

# Lodge Waikato 475

MARCH 2023



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‘Gabrielle’

## 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 Place  
Huntington, Hamilton.  
Ph 027 479 1750

### TREASURER

**VW. Bro. 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 16th March 2023 at 7:30pm**

**Ceremony: - Third degree ceremony - Bro Mark Black  
30th March at 7:30pm - Third degree ceremony - Bro Johnathan Gensik**

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Confirmation of Minute | 2. Accounts payable        |
| 3. Treasurer's report     | 4. Correspondence          |
| 5. Almoners Report        | 6. <b>Ballots</b>          |
| 7. General Business       | 8. <b>Notice of Motion</b> |

***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](mailto: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.

**To be Raised to the Third Degree -** Bro Mark Black & Bro Johnathan Gensik.

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  
**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 - February 2023**

**Thursday, 2nd March at 7:00pm - Management meeting .**

**Thursday, 9th March at 7:00pm - Lodge Practice meeting.**

**Wednesday, 15th March at 7:00pm - Special practice night.**

**Thursday, 16th February at 7:30pm - Regular Lodge meeting night. (3rd)**

**Thursday, 30th March at 7:30pm - extra Lodge meeting night (3rd)**

### Lodge Waikato Brethren with Masonic Birthdays in March 2023

John Evered - 28th March 1977 (46yrs)

Eddie Jackson - 8th March 1982 (41yrs)

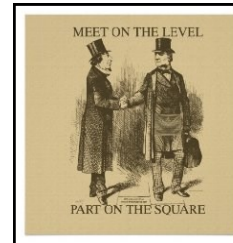
Bill Shaw - 26th March 2001 (22yrs)

James Goodrich - 21st March 2005 (18yrs)

Michael Adam - 6th March 2010 (13yr)

Aaron Peters - 15th March 2018 (5yrs)

Mark Ashburner - 21st March 2019 (4yrs)



**Special Thanks —**

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

*James R. Hill.*

## **Hello Brethren,**

Greeting brethren, I hope you are all fit and well and warm and dry. I want to start off with what a great performance our team performed for the first degree for Bro Ben Ansell. We had several brethren whom performed charges for the first time, and we are all proud of the way they performed. We need to keep reminding each other that the candidate is the most important person on the night and the odd slip of a word, the odd prompt is okay, as long as we focus on doing our personal best.



March is going to be our next big focus with RW Bro Gary Salmon in the chair, and we will continue to have our three rehearsals.

We will be raising Bro Mark Black at our regular meeting, and then Bro Jonathan Gensik two weeks later, the charges are listed in this edition of the Plumline, let's continue to raise the bar and make these brothers experience the every best we can.

The night of the 16th. will be further enhanced with the visiting of Grand Lodge Officers from our own District and also from further afield.

My visiting in march will be limited due to the lack of activity in the region, and the visits I do make will be sent out via email in advance.

Please continue to ask me if there is a visit you want to make, I am always happy to tag along, just ask me.

I hope you are all enjoying our refectory experience, we now have our new chairs and we are going to keep Auld Lang Syne going, it was great to hear it at the February meeting.

Please try and attend in March to both our third degree ceremonies, if you need assistance with transport just call me.

**Kind wishes, Darryl Gray WM.**

### **Brethren who are presenting charges, 3rd degree working, 16th March.**

Ecclesiastes.. WBro Bob Ancell  
Obligation.. WBro Steve Weller  
Exhortation .. RW Bro John Lukaszewicz,  
Traditional history part one.. VW Bro Andrew Alexander  
Charge to the brethren.. VW Bro Don Seath  
Charge after raising.. Bro Mark Bunting  
Secrets.. WBro Darryl Gray  
Investiture.. WBro Kirk Spragg  
Charge after investiture.. Bro Geoff Taylor  
Traditional history part two. VW Bro John Evered  
Extended secrets.. WBro Mike Tribe  
Working tools .. WBro Peter Saunders  
Final charge.. WBro Kirk Spragg

**Lodge Waikato No 475**

**Monthly planner**

**Proposal for Lodge Work for 2023**

The following is a proposed schedule for ceremonies for the coming months.  
This proposed programme is based on the monthly meeting that is normally  
on the third Thursday of each month.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Proposed ceremony</b>	<b>Brother/Brethren</b>
January		No meeting	
February	16	First degree	Mr Ben Ansell
March	16	RW. Bro Gary Salmon (Master) (3rd)	Bro Mark Black
March	30	Third degree	Bro Jonathan Gensik
April	20	Harmony Night	
May	18	TBA	
June	15	TBA	
July	20	Installation	

**Brethren who are presenting charges, 3rd degree working, 30th March.**

Ecclesiastes.. WBro Bob Ancell  
Obligation.. WBro Steve Weller  
Exhortation .. WBro Tony Dixon  
Traditional history part one.. VW Bro Don Seath  
Charge to the brethren.. WBro Darryl Gray  
Charge after raising.. Bro Mark Bunting  
Secrets.. WBro Darryl Gray  
Investiture.. WBro Dennis Mead  
Charge after investiture.. Bro Geoff Taylor  
Traditional history part two. VW Bro John Evered  
Extended secrets.. RW Bro Gary Salmon  
Working tools .. WBro Kirk Spragg  
Final charge.. WBro Dennis Mead

## Masonic Information as found in the Large Masonic Bible.

### Blue Lodge Masonry -

**The Entered Apprentice Degree**, first of the three degrees of the Blue Lodge Masonry, is a preliminary degree, intended to prepare the candidate for the higher and fuller instructions on the succeeding degrees.

The candidate is a voluntary applicant for membership in the Lodge, he comes without an invitation from the Lodge or from any member Order, even though he may have been told by a Mason friend that he would probably become true and tried and trusted material for the Masonic superstructure. Of his own free-will and accord he petitions the Lodge, and seeks permission that he may begin his search for Light and the light of divine Truth.

At the threshold of the Lodge he is required to profess a belief in a supreme being, thus repudiating any tendencies to infidelity, polytheism, or pantheism, and acknowledging his faith in the One True Living God.

Although lacking in valuable historical information, the work of the Degree is replete with instructions on the internal structure of the Order, especially in its lectures.

The religious character of Masonry is impressed upon his mind and heart, not only by his confession of "Belief In God" but by the recitation as assigned passages of Scripture, by the open Bible upon the alter, and by his dedication in prayer and meditation before the alter.

The entire Ritual is a preliminary revelation of the internal structure of the Initiation, and the symbols employed in this Degree are profoundly significant and instructive. The candidate now learns that a *Masonic Lodge* is an assemblage of Freemasons, duly congregated, having the Sacred Writings, Square and Compass, and a Charter, or warrant of constitution, authorizing them to work. It is also explained to him that the room or place in which the meeting is held represents some part of King Solomon's Temple. The Lodge is supported by three great columns, Wisdom, Strength and Beauty which are explained to the candidate, they are represented by the Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden.

In properly comprehending the important lessons of the Degree, the course of his movements around the Lodge Room, the significance of the symbols employed, and the lectures given, including every phase of the Ritual, the Entered Apprentice Mason realizes that he has begun a noble pursuit for Truth. The aspiration of his soul toward the Absolute and Infinite Intelligence is encouraged and strengthened. The faculties of his mind have been directed toward the great ARCHITECT of the universe, his own Creator, Preserver, and Benefactor; through the majestic irradiations of thought, meditation, prayer and sublime comprehensions of instructions given, his soul pierces through the shadows of materialism and earthiness toward the Light for which his search has begun. He is prepared for his onward and upward course in Freemasonry, and when he has proved his proficiency in the work of the Entered Apprentice Degree, he will be ready for the next Degree of Blue Lodge Masonry.

The Apprentice is entrusted with certain secrets of the Order, all of the moral, ethical, and wholesome, and is pledged to "keep council of all things spoken in the Lodge or chamber by any Masons, Fellows, or Free Mason." He is invested with certain "Secrets," which, of course, he must keep inviolate and communicate them only in accordance with Masonic Law.

## Entered Apprentice Apron -

### **“What was the Golden Fleece or The Roman eagle and what is the Garter”?**

#### **The Order of the Golden Fleece**

On January 10th 1430, Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy and the Netherlands, founded the Order in honour of his marriage to Isabel, daughter of King John of Portugal.

It is not definitely known why the Order was named the Golden Fleece, but there are four surmises as to its origin.

- 1) In memory of Jason and his exploits in Greek legends.
- 2) Because the wealth of Flanders came largely from wool.
- 3) That it was so named in memory of Gideon’s request that the Lord would prove His Power by causing the dew of heaven to fall only on a fleece set out in the night, while the surrounding ground remained dewless.
- 4) That it was named in honour of the Duke’s own mistress, because he gloried in her wonderous fleece of beautiful golden hair.

#### **The Order of the Roman Eagle**

The Eagle, as adopted by the Romans upon their banners, signified swiftness and courage as in the Ancient Sacred Writings.

The Romans were not the first to display the Eagle upon their banners, for the Persians, under Cyrus the Younger, had borne the Eagle upon their standards. In modern times, France, Russia, Prussia and the USA have adopted the Eagle as their National Symbol.

#### **The Order of the Garter**

The Order of the Garter dates from about 1344, its origin is not clear. Edward 111 is said by some to have instituted it; others say Richard 1, at the siege of Acre, where he is said to have caused 26 Knights to wear thongs of blue leather around their legs. Another account is, that the Countess of Salisbury happened at a ball to drop her garter and the King picked it up and presented it to her.

The Order is perhaps the best known of any, except the Order of the Knights Templar.

In many respects The Garter and the Order of the Temple resemble each other.

For 600 years Knights of the Garter have been Installed in the Chapel of St. George at Windsor Castle.

Although the United Grand lodge of England had its first meeting on St. John the Evangelist’s Day, 1813, it has held its festivals since then on a day as near as possible to St. George’s Day, which is April 23rd. St George was symbolised by a Knight on horseback transfixing a dragon an allegory of the martyr triumphing over sin. A device of this nature forms the insignia of the Order of The Garter.

English Grand Lodge, in choosing the colours of its clothing, was guided mainly by the colours associated with the Noble Orders of the Garter and the Bath. The Order of the Garter is the oldest and highest Order of Knighthood in the world today.

In comparing all these Orders, The Golden Fleece, The Roman Eagle and the other European Orders of the Eagle, The Star and the Garter, Freemasonry may well claim to be more ancient than any or all of them, for, in some form, well nigh akin to its present form, Masonry has existed for many centuries.

## George Washington President - Freemason

One of the most-loved, most-admired Freemason and President will forever be *George Washington*. George Washington was initiated into the Masonic Lodge in Fredericksburg, Virginia as an Entered Apprentice Freemason on **4th November 1752**. At the time, he was only 20 years old. Ancient records indicate that he paid an entrance fee of two pounds and three shillings to the lodge. On 3rd March 1753, ten days after his 21st birthday, he graduated to the **second degree of Fellowcraft**. A few months later on 4th August, he passed to the third degree of Master Mason. All these events took place in the same lodge.

During his entire lifetime, George Washington was dedicated to the brotherhood. Even on his deathbed, one of the three doctors who were looking after him was a brother from the Alexandria Lodge. Washington passed away on 14th December 1799 at the age of 67. As per his wishes, he was not laid to rest until three days elapsed. His funeral was held on 18th December at Mount Vernon.

The Brothers of Alexandria Lodge performed masonic rites to honor his lifelong membership to the fraternity. **He was also buried in his Masonic Apron.**

The Bible that was used to preside over his funeral is considered a Masonic artifact which is currently owned by Federal Lodge No. 1, Washington, D.C.

In his prime years, George Washington was considered an influential Masonic Figure. Even other leaders acknowledged the fact that he was a prominent symbol to be imitated. In the whole 19th century, as the membership rose in the entire nation, Washington continued to encourage different lodges in the country.

Today, he is viewed as a role model in Freemasonry. As a person is **initiated into the brotherhood** and reflects on how they should lead their lives in the fraternity, they relate themselves to legends like George Washington.

Members view him as an icon. It is a constant reminder of how they are privileged to wear masonic gears and follow in the same footsteps as great predecessors. Records indicate that George Washington was often part of Freemasonry engagements from 1778.

For instance, on 14th June 1779, he was present at the American Union Lodge's ceremony marking the Feast of St. John the Baptist.

He consistently accepted invitations from his friends and lodges in general to attend any significant celebrations.

Another example is after the American Revolutionary war was over, in 1784, he went to the June Banquet at Alexandria Lodge No.39. In this particular event, Washington got the privilege of being nominated as an honorary member of the lodge.

George Washington was a proud member of Freemasons. In his reply to King David's lodge in Newport, Rhode Island (1770), he clearly indicated his feelings about the order:





*'Being persuaded that a just application of the principles, on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded, must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the Society, and to be considered by them as a deserving brother,'*



In 1907, Grand Masters and recognizable Freemasons gathered at the Alexandria-Washington Lodge Number 22 with one particular purpose.

To build a monument Alexandria City to honour Washington Masonic membership generations to come.

Three years later, in 1910, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association was created.

In one of the early meetings of the organization, President William H. Taft (a mason) said, 'Brethren, every president of the United States feels heavy upon him the burden of following George Washington and being in his place and making himself in some slight way worthy of the First President, The Father of the country...No honour can be greater than to have a direct association with that great man...as president, as man, and as a mason, all the principles of morality, of patriotism and of religion that we like to think is our highest ideal.'

However, it wasn't until 1922, that construction officially began. Today the structure, located in Alexandria, Virginia (outside Washington D.C), is a national landmark. After his death, the Alexandria Lodge changed its name to Alexandria-Washington Lodge Number 22.

When Martha Washington died, the lodge obtained important masonic items from his estate. These valuables are well preserved today.

## PUTTING AUSTRALIA ON THE MAP

**FEW MEN IN HISTORY CAN CLAIM TO HAVE NAMED AN ENTIRE COUNTRY, BUT FREEMASON MATTHEW FLINDERS IS ONE OF THEM. WITH JULY 2014 MARKING TWO HUNDRED YEARS SINCE FLINDERS' PASSING, KEVIN GEST EXPLORES HOW THIS NAVIGATOR ENDED UP DOWN UNDER.**

Philosophers who lived two thousand years ago knew the Earth was a sphere that rotated on its axis with a slow, gentle wobble. The limit of their geographical knowledge was centred in the northern hemisphere on the land masses and cultures they knew. They reasoned that, in the southern hemisphere, there had to be a land mass of equal size to balance the axial rotation, otherwise the wobble would be far more acute. The philosophers named this mythical land mass Terra Australis Incognita – the south land, as yet unknown.

Captain Matthew Flinders is little known in Britain, but in Australia he's a giant in the history of British settlement. Flinders ranks with the achievements of other great seamen such as Captain Cook, who was killed in Hawaii; and Bligh, known for his misadventure on the Bounty. Cook learned his navigation skills the hard way, Bligh learned from Cook, and Flinders learned how to sail from serving with Bligh on HMS Providence on the second voyage to transfer breadfruit plants from Tahiti to the West Indies. But Flinders took his seafaring skills to a whole new level.



## CALLING TO THE SEA

Born and raised in Lincolnshire, Flinders had a calling to the sea. Even as a junior officer, he demonstrated an ability to think for himself and act independently. In the closing years of the eighteenth century, Flinders sailed to Sydney Town in the fledgling colony of New South Wales. His seamanship and cartography skills quickly came to the attention of the Governor through a series of pivotal short expeditions.

Backed by the Governor, Flinders was appointed to command HMS Norfolk to survey the coast of Van Diemen's Land, which, at that time, was believed to have been part of the mainland. Flinders discovered that it was an island, later renamed Tasmania. He returned to England in 1800 where he presented his discovery to the Royal Society. This event brought him into contact with Freemason Sir Joseph Banks, who had sailed into Botany Bay with Captain James Cook to discover what's now known as the east coast of Australia, and he later recommended that to populate the area, convicts were transferred by sea to settle there.

By the time of Flinders' arrival in Sydney harbour, there were two coastal territories, 2,000 miles apart, noted on maps as New Holland and New South Wales, but there was uncertainty about what existed between them. Banks encouraged a new expedition to fully chart the territories and discover if this was the fabled land of Terra Australis Incognita, and Flinders was its commander aboard HMS Investigator.

In the following years, Flinders produced astonishing charts of previously unknown coasts; he was the first to circumnavigate Australia, suffering great hardship at sea in the process. His mission fulfilled, and armed with his charts and logs, he began his journey back to England. He was shipwrecked on the Great Barrier Reef, almost losing all his records, and was later taken prisoner on Mauritius by the French and branded a spy while his charts were confiscated and copied. Some of his discoveries were also claimed by French explorers.

‘Had I permitted myself any innovation of the original term, it would have been to convert it into Australia; as being more agreeable on the ear.’ Matthew Flinders .

Flinders returned to England in 1810, where he was celebrated by the Royal Society, and introduced by Banks to King George III, and the Prince Regent, who was to become a Grand Master. He was encouraged by Banks and the Admiralty to write down the details of his voyage, which he did in a volume entitled A Voyage to Terra Australis. In it, Flinders produced a map of the outline of the land he had been sent to explore. He wrote: ‘Had I permitted myself any innovation of the original term, it would have been to convert it into Australia; as being more agreeable on the ear and an assimilation to the other great portions of the earth.’

#### **FIRST TO USE THE NAME**

Australian documents indicate that Flinders was the first to use that name, having written it in a letter to his brother in 1804. After his map was printed and released in 1814 with this new designation emblazoned upon it, the name slowly became accepted to such a degree that, a few decades later, when the first Governor General was appointed, the name was attached to his rank.

Researchers have noted that in Flinders’ diaries, detailed after his return to England, there are several entries, at regular monthly intervals, stating that he was attending a meeting – but nothing else to disclose their purpose. There’s little doubt that these were to attend a lodge. According to the archives of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory, Flinders was initiated into Friendly Cultivator Lodge while held on Mauritius. His journal entries for July 1807, 1808 and 1809 note that he celebrated ‘the fete of St John at the Freemasons Lodge established there’.

Matthew Flinders died on 19 July 1814, aged forty years, from an illness he was believed to have contracted while imprisoned. He’s buried in what was once a large cemetery, but it has now been converted into a public park, close to London’s Euston Station. The headstone marking Flinders’ grave has also disappeared. He’s immortalised in England, along with other seamen, in a stained-glass window in Lincoln Cathedral, and in Australia by elegant statues in Sydney and Melbourne.

*“Happiness isn’t something you experience;  
It’s something you remember.”*

## Winston Churchill: *The UK's Most Well-Known Freemason.*

In a 2002 BBC poll, former British prime minister Winston Churchill was named as 'the greatest ever Briton.' He is an incredibly popular figure in the United Kingdom for his gallant leadership of the Allies during the Second World War.

While everyone remembers Churchill as the man who dared go up against Hitler, fewer people realize that he was a proud Freemason and drew upon his membership of the fraternity throughout his successful life.

Born in 1874, Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill struggled through his early schooling, particularly in mathematics, but he excelled in grammar and English; skills that would stand him in good stead as his political career took off in the decades to follow.

Winston Churchill's political career rose to prominence in the 1930s, as he became one of the most outspoken critics of the policy of appeasement adopted towards Germany.

When he became Prime Minister in 1940, Churchill formed a coalition with Franklin D. Roosevelt and Joseph Stalin as the three men shaped Allied strategy to defeat Nazi Germany. He led the Conservative party back to office in 1951 after the end of the war but was forced to retire in 1955 due to ill health. In many respects, Churchill's entire political career had been geared towards wartime leadership. A true patriot who believed in his country's greatness, he led the Allied forces from the brink of defeat to a memorable victory.

At the end of the Second World War, he received his investiture as a Knight of the Garter from the Royal Family of England and is forever known in the United Kingdom as Sir Winston Churchill, the greatest ever Briton.

### **When did Winston Churchill become a Freemason?**

Winston Churchill was initiated into Studholme Lodge 1591 in May 1901, at the age of 26. He completed his second degree two months later and was made a Master Mason on 5<sup>th</sup> March 1902.

It is said that Churchill was motivated to join the lodge because he had many friends and family members who were Masons, and Freemasonry at the time was an incredibly popular and well-respected institution for men of good social standing.

Freemasonry was enjoying a boom in popularity at the end of the nineteenth century thanks to the election of Edward Prince of Wales as Grand Master in 1875. And it is likely that such a high-profile appointment inspired a politically ambitious Churchill to join the Craft.



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

### **Why did Churchill become a Mason?**

As well as the generally positive perception of Freemasonry at the time of Churchill's initiation, he joined Freemasonry to keep up with the family tradition. The influence exerted on him by his father Lord Randolph certainly played a part in his joining the Craft.

We can also point to Churchill's membership of other fraternities as an indication of his interest in the benefits that connecting with like-minded men in his community had on him. In 1904, he accepted an honorary membership in the Hawthorn Lodge of the British Order of Ancient Free Gardeners.

He is also recorded as a member of the Loyal Waterloo Lodge of the National Independent Order of Odd Fellows, as well as a member of the Ancient Order of Druids. It's clear that Churchill's attraction to fraternal institutions likely inspired him to become a Mason.

### **What was significant about the lodge that Churchill joined?**

Studholme Lodge has an interesting history. In 1876, John Studholme Brownrigg, who was the Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, gave his family name to the consecration of the new Studholme Lodge 1591. In 1881, the lodge relocated from Surrey to London, and garnered a sparkling reputation in Masonic circles, as it attracted aristocratic members and was the home lodge of many of the social elite at the time.

For instance, the guestlist at the lodge's 21<sup>st</sup> installation banquet in 1897 included 17 members of parliament, and numerous Earls, Knights, and Lords, who would have ensured the night was most spectacular.

It is no coincidence that Winston Churchill joined a lodge with such a highly regarded social standing, as the connections he developed within would have no doubt helped to further his political career.

Studholme lodge underwent further changes later in Churchill's life, when it merged with United Lodge No. 1629 to form United Studholme Lodge. Today, it is known as Studholme Alliance Lodge after another merger, although it has retained its original number of 1591.

### **Churchill's Masonic journey**

It would be fair to say that Churchill's Masonic journey was not uniform, as he was involved in a number of curious incidents throughout his Masonic career. In 1912, he resigned from his home lodge with the intention of forming a new lodge in 1918, that he and some fellow Masons sought to name – the Ministry of Munitions Lodge.

Unfortunately for Churchill, his petition to demit was rejected by the new lodge, and although he was no longer a member of a lodge, he continued his membership within the Craft throughout his life. Although the petition acquired 95 signatories, it was refused by the Grand Lodge on the grounds that:

*"The policy of the advisors of the Grand Master has always been to decline to recommend the printing of a warrant for a new lodge where it was intended that the membership thereto be restricted to the members of any particular department of the Civil Service of the crown."*

A fair assessment of Churchill's involvement in Freemasonry can be seen in the words of former Grand Secretary Sir Sydney White, who said:

*"Winston Churchill was initiated as a young man but never progressed in the order and has taken no part for many years."*

In this regard, a large part of Churchill's life was consumed by pressing matters both at home and abroad, and his Masonic career was overshadowed by his political responsibilities. That being said, Churchill attended many Masonic events at various lodges throughout his life and recognized the positive impact it had on his relationships and professional endeavors. Of Freemasonry, Churchill famously said:

*"Masonic labour is purely a labour of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are in the dealings with one another; sympathy begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a Mason."*

In these words, brother Churchill perfectly summarises the very essence of Freemasonry and explains the true value that membership of the fraternity bestows. Although he wasn't the most active Mason, it is clear from his words that he valued his Masonic ties, and there is no evidence to suggest he was always complimentary about Freemasonry as a whole.

### **Churchill's Masonic apron**

Perhaps in joint recognition of Churchill's prominence, his personal Masonic apron is held on public display by the Museum of Freemasonry at Freemasons' Hall in England.

It is one of a number of artifacts at the museum paying tribute to some of the most influential and well-known Master Masons of the past, and Churchill undeniably fits the bill.

There's no getting away from the fact that Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt's professional relationship was able to flourish because both men were Masons. It was the foundation for one of the most important friendships in history, and eventually brought an end to the Second World War.

Churchill's involvement in the fraternity is something that brothers are incredibly proud of to this day, and it is indicative of the exceptionally high standards that Freemasonry sets.

But what of other prominent Masons in British history?

Now that we've put Winston Churchill on a pedestal as the most well-known British Mason, let's take a look at three other candidates for the title.

**Robert Burns** – The famous Scottish poet was an active member of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons in Scotland. One of his most well-known works – 'Auld Lang Syne' is said to be about the spirit of camaraderie and brotherhood that Freemasonry is founded upon.

**Sir Alf Ramsey** – The man who led England to their first and only World Cup win in 1966, Sir Alf Ramsey was initiated into Waltham Abbey Lodge in Essex in 1953. In the world of British football, Sir Alf's defining achievement is most fondly remembered.

**Sir Ernest Shackleton** – One of the greatest explorers ever to have lived, Ernest Shackleton visited the poles on three occasions and made many important scientific discoveries during his life. He was initiated into Navy Lodge No. 2612 and famously went ten years between his initiation and his second degree!

### **Closing remarks.**

As the birthplace of Freemasonry, the UK undoubtedly has its fair share of prominent former members. But few are held in higher regard than Sir Winston Churchill.

Many agree that Churchill embodied the Masonic spirit, and even though he wasn't the most active Freemason throughout his life, it's clear that Winston Churchill left his mark on the fraternity and is rightly renowned as one of Freemasonry's most prestigious brothers.

**This one's from the Editors assistant -**

*I have a little GPS, I've had it all my life,  
It's better than the normal one, my GPS is my wife.*

*It gives full instructions, especially how to drive,  
"It's thirty miles an hour, " it says, "your doing thirty five."*

*It tells me when to stop and start and when to use the brake,  
And tells me that it's never-ever safe to overtake.*

*It tells me when the light is red and when it goes to green,  
It seems to know instinctively just when to intervene.*

*It lists the vehicles just in front and all those to the rear,  
And taking those into account it specifies my gear.*

*I'm sure no other driver has so helpful a device,  
For when we leave and lock the car it still gives me advice.*

*It fills me up with counseling each journey's pretty fraught,  
So why don't I exchange it and get a quieter sort.*

*Ah well; you see it cleans the house, makes sure I'm properly fed,  
It washes all my shirts and things and keeps me warm in bed.*

*Despite all these advantages, and my tendency to scoff,  
I do wish that once in a while I could turn the damn thing off.!!!!*

***She says, - enjoy !***

**JUDGE KINDLY**

Don't expect perfection in a man just because he is a Mason. If you do you will be disappointed. Masonry makes men better, but no human agency makes men perfect. If he is a Mason, you have the right to presume he is a fairly good man, but do not condemn Masonry even if a few Masons turn out bad. Even the Great Teacher himself had a Juda. The aim and purpose of Masonry is to receive none but good men, keep them good and make them better.

Judge the institution, not by a few failures, but by the average of its successes. That average is high and it consequently gives a standing to its members, but it cannot be an infallible guide.

So as with a Masonic body. It may decide to do something which you as a member, individually oppose. But do not feel that you must condemn on that account.

You may be right, but do not pull away. Even you are not infallible, and the institution has stood for good for so many years, you may feel assured that its average performance will be good.

***The New Zealand Craftsman 1926***



# March 2023 (New Zealand)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	1	2 Management meeting and practice. 7:00pm	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Practice night 7:00pm	10	11
12	13	14	15 Practice 7:00pm 3rd degree	16 Monthly meeting Rt WBro Gary Salmon in the Chair, 7:00pm	17 3rd - Bro. M. Bläck	18
19	20	21	22 Visit Lodge TeAroha Installation 7:pm Morrinsville	29	30 Special Lodge meeting 7:00pm 3rd - Bro. J. Gensik	25
26	27	28		31		1 April Fools



## YOU, YOUR FAMILY, Your Community



# April 2023 (New Zealand)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 April Fools
2	3	4	5 Visit Lodge Piako Installation Morrinsville	6 Management meeting and practice. 7pm	7 Holy Saturday	8
9 Easter Sunday	10 Easter Monday	11	12	13 Practice night 7pm	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Monthly meeting Harmony Night	21	22
23	24	25 ANZAC Day	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6 The Coronation of King Charles III



Speak - up - Step - up - Show - up

