

THE FREEMASON



Edition 4

Vol. I

March 2008

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

MASONIC HALLS OF SOUTH SHIELDS

Part Four

The Hall that never was

The last section of this paper is about a non-event but it is appropriate to refer to it briefly to complete the story of the South Shields Masonic Buildings.

In the early 1950's great alarm was generated among the Lodges at Ingham Street by the publication of proposals by the Local Authority to re-develop the Central Area of the Town.

These proposals would have required the Hall to be demolished. It was, therefore, decided to set up a Building Fund to provide a replacement Hall and the 4 Lodges at Ingham Street agreed to contribute an annual sum per head of membership.

Because of the continued expansion of the Town to the South it was felt that a site

further South than the Hedworth Hall was required and a piece of land was acquired in the Brinkburn area about a mile to the West of Harton Village. A limited company, The Brinkburn Masonic Temple Company Limited, was set up to administer the scheme.

The Lodges continued to contribute for several years when it became apparent that the Council's schemes were not going to materialize and payments were suspended. A few years later the land was sold and the whole project 'mothballed'.

The Ingham Street Building is over 100 years old and whilst its future is not threatened by external agencies it will have to be replaced sometime. The cost of new premises is beyond the resources of a single Lodge and will need the co-operation of all the Masonic Bodies meeting in the building at that time.

At a Special General Meeting of the Company held on 18th September 2000 it was resolved to wind up the Company and hand over the remaining funds to the Management Committee of the Ingham Street Freemasons' Hall.



St Hilda lodge 240
29th January 2008

W. Bro. Bryan Scott presenting a 50 year Masonic membership certificate to W. Bro. Stephenson Lamb at his home in the presence of L to R :- Rosalyn Lamb his daughter, W. Bro. Rod Swalwell., W. Bro. Chris Raven., W. Bro. Bryan Scott and W. Bro. Alex Tudberry, photographer



THE FREEMASONS' GRAND CHARITY

SUPPORT FOR RELIEF WORK IN KENYA

Following civil unrest in parts of Kenya, The President of the Freemasons' Grand Charity has approved a grant of £10,000 to the District Grand Lodge of East Africa's Grand Charity, complementing local relief efforts.

Violent clashes and rioting following the results of the Kenyan Presidential election left hundreds dead and tens of thousands have been forced to flee their homes. Many families are now living in makeshift camps and are desperately in need of essential supplies like food, clean water and basic household items.

The District Grand Charity has already made 1 million Kenyan Shillings (approximately £8,500) available through its own Fund for Internally Displaced People, supporting the immediate relief efforts of the Kenya Red Cross Society and Lodges in some of the areas most affected by the events. As part of this assistance, the Chairman of the District Grand Charity visited Jamhuri Camp in Nairobi to donate milk, bread, rice, beans and drinking water to 3,000 displaced people including children. The grant from The Freemasons' Grand Charity will be used to increase the current support for Masons, their dependants and other needy individuals from the wider community.



The Provincial Grand Lodge has suffered the tragic loss of its highly respected and much loved Provincial Grand Master

During a short break with his wife in London, the Rt. W

Bro Derek Richmond, Provincial Grand Master, died on Tuesday 26th February 2008.

He was made a Mason on 16th December 1976 in Lodge of Philanthropy No 940 in Stockton. He was Master of that Lodge in 1984.

His first appointment in Provincial Grand Lodge was to the office of Provincial Senior Grand Warden in 1993.

He was appointed to the office of Assistant Provincial Grand Master in 1996 and to Deputy Provincial Grand Master in 2005.

Rt. W Bro Derek Richmond was appointed and installed as Provincial Grand Master on 5th May 2006. To these positions he brought his own style of commitment, vision and compassion.

He will be sadly missed

W Bro Gordon Mouter PPRGW



A well known and well loved brother of the Craft of South Shields who past to the Grand Lodge above on February 5th 2008 at the age of 75 years, Gordon a beloved husband of Eva (nee Scott), devoted dad of David and partner Michelle, and a cherished grandpa to his grand children.

As would have been expected for such a man there were many brethren paying their last respects at his funeral service on Wednesday, February 13th 2008.

A Brother who has lived respected and died regretted.

Email Attachments! The new version of Outlook Express is designed to protect from viruses contained in attachments and configured to remove any that looks suspicious. Select "Tools" from the menu and click on "Options" you will see a tab "Security". Under this tab is a selection that says "Do not allow attachments to be saved or opened that could potentially be a virus". If it is checked then you will not be able to open attachments. Simple remove the check mark and you should be able to view the attachments without anymore error messages! Caution is advised because of the existence of viruses in Macro's used in Word etc., Thanks to W Bro Maughan

FREEMASONS' HALL



MARCH 2008

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1 <i>St. David's Day</i>	2 Hadrian Lodge of Instruction (10.30am) Mothering Sunday
John Readhead 3217 KST	Hadrian 1970	Wrekendike 6401	5 Tyne Dock 4218 (Installation)	6 Caer Urfa Lodge of Instruction KMH	7	8 St Lawrence Lodge Practice (10.30am)
St Hilda 240	10 John Readhead RAC 3217 KST	11 Caer Urfa 4345 1st Degree Mr A Best KST Hedworth Lodge of Instruction	12 St Lawrence 6402	13 Rockcliffe RAM362 (Installation) KST Caer Urfa Lodge Committee Lord Barnard Inst Lodge	14  Caer Urfa Social Evening	15 FHMC (10.30am) Palm Sunday
St Lawrence Preceptory (Malta) KST <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	17 Lord Barnard 2935 Arbeia OSM 296	18 Wouldhave Tyne Dock MMM 362 (Installation)	19 Hedworth RAC 2418 KST <i>Spring Begins</i>	20 KMH <i>Good Friday</i>	21 KMH <i>Indian New Year</i>	22 <i>Easter Sunday</i>
Westoe Lodge of Instruction KMH <i>Easter Monday</i>	24 Tyne Dock RAC 4218 (Installation) John Readhead Lodge of Instruction	25 Caer Urfa RAC 4345 Tyne Dock Lodge of Instruction	26 Hedworth 2418 KST	27 St. Hilda Lodge of Instruction KMH	28	29 Hadrian Lodge of Instruction (10.30am) Low Sunday British Summer Time
Westoe 4750 KST	KEY BLUE Craft RED Chapter GREEN Side/Higher Degrees BROWN Instruction/ Practice BLACK Meetings PURPLE KMH = (Karate) KST = Main Hall 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					

APRIL 2008 - pre-view

Day	Masonic Organisation	No.
1st Monday	John Readhead Lodge	3217
1st Wednesday	Wrekendike Lodge	4218
1st Thursday	Tyne Dock Lodge	6401
1st Friday	Hadrian Lodge - Sutton Coldfield Demonstration Team	1970
2nd Monday	St. Hilda Lodge	240
2nd Tuesday	Lord Barnard Chapter	2935
2nd Wednesday	Caer Urfa Lodge	4345
2nd Thursday	St. Lawrence Lodge	6042
3rd Monday	St Lawrence Rose Croix Chapter	293
3rd Tuesday	Lord Barnard Lodge	2935
3rd Wednesday	St. Hilda Chapter - Anniversary Celebration	240
3rd Thursday	St Michael and All Angels Rose Croix Chapter	891
4th Wednesday	Lodge of Fellowship - Installation	9694
Last Thursday	Hedworth Lodge	2418
Last Monday	Westoe Lodge	4750

Sutton Coldfield Demonstration Team
On Friday 4th April 2008, Hadrian Lodge will be hosts to the Sutton Coldfield Demonstration Team who provide authentic re-enactments of 18th century lodge workings performed in costume by the team in a colourful, informative and entertaining way. A first degree will be demonstrated, tickets with remittance of £10 available now.

St. Hilda Royal Arch Chapter No. 240 will celebrate its 150th Anniversary on Wednesday 16th April 2008 - Tickets £10.00.

Lodge of Fellowship No. 9694 will hold its Installation on Wednesday 23rd April 2008.

And.....

Beaconsfield Lodge No. 7768 (Gateshead) will see the installation of W Bro G M Stephenson (PM & D of C of Lord Barnard Lodge No. 2935) on Tuesday 1st April 2008 at the Gateshead Masonic Temple - with the ceremony starting at 5.30pm.

THE FREEMASONS' CLUB

Friday 7th March 2008

8.00 pm - 11.00pm
BAR OPEN

Chilli n' Rice Supper
Proceeds to RMBS 2010
Members n' Non Mason's Welcome

BILL NISBET MASONIC SUPPLIES

Regalia, Rituals, Alterations, Repairs, Furnishings....

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Lodge Record Books and stationery.

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Westerhope, Newcastle upon Tyne NE5 1UY

Tel or Fax 0191 264 2156



Caer Urfa Lodge No. 4345
W Bro M. J. G. W. W. W.

Annual Ladies Evening

The Sun Hotel, South Shields.
on Tuesday 16th April 2008
7.00pm - 11.00pm
Tickets £10.00
Reservations 7.00pm - 11.00pm
Reservations 7.00pm - 11.00pm

NEW MASTER'S

February saw the celebrated arrival in South Shields of two more new Masters to continue the task of the rejuvenation of their Lodges in particular and Freemasonry in general, and we wish them every success.

On 6th February 2008 saw the arrival of Bro Robert Mackins, Senior Warden - Master elect of his Lodge Wrekendike No. 6401 a dedicated freemason, well known for the passion he shows to the Craft and freemasonry in general.



W Bro Robert Mackins, Master
Wrekendike Lodge No. 6401

Robert feels that this year will see exciting times for masonry in the town and is anxious that his Lodge is at the forefront and this is particularly indicative in the manner in which he has attracted new members to his Lodge (see last months edition).

Our second Master of the month is W Bro Kenneth Urquart Robson who on 28th February 2008 became the Worshipful Master of Hedworth Lodge No. 2418.

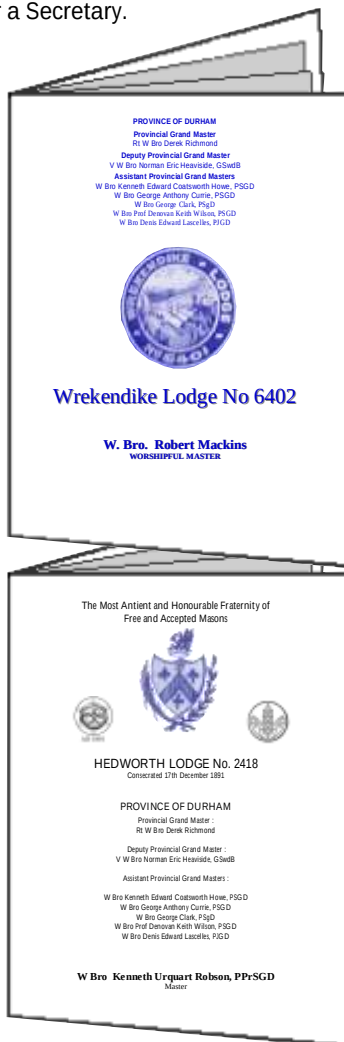


W Bro Kenneth Urquart Robson,
Master, Hedworth Lodge No. 2418

W Bro Robson is well known in the town (for all the right reasons!) and is an ardent supporter of both the Craft and the Chapter being recently installed as 3rd Principal of Hedworth Chapter No. 2418 in January.

He is also well known for his handy work within the Lodge Room and associated areas of the building, plying his talent therein as painter & decorator to the 'stars' - hopefully with the maxim 'if it moves don't

paint it' as it could be one of those well known slow moving objects such as a D of C or a Secretary.



THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

WREKENDIKE LODGE No. 6401 OFFICERS 2008-2009

W. Bro. ROBERT MACKINS Master	
W. Bro. GARY D. TAYLOR, P.Pr.G.Reg.	I.P.M
W. Bro. JOHN W. P. HAYNES	S.W.
W. Bro. MICHAEL McTAVEY, P.M., P.Pr.G.Swd.Br.	J.W.
W. Bro. ROBERT D. YOUNG, P.M., P.Pr.G.S.Wks.	Chaplain.
W. Bro. TOM PATTERSON, P.Pr.A.G.D.C.	Treasurer.
W. Bro. GARY D. TAYLOR, P.Pr.G.Reg.	Secretary.
W. Bro. ALAN SIMPSON, P.Pr.G.Reg.	D. of C.
W. Bro. TOM PATTERSON, P.Pr.A.G.D.C.	Almoner.
W. Bro. MICHAEL McTAVEY, P.M., P.Pr.G.Swd.Br.	Charity Steward.
W. Bro. KENNETH U. ROBSON, P.Pr.S.G.D.	S.D.
W. Bro. DAVID KING	J.D.
W. Bro. ROBERT D. YOUNG, P.M., P.Pr.G.S.Wks.	I.G.
Bro. TONY HOGG	Steward.
W. Bro. RONALD A. FERGUSON (PM 4345)	Tyler.

HEDWORTH LODGE No. 2418 OFFICERS 2008-2009

W Bro K U Robson, PM PPrSGD	Master
W Bro F N Fatkin, PM PPrSGD	IPM
W Bro G McDanielson, PM PPrJGD	SW
Bro J Wood	JW
W Bro K W Bullock, PM PPrAGDC	Chaplain
W Bro E W Hooper, PM PPrAGReg	Treasurer
W Bro P H Leask, PM PPrAGDC	Secretary
W Bro E Dockwray, PM PPrGSwdB	D of C
W Bro G McDanielson, PM PPrJGD	Almoner
W Bro C D Hornby, PM	Charity Steward
Bro A D Munro	SD
W Bro D J Crow	JD
W Bro C D Hornby, PM	Asst D of C
W Bro J R Stanley	Inner Guard
Bro M Harrison	Senior Steward
Bro M Elwood	Junior Steward
W Bro K Fiksen, PM, PPrGSdB	Tyler

Masonicword (Answers to February's puzzle)

Across

1. INGHAM—Freemasons Hall is in this street
7. COLDFIELD—This team will demonstrate how it used to be
9. PLUMB—Infallible Victorian law
10. COMPASS—Navigational instrument
11. WESLEYAN—A School of this religion was once used as a Lodge by special dispensation
12. POTTS—This W Bro put together a lecture on the halls of South Shields
14. GOTHIC—Was the 6749th on the Roll
16. HARKER—John and Rita can supply you with your masonic wants
17. HILDA—Oldest Lodge in town
20. SQUARE—Berkeley
21. SAYER—First Grand Master of the Premier Grand Lodge in London
22. THIRD—Freemasons Hall Management Committee meets on this Sunday
23. LEVEL—Type of railway crossing
25. LEWIS—A three-pronged iron cramp
27. OLIVER—W Bro John's wife Maureen is fundraising to ensure that this show will go on in 2008
29. HADRIAN—This Lodge moved their day to Wednesday but just for the New Year
31. FREEMASON—Won't charge for a fireplace
32. LAMBTON—First Earl of Durham
34. PONIARD—Do you feel anything? you will with this!
36. NISBET—Get your masonic stuff from him
37. BROTHER—Male sibling
38. FELLOWSHIP—Works in the daytime

Down

2. HEDWORTH—Last Lodge to meet at Hedworth Hall
3. STAMP—Played at Tyne Docks last Ladies Evening at Hedworth Hall
4. GATESHEAD—Local authority supplied the trainees
5. LODGE—A Beavers home
6. CAMRA—Held their first festival in South Shields
8. SPROT—New PGLD Secretary
11. WREKENDIKE—Different spelling to the original area of the town
13. STEPHENSON—First Master in October
15. CHAGANIS—an original student of Master Tatsuo Suzuki
18. BELL—New First Principal in December who's name rings a....
19. MALL—American shopping centre
24. BARNARD—Founded the Provincial Gazette
25. LAYCOCK—First Provincial Grand Master for the County of Durham
26. WASHINGTON—American Masonic President and nearby town
28. CHARITY—"Sweet" 1969 film starring Shirley Maclaine
30. ARBEIA—Another name for the town
33. FINCH—This bird was promoted to PPrGSwdB
35. DAVEY—An Ambassador for South Shields

BROTHER LIGHTFOOTE'S JOURNAL

The Recollections of an Eighteenth-Century Gentleman of the Craft



April 23rd 1795

St. George's Day; the Anniversary of Shakespeare's Birth.

Weather: Cold

St. George, I am informed, was probably a Greek. Shakespeare, who was undoubtedly an Englishman, was also, by general consent, the greatest poet and dramatist as ever lived. This is the received opinion of every scholar and critic as has lived since Shakespeare died, having been passed down from one generation of blatherskites to the next, unchanged, unchallenged and unrevised.

Lightfoote, however, is unimpressed.

I first advanced the opinion that most of Shakespeare's plays are about as pleasurable as a dose of the pox when I was a schoolboy. My headmaster, who was a cleric, duly flogged me till his arm grew tired. Amazingly, his pious exertions failed to make me think more highly of Shakespeare, or him, come to that. The plain truth is that Lightfoote has never liked being told what he should or shouldn't like, especially by those that think they know better, who are generally no better than boobies.

*Literary scholars as a species
Discern the scent of sandalwood in faeces;
What academics praise as puissant wit
Lightfoote perceives piss-poor; they're full of... it.*

That's better - better than anything Shakespeare ever wrote - and I feel better for it. I awoke this morning, however, feeling as though my head

was full of lead, my guts lined with goose grease and my bowels bloated with sufficient wind to strain the rigging of a frigate. Missus Lightfoote informed me that I had been brought home, at 4 o'clock this morning, drunk as a fiddler's bitch. I informed Missus Lightfoote that placing Captain Jack Phelan, late of the Lancers, in the chair of the Stonic Lodge is an act of installation requiring liberal lubrication.

Mrs. Lightfoote went to prepare a light breakfast for me whilst I went to perform the usual offices. I found myself, to quote Our Friend, to be "full of sound and fury" - and divers corrosive fluids - and pondered the possibility of Pat Peterson having padded his pigeon pie with something flightless and four-legged and feral, again.

My appetite had quite deserted me and I could manage but half a capon, a few slices of York ham, some cold sirloin, three quails and a wedge or two of game pie, followed by a morsel of cheddar cheese and a quart of ale. I then retired to my chamber to collect my thoughts and pen this.

I sacrificed most of yesterday afternoon to an abortive quest, viz. Trying to get an honest answer out of a lawyer. A man called Lowther, who is something lower than a man, a creature base beyond bastardy, a bate-breeding, beef-witted bellys slave, born in a bawdy-house, threatens to sue me for slander! The loathsome, lying, litigious, lickspittle louse. Sanders, my evasive legal advisor, suggests that I apologise to the pimping pustule. I'd sooner say sorry to a turd for treading on it. Blast them both!

Following a full two hours of fruitless fulmination, Lightfoote, with heavy tread, finally made his way to the Yorick Tavern in Oakley's Yard. It's a jolly hostelry, even though its name always reminds of the Stratford scribbler, and the sight of my beaming brethren summoned me instantly from a 'state of darkness' to light and levity once more. On with the motley!

Having fortified ourselves with a few small quarts of ale we retired to the upper room and were close tyled by five and twenty to six. The Installing Master was Geo. Bates, the Hackney hatter, who's as mad as His Majesty but has served us well during his year having initiated two apprentices and raised a craftsman to the sublime degree of Master Mason. His ritual's faultless but some find his mode of dress a little odd - which reminds me.

NOTE: Stefanos F. (another Greek), of Berwick Street, tailor to the gentry, has sent round a note saying that if I don't pay for the coat he made me last winter he won't be making me a suit this summer. I owe him four shillings and eightpence, apparently. Why is everything so insanely expensive nowadays? I doubt if my father spent four and eight on clothes in his entire life. I'm told that, in Italy, you can get a suit made for ninepence. Everything in this country's overpriced. I'd go and live abroad if it wasn't full of foreigners. Mrs. Lightfoote informs me, without a hint of irony, that she needs - needs! - a new outfit for the Fothergills' ball. I don't think Fothergill's bought himself a new outfit since we

lost America and I'm damned sure he hasn't bought one for his wife since she lost her teeth. I've seen crabs better dressed; I've seen crabs better looking! I digress.

W. Bro Bates was wearing a purple coat, pink breeches, one brown boot and a black sandal but he opened the lodge in due form and according to antient custom, so who minds what he looks like? I was absent for the actual installation, having not yet passed through the chair myself, but I can record that the address to the brethren, given by old Tom Coggles, was the best rendition I've ever heard, despite the fact that Tom's as deaf as a dead dog and can't read. He was part-perfect and he spoke up clear as a bell. I confess that, though I've heard those words a dozen times before, they move me still (which is a damn' sight more than I can say for Shakespeare's). How does he do it?

Young Toby Field (Entered 'prentice & Steward) sat beside me at supper - had to keep reminding him that, being a Steward, he had no right to be sitting down at all - and was telling me of a hare-brained idea he's got to publish some sort of pamphlet. "The Mason's Gazette" he wants to call it and it's to be full of articles "of interest to Craftsmen and those interested in the Craft". I'd never heard anything so lamentably ludicrous in my life and I told him so. I also told him that should his father, who's not only a past master but a schoolmaster, find out, he'll get the lamming of a lifetime and Brother Lightfoote will be happy to hold him down for it. I trust that's the last we'll hear of "The Mason's Gazette".

Where do the young get these ideas from? Just because a fellow's 'interested' in something don't give him the right to be told about it, does it? I'm 'interested' in what Polly Porter (the landlord's daughter) might look like wearing nought but a broad smile but I don't think her father'd take kindly to the suggestion that he publish a set of engravings to satisfy my curiosity.

At that precise moment the maid in question leaned over to put down a plate and I turned away from Field to be confronted by a feast: the sweetest little apple dumplings a man ever laid eyes on; it made my mouth water just to look at 'em. W. Bro. King, a prince among men, got up, a little shakily, and sang The Master's Song and we drank his health, and everybody else's, a number of times after which I recall little though Missus Lightfoote says that I attempted to force my attentions on her in a manner unbecoming a gent. I would put this down to my wife's invention were it not for the fact that she adds that I kept demanding a taste of her dumplings.

NOTE: Offer to buy Mrs. L. an outfit for the Fothergills' ball - five bob max.

Thought for the day: Half the world doesn't know how the other three quarters lives - and a good thing too.

Reproduced with grateful acknowledgements to David Wilkinson, Publisher - Freemasonry Today Winter 1999/2000 - Issue 11