

Lodge Waikato 475

JULY 2023



Waikato - our place

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NOTICE PAPER



MASTER

WBro. Darryl Gray GS

3 Wymer Terrace, Chartwell, Hamilton.

Ph 027 478 2574

SENIOR WARDEN

WBro. Alan Harrop

18 Cherrywood St.

Pukete, Hamilton

Ph 027 499 5733

JUNIOR WARDEN

Bro. Robin Dunmall

21 Keswick Crescent

Huntington, Hamilton.

Ph 027 479 1750

TREASURER

V WBro. Don Seath P.DGM

14 Carnachan Street

Norfolk Downs, Cambridge.

Ph 027 497 5165

SECRETARY

RW Bro. Gary Salmon P.DivGM

114 Briarwood Drive,

Flagstaff, Hamilton.

Ph 027 493 8709

Dear Brother,

You are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Monthly Meeting of Lodge Waikato, to be held in the Hamilton East Masonic Centre, 285 Grey St., Hamilton East, on Thursday 20th July 2023 at 7:30pm

Ceremony: - Lodge Installation Ceremony - WBro Dennis Mead

1. Confirmation of Minute
2. Accounts payable
3. Treasurer's report
4. Correspondence
5. Almoners Report
6. **Ballots**
7. General Business
8. **Notice of Motion**

Rw Bro. Gary Salmon - Hon Secretary

Officers of the Lodge

I.P.M.- WBro. Andre Schenk **GS**

Sen. Deacon - Bro. Mark Bunting

Chaplain - WBro. Dennis Aplin **PGBB**

Organist - Bro. Norm Weir **OSM**

Dep.Master - WBro. Dennis Aplin **PGBB**

Jnr. Deacon - Bro Jed Guinto

Almoner - WBro. Wally Lee **PGS**

Ass Secretary - V.WBro John Evered

Lodge contact address -

Lodge Secretary, - e-mail - lodge.waikato@gmail.com

Lodge Waikato 475 - PO Box 9502, Waikato Mail centre, Hamilton 3240

Lodge Rooms address, 285 Grey St. Hamilton East.

LODGE WAIKATO 475



To be Initiated -

To be Passed to the Second Degree - Bro Quintin Smith,
Bro Patrick Salmon and Bro Sanjay Raj.

To be Raised to the Third Degree - Bro Benjamin Ansel

Please contact the **Lodge Almoner**, - WBro. Wally Lee, in all cases of difficulty
and where any help is needed. - **ph 07 824 4862. e-mail - wfnlee@gmail.com**

Please contact the **Secretary** to update any items. RW Bro. Gary Salmon,
027 493 8709 - e-mail - lodge.waikato@gmail.com

Chairman of Management Committee - WBro. Andre Schenk GS
Ph 027 578 4060 - e-mail - andreschenk@xtra.co.nz

Editor of the Plumline - WBro. Graham Hallam. RH.
Ph 027 855 5190. e-mail - mallah@xtra.co.nz

Lodge Waikato Monthly Diary - July 2023

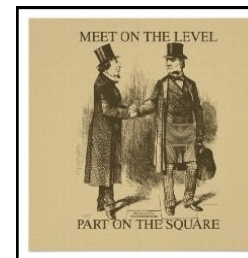
Thursday, 6th July at 7:00pm - Management meeting .

Thursday, 13th July at 7:00pm - Lodge Practice meeting.

Thursday, 20th July at 7:30pm - Lodge Installation meeting.

Lodge Waikato Brethren with Masonic Birthdays in July.

Gary Salmon - 12th July 1978 (45ys)
Robin Dunmall - 14th July 1983 (40yrs)
Fernando Ribeiro - 18th July 2019 (3yrs)



Special Thanks —

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

James R. Hill. - 07 8555541

Greetings Brethren,

Greetings in this my last report as your Master.

By now you will all be aware of the recent passing of VW Bro Paul Sutcliffe Past District Grand Master. Paul was heavily involved with many orders in the Waikato, and had made a very big contribution to Freemasonry and will be sorely missed, Paul during my 31 years has been a shining example as not only a freemason, but as a true gentleman, we will all miss him dearly.



As mentioned this is my last month and of course typically we had to make a few adjustments to the month, we will have performed two ceremonies by the end of it. We enjoyed performing Bro Ben Ansel's second Degree, and the upcoming first degree of Sanjay Raj.

With the 20th of July looming we look forward to our Master elects Instillation, and continue to support W Bro Dennis Mead for the ensuing year. As a sign off I would like to thank each and everyone of our members for the Support and encouragement during my year, we have certainly been busy, and I ask that you support your new Master with the same enthusiasm.

Your Master W Bro Darryl Gray.

VW Bro Paul Crawford Sutcliffe Past District Grand Master

It is with great sadness that we said farewell to Paul recently, as he died at the Waikato Hospital on Tuesday, 20th June at the age of 89yrs. His Masonic career spanned 55yrs. Being Initiated into Lodge Hillcrest 363, in Hamilton, on 18th April 1968, passed to Fellowcraft on 20th June 1968, and raised to be Master Mason on 20th February 1969. Paul was Master of the Lodge in 1977, after-which he was suitably promoted to Grand Lodge rank in 1998, to Grand Director of Ceremonies in 2004 and was District Grand Master during the years from 2008. Paul was also a well respected member of 'Side degree' Lodges as well.

Paul enjoyed his Freemasonry, was highly respected, very good ritualist, and was Almoner for many years where he enjoyed visiting brethren and families. Not perhaps known to our many newer brethren, but Paul involved himself in all facets of Freemasonry and was a good example to all.

We extend our sincere condolences to his wife Vanessa and family.

Ed.

Lodge Waikato No 475

Monthly planner

Proposal for Lodge Work for 2023

The following is a proposed schedule for ceremonies for the coming months.

Month	Date	Proposed ceremony	Brother/Brethren
April	20	Harmony Night - Bring a friend	Guest speaker
May	18	Second degree working	Bro Ben Ansel
June	29	First degree working	Mr Sanjay Raj
July	20	Installation	W Bro Dennis Mead

Specsavers

'Fred Hollows Foundation'

I recently made contact with Specsavers people who assured me they were still working with the Foundation with the collection of Spectacles for sending to the Islands.

The Lodge has saved quite a collection of glasses, as during the Covid year there was no communication to the Islands and so glasses were not sent.

So, I'm asking if any of you have glasses (spectacles) in your draw, glovebox or just tucked away somewhere, and they are not required by you or family members, would you consider giving them to this Foundation.? Even ask friends and neighbours.

If so, bring them to the Lodge rooms, and I will get them to Specsavers.

I will give this invitation to you until July Installation meeting for you to do-so.

Thanks - Ed.

"Thanks Darryl" - WM.

On behalf of all Lodge members, I extend a very sincere 'thank-you' for the very enjoyable year you have held Office as Master.

We have all enjoyed your very positive nature, your enthusiasm, your regular visiting, and enjoyed the fruits of your endeavour.

Your whole demeanor has raised the Lodge profile greatly.

We wish you well in your future in Grand Lodge, and will follow your progress with much purpose.

"Our very best wishes."

Ed.

Nomination of Officers
Lodge Waikato 475 - 2023 / 2024
Installation Ceremony - 20th July 2023

Master elect - WBro Alexander Dennis Mead
Immediate Past Master - WBro Darryl Gray
Deputy Master - VW Bro John Evered
Senior warden - WBro Steven Weller
Junior Warden - Bro Mark Bunting
Treasurer - VW Bro Donald Seath
Secretary - RW Bro Gary Salmon
Director of Ceremony - WBro Lawrence (Kirk) Spragg
Ass. Director of Ceremony - WBro Michael Tribe
Almoner - WBro Wallace Lee
Ass. Almoner - WBro Graham Hallam
Chaplain - WBro Robert (Bob) Ancell
Organist - Bro Norman Weir
Senior Deacon - Bro Mark Ashburner
Junior Deacon - Bro Mark Namuag
Inner Guard - Bro Geoff Taylor
Tyler - WBro Andreas Schenk
Senior Steward - Bro Jonathan Gensik
Junior Stewards - Bro Mark Black & Bro Benjamin Ansell

These nominations have been put to the Lodge for approval,
at the regular meeting on Thursday, June 15th.

RW Bro. Gary Salmon
Hon. Secretary



Silvio Berlusconi
1936 - 2023

Silvio Berlusconi, who has died recently was aged 86yrs.
He was for many years Italy's richest man, and became
its Prime Minister and Foreign Minister; a brilliant
populist and salesman.

Known as "Il Cavaliere" (the Cavalier).

Italy's former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi was
a member of a Masonic Lodge called Propaganda
Due P2, which was disbanded in 1981.

Ed.

TRUSTEES

At a recent Lodge meeting, VW Bro Don Seath gave a short summary of the happenings of the several “Trusts” that the Grand Lodge of NZ. administer. Don himself, has now been appointed a Trustee and has furnished this summary for our attention.

TRUSTEES

Lodge and Grand Lodge Trustees are appointed to have overall responsibility for the prudent management of all Assets. They don't necessarily have to manage those assets themselves, but they have a legal responsibility to make sure that they are properly managed. For **Lodge Trustees** that means buildings, cash, investments, furniture, and anything else the Lodge may own.

Grand Lodge Trustees have the same responsibility for all assets which are held in the name of The Grand Lodge of NZ. This includes any Charitable Trusts which have named Freemasons NZ in their Trust Deed as Trustees.

The Freemasons Charity is the best-known Charitable Trust within our fraternity as it covers all NZ Constituted Lodges. Most Lodges donate cash, usually collected at the end of an Installation ceremony, to this fund. Applications for Grants from this fund for charitable purposes are made by Lodges through the District Charity Officers.

The FM Charity usually matches the Lodge contribution dollar for dollar.

This fund is overseen by the Grand Lodge Trustees who appoint an investment manager. Earnings from the fund are allocated to various projects such as University Bursaries, Special Olympics, District projects and Lodge projects. Some earnings are retained in the Charity Fund to protect it for future generations.

The Potter Masonic Trust is another Trust overseen by Grand Lodge Trustees, also with an Investment Manager. This Trust is specifically to assist young people in the Northern Division, that is, north of Taupo. The Trust was established many years ago by the Potter Family and has been well managed by GL Trustees ever since.

The Northern Masonic Trust Board has a large Trust known as the **Freemasons Foundation**. This Trust Fund is also for the Northern Division and has been established from the sale of 2 Masonic Retirement Homes, the J A Redwood Home in Rotorua and the Mt Roskill Masonic Home.

The total value and income distribution from these 3 Trusts are reported annually to all Freemasons. Further information for these and other Masonic Trusts is available on the Freemasons NZ website.

In General, it is the policy of all these Trusts to donate the income from the investments and preserve the capital for future generations.

VWBro. Don Seath
Trustee

A DAY AT THE WORK SITE, WITH HIRAM ABIF

Come; take a trip with me....to a place you've been before in your Masonic travels. If you will, picture in your mind a massive construction site....it will be finished soon...lots of beautiful columns, and marble work...gorgeous woodwork for the interior rooms...a well-appointed 'holy of holies'....a very nice temple indeed! This kind of work site requires lots of supplies, and lots of workmen to put it all together; 153,300 of them to be exact. This has been an active work site for nearly 7 years now, and for the most part the work has gone well, but sometimes the sheer workload is a real headache...and dealing with the 'union workers' isn't easy, either! They're getting close to the end of the project, and this is a particularly busy morning. The site manager is sitting at a large table covered with architect's plans and drawings. He is looking closely at the drawings, and wondering if it will all come together in time. He's on a deadline, and he's inundated with construction site problems. From somewhere on his desk, buried under mounds of paper, a telephone rings. He tries to ignore it, frowns, and grumbles a bit. The phone rings again. Exasperated, he finally picks up the receiver and finds a friend at the other end of the line.....let's listen in on the conversation.

Hello! Solomon's Temple, Architect's office....No, no...this is not his Majesty! This is Hiram Abif speaking! The King is up in the hills, where it's nice and cool. In fact, I haven't seen him on site during the heat of the day lately at all....Who's calling? Adoniram! Great to hear from you! Where are you? What are you up to, my brother? Ah, working the forests in Lebanon! You lucky son of a camel! And in charge of the sawmill operation too! That's great! No wonder we're getting all the wood products built to specification! Wish I could say the same about the stuff coming from the quarry. No labour problems, I hope. How many thousand, you say? Wow...that many? I heard there's a policy of full employment in Lebanon, but that's just ridiculous! What are you doing with them all? Oh...one working... and ten looking on? Well, that system isn't unique, you know...and I bet I will catch on at other work sites.

We're moving along all right, I suppose, but I am getting a lot of flak over the rationing. I said from the start that giving these young fellows a weekly allowance of corn, wine and oil would never work. We even gave them little hand mills for the corn, and field ovens to bake it in—but they just wouldn't use them. As soon as they get their ration each week, they trade the corn for more wine, with predicable results. Boy, I'll tell you...we've had some really funny looking ashlar up here! But things are getting better. Now, we do our own baking and issue the rations already cooked-- but there is still a lot of fiddling going on. I tell ya, I'm worried, really worried. We have this deadline for the temple opening, but it'll be a miracle if everything's ready in time for the dedication. The trouble YOU KNOW WHO can't make up his mind about details. He's constantly hanging the plans. Just when I thought we had everything under control, he has this brilliant idea about adding Memorial Pillars. Can you believe it???...MEMORIAL PILLARS! You know the kind with Fire, and Clouds, and everything! Well, it was too late to incorporate them into the actual building, so they'll have to be placed outside on the porch, or possibly near the main entrance...but he can't make up his mind. And listen to this....his idea is to make them out of METAL... 'Cast 'em in brass', he says... as if stone wasn't good enough.

The plan says 35 cubits each, but then he wants them topped off with globes, and surrounded by lily work and network, and some kind of fruit...probably pomegranates...they're everywhere, ya know.....these things will be 40 cubits high when we're done! There's only one place I know of to cast something that big, and that's down there between Succoth and Zeredatha; you know, in the clay grounds on the bottom land of the Jordan. Getting them back here to the work site will be a nightmare, uphill all the way; and just one jolt on the wagons, and the things could crack in two.

No, I don't have a clue who he thinks he's going to get to supervise the casting....he hasn't announced that yet. Oh, man, don't even go there...I don't want that job on top of all I have to do here! I forgot to mention that he wants the pillars to be hollow, with only a hand's breadth of material. Now I've got to rework the drawings.....and...of all things, he wants to put archives in them...Yes, archives; everything written on scrolls of vellum and parchment. He says he wants all of the records of the Craft to be stored inside....can you imagine keeping files in there? Why???...don't know...'safe repository' he says...something about insurance against fire and flood damage.

Of course, once all those clerks and secretaries get in there and start messing about, they'll be in there all day! It will take forever to load all those documents! Oh, and I've tried getting the names for the twin pillars out of him, so we could include them in the casting, but he'll only give us the name of one. That's to be named after his great, great, grandfather. But he's being very coy about the other one.

We'll probably end up honouring one of the officials who'll take part in the dedication ceremony. You know how he is. It's always the fellow who can do a good piece of ritual that gets the honour, not the one who's been doing all the behind the- scenes work. Gosh, I hate politics! With all the other stuff going on, my biggest headache is the overseers...some of 'em can't even Spell "blueprint", let alone read one.

You know...every morning at 6, when I get into the office, there's a line of overseers, asking me to explain details that should be obvious to anyone who is competent. I spend half my time doing work that should be done by the overseers. I would love to take a day off and hide somewhere...If they couldn't find me, I'm convinced the whole project would be plunged into utter confusion...no designs on the tracing board, no one to tell the workers what to do next! What a hoot!! And on top of that the overseers are not capable of carrying out the trade testing. That means that a lot of workmen who should be getting a higher pay rate pay aren't receiving any differential—and that's causing bad feelings within the ranks. When the work ends here, and they move on to other jobs, they won't have any evidence of their qualifications or grade. I haven't even told the boss about this yet, but I had three workmen from the Temple barge into my office several days ago, quite upset about the delay in getting certified for their grade....and this is on the square now...the three were brothers, I think they're from Tyre, and I'll admit, they frightened me a little. They were demanding to be certified and given the 'word' so they could go work someplace else and be able to take care of their families. They weren't happy when they left here...in fact they said they'd be back, so I promised them faithfully that I would carry out their test today, after the high twelve break. So, I guess we'll just have to see about that! Hey, I don't want to appear rude, my brother, but it's almost time for the noon whistle and I like to inspect the work during the lunch break.

Phase one is complete now, you know, and it's cool, peaceful, and quiet in there, great view over the valley from the gateways. Not a soul in sight and it gives me a chance to collect my thoughts. Probably the only moment of quiet I'll have all day!

After a few minutes there, I'll have a bit of bread and cheese, and maybe a pomegranate or some grapes, and then I'm all set for the afternoon. Oh, yeah, I'm okay! It's just the constant pressure.

It gets to me! I feel I don't have much time. But it'll soon be over with! Then maybe I'll take a vacation. I heard that they have some nice Cruises out of Joppa that are pretty cheap.....some going as far as Ethiopia, you know...now there's a real destination for you! Well, it's been nice talking to you Adoniram! We must get together when you're in town... call me next week.

Take care now! Goodbye, my brother!

Article supplied by WBro Murray Loft

The Master of a Lodge

Bernard E. Jones writes: "The custom in every lodge of electing by ballot a new Master each year is of time-immemorial, although there is evidence to show that in many of the early eighteenth-century lodges Masters were elected to serve six instead of twelve months. The Master is elected from those of the members of the lodge who have served the office of Master or Warden, or who, in very exceptional cases, have been rendered eligible by dispensation. The Old MS. Charges appear to indicate that the Master, many centuries ago, was simply an experienced craftsman presiding over the lodge, and, so far as we can see, the idea of his ruling his lodge by virtue of his possession of peculiar secrets was not within the comprehension of our ancient brethren; but in this matter there is room for many different opinions.

The same appears to apply to the old Scottish operative lodges. To-day, in the speculative lodges throughout the world, a Master is one who has been elected to the office by his Brethren, and who has passed through a special ceremony of Installation, in the course of which secrets peculiar to the Master's chair have been communicated to him; but essentially the Master must always be a Brother who is well qualified by years of service as member and officer of the lodge to govern his Brethren in wise understanding.

"The rule that a Master should first have served as a Warden is also an old one. It was not always observed in the early speculative lodges, but it goes right back into the history of the craft guilds from which masonry draws its system of government by Masters and Wardens. "

Every Master in the old days, as in the new, solemnly pledged himself to observe the ancient usages and customs, and strictly to enforce them within his lodge.

It is he who is responsible for the due observance of the masonic laws by the lodge over which he presides.

VW.Bro Gary Kirkin. PGLec.

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

The King and the Craft

“The world today requires spiritual and moral regeneration. I have no doubt, after many years as a member of our Order, that Freemasonry can play a part in this vital need”.

The above was written by HM King George VI on 5 November 1951 in a letter to MW Bro Rt Hon the Earl of Scarbrough. His Majesty had promised to install Lord Scarbrough as Grand Master on 6 November, but was prevented from doing so by what proved to be his final illness. It echoes similar statements he had made on a number of occasions when he attended Grand Lodge as both King and a Past Grand Master. He was in no doubt that Freemasonry was a force for good and had a vital part to play in the life of his country and empire.

Born in 1895 as the second son of King George V and Queen Mary (then Duke and Duchess of York), he seemed destined for a supporting role in Royal and national life.

Like many previous younger sons he looked towards a service life and joined the Royal Navy. When the First World War broke out, unlike his older brother the Prince of Wales, he was allowed to go on active service and saw action at the Battle of Jutland.

Invalided out because of a duodenal ulcer, once that was operated on he determined to get back into uniform and transferred to the Naval Air Service, which was soon to be combined with the Royal Flying Corps to form the Royal Air Force. Although he qualified as a pilot, the King would not allow him to go on raids but he continued on active service until the end of the War.

Although King George V had not been a Freemason, Prince Albert (as he was then styled) knew of the long connection between the Royal House and Freemasonry.

His great-uncle, HRH The Duke of Connaught, was Grand Master 1901-1939, his Grandfather, King Edward VII, had been Grand Master 1874-1901 and in 1919 his brother, the Prince of Wales, was initiated in the Household Brigade Lodge No. 2614.

As a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, Prince Albert sought admission in the Navy Lodge No. 2612, of which his Grandfather had been the founding Master. He was initiated by the Pro Grand Master, Lord Ampthill, in the absence of the Grand Master on 2 December 1919. In response to the toast to the initiate the Prince said:

“I have always wished to become a Freemason, but owing to the war I have had no opportunity before this of joining the Craft. All my life I have heard about Freemasonry, and though there has always been a certain mystery attached to it, I have learned that Freemasons in this country have been a great help to the poor and friendless and have been notable for their efforts on behalf of children. One can see by the great Masonic Institutions and schools how successful their work has been in this cause, and I like to think that in the future I shall be associated in their great work”.

The event was widely reported in the press, as were his subsequent Masonic activities.

He became Master of Navy Lodge in 1921 and, following a precedent set by his ancestor King George IV, was to be its permanent Master until he ascended the throne.

A shy man with a pronounced stammer, it was remarked by those present that his stammer rarely surfaced when he was involved in ritual. In a personal letter to the secretary of the Navy Lodge, on 2 November 1920, he wrote:

“Greig [his Equerry] told me you were writing to me about the meeting on December 3rd. I hope you will come to see us and put us through our paces again. .

'Slipshod'

Within the workings of our ritual the commonplace word 'slipshod' is understood by everyone.

The dictionary definition is interesting and worth reproducing -

"may imply an acceptance of the shabby, worn out, and imperfect. Something unsound inexact that had the conscientious craftsman's contempt."

If that is the case - then the term and practice is singularly inappropriate.

Actually, the terminology is at fault here. In many constitutions the term used is 'the rite of discalceation' from the Latin discalceatus, meaning "unshod" or "barefooted."

A candidate for Initiation into a Freemasons Lodge often finds odd those requirements that he must fulfill in order to do as all good brethren have before him. Indeed, that preparation may often remain a puzzle to him.

Not always does the new-made brother, bewildered by the new world into which he is thrust, investigate further to learn a deeper meaning to the ceremony through which he has just passed. In our ritual we quote from the 3rd chapter of Exodus, "put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place wheron thou standest is Holy Ground."

In some workings of English Rituals the ritual, they quote from the Book of Ruth, Chapter IV, verses 7 & 8:

"Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbor, and this was a testimony in Israel. Therefore, the kinsman said unto Boaz, buy it for thee. So he drew off his shoe."

'Redeeming' here means the taking back or the recovery of land or property pledged as a debt. 'Charging' refers to the transfer of ownership.



The King who authorized the King James Bible

Some fundamentalist Christian groups have been critical of Freemasonry, largely because of things they do not understand. They do not even realize that the man who authorized the popular King James version of the Bible was himself a Mason.

History tells us King James was entered "a Freemason and Fellowcraft of the Lodge of Scoon" on 15 April, 1601.

Lodge etiquette

Visitors -

Brethren are actively encouraged to visit other Lodges, both to learn more Freemasonry by seeing others at work, and to extend the fraternal spirit and personal relationships within the Craft. It is likewise a very hospitable duty of members of the host Lodge to do all they can to enable any visitor to feel very welcome, to enjoy his visit, not to see him sit alone, not to let him feel a stranger, but to make him a very welcome guest. If you are visiting, and have been made very welcome, make certain to bidding the Master farewell and thank him for his attentiveness. Remember also, when visiting, you are looked on as a representative of your Lodge, so your demeanour and deportment will be noticed and your host Lodge and any other visitor will judge your Lodge by what they think and see of you. 'Do it credit.'

Conduct in Refectory (South) -

It can be in the refectory that most breaches, and some serious breaches in etiquette may occur. A major purpose of togetherness in the refectory is to promote acquaintance and good fellowship among all members of the Craft. It should therefore afford an opportunity for everyone present to meet as many others as practicable. The whole aim is to ensure mingling of members with members and members with visitors, in happy comradeship, as like as can be to a great adult family reunion, enjoying the warm and valued friends from outside the immediate family. It is incumbent on all members, more especially the Stewards, to see the visitors are fully accommodated and suitably provided for. When toasts are offered, every speaker has the right to be heard, so it is proper that due silence is observed at this time. It is necessary that proper etiquette should always be noticed when visitors are speaking and more especially when a new initiate is experiencing his first time with all members, that he should experience a very cordial atmosphere and genuineness among all the members. Suitable Lodge protocols should be observed, this should not in anyway diminish the harmony, Friendship and conviviality that is expected to be enjoyed by all.

What has etiquette to do with speeches, someone may ask.? Much: etiquette remember, is doing and saying the right thing, in the right way. It is necessary to add that everything done and said in the refectory should be completely free from any coarseness, vulgarity, suggestiveness or lewdness, and fit for sensitive ears.

Behaviour after leaving Lodge -

Correct behaviour outside the Lodge is a most vital part of our Masonic being. Nothing should be said or done outside the Lodge that might reflect unfavourably on Freemasonry. When wearing Masonic rings, charms or badges outside of Lodge can show your interest and allows comment and scrutiny of your behaviour. So it in your best interests to do credit to the Craft in every manner in which life has to offer you.

Aim -

Lastly, ever keep in mind that the true aim of Freemasonry is "the building of every part of a man into a spiritual house fit for the habitation of God."

- Etiquette is an aid to that end.

Specialist Lodges 'All the fun of the fair'

When the ancient Goose Fair, well over 700 years old, gets underway at Nottingham in October, among the showmen who will be entertaining the thousands of visitors will be members of a newly consecrated Lodge, The Showmen's No. 9826. Showmen have been associated with fairs as far back as at least Roman times, the word 'fair' deriving from the Latin word 'feria' meaning 'holiday'. As fairgrounds became established, many were granted charter status by the sovereign, and a number of these charter fairs exist today with their showmen in attendance. These include King's Lynn, under a charter granted by King John in 1204, which traditionally starts the travelling showmen's season on St Valentine's Day – 14 February. The association with the church still continues to this day, for the opening ceremony at King's Lynn begins with a blessing from the Mayor's Chaplain.

These early fairs were originally for the sale of livestock, but quickly attracted the travelling showmen, and many fairs were associated with Saints' days and the early Christian church.

The granting of a charter by the sovereign was much prized, as it laid down the dates, provided protection against rival fairs and gave the right to collect dues and tolls. In return, there was an obligation to hold the fair on the stated dates. Many autumn fairs did not have a charter and were known as 'Mop' or 'Hiring' fairs, and some still exist. At these fairs, prospective employers reviewed potential employees. Sometimes a second fair – known as a Run-Away Mop – was held for those seeking to change jobs or those who had not found work on the first occasion.

With the showmen travelling hundreds of miles, it has not been easy trying to put a Lodge together for such a mobile group of Masons. The original idea came from secretary Paul Maltby, but it would not have got off the ground but for the enthusiasm of Darren Jones, first Master, and his Uncle Jimmy Wheatley, first Senior Warden. The Lodge, consecrated in February, has 31 founders – all showmen – and many of them run the big rides, so popular with children. It was because they were so scattered that the idea of a Lodge arose. However, the plan has been an instant success, with seven candidates lining up to become Masons as well as five joining members waiting to come on board. The Lodge will hold its meetings at Loughborough in the Province of Leicestershire and Rutland, whose Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Michael H Roalfe, officiated at the consecration meeting.

Summer is the busiest time for showmen, so the Lodge will be meeting five times a year 'out of season' in September, November, December, January and February. Although showmen are spread over the country, there is a central organisation, the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, which is both a trade union and trade association, and was originally formed around 1888-1889 as the United Kingdom Van Dwellers Protection Association (the Guild). There is also a Showmen's Guild Lodge No. 9089 associated with the Guild, which meets at Clevedon in Somerset.

John Jackson reports from MQ Magazine – England



July 2023 (New Zealand)

August 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6 Management meeting and practice. 7pm	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Practice night. 7pm	14 Metariki	15
16	17	18	19	20 Monthly meeting Installation 7pm WBro Dennis Mead	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5



YOU, YOUR FAMILY, Your Community



August 2023 (New Zealand)

August 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3 Management meeting and practice. 7pm	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Practice night. 7pm	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Monthly meeting 7:30pm	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2



Speak - up - Step - up - Show - up

