

Lodge Waikato 475

OF FREE AND ACCEPTED FREEMASONS

DECEMBER 2021



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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 9th December 2021 at 7:30pm**

Ceremony: - First degree working - Past Masters Night

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**

One Candidate for proposition -

Mr Geoffrey Peter Taylor, a public servant working for the Hamilton City Council.

Residing 13 Eversey Place, Grandview Heights Hamilton.

Married to Julie and they have four children

Proposed by Brother Bunting and seconded by WBro Horton from Beta Waikato

Lodge No. 12.

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 Daquiaoag, Bro Ged 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 Plumblin - WBro. Graham Hallam.
Ph 027 855 5198. e-mail - mallah@xtra.co.nz

Lodge Waikato Monthly Diary - December 2021

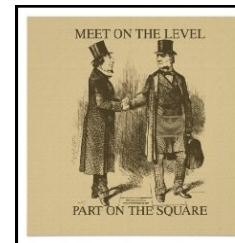
Thursday, 2nd December at 7:00pm. Management meeting .
Thursday, 9th December at 7:30pm . Lodge Regular Monthly meeting.

Lodge Waikato Brethren with Masonic birthdays in December 2021

Knud Nielsen - 11/12/1975 (46yrs)
Don McNaughton - 16/12/1975 (46yrs)
Barry Langman - 8/12/1992 (29yrs)
Bryan Dawson - 9/12/1993 (28yrs)

Lodge Waikato Brethren with Masonic Birthdays in January - 2022

John Dickinson 12/01/1959 (63yrs)



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,

Brethren it was good to meet again on the 25th and get some the business and ballots done that were outstanding.

After the Lodge was put at ease we had a very constructive discussion about vaccines and any measures we should take at the several traffic light settings. As expected the discussion was conducted

with respect for the different views Brethren held.

A lot of concerns were expressed about distancing and the possibility of rapid tests were discussed as lot of our Brethren have immune compromised family within their bubble. We will continue and finalise the discussion at the committee meeting on the 2nd of December. With the move to the Orange Traffic Light I think it is safe to say that we can meet safely.

But Brethren **PLEASE WEAR MASKS** , think of our Brethren who are immune compromised or are in close contact with family or friends who are. It is important to continue masks to maximise each other 's health.

Masks stop the spread while vaccination stops you getting sick, vaccinated Brethren can still spread Covid without a mask and for that reason I am still not comfortable with holding a Refectory as we are all taking our mask off.

So back to business.

This Thursday Committee Meeting with a First Degree practise afterwards. Next Thursday is our December Regular night and we will do a First Degree for Mr Mark Namaug.

Visits this month.

Monday 6th December, 1:15pm. Lodge Pukemiro Installation HEMC.

Fraternally -

Andre, WM.



Remember - Remember - Take Note

The regular meeting this month of December is to be held on the second Thursday, 9th., at 7:30pm

Management meeting to be on the first Thursday, 2nd December - 7:00pm

Lodge protocol allows for summer attire during the summer Months, December - February, March.
(this allows, no jackets at regular meetings.)

It is not usual to have Lodge workings during the month of January but due the Lodge future commitments, it may be beneficial that we do meet, and if so, you will be notified in plenty of time.

Other-wise the first regular Lodge meeting in 2022 will be on Thursday, 17th February.

Happy New Year - **Ed.**

Lodge Waikato No 475
Monthly planner

2021 - is fast running out -

As you are all aware, the Master had arduously arranged and organised his monthly programme for the Lodge and due to Covid and Government protocols, nothing over these past few months has happened.

So still as at today and as we are dependant on the Covid situation you will be advised of Lodge happenings for the near future.

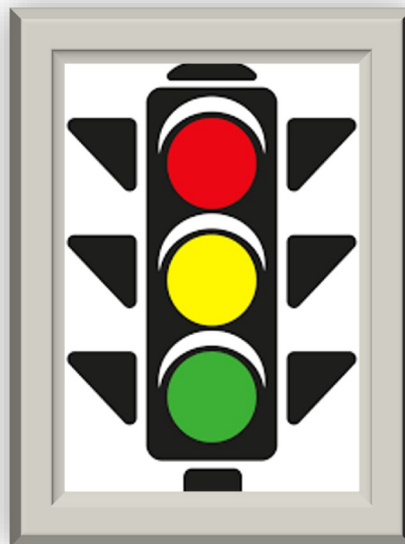
Our last meeting for 2021 is on Thursday December 9th at 7:30pm.
It will be a 'Past Masters' night, with W, Bro Bob Ancell as Master.
There will not be any large Christmas supper as is usual, but perhaps a short gathering after the meeting to wish each other well for Christmas.

2022 will hopefully allow us to hold more regular meetings where we will have several degree workings for the brethren that are waiting very patiently.

Visits -

The Master did visit (with others) the recent Installation meeting of Lodge Tawhiri where WB Gary Price was placed in the chair.

The Master will be visiting the Installation meeting of Lodge Pukemiro on Monday, December 6th commencing at 1:15pm. Bro Bruce Birnie is going into the chair for the first time.



To ponder on -

As 2021 draws to a close, it has proven to be a year like no other and begs the question as to what 2022 is going to bring. ???

For our Freemasonry we have not been able to meet and enjoy company, but we have kept in touch with each other and offered support if and when needed, and I encourage you all to keep up this contact.

So it 's at time like now that we remember the fellow Masons that are not so well, - being aware of John Dickson, Barry Prior, Bill Newell, Murray Loft, John Dickinson, Paul Sutcliffe and others that I may-be unaware of, we need to extend to them all the hand of warm and sincere friendship. Some are quite unwell and others are re-cooperating and improving.

I 'd like to mention men like Graham Martin (Beta Waikato, formerly PM Hillcrest) who is quite unwell. I 'm also very sorry to tell you that Tony Christieson died recently, being a good friend and PM of Lodge Hamilton and member of Hillcrest Lodge. Although not our members they are still brothers and it has been my habit to have continued meeting with them. One of our widows, Mrs Bev McEwan died recently, being wife of late Tom McEwan, PM Lodge Hillcrest.

So, brethren, if the rules pertaining to Covid, allow you to be with your families over the coming Christmas period, be very joyful, and enjoy the precious time, as we all know there are many NZ 's still overseas waiting to come home for Christmas, and that family time is not going to happen for them.

Susan and I are fortunate and we will be celebrating Christmas with our family and others and I 'm sure we will have a great day.

Thank-you to those of you who have sent in articles for publication in the Plumblin, it 's certainly a great form of promoting Freemasonry, and it certainly now goes to a lot of people and a lot of places.

So I trust you all have a great Christmas with your families, and wish every one of you a very Merry Christmas, and have a great New Year.

- Ed.

FREEMASONRY

THE MASONIC BROTHERHOOD

THE FREEMASONS



$$4 + 5 = 9$$

BUT SO DOES $6 + 3$
THE WAY YOU DO THINGS
IS NOT ALWAYS THE ONLY
WAY TO DO THEM.

RESPECT OTHER PEOPLES
WAY OF THINKING.



The Loyal Toast –

' To the Queen and the Craft'

And to his liege lord the king, Be true to him over all things.
The oldest Masonic document in existence, the Regius Manuscript or Halliwell Manuscript, which is dated c.1390 and now deposited in the British Museum, contains these lines in the Fourteenth Point. The Old Charges of the fifteenth century called on Masons to be true to God, true liegemen to the King, and true to the Craft.



The Charges of a Freemason printed in the Constitution of our Grand Lodge (Part VI – 2006) contain this statement: “ kings and princes in every age have been disposed to encourage the Craftsmen on account of their peaceableness and loyalty. ” Thus, loyalty to the Sovereign has ever been and still is an essential principle of Freemasonry.

The custom of toasting at Masonic banquets is a tradition of long standing, an inherited ritual observed in the early 1700 's and probably before. First place is always given to The Loyal Toast – ‘ To the Queen and the Craft. ’ The significance of the united toast is that loyalty to the Sovereign is an essential principle of Freemasonry. It has been suggested that: “The custom of toasts at our festive meetings is so old as to have become a social landmark – it should not be lightly abandoned or tampered with to any serious extent. ... We should retain the combined form by all means, and we should do so whether the reigning Monarch is or is not a Freemason. ” Many members of the Royal Family in Great Britain have been active Freemasons and several Royal Dukes have served as the Grand Master. Frederick Lewis, Prince of Wales, eldest son of George II, became a Mason in 1737. HRH The Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII (Grand Master 1875-1901), King Edward VIII, who after the Abdication became the Duke of Windsor was an active Freemason (initiated 1919), and on his accession in 1936, he was appointed Past Grand Master. His brother King George VI was initiated as Prince Albert in 1919 and was installed as Grand Master Mason of Scotland in 1936 and appointed Past Grand Master of the UGLE on his accession in 1937. On several occasions he testified to the beneficial influence of Freemasonry in his life. The present Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England (from 1967) is HRH the Duke of Kent, Prince (initiated 1963). HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, was initiated in 1952.

When King George VI died in the early hours of February 5, 1952, he was succeeded by his daughter, who was subsequently crowned Queen Elizabeth II on June 2, 1953. The question arose, should the Loyal Toast couple a lady with the Craft? Bro. Harry Carr provided a definitive answer: “ When this toast is given, the Lodge is not bestowing Masonic honours on a lady, but displaying its proper and loyal duty to the Crown. ” During her long reign (1937- 1901), Queen Victoria was designated ‘ Patroness ’ or ‘ Protectoress ’ of the Masonic Order. Her father, the Duke of Kent and her son, Prince Edward, both served as Grand Masters.

Some of our most cherished ritual in the General Charge recited at Installation owes its origin to a toast to the Queen and the Craft given at a Ladies Night held at the Town Hall in Galt (now Cambridge) by V.W. Bro. Otto Klotz when he was Worshipful Master of Alma Lodge No. 72 on the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, December 27, 1864.

After a laudatory reference to Queen Victoria as “that Sovereign who unquestionably is the noblest, the best of all the monarchs that ever held the sceptre of Great Britain; loved and revered by all her millions of subjects,” he addressed his remarks to the ladies: “In respect to the Craft which according to Masonic custom is coupled with the Queen, it may not be inopportune to give a few explanations regarding the so-called secret and mysterious Brotherhood, the Freemasons, especially so since the Brethren are this evening honoured with the presence of so many ladies, whose amiable company they do not often enjoy in this manner.

To the ladies, therefore, I shall endeavour to explain what Freemasonry is – and in what the real secrets of the Craft consist.” Among the “few explanations” that followed, the fourth and fifth paragraphs of the General Charge relating to “A Freemason’s Lodge ...” and “The object of meeting in the Lodge ...” were included. Here’s a health unto Her Majesty Elizabeth II was crowned ‘Queen of Canada’ and is Canada’s official head of state through which the entire authority of the government is set and in whose name laws are enacted. The Grand Master’s Address to the 127th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in 1982 given by M.W. Bro. Howard O. Polk, made reference to “an information release under date of January 6, 1911, reciting the significance of the time-honoured Toast in which it established that the Toast is an ancient usage and custom of ancient

Freemasonry” and reminded the Brethren that, “Her Majesty the Queen is still the Queen of Canada” and concluded, “It is, therefore, incumbent upon us to be very cautious not to take any steps, however trivial they may appear, which might give semblance to the idea that the indissoluble connection of the Queen and the Craft is not subsisting as it was in the days of our forefathers. Therefore, the Toast should be continued, unaltered and

undisturbed.” In our Grand Jurisdiction, protocol directs that the Loyal Toast is followed immediately by the singing of the Royal Anthem – God Save the Queen. ‘God Save the Queen’ was officially designated as the Royal Anthem by the Canadian Parliament in 1967, Canada’s centennial year. Bro. Harry Carr reminds us that, “It is not necessary to make a speech extolling the royal virtues, and any such embroidery is considered to be improper.”

A similar direction was issued by the Lord Chamberlain’s Office in London and reprinted by Quattor Coronati Lodge No. 2076: “It is incorrect to indulge in elaborate phrasing.” The question arises when ladies and guests are present at banquets and receptions, should non-Masons participate in the Loyal Toast? Common courtesy demands that when any toast is proposed, all present, except the person or persons whose health is being drunk, should stand, raise the glass in salutation and drink in honour of the person or persons designated in the toast. The ladies present also recognize our Sovereign Lady as the Queen of Canada, and they honour the Craft by their presence.

Therefore, the Chairman, Master of Ceremonies, or the Brother proposing the Loyal Toast should simply say: “Please rise, the Queen and the Craft” without further words.

“Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us, GOD SAVE THE QUEEN”

By R.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels, F.C.F. for The Curriculum Group, The Committee on Masonic Education.



THE LANDMARKS OF FREEMASONRY

At a recent lecture given by WBro John McDonald, Grand Lecturer, Northern Division, his subject was 'The Landmarks of Freemasonry' which proved very interesting and full of discussion. His presentation was following the paper presented by Albert Mackey, of which portions will be inserted in the Plumblin on a monthly basis.

The Landmarks of Freemasonry are unwritten laws that form the basis of every Grand and subordinate Lodge constitution. The Landmarks are the foundation on which Freemasonry stands. Every Grand Lodge adopts all or a portion of the Landmarks listed below. An extensive discussion of these Masonic principals can be found in Jurisprudence of Freemasonry by Albert G. Mackey.

.. Continued.....

LANDMARK NINTH : The necessity of masons to congregate in lodges is another Landmark. It is not to be understood by this that any ancient Landmark has directed that permanent organization of subordinate Lodges which constitutes one of the features of the Masonic system as it now prevails, but the landmarks of the Order always prescribed that Masons should from time to time congregate together, for the purpose of either operative or speculative labor, and that these congregations should be called Lodges. Formerly these were extemporary meetings called together for special purposes, and then dissolved, the brethren departing to meet again at other times and other places, according to the necessity of circumstances. But warrants of constitution, by-laws, permanent officers and annual arrears, are modern innovations wholly outside of the Landmarks, and dependent entirely on the special enactments of a comparatively recent period.

LANDMARK TENTH : The government of the craft, when so congregated in a Lodge by a Master and two Wardens, is also a Landmark. To show the influence of this ancient law, it may be observed by the way, that a congregation of Masons meeting together under any other government, as that for instance of a president and vice-president, or a chairman and sub chairman, would not be recognized as a Lodge, The presence of a Master and two Wardens is as essential to the valid organization of a Lodge as a warrant of constitution is at the present day. The names, of course, vary in different languages, the Master, for instance, being called "Venerable" in French Masonry, and the Wardens "Surveillants," but the officers, their number, prerogatives and duties, are everywhere identical.

LANDMARK ELEVENTH : The necessity that every lodge, when congregated, should be duly tiled, is an important Landmark of the institution, which is never neglected. The necessity of this law arises from the esoteric character of Masonry. As a secret institution, its portals must of course be guarded from the intrusion of the profane, and such a law must therefore always have been in force from the very beginning of the Order. It is therefore properly classed among the most ancient Landmarks. The office of Tiler is wholly independent of any special enactment of Grand or Subordinate Lodges, although these may and do prescribe for him additional duties, which vary in different jurisdictions. But the duty of guarding the door, and keeping off cowans and eavesdroppers, is an ancient one, which constitutes a Landmark for the government.

LANDMARK TWELFTH : The right of every mason to be represented in all general meetings of the craft and to instruct his representatives, is a twelfth Landmark. Formerly, these general meetings, which were usually held once a year, were called "General Assemblies," and all the fraternity, even to the youngest Entered Apprentice, were permitted to be present. Now they are called "Grand Lodges," and only the Masters and Wardens of the Subordinate Lodges are summoned. But this is simply as the representatives of their members. Originally, each Mason represented himself; now he is represented by his officers. This was a concession granted by the fraternity about 1717, and of course does not affect the integrity of the Landmark, for the principle of representation is still preserved. The concession was only made for purposes of convenience.

LANDMARK THIRTEEN : The Right of every mason to appeal from the decision of his brethren in Lodge convened, to the Grand Lodge or General Assembly of Masons, is a Landmark highly essential to the preservation of justice, and the prevention of oppression. A few modern Grand Lodges, in adopting a regulation that the decision of Subordinate Lodges, in cases of expulsion, cannot be wholly set aside upon an appeal, have violated this unquestioned Landmark, as well as the principles of just government

LANDMARK FOURTEENTH : THE RIGHT OF EVERY MASON TO VISIT and sit in every regular Lodge is an unquestionable Landmark of the Order." This is called "the right of visitation." This right of visitation has always been recognized as an inherent right, which inures to every Mason as he travels through the world. And this is because Lodges are justly considered as only divisions for convenience of the universal Masonic family. It is right may, of course be impaired or forfeited on special occasions by various circumstances; but when admission is refused to a Mason in good standing, who knocks at the door of a Lodge as a visitor, it is to be expected that some good and sufficient reason shall be furnished for this violation, of what is in general a Masonic right, founded on the Landmarks of the Order.

LANDMARK FIFTEENTH : It is a Landmark of the Order, that no visitor, unknown to the brethren present, or to some one of them as a Mason, can enter a Lodge without first passing an examination according to ancient usage. Of course, if the visitor is known to any brother present to be a Mason in good standing, and if that brother will vouch for his qualifications, the examination may be dispensed with, as the Landmark refers only to the cases of strangers, who are not to be recognized unless after strict trial, due examination, or lawful information.

LANDMARK SIXTEENTH : No Lodge can interfere in the business of another Lodge, nor give degrees to brethren who are members of other Lodges, this is undoubtedly an ancient Landmark, founded on the great principles of courtesy and fraternal kindness, which are at the very foundation of our institution. It has been repeatedly recognized by subsequent statutory enactments of all Grand Lodges.

(In total there are 25 Landmark descriptions and the remaining will Follow)

Ed.

The Modern Masonic Apron

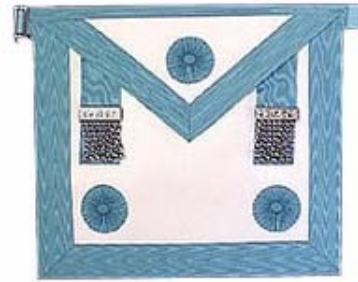
The Union of the Grand Lodge of England between the Ancient and Modern branches of English Freemasonry in 1813 brought into many effect many changes in dress and ritual which still prevail to this day. The deviation from certain aspects of the ritual is in my opinion regrettable but outside the boundary of this lecture. However, in respect to the Masonic apron it was felt necessary to have these standardised and the resulting effort are the aprons we have in use today. Nevertheless, even though we may assume that today 's aprons are but a shadow in respect to the decorative beauty of 18th century aprons they still contain much Masonic symbolism and inner meaning which I will now proceed to explain. However, before I do so, I must point out that the Masonic apron I am going to refer to is strictly that as worn by Masons of the English Constitution and not to those of the other constitutions. For example the Dutch wear an apron bordered with black and with a skull and crossbones on the flap. Scottish lodges each have their individual right to choose the design, colour and shape of their aprons; some employ a tartan, while many others have a circular rather than a triangular flap. This is the reason why all four Scottish lodges dress in different regalia whilst all English lodges have adopted the same model. Irish aprons appear to be a bizarre attempt at standardization with tinges of individualisation in the apron borders and embroidery. To the eye Irish aprons may well appear the same, but I have yet to see two which are exactly the same.

Returning to the English apron, many Brethren still believe that the present apron was the result of an accident and that no deliberate attempt at symbolism was envisaged. However, by the end of this explanation of the hidden meanings and symbolism of our present apron you too will I am sure come to the conclusion that those who designed it had a much deeper knowledge of symbolism than the apparently 'simple' Master Mason apron leads us to believe.

Firstly, let us consider the colour of the Master Mason 's apron, which is that of Cambridge University, and likewise that used by Parliament when fighting King Charles, has a much deeper significance than is generally known. It is closely related to the colour of the Virgin Mary, which in itself has been brought forward from Isis, Astarte and other Mother Goddesses of the ancient world, whose symbol was always the moon and seven stars. You may have noticed that many statues of the Virgin Mary show her wearing a diadem or crown of seven stars on her head and her cloak is light blue, the colour of our Masonic apron. In contrast, the aprons of District and Grand Lodge Officers have Garter Blue, often connected with certain Orders of Knighthood, but also this blue is the colour of Oxford University, and the colour associated with the Royalist cause during the Civil War. Thus the two aprons in use amongst Brethren of the English craft employ the colours of the two great Universities of England. The dark blue colour therefore can be said to represent the rulers in the Craft, and represent the masculine element. Light blue, on the other hand, represents the feminine or passive aspect, and is most appropriate for the ordinary Master Mason, whose duty it is to obey and not to command.

The other significant emblems representative of the female aspect are the three rosettes, symbol of the rose itself, itself a well known substitute for the Virgin Mary herself as the Mystic Rose. The three rosettes on a Master Mason 's apron are arranged so as to form a triangle with the point upwards, interpenetrating the triangle formed by the flap on the apron, alluding to the square and compass. The two rosettes on a Fellow Crafts apron stress the dual nature of man and have a clear reference to the two Pillars

The two rosettes also point out that the Fellow Craft has not yet a complete Freemason as it requires a third rosette to form a triangle. The Fellow Craft's apron thus represents the wearer's status as being superior to an Entered Apprentice but inferior to that which in due time he will attain and which the third rosette will invariably complete in the form of the interlaced square and compass.



As the Master Mason advances and becomes Master of his Lodge, the rosettes of his apron give way to three Tau or levels as they are generally called. The Tau is the symbol of the Creator and also the symbol of the Royal Arch to which all Masters had to be exalted to that supreme degree before he could accept the Chair in a Craft lodge.

Another important feature of the apron was the tassels which originally represented the ends of the string used to tie the apron round the waist. It was only a matter of time before these strings were decorated with tassels and even today certain aprons, such as those worn by members of the Royal Order of Scotland use this type of string with ornamental tassels which when properly tied together at the front cause the two tassels to stick out from under the flap. Craft aprons have now replaced the string or cord with a band attached to a hook and eye and so tassels have been replaced by two strips of ribbon on which are attached seven chains. The seven chains themselves are full of symbolic meaning and represent various Masonic allegories such as the 7 liberal Arts and Sciences, the number of Masons required to make a perfect lodge, the number of years it took king Solomon to build the temple, etc. The two ribbons and chains are also representative of the old pillars that used to adorn the apron before these were replaced with the existing form.

Finally we arrive at the band with the hook and eye attachment that perhaps nobody may be aware is also full of symbolic significance. It is no accident that the snake was selected for this purpose. The snake is the traditional symbol of evil, but it is also associated with wisdom. Thus the serpent in our apron denotes that we are encircled by Holy wisdom. You will also notice that the serpent is biting its own tail, thus forming a circle which has always been regarded as the emblem of eternity, and more especially the Eternal Wisdom of God.

As you can see Brethren the apron is not just a piece of regalia we wear simply to distinguish the different grades of Freemasons or even for cosmetic effect and pomp. It is a vital part of our ritual and why any Mason in a lodge who is not wearing his Masonic apron is considered quite rightly to be improperly dressed. Thus it will be seen that our apron is a very honourable garment, one that we should treasure. It is an apron made of lambskin, pure white, without fault or stain - the colour of the Soul as mortal man sees it.

It is ours and it now depends upon each of us to keep it without blemish - to keep it as a mirror of our soul that we may stand the final test when we reach into Life Eternal - which is just beyond.

“An Obituary printed in the London Times ”

.....Absolutely Dead Brilliant!!t

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years.

No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird gets the worm;
- Life isn't always fair;
- And maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot.

She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death,

- by his parents, Truth and Trust,
- by his wife, Discretion,
- by his daughter, Responsibility,
- and by his son, Reason

He is survived by his 5 stepchildren;

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else Is To Blame
- I'm A Victim
- Pay me for Doing Nothing

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

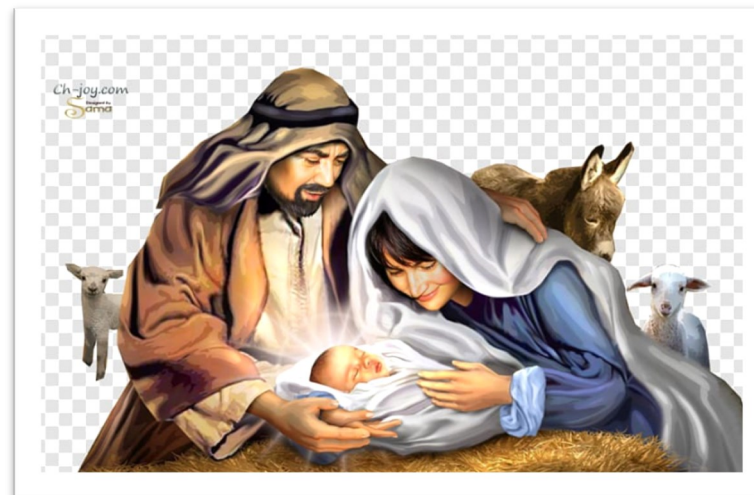
If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing

Life... and then it is night.





Monthly Lodge meetings, visiting dates, and other activities.



Remember - "The reason for the season."
Have a great Christmas time with family.

Ed.



Speak - up - Step - up - Show - up

