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The newsletter for Wiltshire Freemasons

"Life moves on and so should we"



NOV
2022

Wiltshire Freemasons

Don't wait for tomorrow. Do something today....



I'm sure it will surprise no one to read that following on from what was an incredible day on Thursday 6th October, the Provincial team was out and about on Friday the 7th with a visit to Swindon to attend the Installation Meeting of Calley Lodge No.7525. They certainly hit the ground running. It was a pleasure to offer the Provinces' congratulations to Bro Paul Titheradge who conducted himself with great credit, and who was Installed in fine style by Bro Peter Morgan.

I'm very grateful to Simon Leighfield and Phil Still for their support on the night, and also for the attendance of the Provincial Grand

Director of Ceremonies, his two deputies and two assistants. I'm not sure whether they came to see if I was up to the task or to see how to implement the small changes we have made to our incoming and outgoing processions. Whatever the reason, I was very glad to see them. It was also a first outing for Ian Lever and Alan Colman, who as you can imagine were word perfect in their respective addresses to the Wardens, and to the Brethren of the Lodge.

The new way of entering the Lodge was performed with no issues, and it was nice to hear the positive comments on the role of the Provincial Stewards in the evening's proceedings. I must confess I was slightly envious, as when I was a Provincial Steward in the era when RW Bro Brian Edwick was PrGM, being a Steward was considered very much a back seat role. I believe our Provincial Stewards not only add a splash of colour, but also make a real and vital contribution to the theatre of the ceremonial.

It is my intention to visit a number of Lodges during the coming Masonic year, not only when I have the honour of Presiding at the Installation of a new Master, but also in support of Simon and Phil when they will be the principal Provincial Officer 'on duty'.

I know that many of you will not yet have had the opportunity to read the latest edition of Across the Plain, but please let me recommend it to your attention. It's an easy read with interesting and insightful pieces from a number of contributors.

The Provincial Church Service was held in St Mary's Church, Calne and I was pleased to welcome so many members of the Province and their partners. I believe it would be true to also say that we welcomed our youngest attendee Molly Newman. I'm very grateful that she brought her dad, Bro Mark Newman who I had the pleasure of investing as a Provincial Grand Steward at Provincial Grand Lodge.

It was also a privilege to visit Radnor Lodge No.4451 on the occasion of their Centenary and share in the evenings celebrations. It is a great credit to the Lodge that they managed to achieved so much in the course of an evening. Having read what The City Lodge No.5155 undertook at a recent meeting, I'm guessing there's something in the Salisbury water. Whatever it is, please keep up the good work.



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Around the Province....

It isn't every day that 'dad' gets the opportunity to get the boys together and tell them a story before sending them back to their seats each holding a very special gift.

However, that's exactly what Bro Steve Kirwan, Secretary of Lodge of Remembrance No.4037, was able to do when he presented both Nick and Paul with their Grand Lodge Certificate

A truly memorable occasion and one which all three will remember forever..



The Kirwans



Its nearly over...or is it?

They say "It's the waiting.." And the expression on the faces of the Provincial officers says it all.

Waiting to hear the voice of the Grand Director of Ceremonies calling them to process into Provincial Grand Lodge, knowing the eyes of over 300 Wiltshire Brethren will be watching their every move.

Little wonder there is an air of anticipation and a sense of excitement, but no time to think as they hear Forward Brethren

Bro Tony Oke received the Provincial Grand Master's certificate of long service on completing 50 years in Freemasonry by Phil Still APrGM (wearing his Festival gloves) at a regular meeting of Lodge Elias de Derham No.586

Many congratulations to Tony who was Initiated into Lodge Elias de Derham in 1972 and was Installed as Master of the Lodge in 1985. Tony served as Lodge Secretary for many years. He was promoted to Past Provincial Senior Warden in 2018.



Phil Still presents a 50 year Certificate to Tony Oke



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The Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies



When the editor agreed for me to have a small 'corner' to highlight and explain some of the issues which fall under the remit of a Director of Ceremonies I was a little fearful. And then I thought, why not? After all, every day is a school day, and there's always something new to learn no matter how much we think we know..

The strap line "life moves on and so should we" applies just as much to the new team of Provincial officers as it does to life in general.

Following the annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge there were a number of new initiatives with which the team had to get to grips. The fact they did so was demonstrated by their performance at Calley Lodge No.7525 on the Friday evening following Provincial Grand Lodge.

A new way of entering the Lodge, with the Lodge Director of Ceremonies leading the right hand column went off without a hitch, and the increased role of the Provincial Stewards, resplendent in their red aprons and collars added greatly to the sense of theatre. Equally, the slightly truncated form of Salutation given by the Provincial Director of Ceremonies, and a single person offering greetings on behalf of the visitors did not diminish the importance of either gesture.

A huge thank you to the Brethren of Calley Lodge No.7525 and in particular their Director of Ceremonies who made our visit very pleasurable.

I have been asked a question regarding whether Wiltshire Freemasons should salute visitors who hold active rank from other Provinces and different constitutions. It is a question which is probably raised more frequently in London where foreign visitors are more likely to be in attendance, but it's certainly a good question.

The first thing to say is that every visitor to a Wiltshire Lodge should receive a warm welcome, after all, the second of our stated principles is 'friendship' and it is only right and proper that we should always extend the hand of friendship and fellowship to a visitor.

From a purely formal perspective a Brother from another Province has no entitlement to be saluted in recognition of his Provincial rank (he does if he holds Grand Rank) and while it would be a generous and doubtless well received gesture on the part of the Lodge to recognise him as an active Provincial officer, the protocol would be for the most senior active Wiltshire officer present, or if there is no active officer, the most senior Wiltshire past Provincial officer to reply to the salutation.

An officer of a foreign constitution is not entitled to any salutes, however senior he may be in rank. As a matter of courtesy, however, he is often accorded the salutes which his rank would entitle him under **this** Constitution, but only **after** all salutes to English Brethren have been given.



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You've got to hand it to them....

And admire their enthusiasm. While the Provincial Grand Master has not yet formally launched the Wiltshire 2028 Festival, there is certainly a great deal of interest in Festival Gloves. First seen at Provincial Grand Lodge, the team thought that it would be interesting to gauge opinion on the gloves, the Festival logo and the newly approved Festival Jewel.

Judging by their happy faces, Brethren from our two Chippenham Lodges were pleased with their new gloves. You can be happy too, buy a pair of Festival Gloves from our online Festival shop [CLICK HERE](#)



Bro Roy Sansum joined an illustrious group of Wiltshire Freemasons that have been members of the Craft for 50 years.

Initiated into Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation No.355 in 1972 Roy was soon joined by his brother Roger (48 years service) and latterly by Roger's son Alex.

Assistant Provincial Grand Master was on hand to present Roy with the Provincial Grand Master's Certificate of Appreciation.

P.S. Good to see that Bro Sansum had £20 ready to buy the APrGM a drink at the bar.



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Wiltshire 2028 Festival....

To get the Wiltshire 2028 Festival of to a great start the team has commissioned a flavour filled gin - 'Seal Of Solomon' and it's the same great price as it was in 2021 - only £40

Middle Chamber Dry Gin is available to purchase online at the Wiltshire 2028 Shop. To avoid disappointment why not reserve your bottle of Middle Chamber gin by emailing Mark Newman at mn@s33kers.co.uk or better still, buy direct by clicking on the picture below. You can also ask your Lodge bar steward to pour you a Gin & Tonic and specify Middle Chamber - Seal of Solomon Dry Gin. It's also a great tasting gin without a mixer.

Holes in your gloves, or are they just looking tired and worn out. Now's the right time to buy a pair (or two and even three) of Wiltshire 2028 Festival gloves. Super value, great fitting cotton gloves with the Festival logo boldly displayed. Value for money at only **£10** per pair plus post and packing. To order your gloves shop online by clicking on the pictures below or [click here](#).

Remember, buying Festival Gin or Festival Gloves means you will be supporting the Wiltshire 2028 Festival which in turn supports the Masonic Charitable Foundation.



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The City Lodge No.5955 celebrates....



WM Brett Jordan-Davis and his brother Barry Jordan Davis celebrate with Bro John Gray

As if welcoming a new Initiate into the Lodge wasn't enough, well done Bro Sean White; the Master, Wardens and Brethren of The City Lodge No.5955 also said hello to Bro Peter McCarthy as a Joining Member, and balloted to award Honorary Membership to Bro Roy Compton.

Bro Barry Jordan-Davis took advantage of the absence of the APrGM and presented a Provincial Grand Master's certificate of appreciation to Bro John Gray on achieving a wonderful 60 years service to Freemasonry.

The Lodge also received a proposal for a candidate for Initiation. It was a pleasure to be a guest and hear so much good news.

WILTSHIRE 2028 FESTIVAL

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

John Reid PrGM
invites you to join him
at the

*Double Tree Hilton Hotel
Lydiard Fields,
Great Western Way,
Swindon SN5 8UZ*

Tel: 01793 881777

SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2023

Ticket £60 per person

four course dinner | music | dancing til midnight

Dinner 6.45pm for 7.30pm

BOOK ONLINE - [CLICK HERE](#)

Special room rate available - quote **Wiltshire 2028 Festival**



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