



Wiltshire Masonic News

The newsletter for Wiltshire Freemasons

March 2018

Wiltshire Freemasonry

Hapus Dydd Gwyl Dewi.....



Sometimes every day may seem the same, but believe me they are not! In a rare moment of Internet surfing I came across Awareness Days UK and was totally amazed that March 1st isn't just St David's Day; for which I wish all our Welsh Brethren *hapus Dydd Gŵyl Dewi*, It's also 'Time For A Cuppa Day' and 'National Book Day' - perhaps these should be combined with 'National Bed Month' which is throughout March. Many Lodges, even if there is no obvious association with anything Irish will celebrate St Patrick's Day on the 17th March (or a day in that week) and I am sure a great time will be had by all with copious amounts of the black stuff being downed at the Lodge festive board.

Sally and I enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of the Chippenham Branch of the Wiltshire Masonic Widows Association when we joined them for their AGM and lunch at Chippenham; and also of the Swindon Branch when we visited the Masonic Centre at The Planks in Swindon's Old Town for another very pleasant lunch.

Wednesday 14th March is a very special day for four members of the Province who will travel to Freemasons' Hall in London to attend the Quarterly Communication Meeting of Grand Lodge. This year the format of the meeting will be slightly different in that the Pro Grand Master will appoint and invest Andrew Tiffin, Mike May and Des Morgan to the Grand Rank of Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies (PAGDC) and in the case of David Henery, promote him to Past Junior Grand Deacon (PJGD). The honours are additional to those conferred at the Annual Investiture Meeting in April and reflect the importance of the Tercentenary. After the formal proceedings of Grand Lodge, David, Michael, Andrew and Des will be hosting a lunch for forty Brethren at The Honourable Artillery Company Mess in the City of London (with many thanks to Colin Cheshire who is sponsoring the lunch). I am certainly looking forward to enjoying the day with them.

If a day can be special, what about a year? For Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation No.355 this is a very special year as in 2018 they celebrate a remarkable milestone in Swindon's Masonic history; having enjoyed a 200 year continuous presence in the town. I offer my personal congratulations to the Lodge on this landmark and look forward to joining them at their very special bi-centenary meeting on Monday 21st May.

In October 2014 I appointed Stephen Bridge to the important and high office of Assistant Provincial Grand Master. Little did we all know that due to his illness, our great friend and Deputy Provincial Grand Master Peter Winton would be unable to carry out many of his duties, which meant that Stephen's introduction to the Chain Gang was hardly text book. Despite having little time to transition into the role., Stephen rose to the occasion most superbly, and the Province and myself are grateful to him for all his hard work, particularly in the field of education, a subject very close to Stephen's heart. After four years in office Stephen will step down as Assistant Provincial Grand Master and W Bro Simon Leighfield of Gooch Lodge No.1295 will be Invested as APrGM at Salisbury on Thursday 4th October 2018. In what will be a first for Wiltshire, Simon will follow in the footsteps of his father VW Bro Maurice Leighfield who was Assistant Provincial Grand Master from 1985 to 1991 and Deputy Provincial Grand Master from 1991 to 1993. I am sure you will give Simon your wholehearted support and join me in congratulating him on his well deserved appointment.

Finally, I will end as I started with a reference to National Book Day, when everyone is encouraged to find a book of their very own – something to unlock the power of their minds in a way that the increasing prevalence of digital screens may not provide; perhaps it's a good time to pick up that little Blue Book and start reading

Provincial Grand Lodge annual meeting in Salisbury on Thursday 4th October



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The Lodge Room the Biggest Masonic Symbol of Them All.....

Lodge of Rectitude No.335 invite you to their Regular meeting on Monday 21st May when W Bro Dr Tony Baker will present The Rectitude Essay titled 'The Lodge Room the Biggest Masonic Symbol of Them All'. Dr Tony Baker is the Provincial Grand Orator of Bristol and has been instrumental in introducing a series of 5 minute presentations which he has called 'Snippets'. His presentation promises to be challenging and thought provoking, most importantly it will be of interest to Freemasons at all stages in their Masonic journey as they seek to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge. Early booking for this event is always recommended.



The Provincial Grand Master that we never had.....

Thomas Dunkerley is one of the greatest of English Freemasons and an important character in the annals of Wiltshire Freemasonry. Join WBro Rev Richard Maslen, Colin Lewis and David Clover as they look afresh at the life of a man described in the official history of The United Grand Lodge of England as 'remarkable' for the way he re-vitalised the Craft. The presentation will be at the Masonic Hall, Silver Street, Malmesbury on Tuesday 20th March at 6.00pm. For more details contact the secretary 2888@pglwilts.org.uk

And the first one we did.....

I am constantly amazed at the far reaching tentacles of what we refer to as social media and in particular the Provincial Twitter site. To give you an example, I was delighted to receive an online message enquiring about Col Sir Thomas Fowke who was PrGM for two years between 1775 and 1777. Mrs Valerie Oxley is researching Thomas Fowke whose father Lieut. Gen. Thomas Fowke owned Park Hill, Firbeck, Yorkshire in 1753 before he went to become the Governor of Gibraltar. When searching the Provincial website Valerie saw the sketch of Fowke which is featured in the montage of Wiltshire's PrGMs. We were very happy to provide Valerie with a copy of the image which she intends to feature in her societies newsletter. Valerie tells me that Thomas Fowke and his wife are mentioned in a journal she has which is dated 1782 - 1785 written by Amelia Staniforth who lived at Firbeck Hall. It was also interesting to discover that Valerie's father was a Leicestershire Freemason and her husband is a member of Old Peterite Lodge in York.

Elias members all at sea with the Scouts.....



Freemasons from Elias de Derham Lodge No.586 made a presentation of £300 to Salisbury Sea Cadets towards Adventure Training and the purchase of Kayaks. Salisbury has a number of very active Scout groups catering for young people aged between 6 and 14 through their Beaver, Cub and Scout sections. The presentation was attended by: Lt.Com(SCC) Clive Hackett, Derek Brown, Foster Telford of Lodge Elias De Derham No.586, Lt. Mike Dibben (SCC) and members of the Salisbury Sea Cadets.

Have you a picture of a special event or visit by your Lodge, share it by sending it to the editor@pglwilts.org.uk Always let us know who's in your picture and always ask for their permission for us to use it in a public forum.

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The Sarsen Club take to the track!



On Saturday 3rd February, members of The Sarsen Club took to the racing track in their inaugural Inter-Lodge Karting Championship. A great day was had at M4 Karting in Hullavington by members from five Wiltshire Lodges and one London Lodge. The Grand Prix style event was well organised by Ryan Hartley. The members first took to the track in a practise round followed by two qualifying rounds, which would determine the grid layout for the final race. Gary Joynson of Moonraker Lodge started at the front of the grid followed by Mitch Bryan from Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation in second and Ryan Hartley from Clarendon Lodge. The final race was adrenalin fuelled and neck to neck to say the least.

1st	Rob Kimber	Kings College School Lodge No.4257	Wimbledon
2nd	Gary Joynson	Moonraker Lodge No.8747	Devizes
3rd	Duncan Scott	Stonehenge Lodge No.6114	Salisbury

Are you ready to complete your journey in pure Antient Masonry ?



Step 1. Entered Apprentice



Step 2. Fellowcraft



Step 3. Master Mason



Step 4. Companion



You can make a difference by introducing a friend to Freemasonry

Visit the Provincial website www.pglwilts.org.uk



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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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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	31	

Do you know someone who wants to be a Freemason?

The Provincial Education team led by Assistant Provincial Grand Master Stephen Bridge will be holding a Masonic Recruitment Workshop on Saturday 10th March at 10.00am The workshop will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Crane Street, Salisbury and is designed to help new Freemasons understand the process of recruiting friends into Freemasonry. To find out more simply email dlittle@isvgroup.com

Lodge Installation meetings in March and April 2018

Thursday	March	15	Fiat Lux	9773	Devizes
Friday	March	16	Fidelity	663	Devizes
Monday	March	19	Chaloner	2644	Melksham
Monday	March	19	City Lodge	5955	Salisbury
Wednesday	March	21	Gooch Lodge	1295	Swindon
Tuesday	April	3	Methuen	8692	Swindon
Thursday	April	5	Clarendon	5908	Trowbridge
Thursday	April	5	Brothers in Arms	9540	Salisbury
Wednesday	April	18	Border	3129	Ludgershall
Friday	April	20	Highworth	9009	Highworth

Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation No.355.....

celebrate their bi-centenary in 2018 and have announced that a special meeting will take place on Monday 21st May. The time and venue are yet to be announced but the Lodge has been advised that Deputy Grand Master Jonathan Spence will be attending the meeting. Newly Installed Master Phil Johnson is looking forward to welcoming the Lodge's special guests including the Provincial Grand Master Philip Bullock and members of the Provincial team.



Wiltshire Freemasonry

BOMBAY  **SAPPHIRE**
DISTILLERY

Saturday 21st April

The Sarsen Club Bombay Distillery Tour

Contact - mitchbryan89@yahoo.co.uk