

THE FREEMASON



Edition 9

Vol. II

November 2009

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

St. Hilda Royal Arch Chapter No.240

21st October 2009

On the third Wednesday in October St Hilda Chapter have their Installation Meeting. This year's meeting was extra special for several reasons.

Firstly, Charles Bertram Adamson was elected an Honorary Member of the Chapter.

Secondly, the Chapter was honoured by the attendance of The Provincial Third Grand Principal, E Comp Rev'd Michael Sydney Snowball, PGStdB, PPrGSN, who represented the Grand Superintendent. He was accompanied by E Comp Frederick Alan Peat Beales, PGStdB, PPrGReg, PrGDofC.

Thirdly, Rev'd Snowball had one last important duty to perform.

Although it was the shortened version of the Installation Ceremony, E Comps Hewitt, Watkins and Dunn performed their duties with skill and dignity and E Comps Watkins, Dunn and Tudberry took the Principals' chairs.

After the Installation, E Comp Snowball gave a stimulating oration in which he encouraged Companions to follow the example of St Hilda; persevere, be wise and be strong.



He also praised the Chapter for its efforts in acquiring the Principals' Honours Board, which he dedicated with a short prayer.

At the 2nd Rising the Chapter donated £250.00 to the 2010 Festival.

At the Festive Board, the MEZ, E Comp John Watkins, presented a further cheque for £150.00, the amount given to him and his wife, Joan, in lieu of gifts on the occasion of their Golden Wedding.

Rev'd Snowball was presented with a

decanter as a memento of the evening.

E Comp Joe Froud of Unity Chapter No 661 was complimented on his workmanship in the manufacture of the Principals' Board and was also given a decanter.

In his reply to the Visitors Toast E Comp Kenneth U Robson summed up the evening by complementing everyone and everything. High praise

UNITED GRAND LODGE WEBSITE

The re - vamped UGLE website went live last month, the format is modern and aimed at the younger member,



The two major points about the new website are that: First, it is primarily designed to aid recruitment of new masons, especially in their 20s and 30s, and to be informative to non-masons. Second, it will be constantly evolving, with new content and functionality being added on a regular, on-going basis.

All areas of this site are available to public view. In addition there are various informative videos available on the site - including a tour of Grand Lodge.

You can view or download a booklet which contains a fascinating insight into Freemasonry, which can be found in the section 'Becoming a Mason', which also offers the facility for anyone to register an interest should they wish to join.

As well as giving details of how to hire Freemasons' Hall for outside events, there are questions answered about the principles, history, lodges and facilities of the English Constitution.

Among other innovations, the actual speeches in Grand Lodge of both the Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent and the Pro Grand Master, Peter Lowndes can be heard and downloaded onto an iPod or iPhone.

Those wishing to view the website should use the following link.

<http://www.ugle.org.uk/>

"Voices Together" A Christmas Concert

Has been organised in support of the RMBI 2010 Festival to be held at St Hilda's Church, Market Square, South Shields on Friday 11th December 2009 commencing at 7pm.

The concert will be performed by a local 15 strong 4part harmony group called "Voices Together" whose aims are to entertain and support local and national charities, and perform at other fundraising events.

Web site is: www.voicestogether.co.uk



Tickets are £5.00 each and can be obtained from John Hope 0191 4252031 or pay at the door on the night. Parking is free after 6pm in the new ASDA store car park, 100yards from the church.

LODGE ST. JOHN
SLAMANNAN SCOTLAND
No. 484

FRIDAY 29TH JANUARY 2010

THIRD DEGREE
(NOT TO BE MISSED)

BUS & ACCOMODATION TO BE
ARRANGED FOR OVERNIGHT STAY

Contact

BRO. WILL ROBERTSON

OR

W. BRO. NORMAN DUNN



FREEMASONS' HALL



NOVEMBER 2009

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						Hadrian Lodge of Instruction Caer Urfa Installation Practice (3.00pm)
John Readhead 23217 Karate	Hadrian 1970 (Installation) 4.30pm start	Wrekendike 6401 Karate	Tyne Dock 4218 5	Caer Urfa Lodge of Instruction Lord Barnard Lodge of Instruction	6 Karate	7 Caer Urfa Installation Practice (3.00pm)
St Hilda 240 Karate	9 Mariner RAC Westoe Lodge of Instruction	10 Caer Urfa 4345 (Installation) 5.30pm start Karate	11	12 Caer Urfa Lodge Committee Karate	13 Karate	14 FHMC (10.30am) Lodge of Fellowship Committee
16 St Lawrence Preceptory 275 Karate	17 Lord Barnard 2395 Arbeia OSM 296	18 Wrekendike Lodge of Instruction Wouldhave Tyne Dock MMM 362	19 Rockcliffe RAM 362 Karate	20 Hedworth Lodge of Instruction Tyne Dock Lodge of Instruction	20 Karate	21 St Lawrence Lodge Practice (10.30am)
23 Karate	24 John Readhead Lodge of Instruction Karate	25 Caer Urfa RAC Tyne Dock Lodge of Instruction Karate	25 Hedworth 2418	26 St. Hilda Lodge of Instruction Karate	27 Karate	28 Hadrian Lodge of Instruction St Lawrence Lodge of Instruction
30 Westoe 4750	KEY BLUE Craft RED Chapter GREEN Side/Higher Degrees BROWN Instruction/ Practice BLACK Meetings/ Events PURPLE Karate All events start at 7.00pm precisely unless otherwise stated - All Information Given In Good Faith - Please check in event of a visit					

DECEMBER 2009 - pre-view

All Information Given In Good Faith - Please check in event of a visit

Day	Masonic Organisation	No.
1st Monday	John Readhead Lodge	3217
1st Tuesday	Hadrian Lodge	1970
1st Wednesday	Wrekendike Lodge	6401
1st Thursday	Tyne Dock Lodge	4218
2nd Monday	St. Hilda Lodge (Installation)	240
2nd Wednesday	Caer Urfa Lodge (3° & 1° 5.30 start)	4345
2nd Thursday	St. Lawrence Lodge	6042
3rd Monday	St Lawrence Rose Croix	293
3rd Tuesday	Lord Barnard Lodge	2935
3rd Wednesday	St Hilda Chapter	240
Last Monday	Hedworth Lodge	2418

Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham Promotions Meeting

The promotions meeting Provincial Grand Lodge will be held 2009 will be held on **Monday 30th November 2009** at the Rainton Meadows Arena, Houghton le Spring.

A Banquet will commence at the conclusion of the meeting which will be approximately 8.00pm at a cost of £24.00 and tickets can be sourced from W Bro D Bambrough.

Each Lodge Secretary has been sent a quantity of application forms and Brethren are requested to make contact with their Secretary who will be able to assist.

All our ancestors

W Bro David Dunn has again been busying himself researching and photographing various Masonic memorials in our local graveyards and came across the following **Charles Alan Bruhn.**, who was initiated into Hadrian Lodge No. 1970 on 7th April 1914 at the age of 34yrs when his occupation was recorded as Master Mariner.

He was passed, together with 5 other brethren, in Hedworth Lodge No. 4218 on 28th August 1914 and records show that **Bro's Anderson, Hill, Kennedy, Burnside, Gifford and Bruhn** were all questioned together then retired for preparation.

Bro's Anderson, Hill and Kennedy were re-admitted and obligated by W Bro T. W. Spence PM.

Bro's Burnside, Gifford and Bruhn were re-admitted and obligated by W Bro W. C. Everson PM. All 6 were then conducted round the lodge together for the rest of the ceremony.

Bro Bruhn was raised in Hadrian Lodge on 21st November 1916.

He was reported (Drowned, North Sea) on 5th July 1919 when he was working as a Trinity House Pilot.



The leaves may wither,
The roses may die,
And friends may forget,
But never shall I

Pte W Warren 2nd Monmouthshire Regiment

NEW MASTERS

Over the last month the Masonic world in South Shields celebrated the arrival of 3 new Masters tasked with the leadership and rejuvenation of their Lodges in particular and Freemasonry in general, and we wish them every success.



On Thursday 8th October W Bro Peter Maughan, PM, PPrAGReg was expertly installed into the Chair of King Solomon by W Bro Neil Stephenson, PM, PPrGStwd, ably assisted by W Bro Ken Hayton, PM, PAGDC and W Bro Richard S Howes, PM.



Pictured above is W Bro David G Carney, AsstProvGM, PSGD and on Peter's left is, to give his present full rank, Bro Alistair Henderson, Dep ProvGM and Provincial Grand Master Designate of Glasgow District. Bro Henderson is being installed Rt W Bro Provincial Grand Master on Saturday 28th November 2009, of which three St Lawrence brethren have had an invite to.

On Tuesday 20th October 2009 at the second Craft Installation of the month

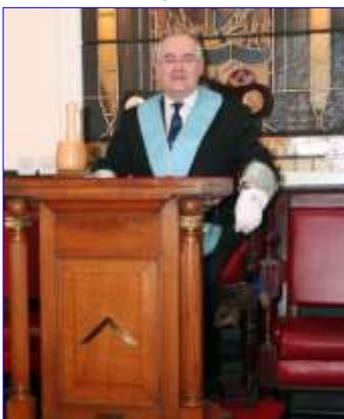


Bro Laurance Walls Senior Warden (Master Elect) was installed into the Chair of King Solomon at The Lord Barnard Lodge No.2935

It was touch and go whether Laurance would go the distance during the run up towards the Installation date as Senior Warden, but he did and was deservedly and expertly installed into the Master's Chair.

W Bro Geoffrey Whiteman, PGStdB, PPrJGW represented the Provincial Grand Master and was accompanied by his Director of Ceremonies W Bro James Gollagly, PPrGStwd. His proposer and friend for years W Bro Paul Lansdell, performed the Master's Toast at a well attended Festive Banquet.

Next in line came Bro Philip M Heppell of Westoe Lodge No. 4750. It goes without saying that Bro Phil is a well known brethren among all of the town's Lodges' having virtually visited each Lodge in the town every time they held their meetings!



He was always there! He has taken to masonry like the proverbial duck to water and is a shining example to his proposer and best friend Bro Tony Errington which was exemplified via Bro Errington's toast to the new Worshipful Master during the subsequent festive banquet.



W Bro Phil was installed into the Chair of King Solomon on Monday 28th October 2009, by W Bro George Branch, who having also been Westoe's Master on two previous occasions in 1978 and 1992, this being his third time and having been the Lodge's Director of Ceremonies for many years, was returning to that position.

W Bro Malcolm D Ormiston, PPrJGW, represented the PGM accompanied by W Bro Lee Taylor, PPrGStwd.

It goes without saying that we wish all the newly installed Masters together with the officers and brethren of their Lodges every success and happiness in the year ahead.

REMEMBRANCE

Do you want to participate as a Freemason in a 2009 Remembrance event or parade?



Following the successful formal participation of a Masonic contingent led by the PGM at the 2008 Remembrance Parade in Sunderland plans are now in place to repeat this in 2009.

We feel that the size of our 2008 contingent was appropriate and are not looking to expand the turn-out in Sunderland but are hoping for about the same number (40) as last year to support the PGM and Deputy PGM

In addition however, the Assistant PGMs are planning to formally attend Remembrance parades/events in other parts of the Province where they will lay a Masonic wreath.

Any Freemason who would like to attend and participate in the Masonic contingent at Sunderland, or support an Assistant Provincial Grand Master at another event on Sunday 8th November should inform W Bro Arthur Lockyear who is collating expressions of interest

Arthur's telephone number is on the Poster above or you can email him at

ArtemusAiki@aol.com

Apart from the PGM, brethren are not to wear Masonic Regalia or Masonic jewels on this occasion. Service medals and accoutrements such as regimental berets may be worn.

The other events are expected to be:-

Asst PGM Kenneth Howe	Durham Cathedral
Asst PGM George Clark	Spennymoor
Asst PGM Denis Lascelles	Gateshead
Asst PGM David Carney	Seaham
Asst PGM John Webster	Stockton





Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham

Provincial Gazette 2010

The Provincial Gazette has once again proved to be a very popular Masonic publication in 2009 and it is hoped that those who have subscribed may well wish to do so in 2010.

There is still a lot of Brethren who need to be introduced to "The Gazette" and every effort should be made to encourage them to become subscribers.



Every Lodge Secretary has a list of subscribers and it is highly recommended that Brethren make contact with their Secretary or indeed the Assistant Secretary who will gladly list their name and details for forwarding on to the Provincial Grand Secretary.

The yearly subscription for this monthly publication is £9.00 payable by cheque to the 'Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham'. The Secretary will accept monies at any time however it has to be noted that receipt before Friday 18th December 2009 will ensure delivery of the January Gazette on time.

Discussion Nights

Masters/First Principal Craft and Royal Arch, at a Discussion Night to be held at the Masonic Chambers, 35 North Street, Ferryhill on Tuesday, 24th November 2009, commencing at 7.00 pm, ticket £5.00.

Two further discussion nights to take place in November. They are to be held in the South and East area of the Province on: **Monday 9th November 2009 at Freemasons' Hall**, Archer Street, Darlington (South) Tuesday 17th November 2009 at the Masonic Hall, Station Road, Shiney Row (East). Both meetings will commence at 7.00pm with Refreshments and Tea/Coffee available from 6.30pm. An application form is with Lodge Secretary's and should be returned, duly completed to Provincial Office no later than Friday 30th October 2009. <- oop's

2009 POPPY APPEAL

Each year the nation expresses its support for The Royal British Legion's charity work through the Poppy Appeal. The 2009 Poppy Appeal which commences on 24th October is emphasising the need to help the Afghan generation of the Armed Forces and their families - today and for the rest of their lives.

As usual, many Freemasons will, as part of their service in the community, be assisting with poppy sales and collections. Despite individual views on recent and current conflicts it is appropriate for all Freemasons to wear a poppy when attending Lodge meetings during the appeal period. The below story gives food for thought

The average British soldier is 19 years old.....he is a short haired, well built lad, not yet dry behind the ears, just old enough to buy a round of drinks but old enough to die for his country - and for you. He'd rather be grafting in Afghanistan than unemployed in the UK. He recently left comprehensive school where he was probably an average student, played some form of sport, drove a ten year old rust bucket, and knew a girl that either broke up with him when he left, or swore to be waiting when he returns home. He moves easily to rock and roll or hip-hop or to the rattle of a 7.62mm machine gun

He is about a stone lighter than when he left home because he is working or fighting from dawn to dusk and well beyond. He has trouble spelling, so letter writing is a pain for him, but he can strip a rifle in 25 seconds and reassemble it in the dark. He can recite every detail of a machine gun or grenade launcher and use either effectively if he has to. He digs trenches and latrines without the aid of machines and can apply first aid like a professional paramedic. He can march until he is told to stop, or stay dead still until he is told to move

He obeys orders instantly and without hesitation but he is not without a rebellious spirit or a sense of personal dignity. He is confidently self-sufficient. He has two sets of uniform with him: he washes one and wears the other. He keeps his water bottle full and his feet dry. He sometimes forgets to brush his teeth, but never forgets to clean his rifle

He can cook his own meals, mend his own clothes and fix his own hurts. If you are thirsty, he'll share his water with you; if you are hungry, his food is your food. He'll even share his life-saving ammunition with you in the heat of a fire-fight if you run low

He has learned to use his hands like weapons and regards his weapon as an extension of his own hands. He can save your life or he can take it, because that is his job - it's what a soldier does

He has seen more suffering and death than he should have in his short lifetime. He has wept in public and in private, for friends who have fallen in combat and he is unashamed to show it or admit it. He feels every bugle note of the 'Last Post' or 'Sunset' vibrate through his body while standing rigidly to attention. He's not afraid to 'Bollock' anyone who shows disrespect when the Regimental Colours are on display or the National Anthem is played; yet in an odd twist, he

would defend anyone's right to be an individual. Just as with generations of young people before him, he is paying the price for our freedom

Clean shaven and baby faced he may be, but be prepared to defend yourself if you treat him like a kid

He is the latest in a long thin line of British Fighting Men that have kept this country free for hundreds of years. He asks for nothing from us except our respect, friendship and understanding

We may not like what he does, but sometimes he doesn't like it either - he just has it to do.. Remember him always, for he has earned our respect and admiration with his blood

And now we have brave young women putting themselves in harm's way, doing their part in this tradition of going to war when our nation calls on them to do so

When you read this, please stop for a moment and if you are so inclined, feel free to say a prayer for our troops in the trouble spots of the world.

Dan Brown sends letter to the Freemasons

Since the launch of Dan Browns latest best seller last month "The Lost Symbol" there has been much interest in it from within and outside of Freemasonry. On Thursday 22 October this culminated in an hour long TV documentary on Channel 5 which explored facts vs fiction in his novel.



Many have asked why after his critical portrayal of other organisations in his previous books "The Da Vinci Code" and "Angels & Demons" his latest missive appears complimentary about the Freemasons. Dan Brown is not a Freemason but he was invited to address the bi-annual gathering of 33rd degree Freemasons in Washington DC last month

Dan Browns letter of apology which is perhaps the best explanation of why he portrayed the craft in the way he did

If you visit the Provincial website there is link to the first chapter to whet your appetite

Below is a link to a collaboration website provided by The Masonic Society, the Masonic Service Association of North America and the George Washington National Masonic Memorial of USA www.freemasonlostsymbol.com/ which you may find of interest.

Grateful acknowledgements to Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham