

THE FREEMASON



Edition 1

Vol. IV

January 2010

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

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 14th December 2009, St. Hilda Lodge No. 240 changed their Master as Bro Don Fraser was installed into the Chair of King Solomon expertly and proficiently by W Bro Chris Raven. W Bro Don for those who know him will be well aware of his love for the Craft and his fondness of a laugh and especially his speech making! - enough said.



W Bro Prof Denovan Keith Wilson, PGSwdB, Deputy PGM was in attendance as the representative of the Provincial Grand Master.

Craft Promotions 2009



W Bro Paul Perkins, PPrGSWks of Lord Barnard Lodge and W Bro Ian Wylam Turnbull, PPrGSWks of Westoe Lodge were both Promoted to the rank of PPrJGW, at the Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham held in the Rainton Meadows Arena, Houghton - le - Spring on Monday 30th of November by W Bro Norman Eric Heaviside, Provincial Grand Master.

New Years Message

*"Brethren,
We have experienced a very challenging year in 2009 and yet the Brethren of our Province have again shown great resolve and enthusiasm in many different directions. We had a wonderful Raby Gala Event and a number of other important events and Deputations during the year and on every occasion, given the Provincial Team a most enjoyable experience with excellent friendship and fellowship.*

With now only 6 months remaining to raise funds for the 2010 RMBI Festival, I encourage all Brethren to do what they can in a final push towards achieving an outstanding result, which will be announced at our Festival Dinner on Wednesday 22nd September.

My wife and I extend our personal good wishes to all who access our website and trust that you and your families have a successful Festive Season and a very Healthy and Prosperous 2010"

Rt W Bro Norman Eric Heaviside
Provincial Grand Master

The next meeting of **Westoe Lodge** on Monday 25th



January is Burns night and they are having a proper haggis evening at the festive board. It is a normal meeting starting at 7pm with a 2nd degree candidate.

W Bro Duncan Stephenson and W Bro Harold Dunn will be piping in and addressing the haggis. Anyone who wants to go should let W Bro Phil Heppell know so as to gauge figures for the festive board.

"Voices Together"

A Christmas Concert
Resounding Success

Organised in support of the RMBI 2010 Festival and at St Hilda's Church, Market Square, South Shields on Friday 11th December 2009. The concert performed by a local 15 strong 4part harmony group called **"Voices Together"** was an apparent success, according to those who braved the cold outside and inside.

"Voices Together", who thoroughly enjoyed themselves, were well acclaimed by the 100plus audience and raised the magnificent sum of £950 from donations and ticket sales, which will be distributed to the festival accounts of contributing Lodges.



"Voices Together" wish to thank everyone for their support for the evening and in their true tradition used the fee for the concert as part of a donation of £500.00 to the Cumbria Flood Appeal

W Bro John Hope
Charity Steward 1970

★ ★ ★

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

BRO. WILL ROBERTSON
OR
W. BRO. NORMAN DUNN

★ ★ ★

Highway 34400 1947

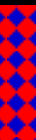
All Masonic meetings start at 7.00pm precisely unless otherwise stated - All Information Given In Good Faith - Please check in the event of a visit

ORGANISATION

DAY

MONTHS

INSTALLATION

	John Readhead Lodge No. 3217	1st Mon	Mar, Apr, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec.	April
	Hadrian Lodge No. 1970	1st Tue	Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec.	November
	Wrekendike Lodge No. 6401	1st Wed	Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec.	February
	Tyne Dock Lodge No. 4218	1st Thu	Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec.	March
	St Hilda Lodge No. 240	2nd Mon	All	December
	Caer Urfa Lodge No. 4345	2nd Wed	Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec.	November
	St Lawrence Lodge No. 6042	2nd Thu	Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Oct, Dec.	October
	Lord Barnard Lodge No. 2935	3rd Tue	Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec.	October
	Hedworth Lodge No. 2418	Last Thu	Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec.	February
	Lodge of Fellowship No. 9694	4th Wed *	Apr, Jul, Aug & Oct (10.30am)*	April
Westoe Lodge No. 4750	Last Mon	Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Sep, Oct, Nov.	October	
	Mariner Royal Arch Chapter No. 3217	2nd Tue	Mar, May, Sep & Nov.	March
	St Hilda Royal Arch Chapter No. 240	3rd Wed	Feb, Apr, Oct & Dec.	October
	Caer Royal Arch Chapter No. 4345	4th Wed	Jan, Mar, May, Sep & Nov.	January
	Wouldhave Tyne Dock Lodge No. 362 of Mark Master Masons	3rd Wed	Mar, May, Sep & Nov.	March
	St. Lawrence Lodge No. 1093 of Mark Master Masons	3rd Thu in Mar, 4th Mon in Jun & 2nd Thurs in Nov		March
	Rockcliffe Lodge No. 362 of Royal Arch Mariners	3rd Fri	Mar, May, Sep & Nov.	March
	St. Lawrence Preceptory No. 275	3rd Mon	Jan, Mar (Malta), May & Nov.	January
	St. Lawrence Rose Croix No. 293	3rd Mon	Feb, Apr, Oct & Dec.	February
	St. Michael & All Angels Rose Croix No. 891	3rd Thu *	Feb, Apr, Jun, & 2nd Thu* in Sep.	February
	Arbeia Conclave No. 296 of the Order of the Secret Monitor	3rd Tue	Mar, May, Sep & Nov.	September



Royal Arch Masonry Just what is Royal Arch Masonry to me?

It is first necessary to mention that the premier Grand Lodge did not recognise the Royal Arch as part of Craft Masonry; they had no objection to it so long as it was considered as a separate and distinct Society. The Grand Lodge of the Antients however held the opposite view; they claimed it as a fourth degree. These views had to be resolved if the two Grand Lodges were to be united.

This was done in a somewhat artificial manner by the wording in the Articles of Union, now incorporated as the Preliminary Declaration to the *Book of Constitutions*, which states that "Pure and Antient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, namely the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch." The Royal Arch is now an integral part of Freemasonry, directly connected to the Craft. Designated officers in the Craft hold comparable offices in the Royal Arch.

Integration

A Chapter has to be attached to a Lodge. This has now been amended in the SWP Report and it is now possible for a Chapter to be established without any Craft involvement. One Chapter can now sponsor another. The Name and Number of Lodge and Chapter generally have to be the same, and any matter not covered by the Royal Arch Regulations is considered as being covered by the Book of Constitutions.

The Royal Arch is not a separate degree; it is an Order which has grown out of, and dependent upon the Craft.

In the compromise that was forged between the two Grand Lodges, the Royal Arch ceased to be a degree and became an Order; and this has bedevilled the ENGLISH Royal Arch ever since.

A proposal to integrate the Mark Degree into the "Second Craft Degree," made to UGLE in 1855 was rejected and resulted in the creation of Mark Grand Lodge in English Freemasonry.

In Scotland and Ireland and indeed most other countries, Mark and the Royal Arch are part of a coherent system of progression beyond the Craft. Unlike the Craft, the Royal Arch is led at every level by three masons rather than one.

Temples

The legend of the Royal Arch derives from the circumstances surrounding the rebuilding of King Solomon's Temple in, or around 520 BC, as described in the Book of Ezra. Solomon's Temple lasted 33 years after its dedication. It was totally destroyed, as you all know, in 586 BC by Nebuchadnezzar who clobbered the Israelites and led them off to captivity and menial work for his Empire.

The second Temple was built by the influence of Prince Zerubbabel, acting on a prophecy by Haggai. It was dedicated by the

High Priest Joshua. Consequently the Principal Officers of the Chapter are called Z, H and J. They rule co-equally each being, effectively, Master.

So the Royal Arch legend – in the English Constitution – relates to the building of the Second Temple and the discoveries of a great truth relating to the origins of Masonry that were made whilst clearing away the rubble of the First Temple.

Degrees and Progression

Every Freemason thinks of his progress from Entered Apprentice to Fellowcraft and thence Master Mason as natural and inevitable; but although the Royal Arch is recognised as completing and being part of the Third Degree, in practice it is not always treated as such even by Lodges which are responsible for a Chapter.

As a separate Order, with distinct regalia, a totally different arrangement of the Lodge room, and having as officers Brethren other than those of the Lodge to which is attached and often of considerable seniority in the Craft, as well as other differences, the Royal Arch in fact gives Brethren who are not yet members of the Order the strong impression that it is something quite distinct from the Craft.

This separation is a psychological factor that we must help our Brethren to overcome. The Royal Arch is now referred to as "The Completion of the Third Degree" but acknowledged for what it really is – an Order complete in itself and with its own special appeal and integrity.

The First Degree – teaches a Mason his moral duty. *The Second Degree* – the lessons of truth and wisdom. *The Third Degree* – brings him the reality of his ultimate death and the need to leave a memory of a useful life well spent in service.

Enhanced Understanding

The Royal Arch goes further by placing Man in his relationship with his Maker. The Candidate is made in the ceremony of Exaltation to return to the Mason's roots and rediscover important secrets and truths and how to handle the newly acquired special knowledge with honour and uprightness.

In this sense the Royal Arch is the natural progression from the Craft and no keen Master Mason should fail to continue into the Order. Membership of the Royal Arch is also an essential preliminary to entry to some of the most attractive and interesting Orders beyond the Craft.

The Royal Arch extends and deepens one's understanding of our principles and imparts, in a moving and ritually impressive way, the secrets of Masonry said to have been lost in the Master Mason's Degree. It is an Order with its own integrity, fascinating history and this, in itself, makes it worthy of our support. I have never regretted becoming a Royal Arch Mason.

Reproduced with grateful acknowledgement to its author - E Comp Alan Brundall PGSwdB Deputy Grand Superintendent. - North Yorks.

A Freemason in the Sun

Bro Bob Ward was a member of Hadrian Lodge 1970 from 1990 to 2004 when he decided to move to the sun in Spain.



Bob going to pay his subs!

Bob was a work colleague and my second order when I joined the Craft. He has since joined a lodge in Spain, Old Tower Lodge No 49.



The Master's Chair

Bob reached the dizzy heights of SD in Hadrian Lodge and hopes that his new Lodge will inspire him towards the chair.



Senior Warden's Chair

Displayed here are the Senior & Junior Wardens chairs which Bob will be sitting in before long if he wants to realise

his goal within this new Lodge, and the best of luck and wishes go to him from all back here in snowy England.



Junior Warden's Chair

W Bro D S Dunn

THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER



Durham to be pilot Province for "Freemasonry Cares"

Durham is to be one of four Provinces to pilot "Freemasonry Cares" prior to the initiative going National in autumn 2010, presentations on the initiative have already been made by the President of the Masonic Samaritan Fund, V W Bro Hugh Stubbs at our Provincial Promotions Meeting on 30th November and by Natasha Treweek, Head of Information and Communications at The Freemason's Grand Charity to the quarterly meeting of the Durham Benevolent Committee on Saturday 12th December

Freemasonry Cares, is an initiative whereby anyone who may need assistance from any of the central Masonic Charities can contact the charities direct to seek confidential initial advice. This is by use of a freephone telephone number 0800 035 6090 - email info@freemasonrycares.org and website www.freemasonrycares.org

All Durham Freemasons and Masonic Dependents should make use of them with immediate effect. Any issues identified during the pilot will help shape the national roll out.

In Durham the initiative is not expected to replace the well established role of the Provincial Benevolent Committee and Lodge Benevolent representatives.

Four experienced Benevolent Representatives have been identified to make presentations on Freemasonry Cares and after they receive specific training in the New Year they will be available, on request to attend Lodge meetings and other Masonic occasions.

The speakers will be W Bro's Craig Steele, David Johnson, Richard Tucker and Brian Graham.

The presentations can take place in open Lodge instead of a ceremony but can also be sufficiently concise to take place as an additional agenda item. Requests for these presentations should be made to Provincial office.

Below is the leaflet explaining the scheme and is available now.



Financial, healthcare and family help for you!

Freemasonry Cares
Freephone 0800 035 60 90

Can we help you?

Freemasonry Cares helps Freemasons and their family or dependants who have a financial, healthcare or family need, to access a range of services available to them.

Finding out whether you can obtain help via Freemasonry Cares is as easy as 1-2-3!

1. Do you have a Masonic connection? YES
2. Do you have a need we can help with? YES
3. Contact us to discuss how we can help:
• By phone 0800 035 60 90
• By email help@freemasonrycares.org
• Via the web www.freemasonrycares.org

All requests are treated in the strictest confidence and dealt with sympathetically.

If you think you or someone you know may be able to benefit from what we offer - get in touch. We're delighted to help if we can - and you have nothing to lose by contacting us.

- 1. Who is eligible?**
Freemasonry Cares offers guidance on the help available to anyone who has both:
A Masonic connection this includes:
 • All current and former Freemasons under the United Grand Lodge of England
 • Dependents of a Freemason, former Freemason or deceased Freemason: wives, widows, children and partners
 • In some cases, non dependent relatives who are closely linked to a Freemason, former Freemason or a deceased Freemason: sisters, mothers and
A real need
 • This includes financial, healthcare or family related support which the person concerned cannot easily meet from their own income or savings. It also covers certain other specific needs, for example moving into a care home.
- 2. What help do we offer?**

Financial • Household expenses and goods • Home repairs and improvements • Funeral costs • Education support • Emergency costs, arising from illness, death or redundancy	• Sheltered accommodation • Nursing, residential and dementia care • Family: • Children's maintenance and education costs • Care homes and sheltered accommodation • Respite care • Care advice • Support for children with talent in music, sport or the performing arts • Student accommodation • Counselling, therapy and advice for children • Holidays for older people
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Healthcare
 • Operations
 • Dental treatment
 • Mobility equipment and home adaptations
 • Hospital treatment
 • Medication costs
 • Care advice
- 3. Contact us**
 Call us on 0800 035 60 90 email help@freemasonrycares.org or visit www.freemasonrycares.org
 Eligibility for assistance will vary depending on individual circumstances.

Tell your family!

Make sure that everyone in your family knows that obtaining help via Freemasonry Cares is as easy as 1-2-3!

Share this leaflet with your family and other dependants and encourage them to carry the key ring with them at all times. You never know when your circumstances may change. We are here to help today, tomorrow and in the future.

For you: Keep this card for future reference

Freemasonry Cares

Finding out whether you can obtain financial, healthcare or family help is as easy as 1-2-3!

Freephone: 0800 035 60 90

Freemasonry Cares is a joint initiative of the central Masonic Charities.

For your family: Pass this key ring on to a loved one

Freemasonry Cares

Do you have a Masonic connection?
 Do you have a need we can help with?
 Contact us to discuss how we can help:
 By phone 0800 035 60 90
 By email help@freemasonrycares.org
 Via the web www.freemasonrycares.org

All requests are treated in the strictest confidence and dealt with sympathetically.

For extra copies of this leaflet or cards contact Freemasonry Cares on 0800 035 60 90

Freemasonry Cares

It's as easy as 1-2-3!



Freemasonry Cares

Please get in touch:
 Tel: 0800 035 60 90 Calls are free!
 Email: help@freemasonrycares.org
 Web: www.freemasonrycares.org
 Mail: Freemasonry Cares, 40 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AE

Can we help you?

Freemasonry Cares is a joint initiative of the central Masonic Charities. The Freemasons' Grand Charity (Registered Charity No. 253324) Royal Masonic Relief for GLE and Grandmaster's Charity No. 483363, The Royal Masonic Educational Institute (Registered Charity No. 222340) and Masonic Samaritan Fund (Registered Charity No. 113440).

Further information regarding this scheme can be viewed on the Provincial website at the following link:

<http://www.durhamfreemasons.org/absolutenm/templates/?a=639&z=14>

To help make the help available easier to understand we have developed a 3-step process: Does the person

1. have a Masonic connection?
2. Is there a financial, healthcare or family need?

If the answer is **YES** then contact the Lodge almoner, provincial almoner or Freemasonry Cares for a confidential discussion on the help available.

3. The charities have set up a new central freephone number, website and email where potential beneficiaries can get information on the type of help available and if they are likely to qualify.

The adjacent card can be cut out and kept in your wallet :-

Freemasonry Cares

Finding out whether you can obtain financial, healthcare or family help is as easy as 1-2-3!

Freephone: 0800 035 60 90

Freemasonry Cares is a joint initiative of the central Masonic Charities