

# THE FREEMASON



Edition 1

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Freemasons Hall, Ingham Street, South Shields, Tyne & Wear NE33 2DQ Tel: 0191 456 0137

**TLC Appeal**  
*Teddies for Loving Care*

Raising Funds for the supply of Cuddly Toys to A&E units for Children in Severe Distress



At the recent installation of W Bro Chris Raven of St. Hilda Lodge No. 240, W Bro David George Carney, PAGDC, Assistant Provincial Grand Master discussed the enormous impact that the Teddies for Loving Care was having across the country and recounted its impact upon him personally.



W Bro David George Carney, PAGDC, Assistant Provincial Grand Master holding a TLC teddy

For those who have not yet come across this initiative its simple objective is for Freemasons to provide teddy bears and soft toys to Accident and Emergency units, for the medical staff, to give, at their discretion, to children admitted who are in severe distress and where the staff feel that a teddy or soft toy to cuddle will help alleviate the stress and assist them in their work.

Each teddy carries a tag *"Donated by Local Freemasons"*, which provides continuous evidence of the principles of Freemasonry in practice.

To date Durham Freemasons have donated 19,008 TLC Teddies to local Hospitals and 500,000 teddies have so far been distributed across the country 99% of all the funds raised go to the sole purchase of the teddies with their distribution arranged through a myriad of volunteers.

The Appeal originated after an allergic reaction suddenly caused the swelling and blocking of the windpipe of the wife of an Essex Freemason. Her life was saved by the rapid action of the medical staff at an A&E unit, who were able to resuscitate and stabilise her.

They are both eternally grateful for the swift and caring attention that she received, but found the experience the most frightening of their lives and speculated on the distress that children must face when

visiting A&E units. He asked members of his Lodge and other Local Freemasons to help to do something useful as a thank you to the A&E unit and its staff. From that point the compulsive idea of *"Teddies for Loving Care"* was born.



W Bro Kenneth Howe Assistant Provincial Grand Master with some of the Teddies distributed in A & E Departments

And it gets better every child who receives a teddy can keep it!

## NEW MASTER

Over the last month the Masonic world in South Shields celebrated the arrival of another 'new' Master to continue the task of the rejuvenation of his Lodge in particular and Freemasonry in general, and we wish him every success.

On Monday 8th December 2008, St. Hilda Lodge No. 240 changed their Master as W Bro Chris Raven was installed into the Chair of King Solomon expertly and proficiently by W Bro Phil Johnson.

This will be W Bro Chris's second time in the chair at St Hilda and those who know him will be well aware of his love for the Craft and his fondness of a laugh and being happy - enough said. As mentioned earlier, W Bro Carney APGM was in attendance as the representative of the Provincial Grand Master and has been a long standing friend of W Bro Chris and had asked to be able to act as rep for this meeting.



W Bro Chris Raven Master, St. Hilda Lodge No. 240

## One for the Future!

Beverley, the daughter of W Bro Kevin Carter a Past Master of Hedworth Lodge and his wife Julie gave birth to a beautiful grandson Lewis Thomas on Saturday December 20, 2008 weighing 7lbs 1oz,



Being named Lewis is synonymous with Freemasonry and W Bro Kevin hopes he will be a new mason in the making! , the only down side to all this is that Kevin will be 71 when Lewis becomes old enough to join.

More good news came to two other masons when Caer Urfa Lodge members W Bro Matty Wann became a grandfather for the seventh time with the arrival of Dean on December 10, 2008 and Bro Terry Green and his wife Lynne were delighted to announce the birth of their first grandson. Jackson James on December 23, 2008.

## Chapter Promotions 2008

E Comp John Wilkinson, PPrGSN of John Readhead Royal Arch Chapter and E Comp William Sinclair Malcolm, PPrGSN of Caer Urfa Royal Arch Chapter were both Promoted to the rank of PPrGSN, on the 11th of December to celebrate the appointment of E Comp Norman Eric Heaviside as Grand Superintendent.



E Comp John Wilkinson, PPrGSN, and E Comp William Sinclair Malcolm, PPrGSN

# FREEMASONS' HALL



## January 2009

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 	2 Tyne Dock 4218 KST Karate	3 Dave's Birthday	4
5 KMh Karate	6 Hadrian 1970	7 KMh Karate	8 St Lawrence 6402	9 Caer Urfa Lodge of Instruction KMh Karate	10	11 St Lawrence Lodge Practice (10.30am)
12 St Hilda 240 KST Karate	13 KMh Karate	14 Caer Urfa 4345 1st Degree <u>Provincial Deputation</u>	15	16 Lord Barnard Lodge of Instruction KMh Karate Peter's Birthday Caer Urfa Lodge Committee	17	18 FHMC (10.30am) Annual General Meeting Geoff's Birthday
19 St Lawrence Preceptory Installation Westoe Lodge of Instruction	20 Lord Barnard 2935 KST Karate	21 Wrekendike Lodge Of Instruction St Michael & All Angels RC 891 Committee	22	23 Hedworth Lodge of Instruction KMh Karate	24	25  Burns' Birthday
26 Westoe 4750 KST Karate	27 John Readhead Lodge of Instruction	28 Caer Urfa RAC 4345 Tyne Dock Lodge of Instruction	29 Hedworth 2418 KST Karate	30 St. Hilda Lodge of Instruction KMh Karate	31	

**KEY** BLUE Craft RED Chapter GREEN Side/Higher Degrees BROWN Instruction/Practice BLACK Meetings PURPLE (Karate) KMh = Main Hall KST = Small Temple

All events start at 7.00pm precisely unless otherwise stated - All Information Given In Good Faith - Please check in event of a visit

### FEBRUARY 2009 - pre-view

Day	Masonic Organisation	No.
First Monday	John Readhead Lodge	3217
First Tuesday	Hadrian Lodge	1970
First Wednesday	Wrekendike Lodge - Installation	6401
First Thursday	Tyne Dock Lodge	4218
Second Monday	St. Hilda Lodge	240
Second Wednesday	Caer Urfa Lodge - 2nd Degree	4345
Second Thursday	St. Lawrence Lodge	6042
Third Monday	St Lawrence Rose Croix - Installation	293
Third Tuesday	Lord Barnard Lodge	2935
Third Wednesday	St. Hilda Chapter	240
Third Thursday	St Michaels & All Angels Rose Croix - Installation	891
Last Monday	Westoe Lodge	4750
Last Thursday	Hedworth Lodge - Installation	2418

#### FHMC MONTHLY DRAW

£25 Draw

#34 S Nicholson St Hilda

£10 Draw

#94 R Ferguson Caer Urfa. \* #210 G Main Westoe. \* #215 J McCormick St Hilda. \* #218 A Scott Hadrian. \* #163 D King St Hilda.

£5 Draw

#222 J Errington Hadrian. \* #23 M Fortune Lord Barnard. \* #123 I Mason Westoe. \* #219 J Harrison St Bede. \* #54 D Wake Caer Urfa.

## Amalgamation Ceremony of Four South Shields Royal Arch Chapters

Hedworth No. 2418, Lord Barnard No. 2935,  
John Readhead No.3217 & Tyne Dock No. 4218  
Into

### The Mariner Royal Arch Chapter No. 3217

A very special occasion will take place on Saturday February 14th 2009 at the Masonic Temple, Alexander Road, Gateshead when the aforementioned amalgamation will take place.

The ceremony will start at 10.30 am prompt and a Festive Board will commence at the conclusion of the amalgamation ceremony at approximately 12.30 pm at a cost of £12.00.

The Principals, Officers and Companions of the four amalgamating Chapters would be delighted to have the company and support of hearty representation of the Royal Arch Masons of the Province of Durham on this auspicious occasion.

Those wishing to purchase a ticket should write and enclosing a stamp addressed envelope with remittance of £12.00 per ticket, payable to "The John Readhead Royal Arch Chapter" to:-

The Ticket Secretary

J. Wilkinson,

7 Mill Grove,

South Shields,

Tyne & Wear.

NE34 8DX.

Please provide your Chapter name, Number your name and rank and any other Companions in your party. Copies of application forms have also been sent to Chapter SE's

# New Years Eve 2009

At the last meeting of the hall management committee the idea of a New Years Eve party was discussed, with one member exclaiming that we would be pushing it as it was only eleven days to get it sorted! thankfully the originator of the idea W Bro Norman Dunn quickly dispelled the brothers anguish and said that the party would be for the following year, thus giving sufficient time to make suitable arrangements.

The idea was given a positive hearing especially when it was agreed that such an event would be a Masonic social event but not one arranged by one single lodge and that all proceeds would be handed over to the hall's charitable organisation - "The Ingham Masonic Benevolent Association" who would in turn decide the eventual use of these much needed funds.

The representatives at the meeting agreed that they would return to their respective Lodges etc and discuss this with the view of having a decision reached whether or not to support the idea by the April FHMC.

Many lodges and indeed hall management committees hold parties some brethren may recall one that was held in the hall some eight years ago which was deemed a success, and more recently a few Durham lodges and halls have recently held parties.

W Bro Dunn agreed to write to all the Lodges.



Be-witched and bewildered the magician goes to work enthraling the children with his tricks

Bro Don unfortunately succumbing to illness shortly before the event was unable to be present.



It's not a party without face painting

This year with the Lodges underwriting the funding of most of the event the scene was set to put together a highly enjoyable and more importantly memorable event for all the kids, with party games and prizes, presents, face painting, refreshments and happy meals, a disco and a magician only the most miserable kid on the planet would have failed to have been amused.



W Bro Norman Dunn holding his little 'Spiderman' grandson

There was a near disaster when our usual Santa 'volunteer' was unable to make it but up popped Bro Alan to weather the 'chill' of his very own Grotto in 'Iceland' as did his helpers - as the new heating system failed to reach the upper floors of the hall, but it was supposed to be the 'north pole'.



Santa alias Bro Alan Nichols of St Lawrence Lodge, posing with three of the editors children

On a plus side it did downstairs and most were lovely and warm, (sorry Alan).



Party time for some of the "Grown ups"

In November, 2008 many of the OSM Brethren from the Province of Durham attended Grand Conclave in Birmingham. Following the Meeting there was the usual dinner, where I was fortunate enough to obtain a photograph of Gary Taylor, Secretary of Arbeia OSM Conclave and of course other Degrees and Orders in South Shields, enjoying a "snack"!

Having sat at the same table as Gary at the dinner we enjoyed a great evening - I joked about his diet and the quantity of food and wine he was consuming and we had a good laugh about it..

After I took the photograph I told him that I would send a copy for the Newsletter. I am sure he will find it amusing - In any case you can always blame me.



W Bro Ray Dinning

Footnote from the Editor *Knowing Gary's sense of humour and not wishing to get on the wrong end of it, I made sure he was happy with this going in so rest easy Ray we are both safe... ..for the time being... ..*



"He gripped me by the throat sir, and I then realised that this was not a masonic grip."

## FREEMASONS' HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE A. G. M.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held at 10.30 am on Sunday 18th January 2009

All members of Lodges and Side Degrees based at the hall are welcome to attend



## Kids Christmas Party

W Bro Ken Robson aka Santa's 'little helper'

The annual Christmas party supported by all the Lodges at the hall and hosted via the management committee took place on Sunday 14th December 2008 and it turned out to be a very successful and happy time for all the children that turned up.



Pass the parcel goes all 'Christmassy'

With over eighty kids, plus parents and grandparents the party got underway, W Bro Don Scott and his wife together with W Bro Ken Robson and his wife and Bro Nichols and a host of extras had worked tirelessly and unselfishly to organise the annual kids Xmas party.



## On being a new Inner Guard?

ANON

So I'm stood beside this door and I'm as nervous as can be  
The entire Lodge know what to do, well everyone but me!

B's on the left and J's on the right or the other way around?  
And I wish a hole would open up and swallow me into the ground

I've got my own chair but it's a lonely place when the Tyler gives a 'rap'  
I wish he could just come and tell me, though he's a frightfully nice sort of chap!  
Is that an alarm or a report, I'm confused' just see my last poem?  
I want to be down at the festive board, I want to be going home

But I know I have my duties, and I shall not shirk my dues  
Then I stab myself with the Lodge jewel, and laughter all breaks loose!  
I didn't think that a stigmata was a part of my noble tasks?  
I'll say it was just "a mild heart attack", if anyone bothers to ask

So visiting brethren arrive at the door, and I forget Westoe's number  
I remember the name, well you all dress the same, no doubt that why I make a blunder!  
Still they filter past and sit down at last, I'm starting to feel a bit better?  
Then the Tyler 'raps' and it's different from the last, and I'm wanting to get it 'by the letter'

So I do my ritual and of course get it wrong, but the WM is a belter  
He smiles and nods and makes me feel good, and gives me a kinda' of a shelter!  
And I know that each of you has been there before, and done it much better than me?  
But I want to be part of this tradition and this wonderful fraternity

So try to accept my discretions, my frequent mistakes and my errs  
I'm a newly appointed Hadrian IG and I hope my voice can be heard!  
I'm not quite as good as my former; I'm not quite as good as my peers?  
But I'm here for a year, living in fear, so accept my discretion my dears!!!

And to each of you put into position, I give you my praise and my hope  
That you get things right on your very first night and be better than me and you cope!  
May you be the perfect Lodge IG, which I am certainly not?  
Congratulations, accept my indignations, you're the best of the best you worshipful lot

## ICE Mobiles 999 contact idea spreads

### ICE phone

Next of kin is named alongside the ICE contact

If we were involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call, yes there are hundreds of numbers stored but which one is the contact

person in case of an emergency? Hence the 'ICE' (In Case of Emergency) campaign

The concept of 'ICE' is catching on quickly and could provide a life saving contact during an emergency situation. As mobile phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted in case of an emergency stored under the name 'ICE' (In Case of Emergency).

The idea is the brainchild of East Anglian Ambulance Service paramedic Bob Brotchie who found that when he went to the scenes of accidents or emergencies there were always mobile phones with patients but they didn't know which number to call and it occurred to him that if we had a uniform approach to searching inside a mobile phone for an emergency contact, then that would make it easier for everyone assisting to quickly contact the right person by simply dialling the number you have stored as 'ICE'

Please share this message with family, friends and work colleagues, it really could save a life - your life and perhaps put a loved one's mind at rest. If you have more than one contact name, simple enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3 etc

W Bro David S Dunn



## A Centenary History of Hedworth Lodge No. 2418 1891-1991

By Kenneth R Wilkinson, BA MEd, WM 1990 - 91 and 1991 - 92

### Part Two

#### I. THE NORTH EAST CORNER 1891-1921 Formation and membership (Cont'd)

In 1890 there were two Lodges in the Borough, St. Hilda recording a membership of 202 and its daughter lodge, Hadrian, with 92 members. By the turn of the century the membership figures for the three lodges were: St. Hilda 238, Hadrian 229, and Hedworth 104.

In 1921, by which date Hedworth had been joined by the 'cousin' lodges of Lord Barnard and John Readhead, there were 1700 members in the five lodges of the town of whom 341 were Hedworth brethren.

At times there had been growing pains, as in 1896 when Hedworth claimed it could not meet a rent increase 'due to its small membership'. This, of course, may have been the tactical response of a shrewd Lodge management.

All nineteen founders of the Lodge were drawn from St. Hilda and Hadrian, although five did not maintain their membership. The Master and his Wardens were drawn from the founders, and the officers completed from the ranks of the first joining members:

- |                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| W Bro T G Mabane    | Master        |
| W Bro W E Moffett   | IPM           |
| Bro T B Appleby     | Senior Warden |
| Bro W Dalzeil       | Junior Warden |
| W Bro TB Marshall   | Treasurer     |
| Bro C P Bell        | Secretary     |
| W Bro C F Sutcliffe | D of C        |
| Bro C R Toomer      | Senior Deacon |
| Bro R W Graham      | Junior Deacon |
| Bro L Winstone      | Organist      |
| Bro J B Nelson      | Inner Guard   |
| Bro W S Young       | Snr Steward   |
| Bro C T Sutherland  | Jnr Steward   |
| W Bro T Potter      | Tyler         |

The first initiates were proposed in December 1891 and by September 1897 the first one hundred members had been recorded, the first two hundred by December 1904, and the first five hundred by February 1920.

What sort of men joined Hedworth if it was to be a credit to masonry and an ornament to the Borough? Only twelve of the founders had their occupations recorded. Four of the twelve were solicitors, two were from the medical professions, plus an architect, two builders, an engineer, a merchant and an actor manager.

All were resident in South Shields, and can be said to have constituted a group of professional and self-employed local men.

Of the first hundred members 13 were solicitors, 12 merchants, 11 surgeons and dentists, with an additional occupational group of 9 merchant marine officers. By contrast the one hundred members brought into the lodge between January 1917 and

January 1920 included 30 merchant marine officers, 15 shipyard employees, 9 from the retail trades, and 7 each from those working as engineers, as craftsmen, and within the financial services.

There was a distinct occupational shift to the marine: 'Trinity' fought back. No fewer than 87 of the first hundred members gave addresses in South Shields and this essentially local membership was true of those joining between 1917 and 1920, 90% being residents of the Borough.

Some of the more unusual occupations represented during this period, were those of pawnbroker, workhouse master, brewer, law student, photographic journalist, actor manager, Unitarian minister, instructor in nautical cooking, bandmaster, professional footballer, and two members simply described as 'gentlemen'.

**LEST WE FORGET**

W Bro Gordon Mouter PPrJGW  
5th February 2008

Rt. W Bro Derek Richmond, Provincial Grand Master, 26th February 2008.

W Bro Richard B Allison, PPrAGDC  
17th July 2008

W Bro Robert C Turner PPrAGDC  
25th August 2008

W Bro Harold Donkin PPrJGW  
11th September 2008

W Bro Kenneth R Wilkinson PPrSGD  
3rd November 2008