whole tour to life. The weather had stayed kind to us, so after the tour we split up to go our own ways to investigate the special sites that we all wanted to see. Places explored by the various out parties over the weekend included the Mansion House, Merchant Venturer's Hall, York Castle Museum, York Minster, Terrys Chocolate Story, Jorvik Viking Centre and the Railway Museum, to mention but a few. So it was not with much surprise that we arrived back at the hotel pretty much shattered after walking many miles.

However, it had been discovered that it was Pat Marston-Smith's birthday so after some surreptitious texts we all met in the hotel conservatory for tea and birthday cake!

After a wash and change we were all ready for a 'pick me up' and as the hotel were doing a special on Gins and had a rather special Mason's Gin, it would have been rude not to imbibe, some of us (probably me) more than one!

Although in past years Martin had been able to arrange for us to dine separately from other guests on the Saturday night, this was impractical in this hotel, however we had been seated so that to all intents, we were separated from the other diners. This meant that we could take part in our usual fun and frivolity. The quiz which was based around information discovered during the day was a bit difficult for those who hadn't managed the Minster tour but when we didn't have a sensible answer, well, anything did!





Saturday 7th September
an evening of
Fine Italian Dining
Canape and Prosecco Reception at 7pm
£65pp
with Selected Wines Included
Black tie and Cocktail Dresses
to book please contact
Graham Pegg 0117 962 1513
megastarpegg@hotmail.com
we look forward to your company






Province of Bristol
Great Family Day Out!
Summer Fayre & Classic Car Show
Sunday 30th June 10-4
North Bristol Rugby Club





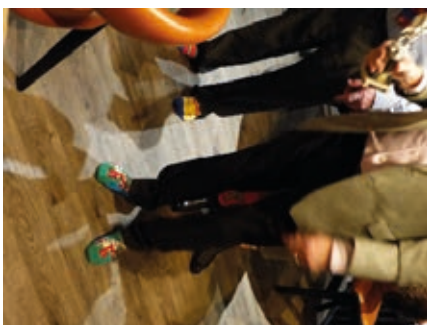
Best Dressed Pirate Competition
Come dressed as a pirate and you may win a prize, for ages 6 and under, 7-10 years, 11-16 years (adults optional!)

Food and Drink.....Brass Band.....Club House Bar.....
Craft Stalls.....Entertainment....
Human Fruit Machine...and Much, Much More.....





For further details please contact Chris Cook on 07767380801 cj69@blueyonder.co.uk



Tony Driffield had found the elusive Wacky Socks trophy which he had vowed to win back, however he was thwarted when the waitress, persuaded by Martin to judge, deemed Martin to be the winner! It turned out that the waitress loved the Beatles (see picture) so Tony of course felt robbed, accusing Martin of bribing the waitress!!

The All Important Wacky Socks Trophy

All in all, a very successful and enjoyable weekend and we can all be so pleased that the 99 Circle has not only survived for 20 Years, but is still active and going

strong and enjoying ourselves as only The Province of Bristol Circles know how to do!!

All that remains now is for us to decide where to go next year and I am sure that Martin and Jackie will soon be busy looking at the different places which were discussed during the weekend. We look forward to as many coming as this year, if not more! As a Circle we have to thank both Martin & Jackie for all their efforts.

Let this be a message to other Circles that aren't as active as they would like to be (and I am a member of 2). It only

takes one person to start it off, followed by enthusiasm from the others, to return to the fun-loving times of when we were Masters in the Corner, playing tricks on one another, being facetious, complementary (sometimes), being rude (often), but even more, supporting each other, our own Lodge and the Lodges in Bristol to the best of our abilities. This is what the Corner and later the Circle is! We are the only ones that can make it happen.

Paul Corder
W.M Burnett 1999

LODGES



ROYAL SUSSEX LODGE

**250th Anniversary 12th
August 2019**


The Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality No 187 we will be celebrating our 250th Anniversary on the

12th August 2019 (our warrant date being 12th August 1769).

We intend to mark the occasion with a Gala Dinner at Park Street, hopefully on Saturday 7th September.

Further details, along with invitations to Masters and Brethren of other lodges, and to special guests, will follow in due course.

**Paul Hankinson PPJGW
Assistant Secretary**



THE BURNETT DAYLIGHT LODGE 6789
INVITES YOU TO A TALK ON

WOMEN FREEMASONS

11 AM | THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2019
FREEMASONS HALL | BRISTOL

By
The Assistant Grand Master of
The Order of Woman Freemasons
Right Worshipful Brother Sybil Voysey

This special talk takes place after our regular meeting

Visitors and ladies are warmly invited to join us at
11.30am for the talk and to stay for lunch

FURTHER DETAILS AND TO BOOK
PLEASE CONTACT
W. BRO. RICHARD EVANS
TEL: 07866736947
EMAIL: RICHARDEVSGMAIL.COM

The Order of Women
Freemasons





Lodge No 9936 Scoutcraft Celebrated 2nd Birthday in style

Thank you all those who joined my lovely and the most supporting of partners, Shila, to mark this special anniversary of this young Lodge. As W Br Peter Wills, the Provincial grand Secretary, and principle founder of the lodge mentioned in his toast to the Lodge.....what a fun year it has been for ceremonies and socially.

We have seen our great candidates make progress, a new candidate and joining members swell the numbers of the lodge, successful social events in and out of our Park Street Home and above all every visitor and guest wanting to return as they have had great interaction with members!

The year ahead is expected to enhance

the values of fun and support of the scouting and youth organisations this lodge has under the guidance of the Master-Elect , W Bro Dr Jon Hayes

Please enjoy the photos and share in the Monty's joy! Particularly the beautiful cake made for Monty by Duci Cakes. Thank you Dusica...you are a master creative baker!!!!



The Royal Clarence Lodge No 68 presentation to the Milestones Trust.

The 2017 Worshipful Master of the Royal Clarence Lodge, Worshipful Brother Miles Harding chose as his Charity for the year, The Milestones Trust, Unit 10, Eclipse

Office Park. High Street, Staple Hill, Bristol. BS16 5EL, who support people with learning disabilities, mental health needs, dementia, and those with complex behavioural needs.

The photograph shows Worshipful Brother Terry Marriage accompanied by Worshipful Brother Robin Nash presenting a cheque for £1000 to the Chief Executive of the Milestones Trust John Hoskinson OBE.



Robert Thorne Lodge

At the Robert Thorne installation meeting on 13th October one of his guests invited by the Master Elect, Derrick Griffin, asked the simple question “would you come to my lodge and complete a 3rd degree ceremony?”

The guest was W. Bro. Mark Boret of The Saint James Union Lodge no 180 meeting in Great Queen Street.

After several months of emails and phone calls the visit was duly confirmed by both Provincial Secretaries and the day was “ON”!

So, on the 12th March the Robert Thorne members assisted by other Bristol Masons set off, by train, to the Big Smoke.

On arrival at Temple no 2 in Grand Lodge we began setting out the Bristol Furniture, which we had shared the burden of carrying from Park Street, complete with laptop, speakers and the ever-ready W. Bro. Tony Griffiths our mobile virtual organist.

After a quick rehearsal the noise from outside of the lodge doors was getting louder and the “home crowd” were very eager to be let in to their lodge.

The lodge opened in due form, with us waiting patiently outside (now it was our turn) and eventually they “called off” allowing us to process in just as we do at every meeting in Park Street.

We then proceeded to open in all three Bristol degrees and performed a third-degree ceremony with a member of the St James Union Lodge, Bro P. Chotai, acting as the candidate.

As requested by the lodge, we completed the long closing and then departed, to a rousing round of applause, leaving them to “call on” and finish their business of the evening.

Next was the aftermeeting at the Connaught Rooms which, to our total surprise, the Worshipful Master was asked to take care of the business at their festive board. This request was agreed to on the understanding that it would be a true Bristol Aftermeeting and this was readily acceded to.

It would be fair to say that our hosts were suitably surprised and shocked in equal measure with the lack of fire given to those not in attendance and the fire itself! The look on the faces of the hosts was sheer amazement when we sang grace in Latin, absent brethren and completed the loving cup ceremony again, in Latin with the first 3 verses in solo by the WM, SW & JW.

“What can I say but it was a fantastic meeting and ‘After Meeting’”

It was a fabulous event and one that will be remembered by all those that took part and those who witnessed the full Bristol works. We were informed that visitors came from afar afield as Argentina and New York together with those from other UK provinces.

Here are some of the comments received on email the following day:

Just a short e-mail to say thank you to yourselves and the Brethren of Robert Thorne Lodge for your demonstration yesterday

What can I say but it was a fantastic meeting and ‘After Meeting’

I have had a number of e-mails this morning from our Official Visitors about the ceremony ‘After meeting’ if with glowing thanks

On behalf of the Worshipful Master and Brethren of St James’ Union Lodge can you please pass on my thanks to all those involved in making yesterday a memorable meeting for all in attendance

W. Bro. Derrick Griffin – WM



Celebrating 50 years in Masonry

W Bro David Wallington found the perfect way to celebrate his 50 years in Bristol masonry; he went back in the Chair of his Mother Lodge, St Katharine No 7051. It was a time capsule. The Lodge believed to be unique, for there to propose his toast was W Bro Graham Russell who initiated him in April 1969. Their links go far deeper, for 33 years later, Graham was again WM, and in his final ceremony installed David as his successor and went onto serve him for 2 years as IPM. For Graham it was the start of his 63 years as a member of St Katharine but he was not the most senior member there, that honour went to W Bro John Davis, WM in 1967 and 1997 and now an Honorary member. The 3 stalwarts could claim a combined membership of 177 years since the Lodge was consecrated in 1951.

Notes for the guidance of all Lodges include a recommendation that every Director of Ceremonies should hold the Office for a number of years. David was there at St Katharine for 17 years; a friendly but firm figure who matched enjoyment with great dignity and impeccable performance. David has been active in other degrees, he rose to Third Provincial Grand Principal in the Royal Arch, subsequently being awarded Chapter Grand rank, and in only one year has he not held an active rank in the Craft.

In St Katharine on his way to the Masters Chair he filled every Office including 6 years as Steward which was par for the course in his early years! But it was the one Office he had to leave unfilled at his Installation, much to his regret.

When he came in, there were 7 Stewards and 6 went onto the Chair. It was a happy time, he recalled, for you got to know other members in a way no

longer possible with waitress services replacing Stewards at table. This is the fourth time her has been installed, firstly in 1985, then 2003 and 2004, the final two with the same IPM!

Hospitality has always been a second nature to him for before he became an executive with a brewery, he spent 20 years on the road as a representative calling on 8 Licencees every working day and being required to have a drink with each of them. That custom, shall we say has been watered down by the drink/drive laws. "I intend to enjoy this very special year" David promises, "but with the one regret that I won't be able to make as many visits as I used to". He has already one memento to look back on for someone found a copy of the summons he received for the evening he was initiated. It was presented to him on his first meeting back as Worshipful Master.

Graham Russell.

Kenneth F Harper. P.G.Std.Br.

E. Comp. Chris Williams, thank you very much for coming to-day for this presentation as deputy to the MEGS who is engaged on other Masonic duties to-day.

I was exalted into the Royal Clarence Chapter No.68 on 3rd October 1966 and have had the honour or various duties including First Principal in 1984 by E.Companions Norcott, Ward & Roach, now sadly not with us. I have a printed summons in red print.

I was appointed that year to an office in Provincial Grand Chapter and promoted to Third Grand Principal in 1992. Following this and due to illness of E.Comp. Geoff Bascombe, Treasurer. I was appointed as high assistant, he to do the books at home & I the foot work, arranging dinners, collecting fees & subs as necessary. Sadly in 1993 he died & was appointed Grand Treasurer which I did for Ten years, offered resignation then to new Grand Superintendent and helped him with a short to list pick the treasurer elect, who was elected and is still doing very good job for us now.

Finally I was nominated to office of Past G Std Br of Supreme Grand Chapter. in 1993.

My only regret is that I am unable to do much for any of these bodies due entirely to health problems. The spirit is willing but the body is weak.

Fraternal Regards & thanks,
Kenneth F Harper

CHAPTER

Whitson Chapter Celebrates its Centenary

In early 1918, with the First World War many months from ending, the then Brother W Whippley suggested that Bristol should establish a Chapter to meet on a Saturday evening. Consequently, on the 9th March 1918, at Park Street "A meeting of Companions was held to consider the question of forming a new Royal Arch Chapter in Bristol".

That meeting proposed that the Chapter be formed under the banner of Whitson Lodge but that the Chapter be named the Cullimore Chapter. The minutes of the meeting do not give a reason for the choice of that name or even who or what Cullimore was. The meeting did conclude that the new Chapter be formed and a petition to Grand Chapter was duly submitted. However, by the time of the next meeting establishing the Chapter, (September 13th 1918), Grand Chapter declined to accept the proposed name indicating that the only acceptable names were those of established Lodges. The meeting considered two alternative names - Whitson Chapter or Canynges Chapter. On a vote Whitson was chosen by 7 votes to 3. That turns out to be quite ironic as although many early candidates for Whitson Chapter came from Whitson Lodge, in more recent times many have joined from Canynges Lodge. This meeting also agreed that the honour of being the first Exalte would be given to Bro Whippley who was indeed exalted at the first working meeting of the Chapter in January 1919.

A meeting of Founders subsequently took place on Friday 1st November 1918 from which it is assumed that Grand

Chapter approved the name of Whitson Chapter as the meeting discussed the cost of collars and who should pay for them and noted that the consecration meeting supper would be provided by the Clifton Caterers Company at a cost of £5 5s per person.

The consecration took place on Saturday 23rd November 1918 - less than two weeks from the end of the World War.

One hundred years and one day later, the Companions of Whitson Chapter were joined by the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent and several other senior members of the Province to celebrate the Centenary. Unfortunately, research in the Park Street Library had produced little information about the history of the Chapter but did unearth the consecration and golden jubilee booklets which were reproduced in a commemorative booklet.

Information from the records in the Library for Whitson Lodge assisted a display to be created commemorating the centenary. This particularly highlighted that both the Lodge and the Chapter are named after John Whitson who was born in the Forest of Dean 1557 and who became an influential

merchant living in Nicholas Street Bristol, who owned the Boars Head Inn in St Nicholas Street who was four times elected MP for Bristol, was twice was Mayor of Bristol, who owned the Mayflower which he sold 4 years before the Pilgrim Fathers sailed in her to the New World, who was Founder of Red Maids School for Girls, who was married three times, had an attempt made on his life in 1626, who died in 1629 at the age of 71 after falling from his horse and is buried in the Crypt of St. Nicholas Church, Bristol. Thanks go to Bro Gary Williams, the Park Street Librarian, for help with setting up the centenary display.

However, unknown to the officers of the chapter, sitting in two boxes in the basement of Park Street were the minutes books which record the transactions of the Chapter from its consecration and which were thought to have been lost in the Second World War bombing of Park Street. Finding the minute books some five months after the Centenary Meeting, the information at the start of the article was discovered and now the records will be examined so that a definitive history can be written and the records preserved for the future.

A quick review of the minutes of the committee meetings surprisingly makes no references to world events in relation to either of the World Wars - surely a Masonic determination to get on with life despite what life subjects you to.

At the Centenary meeting the Provincial Grand Scribe E read the Centenary Charter which was the presented to the First Principal for safekeeping. The meeting then proceeded with a regular installation meeting installing E Companion George Canecky as First Principal.





Installation of the New Provincial Grand Master for the Mark Degree in Bristol

Since R.W.Bro. John Platts' announcement, at the Mark Mess Dinner in November, of his intention to retire at the next Provincial Grand Lodge meeting in March, the Mark Provincial Officers had worked tirelessly, over many bacon sandwiches and glasses of beer, to prepare for the installation of the new PGM. The Grand Secretary and the Grand Director of Ceremonies and their teams gave invaluable advice and direction and final details were agreed at least hours before the day came!

The Grand Lodge Officers arrived on the Friday and were entertained in number 3 dining room by the Provincial team. Fredy surpassed himself with the menu and Tony with the wines. The Grand Lodge team were delighted with the meal and very impressed with our wonderful building. The Grand Organist, in particular, thought that he was in heaven when we toured the building and he proceeded to play the organs in every lodge room.

So, with only slightly muggy heads, on the morning of Saturday the 9th March, the Mark Province of Bristol, was pleased to welcome the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Raymond Smith, and his Grand Lodge team to the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting held in the City Hall in order to install W.Bro. Stephen Rawlings as Provincial Grand Master for Bristol.

V.W.Bro. Alan Vaughan opened PGL as Presiding Officer with V.W.Bro. Philip

Patrick as acting Deputy PGM and the Grand Lodge Officers made their official entry. The Installation ceremony was carried out with the precision to be expected from Grand lodge but also with considerable warmth and care.

After waiting outside the door very nervously through the opening of the ceremony W.Bro. Rawlings was admitted and installed as the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master for Bristol.

He then appointed and installed W.Bro. Michael Henry Huggins as his Deputy Provincial Grand Master. After which the appointments and promotions in Provincial Grand Lodge were made.

In his address to PGL the PGM thanked R.W.Bro. John Platts for all he had done for Mark masonry in his ten years in office. He congratulated all those appointed or promoted at the meeting and reminded them that it was their day as much as his. He thanked the Provincial Secretary and Director of Ceremonies and their team for all the hard work they had put in to organise the day and the Grand Lodge team for the kind, relaxed but skilful way in which they conducted the ceremony.

After a super lunch in Park Street the Grand Lodge team left to catch their train back to London with many thanks for Bristol Hospitality.

It was a great day and one which hopefully cemented relationships with Mark Grand Lodge and gave the Bristol Brethren much to be proud of in our wonderful Province.

During the meeting several members who have been Bristol Masons for some years provided anecdotes about former first Principals that they had known, whilst the Aftermeeting included the

installation tradition of a Loving Cup in honour of former member Thomas Player Langford who had left the Chapter a legacy on his death.

Whitson Chapter continues to be one of the most active Chapters in the Province with at least four exaltees in 2019.



Robert Thorne Lodge and Old Cliftonian Lodge working in harmony.

Back in 2017 Old Cliftonian Lodge contacted Mike Whitworth to see if Robert Thorne Lodge would be prepared to demonstrate 'the distinguishing parts of the Bristol 1st Degree Ceremony' at the 85th Annual Festival of the Public School Lodges' Council (PSLC), to be held at Clifton College on Saturday 2nd June 2018 in the presence of R W Bro Jonathan Spence Deputy Grand Master. Why did they contact Robert Thorne? For many years now OCL and RTL have made Fraternal Visits to each other at their November meetings. Both Lodges have their origins in schools - Clifton College and Bristol Grammar School and although OCL are a London lodge they usually meet in Bristol, under dispensation, in November so that they are able to attend the Clifton College Remembrance Service. This generally coincides with the RTL meeting. OCL was a Founder Member of the PSLC while RTL is a member of the Federation of School Lodges so there were many reasons for approaching us.

After an initial 'yes', subject to Provincial agreement, had gone back to OCL nothing much happened until the spring of 2018 when after a flurry of activity it was agreed by the Province that the partial demonstration would be acceptable with the proviso that the Provincial Grand Orator W. Bro. Tony Baker put a script together by which he would introduce the various parts of the demonstration and put them into context. This was an inspired suggestion which ultimately made the meeting much more enjoyable for the brethren who attended.

So as the end of May approached Mike Whitworth visited Clifton College to scout out the Pre-School Hall where the Lodge Room was to be set up and make arrangements with the Province to borrow from Park St. everything needed to set up a Lodge Room and perform the demonstration. Having meticulously listed everything that was required and arranged for a van he was confident that the physical side of things was under control. The RTL brethren who were to take part along with two super-subbs - John Markley and Paul Wong - then attended Park St for an intense session of rehearsal trying to not only practice the ritual but also help Tony refine his script and meet the timing criteria that had been set. This all went pretty well and we all left Park

St. Feeling that we wouldn't disgrace the Province but knowing that we were not quite there yet.

The 1st of June arrived and Mike, ably assisted by some volunteers, duly transported the equipment to Clifton and set up the Lodge Room. The team then assembled with the Officers of OCL for an evening 'dress rehearsal'. By the end of the evening we had formed into a much larger team consisting of 'them and us' and knew how we were going to make things work including their DC acting as candidate and 6 of their Officers taking the floor at the appropriate time for the Circle of Swords. Tony had almost finished refining his script which was both informative and slightly mischievous and confidence levels were much higher.

At 9 a.m. on a bright sunny 2nd of June we duly assembled at Clifton, registered and had a cup of coffee before returning to the Lodge Room. Then while the Festival kicked off with a service in the Chapel we went through our paces one more time and ironed out what we hoped were the last of the wrinkles before putting on our regalia and returning for the opening of the Lodge.

The Lodge was duly opened, the guests

of honour admitted and honours given. The Deputy Grand Master was now sitting next to the Worshipful Master with Bristol's own R W Bro Michael Flynn Past Provincial Grand Master sat on the stage just behind to make sure we got it right!. The Old Cliftonians 'called off' and handed over to Tony who set the scene before the RTL team processed in and replaced the lodge officers. Tony then gave an explanation regarding the WM's cocked hat and the background leading to the Bristol Ritual being so different to Emulation. In particular because it is so much older and that it has been dated to around 1724 by at least two experts.

After Tony had then set the scene and the candidate had knelt between the pillars in the west the first extract commenced with the prayer said for the candidate. This was followed by the three perambulations around the Lodge concluding with the Senior Warden reporting to the WM.

Before the candidate was advanced to the east Tony explained that the Obligation was similar to Emulation and that now we would move on to the point at which the candidate had sealed his obligation on the VSL. The WM caused the candidate to rise and after the Inner Guard had returned to the door following the description of the Antient Penalty; the deacons conducted the candidate to the pillars for the restoration of light. This was accomplished in due form with the assistance of the OCL Officers. The candidate and deacons then retired so that the candidate could reinvest himself and Tony gave an explanation of the remainder of the ceremony leading up to the writing test which was to form the third excerpt of the demonstration.

On his return the table had been set up for the candidate and the usual ceremony was followed with both possible scenarios being covered.

Tony now wound up the proceedings as follows:

“So, WM and Brethren, there you have it; we’re all giving the same message in our Craft Lodges up and down the country; it’s just that, in Bristol, we’re doing it better than the rest of you! So, do come and visit Bristol; come and see our workings. The Third Degree is very dramatic, compared with ‘Emulsion,’ and the Master has to an enormous amount of work to do in the Second. Exaltation in a Bristol Chapter is also a very different experience from Aldersgate or Domatic, and always involves the ceremony of ‘Passing the Veils.’

We’re very proud of all of our Bristol Masonic ceremonies and indeed of our building. We’d love to welcome you to a Bristol Lodge or, if you’re in the Royal Arch, to a Bristol Chapter. Not counting Installed Masters’ Lodges and the like, there are thirty-five working Lodges and thirteen Chapters, all meeting in the same building. So, there must be at least one which meets on a day that’s convenient for you.

Worshipful Master, that concludes our Demonstration. Thank you all for your attention.”

The Old Cliftonian Officers then retook their seats; the Lodge was ‘called on’ and then closed.

After the taking of some photographs we then all retired to the Percival Library for the Pre-prandial Drinks Reception followed by an excellent luncheon in the Upper Dining Room.

After lunch while the festival attendees went to an organ recital in the Chapel (what a beautiful part of the school that is) the team returned to the

hall, stripped down the lodge room and reloaded the van. Mike and his volunteers returned to Park St. and put back all the borrowed equipment. Thus a fantastic day drew to a close with everybody feeling that we had done a decent job and made some new friends.

All that remains is for me to publicly thank, in no particular order, Old Cliftonian Lodge for allowing us to be part of their festival, Tony for making the excerpts into a cohesive demonstration packed full of

information, our super subs without whom we would have been struggling for numbers, Mike Whitworth for all of the behind the scenes organisation (no mean task) and the Province for allowing us the privilege of representing Bristol.

Keith Hollands
DC Robert Thorne Lodge

OTHER STORIES

Editors Report for Bristol Standard Issue No 30

Well, first of all a big thank to everybody who has sent in articles for inclusion in Issue No 30, the response has been fantastic, and I cannot thank you enough.

As we have just had the Gala Ball to celebrate MSF 2019, as you will have read and seen on the Front Cover and the following 6 pages, it was quite a night, and the result was an overwhelming success, for which one and all must be very proud to have

contributed on behalf of the Province of Bristol.

If, some of the articles submitted have not been include for this Issue, please accept my apologies, as I had a limit on the number of pages, be rest assured

your article will be in Issue No 31 later this year.

Our next big event is the AGM for the Province of Bristol, and this Issue has been specifically produced to be available on the 11th May at the City Hall, and afterwards at Park Street.

Finally, once again my sincere thanks for the support that you are and have given me in supplying articles and features to included in the Bristol Standard, please keep them coming.

Keith Irwin - Editor



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