

# **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

#### TREASURER

W.Bro. Alan Harrop 18 Cherrywood St Pukete, Hamilton Ph 027 499 5733 JUNIOR WARDEN Bro Trevor Langley 16 Cashmere Place Flagstaff, Hamilton. Ph 027 2797696

SECRETARY W.Bro Richard 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 21st November 2019 at 7.30pm

Ceremony: - Lodge - First degree working - Mr David Glen Panirau.

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

# Officers of the Lodge

W.Bro Richard Kyle - Hon Sec

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 Cere - 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



FAIRVIEW MOTORS - JAMES R. HILL

# The Master 's report, - November 2019

# Greetings Brethren,

The year is moving on rapidly with Christmas just around the corner. I had a really enjoyable weekend with many of our own Brethren at Lodge Whitianga Installation (our sister Lodge).



They had well over 100 Lodge members there ending with a dinner in

the local town hall. The Grand master was in attendance, along with plenty of Grand Lodge Officers. It was also great to see so many women attending the evening as well. They even served breakfast the next morning back in the Lodge room.

(While the Installation meeting was being held, the ladies were entertained at the movie theatre where they saw "Downton Abby.")

Thanks to the brethren who have been visiting with me - the district have had several installations lately including Waipa Lodge and the Taupiri Lodge where I have enjoyed partaking in the ceremonies.

Our October meeting was our Past Masters night and W.Bro Steven Weller and his team of Past Masters did a great job in passing Bro Mark Bunting to the second degree. It was especially pleasing to see W.Bro Dick Morgan in attendance as with W.Bro Trevor Service as they have both battled with severe illness and are both recovering well.

I have arranged for us to have a Sunday 12:30lunch on the 24th November at the Roaming Giant in Claudelands. If you would like to attend please let me know so I can confirm numbers.

Fraternally -W.Bro Adrian de Bruin, Master.

# My Planned Visiting - November

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

# November -

Tuesday 5th November - Lodge Tawhiri No 166 - Installation, 7.00pm Bro Brian Bevege - Barton St. Hamilton.
Tuesday 12th November - Alpha Lodge No 81, visit. 7.30pm Bryce St. Cambridge
Friday 8th November - Copernicus Lodge No 505 - Installation.

W.Bro Trevor Hickmott - Bryce St. Cambridge - 4.00pm

WM

Lodge contact address -Lodge Secretary, - e-mail - lodge.waikato@gmail.com Lodge Waikato 475 - PO Box 9502, Waikato Mail centre, Hamilton 3240

	Lodge Waikato No 475
	2019 - Monthly suggested planner
	W.Bo Adrian de Bruin
November 2	019
1)	Thursday 7th Nov. 7.00pm management meeting and practice.
2)	Thursday 14th November. 7.00pm Practice,
3)	Thursday 21st November. 7.30pm Lodge regular meeting.
•	This will be a 1st degree working.
4)	Sunday, 24th November, 12:30pm Luncheon at Roaming Giant
,	Heaphy Terrace, Hamilton.
4)	Thursday 28th November, Social/education night - 7.00pm
December 2	019
1)	Thursday 5th Dec. 7.00pm management meeting and practice.
2)	Thursday 12th December. 7.30pm Lodge regular meeting.
-	This will be 2nd part of 1st degree ceremony.
	(Note - meeting, second Thursday)
	Xmas music - strawberries and Ice-Cream



## Report on Management Committee Meeting Thursday 3rd October 2019

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

There were nineteen members present and five apologies. The exceptional turnout, once again, was noted and appreciated.

## The Masters Report

November working will be a First Degree (D Panirau) – subject to ballot. Attended Lodge Whitianga Installation weekend. There were 13 members of Lodge Waikato in attendance. Very pleased with the turnout and support. Finalising activities for the fourth Thursday. The key points from the September meeting include:

# Core Business

The monthly financial reports were received and approved. 51 members paid or under instalment, 27 with subs still unpaid.

Under property it appears that the windows in the Lodge room are hard to open. K Spragg and A Schenk to investigate getting these repaired. There is also concern regarding the height of the Lodge Room seats particularly in the East. Some members/visitors find them hard to get out of. A de Bruin will investigate how to address this matter.

Options for the fourth Thursday sessions are still a work in progress these will be advised once completed. (See e-mail from J Evered regarding the October session) In regards to social activities

Looking to hold a lunch on Sunday 24 November. Venue to be confirmed.

The annual BBQ lunch will be held at St Kilda retirement village in mid-February 2020. Towards the end of March there will be a pot luck meal at the masters place. Details to be advised for all these events still to be confirmed.

#### General Business

D Seath, K Spragg, A Schenk, A de Bruin, M Tribe met and worked through timelines and responsibilities.Both the Grand Master and the Divisional Grand Master congratulated the Master on the work and results of our Strategic Plan.

The role of officers is still a work in progress. The first cut will be presented at the next Management Meeting.

The meeting gave the Lodge Delegate instructions on how to vote; with the rider that is a compelling argument was made at the meeting he could change his instructions accordingly.

G Hallam raised the question on how we could better use the Plumbline as a promotional tool for the Lodge and Freemasonry in general.

The meeting closed at 8:15 pm

# Michael Tribe

Chairman, Management Committee.

'Ring someone - Bring someone?'

Lodge Whitianga No 443 Installation night Wonderful ceremony, great supper.



#### 'The Fellow-Craft Degree

## As we have Fellow-Craft Freemasons newly into the Lodge perhaps this article is appropriate. It comes from the Large Masonic Bible that adorns our pedestal.

**Fellow-Craft** is the designation of the Second Degree in Blue Lodge Masonry. The term is derived from the union of Operative Masons, representing those who were especially skilled in cutting and fitting stones for structural use, but less skilled and capable than Master Masons. In Speculative Masonry, emphasis is laid on the significance of the term, *Fellow.* In its etymological meaning the word signifies *bound in mutual trust.* It also has in its deeper meaning the idea of a *follower, a companion, an associate.* Thou of less skill, of less ability, than a Master, the Fellow in Freemasonry is not a servant, nor a subject, but an *associate, a companion, a brother.* The work in the Degree is, like that of the Apprentice, preparatory for advancement to the higher Degree of Master; but it differs essentially in the character and import of its symbolism.

The Apprentice Degree is devoted to a beginner; the Fellow-Craft to a more advanced searcher for light. In the First Degree the symbols and allegorical ceremonies are directed to the purification of the heart; in this Degree this purification is no less important, but the symbols and ceremonies are directed more chiefly to lessons for the cultivation of the reasoning faculties and the improvement of the intellectual powers.

Among the ancients, all religion was more or less a mystery, and hence religions, and especially the mysteries of religions, were closely associate with philosophy. Among pagans, the multitude of allegories and symbols in their religions became accepted as *realities*, and the worship of celestial luminaries; of imaginary deities with human passions, appetites, and lusts; of idols in the forms of stones, animals, and reptiles, was the natural result. Hence the emphasis placed upon philosophy, upon intellectual enlightenment, upon advancement in reasoning faculties in order that these tendencies to idolatry might be counteracted. There was innate in the hearts of humanity deep spiritual longings, lofty aspirations after a Living Deity, and a desire for logic in religion. This religion joined with Philosophy in the use of symbols to illustrate what could not be explained, to excite an appropriate feeling even where the idea could not be made plain in word, to make the image a subordinate conveyance to right conceptions of moral and spiritual truth. Knowledge was conveyed by symbols, rites and ceremonies were employed to make attractive to the eye truth which was imperfectly comprehended merely through the word.

Masonry, successor of the Mysteries of antiquity, follows these ancient methods of instruction. This becomes more evident in the Ritual, Rites, and Ceremonies of the Fellow-Craft Degree. Instruction is given by symbols, similar to the philosophy of the ancient mystics, and there is marked out for the Fellow-Craft a path of study, of meditation, of investigation, of intellectual progress - all of which means progress in the search of truth. The fundamentals of Masonry which claim for man the three-fold heritage of *Liberty, Equality* and *Fraternity* are symbolised and expounded in the Fellow-Craft degree. In these respects Masonry approaches nearer and nearer to the basic teachings of Christianity.

The vows and obligations of the Fellow-Craft Degree are, of course, more advanced and extensive than those of the Entered Apprentice Degree. The pledge to secrecy with reference to the internal workings of the Institution is broadened and strongly re-enforced. Regulations respecting Secret Words are similar to those of the preceding Degree. The endowments and investitures of the Order given in this Degree are to be guarded with inviolate fidelity, and obedience to the tenets and laws of Masonry are exacted with great emphasis.

Having completed the work of the Fellow-Craft Degree, the Initiate is now prepared for advancement to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, after proving his proficiency in the Degree just completed through examination, and rigid instruction.

"So sayeth the Masonic Bible." Ed.

# Lodge Whitianga

Lodge Whitianga had a particularly well organised Installation Day. Lodge tyled at 3.30pm and there would have been over 80 brethren in the Lodge, the ladies were entertained at the theatre seeing 'Downton Abby.' There were some 18 Masters visitng on the day and the MW Bro Mark Winger enjoyed meeting them all. The District GM. V.W.Bro John Lukaszewicz, carried out the suitable Installation.

We all met at the Town Hall for our evening, where we had a particularly

wonderful presented table of food, called the 'Grazing Table'. Every imaginable item of food to please everyone, so it didn't matter your likes and dislikes, you were catered for.

Suitable speeches were spoken and the regular toasts given. Special entertainment was given by Rt W Bro Graeme Houston who has a lovely soft singing voice and was a pleasure to listen too. Ed

(Photos on previous page, they speak for themselves.)



Lodge Waikato No 475 *To contact us - Lodgewaikato@gmail.com Our web page lodgewaikato.nz Face book Lodge Waikato* 

## Where have all the Masons Gone?

In 1960 Peter, Paul & Mary sung 'Where Have All The Flowers Gone. ' It went something like this ..... Where have all the flowers gone, long time passing? Where have all the flowers gone, long time ago? Where have all the flowers gone? Young girls have picked them everyone. Oh, when will they ever learn? Oh, when will they ever learn?

I heard it again recently on a road trip and it got me thinking. 'Where have all the Masons gone?'

David West's book 'Managing the Future of Freemasonry (available from the Grand Lodge library) makes for interesting reading. It is an easy read and it puts some numbers to what we already knew - A membership peak about 1960 followed by steady decline at a rate similar to that for Kiwanas, Jaycees, Lions and Rotary. This book explores the social fabric of society suggesting some reasons for the decline in membership before outlining some means of halting the membership. I'm pleased that I read David's book and suggest that 'we', the current members need, to acknowledge the declining membership. The next step is to take <u>any steps</u> to slow the decline that are within the tenets of the craft.

There a couple of very simple ideas. Nothing radical or innovative - just simple things to try -

1. **Vetting** prospective members. Do not be in too much of a hurry as not all enquiries are from suitable people. There are those who see the craft as a means of financial gain, those only interested in things exotic, those seeking companionship/ counselling and maybe even from a few nutters too. Meet them for a second time before deciding yes/no and asking them to make a commitment. Get to know the potential candidates before starting. 'More haste less speed' comes to mind. There is no point investing time/energy & resources as part of a 'degree-factory' that yields no net gain of members.

2. **Mentors.** All new (and existing) members need to have a mentor/buddy. someone that they can relate to. The mentor is the social contact, person that they feel comfortable with and the person who has the correct/appropriate response for their questions. Not every person can immediately relate to a sage-like fossil. Not every Past Master has the skills and abilities required to be a good mentor - some PMs make wonderful mentors by reason of their charisma and knowledge. Others do not, and they should <u>not</u> be considered for this role. Every member is better off with a friendly sounding board & source of advice.

3. **Some** new members have expressed among the reasons why they wish to join the craft is a desire to benefit the community - a noble worthy motive that has good fit with the tenets of the craft. I have heard from several newer members that they have been disappointed that that they have not had an opportunity to participate in working-bee type projects.

Could the lodge be short-changing some new members? Is the lodge actively looking for these opportunities to help someone in the community? Can we get these newer members involved in some type of Masonic activity while enjoying informal social bonding?

4. **Ritual.** To keep the newer members interested and stimulated, they need to be occupied. Some may wish to participate in working-bee activities. Some may be willing to deliver a small charge or a portion of larger one. Why not provide this option for them? It is impossible to remain invigorated and challenged by sitting on the sidelines not participating at all.

'Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results' - - *Einstein* 

Doing nothing will not change the declining membership. No one has all the good ideas but not trying is terminal for the craft. Let's see what we can do together about it. - *the worst that can happen is no improvement in member numbers, we might slow the decline and even have some fun along the way too.* 

## 'The Working Tools of an E-Mason.'

I now present to you the Working Tools of an E-Mason.

They are the 'Mouse', the 'Keyboard' and the 'Modem'.

The Mouse is to move within the desktop, the Keyboard to input the data and the Modem is to publish in cyber space.

But as we are not online as computer nerds, rather as Free and Accepted E-Masons, we use these tools to obtain more Masonic Light and to show us the true meaning and value as E-Masons.

#### And thus we apply them —

The Mouse teaches us to keep within bounds of the screen, a square where we all meet on the level.

The Keyboard is to show us that communicating will lead us to a better understanding of each other and the rest of mankind.

And the Modem is to teach us that even when we are alone, or in the most remote part of the globe, we may meet and gain moral sustenance and support from each other and thus gain more light, from the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity.

So Mote it Be Anon.

# Freemasonry in the 21st Century Bro Jarod Chapman.

As machines replace humans more and more in an effort to create more efficiency and profits for shareholders, humankind must adapt. We must evolve. The world is not so round anymore. We cannot sit idly by, homogenizing ourselves into tribes of singleminded thought. Technology has made for us a global community, where with our differences and diversity could cause strife, but should not. We should embrace these differences as oddities, peculiarities, and idiosyncrasies, as we recognize and focus more on our similarities, finding harmony among humanity. Our survival depends on our ability to spread love, truth, and charity from one end of the world to the next.

Freemasons are at the forefront of such an endeavor. We are the messengers and practitioners of peace and liberty. Our teachings provide for us the necessary tools to lead others toward a brighter tomorrow, not in the world beyond, but in the here and now. As we do good works in the here and now, helping humanity survive and leaving the world a better place than we found it, we will find a brighter tomorrow in both this world and the next. We must embody the principles we are taught and inculcate those to all of humanity, as they will see by our example the good work we do.

The greatest of these works are charity and relief, but within that we find tolerance and understanding. It is incumbent upon us to spread charitable relief, and we can do so only by accepting those who differ in belief, thought, and appearance from ourselves. We must treat them with respect and all the humanity that we expect to receive in return, but we must never expect that it shall be returned; and if it is not, we should never do anything to retaliate for any offense we may feel. We must recognize that we are taught those principles to make us better than we were and acknowledge that not everyone has been taught as such.

Idealists in thought, heart, and work, we must evolve and adapt. We must move beyond our bygone traditions of yesteryear that make us look like the dilapidated rubble of an ancient wonder and be willing to accept the truth that Freemasonry is a progressive science. Not just progressive in the nature of the learning from the profane to the enriched, but from the constant forward momentum we use to propel us into a future where we are no seen as obsolete; a future where the moral principles inculcated in our teachings are seen as the constitution by which all humans should live by, whether or not they believe in a higher power.

Over the next century, we need to evolve in thought, heart, and work if we are to survive and lead the way. It is beholden to us to keep the great torches lit, the temples secured, and the masses cared for. How can we do this when we are not the global community we should be?As technology increasingly allows us to communicate with one another, traveling by means of waves and electricity, we must spread light beacons our message of love, truth, and charity across the world.

Yet, many of us sit behind the anonymity of the computer screens, judging belittling, and derogating others for their differences in thought, belief, or appearance. For those brethren, sadly Freemasonry is not their primary worldview.

While Freemasonry should never be primary in ones life above God, Family, Country, and Neighbors, the principles and tenets of Freemasonry are expected to provide focus to ones worldview. They are the means to clarity in thought, heart, and work, as they push out the clouds of bigotry, selfish disinterest, and excessive ego. As such, Freemasonry should inform ones worldview above and beyond all other teachings, for with such clarity, the truth becomes apparent. We are all the children of the Grand

Architect of the Universe, and our divine parent who embodies all the divine principles of good, including love, truth, and relief, would never want to see suffering among those children or fighting among those siblings.

When we see our brethren willing to reject a potential brother based not on his moral character, but his difference in belief, thought, or appearance, we must stand up for such injustice. If we are to survive this next century, we must seek to liberate all humans and inculcate our teachings. To be sure, not everyone should be a Freemason, but we should not be so delimiting in our nature or keep our West Gate so secured that good becomes just as restricted as bad, because that which is deemed bad are superficial qualities, idio-syncrasies, and banalities some brother sees through his clouded view. We must guard the gate against those who would corrupt our ancient institution by means of bigotry, selfish disinterest, and excessive ego for they are true indicators of moral degradation.

As we evolve, internalizing our teachings, we should and will eventually realize, as many brothers now do, that the inclusive, universal nature of Freemasonry cannot be so, if we continue to allow inflexible distinctions to exist between practitioners of Masonic principles based on so-called traditions. Within the common fold, we must accept all those practicing Freemasonry in their Regularity.

We must acknowledge the existence and accept the work of Women Freemasons, recognizing them as Female-Craft Freemasonry and accepting our place as Male-Craft Freemasonry. Thus, these two groups would exist as separate entities, recognized by one another as Regular, but limited to out-of-lodge interactions alone, as Male-Craft Freemasonry should only raise Males and Female-Craft Freemasonry should only raise Females. In this global healing of Freemasonry, we must also acknowledge those belonging to Co-Masonry. We should allow them to become an appendant body of the Craft lodges, whereby they would not initiate, pass, or raise any members into their degrees, but accept Master Masons only, similarly to Scottish Rite, York Rite, and the Shrine. Co-Masonry would be haut-grade degrees only where Male-Craft and Female-Craft Master Masons would work together.

The continued healing of these groups would provide a broader family for the future of Freemasonry, one that truly espouses and exemplifies its principles and tenets. We truly would be builders and artificers, fashioning the future in the model that we have been shown. Although we will evolve to survive and this version of Freemasonry may be seen at odds with our traditional structure, it is only so, because the tradition is taken as literal and not subject to symbolic interpretation. When one elucidates symbolically the structure, we find the truth. Tradition clings to those elements like a fog, and we must illuminate them to get through it. It will take the next century to evolve into the structure Freemasonry needs to be, but we can do it. We are the light we seek; we just need to find it within us.

# THE GREAT SECRET OF FREEMASONRY

Recently I called at the home of a friend and found his wife reading a Masonic Paper. Since she and her people had long been a bitter anti-Masonic family, I asked her the reason for her change in reading material. She replied she had discovered the grand secret of Masonry; and related to me *(the original writer)* as follows:

"Soon after you were here last, I learned to my mortification, my husband had become a Mason. I felt it was because of you and I need not say how I felt toward either of you. I at once decided that my domestic happiness had come to an end. Some time later a circumstance occurred that for the first time gave me reason to doubt his integrity. Late on one of the coldest nights last winter my husband came in and asked, "Margaret, can you do without your blanket shawl?" I answered yes and he asked me to get it, also a bed comforter. I handed them to him and he left the house to join a friend who was waiting for him with a very large basket. My husband returned shortly with no explanation, either then or later for his actions. I decided to watch for my shawl, for if I once caught sight of it I could unravel this whole mystery. Soon afterward a female whisked past me on the street wearing my shawl.

" The good for nothing huzzy," I thought; and excitedly started in pursuit. I followed closely from street to street and into the fourth story of a bindery. As she sat down to work I immediately set about locating her residence to get a clue to my husband 's perfidy. On arriving at her home I saw that I was not mistaken for I found my comforter there.

"The who secret flashed on my mind at once, as clearly as if it had been written with a sunbeam from heaven. There I found a widowed mother in the last stages of consumption, and three children dependent upon the scanty pittance earned by the elder sister, whom I had followed. I learned from the dying woman a lesson, that in all my philosophy I had never dreamed of-such a tale of sorrow as I had never before listened to-and when she had related the deed of charity that had been the cause of all my unhappiness, I felt there was not room in my bosom to appreciate the disinterested benevolence of my husband. She said, "I do not know how we should have lived, but for the kindness of two persons who came here late one night, and left a basket filled with provisions, some bedclothes, a shawl and five dollars. They just opened the door and set in the basket, saying, "Accept this and ask no questions"; and left before I had time to inquire their names. I do not know who they were, and I have some doubts from where these things came. But I never forget in earnest prayers to Him, Who opened His hand and filleth the poor with bread, to ask, if these were men, He will keep them and theirs from the sorrows and afflictions with which I am visited. I left the house a better woman than when I entered it."

" B ut the grand secret of Masonry, " said I, "I thought you were to tell me what it is." She replied, "It is this—to do good and not tell of it."

"To Steer the bark of this life over the seas of passion, without quitting the helm of rectitude, is the highest perfection to which human nature can attain, and as the builder raises his column by the level and perpendicular so ought every Freemason conduct himself toward this world."

#### What Makes A Man A Mason?

by George M. Free

What makes a man a Mason, O brother of mine? It isn 't the due guard, nor is it the sign,It isn 't the jewel which hangs on your breast It isn 't the apron in which you are dressed

It isn 't the step, nor the token, nor the grip, Nor lectures that fluently flow from the lip, Nor yet the possession of that mystic word On five points of fellowship duly conferred.

Though these are essential, desirable, fine, They don 't make a Mason, O brother of mine. That you to your sworn obligation are true 'Tis that, brother mine, makes a Mason of you.

Secure in your heart you must safeguard and trust, With lodge and with brother be honest and just, Assist the deserving who cry in their need, Be chaste in your thought, in your word and your deed.

Support he who falters, with hope banish fear, And whisper advice in an erring one 's ear. Then will the Great Lights on your path brightly shine, And you 'II be a Mason, O brother of mine.

Your use of life 's hours by the gauge you must try, The gavel of vices with courage apply; Your walk must be upright, as shown by the plumb, On the level, to bourn whence no travelers come,

The Book of your faith be the rule and the guide, The compass your passions shut safely inside; The stone which the Architect placed in your care Must pass the strict test of His unerring square.

> And then you will meet with approval divine, And you 'II be a Mason, O brother of mine.



