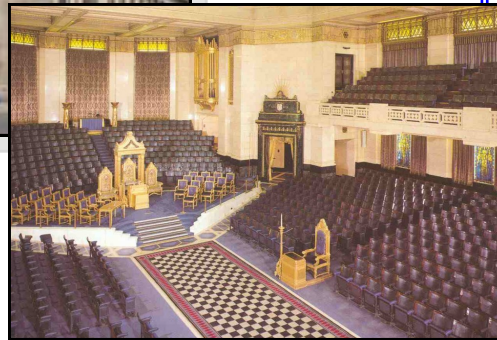


# Lodge Waikato 475

OF FREE AND ACCEPTED FREEMASONS

SEPTEMBER 2019



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An imposing art deco building, covering two and one quarter acres, it was built between 1927-1933 as a memorial to the many Freemasons who died on active service in the First World War. Initially known as the Masonic Peace Memorial it reverted to the name Freemasons' Hall at the outbreak of World War II in 1939. Freemasons Hall, London, England.

# NOTICE PAPER



## MASTER

**W.Bro Adrian de Bruin**  
265A Hakirimata Rd  
Ngaruawahia  
Ph. 07 824 7234 ( eve )

## SENIOR WARDEN

**W.Bro Andre Schenk**  
11 Beaufort Place  
Flagstaff, Hamilton.  
Ph 027 5784 060

## JUNIOR WARDEN

**Bro Trevor Langley**  
16 Cashmere Place  
Flagstaff, Hamilton.  
Ph 027 2797696

## TREASURER

**W.Bro. Alan Harrop**  
18 Cherrywood St  
Pukete, Hamilton  
Ph 027 499 5733

## SECRETARY

**W.Bro Richrd Kyle**  
23 Kiwi Ave  
Hamilton  
027 529 8977

Dear Brother,

You are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Monthly Meeting of  
Lodge Waikato, to be held in the Hamilton East Masonic Centre,  
Grey St., Hamilton East , on Thursday 15th August 2019 at 7.30pm

Ceremony: - Lodge - Third degree working, Bro Jacob Wallace.

1. Confirmation of Minutes
2. Accounts payable
3. Treasurer 's report
4. Correspondence
5. Almoner 's report
6. General Business
7. Lodge Notices

**W.Bro Richard Kyle - Hon Sec**

## Officers of the Lodge

I.P.M. - W.Bro Graham Hallam  
Sen. Deacon - W.Bro Wally Lee  
Chaplain - W.Bro John Dickson  
Secretary - W.Bro Richard Kyle  
Dir. of Ceremony - W.Bro Don McNaughton  
Organist - Bro Norm Weir  
Tyler - W.Bro Willy Willetts  
Ass. Steward - Bro. Jacob Wallace,

Dep. Master - W.Bro Steve Weller  
Jun. Deacon - Bro Jerry Newell  
Almoner - W.Bro Graham Hallam  
Ass Secretary - W.Bro Bill Newell  
Ass. D.O.C. - W.Bro Kirk Spragg  
Inner Guard - Bro Geoff Cooper  
Senior Steward - Bro Aaron Peters

Lodge contact address -

Lodge Secretary, - e-mail - [lodge.waikato@gmail.com](mailto:lodge.waikato@gmail.com)  
Lodge Waikato 475 - PO Box 9502, Waikato Mail centre, Hamilton 3240

# LODGE WAIKATO 475



To be Initiated -

To be Passed to the Second Degree - Bro Mark Bunting

To be Raised to the Third Degree - Bro Jacob Wallace, Bro Brent Walker,  
Bro Mark Ashburner,

Please contact the Almoner, - W.Bro Graham Hallam. W.Bro Wally Lee, and  
W.Bro Rod Harper in all cases of difficulty and where any help is needed.

Please contact the secretary to update any items, and the membership listings,  
W.Bro Richard Kyle, 027 529 8977 - e-mail - lodge.waikato@gmail.com

Chairman of Management Committee - W.Bro Michael Tribe  
Ph 027 249 8630 - e-mail - mtribe@xtra.co.nz

Editor of the Plumblin - W.Bro Graham Hallam.  
Ph 07 855 5198 (eve) e-mail - mallah@xtra.co.nz

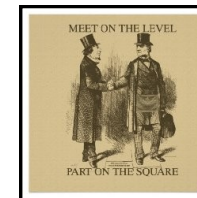
Lodge Notices. - Master 's visiting programme during September 2019  
as seen with his monthly report., and as on calendar on back page.

Lodge Waikato Monthly Diary - September 2019

Thursday, 5th September at 7:00pm. Management Meeting & Practice  
Thursday, 12th September at 7.00pm, Lodge practice night  
Thursday, 19th September at 7.30pm. Regular Lodge meeting.

## Lodge Waikato Brethren with Masonic Birthdays in September.

John Peart - 28th September 1967 (52yrs )  
Dick Morgan - 26th September 1968 (51yrs )  
Norm Adams - 15th September 1983 (36yrs )  
John Cook - 19th September 1991 (28yrs )  
Darryl Gray - 17th September 1992 (27yrs )  
Trevor Service 16th September 2004 (25yrs )  
Andre Schenk - 21st September 2006 (13yrs )



Special Thanks —

Lodge Waikato 475 would like to thank most heartedly the  
following business for their continued support throughout the year

FAIRVIEW MOTORS - JAMES R. HILL

**The Master 's report, - September 2019**



**Greetings Brethren,**

Well time is moving on - it is nearly September already.  
Deb and I had a great 10 days in Samoa and I would recommend a winters break there to everyone.

While I was away, Bro Brent Walker was passed to the second degree at Lodge Pukemiro. I would like to congratulate Brent and also thank the members of Lodge Waikato who attended to support him.

Our own August meeting had Bro Mark Ashburner pass to the second degree. I would also like to congratulate Mark on taking his next step and also on the birth of his new son who arrived the week before.

I am also pleased to acknowledge the promotion of W. Bro John Evered to District Grand Master, and also to W. Bro Michael Tribe promoted to District Grand Steward.

Finally, I look forward to your support over the next few months with the visits I have planned. If you could let the JW. Know, or myself, if you intend to visit with me.

**Yours Fraternally,  
W. Bro Adrian de Bruin, Master.**

**My Planned Visiting - September**

*Please contact JW to arrange transport or arrange a ride, always a seat available do try and come with me. WM.*

**Wednesday, 4th September - Lodge Piako No 160 - 7:30pm  
Moorhouse St. Morrinsville.**

**Monday, 9th September - Lodge Pukemiro No 301 - 11:30am  
Hamilton East Masonic Centre - Lodge Installation.  
W. Bro Tom Martin to be Installed as Master.**

**Wednesday, 11th September - Waipa Lodge No 119 - 7:30pm  
Albert Park Drive, Te Awamutu.**

**' A new Arrival '**

Our Congratulations to Mark and Genn Ashburner  
on the arrival of their new little man, a great brother for Tom.

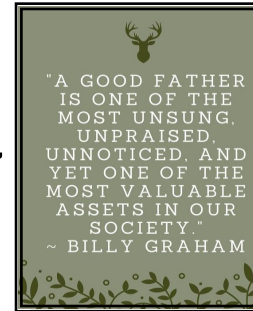


" Best wishes "

" Oh those sleepless nights!!!!!! "

Lodge Waikato No 475  
2019 - Monthly suggested planner  
W.Bo Adrian de Bruin

Father 's Day



September 2019

- 1 ) 7.00pm management meeting and practice,  
Thursday 5th September
- 2 ) 7.00pm Practice on Thursday 12th  
September
- 3 ) 7.30pm Lodge regular meeting night,  
Thursday 19th September  
Third degree working for Bro Jacob Wallace

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October 2019

- 1 ) 7.00pm management meeting and practice, Thursday 3rd October
- 2 ) 7.00pm Practice on Thursday 7th October.
- 3 ) 7.30pm Lodge regular meeting night, Thursday 17th October.  
Past Master 's night.  
Second degree working for Bro Mark Ashburner

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November 2019

- 1 ) 7.00pm management meeting and practice, Thursday 7th November
- 2 ) 7.00pm Practice on Thursday 14th November
- 3 ) 7.30pm Lodge regular meeting night, 21st November

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December 2019

- 1 ) 7.00pm management meeting and practice, Thursday 5th December
- 2 ) 7.30pm Lodge regular meeting night, 12th December  
( Note - meeting, second Thursday )

' Now officially announced and confirmed. '  
Grand Lodge Rank for 2019 - 2022

District Grand Master - W.Bro John Evered  
Grand Steward - W.Bro Mike Tribe

Congratulations to these Grand Lodge officers  
we look forward to seeing them in their new roles.

**Report on Management Committee Meeting  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August**

The Secretary has circulated the minutes of this meeting. Those minutes are a comprehensive summary of what was discussed and resolved.

The contact issues have been sorted, bar two e-mail addresses and members are receiving correspondence from the Chairman of the committee.

**The key points from the August meeting include -**

Geoff Cooper has sold \$200.00 ( two trailer loads ) of firewood. It was agreed that these funds would be donated to the Museum in Le Quesnay as part of the Grand Lodge contribution to this project.

**Health and Safety.**

Andre Schenk raised issue of Key Register; Richard Kyle to update the register at next lodge meeting,

A new Battery of has been installed in the defibrillator

In his absence the Master ' s report was delivered by M. Tribe; it was a summary of his proposed visits and activities for the next month

Andre Schenk outlined a proposal for a Lodge Waikato website and other means of communication. He will have a detailed proposal for the next management committee meeting

The Deputy Chairman was revisited. In the case of an emergency Don Morgan will step in and assist.

There will be a special meeting on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August to discuss the Strategic Direction 2019 – 2023 paper. It will be at the HMEC at 7:00 pm. All members will be invited and encouraged to make comment. M. Tribe will chair the meeting on behalf of the Worshipful Master.

**Other issues**

A letter from Dick Morgan giving thanks for yard work completed was received.

Donation of regalia to Whitianga Lodge 443 was approved.

It was moved to adopt the Lodge protocols as proposed by John Evered

The landline number will be removed from the Plumb Line

Urgent repairs to electrical systems at Ngaruawahia building, Est. cost of \$5000.00, covered by rent received, were noted

Recognition of an Award to Norm Weir for service to the craft was acknowledged.

The meeting closed at 7:58 pm

**Michael Tribe  
Chairman.**

' Ring someone - Bring someone? '

## " How Old is Masonry. " ?

*From the writings of V.WBro Jim Spreadborough*

This question cannot be definitely answered. For masonry was not created at a given moment, or even in a single day, month or year. Its distant origins, the actual beginning of the Craft, are veiled in the mists of antiquity. We find striking similarities in the Solar Mysteries of Egypt, which it is believed may have been evolved as the year 2000 BC. Pythagoras, Plutarch, Plato, and Pindar were among the initiates into the Greater Mysteries, which were the repository of the highest then known "secrets" of astronomy, geometry, religion, the fine arts and the laws of nature.

Centuries later the Roman Collegia emerged; these were small, local groups of Artisans - goldsmiths, dyers, builders, potters, and others. They acted upon petitions for membership, received members through initiation, had rooms like those of present day fraternities, divided the membership into grades, had a common table, had a charity fund, used passwords, grips, tokens, and symbols. Each group was self governing. Some were religious in nature; others were socially inclined, while still others were mostly concerned with their particular trade or profession.

About the third century AD., there began a series of incursions of warlike tribes from East of Europe, which finally overran the Roman Empire and destroyed the civilization of the time. For more than seven centuries the so-called dark ages ensued. Then Europe began gradually to re-erect its civilization, and one of the first features of this process was the development and training of craftsmen of all kinds. Later these craftsmen formed societies called 'guilds', comprising the men in a particularly locality who performed a definite and specific type of work or service.

Most of them had carefully guarded secrets, which members were bound not to reveal to non-members, ( remembering at this time that printing had not yet been invented, and only a relatively few people outside the clergy could read or write, therefore, much of the practical knowledge and also the learning of the day reposed within the crafts as trade secrets, and were handed down by word of mouth. )

Most of these artisans seldom went more than a days journey away from home. However, this was not true of the stonemasons. Their work consisted largely of the erection of cathedral, castles, and other large structures, many of which required many years, sometimes centuries, to complete. Local guilds were not equipped either in numbers or in skills to perform this type of work and the Masonic craft of necessity became migratory. The employer, ( often the Church or the Crown ) would select a Master of the Work, and he would arrange for the travelling of the various groups of workmen from their previous jobs to the site of the new work. There, after providing for their homes or barracks, they would construct a workshop which would be used also for their rest, refreshment and relaxation; this was called a Lodge, and this word also designated the organized body of workmen who used the building.

Any type of builder was called a Mason, and the craft as a whole was called Masonry. It included quarrymen, wallers, hewers, slaters, tillers, rough masons, cutters, plasterers, carpenters and all others who worked upon the structure. At the head of the project were those who today we would call architects, or engineers; they understood engineering and geometry as the result of long and arduous training, and many were proficient in a number of the 'arts' connected with the building trade, such as carving and sculpturing, the making of stained glass windows, mosaics and other highly specialized skills.

They were called "Freemasons" perhaps because they were free to move from place to place as they might desire, whereas the lesser workmen were generally serfs, and could travel only at the pleasure of their masters.

The masons of those days were actually builders, and their trade secrets were handed down from mouth to mouth. This was true not only as the proper way to do things but based upon the tools they used, traces of which are in our conversations today, such as, "On the square", "On the Level", "An upright man," etc., we called them "Operative Masons."

Change came about when someone sought membership who was no way connected with the building trades, and others followed in increasing numbers.

So came about the term, "Ancient Free and Accepted Masons," these men though not builders, were "accepted" as Masons.

**“ Freemasons ”**  
**‘ The secret club of the worlds most powerful men. ’**

**Sabir Shah.**

According to noted search engine Yahoo, the mission of Masonry is **“ to teach a man the duty he owes to God, his neighbour and himself. ”**

Quoting the websites promoting Freemasonry, Yahoo states: “ Charity work and community involvement are important parts of Masonic life. Freemasonry is not affiliated with any religious group, but members are required to profess belief in a supreme being. Freemasonry has been decried as a secret society and even a political conspiracy or religious cult. But Masons believe that what little secrecy they have is simply so members of the fraternity can identify each other by things like handshakes and passwords. ”

“ Yahoo ” further states: “ Masons state that the rituals of Masonic meetings are used to reinforce the central values of the organisation, such as morality and belief in a supreme being. ” While Masons claim their key objective is to avoid disharmony between different religions, many Biblical scholars have often strongly condemned Freemasonry, dubbing it totally contrary to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

The Masonic groups in different countries are called lodges and Freemasons, who call themselves ‘ brothers, ’ are organized into independent Grand Lodges. Of these six million existing Freemasons in the world today, some 150,000 Masonic members are registered with the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Similarly, over a quarter of a million fall under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of England and around two million live in United States. The first-ever Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of London and Westminster was founded in 1717.

An extensive research has been undertaken by “ The News International. ” A study of the books “ The origins of Freemasonry ” by Margaret Jacob, “ The History of Freemasonry ” by Albert Gallatin Mackey, “ The Freemasons ” by Michael Johnston, “ Large list of notable and famous Australian Freemasons ” by D. Hudson, the National Archives ’ of Australia and “ Freemasonry: A celebration of the craft ” by John Hamill and Robert Gilbert, reveals that apart from the 15 US presidents who were registered Masons, around three dozen American Supreme Court judges, including at least six chief justices ( Legendary John Marshall, Oliver Ellsworth, William Howard Taft, Frederick Vinson, John Rutledge and Earl Warren ) were also affiliated with Freemasonry.

Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh and husband of Queen Elizabeth II is also registered as a Mason at London ’ s Navy Lodge No 2,612.

In its May 14, 2001 story “ Berlusconi: The power of personality, ” BBC had revealed that former Italian Prime Minister, Silvio Berlusconi, was also a Mason once. This is what the BBC had stated: “ There was a scandal in 1981 when Berlusconi was revealed as a member of the P-2 Freemason ’ s lodge, a secret network of politicians, businessmen and media figures. The group was disbanded and Mr Berlusconi emerged unscathed. ”

However, there have been a few exceptions like Anders Behring Breivik, who was arrested for the 2011 Norway attacks. After he was found guilty, the attacker was expelled from Freemasonry last year.

**“The ultimate success of Masonry depends on the intelligence  
of her disciples.”** **- Albert Mackey**



The world famous Australian Cricketer of yore, Sir Donald Bradman (highest batting average of 99.94 per innings in the 135-year history of the game ) was also a Mason.

Having originated in the late 16th or the early 17th century probably, as a study of Harry Paul Jeffers ' book "Freemasons in America " and " 10,000 famous Freemasons " by William Denslow and author Jasper Ridley ' s research book "The Freemasons: A history of the world ' s most powerful secret society " reveals, Freemasonry has existed in various forms all over the world for centuries, with a membership estimated at around six million.

Throughout history, some members of the fraternity have not kept their affiliations secret, while there are others who have not made their Freemasonry membership public.

A BBC report ( March 14, 2012 ) views: " The Freemasons, an international organisation often shrouded in mystery, is undergoing a rebrand. But what is this society and what exactly do Freemasons do? Conspiracy theories have dogged the Freemasons throughout their existence, fuelled by their secretive image, but for some they are just a gentleman ' s club devoted to charitable giving. Members can be recommended, or they can put themselves forward. Masons have often been complained to be subjected to discrimination.

The above-quoted BBC report had quoted Nigel Brown, grand secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, as saying " The European Court of Human Rights ruled in 2007 that in a modern democratic society it was discriminatory to single out Freemasons from the many voluntary organisations an individual can belong to and require them to register their membership with their employers. All conspiracy theories annoy us as they are just that - conspiracy with no truth or grounding. Part of the reason for our current activity is to dispel all the myths and conspiracy theories attached to Freemasonry. "

In his book " Infiltrating the Freemasons, " investigative journalist David Cano that people hailing from this secret and mysterious fraternity believe in the spirit of brotherhood, promote and help out each other. He had further stated in his afore-cited book that there was a myth Masons help each other get jobs.

He writes: " They ' re very odd and strange to the man in the street and this is why there ' s a cloud over it. Masons are wonderful people who are very helpful to each other and kind. "

David Cano adds: " The big controversy is whether freemasons infiltrate the workplace and use it to get people jobs. There have been certain scandals involving this and rules have now been written in to masonry about joining certain professions.

All I know is that there has been a strong Masonic influence among the presidents of the US. On the dollar bill there ' s a few Masonic symbols on there. But I can ' t really believe that, even though the press would love it. As far as Masons helping each other, as a fraternity you would do, but whether that ' s carried further, I don ' t know. Some of the Masonic halls in America are massive places. "

A Masonic website " www.masonic-network.com " states: " Charity is the most visible Masonic activity. Each year Masons give many millions of dollars to charity. If you are a Mason and you need help, every Mason in the world must help you, if he possibly can. By the same token, you must be willing to help any Mason who needs it. We ' re dedicated to the growth and development of our members as human beings. The Fraternity gives hundreds of college scholarships to students each year. Nationally, throughout the United States, the Masons give an average of \$1.5 million every day to charitable causes. "

Here follows the list of Masonic American Presidents (with Lodge registration numbers in brackets). The list has been prepared after a study of of Blizard Abbott's book "Masonic Portraits: Sketches of Distinguished Freemasons," Jim Harrison's book "Biographical Journal of Freemasons: British Columbia and the World," H.L. Haywood's book "Famous Masons," W. W. Morgan's book "Masonic Portraits: Sketches of distinguished Freemasons" and Eugen Lennhoff's book "The Freemasons":

George Washington (registered at Alexandria Lodge No. 22, Virginia, in 1753), James Monroe (registered at Williamsburg Lodge No. 6, Virginia, in 1775), Andrew Jackson (registered at Harmony Lodge No. 1, Tennessee state and Jackson Lodge in Florida), James Polk (registered on June 5, 1820 at Columbia Lodge No. 31, Tennessee), James Buchanan (registered at Lodge No. 43, Pennsylvania), Andrew Johnson (registered at Greenville Lodge No. 119, Tennessee State), James Garfield (made a Mason in November 1864 at Columbus Lodge No. 30, Ohio), William McKinley (registered at Hiram Lodge No. 21, Winchester, Virginia), Theodore Roosevelt (registered at Matinecock Lodge No. 806, New York), William Howard Taft (made a Mason at Scottish Rite Cathedral, Ohio, Lodge No. 356 in 1909), Warren Harding (made a Mason at Marion Lodge No. 70 in Ohio), Franklin D. Roosevelt (registered at Holland Lodge No. 8, New York), Harry Truman (registered at Belton Lodge No. 450, Missouri state), Lyndon B. Johnson (Johnson City Lodge No. 561, Texas) and Gerald Ford (made a Mason in 1951 at Columbia Lodge No. 3 of Washington DC).

**Numerous world rulers have also been acknowledged Masons.**

These include the likes of Messrs John Abbott (Canadian Prime Minister, who was registered at Saint Paul's Lodge as Number 374 in Montreal on 1847), Emilio Aguinaldo (President of Philippines), Emperor Augustin I of Mexico, Alexander I of Yugoslavia (first king of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia), Salvador Allende (President of Chile), Charles Bathurst (Governor-General of New Zealand), Francis Bell (Prime Minister of New Zealand), R. B. Bennett (Prime Minister of Canada), Omar Bongo (President of Gabon), Robert Borden (Prime Minister of Canada), Mackenzie Bowell (Prime Minister of Canada), George Canning (British Prime Minister), King Charles XIII of Sweden,

Winston Churchill (Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, who joined Studholme Alliance Lodge No. 1591 on May 24, 1901), Emile Combes (French Premier), Joseph Cook (Prime Minister of Australia), Francesco Crispi (Prime Minister of Italy), John Diefenbaker (Prime Minister of Canada), George IV and VI (Kings of Great Britain), John Gorton (Prime Minister of Australia), Habibullah Khan (Emir of Afghanistan from 1901 to 1919), Keith Holyoake (Prime minister of New Zealand), Leopold I (King of Belgium), John Macdonald (first Prime Minister of Canada), George Reid (Prime Minister of Australia), Miguel Aleman (Mexican President), Mustapha Kemal Ataturk (President of Turkey from 1923 to 1938), Viscount Bennett (Prime Minister of Canada), Napoleon Bonaparte and his four brothers, Sir Robert Borden and Sir Mackenzie Bowell (Prime Ministers of Canada), Paul Doumer (President of France), Gaston Doumergue (President of France), Frederic VII (King of Denmark), Georges II (King of Greece), Gustave V (King of Sweden), Alexandre Mitterand (President of France), Peter the Great (Emperor of Russia), William II (King of the Netherlands), Earle Christmas Page (Prime Minister of Australia), John McEwen (Prime Minister of Australia), William McMahon (Prime Minister of Australia) and Yitzhak Rabin (Prime Minister of Israel) etc.

**' Without neglecting the ordinary duties of your station,  
endeavour to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge. '**

**A good number of world famous business magnates have also been Masons.**

These include Messrs Walter Chrysler (Chrysler Corporation), John Dunlop (Tire Manufacturer), Henry Ford (founder Ford Motors), King Gillette (Gillette Razor Company), Frank Hoover (Vacuum cleaner fame), Samuel Colt (manufacturer of Colt revolvers), William Lever (man behind Lever Brothers), Colonel Harland Sanders (founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken) and Harry Warner (US film producer and co-founder of Warner Brothers) etc.

Other famous Masons include Cecil Rhodes (famous Rhodes Scholarship launcher), Antoine Joseph Sax (Invented the Saxophone in 1846), Sir Aga Khan III (1877-1957), noted physician and botanist Erasmus Darwin (1732-1802), James Hoban (architect of the White House), Sir Alexander Fleming (Scottish bacteriologist who discovered Penicillin), Ludwig Beethoven and Mozart (globally acclaimed composers).  
Edgar Hoover (first Director of the FBI) was also a Mason.

Meanwhile, renowned Masonic authors include: Messrs Arthur Conan Doyle (the author of Sherlock Holmes), Edward Gibbon (author of "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire"), Rudyard Kipling (English writer and winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1907), Jonathan Swift (writer of "Gulliver's Travels"), Russian author Leo Tolstoy (writer of "War and Peace"), Oscar Wilde (Irish Playwright and novelist) and Mark Twain etc.

Interestingly, a few books suggest that the likes of Joseph Stalin, US Presidents Abraham Lincoln and George Bush Senior, former US Vice President Dick Cheney, Karl Marx and Lord Mountbatten were also Masons, though Lodge numbers have been missing in most accounts to verify their status in this context.

**' Paddy The Painter '**

**The foreman of an Irish road crew employed Paddy to paint the white lines down the middle of the road. He told Paddy that he should paint two miles of road in a day's work.**

**After the first day, the foreman was pleased to find that he'd painted four miles of road instead of the two required.**

**On the second day, Paddy completed painting just two miles of road. The foreman was a bit disappointed, but didn't complain as this was, after all, what he'd asked for.**

**On day three, the foreman was disappointed to find that Paddy had painted only one mile of the road, and so asked, "On yr first day, ya did four moiles o' road. On yer second ya did two moiles. But on yer tird day yo only did one moil, What 's up. "?**

**Paddy replied, "Well, oil tell ya what 's up, but I tought a clever bloke loik you woulda been able ta figger it out for yourself.!**

**Yer see, every day I gets ferder and ferder away from de paint can. !!!! "**

**D.A.**

## An interesting random fact about Wellington. NZ

By Alf Rune

The entry to Bolton St cemetery is unremarkable: a gap in a white fence off a respectable street, a canopy of pines, plain crosses against a corrugated iron fence. But I know that I 'm passing into a territory that would have the earth-magic wing of the psychogeographical movement panting with occult excitement. Iain Sinclair or Peter Ackroyd would have a field day with the plethora of obelisks, resonant names and eroded inscriptions, but wouldn 't that be the case with any cemetery? It 's like shooting mystical fish in a semiotic barrel. Nevertheless, certain monuments catch my attention, so I decide to play along.

There 's a broken marble column near the entrance, and at first I file this away as a symptom of vandalism or neglect, but a closer examination of the carving shows the break to be too clean.

A shattered pillar seems like an obvious signifier ( a life cut short; the futility and imperfection of human endeavour; all that Ozymandian sort of thing ), but a little research unearths other connections. The Broken Column is an important symbol in Freemasonry, though perhaps a relatively recent one. What 's more, it seems that some Masons map the Three Great Pillars of Masonry to the Kabbalistic Sephiroth, and when the central column of Beauty is broken, it represents Man 's separation from divine knowledge: the severed pathway between Beauty and the Infinite. But in this place it was the act of building a pathway that caused a severance, tearing the cemetery in two when the motorway smashed its way through. Beauty and the Divine were certainly not on the Ministry of Works ' agenda.



As the path winds down into a severed gully, past other broken columns, I remember back to one of my first walks in Wellington, what seems like many decades ago. It was a gloomy, misty Sunday, with low cloud whipping through the treetops and fine rain drifting down through the dark foliage.

The graves seemed shattered, lonely and abandoned, overgrown by indifferent vegetation, and my ( shamefully Eurocentric ) imagination turned this into a science fiction movie: a doomed colony on an alien world, the last remaining settlers burying their dwindling colleagues as the host planet erased their hubristic attempts at replicating home. Even today, in the brightness of late summer, the drooping aerial pohutukawa roots can seem monstrous, and by the time that I realise that they are also invaders here, I know it 's time to move on before my allegories tangle themselves into total incoherence.

But first, I come across a grave that even I can see is explicitly Masonic. The compass and set-square make that clear, even if I had to go back and look up the capital G ( for God and Geometry, and perhaps for Gnosis ), the stone ashlar, the tessellated pavement and the uneven columns topped with terrestrial and celestial globes. This lavish memorial to Captain Henry Tucker was erected by Captain Edwin Stafford, who later completed their pact by joining him in the grave. Such dedication would seem unusual today without a more intimate connection, and I wonder whether a different interpretation could be put upon the two upstanding columns than the Boaz and Jachin of Masonic lore.

But it would be prurient and pointless to speculate about what the Herald called " the fine feelings, and the rare sentiment " between these two men. The pillars have been toppled in the past by falling trees and '60s yobbos ( " because there 's nothing else to do in Wellington on a Sunday " ), but they escaped the bulldozers. Their friendship can stand on its own terms.

It is a waste of time to deny the past. It is there, behind us and in us.” That ’s what Alington wrote in her epilogue to Unquiet Earth, and it ’s thoughts like that that keep me looking for connections. Even over-interpretation can be fertile, an imaginative tangle of roots and branches that treats the past not as dry factual bones but as living seeds still capable of engendering new stories. But I ’ m stumped by the shiny black cube that marks Herbert J Williams ’ grave at the base of the tree: it bears Masonic insignia, but I can only link it to the use of black cubes to secretly veto an unlucky applicant. Has Williams been posthumously blackballed, barred from the Craft in the afterlife?

From the overbridge, I get the merest glimpse of what should be the most nationally significant building of the journey: the Beehive. If you ’re looking for Masonic symbolism, then it ’s hard to go past beehives, which are among the emblems presented to a Master Mason. .

Sir Basil Spence — who may have sketched his Beehive design on a napkin, though his earlier, more detailed drawings show that it was far more thoroughly thought-through than the anecdote suggests — was probably not a Freemason, but the commissioning PM Keith Holyoake certainly was. Of course, not all that long ago it would have been odd if a Prime Minister or Governor General were not a member: all of the excitable occultist paranoia and New World Order wingnuttery obscures the fact that the Craft is at heart little more than an old-boys ’ club for well-connected white men. There ’s far more psychogeographical significance in the architectural moves that Spence actually intended ( a round building as a “peg ” to anchor the curve of Bowen St; turbine imagery as a late manifestation of Modernism ’s celebration of heavy industry ), and more political significance in the very real constitutional cluster of Parliament, judiciary and Treasury, than in the most ingenious crypto-Masonic fantasies. Beyond Hill St, the motorway takes a slow curve to the right, shifting alignment from the foothills route to the old Thorndon gully, falling in line with the long straight slash of the Wellington Fault.

#### **Death notice said: ‘He was a Mason ’**

It happens nearly every day in the major newspapers of our cities.

A prominent citizen ’s obituary appears with a substantial headline. The writer begins with the most recent details age, cause of death, current residence. There follows several paragraphs recounting the man ’s life. He was president of his country club; he headed a charity drive; he was an executive of these corporations; he attended such-and-such a college and high school; he was on the board of trustees of his church; and so on, often for a substantial number of column inches.

Finally, towards the end of the obituary, just before the funeral arrangements are specified and the survivors listed, we often find the brief sentence: “He was a Mason. ”

Curious, isn't it? Although the other details of his career were copiously enumerated, his Masonic activities are summarized in one sentence. Perhaps he was Master of his Lodge, serving “in line ” for as long as eight years to reach that station.

It could be that he gave his time as presiding officer in one of the several York or Scottish Rite bodies. Maybe he took a number of parts in the many degrees of the two Rites.

Or perhaps he was one of those who had less skill in memorization, but took other responsibilities: for services in his lodge or district Masonic programmes.

Masonic honours and titles are of limited value, any way. They mean much among brothers and companions—somewhat less among family and friends—but little to the non-Masonic world. Yet if each of us resolves to live according to the principles we embraced when we became Masons, we should be pleased to reflect that there is no higher honour to come to us when our lives are complete than that they should be summed up by a simple profound phrase: “He was a Mason. ”

( By Brooks C. Dodson, Jr. ),

*Article thanks to Lodge Tawhiri 166 newsletter.*

## What about discussing political/social issues in lodge then ?

This is a good question. Can we seriously and without rancor discuss the political and social events of the day? In some cases, the answer is yes, but in some, the answer is no. Can two brothers on opposing sides of the abortion issue discuss it openly and honestly? Maybe, but this is an emotional issue, to its challenging and risky.

Can a Lodge openly discuss and debate political candidates without falling to pieces?

There is a possibility they can, though the question has to be asked: WHY should they? Lodge is not about political issues. The stated purpose of freemasonry is fraternal affection, self improvement, the spiritual quest. Lodge is a place of peace (or should be ) a place where men of disparate faiths, creeds and beliefs can come together and work side by side toward a common goal.

Why bring a known divisive element into the mix? It serves no purpose of Freemasonry's, and only serves the agenda of brothers that bring politics to lodge. Their only goal is the engendering of common opinion and support for their cause, to seek common cause with their brethren. In so doing, they bring into the lodge that which should never be present: the Seeds of Discord.

### Should lodges take political positions?

Given that the very nature of politics is divisive, how can a lodge, let alone a Grand Lodge, take a position on a political/social issue as a group? More to the point, WHY should Freemasonry do so? Freemasonry is about the internal. The Freemason, as a man in a society, may, and should, apply the tenets of the craft to his society, measuring it by the 24" gauge, applying the square of morality, testing its truth by the plumb and holding the society to acting on the level. The craft itself, by its very nature, cannot.

Each man must act on his own, and never act in the name of masonry for his own selfish purposes.

One may, and in fact, should advocate for what he believes, but when one brother, as a mason, states his position on any issue, he implies that all masons should and might hold the same position, and if another brother does not, he has introduced into a relationship something that should never be between them as masons.

### Dates of Interest to Freemasons In September

- 5th Start of the great Fire of London in 1666. Most of the city is destroyed. Then a Freemason, Sir Christopher Wren, designs the present St Paul 's Cathedral.
- 6th On this day in 1940 the Nazis force King Carol of Romania, a Freemason, to abdicate.
- 8th Peter Sellers, Freemason and popular English comedian, is born on this day in 1925.
- 10th Arnold Palmer is born on this day in 1929. He will become a Freemason and a leading American golfer.
- 13th Born today in 1860 is John Pershing, who later becomes a Freemason and is placed in charge of US forces in W. War I.
- 14th US President William McKinley, a Freemason, dies today in 1901 after being assassinated in Buffalo, New York.
- 19th US President James Abram Garfield, a Freemason, is assassinated today in 1881 having been in office just four months.
- 21st Died today in 1832: Sir Walter Scott, Freemason and author.
- 22nd Gene Tunney beats Freemason Jack Dempsey today in 1927 in a controversial boxing match.

\* \* \*

## **Specialist Lodge ' Masonry on the Canal '**

It was back in August 2002 that the idea of a Lodge for narrow boat owners and other enthusiasts was first formally put forward, resulting in one of the newest Lodges, but one representing an ancient tradition, in Grand Junction Lodge No. 9775, consecrated at Northampton in 2004. The name 'Grand Junction' was chosen as this was the name of the waterway from Brentford in West London to Braunston in Northamptonshire prior to the Grand Union canal being formed. We believed that the inland waterway network of England was a unique possible source of new blood into Freemasonry, presenting a broad base with which to attract new members. Because many members would be boat owners, it was felt that each meeting would be a weekend gathering rather than just an evening out.

Being a canal-based Lodge, it was decided that one venue each year would be held at a venue somewhere along the canal system, and it would be a white table, with ladies and other non-Masons invited. So, instead of an hour's journey by road, it can take up to a day and a half by canal! The temple can be described as 'compact' or 'bijou' as it is in the restaurant area of the Boat Inn at Stoke Bruerne, Northamptonshire, where the landlord is Andrew Woodward, the first Master. Andrew is co-owner of the Inn, and it has been in his family for more than 125 years.

There is a picture of the temple on the Lodge web site.

However, holding Masonic meetings on licensed premises threw up an interesting hurdle on the way to forming the Lodge. Rule 117, Book of Constitutions, states:

No proprietor or manager of the tavern or house at which a Lodge meets shall hold any office in the Lodge without a dispensation from the Grand Master or in a Province or District from the Provincial or District Grand Master. However, we had no problem in obtaining the necessary dispensation for Andrew Woodward to become the first Master.

There are brass boat hooks as insignia on all wands irrespective of office and the shafts are in liquorice stick design, reflecting the old working boat traditions of the canals, which I made, while Trevor Boswell made the pedestals.

Graphic designer John Sermon – a good name for our Chaplain? – designed the Lodge crest which adorn founders jewels and the banner.

Like all Lodges, we raise money for various charities, and among those that we have supported is the Northamptonshire St John's Ambulance Mountbatten Crusader Fund, this being a canal boat for the disabled.

Such has been the success of the Lodge that we have had to hold extra meetings and ask other Lodges to help us out with ceremonies, and our meetings have proved very popular with visitors. Ladies Festival venues, too, have taken on a special meaning, including trips to Lille and Bruges – yes, both have canals! This, plus the July white table meeting, ensures we are very much a 'community' Lodge, with an outward-looking perspective of Freemasonry in the 21st century.

***Mike King is a founder member and Past Master of Grand Junction Lodge***

### " Your input "

**Brethren, you will note recently that articles in the Plumblin have been  
Introduced by brethren other than myself, the Editor.  
As you will have noted, several articles are sent to me from many brethren.**

**This is YOUR Lodge newsletter, with details about your Lodge,  
If you have articles or items of points of interest you may consider worthy  
of having in the Plumblin please send them to me by mail or e-mail.**

**Thanks, Ed.**



# September 2019 (New Zealand)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Father's Day	2	3	4 Lodge Piako G.L. Visit 7:30pm	5 Management meeting	6 1st Quarter	7
8	9 Lodge Pukemiro Installation 11:30am	10	11 The Waipa Lodge Visit 7:30pm	12 Lodge Practice 7.00pm	13	14 Full Moon
15	16	17	18	19 Regular meting 7.30pm	20	21
22 3rd Quarter	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 New Moon	30	1	2	3	4	5



# October 2019 (New Zealand)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 New Moon	30	1	2	3 Management meeting 7.00pm	4	5
6 1st Quarter	7	8	9	10 Lodge practice 7.00pm	11	12
13	14 Full Moon	15	16	17 Regular meeting 7.30pm	18	19
20	21	22 3rd Quarter	23	24	25	
27	28 New Moon Labour Day	29	30	31	1	



' The posture of your daily supplications shall remind me of your wants. '