

FREEMASONRY

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Out in the community

FREEMASONRY TASMANIA

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VALE

Jeffrey M. Boyes B.E.M. P.G.W.

Former editor of
Freemasonry Tasmania

It is with profound regret that we
announce his sudden death
as we go to print.

Life summary in next edition.

Front Page photos

TOP: A Victorian Mark Fifty Year
service jewel was presented
to RW Bro Jack Butler of
the St Helens Lodge. At the
presentation were (from left) D.
Imlach, H. Viney, W Bro A. Foster
(who made the presentation),
RW Bro Butler, MW Bro N.
Cooper and MW Bro P. Hodges

CENTRE LEFT: Assistance to
Starlight Foundation...Page 4

CENTRE RIGHT:
Pacific Lodge scholarship
presentation... Page 4

LOWER RIGHT:
Masonic booth at Derwent
Festival... Page 4

Positive signs around State

It is now nearly six months since
my Installation as Grand Master at the
Tasmanian Grand Installation in February
2008 and I am slowly developing a
greater appreciation of the task ahead.

I am aware of the challenges which
I face and am enthusiastic about the
manner in which they will be tackled.

Although I was aware of most of the
duties of a Grand Master there was still
some surprises.

Of these the pleasure of being able
to present 40, 50 and 60 year service
jewels was particularly enjoyable even
though those very actions were a graphic
reminder of our age profile.

Propositions increasing

This is offset by the seemingly ever-
increasing number of propositions
involving relatively young men that are
appearing on the Grand Lodge Exchange
Notices each month.

I was recently involved in an
initiation ceremony at which at the end
of the evening there were four Entered
Apprentice Freemasons, a situation not
often witnessed in the last few years.

The number of Lodges with multiple
degree ceremonies on their books is
increasing and the groundswell of
interest in Freemasonry which we have
been waiting for may have arrived.

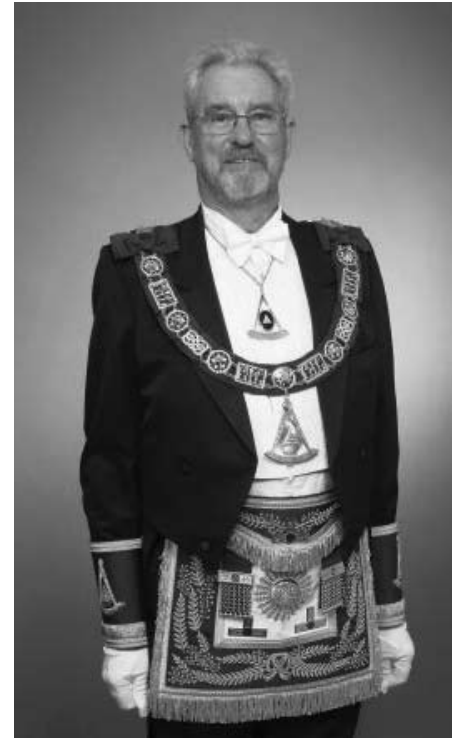
MW Bro Julius Kearon, in the August
2005 edition of *Freemasonry Tasmania*
expressed the hope that he would be
able to hand over a robust organisation
with a bright future.

His wish is now a reality and the need
to make changes that are essential in any
organisation which wants to continue
to meet the demands of contemporary
society are gradually taking place.

Enthusiasm and innovation

The enthusiasm of the brethren
experienced when visiting Lodges is
quite apparent and the attention being
shown to newly initiated brethren is
particularly pleasing.

A number of energetic Worshipful
Masters appears to be spearheading
a renewal of interest in Freemasonry
and their innovative ideas and efforts



to introduce new ways of making our
organisation a vibrant and related part of
the community are to be commended.

The appointment of three Education or
Liaison Officers is an innovation and they
will shortly begin to actively exercise
their role of offering help, advice, training
and support to Lodges and individuals.

Education and liaison

Their duties will be to react to requests
for assistance and will entail a sympathetic
low-key approach to any matter related
to the operation and management of
individual Lodges or the concerns of the
members.

They will also provide an improved
means of ensuring effective and rapid
communication between Lodges and the
Board of General Purposes and will have
the ability to facilitate a quick response to
any requests.

We have once again embarked on
an exercise regarding the amenities,
condition and comfort of lodge buildings
to ascertain what opportunities are
available to help the owners improve
their facilities.

I am sure our future is assured and that
we will have a bright rewarding period of
consolidation in the coming years.

Double initiation continues trend

A double initiation in June 2008 at Launceston's Lodge Phoenix continued the trend of young members being attracted by its dining lodge format.

On June 10, 2008, Bro Ron Batt and Bro J. Rose were initiated, and celebrated the occasion with members, partners and friends at dinner at the Gorge Restaurant.

Lodge Phoenix was consecrated on March 13, 2006 and since then has initiated five new brothers with three of them being aged between thirty and forty, one in his forties and one older member who has since taken a clearance.

The lodge has two potential new members in their early twenties, who have indicated a desire to join in the next couple of years when they are more settled and another potential member, in his forties, who will join this year.

The average age of the members of Lodge Phoenix is now close to fifty five and it is hoped that it will continue to decrease.

Lodge Phoenix meets six times per year and members have a choice of dinner or lounge suits so that they can come straight from work if they wish and dine at a normal hour.

The lodge tyles at 6 pm and closes close to 7.30 pm so that members can join their wives and guests at restaurants or clubs for dinner at eight o'clock.

Pictured above (from left) are W Bro George Hambly (Worshipful Master), Brothers Batt and Rose, and the Immediate Past Master, VW Bro Ian Blair, dining at the Gorge Restaurant after the double initiation.



Residential complex assisted

A residential complex run by the St Vincent de Paul Society has received \$3 000 from the North West Masonic Benevolence Society to enable the completion of an outdoor barbecue area..

The Cape Country Accommodation complex comprises twelve living units with thirteen permanent adult residents who have varying degrees of intellectual disability.

A resident manager runs an adjoining training unit for adults who also have disabilities.

The trainees live at home with their family or carers but have the potential to on day live independently.

All the permanent residents at Cape Country Accommodation attended the training unit programme before going out to independent living.

Some funding assistance to extend and landscape the barbecue area came from other organisations, but until the NW Masonic Benevolent Society made its donation, the project could not be completed.

A spokesperson for Cape Country Accommodation said: "With this wonderful donation...we will be able to complete the bench seating around the perimeter of the area, purchase more building material to complete a wall, and purchase plastic blinds to protect tenants from the heat of harsh weather/winds, so it can be used all year round.

Our Back Page photo shows the presentation of the \$3 000 cheque to Sharen McNeair by RW Bro Des Hyland, a committee member of the NW Masonic Benevolent Society watched by Sharon Latham, the complex manager, residents and family members.

Busy down south

The Huon Esperance Hall Committee has been very active over the last several years, with many improvements to the masonic centre at Franklin completed, in particular work on the kitchen, toilets and the supper room.

Pictured at a working bee on May 31, 2008, is W Bro Mark Hollick (right), preparing to hang new curtains ...



WELCOME ABOARD



to our new Brothers...

S. R. Batt	Lodge Phoenix
S. J. Ersvaer	Lodge Dorset
C. J. Healy	Lodge Pembroke
P. P. Kenealy	Burnie Masonic
R. J. Macleod	Lodge of Peace
A. R. Montgomery	Lodge Pembroke
H. M. Murphy	St Helens Lodge
J. W. Rose	Lodge Phoenix



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Hobart Chapter
 Sec. 03 6248 6182
 Derwent Chapter
 Sec. 03 6249 4785

Lord Carrington Installation

W Bro Henry Holder was installed as Master of Lord Carrington Lodge on August 12, 2008, succeeding W Bro Colin Dakin. It is W Bro Holder's second term as master, his first being in 2006.

When presented with a Past Master's Jewel by the Installing Master, RW Bro John Slore, W Bro Holder thanked brethren for their support, and commented on the Lodge's 117-year history at Fingal.

The land on which the extension to the Masonic Temple was built in 1952 was donated to the Lodge by W Bro Holder's father who, although not a Freemason, appreciated the contribution which the lodge made to the residents of Fingal and surrounding districts.

Association sees the Starlight

The Southern Masters Association has presented five hundred dollars to the Starlight Foundation, which provides assistance to children in hospitals.

The foundation is one of several charities and benevolent organisations regularly supported by the Association, including the Tasmanian Cancer Council, Camp Quality, the Southern Masonic Homes and the Freemasons Assisting Tertiary Education Foundation.

Funds are raised through raffles at the Association's monthly meetings and an annual Gourmet Dinner at the Drysdale House College of Hospitality in Hobart.

The Southern Masters Association represents current Masters and Immediate Past Masters. They meet

informally every month to enjoy a meal together and to discuss masonic matters.

It is a very pleasant way of getting to know the other Masters and exchanging views in a relaxed atmosphere. Many Past Masters and their partners continue to attend to extend and strengthen friendships.

The meetings are open to partners and to brethren about to take up the office of Master. These gatherings are currently held at the Willows Tavern in Risdon Vale, on the first Friday each month, starting at 7 pm.

The Association collates details of lodge activities and installations, which are forwarded to members to encourage them to plan their visiting.

Brethren are welcome to join the Association. They can contact the president (Craig Hughes), on 6261 2902, the secretary (Richard Plunkett) on 6228 6666, or the Treasurer (David Baldwin) on 6229 5425.

Craig Hughes

Our Page 1 photo shows the State Manager of the Child Support Agency, David Mole, receiving a \$500 cheque for the Starlight Foundation from the president of the Southern Masters Association, W Bro Craig Hughes.

Pacific Lodge scholarship presented

The recipient of The Pacific Lodge scholarship this year is Dean Jones of Claremont College in Hobart.

The scholarship, currently valued at \$400, has been presented annually since 1966 to selected students who are enrolled full-time in Tasmanian Certificate of Education and/or vocational education training and who attend a Government senior secondary college in Southern Tasmania.

The scholarship aims to assist students who demonstrate enthusiasm and an aptitude for their chosen course of study, but through financial hardship may find their chances of completing senior secondary education reduced.

Early each year, senior secondary colleges are invited to submit two nominations from Year 12 students, for consideration based on scholastic achievements in Year 11.

Criteria to be addressed include academic achievement and areas of interest and study, personal qualities and future potential, contribution to college activities and other community, as well as financial circumstances.

Pictured on Page 1 is the 2008 recipient of The Pacific Lodge scholarship, Dean Jones. Being presented with his certificate are the Worshipful Master, W Bro Jack Clear (right), assisted by the Immediate Past Master, W Bro Darrell Murray.

Uruguay greetings

A colonel in the Uruguay Air Force, W Bro Eduardo Zaballos - who attended John the Duke of Avram's last night as Worshipful Master of Hutchins Old Boys Lodge - has sent greetings to Tasmanian masons.

W Bro Zaballos was pictured on the back page of the March 2008 edition of Freemasonry Tasmania. He was in Hobart for an Antarctic Conference.

In an email, the Grand Lodge of Uruguay said it was an honour for W Bro Zaballos to have attended the Hutchins Old Boys Lodge meeting, and it was hoped that more fraternal visits and friendship can be exchanged.

As well, the email said if any Tasmanian masons could go to Uruguay they would be warmly received.

It said the privilege of visiting lodges fortified the chain of masonry universal.

Derwent festival booth

A masonic information booth (pictured Page 1) at the Derwent Valley Autumn Festival on April 6, 2008, drew a good response from potential members and the public.

The booth was supported by Derwent Valley Lodge (as host), Tasmanian Union, Kingston, Glenora and Beltana Lodges.

It was used as an opening to invite interested people to friends' nights.

Six potential members showed keen interest during the one-day festival, as well as two wishing to join. Also information was given to newly relocated interstate brethren in affiliating with a lodge in their area.

Rick Goninon

Around and About

'Barga Tasmania' - fun and fundraising

First there was "Targa Tasmania", that annual statewide car rally and race. Now there's 'Barga' and it looks like becoming as popular as the real thing!

The inaugural Great Tricycle Race (nicknamed 'Barga' ... that is, not quite "Targa" and on bikes) took place on Friday, May 30, 2008 around the car park at Masonic Peace Haven in Launceston.

It started out as an idea from a staff brainstorming session about what fun event could be staged to help motivate and build staff morale after a particularly hectic year. Any monies that could be raised from sponsorship were seen just as a bonus.

The idea caught the imagination of staff in all areas at Peace Haven and Fred French and before long, departmental teams were formed, costumes were being planned and sponsors were being petitioned to support the teams.

The Friends of Peace Haven helped sponsor the hire of eight tricycles from Kev's Bikes and, to add to the mix of vehicles, the Tasmanian Ambulance Service kindly loaned their mini-ambulance for the afternoon.

Members of the Launceston Fire Brigade and the Police also joined in the fun as guest participants on the teams, along with four former Olympic cyclists from Launceston.

Team members had to complete one lap of the car park, stop at the speed humps, load up their baskets with a cushion, then race around to the start line again to pass on the bike to the next member of the five-member team, while trying to



The winning team in the inaugural "Barga Tasmania" round-the-carpark rally... from Peace Haven's Services department.

avoid cheering (and jeering) spectators and water bombs.

At times it was not clear who was doing what, but when the dust finally settled, the Services Department team (**pictured above**) was declared the winner. Their reward? A bike wheel perpetual trophy (with their names subsequently engraved on it) and the kudos attached to being the 2008 Barga Champions of the Inaugural Great Tricycle Race.

An 'Apres Race' barbecue was held in Day Therapy Centre and the proceeds from this, and the tremendous financial support from sponsors, resulted in over \$4 000 being raised.

These funds will be used to improve the lifestyle of the residents of the Peace Haven and Fred French Homes.

One of the organisers, Ian Adams, described the event as an outstanding success.

"We never imagined that we would raise that much money from it or that people would get behind it so much," he said. All the staff want this to be an annual event".

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Soldiers Walk plaques rededicated

The rededication of a batch of refurbished plinths and plaques placed along Hobart's Soldiers Walk acknowledged the deaths in action of two freemasons.

One of them was a lawyer and the other was Sergeant Tuck, the city's meat and health inspector who was 44 years of age when he was killed.

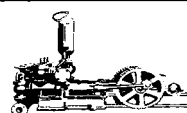
The Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper, and MW Bro Rob Clarke were present at a rededication ceremony for a refurbished plinths and plaques.

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Charity in the North and North West

Charity is one of the foremost characteristics of the Masonic order and all masons are fully enlightened in its importance and the practical application of that virtue.

Such charity in Masonic circles, of course, is practiced in many ways – it involves the giving of money, time and talents to help those less fortunate, not only within the fraternity, but also within the community in which we live.

It requires an awareness of the needs of others and an appreciation that not all people are blessed with the good things of life.

It is probably in the area of the Aged Community where Masonry does its greatest work and the Masonic Homes of Northern Tasmania are a prime example where the truly Masonic ornaments of charity and benevolence are illustrated.

Each year, Masonic Homes of Northern Tasmania are assisted in raising funds by a wide variety of groups and organisations, with donations from Lodges, associated Lodge groups, business and service organisations, families, individuals, and specialised fundraising groups associated with our Homes.

‘One of the foremost characteristics...’

While it is impossible to name all the generous people who unselfishly give of their resources and time to help us, I believe it is appropriate to acknowledge the continuing support of the Northern Lodges, such as Lake Esk (and Lodge Esk Ladies), Launceston, Heather, Meander, Scotch College, Army and Navy, Rose of Launceston, Ernest Clark Rose, just to name a few; Masters Associations, such as 1981/82 and 1982/84; as well as Past Masters and their ladies.

We have also received generous donations from the Board of Benevolence and Launceston Masonic Club, and acknowledge the support given by groups such as Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Royal Order of Scotland and the former Empire Lodge.

The real beneficiaries of this generosity are, of course, our residents and clients, and the effect of even a small gift is sometimes immeasurable.

For example, the 1977/78 Masters Association provides a small cash donation twice a year, including Christmas, to an elderly man and woman who are in need of help.

The gifts are presented personally by Members of the Masters Association and the pleasure that they bring to the recipients is heart-warming.

Although the number of practicing Lodges is getting fewer and the Masters Associations are becoming smaller due to the increasing age of their members, they – and their associated groups – continue to make an invaluable contribution to our organisation.

If all of us can view any contributions we are able to make, not only as a fraternal duty, but as a privilege to serve mankind in general, then we will have practiced true Masonic charity.

Alex Symonds PDGM

Thanks for special cycle

The staff and students at the School of Special Education in Devonport would like to extend a sincere thank you to the North West Masonic Benevolence Society for its generous donation of a new body cycle (pictured at right).

This bike enables children with physical disabilities to ride, whilst also providing important physiotherapy time.

Children are seated on the bike and supported with belts, the bike is pushed by an adult, and while it is moving the child's legs move.

Leg movement is particularly important for these children to help prevent joints from stiffening and to keep blood circulating.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed the sense of freedom and independence they get from this bike.

The North West Benevolence Society has financially supported our school over many years, allowing us to afford equipment



Photo - Ted Priest

such as a new massage chair, DVD player, new fencing and a new digital cameral. Thank you.

Karen Slade, School of Special Education

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Serving Homes in the North

Fair time at Peace Haven

A warm invitation is extended to everyone to come to this year's Annual Fair at Masonic Peace Haven in Launceston on Friday, October 24, starting at 4.30pm. It promises to be bigger and better this year, with particular emphasis on food and beverage stalls.

The Fair has been the major fundraising event of the year for Peace Haven for the past twenty years and has raised more than \$200 000 which has helped purchase equipment, goods and other items to enrich the lifestyle of the residents of Masonic Homes.

More help needed

One of the challenges that the Fair Committee faced this year was the depletion in its numbers due to members' ill health and changes in circumstances.

Extra hands have been found to help organise this year's event, but the Fair Committee is still in urgent need of new members to continue its work into 2009.

If there are any members of Lodges or partners who are able to contribute a little time and be part of this important fundraising group, please contact Peace Haven's Administration Office on 6343 1555.

Your help would be most welcome and greatly appreciated!

In the meantime, if you are free on the afternoon of Friday, October 24, why not come to 185 Penquite Road Launceston and enjoy a plate of yummy lasagne, a tasty hamburger or hot crispy chips, while you roam around buying lots of bargains from the book stall, Trash n Treasure, and cakes and plants stalls?

Or why not enjoy a plate of delicious pancakes with berries and cream, while you're buying a winning ticket for one of the great prizes in the raffle (fingers crossed!) or watching the entertainment?

You'll be treating yourself and helping to support the work of your Masonic aged care facilities.

Kryn Meerman, a resident of the Masonic Garden Village in Launceston for the past four years (pictured), was awarded the medal of the Order of Australia in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours.

It honoured his service to the community, particularly through a range of roles in the health sector.

Born in Holland in 1928, Bro. Meerman came to Campbell Town in 1953 with his fiancée and future in-laws.

Although he had never been on a farm before, being a city boy from Rotterdam, his first seven years were spent milking cows and doing farm work— after having discovered that milking is best done from the side and not from the back!

He learnt English quickly and undertook a variety of jobs, including several years as a tailor (his skilled profession), assisting his father-in-law with administration of a building construction business.

He eventually started up a Caltex station and restaurant, one of the most successful businesses along the Midland Highway, which he operated for 14 years.

Then followed 15 years as Manager of Websters.

In his first year in Campbell Town Bro. Meerman became involved in the Good Neighbour Council and this was the start of an incredible amount of community service in the area.

OAM for Garden Village resident



A member of Merton Lodge for many years, he has been involved with and held numerous offices in such organisations as the Parents and Friends Association, the Youth Club, Enterprise Group, Arts Council, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Scouts and Cubs, Midlands National Trust, Meals on Wheels, the Lions Club, and the Northern Midlands District Health Forum, just to name only a few.

He is very proud of his involvement with the growth of the Elizabeth Macquarie Homes (Treasurer for 28 years), and with the planning and redevelopment of the Campbell Town Hospital, being on the Board for fourteen years, eleven of them as Treasurer.

If this is not all enough, Bro. Meerman served as the Coroner of the district for eleven years and has been a Justice of the Peace for the past 25 years.

In total he has given over 100 years of community service – and is continuing to do so into his 81st year, hosting video presentations for residents in the Peace Haven Home and the units, as well as videotaping key events at Peace Haven as an historical record.

“It is very satisfying to be involved in the community and to give back,” Bro. Meerman said. “I feel very honoured to receive this recognition.”

He said the two most important qualities to possess, both as an immigrant and through life in general, were “determination and a sense of humour.”

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Northern Masonic Homes

Forty years of dedicated service

Forty years of service is quite a record in any area, but when this has been in fundraising to support the services of an aged care facility, it shows real dedication and determination.

On September 12, 2008 the Fred French Masonic Home Auxiliary will celebrate its 40th year of service to the Fred French Home in Launceston.

The idea for an Auxiliary was proposed in August 1968 and the next month saw the first meeting of the Fred French Ladies Auxiliary, with about fifteen members attending. The Auxiliary has met every month since then.

The commitment of this small band of workers is exemplified in the ongoing service of its members.

To name a few, two of those original members, Mrs Nancy Whittle, and Mrs Lena Kimpton, are still serving on the Auxiliary, along with Mrs Margaret Beresford who joined in November 1968.

These ladies have held numerous offices in the Auxiliary over the forty years, as well as on other committees.

Another founding member, Mrs Gwen Doddridge, was a member until she passed away in October 2007.

Mrs Honey was the Foundation President, holding that office for two years, as well as being Treasurer from 1970 to 1998 when failing eyesight caused her to resign the office.

Over four decades, the Auxiliary has provided equipment, furnishings and services to the Home valued in excess of \$125 000, with \$9 000 being donated in the 2007/2008 year.

Easter and Christmas gifts, birthday cards and financial assistance towards the Activities program have all been



Current members of the Fred French Masonic Home Auxiliary

a feature of the Auxiliary's work, in addition to the annual fair which raises in the vicinity of \$3 500.

The purpose of all the funds is to help enrich the lifestyle of the residents in the Home.

In 1969 the "trolley" was introduced and is still operating today.

This not only provides a service to the residents, with sweets, toiletries, etc. for sale, but the opportunity for a "chat" is most important and greatly appreciated.

The kiosk opened in 1993 and is still a well-known and valued feature of Fred French today.

September 12 celebration

An afternoon tea will be held after the Auxiliary's meeting on September 12, 2008 to celebrate its "Ruby Anniversary"

All those who have been associated with the Auxiliary are warmly invited to attend.

The Fred French Board and Management of the Home take this opportunity to sincerely thank each and every member of the Fred French Masonic Home Auxiliary - past and present - for their tremendous work over the past forty years.

Their hard work and selfless efforts on behalf of the Home's residents are recognised and truly appreciated.

Research Lodge cheque

The closure of the Launceston Research Rhetoric Lodge of Instruction early in 2008 was disappointing to its members, but had an advantage for the Masonic Peace Haven.

Pictured below is RW Bro Laurie Leaver presenting a cheque for \$1613.93 to W Bro. Ian Green, chairman of Masonic Peace Haven (right) and Kerry Ollington, the Chief Executive Officer.

The cheque was the balance of moneys held by the Launceston Research Rhetoric Lodge of Instruction when it closed.



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Freemasons' Homes of Southern Tasmania

The Board of Directors of the Freemasons' Homes of Southern Tasmania hosted a testimonial dinner at the Athenaeum Club on June 5, 2008 for MW Bro Alan Swinton and Mrs Alma Swinton.

At the March 2008 meeting of the Board, MW Bro Alan Swinton submitted his resignation as chairman and also resigned from the Board.

The Board elected the former deputy chairman, MW Bro Keith Graver, as its new chairman and RW Bro Terry Dann as deputy chairman.



Portable window

With the redevelopment of the Freemasons' Homes of Southern Tasmania, the room previously used as a chapel was replaced by a general-purpose room.

This meant that the stained glass window depicting a religious theme (pictured above) had to be removed and placed in storage.

The window was donated to the Homes in 1983 by the late W Bro Wally Martin of Kingston Lodge in memory of his wife, Agnes.

Each Sunday, and on other appropriate occasions, the chapel furniture is now assembled in a designated area of the Homes for services.

The stained glass window has now been removed from storage and placed in a frame with a light at the rear, giving the impression of an exterior window.

The regular attendees at the services have expressed delight about the return of the stained glass window.

Changes on the Board

MW Bro Swinton served on the Board since 1992 and held the position of chairman since 2002, taking over following the resignation of the late MW Bro Bryce Ward.

MW Bro Graver paid tribute to the enormous contribution MW Bro Swinton had made to the Homes, saying he had involved himself well beyond the call of duty and had left a legacy which made it very difficult for his successors to emulate.

His work in overseeing the major redevelopment of the homes, starting in 2003, was outstanding, and was recognised when the Board named the newly-developed secure unit in his honour.

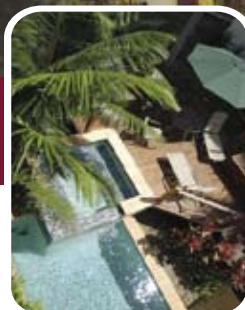
Also at the March meeting, the Board welcomed two new directors, RW Bro Philip Spinks and Wor Bro David Macrow. Each of these brethren come with an extensive background in administration and experience in the field of finance.



MW Bro Keith Graver (left) thanks MW Bro Alan Swinton for his service to the Board of the Freemasons Homes.

MW Bro Graver said he was looking forward to a significant contribution from the new directors, both of whom have been co-opted to major Board committees.

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Around and About

Burnie certificates night

The June 2008 meeting of the Burnie Masonic Lodge features its annual scholarships certificate presentations, which this year were made by the Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro John Wallace.

It was attended by the students, their families and their educators, together with the lodge ladies and the ladies of visiting masons.

RW Bro Wallace outlined the involvement of Freemasonry in the arrangement of scholarships.

He made particular reference to the D. I. Bartley Burnie Masonic Memorial Scholarship, which was established by the former Burnie Rechab Lodge from a suggestion by Bro D. I. Bartley, who unfortunately died before its inception, and the Hilton Sharpe Burnie Masonic Memorial Scholarship which was

established by the former Gill Memorial Lodge.

RW Bro Wallace said both scholarships commenced in 1991, the greater part of the initial funds coming from bequests from the estates of the late Bros Ernest West and Roy Conroy.

The winner of the Hilton Sharpe Scholarship and ex-Marist College student Bryce Clarke - the grandson of the late RW Bro Elvin Clarke - said the cheque he received aided him with considerable university expenses during his study of medicine.

A D. I. Bartley Scholarship winner, Aaron Mercer from Burnie High School, outlined his ambition to become a teacher and thanked members for the financial support he received. The other D. I. Bartley Scholarship winner, Anna Hendricks from Parklands High, was unable to be present.

The very successful evening was supported by five visiting Worshipful Masters and other visiting brethren. It concluded with a buffet supper.

Gerry Gunton

Our Back Page photo shows the Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro John Wallace, and Burnie scholarship winners Bryce Clarke (left) and Aaron Mercer.

Defibrillator funding

Lodge Clarence was recently approached by the South Arm Peninsula Residents Association seeking assistance towards the purchase of a Laedal First Aid Heartstart Defibrillator for their community.

The association had already received donations from other sources, but were still \$1 750 short of the total cost.

The Lodge was able to make a small donation and then approached the Board of Benevolence for further assistance.

The Board agreed to make a generous donation through the Masonic Benevolent Fund, covering the balance required for the purchase of the Defibrillator.

The South Arm Peninsula Residents Association said that without the support from Freemasonry, it would have been a long time before the equipment would have been able to be purchased.

Paul Lewis

Pictured on our Back Page is Mr. Peter O'Keefe (centre) President of SAPRA receiving cheques from W Bro. Allan Burton (Worshipful Master of Lodge Clarence), left, and W Bro Paul Lewis (Assistant Secretary, Lodge Clarence).

Appeal for funds

Maintaining financial viability in an aged care facility is a constant battle.

The main source of funding is the residential subsidy from the Commonwealth Government.

However, for some years now, it has not kept pace with the rate of inflation and makes no provision for capital works.

You can help!

The Freemasons' Homes of Southern Tasmania Inc. always welcomes donations and bequests.

Donations over two dollars are allowable as an income deduction for taxation purposes.

Any donations will be most welcome and, in truly masonic tradition, you may be assured it will be faithfully applied.

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Keith Graver
Chairman, Board of Directors
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Around the World

Iowa musings

In the Bulletin of the Grand Lodge of Iowa (December 2006) Bro Donaldson considers an ever-present dilemma - the role of history and the need to look forward to the future.

“Freemasonry is old. So old that its origins are lost in the midst of tradition. In the Third Degree Charge you are told that at the close of your life, you must look back over the road you have travelled and contemplate your relationship to the universe and your divine creator.

“The lesson does not tell you to constantly look over your shoulder your entire life.

“History is important, however, you must make the future be everything you can make it be. For if you do not, the next thing you know your life will be nothing but history, just like the dinosaurs.

“Freemasonry has done just this! We have been so concerned with telling each other how glorious our past has been, we seldom looked to the future in order to make plans for tomorrow and the next generation.

“Just like the giants who roamed the earth before us, we have been willing to take what life has given us.

“When freemasons were operative, they flourished. Their numbers grew and they prospered.

“Then they let a few drive them into becoming a speculative order. They buried themselves alive in dark surroundings and soon lost the drive to mandate their own future.

“We tell the world that we are a speculative group of men trying to make ourselves better. But in most cases it is just that: speculation!

“The world needs to feel the breath of freemasonry in order for the unknowing to realise that we are something special, something good. Not to be feared or taken lightly. They need to see freemasons for what they can and should be, not what they used to be.”

You may not have addressed the problem in the same way. But there is food for thought.



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

French Explorers

Freemasonry was well established in France by the time French navigators began their search for the great land in the south.

La Perouse was initiated in Lodge L'Heureuse Rencontre in Brest on 16th July 1765.

It is reported that ten Admirals were present at the ceremony.

Nicolas Baudin was not a mason but on one of his ships, *Le Naturaliste*, there were two masons, Lieutenant Jacques Saint-Crieq and the doctor Jerome Bellefin. It was these two brethren who organised a Masonic gathering on board, in Sydney Harbour on September 17, 1802.

The person initiated was Capt. Anthony Fenn-Kemp of the NSW Corps, a controversial figure whose connections with Van Diemen's Land have been well documented in *Dictionnaire Des Marins Fancs-Macons*.

'Short Papers' Competition

The UK based Internet Lodge No. 9659 EC has announced a competition for Masonic papers of up to 500 words to encourage the writing of brief works which could be used as part of Masonic education within a lodge.

All entries considered worthy will appear in the Internet Lodge's library pages and will be available to download for use by lodges around the world.

Masonic Magazines

In recent times there have been two Masonic magazines competing with each other in England.

The United Grand Lodge of England's magazine *MQ* has been in production for five years.

It has now merged with the older magazine *Freemasonry Today*.

The first issue of the “merger magazine”, still called *Freemasonry Today*, was sent to all members of UGLE in January 2008.

Ukraine Grand Lodge

One of the newest Grand Lodges is that of Ukraine, formed in 2005 under the auspices of the National Grand Lodge of France and the Grand Lodge of Austria.

It began with six lodges, the oldest being “Three Columns” founded in Kiev in 1794 and reconsecrated in 1993.

The Grand Lodge of Austria had formed a lodge in Lviv (Western Ukraine) and a number of Austrian brethren maintain links with it.

Whilst Ukraine, as a country, is going through a period of change and consolidation, the Grand Lodge is known to be in good hands.

Masons Fight Fire!

The Grand Lodge of New York and the Firemen's Association of the State of New York have become partners in a public service initiative geared towards fire and life safety for all New Yorkers.

Their booklet, *Fire Safety for Older Adults*, focuses on people aged 65 and over. It covers the most basic safety messages – from “Stop, Drop and Roll” to topics such as heating and cooking. It even has a section on how to childproof a home, for when the grandchildren visit.

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Counting the Years



Fifty years of coincidences

During the presentation of a Fifty Year Jewel to W Bro Alex Young, (pictured above) the Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper, related a number of coincidences in their journeys through life.

The presentation was made (to a Scotsman) on March 17, 2008 (St Patrick's Day) at Lodge Bowen (named after an Englishman) and the south was dressed to reflect the Irish national day in colour, refreshments and the cuisine.

Both W Bro Young and MW Bro Cooper were members of the scouting fraternity, Alex in the Sea Scouts in Renfrew, Scotland (his home town), and MW Bro Cooper in the Derwent Sea Scouts in Hobart.

W Bro Young began an apprenticeship in marine engineering in 1947 in Renfrew, and MW Bro Cooper also had an extended period in maritime affairs in maintenance of all things electrical and mechanical.

Both were involved in aspects of electrical design, distribution and installation, and also in mechanical plant design, draughting and commissioning.

They also completed their National Service in the air forces of their respective countries.

In July 1972, following an extensive search for lodges in the Hobart area with a decidedly Scottish membership, W Bro Young chose to affiliate with Lodge Bowen. He became Master in September 1983, the same year as MW Bro Cooper was installed as Master of Lodge Clarence.

A similar search resulted in W Bro Young affiliating with the Derwent Royal Arch Chapter, where he was First Principal for 1992-93.

W Bro Young was initiated on February 25, 1958 in Lodge Prince of Wales, Renfrew, No. 426 SC, and is a life member of his mother lodge.

He was also Master of the Hobart Lodge of Research on three occasions.

W Bro Young is also an active member in other masonic orders and has attained the principal office in all but one of these.

David Macrow

An active 50th

W Bro James Cameron of the Burnie Masonic Lodge received his Fifty Year Jewel earlier this year.

In making the presentation (pictured below), RW Bro John Windram described W Bro Cameron as a valued member of the lodge, a good ritualist and a man at the forefront of all activities.

"He never shirks a duty," RW Bro Windram said. "Everything that W Bro Cameron has applied himself to has been total".

W Bro Cameron hails from Paisley in Scotland where he served an apprenticeship as a loom tuner in the carpet trade before being called up for National Service.

He served for two years in the Royal Air Force, after which his father proposed him into freemasonry. He was initiated into Craigielea Lodge No. 1218 SC on April 7, 1958, and moved rapidly through the degrees to become a Mark Master mason in May 1958.



In 1962, W Bro Cameron and his family emigrated to Australia, where he affiliated with the former Gill Memorial Lodge in 1978, and later become a founder member of Burnie Masonic. He was the second Master of the newly-formed Lodge, being installed in 1993 and again in 2005.

He was a Grand Steward in 1995, Grand Pursuivant in 1997 and Senior Grand Deacon in 1998.

He is an active member of the Spencer Homes in Wynyard, was president of the Parents and Friends of Parklands High School, president of the Burnie Burns Club, an active member of the Burnie Chamber of Commerce, president of the Wynyard RSL, president of the Tasmanian Referees Association, secretary of his soccer club and a regular player in its North West soccer representative side, and qualified for the highest grade as a soccer referee.

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Counting the Years



RW Bro Macaulay (right) congratulates Bro Tom Heckels after the presentation of his Fifty Year Jewel. In the background are (from left) W Bro Tom Nixon (Lauriston), W Bro Graeme Clark (Dorset), W Bro Colin Dakin (WM of Lord Carrington) and W Bro Henry Holder (IPM Lord Carrington)

Jewel for overseas stalwart

A stalwart of the Lord Carrington Lodge, even while overseas for extensive periods - Bro Tom Heckels - was presented with his Fifty Year Jewel during the lodge's regular meeting at Fingal on February 9, 2008.

The presentation was made by RW Bro Colin Macaulay, a friend of Bro Heckels since they worked at Rossarden in the late 1950s.

Bro Heckels was initiated on the January 18, 1958, passed on the February 20 and raised together with Bro Baker of Lodge Mersey on March 8, 1958, the occasion of a visit to Lord Carrington by Wor Bro Brain and 25 brethren of Lodge Formby.

Bro Heckels, originally from Scotland, was employed at the Rossarden Mine, and was planning to visit his parents in Scotland whom he had not seen for eight years. The Master of Lord Carrington (also Rossarden mine manager), W Bro Edgar Dainton thought it a good idea for Bro Heckels to travel as a master mason, enabling him to attend Lodge on board ship, in England, and Scotland, where Tom's father was a life member of a Scottish Lodge.

On his return to Tasmania, Bro Heckels served as a steward and treasurer of Lord Carrington, and later moved to Hobart and Melbourne.

After the early death of his wife in Melbourne he returned to the UK and joined an American company, in the employ of which he lived and travelled all over the world, returning to Tasmania whenever possible to attend Lord Carrington meetings.

In response to his Fifty Year Jewel presentation, Bro Heckels spoke warmly of the days when several carloads of brethren would travel from the then close-knit mining community of Rossarden to Fingal to attend rehearsals and meetings.

He said numbers of the order of 50 to 60 regularly attended from communities in the Fingal Valley and the East Coast in spite of travelling distances, and when times were not easy despite the apparent prosperity.

Bro Heckels also expressed his pleasure to see the Lodge continuing into its 117th year.

**Phil Corby, Secretary,
Lord Carrington Lodge**

GL Librarian 'turns sixty'

The Grand Lodge Librarian, RW Bro Max Linton, received his Sixty Year Bar at the City of Glenorchy Daytime Lodge early in February 2008.

The presentation was made by RW Bro Norm Cooper before he was installed as Grand Master later that month.

Quoting RW Bro Linton as saying the Sixty Year Bar was "not really a big thing", the soon-to-be Grand Master said this demonstrated the modesty of Max and the quiet, determined manner in which he achieves the results he desires.

Max started his working life in 1942 as a cadet engineer with the Public Works Department and worked all over Tasmania.

While stationed in Launceston in 1947 he was initiated into Empire Lodge. He completed his second and third degrees in Nugara Lodge while working on King Island.

Later, he was involved in the building of a new railway line from New Norfolk to Karanja and became Deputy Director of the Department of Main Roads for Tasmania.

In this role, he was very involved in the Tasman Bridge disaster after narrowly escaping being one of the casualties, crossing the bridge only minutes before it was knocked down by the Lake Illawarra.

He joined several lodges in the south and attained the rank of Grand Warden in 1990, receiving the Grand Master's Order of Honour in 2005.

RW Bro Linton has been heavily involved in the management and development of the Glenorchy Masonic Centre, and has a high-profile in a wide range of Other Orders of masonry

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More years ... and counting

Emu Lodge members now '50'

Two valued members of Emu Lodge have each celebrated their 50th year as freemasons. **Dick McKenna** here presents some of the highlights of their lives and masonic careers.

Freemasonry 'in the blood'

Freemasonry is bred into **VW Bro John Packham**, the President of the Board of Benevolence, who is now in his fifty-first year as a mason.

He was presented with his Fifty Year Certificate in August last year by the then Grand Master, MW Bro Julius Kearon.

The certificate was issued by the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, as VW Bro Packham was initiated into Lodge Hurstville on December 7, 1954.

His grandfather was the Lodge's foundation Junior Deacon in 1913, and became Master in 1919. John's father joined the Lodge in 1925, became Master in 1949 and remained an active and interested member until his death in 2004; in 1922 John's uncle was installed as Master. His brother, Ken, is a member to this day.

VW Bro John served as one of ten stewards in Lodge Hurstville before he became Tyler in 1959 and Master in 1965.

On the night of his installation - by an uncle of John's father - there was a Grand Lodge delegation of 34, more than 320 Masons signed the Presence Book, and the Board of Installed Masters numbered approximately 130.

John joined the Hurstville Mark and Chapter Lodges in 1969 and also Lodge Excalibur where his father was foundation I.P.M.

Business took him to Melbourne for eleven years where his involvement in Masonic activities was greatly reduced due to work responsibilities.

In 1993 John joined Emu Lodge in Tasmania and his skill, expertise and knowledge have proved to be valuable assets for the Craft. He is also a member of the Ramsay Royal Arch Chapter and several other orders.

Outside Freemasonry, John is heavily involved with the Lions organisation. He was recently awarded the internationally-recognised Melvin Jones Fellowship which recognises the commitment a Lion makes to humanitarian work.

John's wife, Betty, remains his loyal supporter in all his activities.

'Don't rush the ritual'

A doyen of Emu Lodge - **VW Bro Vivian Breaden** - says new members should take their time with ritual work.

VW Bro Breaden, who received his Fifty Year Jewel in June 2007 from RW Bro Philip Spinks (pictured below), says "don't rush yourself".



Viv is one of the more colourful characters of Emu Lodge and its most senior member. Active and cheerful, he is also a raconteur of renown.

Born in Scottsdale in 1916, he was the eighth of ten children. He moved to Coee when he was twelve and commenced farm work at the age of fourteen. From 1954 to 1981 Viv was employed as a carpenter at APPM Ltd, a job he held until his retirement.

Viv had an extremely happy marriage to Margaret, which lasted for seventy-years until she, sadly, passed away in March last year.

VW Bro Breaden has had an illustrious Masonic career. He was Initiated and passed in Emu Lodge, then passed in Poulett Lodge in 1957.

After serving in most offices at Emu Lodge, Viv was Installed as Master in 1969 and again in 1983. He has been honoured with life membership of the lodge.

He served as Grand Steward and as Grand Deacon, holds the conferred rank of Past Grand Chaplain and has been awarded the Order of Distinguished Service. Viv initiated his late son, Kevin, into Emu Lodge.

Viv has also been in the chair of the Ramsay Royal Arch Chapter, the Ramsay Lodge and Council, and the Ramsay Cryptic Council.



The Broken Column

Symbol of the passing of a member of the craft

RW Brothers

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VW Brothers

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Daytime Lodge
L. W. Dickson Lodge Loyalty

W Brothers

R. J. Anderson Lodge Macquarie
W. M. McFadyean Launceston-Lawrie
Abra Memorial
E. S. Martin Nugara Lodge
J. L. Mitchell Lodge Pembroke
M. S. Morrison Scotch College
T. W. Ring The Pacific Lodge
G. M. Scott Nugara Lodge
R. W. Wells Hutchins Old Boys

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G. M. W. Biehl Huon Lodge
M. G. Cherry The Pacific Lodge
M. Eastburn Army & Navy
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Freemates scholar

A second year student nurse at the University of Tasmania, Michelle Young (pictured third from left), was officially presented with her Freemasons Assisting Tertiary Education Students (Freemates) scholarship by the Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper.

The presentation was made at a morning tea arranged by the university's northern campus, attended by representatives of UTAS and of Freemates.

Michelle was happy to accept the scholarship, valued at \$2 000, and said it would help cover various costs, including travelling to and from her home in Rosetta.

Michelle is the grand-daughter of the late W Bro Jim Brent, who was a foundation member of Lodge Bowen.

Church service

Freemasons from as far apart as Hobart, Launceston and Wynyard once again joined the congregation of St Johns Church, Devonport for an evensong service on Sunday, March 2, 2008.

Numbers were slightly down on the previous year, but this was compensated for by the presence of the Grand Master, MW Bro Norm Cooper and Mrs Cooper, who were supported by V Ill Bro Bill Morgan, District Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for Australia, and Rt Em Bro Charles Smith, District Grand Prior, of the Knights Templars with Mrs Smith.

The Rev Steven Howard again conducted the service, while the organist, Ruth Parsons and the choir provided the foundation with some lusty hymn singing.

Ted Priest

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Constantine leader here

Members of the Order of Constantine in Tasmania were thrilled to receive a visit from Most Illustrious Knight Stewart Baird from Scotland which marked the conclusion of his nine-year stint as Grand Sovereign of the Order.

One of the highest-ranking masons in the world, this was his third visit to Hobart and was on the last night of Eminent Knight John the Duke of Avram as Most Puissant Sovereign of the Tasmanian Union Conclave No 32 S.C.

In the work for the night, Derek Ward was the candidate for the degree of Knight of Constantine. Members of the Order came to the meeting from all over the State.

Most Ill Kt Baird commended the way the Order performs its ritual in Tasmania and the attention it pays to the small print in the ritual.

Our centre **Back Page photo** shows (from left) Stewart Baird, John the Duke of Avram and Peter Donald, the Intendant General for the Division of Tasmania.

Honorary Memberships

Honorary memberships of the Coronation Chapter of Knights of the Pelican and Eagle, and Sovereign Princes Rose Croix of HRDM have been awarded to two brethren.

The awards were made at the Coronation Chapter on Saturday, June 7, 2008 to V. Ill. Bro. Bill Morgan and Em Bro David Handley.

V. Ill Bro Morgan, has just completed his five-year term as District Commander for the District of Tasmania, and during that time has only missed a meeting of Coronation through sickness.

Em Bro Handley has been visiting Coronation for many years and once again has only missed a meeting through sickness.

The Most Wise Sovereign, Ex. & P. Bro. Mick Roche, commented "He has been visiting since Adam was a pup".

Each of the two new Honorary Members expressed surprise at the awards; and Em. Bro. Handley said that in is 55 years of Masonry, this was the first time he has received such recognition.

Maurice Lawson

Back Page photos

TOP LEFT: New barbecue area at the Cape Country residential complex, completed with a \$3 000 donation from the North West Masonic Benevolence Society ... Page 3

TOP RIGHT: Burnie Masonic scholarship winners Bryce Clarke and Aaron Mercer with the Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro John Wallace ... Page 10

CENTRE: Members of the Order of Constantine in Tasmania welcome high-ranking leader ... Page 15

BOTTOM LEFT: Funding for defibrillator from Board of Benevolence and Lodge Clarence ... Page 10

BOTTOM RIGHT: Forty Year Certificates presented to Poulett Lodge Members by RW Bro Des Hyland. From left are W Bro S. G. Fist, W Bro R. E. Kev and W Bro R. W. Fergusson.

Other long-serving freemasons acknowledged ... Pages 12 to 14.

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