

FREEMASONRY

TASMANIA

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Journal of the Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of Tasmania



Help and fraternity

FREEMASONRY TASMANIA

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Front Page photos

TOP: Office bearers for the newly-established Tasmanian Region of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for Australia...Story, Page 3

LOWER LEFT: Thanks from the Grand Master of Victoria for the contribution of Tasmanian brethren to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

LOWER RIGHT: The December 2009 meeting of Huon Lodge included the initiation of Bro Tyler Jordan.

He is pictured at right with the Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper and Bro Peter Parker from Lodge Clarence.

The Grand Master took the opportunity to present a Fifty Year Jewel to RW Bro Gerald Upchurch.

From the Grand Master

Enjoying freemasonry to the fullest

New Year resolutions will by now be either broken or hopefully firmly entrenched for the remainder of 2010.

I wish everyone the best of luck with their endeavours.

I also hope that some of the members' resolutions include a determination to be more involved with their Craft lodge and to enjoy Freemasonry to its fullest extent.

The satisfaction and fulfilment achieved by an active participation in a successful social exercise can be of great value not only to the participant but to the organisation.

The life blood of a group is a reflection of the active involvement of its members.

Ceremonial appointments

We are about to commence the first group of installations conducted by members appointed to the various ceremonial team positions.

I have every confidence that the events will give both the teams and the viewers great satisfaction and delight.

Enjoyment and a sense of belonging are most desirable features of our lodge installations.

I would like to think they will be engendered in all our masonic gatherings during the coming years.

WA interaction

I was again very proud to lead the Tasmanian delegation to the Western Australian Grand Installation.

The function was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

The interaction between our group and the hosts and other visitors will I am sure prove to be of value not only to Freemasonry Tasmania but also to all who attended.

The sale of the Glenora Lodge building has been completed.

Glenora Masonic Lodge has joined forces with the Derwent Valley Lodge, meeting at the Derwent Valley Masonic Centre at New Norfolk.

I am confident there will be a positive result from this merger.

Rationalisation positives

The lodge building at Latrobe has also been sold and Concord Lodge has taken up residence in the Devonport Lodge rooms, a move which will be beneficial to both lodges

These developments have been organised to enable funds to be made available for improvements to the New Norfolk and Devonport Masonic Lodge buildings,

This rationalisation will enable improvements to be made to both centres, together with a better economic outcome for all parties.

I congratulate the members involved in achieving this result.

Heritage at Zeehan

The museum at Zeehan is now open as a part of the Heritage Museum complex.

The members involved in the finalisation of the refurbishment of the premises are to be congratulated for their efforts over a long period.

The museum lodge room and its interactive displays present a well rounded experience of Freemasonry for all visitors

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Bro Stuart Lenthall
B. Bus., A. Dip. Acc. FPNA

Recognition after 24 years

When the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for Australia was established in 1985, Tasmania was established as a District within Region Three which covered Tasmania, Victoria, and southern New South Wales.

The first District Commander was Most Illustrious Brother Trevor Taplin, OAM, who had previously been District Commander for the District of Tasmania under the Supreme Council 33 for England and Wales.

Twenty-four years later, in 2009, Tasmania has been recognised as a Region in its own right.

The Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for Australia has established Tasmania as Region Eight. It has appointed Most Illustrious Brother Bill Morgan 33 degree as Regional Commander. Bill had recently completed a five-year term as District Commander for the District of Tasmania.

The establishment of Tasmania as a Region means that Tasmania now has a seat on Supreme Council with Bill joining the group of nine as Grand Captain General.

"I am delighted that Tasmania has now received due recognition", he said. "Previously it was analogous to

Tasmania as a State being governed by the Premier of Victoria.

"We have inherited a sound membership base and look forward to our future as a strong and vibrant Region".

The Region of Tasmania has been divided into two Districts - Tasmania Bass and Tasmania Derwent. Tasmania Bass incorporates the three North and North-West Rose Croix Chapters and the Northern Tasmania Sovereign Council.

It is being headed by the previous, and last, District Commander for Tasmania, V Ill Bro Greg Parkinson 33 degree.

The District of Tasmania Derwent, incorporating the two southern Rose Croix Chapters and the Holy Grail Sovereign Council, is headed by V Ill Bro Rob Clarke 33 degree.

Rob was installed in his office and presented with his patent at the meeting of the Hobart Crown of Life Sovereign Chapter on August 6, 2009.

- Rob Clarke

Our top Front Page photo shows the office bearers of the new Tasmanian Region of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for Australia.



Poignant moment at Huon

It was father to son and then son to father at the Huon Lodge Rooms at Franklin with the Installation of RW Bro Horrie Hollick

He followed his son W Bro Mark Hollick into the Chair of King Solomon.

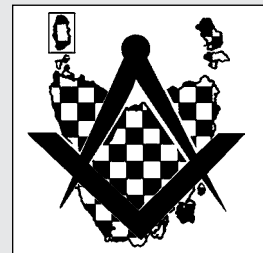
W Bro Mark had been Master for the previous two years.

The Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper officiated at the proceedings and at the appropriate time he invited MW Bro Fred Shepherd, Past Pro Grand Master to place RW Bro. Hollick in the chair (pictured above).

The poignant moment was very much appreciated by the packed house at the ceremony.

MW Bro Shepherd, now 92, has been the Installing Master at the new Master's two previous installations and is great friend and mentor of RW Bro Hollick.

WELCOME ABOARD



to our new Brothers...

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
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| T. R. P. Cory | Lodge Lauriston |
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Around and about



Learning curve for NW lodges

Brethren from North West Coast lodges manned a stall at the Ulverstone Agricultural Show on October 31, 2009. The event, believed to be a first for the lodges, was a "learning curve"

Public reaction was very good, but the general comment was that Freemasonry could have had more on display, so look out for next year.

A display of different aprons featured, with a teddy bear wearing one being an attention-grabber. A record 6,000 patrons attended the Show

Thanks are due to the Show Secretary (and Roland Lodge Secretary) Kevin Chambers for his suggestion for a stall, and to Roland members for supporting him.

- Ian Macleod

A Yuletide 'practice' for Lodge Esk

We trust Christmas 2009 was enjoyed by all, but Lodge Esk made sure by having a "practice" Christmas in Winter luncheon on June 28, attended by 70 adults and children.

With a beautifully decorated dining room and tables and a menu of choices including roast turkey and Christmas pudding, with all the extras and trimmings, you couldn't ask for anything more.

There was more: a "special" phone call (thanks to mobiles) was received from Santa Claus to tell us he was on his way.

Some fifteen minutes later, to a wonderful rendition of "Jingle Bells", Santa burst into the room, much to the delight of the children (and the big kids too).

He then distributed presents to all the children including Olivia Kenyon, pictured top right, and gave them some worldly advice, before departing for his next appointment.

The Worshipful Master, W Bro Murray Allen, presented a \$200 cheque



Photo - Col Moore

from Lodge Esk to six-year-old Madison Woodfield, to assist in her fundraising efforts to purchase dialysis equipment for the Launceston General Hospital.

They are pictured below with Madison's mother.

Madison started her fund-raising career in 2008 and has raised more than \$6,000 for various charities - not bad for a six-year-old!

All enjoyed a wonderful day, with good food, good friends and a feeling of goodwill to all mankind.

- Col Moore

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Gavel 'travelled' true to title

The "Wilberforce Travelling Gavel" (pictured) was true to title in October when it was presented to the Masters of Launceston and Hobart Lodges during the 2009 Australia and New Zealand Masonic Research Council lecture tour.

The gavel comes from Wilberforce Lodge No. 21, a Prince Hall Lodge in the United States.

Since 2003, it has been carried by each Research Council lecture as he tours Australia and New Zealand,

Last year the lecturer was W Bro Kerry Nichols from Hawkes Bay Research Lodge, No. 305 New Zealand Constitution whose mother Lodge is Lodge Awatea No. 258 NZC.

W Bro Nichols received a Diploma of Masonic Education from the Grand Lodge of South Australia at the 2009 Adelaide Communication.

On October 20 W Bro Nichols addressed a joint meeting of the Launceston Lodge of Research and



Lodge Scotch College on "The hidden mysteries of nature and science".

The meeting was well attended and included the Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper and a small team of Grand Lodge officers.

The Master of Launceston Lodge of Research, W Bro Albert Kuznezow, was presented with the Wilberforce Travelling Gavel by W Bro Nichols.

On October 19 in Glenorchy, the Macquarie Daytime Lodge hosted W Bro Nichols as the Kellerman Lecturer.

His lecture, "Freemasonry, Humanity - will we survive?", was presented sixteen times during his 2009 tour of Australia and New Zealand.

On this occasion, the recipient of the travelling gavel was the Worshipful Master of the Hobart Lodge of Research, W Bro George Sanders.

After recovering the gavel, W Bro Nichols presented W Bro Sanders and the Lodge with a copy of the book "Fifty Years of Care".

W Bro Nichols and his wife Cheryl joined brethren and their wives and partners for a luncheon attended by about 40 people.

The travelling gavel will be forwarded to Western Australia, where the next ANZMRC meeting is to be held later this year.

- Albert Kusnezow and Jack Clear

Lake Charter returned

The Warrant/Charter of the former Lake Lodge, now made inoperative by Grand Lodge, has been returned to its original position in the masonic rooms now controlled by the National Trust. The original charter was issued in 1904 but was handed in when Lodge members accepted that it could no longer remain viable.

On September 25, 2009, the Launceston Lodge of Research held a general meeting in what is now known as the Heritage Lake Lodge Rooms. It was attended by the Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper, with a ceremonial Grand Lodge team.

After the normal business of the Lodge was completed, guests were invited in to continue the work for the evening. This included the Grand Master's presentation of the Warrant/Charter to the president of the Norfolk Plains Group of the National Trust, Edward Kayser, and some of his members.

Afterwards, the Master of the Launceston Lodge of Research, W Bro Albert Kusnezow, gave a talk on the origin of warrants and charters. These date back to the York Legend of King Athelstan and Prince Edwin in the year 926, when the first Charter was issued to Operative Masons.

They have since evolved to the present situation of Grand Lodge issuing Warrants.

The evening concluded with light refreshments and a raffle, with the proceeds (\$100) being presented to the Norfolk Plains Group for its use in maintaining the building as a Heritage Masonic Lodge.

- Albert Kusnezow



Lodge Merton open day

On Sunday, October 18, 2009, Lodge Merton opened its lodge rooms at Oatlands for public viewing. A display of regalia (shown above) was one of the features. The Lodge expressed special thanks to W Bro Geoff Cadogan-Cowper and W Bro Peter Harold for their efforts in arranging the open day.

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Counting the years



Picture: Jack Clear



'Life' for Bert

Lodge of Peace has made Sixty Year Bar and Certificate recipient W Bro Albert (Bert) Mainwaring a Life Member.

W Bro Mainwaring reached his "sixtieth" last year and received his Life Membership in the South at the Lodge's regular meeting in August 2009.

The presentation (pictured above) was made by the Worshipful Master, W Bro Graham Deacon, before a large gathering of W Bro Mainwaring's family.

Bert was initiated into Lodge of Peace on May 17, 1949, passed to the second degree on October 18, 1949, and raised to the third degree on July 18, 1950.

He was invested in all offices leading to his installation as Worshipful Master in 1957. In 1959 he became Preceptor of the Lodge and in 1961 Director Of Ceremonies.

From 1960 through to the late 1970s was a "boom" time for Lodge of Peace as there were many initiates.

Bert excelled in becoming a very good ritualist presenting many charges.

- Graham Deacon

Seventy Year Jewel for Bob

Bro Bob Purves, formerly of Rechab Lodge and now of Pacific has marked his 70 years in the Craft. He is pictured receiving his 50 Year Jewel with a 70 Year Bar from RW Bro John Fish at the December 2009 meeting of The Pacific Lodge.

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Was 'Our Nat' recorded?

Mrs Brenda Sonners has discovered that after all the "concord of sweet sounds" presented by her late husband, RW Bro Nat Sonners, to so many people, she has no aural record of him playing the piano or organ.

She would dearly like to be able to listen to him playing and earnestly requests that if anyone has a tape or similar she be allowed to have it copied.

If you have or know of a copy, please contact Harry Gilbert who is acting on her behalf. Ph/ Fax 03 62 347227 email hdevg@ozemail.com.au

Counting the years

Esteemed 40th

Esteemed member of St Andrew Lewis Lodge, W Bro Andrew Thollar received his Forty Year Certificate from VW Bro Theodor Kremerskothen at the Lodge's September 2009 meeting.

W Bro Thollar joined Empire Lodge in July, 1969, where he held office for most of his masonic career. He was Master twice and currently is Senior Deacon in St Andrew Lewis Lodge.

W Bro Thollar is also a member of nine other Orders in Tasmania, holding the top office in two of them.



An honour for Keith

W Bro Keith George Stokes was honoured by members of Poulett Lodge in Wynyard at their January meeting 2010 for his forty years as a member of the Craft.

W Bro Keith joined Monatteh Lodge at Stanley on May 3, 1969.

He was Junior Warden in January 1975 /1976, Worshipful Master in 1977. Monatteh handed in its Charter in 1994 and Keith affiliated with Poulett Lodge in October 1994. The presentation was made by VW Bro Russel Ker, who was Master of Monatteh in its last year.

- David Cheshire

Major upgrade works under way

Major upgrade works are under way at the Fred French Masonic Home in Launceston to bring facilities in some of the older sections more into line with modern requirements.

The works are being carried out in the Kuiper, East and Robinson Wings and in four stages.

Stage 1 was redevelopment of the Kuiper and East Wings to remove the shared bathrooms and give each room its own private en-suite

Work started in October 2009 and has now been completed.

Stage 2 (East Wing) was completed by the end of December 2009.

Stage 3 followed, with some external works already completed.

An application for a capital grant was submitted in the 2009 Aged Care approvals round but the Federal Government declined to "come to the (works) party"!

As the upgrade was vital to attract residents to the rooms and subsequently maintain a good funding source, the Home had to finance the work from its own reserves.

The Board has deferred Stage 4 for the time being.

A further application for assistance with the capital works programme will be submitted to the Federal Government in the next Aged Care Approvals Round.

Thanks from Fred French board

Fred French Masonic Home has expressed sincere thanks to the Masonic Board of Benevolence for donating \$5,000 towards beds for the facility.

It has also thanked Lodge Lauriston for submitting the application on behalf of Fred French.

The bed replacement programme aims to provide electronic hi-lo beds and mattresses for all residents.

The beds offer the best of comfort to the elderly and minimise potential occupational health and safety risks to care staff.



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Serving Homes in the North

'Fred House' initiative reaches fruition

A major fund raising initiative of the Fred French Masonic Home in Launceston came into fruition on October 27, 2009.

Six months after the first sod was turned on a building site at 23 Bradford Avenue, Prospect Vale, "The House That Fred Built" was officially opened by the Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper and MW Bro Paul Hodges, with 80 guests attending the ceremony at the house.

MW Bro Hodges was chairman of the Fred French Masonic Home on April 22, 2009, when he turned the first sod before a number of Fred French residents, Board members and senior management of the Home, and the local media.

At the official opening, the Grand Master cut a ribbon across the front door, W Bro Hodges handed the key to Vincent John, the marketing contractor for the project, who then opened the door.

The project brought together generous donations of products, services and labour from more than forty local companies, including Hotondo Homes (owner and builder John Dykman), to build a \$500,000 house and land package for sale. "We take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks for the amazing benevolence shown by all the contributors and recommend our corporate benefactors to the community at large", MW Bro Hodges said.



At the opening of "The House That Fred Built" is RW Bro Ron Whittle (at right), Life Member of Fred French, who has been on the Board of Management for 36 years. With him are W Bro Philip Thompson and his wife Kristine. The couple were donors to the House and W Bro Philip was coordinator of the project during the four months leading to the opening.

The profit from sale of the house will go to the Fred French Masonic Home to assist with its planned major renovations and extensions.

The house has fully landscaped and irrigated gardens and is equipped with white goods appliances, including dishwasher, fridge/freezer and washing machine. It also features solar water heating, reverse cycle air conditioning, an entertainment area and paved alfresco area.

Open Homes were conducted for six weekends after the official opening and PRD Nationwide Tamar Valley has been coordinating the sale of the house.



New CEO for Northern Homes

The new Chief Executive Officer of Masonic Homes of Northern Tasmania, Marlene Johnston (pictured), was appointed in early December 2009.

Mrs Johnston was previously Quality and Systems Manager for the organisation, having joined the Homes in 2006.

She was acting CEO for two months before her permanent appointment.

As Quality and Systems Manager, she put in place many quality, care, audit and risk management programmes which have earned praise within the industry.

Mrs Johnston's credentials in aged care are well-known. She was CEO of Aldersgate (Uniting Aged Care) for twelve years, has been an Accreditor with the Australian Health Care Standards for twenty-four years and is a past Assessor with the Aged Care Accreditation Agency.

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Freemasons' Homes of Southern Tasmania

The Aged Care Foundation has made significant progress in its efforts to enhance the quality of life for residents of Freemasons' Homes of Southern Tasmania.

Raising money is its primary function; applying for grants and seeking members who pay an annual membership fee are the two current methods used.

Fundraising functions are also being considered by the ACF Board.

During 2009, in partnership with several schools and nursing homes, the Foundation was awarded a grant of \$25,000 from the Schools First program of the National Australia Bank.

This money will be used in 2010 to undertake an oral history activity involving several schools and nursing homes.

Residents stories will be recorded in a book, using a camera, on a computer, or in a combination of methods.

Care Foundation makes significant progress

At the end of the programme, the residents will be given the history to keep and the electronic resources used again.

In November the Foundation, along with two other nursing homes, two schools, Alzheimer's Association Australia Tasmania, music therapists and volunteers, lodged a joint submission for funding to provide art and music therapy to residents of aged care facilities.

Bus purchase plan

During 2009 the Foundation bought a large television for residents of Bowditch Hostel, furnished the bar in the nursing home activities centre and subsidized bus trips for residents.

Early in 2010 an application will be lodged for funds to purchase a bus, in partnership with two primary schools.

The Aged Care Foundation Board meets monthly and the activities of its Executive Officer follow a previously adopted business plan.

The ACF Board provides a monthly report to the Board of Freemasons' Homes of Southern Tasmania.

As a member of both Boards, Michael O'Farrell helps ensure good communication between them.

For more information about the Foundation, including enquiries about membership, please contact Christine Howard on 0408 101 449, email choward@fmhtas.com.au or call in at the Freemasons' Homes in Ballawinne Road, Lindisfarne.

Selbourne Place under way

Work has begun on the \$1.95 million redevelopment of the Selbourne Place properties at the rear of the Freemasons Nursing Home at Lindisfarne.

Several old weatherboard units will be demolished and replaced with seven modern two-bedroom villa units.

Following discussions with prospective tenants and Selbourne Place neighbours, preliminary plans were lodged with the Clarence City Council in early September 2009 seeking planning approval.

This was received on November 16, 2009.

The Board of the Freemasons Homes of Southern Tasmania has provided alternative accommodation for all of the long-term tenants who previously occupied Freemasons Homes units in the Selbourne Place cul-de-sac.

This is another exciting stage in the on-going development of the Homes and there have been strong expressions of interest for all the proposed units from the current pool of applicants.

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Around the World

There have been interesting events in Austria which in many respects is the hub of Freemasonry in Central Europe.

The interests of the brethren are not entirely focussed within the national boundaries. They help their neighbours regularly.

In addition there is an awareness that Freemasonry in Austria has had some well known members such as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and the associated cultural impact on Freemasonry is seen to be significant.

In May 2009 an English language Mark Master Lodge was consecrated at Hellbrunn Castle (17th century) in Salzburg, Austria.

"The New Quarries Lodge of MMM" #1903 is part of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas.

Nearly 40 brethren from a dozen countries and eight craft jurisdictions constituted the new lodge.

This new lodge is seen as a platform for traditional Mark Masonry in and for central Europe.

It will provide a multi-national and transborder European regional body to study and implement aspects of traditional European Masonry.

Salzburg, has been, for centuries, even millennia, at the crossroads of European civilization and culture.

As in many other regions of Central Europe, it was ruled by different sovereigns.

Masonry was practiced there more than 225 years ago.

In 1783 the Lodge "Carefulness" was consecrated under the auspices or at least with the consent of the Prince Archbishop Hieronimus Count Colloredo.

Focus on 'Austrian hub'



Compiled by
R.W. Bro. Murray Yaxley,
G.M.O.H. P.D.G.M.

Co-ordinator of Fraternal Relations for
the Grand Lodges of Australasia and
Past President of the ANZMRC

Two other lodges, "Apollo" and "Science", were also active there in the 1780s.

National and citizenship borders did not play any role in the composition of these lodges - as they do not in the New Quarries Lodge.

Our Brethren Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Leopold Mozart lived and worked in Salzburg at these times.

In 1785 Thomas Walpole, Earl of Oxford, the British envoy to Munich, is mentioned in Salzburg in a Masonic connection.

The NQL will hold three meetings per year in Central Europe.

Its Secretary can be contacted at secretary.nql1903@gmail.com.

The first meeting of the New Quarries Lodge of MMM was held on September 26, 2009 in Vienna, at Palace Franz Stephan von Lothringen (1708-1765).

He was a Roman Emperor, married to Queen Maria Theresia of Austria, and also a Mason.

He was initiated in 1731 in The Hague by a Deputation Lodge from London headed by John Theophilus Desaguliers, and raised in London within Robert Walpole's Maid's Head Lodge.

On November 7, 2009 an English language Royal Arch Chapter was consecrated in Austria.

RAC "Sarasro" on the register of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of Austria was established with the active participation of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England and the Grand Chapter of Italy and the attendance of Companions from other countries in Europe.

Freemasonry in Brazil

Brazil, with a population in excess of 200 million, is the largest country in the South American continent.

There are 28 Grand Lodges in the country, one in each of the 27 States plus the Grand Orient of Brazil which is based in the capital Brasilia and has District Grand Lodges in each State.

The United Grand Lodge of England recognises the Grand Orient of Brazil but, at present, only four of the State Grand Lodges - Sao Paulo, Espirito Santo, Mato Grosso do Sul and Rio de Janeiro.

Bro Aleksander Jovanovic, Grand Secretary for Foreign Relations at the Grand Lodge of Sao Paulo reports that there are 20,000 members belonging to 610 lodges in that Grand Lodge. There are six different rites practised - Ancient Scottish, Emulation, Schroeder, St John, Rectified Scottish and Adonhiramite. Grand Masters usually serve for four years.

Cuban Sesquicentenary

The Grand Lodge of Cuba, often styled as Columbus' Grand Lodge, celebrated its sesquicentenary in December 2009.

Members are proud that they have been able to promote masonic principles and values for 150 years.

Organisers of the celebrations to mark the anniversary are very happy that they have received so much support that they had to move to a larger venue than that originally booked.

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Around and about

Book review:

No 'hatchet job'

There have been many fanciful propositions concerning possible masonic symbolism in the design of Washington DC. The reality is that with a parallel rule and some imagination anyone can create a number of intriguing designs from a geometrically planned cityscape.

Those cities that have evolved around a meandering river, steep rocky outcrops or the long forgotten tracks of cattle or straining horses do not offer the same likelihood of masonic conspiracies. The frenzy of pre-publication marketing associated with *The Lost Symbol* reignited interest in these and many other facets of Freemasonry.

However, media interest waned when it became clear that Dan Brown and his publishers were primarily interested in presenting the cast of characters of the novel to as wide an audience as possible and were not doing a hatchet job on Freemasonry.

The book is not a great piece of literature but it is a good story. It takes one back to the childhood pleasures of solving puzzles, decoding messages, constantly racing against time with a nasty villain calling the shots. In essence the Craft is portrayed as an organisation which has been misunderstood and unfairly criticised.

Brent Morris sums it up this way; "The Masons in *The Lost Symbol* are noble minded, intellectual, well connected, well educated and should all be wearing white hats because they're the good guys."

- Murray Yaxley

Politicians entertain Masons

Brethren and wives/partners of the Derwent Valley and Glenora Lodges spent a very enjoyable evening at Parliament House as guests of the Member for Lyons and Government Whip, Heather Butler and her husband Geoff (pictured below).

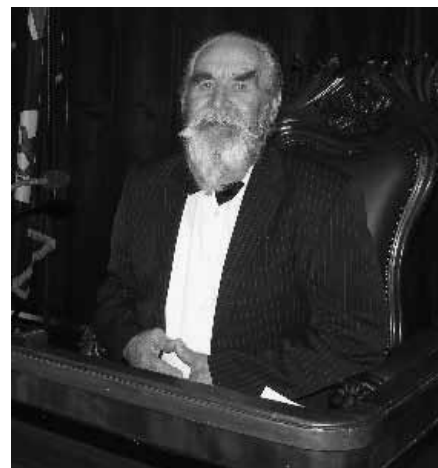
The invitation was extended to brethren from the two Lodges after Mrs Butler presented new Australian and Tasmanian flags at Derwent Valley's August committee of management meeting.

Following an enjoyable meal in the Parliament House dining room and great deal of discussion the visitors were conducted on a tour of the building and its historical features.

The dungeon was spectacularly interesting and sparked a great deal of interest.

Following the tour visitors were invited as spectators to the proceedings of the Legislative Council which proved very educational.

Deputy President of the Chamber Gregory Hall welcomed the visitors.



Following this memorable visit, the Worshipful Master of Glenora Masonic Lodge, Wor Bro Basil Masters, was invited to take the Speakers Chair (pictured above), from which he thanked the hosts for their hospitality.

- Mark Ricketts



'Unit holder' Grand Lodge

The Grand Lodge of Tasmania has become a unit holder on the board of the City of Glenorchy Masonic Centre, at the invitation of the centre's board of directors.

This ensures the long-term life of the centre and gives Grand Lodge a share in the equity of the building and representation in its management.

The Grand Lodge holds four of the twelve units (shares) in the centre.

The directors representing Grand Lodge are the Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper, RW Bro Terry Dann and W Bro Jack Clear, some of whom have already accepted leadership roles on the board.

The Glenorchy Masonic Centre, now in its thirty-fifth year, was the brainchild of Lodge of Friendship which, with the

help of the lodges which have met in the building, have made it one of the most financially and successful masonic centres in the State.

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Alzheimer's Disease (AD) is the major cause of dementia in aged individuals, affecting approximately eleven per cent of the population over 65 years of age and up to fifty per cent of individuals over 85.

The interval between initial diagnosis and death can vary considerably - usually three to fifteen years - and with this decline comes an increasing dependence on primary carers and the health-care system.

This significant social and economic burden is likely to increase over the next ten years as Australia's demographic profile changes.

AD is the most intensely investigated nervous system disease within the neuroscience research community.

Tremendous advances have been achieved in our understanding of aspects of the AD process, such as the molecular genetics of familial AD and the protein composition of the principal characteristic lesions.

The latter includes extracellular fl-amyloid (Afl) deposits and intracellular "neurofibrillary" changes such as tangles, dystrophic neurites and neuropil threads.

A major question remains as to the relationship between these pathological changes and the process by which

Big advances in studies

The Masonic Centenary Medical Research Foundation has received a detailed progress report on the research into Alzheimer's Disease being undertaken by Dr Jerome Staal, the foundation's Post Doctoral Fellow. At the request of the Foundation's president, W Bro Brian Sims, *Freemasonry Tasmania* presents this edited version, hopefully highlighting the main aspects for the lay reader. Dr Staal has indicated he would be pleased to speak with Freemasons about his researches.

He can be contacted by email at Jastaal@tas.edu.au

specific subgroups of neurons slowly degenerate, leading to the gradual and progressive emergence of the clinical features of AD-related dementia.

In this respect, Afl plaque formation appears to be an early pathological brain change.

My underlying research hypothesis is that there is a specific pattern of damage to nerve cells associated with subsets of dense plaques that involves focal axon transport defects and cytoskeletal alteration.

Subsequent aberrant regenerative sprouting in these damaged neurons leads to gradual degeneration and loss of connectivity that results in the progressive symptomatology of the disease.

1. Critical early brain changes of Alzheimer's disease

AD begins in the brain many years before clinical symptoms are overt.

This "pre-clinical" phase of the condition represents a form of "pathological aging" of the brain where there are widespread Afl plaques typically associated with minor cognitive deficits that may represent incipient AD-type dementia.

While it was widely believed that Afl deposits in these preclinical cases were relatively inert, we have determined that

dystrophic neurites associated with these plaques are characterised by abnormal accumulations of neuronal cytoskeletal elements.

I have also shown that the structure of these early and critical AD changes is similar to that seen following mechanical stretch injury to neurons.

Thus, plaque-induced structural deformation of the brain may result in neuron constriction, leading to subsequent degenerative and regenerative changes that underlie dystrophic neurite formation.

To further investigate this, I am using advanced laser microscopy to image developing plaques in a transgenic AD mouse brain slice.

I am focusing on the periphery of the new plaques to determine the early key neuronal changes that occur.

Furthermore, we have recently determined that plaque-associated axonal changes characteristic of preclinical AD are morphologically and neurochemically identical to plaque-associated dystrophic neurites in our line of transgenic AD mice.

Thus, the early/preclinical AD features in these mice may make for ideal models for exploring therapeutic strategies that ameliorate Afl and/or neuronal pathology long before it potentially develops into a more clinically significant pattern of neuronal degeneration that involves irreversible loss of connectivity.

2. Calcium signaling following neuronal injury and in AD

One of the first consequences of plaque-induced neuronal damage is alterations in cell signalling.

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APPEAL FOR FUNDS

Maintaining financial viability in an aged care facility is a constant battle. The main source of funding is the resident subsidy from the Commonwealth Government but, for some years now, this has not kept pace with the rate of inflation and does not make any provision for capital works.

YOU CAN HELP!

The Freemasons' Homes of Southern Tasmania Inc. always welcomes donations and bequests. Donations over \$2-00 are allowable as an income deduction for taxation purposes.

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Keith Graver ... *Chairman Board of Directors*

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Medical research special feature, page 2

by our research fellow

FROM PAGE 12

Calcium is an important regulator of cell signalling as well as cell death.

Very recent studies have proposed that there is increased calcium signalling in nerve cells around AD plaques and that these “hyperactive” neurons propagate these pathological signals to neurons away from the plaque.

Interestingly, I have found a similar response when I constrict and stretch nerve cells grown in culture (an injury we propose plaques may induce to surrounding nerve cells).

I have found that this disruption in neuron calcium signalling activates various pathways including aberrant regenerative sprouting and eventually cell death.

Currently, I am investigating the mechanisms involved in the activation of these pathways and developing methods of inhibiting them.

I have formed collaborations with Dr Lisa Foa at the University of Tasmania., who has experience in calcium imaging techniques in cultured nerve cells.

3. Therapeutic interventions

There is increasing evidence that therapeutics used for brain trauma patients may also be beneficial in the treatment of AD.

This is likely, as there are many shared pathological features between brain trauma and AD, such as axonal swellings.

I have recently found that an anti-cancer drug, Taxol, is particularly beneficial in preventing neuronal death following injury of neurons in culture. Unfortunately, this drug does not cross the blood brain barrier unless there is significant damage to the brain.

Recently, I collaborated with a research group at the School of Chemistry (University of Tasmania) headed by Dr Jason Smith.

He has considerable experience in the chemical synthesis of organic structures and is currently working with a compound, called Baccatin III, used as a precursor to Taxol.

Dr Smith will chemically alter this compound to synthetically produce a number of new drugs.

We aim to develop a new drug that has a greater therapeutic action compared to Taxol, and is also capable of crossing the blood brain barrier.

So far, we have two new drugs, which I am currently testing using our in vitro injury models. Positive candidates will then be tested in our animal models of injury and AD.

I am currently supervising two PhD students: Yao Liu and Stan Mitew.

Yao Liu is principally working on the calcium aberrations associated with neuronal injury and AD.

Stan Mitew is working with me on the laser imaging of AD plaque formation in the transgenic AD mice models.

The Order of the Eastern Star Hobart Chapter has a history of support for various causes as selected each year by its Worthy Matron.

Recently the Worthy Matron, Sis Joyce Burrell, and the Worthy Patron, Bro George Taylor, met Heart Foundation chief executive officer Graeme Lynch to present a cheque for \$300.

Mr Lynch was accompanied by the foundation’s state manager for fundraising Melita Griffin and fund-raising coordinator Louise Kirkwood.

Each year the Worthy Matron of the Chapter chooses a charity for the Chapter to support during her year.

Last year Sis Burrell chose the Heart Foundation with the express wish that the donation be applied towards further research for the benefit of children with heart deficiencies.

During the year the Chapter made other charitable donations, including to the City of Clarence Eisteddfod and the two national disaster appeals for victims of the Victorian bushfires and the Queensland floods.

Members of the Order who attended the United Grand Chapter of Australia Biennial Sessions in Sydney in June.

They were pleased to learn that charitable donations totalling \$406,660 had been made by all the Australian Chapters over the previous two years.

Pictured (from left) Bro George Taylor, Worthy Patron Hobart Chapter, Heart Foundation state manager fundraising Melita Griffin, Worthy Matron Hobart Chapter Sis Joyce Burrell and Heart Foundation CEO Graeme Lynch.

OES shows heart



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Around and about

Gourmets and earbashers 'honoured' at Drysdale



The annual Southern Masters' gourmet dinner was held on November 4, 2005 at Drysdale House College of Hospitality in Hobart.

A large number of raffle prizes were donated, raising about \$1000 for the Freemasons Assisting Tertiary Education Students (Freemates) foundation.

The Gourmet Award went to W Bro Alan Millar of Hutchins Old Boys Lodge (top left).



The night also included the presentation of the Earbasher's Award to a modestly undeserving W Bro Jack Clear of The Pacific Lodge (lower left).

Guest speaker was Senator Catryna Bilyk, from the Goninon

family at Derwent Valley.

She spoke about the operation of the Senate.


Throughout the night diners were entertained by Ellyse Burton, who is the daughter of W Bro Alan Burton of Clarence Lodge and Christine Burton.

- Jack Clear



More help for Cape Country project

A further donation has brought to \$5,000 the total contribution of the North West Masonic Benevolent Society to the Cape Country accommodation project for the disabled at Wynyard. A \$3,000 donation from the society in 2008 enabled the project to finish what had been started at that time. The latest donation of \$2,000 went towards extension of the roof-covered barbecue area. Presenting the \$2,000 cheque to residents of the project are the Worshipful Master of Poulett Lodge, W Bro W. C. Paterson, RW Bro J. Hamilton and RW Bro Des Hyland.



The Broken Column

Symbol of the passing of a member of the craft

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| VW Brothers | |
| B. W. Anderson | The Pacific Lodge |
| T. A. Connell | Nugara Lodge |
| R. H. Glover | Derwent Valley |
| W Brothers | |
| W. J. Conway | The Pacific Lodge |
| T. Fyle | Lodge Macquarie |
| M. F. Johnson | Darcy Wills Mem. |
| R. A. Peck | St Andrew Lewis |
| E. N. Richardson | The Pacific Lodge |
| Brothers | |
| J. Dillon | Huon Lodge |
| R. W. Frost | Lton Daytime |
| T. H. Price | The Pacific Lodge |
| J. W. Reisz | Concord Lodge |
| C. H. Sargent | Emu Lodge |
| D. R. J. Welsh | Lodge Macquarie |
| N. K. Welsh | The Pacific Lodge |
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Family affair at Hutchins installation

There were some unusual family-orientated aspects of the installation of Bro John Morgan Tomlinson as Worshipful Master of Hutchins Old Boys Lodge last year.

Two sons of the Master Elect made a special trip from New South Wales to see their father installed, and in a break with tradition - because neither were Worshipful Masters - presented the first and third degree working tools.

Permission for the change was given by the Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper, who conducted the installation, assisted by 35 Grand Lodge officers.

Bro Lyndon Tomlinson of Lodge Gynea No. 796 NSW Constitution presented the first degree working tools and Bro Braith Tomlinson of Lodge Verity No. 570 NSW presented the third degree working tools.

W Bro John's father, Bro Charles Gilbert Tomlinson (initiated July 22, 1946) presented the working tools at John's initiation on February 8, 2001.

The new Worshipful Master, as Bro John, presented the first degree working tools at his sons' initiations - Bro Braith's on November 11, 2003. and Bro Lyndon's on February 16, 2005.

W Bro John is looking forward to attending his sons' installations and presenting working tools in the not too distant future.

The evening on July 22 was full of highlights for the new Worshipful Master.

RW Bro Paul Fletcher, Deputy Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of ACT and NSW came from Sydney for the installation.

Also in attendance was RW Bro David Hodgson from WA and W Bro George Hambley of Scotch College Lodge No. 80 TC, who was on a fraternal visit from Launceston and presented the second degree working tools.

In an unexpected and very moving moment, the Grand Master invited W Bro John's sons onto the dais so they could be the first to congratulate their father.

Our Back Page photo shows Tasmania's Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper, and the Deputy Grand Master of NSW/ACT, RW Bro Paul Fletcher with the new Worshipful Master, W Bro John Tomlinson, and his sons, Bros Braith and Lyndon Tomlinson.

Big night at Burnie

A large gathering of masons and their ladies assembled at the North West Masonic Centre on October 24, 2009, for Burnie Masonic Lodge's nineteenth installation meeting.

The Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro John Wallace, supported by the North West Grand Lodge Team with RW Bro Dann SGW visiting from the South, installed W Bro Peter Radel in the chair of King Solomon.

W Bro Radel had previously been Master of Gill Memorial Lodge in 1983.

This time around he replaced VW Bro Ross Elphinstone who had last been in the chair of Poulett Lodge forty years ago.

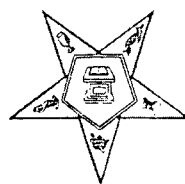
In presenting the Immediate Past Master's jewel to VW Bro Elphinstone

the Deputy Grand Master paid tribute to the manner in which he had carried out his duties while fending off the effects of a very serious illness.

For services to this lodge and a former lodge in the position of treasurer for eighteen years Bro Peter Lay was recognised by the presentation of a Treasurer's jewel.

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NEXT EDITION: August 2010. DEADLINE - July 2, 2010

Invitation

On 3 July 2010, it will be my honour to install my successor, RWBro. Adrian Burton DGM as the 27th Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Queensland.

It is my pleasure on behalf of Regina, Adrian, Pam and myself to extend to all members of our Masonic family the warmest fraternal invitation to join us in Brisbane for the Grand Installation and associated events from Friday 2 July to Sunday 4 July 2010. A Sunday coach and steam train excursion will take us through the Mary Valley, birthplace of the Grand Master elect.

We look forward to the privilege of welcoming you to Brisbane to join us in celebrating this auspicious occasion.

Graeme A. Ewin
Grand Master



Graeme and Pam Ewin



Adrian and Regina Burton



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