

THE FREEMASON



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



THE MARINER ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER No 3217

AMALGAMATED 14TH FEBRUARY 2009

Slightly more than two years after a Meeting convened by the Provincial Executive at the Ingham Street Freemasons Hall, South Shields, entitled "The Future of Royal Arch Masonry in South Shields", 4 of the Royal Arch Chapters of South Shields were Amalgamated into one, at the Gateshead Masonic Temple, Alexandra Road, Gateshead on Saturday 14th February 2009.

The Chapter was opened under the Banner of John Readhead Chapter by the three Principals of that Chapter, E. Companions John Wilkinson, Bill Dixon and Raymond King, who then received the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent and his team of Amalgamating Officers, the Provincial Grand Principals occupied the Chairs and the Ceremony of Amalgamation commenced.



The Founding Principals
E Comp Dixon, E Comp Wilkinson, E Comp King.

The Ceremony itself had been devised by the Provincial Executive from scratch and was admitted by all who witnessed it, to be an impressive, dignified, well put together Ceremony, and one that would live long in their memories.

After the National Anthem was sung, the Provincial Deputation and Amalgamating team retired, and the remaining business of the Chapter was concluded, Ex. Comp. John Wilkinson and his Co-Principals closed the

Chapter as "The Mariner Royal Arch Chapter No. 3217" in due form.



**The Amalgamating Officers and Chapter Principals
L to R**

Second Provincial Grand Principal, E. Comp. Derek Warneford, PGStB, The Grand Superintendent, E. Comp. Norman Eric Heavside, E Comp William Dixon, PGStB, PPrGSN. E Comp John Wilkinson, PPrGSN. E Comp Raymond King, PGStB, PPrGSN. and the Third Grand Grand Principal, E. Comp. Peter Athen Smith PGStB

At the Festive Board the normal toasts were honoured, the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent expressed his appreciation and delight that 120 Companions had attended, and further expressed his, and the Provinces best wishes to the Mariner Chapter for the future, thus bringing to an end an excellent, memorable and historic occasion in the Province.



Companions of the newly amalgamated Chapter

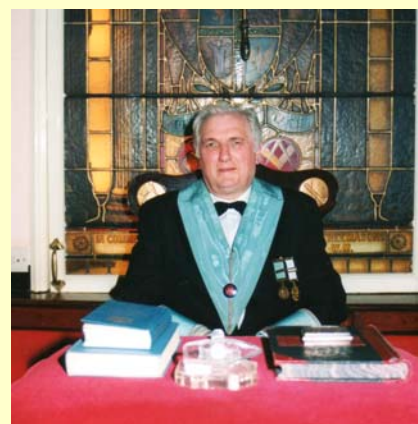
If any Companion who is not in receipt of the Provincial Gazette would like a copy of the Oration given by the Provincial Grand J., or a copy of the form of the Ceremony as put together by the Provincial Executive, please contact Michael Scott at the email address - mezzart@blueyonder.co.uk

The work now begins - the first meeting of the Mariner Chapter will take place on Tuesday 10th March 2009 at 7.00pm when the Chapter will hold its Installation meeting when E Comp Graeme M. Stephenson will be installed as **MEZ** by E Comp John Wilkinson, PPrGSN and E Comp Christopher D. Hornby will be installed as **H** by E Comp William T. Dixon, PGStB, PPrGSN and Comp Philip N. Stephenson will be installed as **J** by E Comp Raymond T. King, PGStB, PPrGSN. On this occasion E Comp Frederick A. P. Beales, PGStB, PPr3rdGPrin, ProvGDC will be repre-

senting the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent accompanied by E Comp Reginald M. Smith, ProvDGDC

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.



**W Bro John W P Haynes, PPrAGDC
Master, Wrekendike Lodge No. 6401**

On 4th February 2009 saw the arrival of W Bro John Haynes, Senior Warden - Master elect of his Lodge Wrekendike No. 6401 a dedicated freemason, very well known for the passion he shows to the Craft and freemasonry in general.

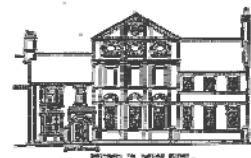
Our second Master of the month is W Bro Ernest Dockwray who at its one hundred and seventeenth annual meeting on Thursday 26th February 2009 became Master of Hedworth Lodge No. 2418.



**W Bro Ernest Dockwray, PPrGSwdB
Master, Hedworth Lodge No. 2418**

W Bro Dockwray is well known in the town and this is his second stint as Master of Hedworth the last time being in 1976 !

FREEMASONS' HALL



MARCH 2009

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						Hadrian Instruction Lodge (10.30am) 1
John Readhead 3217 2	Hadrian 1970 3	Wrekendike 6401 4	Tyne Dock 4218 (Installation) 5	Caer Urfa Lodge of Instruction 6	Fancy Dress Party 7	St Lawrence Lodge Practice (10.30am) 8
St Hilda 240 9	Mariner RAC 3217 (Installation) 10	Caer Urfa 4345 11	St Lawrence 6042 12	Lord Barnard Lodge of Instruction 13 Caer Urfa Lodge Committee	14	FHMC (10.30am) 15
St Lawrence Preceptory (Malta) 16 Westoe Lodge of Instruction	Lord Barnard 2935 17 Gavel Evening Arbeia OSM 296	Wouldhave Tyne Dock MMM 362 (Installation) 18 Wrekendike Lodge Of Instruction	Hedworth RAC 2418 19	Rockcliffe Lodge of 20 Royal Ark Mariners 362 (Installation) Hedworth Lodge of Instruction	21	22
Westoe 4750 23	John Readhead Lodge of Instruction 24	Caer Urfa RAC 4345 25	Hedworth 2418 26	27	28	

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

APRIL 2009 - 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	1970
2nd Monday	St. Hilda Lodge	240
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	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

Lodge of Fellowship No. 9694 will hold its Installation on Wednesday 22nd April 2009.

Some news from our overseas correspondent - **W Bro John Donaldson.**

This is an update with what is happening to one of our "lost brethren".

On Tuesday 28th October 2008 I took over as Secretary of Ave Fenix Lodge No. 73 and on Thursday 20th November 2008, was installed into the 1st Principals Chair of Tajinaste Chapter No. 10 and on 4th December, invested as S.W. in the Tajinaste Lodge of Installed Masters Lodge No. 45. All with the usual fear and trepidation, they do things slightly different over here, Craft Lodge is Emulation "Queer Lodge This" (Gary MacD knows this) and Chapter is Aldersgate, so I have been on a very steep learning curve but enjoying it all the same.

So if anyone is coming over to sunny TFS in the not too distant future and would like to visit any of the above they can give me a call on (+34) 922179174 and they will be made most welcome.

Details of when we meet can be found on our web site at: <http://www.masons-loscristianos.com/>

Lord Barnard Lodge - Gavel Evening 17th March 7pm

A change to the normal arrangements is on the cards at Lord Barnard Lodge when a gavel night will be held, to the uninformed this is a Masonic "Open" night, where friends who have made enquiries of us and who may be interested in Freemasonry, may come along and enjoy an evening with the Brethren of the Lodge. The purpose is to dispel the many myths which exist about Freemasonry and to provide an open, interactive, informative and interesting presentation of what freemasonry is all about. The Lodge will open at 7.00pm and close by 7.30pm all visitors are welcome from 7.00pm were a greeter will show a presentation on the Craft. When the lodge is closed all visitors will be welcomed into the lodge room and W. Bro Bernard Hope will give a talk on the craft, the officers and the equipment in the lodge room, at its close the bar will be open as usual, the Festive board will have harmony from Rod the Rock and a short talk on Masonic charity from W Bro Ken Howe, AGPM If anyone requires tickets then contact W Bro Lee Taylor on 07721653816 or email lbi2935@googlemail.com



Is This a First?

On Saturday 24th January 2009 a small delegation of South Shields brethren made their way to Lodge Dolphin No.911 at Bonnybridge near Falkirk in Scotland.



The occasion being Lodge Dolphins' Burns Supper evening. For some of the contingent this was a unique first which it is to be hoped will leave a lasting impression.



At the event the South Shields contingent handed over a hand painting of the Bard, Bro Robert Burns to the Master of Ceremonies on the evening, and which has now been formally presented to the Lodge on their behalf at the Regular Meeting held the next month.



The portrait painted by Bro Martin Schoolkate of Lord Barnard Lodge No. 2935 will occupy a choice spot in the Lodge as a reminder of the friendship and thoughtfulness of the visiting brethren of South Shields.

Almost fifty companions assembled at Ingham Street Masonic Hall, South Shields, for the regular meeting of St Hilda Chapter - nothing unusual in that. Among our guests were four officers of Supreme Grand Chapter; E Comps Capstick, Welsh, Beales and Dixon - nothing unusual in that. The summons said that two brethren were to be exalted - happily for St Hilda Chapter in recent months there was nothing unusual in that.

Then, as the Principals prepared to open the Chapter and companions waited expectantly, the Director of Ceremonies, E Comp John Errington, announced that one of the exaltees was Bro Eric Spencer Colman, who joined Hadrian Lodge No 1970 recently and who is totally blind. E Comp Errington asked for the understanding of companions as some slight changes to the work had been made and it was anticipated that the ceremony would be longer than usual.

Eric had been consulted previously about aspects of the ritual and had expressed the wish that as far as possible nothing should be changed for him and he would not be offended by any references to light etc.

Eric Spencer Colman and Shaun Ralph Hagan were admitted and exalted to the Supreme Degree of a Royal Arch Mason in a ceremony, meticulously planned and supervised by the Director of Ceremonies. The well-being of the candidates was never neglected. Certainly, guide-dog Chloe seemed happy with proceedings. She moved from her place under a bench only to receive another chew.

The ceremony was conducted by the Principals; E Comps Hewitt, Watkins and Dunn assisted by E Comps Dickinson, Scott and Lewis and Comp Reeves.

Later, in his reply to the toast, Eric said that never once had he felt unsafe during the ceremony. He thanked the Chapter for the care, thoughtfulness and friendship he had received. He explained that other organisations had not welcomed him and Chloe as enthusiastically as the Freemasons.

Eric has a machine which reads clear type and speaks the words. A document had been prepared, which contained information about the Royal Arch in general and about the history of St Hilda Chapter, for which Eric expressed his gratitude.

It was unusual to exalt a blind brother. It was a first for St Hilda Chapter. Was it a first in South Shields? Was it a first in the Province? Perhaps not, but it was a wonderful occasion, which made one proud to be a Freemason.

KWH (Scribe E

home of Lodge St John, Whiteinch 683 has been destroyed by fire on Friday 23rd January 2009.

The roof has gone as well as all the furniture and other artefacts' stored under and behind the stage. There are very few items that have been able to have been recovered. The image below speaks for itself.



Lodge St. John Whiteinch's furniture is usually set out on a Friday morning, and you can see what is left of the Senior Warden's chair and desk. Future meetings will be held at 92 Dumbarton Road (Partick St. Mary's Lodge Rooms) at 7:30pm. The lodge will continue to meet on the second and fourth Fridays of the month as usual.

The link between Whiteinch and our lodge has existed for longer than I can remember (the editor), and at our next meeting the Lodge will be holding a collection which will be presented at the usual fraternal visit from Glasgow to South Shields which will be on Saturday 4th April 2009 and that is our meeting too - so no Thursday meeting that month.

W Bro Neil Stephenson

MENTORING SEMINARS

The Mentoring Advisers in the Province are arranging mentoring seminars for Lodge Mentoring Co-ordinators and Mentors.

A seminar has been arranged for this hall on Friday 17th April 2009 starting at 7.00pm.

All Secretaries of Lodges will receive an invitation and Secretaries are asked to forward this to the appropriate brother.

The purpose of the seminar is to remind everyone of the aims and intended outcomes of mentoring as well as our Provincial Scheme. Most of the seminars will include a Powerpoint presentation.

They will also provide an opportunity for those involved in mentoring to share ideas, success stories, issues and to generally support each other. It is hoped that every Lodge will be represented at the seminar.

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St. Lawrence Lodge
Returning to a Scottish Theme, it was very sad to learn that the Ardery Street hall, home of Lodge St John, Whiteinch

Mad March Hare
Fancy Dress Night
SATURDAY 17th MARCH 2009
7.00pm onwards
Tickets: £10.00
£5.00 in 1999
Any Get Up Will Do!
Just bring your own of costume
Tickets not returned by Monday 2nd March 2009 will be lost
See 10th July 2009



A Centenary History of Hedworth Lodge No. 2418 1891–1991

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

Part Three

I. THE NORTH EAST CORNER 1891-1921

The officers and management of the Lodge

During this first period, 1891-1921, the masters tended to reflect the occupational range of the wider membership, save in the case of marine officers who did not have sufficient time ashore to take up lodge duties.

Five of the masters were solicitors, eight from the retail trades, and six from local government officers if that group embraces teachers and policemen. The non-progressive officers tended to retain their posts for long periods, with the exception of the secretaryship in the earlier years. A list of the officers is provided as Appendix Three.

The first Worshipful Master, Bro Mabane, in 1893, had given to the Lodge a photograph of his officers. In the same year an oil painting of the first Senior Warden, Bro Appleby had been presented, following his death at the age of forty-seven. It is regrettable that neither of these pictorial records survives to commemorate those who shaped the Lodge in its early years.

From the minute books it is possible to recreate the sequence of meetings, and the business conducted there. As early as December 1891 a committee was ap-

pointed to frame bye-laws and quickly decided to adopt those of St. Hilda.

The first regular lodge, following consecration, was summoned for Friday, 15th January 1892, at the Freemasons Hall, Ingham Street. (within twelve months changed to the last Thursday) Subscriptions, set at one guinea, were declared payable from January.

One event advertised on the first circular would now be considered novel, but was in full accord with the social climate of Victorian England, Brethren were advised that "A Full and Fancy Dress Masonic Ball will be held, under the banners of St. Hilda, Hadrian and Hedworth Lodges, in the Royal Assembly Hall, South Shields, on Thursday, 21st January 1892, at Eight p.m."

By January of 1893, the Lodge was ready for the installation of the first elected Master, Bro William Dalziel, whose installation was followed by an Annual Festive Board in the Golden Lion Hotel, King Street. The toast list and menu have been reproduced to illustrate the high standard of hospitality offered.

By 1900 the year closure pattern which we now follow - elections in January, the installation and appointment of officers in February, and the summer break in June and July - had already been agreed.

As must be true of newly formed lodges, considerable support was extended from the established lodges of the town, and this appeared to have taken a very practical form in the case of lodge ceremonies. For example, in September 1894, in the same lodge meeting, all three degrees

were worked, with a break for refreshments.

Two of the candidates were from Hedworth, and the third from Hadrian supported by his Master. The working of degrees in one lodge for the members of another was by no means an isolated occurrence and was repeated in October 1894 when a member of the Williamson Lodge was raised in Hedworth. As founder members were replaced by progressive officers, it was thought necessary to set up 'rehearsals for the degrees', the first being called in March 1895. The growth in the number of candidates made for lengthy and additional meetings.

In September 1895, John Sharp, a master mariner, was initiated at an emergency lodge, the first of many such lodges needed to allow for the number of mariners seeking admission. For example, between November 1900 and February 1912, there were 41 lodges of emergency, and in one classic case, January 1907, there were 13 candidates presented and two separate degrees worked on the same evening. This was long before the ruling of Grand Lodge which closely regulated the calling of emergency lodges. How different it was in April 1897 when an emergency lodge was convened to accommodate a Provincial visit and the Provincial Grand Secretary assisted with the ritual. Our Victorian forebears could act with a surprising and welcome ease despite their general respect for the formal and ceremonial.

THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Ten Other Commandments

(Subsequent to Mount Sinai)

1. You shall not worry, for worry is the most unproductive of all human activities.
2. You shall not be fearful, for most of the things you fear will never come to pass.
3. You shall not carry grudges, for they are the heaviest of all life's burdens.
4. You shall face each problem as it comes. You can only handle one at a time anyway.
5. You shall not take problems to bed with you, for they make poor bedfellows.
6. You shall not borrow other peoples' problems, they can better care for them than you.
7. You shall not try to relive yesterday for good or ill, it is forever gone. Concentrate on what is happening in your life and be happy now!

8. You shall be a good listener, for only when you listen do you hear ideas different from your own.
9. You shall not become "bogged down" by frustration, for 90% of it is rooted in self-pity and will only interfere with positive action.
10. You shall count your blessings, never overlooking the small ones, for a lot of small blessings add up to a big one.

With thanks to W Bro Geoff Murdoch



Rose Croix Enthronement

St. Michaels & All Angels No. 891 held its enthronement meeting on Thursday 19th February 2009, where M.W.S. Terence McKenna, received his.

The
Representative
was non-other
than the



Inspector
General for
Durham,
V.III. Bro.
Kenneth N Park

St Lawrence Chapter 293 also held its enthronement meeting on Monday 16th February 2009 where M.W.S Ken Robson received his.

Hopefully our intrepid camera man will furnish us with a photo of M.W.S Robson for next months edition.