

# Lodge Waikato 475

OF FREE AND ACCEPTED FREEMASONS

AUGUST 2021



P  
L  
U  
M  
B  
L  
I  
N  
E



Winter in New Zealand

# NOTICE PAPER



## MASTER

**WBro. Andre Schenk**

11 Beaufort Place, Flagstaff, Hamilton.

Ph. 027 578 4060

## SENIOR WARDEN

**WBro. Alan Harrop**

18 Cherrywood St.

Pukete, Hamilton

Ph 027 499 5733

## JUNIOR WARDEN

**WBro. Darryl Gray**

3 Wymer Terrace,

Chartwell, Hamilton.

Ph 027 478 2574

## TREASURER

**V.WBro. Don Seath P.DGM**

14 Carnachan Street

Norfolk Downs, Cambridge.

Ph 027 497 5165

## SECRETARY

**Rt.WBro. 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 19th August 2021 at 7:30pm

**Ceremony: - First Degree working - Mr Mark Namaug  
Master Night, WBro. Bob Ancell, Master.**

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

**Candidate for Initiation -**

**Mr Mark Anthony Namaug, Married with 3 children, aged 38yrs.**

**13 Parr St. Frankton, Hamilton. Clinical Nurse Specialist. WH.**

**Joining Member -**

**Bro. Fernando Riberro**

*Rt.WBro. Gary Salmon - Hon Secretary*

**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 Contact - Secretary Ph. 027 493 8709**

# LODGE WAIKATO 475



**To be Initiated** - Mr Mark Namuag

**To be Passed to the Second Degree** - Bro Quintin Smith & Bro Patrick Salmon.

**To be Raised to the Third Degree** - Bro Lowell Daquioag, Bro Geralde Guinto.  
& Bro Jomar Figuerres

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. Rt.WBro. Gary Salmon,  
**027 493 8709 - e-mail - lodge.waikato@gmail.com**

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

**Editor of the Plumline** - WBro. Graham Hallam.  
**Ph 027 855 5198. e-mail - mallah@xtra.co.nz**

## Lodge Waikato Monthly Diary - July 2021

Thursday, 5th August at 7:00pm. Management meeting .

Thursday, 12th August at 7:00pm. Lodge monthly practice.

Thursday, 19th August at 7:30pm . Lodge Regular Monthly meeting  
' Past Master 's Night. '

## Lodge Waikato Brethren With Masonic Birthdays in August 2021.

Don Morgan - 24th August 1972 - 49yrs  
Dennis Aplin - 20th August 1979 - 42yrs  
Keith Buick - 20th August 1979 - 42yrs  
John McIntosh - 19th August 1999 - 22yrs  
Jacob Wallace - 16th August 2018 - 3yrs



## Special Thanks —

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

James R. Hill.

## Greetings Brethren,

I hope you all had a good night on the 15<sup>th</sup>, I personally enjoyed the night and I think many wives and partners were happy to see us home before 10pm. Thanks to all the Brethren who took part. For the Brethren who could not be present because they are not well, we hope you get better soon as we missed you. I hope all enjoyed the buns at the Refectory, thanks Graham and Susan, that was a good idea and thanks Mark Bunting for those cheese rolls, don't think there were any left.



A new Masonic year for our Lodge and it will be the year that we try out the Ceremonial Master of the night, this will show our newer members the large amount of support that is available to them when they do take the chair and have not a lot of time.

August will be a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree PM night under the experienced control of WBro Ancell. This kicks off a busy year, there will be a lot of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degrees and apart from the Ceremonial Work we have a lot to do in the Lodge building, finishing jobs like painting the outside, hanging lights inside and outside, scanning of photos and we should look if we can make the Refectory a place to be proud of. If any Brother has taken food home on a plate and forgot to bring the plate back please do so.

Next Month Lodge Waitomo has its Installation Meeting. They have been such good visitors but unfortunately our practice nights clash with their Regular Night. I am going to propose on the 5<sup>th</sup> Aug during the Management Committee that we have the 2<sup>nd</sup> practice a day earlier so as many Brethren as possible can go to the Installation meeting in Te Kuiti to support WBro Gradwell. Lets make this a Lodge visit, Tawa Street in Te Kuiti.

Brethren, the visits of coming month are shown, if you have a night available, please do support your Lodge by joining me on a visit. It means a lot for our Lodge to have visitors and it means a lot for other Lodges as well so let's support each other. For the Fellow Crafts and Master Masons who have not had the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Tracing board (or want to hear it again) Lodge Piako is giving this explanation on their night.

*Our monthly Standing Committee meeting is always 1st Thursday of each month, **All brethren** are entitled to be at the meeting and have your say. Starts at 7.00pm and practice for next Lodge meeting starts at 8:00pm.*

*Thursday 5th August, Standing Committee meeting.*

*Wednesday, 11th August, Practice meeting with Past Masters.*

*Thursday, 12th August, Visit Lodge Waitomo, Te Kuiti. Installation.*

**Fraternally**

**Andre - WM**



## Lodge Waikato No 475

### Monthly planner .

2021 -

We 've got lots to look forward to in 2021 —

The year ahead -

Ceremonial -

“The Lodge is very fortunate to have the skills of

W.Bro Andre Schenk who has taken the reigns as Master for another year.

Brethren, it is now your responsibility to be especially able to visit with him, as he has become very well-known throughout the district and represents YOUR

Lodge on all of these occasions.

Please endeavour to assist the Master either by visiting with him, or making yourself available for any other Lodge working your time and ability will allow.

Ed.

As we now start yet another year of Freemasonry, there is much to consider in the manner in which we see workings for 2021.

Not only does the Lodge have its workings, but we will be involved in the ‘Special Olympics’ being held here in Hamilton in December. This should be a wonderful time for us to put our face out there and become more obvious to the community.

**Workings for the month - Lodge meeting - Thursday, 19th August 2021.**

‘Past Masters Night,’ with W.Bro Bob Ancell being Master on the night.

He will be ably supported by Past Masters in the Lodge and doing a 1st degree Initiation for Mr Mark Namuag.

#### **Master 's visiting programme -**

Tuesday, 3rd August, Lodge Tawhiri No 166, Barton St. Hamilton

Wednesday 4th August, Lodge Piako No 160, Morrinsville.

Tuesday, 10th August, The Alpha Lodge No 81, Cambridge.

Wednesday, 11th August, The Waipa Lodge No 119, Te Awamutu.

Thursday 12th August, Lodge Waitomo No 469, Tawa St. Te Kuiti.

**(This is their Installation night so ring the Master to arrange a ride)**

Wednesday, 18th August, The Taupiri Lodge No 118, Huntly.

Wednesday, 25th August, Lodge Te Aroha No 52, Morrinsville.

**Give me a ring or JW if you wish to come with me when visiting, there is always a seat available, and your company would be very welcome.**

**WM.**

*We just need to be aware that a few of the brethren are not keeping well.*

*I 'm assuming most of you, by now, will have had the Covid inoculation.*

*If you have a spare minute of two, give a thought to these brethren who are not so well, Barry Prior, Paul Sutcliffe, Bill Newell, Willy Willetts, John Dickson, Dennis Mead, Wally Lee, Dick Morgan, and if you able, just a phone call, or perhaps a short visit would be well received.*

*If there are any brethren not mentioned, please let me know, or one of the Almoners so contacts can be made.*

**WM.**

## **Report on Management Committee Meeting**

### **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021**

There were fifteen members present and six apologies.

#### **The Master 's Report:**

The master provided a verbal report and included the following comments:

#### **Succession planning:**

All positions approved for next year and we are ready for the installation in July.

#### **Mentors:**

No further matters for discussion at this meeting

#### **Ceremonial:**

Our next regular meeting will be the installation meeting and all arrangements are in place. As Bro Brent Walker will be installed as the Inner Guard we need to make some adjustment to the floor area to accommodate his chair. W Bro M Tribe and W Bro de Bruin described what they plan to do and Michael agreed to be there at our meetings to support Brent.

#### **Garage Sale:**

The Master reported that he had a further \$100.39 to add to the garage sale funds after selling another left-over item on Trade Me.

#### **Who am I?**

It was agreed the Master would introduce the new initiative by doing the first presentation.

#### **Lodge Widows:**

The master referred to the paper that he had previously circulated and members discussed how connection with widows will be managed in the future. After rigorous discussion members agreed that we should: invite all the widows to our lodge lunches and pay for their meal.

That our most senior aged masons will also be included in the widows programme.

Make funds available for the almoner to provide for them an appropriate Christmas gift.

That supporting the almoner the following members will take an active responsibility for the widows of the three different lodge that now make up Lodge Waikato as follows –

Lodge Te Marama – W Bro K Spragg

Lodge Haumatana – V W Bro J Evered

Lodge Hillcrest – W Bro G Hallam

It was noted that some of the widows have lost contact with freemasonry and the friends they knew, but we need to check to see if they want to be involved when having a function.

#### **Other key points from the July meeting include:**

#### **Treasurer 's report:**

The treasurer, D Seath tabled a financial report for May.

There were a number of points arising:

Changes made to the Heartland Bank account details were noted and explained and the signatories need to be updated. After discussion, it was agreed that W Bro Michael Tribe be deleted and W Bro Murray Loft be added as a signatory. This confirms that our bank account signatories – ANZ and Heartland Bank - will be: D Seath, G Salmon and M Loft.

It was agreed that W Bro Murray Loft should be formally appointed as Assistant Treasurer.

The Treasurer reported that dues were mostly up to date for the current year and he was not concerned about those small amounts still outstanding. He also noted that email was not always the best way to be sure all our members are getting their dues notice and this year he would be sending the notices out in hardcopy by post.

He also advised that he was seeking contact details for two Brethren. VW Bro Evered and W Bro Tribe were both able to offer some help and will follow up . There was discussion noting that our Bylaws allow for fees to be reduced for brethren who are over the age of 80 years and those who have completed 50 years of service to freemasonry. VW Bro Don Seath agreed to report the impacts and to bring a recommendation to the committee before he sends out the next renewal notices.

**Hot Water system:**

Bro Cooper reported that some work had progressed and the was still working with Bro 's Gray and Dawson on the electrical implications and plumbing requirements.

**Lodge By-Laws:**

W Bro M Loft confirmed they will be voted on at the regular meeting. Notice has been given

**Property:**

Te Marama Building:

W Bro Spragg reported issues with the building at Ngaruawahia.

The roof has some leaks and some iron cladding around the kitchen area needs to be replaced. There is also a problem with the portable gas supply and we needed a bigger cylinder. In addition the tenants are wanting to meet to discuss the future of our arrangements with them. Members agreed that W Bro Spragg and W Bro de Bruin be authorised to deal with the matters.

VW Bro J Evered reported that the offer from the Council had been withdrawn and we will now need to take the property to market.

Power:

During a recent meeting being held in the Masonic centre by another Order, they experienced a power failure which has identified a need for some rewiring between the two power boards that provide power for the centre.

Discussion also suggested that we should also be looking at the lighting and perhaps replacing the overhead lights with LED fittings.

It was agreed that W Bro D Gray would report back the estimated cost of replacing our overhead lights and that W Bro Dawson will be engaged to fix the wiring situation.

Building Warrant of Fitness:

V W Bro J Evered confirmed we have some breathing space at this time and he is looking for someone to advise us of what is required. However, verbally it has been suggested that we will likely need to have a recording system and have someone sign a register each time the building is being used to confirm that all external doors have been unlocked while being used.

**Refectory:**

The Master noted that our July regular meeting will be our Installation, that we should cater for up to 70 at refectory. It was generally agreed that catering somewhat similar to that provided during the Grand Masters visit would be a good example for this month 's installation catering.

The Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and participation and reminded everyone to look at the registration form for assisting at the special Olympics and encouraged everyone to assist wherever they can. The work of the evening being completed the meeting was closed in Peace Love and Harmony at 8:19pm

**Michael Tribe**  
**Chairman**  
**Management Committee**



### **What a pleasure to visit Lodge Tawhiri No166**

On a recent visit to Lodge Tawhiri, we had the pleasure of witnessing a 1st degree working, father Initiating his own son, which was a delight to see.

WBro Roel Austria, Master Lodge Rotorua No 153, sharing in Initiation Ceremony for his son, Bro Rex Austria, who is now a member of Lodge Tawhiri No 166.

We also had the pleasure of seeing Bro Bruce Birnie receive "Roll of Honour" presentation carried out by VWBro John Evered, DGM who gave a resume of Bruce's 53yrs as a Mason and his huge contribution to his own, and many other Lodges as Organist.

Also in attendance was WBro John Dobson, PM Lodge Te Aroha, who likewise had received "Roll of Honour" at their recent Lodge and duly given recognition of his huge contribution to his own Lodge, and to Freemasonry in general, as he now returns to UK.

Both men were well deserving of this award for their quiet and unassuming manner of which they both showed in their daily lives as Freemasons.

Ed.

### **' Special Olympics '**

**Brethren you will all be well aware by now that Freemasons New Zealand has attained the 'Naming rights' for the NZ Special Olympics.**

**Being held here in Hamilton City, 8th through to 12th December 2021.**

**So now they need your help, - volunteers are needed to assist at venues where tournaments are being held, either at Porritt Stadium or the Swimming Pools. E.g. Please take time to e-mail your assistance and send your details to the e-mail below.**

**This volunteer help is not only for Freemasons, but for family and friends as well.**

**Can you do one day or more.??**

**" So let 's sign-up "**

[https://specialolympicsnz.rosterfy.co/invite/Freemasons\\_Volunteers.](https://specialolympicsnz.rosterfy.co/invite/Freemasons_Volunteers)



## Christianity and Freemasonry

Although members of various faiths cite objections, certain Christian denominations have had high profile negative attitudes to Masonry, banning or discouraging their members from being Freemasons.

The denomination with the longest history of objection to Freemasonry is the Roman Catholic Church. The objections raised by the Roman Catholic Church are based on the allegation that Masonry teaches a naturalistic deistic religion which is in conflict with Church doctrine. A number of Papal pronouncements have been issued against Freemasonry. The first was Pope Clement XII's *In Eminenti*, 28 April 1738; the most recent was Pope Leo XIII's *Ab Apostolici*, 15 October 1890. The 1917 Code of Canon Law explicitly declared that joining Freemasonry entailed automatic excommunication, and banned books favouring Freemasonry. In 1983, the Church issued a new Code of Canon Law. Unlike its predecessor, it did not explicitly name Masonic orders among the secret societies it condemns.

It states: "A person who joins an association which plots against the Church is to be punished with a just penalty; one who promotes or takes office in such an association is to be punished with an interdict." This named omission of Masonic orders caused both Catholics and Freemasons to believe that the ban on Catholics becoming Freemasons may have been lifted, especially after the perceived liberalisation of Vatican II. However, the matter was clarified when Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (later Pope Benedict XVI), as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, issued a Declaration on Masonic Associations, which states: "... the Church 's negative judgment in regard to Masonic association remains unchanged since their principles have always been considered irreconcilable with the doctrine of the Church and therefore membership in them remains forbidden.

The faithful who enroll in Masonic associations are in a state of grave sin and may not receive Holy Communion." Thus, from a Catholic perspective, there is still a ban on Catholics joining Masonic Lodges. For its part, Freemasonry has never objected to Catholics joining their fraternity. Those Grand Lodges in amity with UGLE deny the Church's claims. The UGLE now states that "Freemasonry does not seek to replace a Mason 's religion or provide a substitute for it."

In contrast to Catholic allegations of rationalism and naturalism, Protestant objections are more likely to be based on allegations of mysticism, occultism, and even Satanism. Masonic scholar Albert Pike is often quoted (in some cases misquoted) by Protestant anti-Masons as an authority for the position of Masonry on these issues. However, Pike, although undoubtedly learned, was not a spokesman for Freemasonry and was also controversial among Freemasons in general. His writings represented his personal opinion only, and furthermore an opinion grounded in the attitudes and understandings of late 19th century Southern Freemasonry of the USA. Notably, his book carries in the preface a form of disclaimer from his own Grand Lodge. No one voice has ever spoken for the whole of Freemasonry.

Free Methodist Church founder B.T. Roberts was a vocal opponent of Freemasonry in the mid 19th century. Roberts opposed the society on moral grounds and stated, "The god of the lodge is not the God of the Bible." Roberts believed Freemasonry was a "mystery" or "alternate" religion and encouraged his church not to support ministers who were

Since the founding of Freemasonry, many Bishops of the Church of England have been Freemasons, such as Archbishop Geoffrey Fisher. In the past, few members of the Church of England would have seen any incongruity in concurrently adhering to Anglican Christianity and practicing Freemasonry. In recent decades, however, reservations about Freemasonry have increased within Anglicanism, perhaps due to the increasing prominence of the evangelical wing of the church. The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, appeared to harbour some reservations about Masonic ritual, whilst being anxious to avoid causing offence to Freemasons inside and outside the Church of England. In 2003 he felt it necessary to apologise to British Freemasons after he said that their beliefs were incompatible with Christianity and that he had barred the appointment of Freemasons to senior posts in his diocese when he was Bishop of Monmouth.

In 1933, the Orthodox Church of Greece officially declared that being a Freemason constitutes an act of apostasy and thus, until he repents, the person involved with Freemasonry cannot partake of the Eucharist.

This has been generally affirmed throughout the whole Orthodox Church.

The Orthodox critique of Freemasonry agrees with both the Roman Catholic and Protestant versions: "Freemasonry cannot be at all compatible with Christianity as far as it is a secret organization, acting and teaching in mystery and secret and deifying rationalism."

Regular Freemasonry has traditionally not responded to these claims, beyond the often repeated statement that those Grand Lodges in amity with UGLE explicitly adhere to the principle that "Freemasonry is not a religion, nor a substitute for religion.

There is no separate 'Masonic deity,' and there is no separate proper name for a deity in Freemasonry. "

### **Islam and Freemasonry**

Many Islamic anti-Masonic arguments are closely tied to both antisemitism and Anti-Zionism, though other criticisms are made such as linking Freemasonry to al-Masih ad-Dajjal (the false Messiah). Some Muslim anti-Masons argue that Freemasonry promotes the interests of the Jews around the world and that one of its aims is to rebuild the Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem after destroying the Al-Aqsa Mosque. In article 28 of its Covenant, Hamas states that Freemasonry, Rotary, and other similar groups "work in the interest of Zionism and according to its instructions ..."

Many countries with a significant Muslim population do not allow Masonic establishments within their jurisdictions. However, countries such as Turkey and Morocco have established Grand Lodges, while in countries such as Malaysia and Lebanon there are District Grand Lodges operating under a warrant from an established Grand Lodge.

In Pakistan in 1972 Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, then Prime Minister of Pakistan, placed a ban on Freemasonry. Lodge buildings were confiscated by the government.

Masonic lodges existed in Iraq as early as 1917, when the first lodge under the UGLE was opened. Nine lodges under UGLE existed by the 1950s, and a Scottish lodge was formed in 1923. However the position changed following the revolution, and all lodges were forced to close in 1965. This position was later reinforced under Saddam Hussein; the death penalty was "prescribed" for those who "promote or acclaim Zionist principles, including freemasonry, or who associate [themselves] with Zionist organisations."

*'Freemasonry Today. '*

## Political opposition

In 1799 English Freemasonry almost came to a halt due to Parliamentary proclamation. In the wake of the French Revolution, the *Unlawful Societies Act, 1799* banned any meetings of groups that required their members to take an oath or obligation. The Grand Masters of both the Moderns and the Antients Grand Lodges called on Prime Minister William Pitt (who was not a Freemason) and explained to him that Freemasonry was a supporter of the law and lawfully constituted authority and was much involved in charitable work. As a result Freemasonry was specifically exempted from the terms of the Act, provided that each private lodge's Secretary placed with the local "Clerk of the Peace" a list of the members of his lodge once a year. This continued until 1967 when the obligation of the provision was rescinded by Parliament.

Freemasonry in the United States faced political pressure following the 1826 kidnapping of William Morgan by Freemasons and subsequent disappearance.

Reports of the "Morgan Affair", together with opposition to Jacksonian democracy (Andrew Jackson was a prominent Mason) helped fuel an Anti-Masonic movement, culminating in the formation of a short lived Anti-Masonic Party which fielded candidates for the Presidential elections of 1828 and 1832.

In Italy, Freemasonry has become linked to a scandal concerning the Propaganda Due lodge. This lodge was chartered by the Grande Oriente d'Italia in 1877, as a lodge for visiting Masons unable to attend their own lodges. Under Licio Gelli's leadership, in the late 1970s, P2 became involved in the financial scandals that nearly bankrupted the Vatican Bank. However, by this time the lodge was operating independently and irregularly, as the Grand Orient had revoked its charter and expelled Gelli in 1976.

Conspiracy theorists have long associated Freemasonry with the New World Order and the Illuminati, and state that Freemasonry as an organisation is either bent on world domination or already secretly in control of world politics. Historically, Freemasonry has attracted criticism—and suppression—from both the politically extreme right (e.g., Nazi Germany) and the extreme left (e.g. the former Communist states in Eastern Europe).

Even in modern democracies, Freemasonry is sometimes viewed with distrust.

In the UK, Masons working in the justice system, such as judges and police officers, were from 1999 to 2009 required to disclose their membership. While a parliamentary inquiry found that there has been no evidence of wrongdoing, it was felt that any potential loyalties Masons might have, based on their vows to support fellow Masons, should be transparent to the public. The policy of requiring a declaration of masonic membership of applicants for judicial office (judges and magistrates) was ended in 2009 by Justice Secretary Jack Straw (who had initiated the requirement in the 1990s). Straw stated that the rule was considered disproportionate, since no impropriety or malpractice had been shown as a result of judges being Freemasons.

Freemasonry is both successful and controversial in France; membership is rising, but reporting in the popular media is often negative.

**Have you signed in to offer your help to "Special Olympics" in December,  
'Yes' - right here in Hamilton. ????**

## Importance of the Cable Tow

Ray Collins MQ

Masonic ritual uses very little in the way of cordage, or rope. In fact, only 23 words cover the subject of the cable tow in a brief explanation to the candidate during the initiation ceremony.

What, therefore, can be written about the subject to justify an article?

This is the fascinating thing about Masonic research – to delve into a subject that clearly has very little to commend it from the ritual creates a challenge. It also creates an opportunity for that daily advancement in Masonic knowledge.

In some Lodges the cord suspends banners, even jewels – and the best example is the plumb-line/plumb rule – and often it ties the apron. The Second Degree tracing board in one jurisdiction depicts a sheaf of wheat suspended by a cord on the banks of the river Jordan near to a waterfall.

The operative construction process in laying walls of ashlar must have used ropes as part of the material handling process. It does not appear to get a mention.

For example, in The First Degree tracing board where the word ‘Lewis’ is defined:

*The word Lewis denotes strength by certain pieces of metal dovetailed into a stone, and when in combination with some of the mechanical powers, such as a system of pulleys, it enables the operative Mason to raise great weights to certain heights with little encumbrance.*

But of the rope, there is not a word.

This is extraordinary because there is Masonic symbolism in the very method of making a rope, the process of twisting many weak fibres together to make a strong, unbreakable cord. The weaving of many weak strands into a strong one is a symbol of a fundamental truth dating back to antiquity, and revered by the whole Craft in which the weakness of the individual – when brethren are banded together to some common purpose – is multiplied by the strength of millions.

There is no Biblical reference in the ritual – but there is an allusion to it in Ecclesiastes, Chapter 4 verse 12:

*...and if one prevails against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.*

Also from Chapter 12 (used in many Lodges as an oration during the Third Degree), there is the reference to ‘the silver cord’ which alludes to the spinal cord – if broken it results in death. Some of these biblical connections should remind us of the first and fundamental truth learned at an initiation, when helplessness and dependence upon our fellow man teaches us that Mankind was made dependent upon each other for mutual protection and security.

Edmund Burke wrote about the history of Parliament:

*The King and his faithful subjects; The Houses of Parliament of this realm – The Triple Cord that no man can break.*

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

From the earliest civilisation, man combated nature. In domesticating livestock, the rope was the means whereby man was able to control them. It was therefore not long before the material took on a moral significance with symbolic meanings.

Ropes and cords were used in several ancient religious ceremonies. The candidate would be led into the temple by a rope, and if he fainted from fright he was dragged out by it! Druid priests wore either a cord or a chain about their neck or waist to symbolise spiritual rebirth. In some of the medieval courts, a rope or cord was tied about the neck or middle of the accused person to show that he was at the mercy of the courts.

The ancient Egyptians used a remarkable and ingenious system to create right-angles when measuring their fields after the annual Nile floods that always washed away their boundaries. If you take a length of string and tie knots in it to accurately divide it into 12 divisions, with the two ends joining, the divisions must be equal and correct.

Get three thin sticks just strong enough to stick into the soil. Stab one stick into the ground and arrange a knot at the stick, stretch three divisions away from it in any direction, and insert the second stick into the ground against the knot.

Now place the third stick, so that it falls on the knot between the fourth part and the fifth part – or division – and this creates a 3:4:5 right-angled triangle. The angle between the third and fourth divisions is of necessity a right-angle or a square. So there you have it!

Freemasonry has nothing in common with the ancient and savage superstitions regarding knots. In Rome, the human embodiment of the sky spirit Jupiter was not allowed to have a knot in any part of his garments.

Moslem pilgrims to Mecca may not wear knots.

Savage tribes believed that knots in the clothing of a bride prevented a true marriage, that it prevented childbirth. Some believed that a knot prevented a proper passage of the spirit of one in the throes of death.

Freemasonry has preserved ancient symbolism in the cable tow of a pledge, promise or obligation, and a submission to the laws of character building.

Much has been written about how long is a cable tow? But if the question is rephrased to asking what is a cable 's length, then the answer is a matter of fact, not opinion. Consider, for example, William Falconer 's Maritime Dictionary: Cable 's length – a measure of 120 fathoms – or of the usual length of the cable.

The last eight words are something of a let-out clause, but by simple arithmetic a fathom is six feet or 1.8 metres. Therefore, a cable 's length will be 120 x 6 ' i.e., 720 ' or 216 metres.

I cannot resist the mischievous thought of apprehending the next candidate immediately after his initiation to ask him: " By the way, can you tell me – what was the length of the cable tow? "

Brother Arthur Powell wrote something which I consider to be a fitting conclusion to this subject:

*What is it that strand that tugs at our hearts, taut when so many threads are broken in the rough ways of the world. He asks the question: ask what it is in the wild that calls to the little wild things?*

**Have you signed in to offer your help to "Special Olympics" in December,  
' Yes ' - right here in Hamilton. ????**

# The Lodge Organist

How much an accomplished musician can contribute to the dignity, solemnity and meaning of the ritualistic work is known to every mason. "To be without a perception of the charms of music is to be without the finer traits of humanity," we are told. It is a misconception to classify the organist as a minor officer of the lodge. In fact his functions are among the most important of all who contributes to the successful exemplification of the degrees. A good musician is an asset that should not be overlooked. Music is defined in this sentence: "it is the science and art of the rhythmic combination of tones, vocal and instrumental." It has always been regarded as an important concomitant of impressive ritualistic work. Music appropriate to the circumstances never fails to stamp itself upon the memory of the candidate, at the same time adding to the meaning conveyed by the spoken word. If the competent organist also has a good voice to lead the members in vocal numbers, it is an added aid to successful conduct of the lodge. Many lodge musicians give freely of their time and talent far beyond the compensation they receive. Their devotion to duty is a great contribution to the prestige of their respective lodges and the cause of masonry. When invested the organist receives this appropriate admonition: "As harmony is the strength and support of all institutions, may the harmony over which you preside strengthen and support every gentle and ennobling emotion of the soul."

## The NZ Craftsman Nov 1957.

*A pianist and singer are rehearsing "Autumn Leaves" for a concert and the pianist says: "OK. We will start in G minor and then on the third bar, modulate to B major and go into 5/4. When you get to the bridge, modulate back down to F# minor and alternate a 4/4 bar with a 7/4 bar. On the last A section go into double time and slowly modulate back to G minor.*

*The singer says: "Wow, I don't think I can remember all of that."*

*The pianist says: "Well, that's what you did last time."*



## LODGE BENEFIT

### Lodge Waikato now has a Gilmours account.

Any member from our Lodge can now shop at Gilmours Cash and Carry.

The address is 13 Simsey Place, Te Rapa Park, Hamilton

The account number for Lodge Waikato is 2259460, this allows you to shop and pay at the counter. When you want to make use of this please download the STOCARD app onto your phone, search Gilmours and enter the account number. When shopping just show the Stocard app. Please do realise that prices at Gilmours are excluding GST and that for small quantities prices can be dearer than the supermarket. For catering quantities prices are not only cheaper but the quality is mostly far superior to a supermarket.

Kind regards  
Andre Schenk

## ' Remember you 're a Mason '

When the pressures of recession make us concentrate on greed,  
Take heed, a worthy Mason cares about another 's need.

Don 't let pressures of the moment make your obligation sway,  
Stop and help a fallen brother or another by the way.

What you give is like a bubble whenever you assist,  
What it costs in time and trouble is soon after, never missed.

Brother, bear that obligation you accepted on you knee,  
It 's in direct relation to your own security.

Never hesitate, my brother square your actions now and say,  
" I 'll remember I 'm a Mason and behave like that today."

With regard to human kindness and the Golden Rule, I pray,  
" I 'll remember I 'm a Mason and behave like that today."

Anon.

### An important note directed to the younger and/or newer Masons. -

*I would like you all to know that the meetings we have on the first two Thursdays of each month are open for every member of the Lodge to attend. Come and meet the other Brethren of the Lodge, spend time at the meeting then stay for a while at the practices.*

*This is where you will learn so much about the ritual of the Lodge workings, get to know the older men who have many years of experience, and for you to remember that each of them started just where you are some many years ago.*

*While you may attend the regular monthly ceremonies and things look to run OK., it is at the practices that all of the mistakes are made and ironed out.*

*These practices have helped many of the Masons to learn their lines and to gain that confidence to speak in front of others, they have helped me enormously.*

*So, I seriously encourage you all to come to the meetings and stay for the practice, you may even enjoy being the candidate.*

Ed.

### **Just Remember -**

The objects of Freemasonry are to help others, to build a society of trust, to develop good men into even better men, to be charitable and to embrace all races and religions in one family - one Brotherhood in the sight of whatever supreme power you believe in - and in all these things are good.

Anon

## August 2021 (New Zealand)

September 2021

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
1	2	3 Visit Lodge Tawhiri Barton St	4 Visit Lodge Piako Morrinsville	5 Management Meeting and practice	6	7
8	9	10 Visit Alpha Lodge Cambridge	11 Lodge Practice 7pm	12 Visit Lodge Waitomo Installation - Te Kuiti	13	14
15	16	17	18 Visit Taupiri Lodge Huntly	19 Monthly meeting - 7:30pm Past Masters Night 1st degree. Mr Mark Namuag	20	21
22	23	24	25 Visit Lodge Te Aroha Morrinsville	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

Monthly Lodge meetings, visiting dates, and other activities.

## September 2021 (New Zealand)

October 2021

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
29	30	31	1	2 Management Meeting and practice 7.00pm	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Practice meeting 7.00pm	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Monthly meeting - 7:30pm	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

