Lodge Waikato 475

AUGUST 2023



Return to the 'Chair'

W Bro. Dennis Mead resumes the Master's Chair after a 17yr break. (wearing sparkling new collar) With him are VW Bro. Len Jeffrey, DGM. and W Bro. Darryl Gray GS. IPM



MASTER

NOTICE PAPER



WBro. Alexander (Dennis) Mead

14 Lochinver Drive, Glenview Heights, Hamilton. Ph 021 039 9200

SENIOR WARDEN

WBro. Steven R. Weller

561c Waingaro Road, RD 1 Ngaruawahia Ph 021 527 540

Ph 027 496 1699

JUNIOR WARDEN

Bro. Mark W.D. Bunting

15 Heritage Avenue

Chartwell, Hamilton.

SECRETARY

RW Bro. Gary W. Salmon P.DivGM

114 Briarwood Drive, Flagstaff, Hamilton. Ph 027 493 8709

TREASURER

V WBro. Donald M. Seath P.DistGM

14 Carnachan Street Norfolk Downs, Cambridge. Ph 027 497 5165

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 17th August 2023 at 7:30pm

Ceremony: - Presentation evening, - MM Certs/Investitures

Confirmation of Minute
 Accounts payable
 Treasurer's report
 Correspondence
 Almoners Report
 Ballots

7. General Business 8. **Notice of Motion**

RW Bro. Gary Salmon - Hon Secretary

Officers of the Lodge

I.P.M.- WBro. Darryl Gray
Sen. Deacon - Bro. Mark Ashburner
Chaplain - WBro. Bob Ancell RH
Organist - Bro. Norm Weir OSM
Dir.of Cere - WBro. Kirk Spragg
Inner Guard - Bro Geoff Taylor

Dep.Master - V WBro. John Evered PDGM Jnr. Deacon - Bro Mark Namuag Almoner - WBro. Wally Lee PGS Ass. Almoner - WBro Graham Hallam RH Ass. D.O.C.— WBro. Michael Tribe PGS Tyler - WBro. Andre Schenk GS

Lodge contact addresses -

Lodge Secretary, - e-mail - lodge.waikato@gmail.com
Lodge Waikato 475 - PO Box 9502, Waikato Mail centre, Hamilton 3240
Lodge Rooms address, 285 Grey St. Hamilton East.

LODGE WAIKATO 475



To be Initiated -

To be Passed to the Second Degree - Bro Sanjay Raj.

To be Raised to the Third Degree - Bro Benjamin Ansel

Please contact the **Lodge Almoner**, - WBro. Wally Lee, in all cases of difficulty and where any help is needed. - **ph 07 824 4862. e-mail - wfnlee@gmail.com** or...Assistant Almoner, WBro. Graham Hallam RH, ph 027 855 5190

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

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

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

Lodge Waikato Monthly Diary - August 2023

Thursday, 3rd August at 7:00pm - Management meeting /practice Thursday, 10th August at 7:00pm - Lodge practice meeting Thursday, 17th August at 7:30pm - Lodge regular monthly meeting

Lodge Waikato Brethren With Masonic Birthdays in August 2023

Don Morgan - 24th August 1972 - 51yrs Keith Buick - 20th August 1979 - 44yrs Dennis Aplin - 2nd August 1989 - 34yrs Mark Namuag - 21st August 2021 - 2yr



Special Thanks —

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

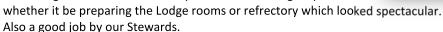
James R. Hill. - 07 8555541

Welcome Brethren,

Well, my Installation night has arrived and gone.

Not my first Installation but nevertheless required a fair amount of preparation.

I am grateful for all the encouragement and support in the build up and I am somewhat relieved to have it behind me however I did enjoy a special night. As incoming Master you certainly are the centre of attention whether you like it or not! I know that the Brethren who participated put in a lot of work to make it happen and I am grateful to them. Thank you to all the willing helpers



Not forgetting those who attended thereby contributing by their presence, I thank you also.

We are blessed to have an enthusiastic team and there will be a focus on a good standard of ritual and etiquette on the floor. We can all learn and improve (myself included). We also have a very keen Junior Warden who intends to liven us up socially so what an opportunity we have to make our Lodge a place of learning but also a fun place to be with great company. We are very fortunate so let's together make it work.

Please remember and in particular our newer Masons to attend the Management meetings where you will be very welcome.

Visiting will also feature and I do welcome your support, contact the junior Warden or myself and we can arrange car pooling. By the time you read this article my first visit which was to Lodge Te Aroha will be completed. If you missed out don't worry there's more to come and notice will be given.

Please attend the practice sessions of which there will be two per month possibly three as deemed necessary. In particular I ask that new Masons attend practice, you would be very welcome, can get involved, learn a lot and get to appreciate the work done in the background.

The last few months some of our Brethren have taken up the opportunity to attend a Sunday afternoon "coaching" and instruction session. This has proven to be very helpful and a great opportunity to learn perhaps some of the finer points and practice charges "in house" in an informal setting. The timing is strictly for one hour so as not infringing too much on your weekend time. Again please contact me the if you would like to participate or there is anything in particular that you would like help with.

Between now and Christmas we have on the books a second degree and a couple of thirds. Things can change fairly rapidly these days but I will do my best to plan ahead. I know I can count on your support when the time comes for allocation of work etc.

I look forward to seeing you all soon

W.Bro Dennis Mead



Lodge Waikato No 475 Monthly planner

Proposal for Lodge Work from August/December 2023

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

Month	Date	Proposed ceremony	Brother/Brethren
August	17	Presentation evening	MM certificates etc.
September	21	3rd degree working	Bro Ben Ansel
October	19	2nd degree working	Bro Sanjay Raj
November	16	TBC	

The Master -

The Master rules and governs the Lodge, not just in theory but in fact.

Outside it he is a brother among brethren, but even there, for his year in the Chair, set somewhat apart, by virtue of his office, he is the first among equals. In the Lodge he is supreme, with precedence over all others, Past Masters included. For the time being, he is the representative, how-ever humble, of King Solomon. No Master can achieve his best without active support and assistance from his officers and brethren. Intelligently and loyally supported, he can raise the workings of the Lodge to a high standard of excellence when initiating and advancing candidates, who should be inspired with the most favourable impression of the Craft.

Conduct within the Lodge -

Lodge workings are serious and solemn. They should at all times be conducted in a dignified and impressive fashion, and brethren within the Lodge must be at pains to maintain both the Lodge and personal dignity. Silence, except when required to speak, and strict attention to the work in progress is the expectation of every brother.

Lodge Etiquette-

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

Who is this man - Our Master?

Born 1950 at Mangakino Hospital next to the "Mighty Waikato." My parents residing at the village and my father being employed by the NZ State Hydro on the Dam project, in the pay office. After my birth the family returned to Hamilton to live.

Back in the family history 1922 saw my grandparents and their two sons immigrating by ship to NZ from Southampton England settling in Claudelands Hamilton. The family set up a printing business in town. My Grandfather was a member of Lodge Beta Waikato. My father and his younger brother were born in Hamilton making a total of four Hamilton Mead boys in that generation.

Growing up my childhood was mainly in East Street Hamilton, although I spent a couple of years living in Whangarei due to my father accepting a position at a Northland Hospital. High School education being shared across both locations as we eventually returned to Hamilton from Whangarei.

On leaving school my first job was as in Engineering. I was fortunate to be contracted to the National Dairy Association (NDA) as an apprentice Sheet Metal Worker. (Stainless Steel)

I say fortunate because I was assured by my employer that so long as there were cows in the paddock I would have secure employment in my chosen trade. This proved to be very true as I served in various roles with NDA for around 47 years in total.

There were a couple of years after I had completed my apprenticeship where I escaped over the wire and tried my luck with other companies but was never happy and upon being invited was very pleased to return back to the "firm" NDA and resume from where I left off.

NDA (now NDA Engineering Group) offered me every opportunity to advance my skills and knowledge. I was encouraged to take on a role as Trainee Draughtsman, a position that was gladly accepted and I eventually became Senior Draughtsman in charge of a small team. This lead to a position as Sales Engineer which involved a fair bit of travel around NZ as well as Australia and the Pacific. As I got closer to retirement age it was decided to keep me closer to home where I was engaged as an Engineering Estimator with a challenging job of putting all my practical, design and sales skills together to tackle tender and contract pricing, I really enjoyed it!

My Masonic career started in 1998 in Grey Street with Lodge Hillcrest and I was Master for 2006/2007

Now fully retired I live in Hamilton with my partner Evelinda. I do have a son who lives in Canada, Also two young Canadian grandsons whom I miss! I try to visit them each year. Among my interests is Motorcycling particularly classic motorcycles and road racing. I try to keep healthy and fit but sometimes my body wont comply.

There is always a lot more to each of us than can be written in a few lines, but I hope that as your new Master for the next year you can get a sense of my makeup and background.

I look forward to this next year as the Master of Lodge Waikato 475

Dennis.

'Greetings from the Junior Warden'

Greetings to all hungry and thirsty brethren.

Many brethren of more mature years will remember the times that my dear father would talk about. Parties, gatherings, balls and barbecues held by the Lodge, and those stories that would gently seep out into family folklore of the antics afterwards.



As a kid growing up in Central Otago, it seemed to me that the various Lodges around the district were the social hubs of the communities. Times were different. Drink driving rules weren't as prominent, pubs closed earlier, there wasn't the access to entertainment within the home that we now enjoy, and so while Freemasonry is very much enjoyed by newer brethren, it doesn't occupy such a massive part in our social lives as it once did.

Is there an appetite within our lodge to change that?

Demands on men are far different these days. Just as it necessarily follows that the sun must always be at its meridian with respect to freemasonry, it's a safe bet to assume that at any given time of day or night one of our own Lodge will be at work somewhere in the Waikato. For some, turning up to rehearsals and meetings is a clash. However, I for one joined the craft to get to know other men, and to build friendships and relationships. A few of us go motorcycle riding together, a few of us meet up for a beer or a coffee when we can, but would you be interested in raising our social game just a little? I think it starts at refectory.

VW Bro Gary Salmon and our IPM, WBro Darryl Gray have done a lovely job with the presentation of the refectory, and now our three Stewards, brothers Black, Gensik and Ansel and I, am aiming to make the supper after the ceremony as good as the ceremonies themselves.

I think we have a great opportunity to treat our brethren and visitors to a really great night, one that we all really look forward to each month. We spoke about the difficulty in attracting visitors during the installation, so let's make our evenings really well worth the visit!

We're not anticipating booking Dire Straits or the NZSO quite yet, but we hope you'll notice some nice little changes that enhance what is already a great evening.

Fraternally yours,

Bro. Mark Bunting, Junior Warden.

Higher Standards

Freemasons are charged to be peaceable, upstanding citizens.

One of our three principal tenets is Truth, which we teach to be the foundation of every virtue. To be good and true is the first lesson taught to us in Masonry. To protect each other from the necessary consequences of our actions, I believe, is not an example of honest living.

Bro Brendon Cole SW

Lodge Installation - 20-07-2023



Ritual: Why? Who needs it anyway?

The short answer is "Yes".

To explain 'why' takes a little longer.

In a very real sense, it is the ritual of masonry that makes Freemasonry work.

Ritual is the channel through which Freemasonry teaches. But it is more than that.

Because ritual is so important to Freemasonry, it is worth taking a little time to talk about the nature of ritual itself, and why it is central to the Masonic experience.

All of us engage in ritual all the time..... We just don't recognize it. Most of us have a morning routine, for example, some of us shave before showering, some of us after showering, and some while showering, but whichever it is, we usually do it the same way. Most of us shake hands when we are introduced to someone....that is a ritual. Bowing the head during prayer is a ritual.

Making coffee in the morning is a ritual. Starting a meal with 'Grace', soup or salad and ending in dessert is a ritual. Our lives are filled and surrounded with rituals from birth to marriage to death.

Why?

+ Ritual gives us a framework to organize events.

We don't deal well with chaos, we make lists of things to do, to buy, to read, ritual does the same thing for us. By doing things in a given order (which is the essence of ritual) we make sure everything gets done. Even churches that try to make a point of not using ritual, use in that sense. The order in which hymns are sung, the collection is taken, the sermon is given, and prayer is offered seldom changes for a given congregation.

+ Ritual helps us in our relationships with others.

Almost all families have family rituals....things they just do in certain ways. Those rituals might include such things as making it a point to eat together on certain days, calling on certain times of the day, giving certain kinds of gifts, there are thousands of possibilities. Those rituals strengthen the unity of the family.

+ Ritual is a powerful teaching tool.

In fact, it was probably the very first teaching tool. We know off hunting rituals among tribes, whose purpose was to teach the young man how to hunt effectively. Mnemonics (the phrase which helps us remember things such as "Thirty days hath September, April, June and November..") are rituals, as in learning the alphabet, by singing the alphabet song. The military developed many rituals, (patterns of repeated behaviour) to teach recruits how to maintain weapons. So... the ritual of Masonry involves these attributes, and more.

+ The rituals of Masonry

The opening and closing.. the degree workings.. even the ritual of voting...organise the events and to make sure that everything happens as it is supposed to.

- + It helps us define ourselves as Masons and strengthen the fraternal ties that bind us together as brothers. And that effect is international and cross-cultural. We know we have shared experiences with Freemasons from all over the world.
- + It is a teaching tool... the lessons and values of Freemasonry are taught through ritual and symbols.

It helps set the tone and mood of the meeting...it helps us set aside the concerns of the outside world and focus on the great truths of human and spiritual nature.

Masonic ritual gives full range to Masons to explore their own interests. Many Masons enjoy greatly the learning and performing the ritual. Our own interests deal with interpretation of the ritual and the symbols it uses... and especially with the effects the ritual is designed to produce in the minds of initiates and the ways in which these effects are produced. Others are especially interested in the history of the ritual and the way it has changed and evolved over the years. Freemasons may be interested in the ritual from the standpoint of a cultural anthropologist, and enjoys tracing the ways the ritual relates to the great initiatory traditions of history.

And the ritual is large enough and complex enough to accommodate all those interests, and many more.

So, again, the answer to the question... "Who needs ritual anyway."

"We all do."

The ritual of Masonry meets many needs and many interests. It is not the same thing as Masonry....any more, than a sermon is the same thing as a church....but it is a primary way we teach and learn.

+ It is the glue that holds us together...It is important...It makes us, us.

Masonic Find

Education -

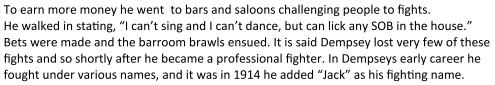
As a citizen of the world, I am to enjoin you to be exemplary in the discharge of your civil duties; never proposing, or at all countenancing any act that may have a tendency to subvert the peace and good order of society; by paying due obedience to the laws of any State which may, for a time, become the place of your residence, or afford you it's protection; and above all, by never losing sight of the allegiance due to the sovereign of your native land, ever remembering that nature has implanted in your breast a sacred and indissoluble attachment to that country whence you derived your birth and infant nurture.

As an individual, let me recommend to you the practice of every domestic as well as public virtue. Let Prudence direct you, Temperance chasten you, Fortitude support you, and Justice be the guide of all your actions. Be especially careful to maintain, in their fullest splendour, those truly Masonic ornaments; Benevolence and Charity.

A Famous Freemason

William Harrison (Jack) Dempsey was an American boxer, born in Manassa, Colorado on June 24th 1895. His family was poor and they moved around quite often so his father could find wok. His parents converted to Mormonism and at the age of eight he was baptised in the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

Dempsey dropped out of school in elementary school to help support the family. By the age of 16 he left home.



In 1917 the USA entered WW1 and Dempsey went to work in the shipyards while he continued to box. He met World Heavyweight Champion Jess Willard for a title match. Dempsey knocked Willard down in the first round, winning the fight which now created controversy which followed him the rest of his life. There were reports after the fight Willard had broken facial bones inflicted by Dempseys hand. Accusations arose about using a knuckle-duster in his glove, that on occasion he was accused of having plaster of Paris in his hand wrappings.

Dempsey defended his world Heavy-weight Champion title several times and during the course of holding this title he became one of the richest athletes in the world and was on the cover of Time magazine.

In 1926, Dempsey lost his title to Gene Tunney, the fight had the largest attendance for a sporting event outside of racing and soccer. When he returned to his dressing room after his defeat he told his wife, "Honey, I forgot to duck."

Dempsey attempted to win back his title in 1927 from Tunney, and although he knocked Tunney to the canvas, Dempsey was later knocked down, and this then became his last major fight. He continued to do exhibition matches.

When the USA entered WW11, Dempsey enlisted in the New York National Guard, he then transferred to the US Coast Guard Reserve.

After the war Dempsey became a philanthropist, he notably stated he was glad he never had to fight Joe Louis in the ring. When Joe Louis fell on hard times Dempsey headed a charity for Louis to get him back on his feet.

Dempsey passed away on May 31st 1983 in New York, and just before his final breath he said to his wife, "Don't worry honey, I'm to mean to die."

Bro Jack Dempsey was a member of the Kenwood Lodge No 800, in Chicago, Illinois.

Article sent to Plumbline via WBro Geoff Mather

'Freemasonry in no way replaces religious belief, but it's teachings of morality, tolerance, charity and kindness can support the individuals personal faith.'

John Hamill



HOW TO KILL YOUR LODGE

Don't come.

When you do come, come late.

Never accept an office. It is better to stay outside and criticize.

The officers asked for the job. Let them do all the work.

Never pay your dues in advance. Wait until you get your moneys worth and then wait a while longer.

It is good to tell your officers failings to visitors, as they may not discover them on their own.

If there are any zealous workers in the Lodge inform everyone the Lodge is run by a clique.

Disagree with established rules and regulations, let people know you have a mind of your own.

Keep talking to the brother next to you in Lodge it makes for good fellowship.

If one brother has said or done something you don't like, be mad at the whole Lodge.

We're much better than this, don't listen to those with a negative attitude, as it does no good to yourself or the Lodge.

Ed.

Now read this article below

Lodge Etiquette -

Punctuality and Regularity -

make him feel at ease and welcome.

Punctuality and regularity of attendance are among the first virtues etiquette demands of Freemasons. The brethren should be settled in their places before the Master makes ready to rise to open the Lodge. This entails more than arriving just before the Lodge is tyled. Every brother should sign the attendance book and dress Masonically in the suitable room and should be able to do so without semblance of unseemly haste. More than that, he should aim, and therefore should provide time, to meet and greet the brethren with whom he is to spend the evening. For some there will be a handshake, for some a nod and a smile, but for all there should be a cheery attitude.

If there is a visitor, do not hesitate to make your-self known and introduce him to others to

Punctuality is a virtue to often dishonoured in the breach in today's society.

Agreed, in a busy life it can be unavoidable; but is it as inevitable as it appears.?

It is discourteous to enter a concert or theatre late, punctuality at business meetings is always considered essential; it is equally important in Freemasonry; regularity and

punctuality of attendance is essential to the well-being of the Lodge.

Ed

"Where have they all gone."?

A man walks down the street of his hometown and sees the old Masonic lodge closed and falling apart. He had left for the service and said when he returned home he wanted to join the lodge because as a child he was so impressed by the quality of men he met there. He recalled the fish fry's and barbecues he attended there, the Christmas parties and other events.

He saw an old lady walking down the street and asks her what happened? He recalled how he would see the members gather for meetings, holding events for the community and marching in the parade. Such great men, beacons of the town, men of influence but more importantly, just great men.

The old woman stated, "My husband used to attend lodge there. For decades he would spend countless hours working to prepare for events and meetings, oh how he loved being around his Brothers. He loved being a Freemason and so looked forward to the fellowship, he loved being surrounded by good men, like minded men who knew they was something bigger than themselves."

But what happened? ", asked the man, "Where'd they all go?"

"Well son", said the old lady, "They died or moved away but it started down this path long before that. The Brothers stopped coming, they stopped working on the lodge, they stopped holding events. When the Brothers stopped attending, the events stopped, the people stopped coming, when the people stopped coming, the fundraisers stopped, when the fundraisers stopped, the Brothers were asked to pitch in to keep their lodge alive. Unfortunately, the Brothers has more important things to do. They would have all kinds of reasons why they couldn't come give a few hours of their time.

There used to be dozens but eventually there were just a few, my husband called them 'The faithful few'. Sometimes they barely had enough to hold meetings, they couldn't do Degree work because they didn't have enough members present, they couldn't grow because they couldn't bring in new men. Sadly as those faithful few aged, they just couldn't do it all anymore. They tried but after the events stopped, so did their relations with the town folk. The people who had enjoyed the events over the years lost interest in helping out. They drained what little money they had left to try and keep it open but it all dried up. After they closed my husband was miserable, it was the one thing he looked forward to each month and now it was gone."

The man looked on with tears in his eyes, such a great institution that did so much for its community was gone.

Our Lodges are not just buildings of brick and mortar, they buildings of Brotherly Love. Love held between Brothers of the order and shown to our communities but they can't survive on love alone. Like any great organization, it is the members who keep it going. Much like the crops of the field will die off without the rains, our Lodges will die off without its members. We all have other things that go on, that is life, but we must make every effort to set aside the time, as little as four hours a month, to attend meetings, do the work and maintain our temple. ~ Author Unknown

'The Science of Masonic Symbolism'

What are symbols?

The dictionary describes them as:

"a mark, sign, or word that indicates, signifies, or is understood as representing an idea, object, or relationship."

But in Freemasonry, we can also say:

"symbols are the storehouses in which wise men of the past have accumulated their wisdom."

& the many symbols in our fraternity makes the fraternity, in itself, a storehouse of the wisdom of those many wise men.

Wisdom can never be learned or taught by one man working alone. & it is only when many men join their knowledge together that the truth can be found.

In Freemasonry, these symbols are assembled together so that the wisdom of many wise men has been placed at our disposal.

Is that not a great privilege?

Is it not a fine opportunity for those who desire to learn?

I think so too.

But what do these symbols teach?

It is *not* occultism.

It is wisdom on how to live.

The purpose of Masonry as a whole is to teach men how to live and how to live better.

Every one of us needs to learn how to live and Masonry teaches us that.

The Masonic symbols give us their wisdom, their light, their truth.

We can receive this wisdom from them and we can also then teach it to others.

We can transform the dead symbols into life.

That is the highest way to learn.

~ Masonic Find.

Do Freemasons Get Special Treatment?

As a man becomes a Mason and remains in good standing, he then has the rights and the benefits that Freemasonry has to offer.

Some people (both non-Masons and, unfortunately, Masons) misinterpret this to mean that we are given a free pass on our conduct or that we get more material benefits than society in general;

It actually refers to our methods of self-improvement, visiting other lodges and joining appendant/concordant bodies.

Freemasonry is a beautiful system of morals. It emphasizes moral self-improvement, personal integrity, and service to others.

Bro Brendon Cole SW.



August 2023 (New Zealand)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	31	1	2	3	4	5
					ent meeting ctice 7pm	
6	7	- 8	9	10	11	12
				Practice n Installatio		
				Lodge Wa	itomo 469	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
				Lodge reg monthly r	ular neeting 7.30pm	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		- 2



YOU, YOUR FAMILY,





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3 Fathers Day	4	5	_	ement meeting ractice 7pm	8	9
10	Installation Lodge Pukemir 11:30am Grey Bro Robin Dun	St	13 Practice night 17pm		15	16
17	18	19	_	21 regular ly meeting 7.30pm	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



