



April 2017

Wiltshire Freemasonry

Wiltshire Masonic News

The newsletter for Wiltshire Freemasons

Our charity evening was a great success.

Chippenham Masonic Hall was certainly buzzing with excitement on Friday 3rd March when over 100 members of the Masonic family attended the annual Charity Presentation evening. With sixteen charities 'on display' there was a lot to see, and with dedicated volunteers on hand to explain their work there was something for everyone.

If I was ever doubtful of the benefits attaching to showcasing the role Wiltshire Freemasons play in supporting some wonderful charities, this event dispelled them completely. It really was the most wonderful success.

Many of you have booked for the Cathedral Service on Sunday 3rd September and I am delighted to advise that joining us for the service will be George Francis PAGM.

I now look forward to welcoming newer Brethren and their wives/partners at the very special reception which will be held at Warminster Masonic Hall on Saturday 6th May, the reception will start at 7.00pm and for the very low price of £5 per head a light buffet will be provided. Over 200 new Freemasons have received an invitation, and I am delighted that online bookings are being made. If you have not yet booked a place please contact Phil Still on phil.still@btinternet.com You can also book online via the Provincial website. I hope as many as possible will take this opportunity to join us at Warminster where the theme will be discovering 'what goes on behind closed doors'



Lodge of Loyalty welcomes the Province's youngest Initiate

A special event was made possible by the Provincial Grand Master who granted a dispensation allowing the Initiation of Joshua Bates (aged 18) the son of Bro Nigel Bates a member and PM of Lodge of Loyalty No.1533 which meets in Marlborough.

The ceremony itself was steeped in emotion as father Nigel conducted a faultless Initiation and welcomed Joshua into a fine Lodge and the wider Wiltshire Masonic Family.



The Charge to the Initiate given by Bro John Railton JGW was a veritable masterclass enjoyed by everyone present and will be something Joshua will remember for his entire Masonic life. To make Joshua's evening complete he was supported by the Provincial Grand Master Philip Bullock and the Grand Superintendent John Reid.



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Ian Priest names local charities who will share £50,000.

Ian Priest Provincial Grand Charity Steward has revealed the names of the four charities which will benefit from the Community Awards 2017, they are SMASH, the Bobby Van Trust, the John McNeill Opportunity Centre and the Hope Nature Trust.

A sum of £3 million has been committed to support 300 local and regional charities, and Wiltshire has been allocated four grants.

Each of the four charities will compete for a share of £50,000 made up of individual awards for £25,000, £15,000, £6,000 or £4,000. Provincial Charity Steward Ian Priest will be providing more detail in the next edition of [Wiltshire Masonic News](#) and the Summer edition of [Across the Plain](#).

The four charities to benefit from this generous initiative will now be hoping that Freemasons and members of the general public will cast their precious vote in their favour.

If you want to know more about the work of the MCF please speak to your Lodge Charity Steward.



Masonic
Charitable Foundation

Vote for your favourite local charities

Police 'raid' Chippenham Masonic Hall.

On Friday evening, 10 March, the Masonic Hall at Chippenham was raided by the members of Sine Favore Lodge No.9856 having been invited to use the premises for an Initiation ceremony followed by a white table event.

The lodge is based in London, and meets four times a year, with the installation and one other meeting in the capital and two further meetings in the provinces. The members of this lodge are made up of Brethren who have had any dealings



with, or indeed been members of, the Police Federation of England and Wales including lawyers, solicitors, service providers and of course Police officers and support staff.

Those present witnessed an excellent initiation ceremony for a poor and stressed candidate, his brand new Tesla car having broken down on the way to the meeting.

The meeting was very well attended, which begged the question as to whether Province members were hoping to curry favour with the Police? and a lively festive board followed. The ladies meanwhile had taken part in a light hearted, but raucous, quiz whilst the meeting took place.

An enjoyable evening for all those present and Sine Favore will be welcome to return at any time.



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Don't miss 'Inside The Freemasons' to be shown on Sky 1.



On Monday 17th April at 8.00pm Sky Television will be saying welcome to one of the oldest social networking organisations in the world; a fraternal order that welcomes members regardless of their status, creed or political persuasion – Freemasonry.

Having been granted *unique and unprecedented access* to the Freemasons, 'Inside The Freemasons' asks who are Freemasons and what do they do? As the United Grand Lodge of England celebrates its tercentenary in 2017, the presenters go beyond the myth and legend to discover what it means to be a Freemason today through the words and lives of Freemasons themselves.

Produced by Emporium Productions which was set up in 2015 by award-winning Executive Producer, Emma Read and leading UK independent television production company, Hat Trick, the five one hour programmes will explore what lies behind the familiar concept of Freemasons, and ask - What has motivated generations of men to join its ranks? What does the symbolism mean? How does public perception differ to reality? and What does Freemasonry have to offer men and society in the 21st Century? We understand that a preview article by Andrew Billen may be published in the Times T2 on Saturday 1st April - if you see it and read it please let us know what you think!

If you go down to the woods today - you are in for a big surprise!

A Teddy Bears picnic 'with a difference' is being held on Sunday 16th July. Organised by party planner extraordinaire Phil Still, the event promises to be a highlight of the summer. To discover more contact Phil phil.still@btinternet.com

Talking about Teddies for Loving Care

At a very special concert held in St Peter's Church, Marlborough on Saturday 18th March over £1,250 was raised for this wonderful charity.

Light Blue reception at Warminster Refreshments will be available

Provincial Grand Master Philip Bullock invites you and your wife/partner to join him at 7.00pm on Saturday 6th May at Warminster Masonic Hall for a very special reception. This event will be a wonderful opportunity to meet with members of the Provincial team in a very informal atmosphere; where you and your wife/partner can discover 'what goes on behind closed doors' It's easy to book online or directly with Phil Still. phil.still@btinternet.com

Festival Lunch at Trowbridge

Your Lodge Secretary should have notified you of the end of festival Lunch which is being held on Saturday 23rd September 2017. The lunch will begin at 1.00pm with pre-lunch drinks from 12 noon and we have been advised we will be joined by Jonathan Spence DGM and Brigadier Willie Shackell Gsec and Past President of the MSF. You can book for this event online via the front page of the Provincial website or contact Ian Dunbar pewsham1@sky.com

Have you got your Tercentenary Jewel?

It's available now and every Master Mason can wear it. The new jewel should be worn next to the Royal Arch Chapter jewel followed by the Provincial Festival jewel and then any other jewel.





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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Inside the Freemasons

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Lodge Installation meetings in April and May 2017

Tuesday	April	4	Methuen	8692	Swindon
Thursday	April	6	Clarendon	5908	Trowbridge
Thursday	April	6	Brothers in Arms	9540	Salisbury
Wednesday	April	19	Border	3129	Ludgershall
Wednesday	April	21	Highworth	9009	Highworth
Tuesday	May	2	Loyalty	1533	Marlborough
Monday	May	8	Downton	9064	Downton
Thursday	May	11	Elias de Derham	586	Salisbury
Monday	May	15	Harry C Preater	8204	Swindon
Saturday	May	20	Wyvern	8620	Warminster
Tuesday	May	23	St Edmund	4714	Calne
Thursday	May	25	Corsham	6616	Corsham

Cathedral Service - you can book a place on-line.

The Cathedral Service which will take place on Sunday 3rd September in the magnificent surroundings of Salisbury Cathedral is attracting a great deal of attention and we now know we will be joined by George Francis APMG. If you would like to attend but don't want to drive to Salisbury please let us know as some Lodges are arranging to travel by coach and would be delighted to welcome extra passengers. There will be a small cost involved. You can now book online via the Provincial website

www.pglwilts.org.uk or with W Bro Phil Still who is taking bookings for the

Service and the buffet reception. Phil can be contacted by email on phil.still@btinternet.com



Diane Clements to visit Corsham in May 2017.

The Director of the Museum and Library at Freemasons' Hall, London will be presenting the 2017 Rectitude Essay entitled *Brethren Beyond the Seas* which will be about the contribution to English freemasonry before, during and after the 1914-1918 war made by overseas grand lodges and their members. The meeting on Monday 15th May is at the Masonic Hall, Pickwick Nr Corsham. Early booking with the secretary is advisable 335@pglwilts.org.uk The jewel shown left issued by the New Zealand Expeditionary Force Masonic Association will feature in Diane's presentation.

