

# Lodge Waikato 475

OF FREE AND ACCEPTED FREEMASONS

MARCH 2021



“ Well overdue for a complete paint job. ”

Your help will be needed, so as the Master is coordinating a date to make a start, he needs to know if you can handle a paint brush or roller. ??

Please contact him to advise him of your availability.

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# NOTICE PAPER



## MASTER

**WBro. Andre Schenk**

11 Beaufort Place, Flagstaff, Hamilton.

Ph. 027 5784 06

## 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**

61b Dromara Drive

RD 9. Hamilton

Ph 027 497 5165

## SECRETARY

**Rt.WBro. Gary Salmon P.DivGM**

114 Briarwood Drive,

Flagstaff, Hamilton.

Ph 027 4938 709

**Dear Brother,**

**You are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Monthly Meeting of  
Lodge Waikato, to be held in the Hamilton East Masonic Centre,  
Grey St., Hamilton East , on Thursday 18th March 2021 at 7:30pm**

**Ceremony: - Second Degree working of Bro Lowell Daquioag**

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**

**For membership -**

**Mr Patrick Salmon - 35yrs, Married, 17 Fox St. Hamilton.**

***Rt.WBro. Gary Salmon - Hon Secretary***

## **Officers of the Lodge**

I.P.M.- WBro. Adrian de Bruin

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

Sen. Deacon - WBro. Steve Weller

Jun. Deacon - Bro. Aaron Peters

Chaplain - WBro. John Dickson

Almoner - WBro. Wally Lee **PGS**

Organist - Bro. Norm Weir **OSM**

Ass Secretary - WBro. Richard Kyle

Dir.of Cere - WBro. Kirk Spragg

Ass. D.O.C. - WBro. Willy Willetts

**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 Contact - Secretary Ph. 027 4938 709**

## LODGE WAIKATO 475



To be Initiated -

To be Passed to the Second Degree - Bro Geralde Guinto.  
Bro Jomar Figuerres

To be Raised to the Third Degree - .

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](mailto:wfnlee@gmail.com)

Please contact the **secretary** to update any items. Rt.WBro. Gary Salmon,  
027 4938 709 - e-mail - [lodge.waikato@gmail.com](mailto:lodge.waikato@gmail.com)

**Chairman of Management Committee** - WBro. Michael Tribe  
Ph 027 249 8630 - e-mail - [mtribe@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mtribe@xtra.co.nz)

**Editor of the Plumblin** - WBro. Graham Hallam.  
Ph 027 855 5198. e-mail - [mallah@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mallah@xtra.co.nz)

Lodge Waikato Monthly Diary - March 2021

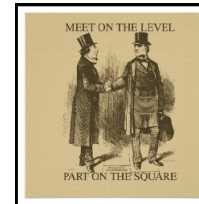
Thursday, 4th March at 7:00pm. Management meeting .

Thursday, 11th March at 7:00pm. Lodge monthly practice.

Thursday, 18th March at 7:30pm . Regular Lodge monthly meeting.

### Lodge Waikato Brethren with Masonic Birthdays in March 2020

Colin Wilson - 15th March 1962 (59yrs )  
John Evered - 28th March 1977 (44yrs )  
Eddie Jackson - 8th March 1982 (37yrs )  
Stuart Finlay - 5th March 1990 (31yrs )  
Bill Shaw - 26th March 2001 (20yrs )  
Adrian de Bruin - 20th March 2003 (18yrs )  
James Goodrich - 21st March 2005 (16yrs )  
Michael Adam - 6th March 2010 (11yrs )  
Warren Jones - 5th March 2012 (9yrs )  
Kayol Robinson-Douglas - 7th March 2016 (5yrs )  
Aaron Peters - 15th March 2018 (3yrs )  
Mark Ashburner - 21st March 2019 (2yrs )



### Special Thanks —

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

James R. Hill, Kees de Bruin

## Master's Report February 2021 –

Hello Brethren,

The Initiation of Jomar Figuerres was in my opinion a good night for all. I hope everybody enjoyed themselves. Being a Grand Lodge visit the Lodge was very well visited and I feel we can all be proud with the result of the night. The Ceremony went well and listening to the noise in the refectory all had a great time.



It was our first night without a top table and it looked to be relaxed. The poor Stewards had a lot of work cleaning up the tables, too much. Brethren we will continue without a top table so the table you are sitting at is small. If all Brethren of Lodge Waikato at the end of the night at least stack plates, glasses and cups on one end of the table they are sitting on it would be an enormous help. Bringing it to the kitchen would even help more.

Coming month we will perform a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree to Bro Lowell Daquioag. Study up on the Ceremony and we will make it just as good as last month.

We are proceeding with the painting of our Lodge building. We should all be proud of our building and a well-maintained building helps. We will need two days and this can be done in one weekend or spread over two weekends. When we paint the building ourselves the costs will be \$2000-\$2500, when we get a painter in it will be at least \$18000. Brethren an urgent call for volunteers. Could Brethren who can help please make this known to me. =  
-Many hands make light work.

### Also coming up:

Garage Sale at this stage planned for the 17<sup>th</sup> of April. So please clean your garage and cupboards and get it ready to bring to Lodge.

### Planned visits, and I would appreciate support at these visits -

Tuesday 2 March	Lodge Tawhiri
Tuesday 9 March	Lodge Alpha
Wednesday 10 March	Lodge Waipa
Wednesday 24 March	Lodge Te Aroha Installation ( Bro Marc Dresser )
Tuesday 6 April	Lodge Tawhiri on for a 2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree on our Bro Ged Guinto

**Brethren please support and turn out in force to support Bro Guinto.**

*Visit and be visited, keep Freemasonry dynamic.*

### Our Lodge dates are: -

Thursday 4 March	MT meeting and Practice
Thursday 11 March	Practice
Thursday 18 March	Regular Meeting 2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree

**WM**

### Advice -

**“ Life is too short and we never have too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are travelling the journey with us.**

**‘ O h make haste to be kind ’**

**Swiss Philosopher, Arniel.**



Lodge Waikato No 475  
Monthly planner

2021 -

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

The year ahead

Ceremonial -

March Second Degree of Bro Lowell Daquioag

April Social Night.

Presentation of 60yr award to W.Bro Tony Hilton.

Divisional Conference in Auckland, 17th April, Alexander Park.

May Initiation - Mr Patrick Salmon.

Activities

March - Painting of the Lodge building and entrance

- Volunteers painters needed, let 's make this a fun event.

February -March - Digitising Photos in Hall.

Possible moving to refectory.

April 17th - Garage Sale to raise money for Benevolence

April - Would like an offer from any of you to have a BBQ if available  
or have a Lunch elsewhere with partners.

Thanks once again for your support, and keep an eye on monthly  
newsletters so you can join me when visiting, always a seat available,

WM

' GARAGE SALE '

Yes, our hardy annual, but it always makes for a great day with support from all.

Mark it on your calendar - 17th April.

If you need help to transport stuff, just let us know, we 'll arrange a trailer etc.







Great night for all on 18th February.  
Line-up of Entered Apprentice Freemasons and Deacons  
Divisional Grand Master, District Grand Master, and Master of Lodge Waikato 475

**' A Great night for Lodge Waikato '**



**Bro Jomar Figuerres on his Initiation  
being congratulated by the Divisional Grand  
Master, RW Bro Michael Hattie.**

**WBro Steve Weller as Deacon.**



**' Shared workings. '**

**JW. WBro Darryl Gray had the night off,  
Bros. Mark Bunting, Brent Walker and Mark Ashburner  
shared the explanation of the 1st degree working tools.**

## Road Show - Next Steps.

### Greetings Brethren.

For those who attended the presentation by the Grand Master and Chief Executive in Tauranga will have gained a clear understanding where the Grand Master is aiming the organisation to better position it going into the future.

One of his requirements is that each Lodge will have a “Champion” who can be the point of contact for sending or receiving information from National Office, or me as the District Grand Master, and also to keep Lodge members updated as to progress and keep the momentum going on any plans that your Lodge may put in place..

As mentioned the Champion should not be the Master, Secretary or Treasurer – as they will be busy enough and the intention is not to have them loose focus on the day to day management of the Lodge.

What I need now is to get each Lodge to consider who among their membership is a suitable person to be your Lodge Champion and advise me of their name by 17 March. If your Lodge Champion, and you, decide that a small team of members would be more appropriate that is your call but I am only after the named Champion 's name. In addition to supplying the name of your Champion, it is also timely that you re-visit your Lodges ' Strategic Plan and update it as to achievements made to date and also amend or add to those plans already indicated in it. This plan will, hopefully, align with the three questions that were put at the presentation.

These questions were :-

- 1 What would you like to see happening in your Lodge to make it more welcoming, inclusive and dynamic?
- 2 What initiatives would you like to see happening in your Lodge to get more members involved?
- 3 What support would your Lodge need to attract and retain new members?

I am here to bounce ideas off that you may have. However, I do require a Champion name, and will also be after an update on what your Lodge has done/put in place to report back to the Grand Master at the Divisional Conference in Auckland on 17 April.

**Remember “ *The future comes from what we do in the present* ”**

Fraternally John.

V.WBro John Evered, District Grand Master.

### The Clever Old Man !!

One evening an old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn 't been there for a while, and look it over. He grabbed a five gallon bucket to bring back some fruit. As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny dipping in his pond.

He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end.

One of the women shouted, “ We 're not coming out until you leave. “

The old man frowned, “ I didn' t come down here to watch you ladies swim naked, or make you get out of the pool, ” he held up the bucket,

“ I 'm here to feed the alligator. ” !!!!



## RWBro Colin Arthur Wapp PGW

It was with much sadness that we received the news that Colin Wapp had died on the 6th February 2021. We were aware Colin had not been well and had been in special care facilities over recent times. He will be greatly missed by his wife Audrey of many years and his family. He will be remembered with sincere affection particularly by his friends in Freemasonry. Colin was 94yrs of age.

A small family service was held for Colin, where the Freemasons were able to show their respect, and the following words were presented by VW.Bro Don Seath.

### Tribute presented on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021

On behalf of all Freemasons, we would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Audrey and the Wapp Family for your loss.

Freemasonry is grateful to Audrey for giving us the opportunity to pay tribute to Colin and show our respect for his considerable contribution to the Craft.

Colin joined Lodge Te Marama No.186 in 1953 at the very young age of 23 and progressed through the ranks rapidly at a time when Freemasonry was strong. He became Master of Lodge Te Marama in 1959 at the age of 28, the youngest in the history of the Lodge.

Soon after, in 1968, he was promoted into Grand Lodge as Grand Steward. After serving terms as Assistant Director of Ceremonies and Grand Director of Ceremonies, he became Assistant Provincial Grand Master for the Waikato Province in 1978.

In 1996 he was given the Honorary Rank of Past Grand Warden which entitled him to Right Worshipful.

He received his 60-year Badge in 2013 and at the time Freemasonry acknowledged his huge contribution and the great support Audrey had given him and the Craft throughout his career.

He was made a Life Member of Lodge Te Marama and this honour was transferred into Lodge Waikato No.475 when Lodge Te Marama formed part of the new amalgamated Lodge.

Colin made other contributions to Freemasonry. Among them are Treasure 's roles, Trustee and generous donations to St John. (which he wanted to kept confidential )

He played a big part in the organisation of the Grand Lodge Communications in Hamilton and was proud of the fact that at that point it was the only Grand Lodge Communication which did not run at a loss.

RWBro Colin was keen to see things done correctly and appeared stern at times.

However, those of us who knew him found Colin to have a warm heart and was very helpful to us younger members who have an enduring respect for him.

He will be remembered with much affection.

**VWBro Don Seath P Dist GM**

#### Tools -

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

## Brother Winston

### Churchill was a very public figure, but Yasha Beresiner has discovered the very private Freemason.

Freemasons take pride in having men of stature as members of the fraternity. But have Masons at times attributed too much significance to the Masonic association of these great men? Maybe more than the famous people themselves have done? Winston Churchill was the greatest British statesman in recent history. In 1901 he became a Freemason. What induced him to join the fraternity? How active was he as a Freemason? What part did Freemasonry play in his life?

Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill was born on 30 November 1874 and educated at Harrow. At the time of his initiation into Studholme Lodge 1591 on 24 May 1901, Freemasonry was a fashionable social pursuit.

The election of the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) as Grand Master in 1875 gave a huge impetus to Freemasonry. As the Prince of Wales, he had been an exceedingly popular Royal and Grand Master, and brought with him a host of other Royals and aristocrats who gladly joined the Craft. It was not by accident that the promising young Winston was introduced to Studholme Lodge in London.

John Studholme Brownrigg, Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, whose prominent family gave its name to the new Lodge, consecrated the Lodge on 31 January 1876. In 1881 the Lodge moved from Surbiton, in Surrey, to London, and the summonses read like a Who's Who of the aristocracy and social elite. The guest list for the Lodge's 21st Installation Banquet in 1897 includes 17 Members of Parliament, including the Lord Chancellor, and numerous Lords, Earls, Knights and high-ranking members of the armed forces dispersed throughout the dining room.

The Lodge records give the date of Churchill's initiation as 24 May 1901 with his address as 105 Mount Street, his age as 26, and his occupation as a Member of Parliament. Charles Clive Bigham, Viscount Mersey, whose entry in the Studholme Lodge register, next to that of Churchill, has caused some confusion about his taking his third degree in Rosemary Lodge, gives an insight into the scene on the day. Within two months, on 19 July, Winston was passed to the second degree, and on 5 March 1902 he became a Master Mason, all three ceremonies being conducted in Studholme Lodge.

Winston will have been aware of the high Masonic standing of his far-removed ancestor Lord Henry John Spencer-Churchill (1797-1840), fourth son of the fifth Duke of Marlborough. A captain in the Royal Navy, he was a member of the household of his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex at the time when the Duke was Grand Master. He was a member of the prestigious Lodge of Antiquity No.2 and became Deputy Grand Master in 1835, when the Earl of Durham was compelled to resign on being appointed ambassador to Russia. Lord Henry had already been honoured with the rank of Past Senior Grand Warden in 1832 and served as President of the Board of General Purposes in 1834. On 2 September 1836 he was appointed Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire and served his Province well until his untimely death in action, on board HMS Dolphin in the China Sea, on 2 June 1840.

A large, well-kept gravestone marks his burial in the rather small and hidden-away Protestant cemetery in Macao. His memory was immortalised in Churchill Lodge No. 702 ( now No. 478 ), which was founded in 1841 in his honour.

It is only appropriate that Winston's father, Lord Randolph Churchill ( 1849-1895 ), and his uncle, Randolph's elder brother George Charles Spencer Churchill ( 1844-1892 ), the Marquis of Blandford, should both be initiated in Churchill Lodge on 9 February 1871. The two brothers were excluded on 22 January 1883 - together with eleven other brethren, Oscar Wilde among them - for non-payment of dues. The brothers were subsequently reinstated, as they had been in South Africa on Her Majesty's Service.

Some ten years later another member of the Churchill family came into the Lodge when Charles Richard John Spencer Churchill ( 1871-1934 ), ninth Duke of Marlborough, and first cousin of Winston, was initiated on 7 May 1894, aged 23.

By 1911, Winston Churchill was well on his way to political success and fame, and in October 1911 was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty.

In the knowledge that he would no longer be able to take any part whatsoever, he resigned from Studholme Lodge in July 1912, but continued his membership of the Craft.

Clearly Winston, on becoming a Freemason, complied with the fashion of the time. His respect and affection for his father, Lord Randolph, and the distinguished line of Freemasons in his family, will have played a part in his joining the Craft. It will also have fulfilled Winston's own curious interest in this and other fraternities. In November 1904 he accepted honorary membership in the Hawthorn Lodge of the British Order of Ancient Free Gardeners in Glasgow.

He is also recorded as a member of the Loyal Waterloo Lodge of the National Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Manchester in April of 1907 and of the Albion Lodge, Oxford of the Ancient Order of Druids in September 1908 ( his father was also a member of the Woodstock Lodge of Independent Order of Foresters ). Churchill's association with Freemasonry must be placed within this context of his membership, and almost certain equal inactivity, in all these various organisations.

To state that Freemasonry will not have made an impression on Churchill would be belittling the depth of the fraternity. On the other hand, to imply that his life or actions were in any way fundamentally influenced by his having been a Mason is unreasonable at best. Had Freemasonry had any significance of consequence to Churchill we would have known it. He was a prolific orator and author, and has written extensively and in detail about his youth and his life.

So have umpteen other authors and biographers. Nowhere is there to be found a mention of Freemasonry in any context at all.

These facts, however, do not detract from the pride Freemasons derive in the knowledge that Winston Churchill was a Mason, descended from a long line of active and distinguished brethren of the Craft.

**Note in your diary, - Garage sale 17th April 2021.  
Contact JW, WM, if you need storage or cartage on the day.  
Your help will be sought for the morning to assist on the tables  
for those who are purchasing.**

## ADMIRAL WILLIAM H. MCRAVEN

### “ CHANGE THE WORLD “

His speech continued -

***Changing the world can happen anywhere and anyone can do it. So, what starts here can indeed change the world, but the question is — what will the world look like after you change it?***

3. Over a few weeks of difficult training my SEAL class, which started with 150 men, was down to just 35. There were now six boat crews of seven men each. I was in the boat with the tall guys, but the best boat crew we had was made up of the the little guys — the munchkin crew we called them — no one was over about five-foot-five.

The munchkin boat crew had one American Indian, one African American, one Polish American, one Greek American, one Italian American, and two tough kids from the midwest. They out-paddled, out-ran and out-swam all the other boat crews. The big men in the other boat crews would always make good-natured fun of the *tiny little flippers* the munchkins put on their *tiny little feet* prior to every swim. But somehow these little guys, from every corner of the nation and the world, always had the last laugh — swimming faster than everyone and reaching the shore long before the rest of us.

SEAL training was a great equalizer. Nothing mattered but your will to succeed. Not your color, not your ethnic background, not your education and not your social status.

**If you want to change the world, measure a person by the size of their heart, not the size of their flippers.**

4. Several times a week, the instructors would line up the class and do a uniform inspection. It was exceptionally thorough. Your hat had to be perfectly starched, your uniform immaculately pressed and your belt buckle shiny and void of any smudges. But it seemed that no matter how much effort you put into starching your hat, or pressing your uniform or polishing your belt buckle — it just wasn't good enough. The instructors would find “something” wrong. For failing the uniform inspection, the student had to run, fully clothed into the surfzone and then, wet from head to toe, roll around on the beach until every part of your body was covered with sand. The effect was known as a “sugar cookie.” You stayed in that uniform the rest of the day — cold, wet and sandy.

There were many a student who just couldn't accept the fact that all their effort was in vain. That no matter how hard they tried to get the uniform right, it was unappreciated. Those students didn't make it through training. Those students didn't understand the purpose of the drill. You were never going to succeed. You were never going to have a perfect uniform. Sometimes no matter how well you prepare or how well you perform you still end up as a sugar cookie. It's just the way life is sometimes.

**If you want to change the world get over being a sugar cookie and keep moving forward.**

5. Every day during training you were challenged with multiple physical events — long runs, long swims, obstacle courses, hours of calisthenics — something designed to test your mettle. Every event had standards — times you had to meet. If you failed to meet those standards your name was posted on a list, and at the end of the day those on the list were invited to a “circus.” A circus was two hours of additional calisthenics designed to wear you down, to break your spirit, to force you to quit.

**No one wanted a circus.**

A circus meant that for that day you didn't measure up. A circus meant more fatigue —

— and more fatigue meant that the following day would be more difficult — and more circuses were likely. But at some time during SEAL training, everyone — everyone — made the circus list.

But an interesting thing happened to those who were constantly on the list. Over time those students — who did two hours of extra calisthenics — got stronger and stronger. The pain of the circuses built inner strength, built physical resiliency.

Life is filled with circuses. You will fail. You will likely fail often. It will be painful. It will be discouraging. At times it will test you to your very core.

**But if you want to change the world, don 't be afraid of the circuses.**

**6.** At least twice a week, the trainees were required to run the obstacle course.

The obstacle course contained 25 obstacles including a 10-foot high wall, a 30-foot cargo net and a barbed wire crawl, to name a few. But the most challenging obstacle was the slide for life. It had a three-level 30-foot tower at one end and a one-level tower at the other. In between was a 200-foot-long rope. You had to climb the three-tiered tower and once at the top, you grabbed the rope, swung underneath the rope and pulled yourself hand over hand until you got to the other end.

The record for the obstacle course had stood for years when my class began training in 1977. The record seemed unbeatable, until one day, a student decided to go down the slide for life head first. Instead of swinging his body underneath the rope and inching his way down, he bravely mounted the TOP of the rope and thrust himself forward.

It was a dangerous move — seemingly foolish, and fraught with risk. Failure could mean injury and being dropped from the training. Without hesitation the student slid down the rope perilously fast. Instead of several minutes, it only took him half that time and by the end of the course he had broken the record.

**If you want to change the world sometimes you have to slide down the obstacle head first.**

**7.** During the land warfare phase of training, the students are flown out to San Clemente Island which lies off the coast of San Diego. The waters off San Clemente are a breeding ground for the great white sharks. To pass SEAL training there are a series of long swims that must be completed. One is the night swim.

Before the swim the instructors joyfully brief the trainees on all the species of sharks that inhabit the waters off San Clemente. They assure you, however, that no student has ever been eaten by a shark — at least not recently. But, you are also taught that if a shark begins to circle your position — stand your ground. Do not swim away. Do not act afraid. And if the shark, hungry for a midnight snack, darts towards you — then summon up all your strength and punch him in the snout, and he will turn and swim away.

There are a lot of sharks in the world. If you hope to complete the swim you will have to deal with them.

**So, if you want to change the world, don 't back down from the sharks.**

**8.** Navy SEALs one of our jobs is to conduct underwater attacks against enemy shipping. We practiced this technique extensively during basic training. The ship attack mission is where a pair of SEAL divers is dropped off outside an enemy harbor and then swims well over two miles — underwater — using nothing but a depth gauge and a compass to get to their target.

During the entire swim, even well below the surface, there is some light that comes through. It is comforting to know that there is open water above you.

But as you approach the ship, which is tied to a pier, the light begins to fade.



The steel structure of the ship blocks the moonlight, it blocks the surrounding street lamps, it blocks all ambient light.

To be successful in your mission, you have to swim under the ship and find the keel — the centerline and the deepest part of the ship. This is your objective. But the keel is also the darkest part of the ship — where you cannot see your hand in front of your face, where the noise from the ship 's machinery is deafening and where it is easy to get disoriented and fail. Every SEAL knows that under the keel, at the darkest moment of the mission, is the time when you must be calm, composed — when all your tactical skills, your physical power and all your inner strength must be brought to bear.

**If you want to change the world, you must be your very best in the darkest moment.**

9. The ninth week of training is referred to as “Hell Week.” It is six days of no sleep, constant physical and mental harassment, and one special day at the Mud Flats. The Mud Flats are area between San Diego and Tijuana where the water runs off and creates the Tijuana slues, a swampy patch of terrain where the mud will engulf you.

It is on Wednesday of Hell Week that you paddle down to the mud flats and spend the next 15 hours trying to survive the freezing cold mud, the howling wind and the incessant pressure to quit from the instructors. As the sun began to set that Wednesday evening, my training class, having committed some “egregious infraction of the rules ” was ordered into the mud.

The mud consumed each man till there was nothing visible but our heads. The instructors told us we could leave the mud if only five men would quit — just five men — and we could get out of the oppressive cold. Looking around the mud flat it was apparent that some students were about to give up. It was still over eight hours till the sun came up — eight more hours of bone-chilling cold. The chattering teeth and shivering moans of the trainees were so loud it was hard to hear anything. And then, one voice began to echo through the night, one voice raised in song. The song was terribly out of tune, but sung with great enthusiasm. One voice became two and two became three and before long everyone in the class was singing.

We knew that if one man could rise above the misery then others could as well.

The instructors threatened us with more time in the mud if we kept up the singing but the singing persisted. And somehow the mud seemed a little warmer, the wind a little tamer and the dawn not so far away. If I have learned anything in my time traveling the world, it is the power of hope. The power of one person — Washington, Lincoln, King, Mandela and even a young girl from Pakistan, Malala — one person can change the world by giving people hope.

**So, if you want to change the world, start singing when you' re up to your neck in mud.**

Finally, in SEAL training there is a bell. A brass bell that hangs in the center of the compound for all the students to see. All you have to do to quit is ring the bell.

Ring the bell and you no longer have to wake up at 5 o ' clock. Ring the bell and you no longer have to do the freezing cold swims. Ring the bell and you no longer have to do the runs, the obstacle course, the PT — and you no longer have to endure the hardships of training. Just ring the bell.

**If you want to change the world don 't ever, ever ring the bell.**

*Find someone to help you through life. Respect everyone, know that life is not fair and that you will fail often. But if you take some risks, step up when the times are toughest, lift up the downtrodden and never, ever give up — if you do these things, then the next generation and the generations that follow will live in a world far better than the one we have today.*

***Thankyou***

## JOBS

Don 't wait till someone asks you, the time may never come  
There are lots of jobs within a Lodge, all waiting to be done.  
If you 've gone through three degrees and want to go ahead,  
Think of all the charges that are waiting to be said.

From Steward through to Master, no matter what the chair,  
If you put in the effort reward will find you there.  
We all start off as Stewards and on the tables wait,  
There 's more learned in the kitchen, than just laying out a plate.

And as you travel on my friend, the Tyler you may be,  
He stands well armed with sword in hand, to greet the company.  
Of visitors assembling, all waiting for the knocks,  
And to see the candidates prepared, before the door unlocks.

From there on to the Inner Guard, he stands firm and aloof,  
Admitting all Freemasons once they have given proof.  
All candidates he will receive as they come to the door,  
And give a well-briefed caution, as they prepare to walk the floor.

The Deacons are the messengers, the ritual they must know,  
The candidate depends on them, as round the Lodge they go.  
They escort all the visitors, with dignity and pride,  
As they carry-out their duty, their wands close at their side.

The Junior Warden is well picked, his work is many fold,  
From labour to refreshment, and back again I 'm told.  
He oversees the stewards, there is so much that he must learn,  
He buys all the grog, presents the tools and hopes the pies don 't burn.

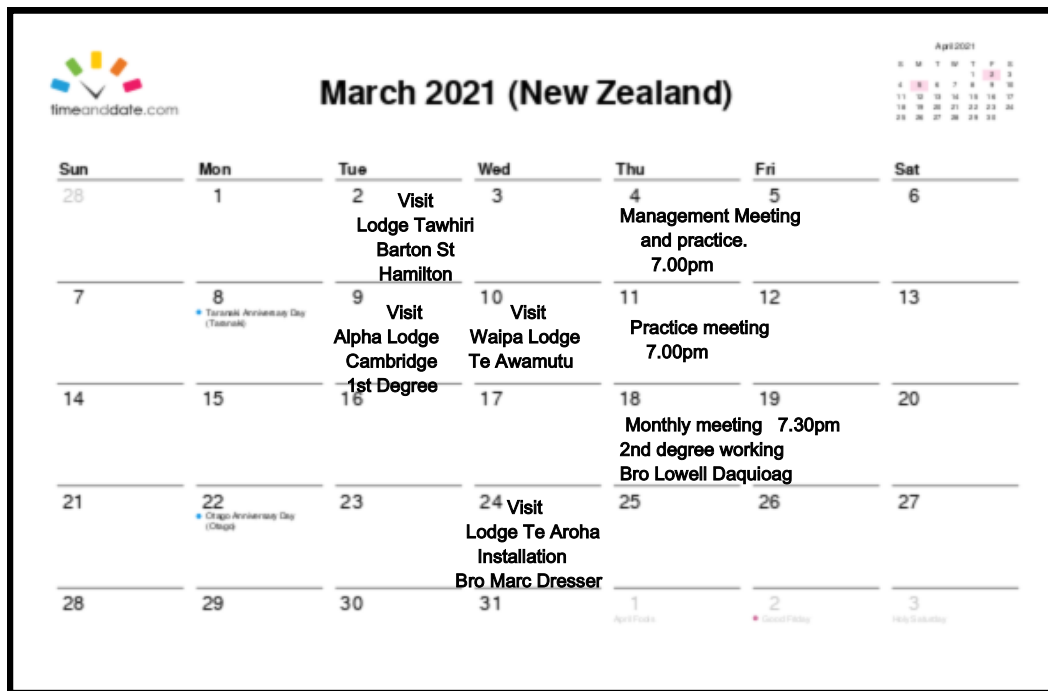
The Senior Warden 's getting close, he has one year to go,  
There is so-much for him to learn, and so-much he must know.  
He shudders at the first degree, the reason lays ahead,  
The final charge, the final test, some of us face with dread.

And then at last the Master 's Chair, for those of us who gain it,  
His duties will be many fold, but worth it to attain it.  
A year of many memories, you' ll be glad you didn 't shun it,  
And when your year is ended, you 'll be oh-so-glad you 've done it.

The IPM 's an honoured chair, it 's at the Master 's side,  
To guide him, and advise him, an office held with pride.  
There are charges, there are offices, so many things to do,  
What makes a Lodge successful, depends on me and you.

So don 't wait till someone asks you, don 't sit and wonder why,  
All things are achievable, once we give them a try.  
But one thing I must tell you, one day you will understand,  
We all end up in the kitchen, to lend a helping hand.

**Thanks - W.Bro Geoff Mather**



Monthly Lodge meeting dates and other activities.

