

THE FREEMASON



Edition 5

Vol. III

May 2010

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

Our visit to the National Memorial Arboretum

At the beginning of April, Jane and I paid a visit to the NMA. On the whole we were very impressed and think it was well worth the visit.



However, we didn't pick a very nice day. It was cold, wet and windy. So we suggest if you go you pick a nice sunny day or take your wellies.

It had been raining and most of what we wanted to see was over muddy fields so taking the wheel chair was no good, I had to walk and Jane had a job stopping the chair getting stuck in the mud.



Part of the NMA is accessible with the chair and it is well worth a visit. The Freemasons garden is, at the moment, quite near the



café at the main entrance, but sadly it is not complete. This we believe is partly due to lack of monetary help, from around the country and also the indecision as to whether it is going to remain where it is still in question.



There is over 400 Memorial Gardens dedicated to the armed services and other organisations over approx 150 acres so a full day is needed to appreciate the work that has gone into such a tribute.

We have donated the guide book and photographs that we have taken to the South Shields Masonic achieves, via Bro Skoolkate.

Yours fraternally
David and Jane Trotter

Further Information

The National Memorial Arboretum was conceived by the founder director, David Childs, after visiting the USA and seeing the Arlington Cemetery and the National Arboretum in Washington DC.

He thought the concepts could be merged into a meaningful living tribute in the UK, which would acknowledge the sacrifice made by the whole nation so that people could live in peace and freedom.

Today, it pays tribute to those who died in war and also reminds people of the 80 million lives lost in conflicts in the 20th and 21st centuries. Warwickshire Royal Air Force Lodge No. 9456 created Masonic history when they held the first Lodge meeting at the National Memorial Arboretum on November 1, last year (2006).

More than 40 members spent the day at the Arboretum, which began with a visit to the Masonic Garden and included a Lodge meeting in the Visitor Centre during which the Master, W Bro Paul Brennan, initiated his son Gary Stephen. The day ended with a Festive Board provided by catering staff at the Arboretum.

The National Memorial Arboretum is open every day, except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, from 10am. Admission is free, and a visit is highly recommended.



South Shields Freemason receives Regional Business of the year award

Congratulations are extended to W Bro Neil Stephenson of St Lawrence Lodge No 6042. At a prestigious event on Friday evening, Neil's data security company, Onyx was named North East Company of the Year 2009. As managing director of Onyx, Neil is pictured above receiving the award, W Bro Stephenson was Worshipful Master of St Lawrence Lodge in 2004 and 2007, and is now their Director of Ceremonies. In 2007 he was one of the first appointees as a working Past Provincial Grand Steward.

He is a founder member of the Durham Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge No 9833 and currently chairs the Provincial IT committee.

What a blooming great prize!



Former marine college lecturer W Bro Stewart Hamilton and member of Hadrian Lodge, has sailed away with a top prize thanks to the Gazette. Great-grandad Bro Hamilton scooped a trip for two with DFDS after spotting a competition in the Gazette – and entering under wife Janet's name. The 82-year-old said: "I have entered the odd competition in the Gazette, but have never had much luck. *"We were both delighted when we got the call."* Bro Hamilton, who lives with his 76-year-old wife in South Shields, won a two-night Special Mini Cruise break to the Keukenhof Gardens, in Holland. As part of the trip they will enjoy a tour through the Dutch bulbfields and visit some of the top bulb producers in the country. Bro Hamilton, who worked at the college for 24 years, said: *"We have never been to Holland before and are both looking forward to it."*

MAY 2010

FREEMASONS' HALL

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2 Hadrian Lodge 1970 LOI Freemasons' Club 12—3.00pm
3 Karate	4 Hadrian Lodge No. 1970 1st Degree	5 Wrekendike Lodge No 6401 2nd Degree Karate	6 Tyne Dock Lodge No. 4218 3rd Degree	7 Caer Urfa Lodge Committee Freemasons' Club Karate	8	9 St Lawrence 6042 Practice (10.30am)
10 St Hilda Lodge No. 240 Karate	11 Mariner RAC No. 3217	12 Caer Urfa Lodge No. 4345 3rd & 2nd Degree Karate	13 St Lawrence Lodge No. 6042 3rd Degree	14 Lord Barnard Lodge of Instruction Caer Urfa Lodge Of Instruction Supper Freemasons' Club	15	16 FHMC (10.30am)
17 St. Lawrence Preceptory 275 Karate	18 Lord Barnard Lodge No. 2395 3rd Degree Arbeia OSM 296	19 Wouldhave Tyne Dock Mark Karate	20 Karate	21 Rockcliffe Lodge RAM 362 Hedworth Lodge of Instruction	22	23
24 Westoe Lodge Rehearsal & Committee Karate	25 Caer Urfa RAC No. 4345 Hadrian Lodge Committee	26 Tyne Dock Lodge of Instruction & Committee	27 Hedworth Lodge No. 2418 1st Degree Karate	28 St Hilda Lodge of Instruction Freemasons' Club Karate	29 Caer Urfa Lodge Ladies Night Hedworth Hall	30

31
Karate

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

Day and months of meetings of Masonic Organisations at Freemason's Hall

	ORGANISATION	DAY	MONTHS	INSTALLATION
	John Readhead Lodge No. 3217	1st Mon	Feb, Mar, Apr, Jun, 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

NEW MASTER'S

April 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.

John Readhead Lodge No. 3217

On 30th March 2010 saw the arrival of W Bro Bob Allan Ford, of his Lodge, John Readhead No. 3217. W Bro Rob is a well known brother within the town.



W Bro Bob Ford,
Master, John Readhead Lodge No. 3217

The Installing officer being W Bro Phillip Stephenson could not stop smiling once the new Master was safely ensconced into the Chair.



Lodge of Fellowship No. 9694

W Bro Malcolm Hall Fortune, PPrJGW who was installed as WM of Lodge of Fellowship 9694 on Wednesday 28th April 2010 by W Bro Paul Perkins, PPrJGW. There were 82 brethren present from Lodges in the town and other daytime lodges in neighbouring provinces. The Rep was W Bro John B Gibson, PGStB,

A St Georges' Night to Remember

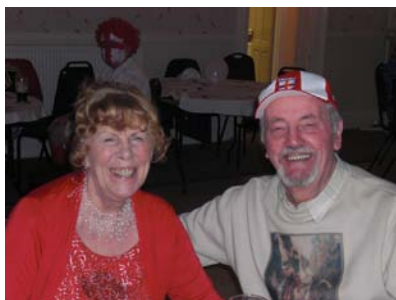
With some of the usual suspects and a lot of new faces, this Social went from strength to strength as the night progressed.

Eighty party revellers were in attendance and boy did they put in an attendance! The theme struck a chord with most of them with an array of England style dress although one brother who



will remain nameless took it to another level and came as Sherlock Holmes! (see picture above) anyone know who he is??

The raffle was held which raised a substantial amount towards the cause, and a very grateful thanks are given to all those Caer Urfa brethren who donated prizes.



The raffle over it was time to open the buffet, and this again didn't disappoint the guests many of whom went



back for more, and more, and more..... again special thanks to Bro Khamal of Gavel Lodge and also owner of Jai-ho restaurant and his staff for putting on such a spread as well as giving 50% off vouchers to each couple at the event if they should attend his restaurant, bit

like buy one get one free and a thanks for enjoying his buffet!

It gets better the evening explored the hidden mysteries of peoples singing talent via young Bro Joe Barron of St Lawrence Lodge Karaoke show which more than brought out the talent amongst the crowd as well as bursting



a few eardrums in the process. Even the gallant Mackem Bar Steward got into the swing of things by wearing patriotic attire and kindly donating a vast array of flags and bunting to compli-



ment those already purchased by the Lodge and some brought in by Bro Dave Woodrow of Westoe Lodge, as my mate Matty would say "It doesn't get any better than this" and as usual I agree with



him, those who couldn't attend missed a real gem of a night as the pictures here and on the back page testify. The event raised £475 and whilst it is not usually any of our business, the Steward was 'cockahoop' that bar takings surpassing earlier Socials and the number of compliments he received doubled to two (only kidding)

The Lodges next social is their Instruction Night Supper on 14th May and also their Ladies Evening on 29th May at the Hedworth Hall. Tickets for both events are available now.

SOUTH SHIELDS MASONIC GOLF COMPETITION

The Brethren of South Shields are holding their Annual John Readhead Golf Competition on Wednesday 3rd June 2010 at the South Shields Golf Club.

Tee is booked from 2pm to 3pm. The competition will be played under Stableford Format. Max. 20 Handicap, price £12. per player.

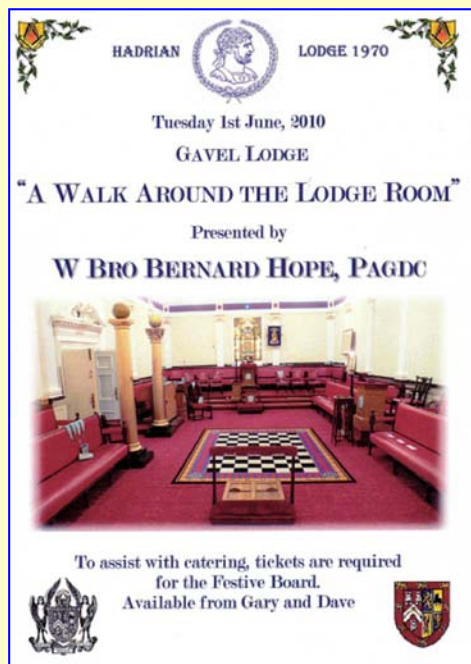
South Shields brethren will be playing for the John Readhead Cup. Visiting brethren for the Ellwood Potts Shields and non masons will play for the Ron Kitchingman Memorial Shield.

Prizes for the longest drive and nearest the pin, there will also be a raffle.

All proceeds going to the 2010 Festival.

For more information and booking information Brethren can contact either :-

W Bro Dave Dunn 07982243653 or
W Bro Duncan Pentland 07767486355.



HADRIAN LODGE 1970

Tuesday 1st June, 2010

GAVEL LODGE

"A WALK AROUND THE LODGE ROOM"

Presented by
W BRO BERNARD HOPE, PAGDC

To assist with catering, tickets are required for the Festive Board.
Available from Gary and Dave

HADRIAN LODGE No 1970
INGHAM STREET
SOUTH SHIELDS

A WALK AROUND THE LODGE ROOM.

On Tuesday 1st June 2010 Hadrian Lodge No 1970 are holding an open evening where an introduction into Freemasonry will be explained and presented by W. Bro. Bernard Hope, PAGDC.

The Lodge will open at 7pm and guests will be admitted at 7.30pm. A meal will be provided at the festive board at approximately 8.30pm. Any one interested or has a friend who may be interested are welcome to attend.

Lodge St John Fisherrow 112 meet at Musselburgh.

In time gone by some of the members used to work in the shipyards at South Shields. As a result of this, in 1972, a fraternal visit was set up by W. Bro Bill Richardson of Hadrian Lodge 1970.

A gavel was presented on their first visit, and is still in use today (picture). As time went by the visit, like most, died out.

Seven years ago W. Bro. Dave Dunn took a party of Hadrian brethren to Musselburgh to rekindle old friendships.

On Saturday 17th March 2010, W. Bro. Dave Dunn, together with 13 brethren, attended a special meeting of St John Fisherrow, where they witnessed a splendid 3rd degree ceremony, the Master leading the team was W. Bro. Robert Law, Provincial Secretary.

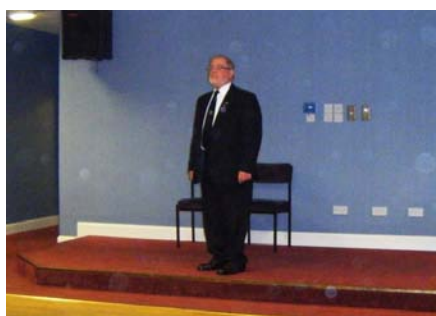


W. Bro. Phil Heppell, Master of Westoe Lodge was called upon to reply to the visitors toast, and even he was amazed at the work-



ings.

Our own W. Bro. Duncan Stephenson provided the harmony for the evening to the



Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham

ANNUAL MEETING

The 2010 Annual Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting will be held at the Borough Hall, Headland, Hartlepool on Saturday 26th June 2010 commencing at 10.30am punctually

The presiding officer will be

RtW Bro Norman Eric Heaviside,
Provincial Grand Master

At this meeting, formal and administrative business of the Province will be conducted followed by the appointment and investiture of the Durham Provincial Officers for the year 2010/11

Provincial Grand Lodge Officers and other Members of Provincial Grand Lodge are summoned to attend. If present Officers are unable to do so they should email the Provincial Grand Secretary to that effect pgl@pgldurham.org

All Master Masons are invited to attend. Brethren must be seated in their places by 10.15am. Tea will be available at the venue from 9.30am Full dress regalia and white gloves are worn in Provincial Grand Lodge. Private Lodge Masters and Wardens should wear the collar and jewel of their rank and Durham Provincial tie.

Luncheon at a cost of £20 per head will be held in the Mayfair, Seaton Carew at 2pm. A cheque made payable to "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham" and enclosing an SAE should be sent to WBro D Bambrough, 5 Dudley Avenue, Fulwell, Sunderland, SR6 8HD no later than 1st June 2009

All members of Masonic Lodges in Durham Province are encouraged to attend this meeting, there is no cost and no requirement to stay for lunch. On previous occasions about 1,000 Durham Freemasons have attended the Annual Meeting and it is hoped that there will be a good attendance again this year



Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham Continuous Giving Scheme launched

A review of the processes Province uses to collate and administer charitable giving has been undertaken. The current situation is time consuming, outdated and relies upon the goodwill of many volunteers. A working party was set up to see how we could improve upon this outdated, albeit functional, practise

The Provincial Vision for the future

Following a visit to Grand Charity in summer 2009 and a subsequent visit to this Province by a representative from Grand Charity, it has been decided that for any future festivals we will take advantage of the 'RELIEF CHEST' scheme operated by Grand Charity

The Relief Chest scheme was established in 1985 to provide a central, professionally run facility for raising charitable funds

It collects our donations, invests them and provides us at Lodge level with all the necessary feedback so we can see what we have achieved, avoiding the need for any staffing at local level, above all it is free and is already providing a service to many Masonic Provinces.

The 2010 RMBI Festival

In support of our current RMBI Festival which will close on 30th June, many Brethren have given regularly, by standing order. Most people who give small regular amounts out of income do not really miss the donations that they give but amazingly, after each festival, Province instruct them to stop giving ... and most do!

We should not stop giving to charity just because we are not in festival. Indeed many Lodges continue to give to both Masonic and non-Masonic charities even during festival periods, and this is praised.

Festivals are an important aspect of our Masonic practice as they enable Freemasonry in general to make a significant impact in terms of specific charities

The 2021 Festival for the RMTGB (Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys)

The next festival in this Province will not be until 2021, and the Provincial Executive has listened to brethren comments about the 2010 Festival being too short – not giving enough time for all to do their bit – and have decided to offer a new continuous giving scheme to all members as a way of helping plan ahead

We hope if this scheme is well supported we may not have to target lodges in the future. It is a voluntary scheme which will enable individual members to spread the financial burden of future festivals over a much longer period

The continuous giving relief chest scheme

The PGM is seeking your continued support and asking that;

- * As a Lodge you utilise the Relief Chest approach for future festivals
- * Those who have given regularly in the past, and can afford to do so, should keep their donations going until the end of June and then switch to the new scheme by completing a Direct Debit Donation form.
- * Individual members who have not previously given regularly do so now – even if it is just £2 a month – less than the cost of half a pint of beer a week.

"Whatever you feel disposed to give will be gratefully received and faithfully applied"



Calling all recently raised Master Masons

All recently raised Master Masons and their Mentors are encouraged to attend a discussion evening being arranged for the North & East Areas of the Province on the 3rd of June 2010, at Shiney Row Masonic Hall.

MTEC (the Masonic Education & Training Committee) has been arranging this event for several years and plan to hold another event, in respect to the South West of the Province later in the year.

Brethren do not have to attend their home area event and are welcome at Shiney Row on the 3rd of June or the South West event later in the year. Regalia is not worn on these occasions which will commence at 7pm, with refreshments available from 6:30pm and take no more than 2 hours.

Whilst these evenings are aimed at those Master Masons who have been raised in the past 24 months any Master Mason who has not previously attended such an event will be made welcome and we hope will find the evening enjoyable and beneficial. It is preferable but not essential that Lodge Mentors attend to support their Mentees.

All recently raised Master Masons should get an invitation via their Lodge Secretary.

DURHAM MASONIC GOLF COMPETITION

The annual competition for the RAVENSWORTH GOLF CHALLENGE TROPHY will be held at Woodham Golf & Country Club, on Friday 11th June 2009. Tee times are reserved from 1pm to 2.30pm.

The format will be in pairs on a "Four-ball, Better-Ball, Stableford" basis with full handicaps up to a maximum of 24. Applications are invited from Brethren to represent their Lodge, Chapter etc, as a pair.

Concurrently, there will be an individual competition which will allow Brethren who are unable to find a partner from within their Lodge etc to join us for an excellent day's golf.

This will also be on a Stableford basis, full handicap, with a maximum of 24. All players are automatically included in this.

There will be coffee/tea and bacon roll on arrival, and the golf will be followed at about 7.30pm by a 2-course meal, the presentation of prizes, and a raffle. (Dress: smart casual)
The cost for the whole day is £30 per person. For further information, and extra application forms, contact:

W Bro Allan Gurney
07802-700423 (mobile);
0191-581-3464 (work).

An answer-phone is available on both numbers.

Celebration Dinner to mark the conclusion of the 2010 RMBI Festival

Details are now available of the above celebration to be held on Thursday 23rd September 2010

This will be a prestigious event and it is anticipated there will be a very high demand for these tickets (which will be limited) and early application is recommended.

Full details are as follows:-

Venue: The Rainton Meadows Arena,
Houghton-le-Spring
Ticket Price: £48.00 which includes a reception
drink, canapés, 5 course meal,
wine and entertainment.
Reception: 6pm to 6.45pm

Dinner: Served at 7pm
Festival Speeches and Presentation: 9.30pm
Carriages: from 10.30pm
Bars Open: 6pm till 11pm
Dress: Dinner Jacket/Craft Collar or Chain/
Festival Jewel

Any Brother who wishes to apply for Tickets should visit the Provincial Website download the application form and submit it at their earliest convenience. Wives/Partners are invited.

All applications, with cheques enclosed payable to "Durham Benevolence Ltd – Festival Account" are to be sent by post to:-

Mr Nigel I Foster, 1 Ashcroft Road, Darlington.
DL3 8PD

PLEASE NOTE: - Applications sent to Provincial office will not be processed.

Only complete applications (with cheques attached) will be considered. Block applications cannot be made. All successful applications will be notified. Tickets will be issued in September 2010. Please include your e-mail contact address with application.

At this very special event the total raised by the Province of Durham for the RMBI over the last 5 years will be announced

Fundraising for the festival will conclude at the end of June 2010 so anyone wishing to make a final donation should please contact their Lodge Charity Steward as soon as possible or send their donation to Provincial Office with a gift aid form available for download on the website

CAER URFALODGE INSTRUCTION LODGE SUPPER

This is another chance for those who have prospective candidates or non Masonic friends to bring them along and join in our Festive Board and even for those who have never visited THEIR Lodge for decades in some cases to have a 'Rusty Nails' re-introduction to the ritual. If any brother is attending regardless of whether they are a regular attendee or otherwise please let Bro Derek Tyler, Senior Warden know so that sufficient catering arrangements can be made.
Tickets available priced £5.

ANNUAL LADIES EVENING

The Lodge's Annual Ladies Evening will be held at The Hedworth Hall, South Shields on Saturday 29th May 2010, a formal affair where brethren honour their ladies for supporting their husbands and boyfriends as they pursue happiness in Masonic circles!!



A three course meal plus cheeseboard, music and dance and a good night guaranteed for all - dress is formal (Brethren and gentlemen are requested to wear formal attire "bow tie and evening suit") the Ladies will be as resplendent as ever, thus no need to remind them of the importance of the evening.

BROTHER LIGHTFOOTE'S JOURNAL

The Recollections of an Eighteenth-Century Gentleman of the Craft

DATE: June 29th, 1787 Feast of Saint Peter

WEATHER: Unsettled

OUTLOOK: Glorious

Quid est veritas?

Simon was a simple fisherman, known to his friends as Peter, from the Greek, Petros – a rock. He was obviously a sturdy fellow. Our Lord, punning on his nom-de-poisson, as it were, declared, 'Upon this rock I shall build my church,' and so it came to pass, for Peter, as we are all aware, became the first Pope.

I recently directed my course to the West, to Cornwall, to be more exact, to Helston to be perfectly precise, to witness the ancient custom of the Furry Dance (Furry, pronounced to rhyme with hurry, from the Latin feriae – a festival). This takes place each year upon the eighth merry day of the merry, merry month of May. What happens, in short, is that the townspeople, led by their mayor, begin dancing early in the morning, youngsters in the vanguard. By the evening, the entire population will have capered in and out of every house in the town, entering and leaving by different doors where possible, to bring extra luck. Nightfall heralds a Bacchanal in which the exhausted inhabitants indulge on all manner of excess, the local ale providing more than sufficient lubricant for the proceedings. It is obviously the 'hangover' of a pre-Christian crop fertility ritual, the details of which may all too easily be imagined.

For some reason I find the sight of drunkenness sobering. Perhaps it has something to do with that business of suppressing in oneself that which, in others, one finds distressing. Whatever the cause, I went to bed uninebriated, by Lightfoote standards. I was staying at an inn called The Angel, which has stood for over three hundred years. Many of the fixtures and fittings are original, including, I suspect, the mattress upon which I slept.

I awoke, early in Lightfoote terms and stiff in Lightfoote limbs, dressed myself, and staggered downstairs in the hope of an hearty breakfast. Vain hope indeed! The inn-keeper, a former



ship's surgeon who, on the previous evening had access to a seemingly inexhaustible stock of navy rum and nautical ribaldry, was now silent and immobile as the Rock of Gibraltar upon the taproom floor. I stepped carefully over him, as if ascending a winding staircase, and out, into the sweet and scented air of a quaint old Cornish town. In minutes I was strolling through a landscape that might have been Eden. All things that love the sun were out of doors; the sky rejoiced in the morning's birth; I felt resolute and independent...

There are, in these parts, ancient traces, reminders of those who were here before history was recorded in writing but whose presence is preserved in stone. I came upon such a remembrance: a Quoit. Once a burial chamber, its walls of earth and turf had long since disappeared, along with its grisly contents. My mood suddenly became sombre as I gazed upon these melancholy emblems of mortality: a monstrous circular slab supported by three massive uprights, looking, for all the world, like...

'A giant's stool!' The voice that volunteered this singular explanation was deep and guttural, loud, and about four inches – or a hand's breadth – from my right ear.

I cried out in alarm and spun around to confront its owner: an ancient rustic, all smock and battered hat and missing teeth. All around was open ground. Where had he sprung from? How long had I been lost in contemplation? He leered at me, and continued, 'Ha-haar... For this also has been one of the dark

places of the earth...' 'Indeed,' I replied, regaining my composure, 'but I believe you'll find that it is, in fact...' 'A Sacred Symbol!' he roared. 'Is that it, Sir? Ha-haar!'

He held me with his glittering eye. 'Could it be that yon great disc be the circle at whose centre lies a certain point, and them three pillars, what might they be called, eh, Brother? What's the truth? Ha-haar! 'Tis a question of interpretation, is it not? 'It is indeed, Brother,' said I, offering my hand.

We walked back to The Angel together. 'Has the landlord told you about the boulder that the Devil dropped when challenged by Saint Michael?' asked my friend.

'The one that's now embedded in the wall of his hostelry?' I ventured, 'The Hell's Stone from which Helston takes its name?' 'Load of nonsense!' quoth he, and so it is.

His name was Peter, same as the Fisher Pope. Just like his namesake, he was a perfect example of the rough diamond, as it were, revealing the smooth and polished gem concealed within.

THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER