

FREEMASONRY

TASMANIA

Volume 38 No.1

Autumn 2023

Journal of the Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of Tasmania



Installing Master, MWBro. Phillip Oddie ODS clothing MWBro. Luke Wood in the regalia of the Grand Master of Tasmania, flanked by his two sons, Nathaniel and Alexander, the Cushion Bearers for the Ceremony of the Grand Installation.

FREEMASONRY TASMANIA

Published by the

Grand Lodge of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of Tasmania

3 Sandy Bay Road, Hobart, Tasmania 7005

Grand Secretary, VWBro. James Seville

Phone: (03) 6223 5814

Email: gltas@freemasonrytasmania.org

Website: www.freemasonrytasmania.org

Office Hours: 9am till 2.30pm Monday to Thursday

DON'T LIKE DRIVING AT NIGHT?

DON'T GIVE UP MASONRY

VISIT/JOIN A DAYTIME LODGE

LODGE MACQUARIE

Meets the third Monday at 10.30am

GLENORCHY MASONIC CENTRE

12:15pm for Lunch (\$20 per person)

WIVES AND GUEST WELCOME

Secretary Jack CLEAR 0417 370 998



ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Be inspired, belong to a group of like-minded friends
and give back to the community and enrich the lives
of others.

A welcome is extended to Ladies and Freemasons
who wish to become members

Tasman Chapter Hobart Chapter Tamar Chapter
03 6394 4242 03 6244 6552 03 63301868

LAUNCESTON MASONIC CENTRE Inc.

On behalf of

LAUNCESTON LAWRIE ABRA MEMORIAL LODGE 2TC
ST. ANDREW LEWIS LODGE 6TC
ARMY AND NAVY LODGE 50TC
LODGE ESK 60TC
LODGE PHOENIX 92TC

All meet at Launceston Masonic Centre
39 Brisbane Street, Launceston

We extend a warm welcome to all visitors

Email: launcestonmasoniccentre1@gmail.com



*The symbol of the Passing of a Member of the Craft
Deceased Brethren as at 30th April 2023*

RWBro

R.V. Edwards	Lodge Esk
	Meander Lodge
J.E. Fish	Pacific Lodge
H.W.J. Hollick	Huon Esperance Lodge
N.J.A.W. Kirchebner	Emu Lodge
	Lodge of Peace
	Roland Lodge

VWBro

R.W.G. Lowe	Darcy Wills Memorial Lodge
	Lodge Macquarie
J.L.W. Young	Mount Lyell Lodge

WBro

P.E. Banfield	Darcy Wills Memorial :Lodge
A. Beeson	Huon Esperance Lodge
A.R. Cumming	Hutchins Old Boys' Lodge
H.C. Fennell	Tasmanian Holding Lodge
D.F. Medwin	Tasmanian Holding Lodge
K.J. Milbourne OAM	Tasmania Holding Lodge
D.H. Proverbs	Burnie Masonic Lodge
W.W. Smith	Devonport Masonic Lodge
	Lodge of Peace
E.J. Windsor	Lodge Lauriston

Bro

E.C. Iles	Lodge Pembroke
W.J. Newell	Devonport Masonic Lodge
K.N. Wilkinson	Lodge Pembroke

Welcome Aboard

To our new brothers as at the 30th April 2023...

A.L. Bradley	Darcy Wills Memorial Lodge
M. Elali	Lodge Pembroke
F. Lowe	Mount Lyell Lodge
K.A. Montgomery	Devonport Masonic Lodge
I.A.J. Prior	Roland Lodge
D.P. Smith	Launceston Lawrie Abra Mem. Lodge
G.C. Valdez	Lodge Pembroke

Grand Master's Address 24th February 2023

M.W.Bro. Luke Wood



Most Worshipful Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters, Ladies, Guests, Brother Wardens, Brethren all.

Thank-you all for being here tonight and showing your support for the Members of the Grand Lodge of Tasmania on this very special evening, our 40th Grand Installation. I also welcome those people watching us live via the internet from all over the globe.

I would like to start by recognising the love and support I receive on a daily basis from my darling wife Nora and our two sons, Nathaniel and Alexander, who were my cushion bearers in the ceremony this evening, I love you very much.

I am truly honoured to see everyone here and humbled by the faith the Brethren of Tasmania have placed in me. I never thought my Masonic journey would deliver me to this point, 33 years after my Initiation at Lodge St Helier in the Province of Jersey.

However, this is not only my night but the night of the incoming Grand Lodge Officers being invested and I look forward to working with you and all the Past Grand Lodge Officers during the ensuing year.

Most Worshipful Installing Master, Most Worshipful Brother Philip Oddie, Past Grand Master, thank-you for guiding and encouraging me over the last three years, it has been a privilege being your Deputy Grand Master and the selfless friendship and help you and Anne have shown Nora and myself has been immeasurable.

Your effort in organising this event, being supported by a very small team of volunteers has been immense and on behalf of your Brethren, we thank-you.

We also thank-you, again with a very small team, for steering us through the last three challenging years with finesse and decorum, I honestly believe we would have found ourselves in a far less favourable situation if you had not been our Grand Master.

I'd like to congratulate the Grand Director of Music, Right Worshipful Brother Kevin Chambers and his troupe for providing the entertainment program for the festivities, the trumpeters from the Derwent Valley Concert Band, led by John O'Carroll and to the Deep South Chorus, well done and thank-you.

To the Grand Installation Preceptors, Most Worshipful Brother Robert Clarke and Right Worshipful Brother Brian Walters and all the Installation Team and support crew, I thank you most sincerely for your time and dedication in making this ceremony the best it can be.

Right Worshipful Brother David Greisbach, Grand Director, we can only admire your work this evening, if ever there is an example of leading by example, you and your assistant, Right Worshipful Brother David Luez have just set it.

As to the future, it is looking brighter and with the help and support of the Presidents of the Board of General Purposes, Very Worshipful Brother Stewart Freeman and the Board of Benevolence, Right Worshipful Brother Rex Hesline and their respective board members, we will build on what our predecessor's started by evaluating the current processes used by the Grand Lodge to interact with our lodges, our members and the Tasmanian community as a whole and implement changes where necessary. We will support our lodges in maintaining and improving their lodge rooms and embark on expanding our benevolence by strategically partnering with charities across the State, this will be in addition to our current workload but a necessary burden to bear.

In conclusion, we hope you enjoy the rest of the evening and those who are staying for the weekend, we look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events and to our interstate and international visitors, thank-you for coming to the Apple Isle and enjoy what we have to offer.

Deputy Grand Master's Message

R.W.Bro Phil Kline

Brethren and Ladies.

Whilst the Grand Lodge of Tasmania's Installation was only back in February it already seems like it was a long time ago. We hope that those who attended the Grand Installation enjoyed the event, and those who weren't able to attend were able to catch it via the live stream or recording.

My family and I would like to express our gratitude to all for the warm welcome and support we received. Both Wendy and I look forward to continuing our friendships and associations over the coming months and years.

It has been a privilege for Wendy and I to attend several official functions along side M. Wor. Bro. Luke Wood and his wife Nora. We greatly appreciate their support and friendship. I also had the honour to represent the Grand Master at the Roland Lodge ANZAC meeting which, as usual, was a great night.

As we move from Autumn to Winter, through work and non-Masonic associations, we have been hearing of lots of cases of both flu and COVID. We urge you to stay safe and look out for each other. Be considerate of your friends and brother masons. A kind word or offer of help can go along way for someone that is feeling isolated or temporarily can't get out.

From our family to yours, until we meet again stay safe and best wishes.

Phil Kline
Deputy Grand Master



Stephanie, Wendy, Phil and Eva

Report from President of the Board of General Purposes V.W.Bro Stewart Freeman

In the four months since my election and investiture as the President of the Board of General Purposes, I have attended a number of lodges and spoken to many brethren about the role of the Board, the projects and tasks that we are either dealing with or plan to conduct.

There will not be a Masonic Census this year, as we have much of the data needed to develop our plans. Speaking of which, the new Grand Lodge Strategic Plan for 2023 – 2026 has been released and is available on the Grand Lodge website. The new plan has a much reduced set of aims and goals, most of which will occur at Grand Lodge level. The Board hopes that lodges will develop their own plans to complement the Grand Lodge plan, after all you know what your lodges needs and can achieve far better than the Board.

For those who know me understand that my many years of military service has installed a strong belief in the need for good, meaningful communication. To this end, I intend to ensure that all approaches to the Board will be acknowledged and provided with a written response. You may not always get the answer you want, but we will ensure that our reasons are given.

On the subject of communications, I strongly urge all Tasmanian Masons, regardless of what degree you are, to register as users on the Grand Lodge website. The new site is packed with useful information and will become the main tool for communicating with you.

The Board of General Purpose is made up of some very smart and intelligent Masons, but we don't have all the ideas, nor are we across all the issues. For that reason, I encourage you to submit your concerns and ideas, either as a lodge or individual. Submissions should be in writing and submitted to the Grand Secretary.

The members of the Board of General Purposes for 2023 are:

V.W. Bro Stewart Freeman – President
Rt.W. Bro Rick Goninon – Vice President
Rt.W. Bro Michael Freeman
V.W. Bro Peter Foster
V.W. Bro Richard Jones
W. Bro Grayson Genders
V.W. Bro Nathen Groves
Rt.W. Bro Graham Deacon
Rt.W. Bro David Greisbach
V.W. Bro Bruce Chamley



And of course both our Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master are ex-officio members.

The board meets as often as required, but at least quarterly. Two of the required meetings are held 'face to face', whilst the remainder are conducted using Zoom. Urgent matters can be address in out of session/emergency meetings if it is deemed necessary.

In order for the board members to acquaint themselves with the various reports, papers, and issues, all such documents must be submitted to the Grand Secretary 14 days prior to each meeting.

Thank you everyone for all the wonderful articles sent in for this issue. Can I please ask that when sending photographs you provide the names of those in the photo (and their ranks if applicable) for the caption.

Please send your contributions to:

magazine@freemasonrytasmania.org

as soon as they are available

Grand Installation Banquet 25th February 2023



The Grand Banquet continued the celebrations of the Grand Installation weekend under the guiding hand of WBro. K.G. Mainwaring (Kent) as Director of Ceremonies, accompanied by the musical talents of RWBro's. M.K. Murray (Malcolm on Sax), K.G. Chambers (Kevin on piano) and VWBro. L.G. Appleby ods (Laurie on drums) and the Grand Lodge of Tasmania thank them for their contribution to the wonderful evening. Mrs D.A. Oddie (Anne) was also recognised for her wonderful support to her husband MWBro. P.F. Oddie ods (Phil) and the Craft in general throughout their time in Freemasonry.

Tasmanian Grand Installation February 2023

How many Grand Master's can you shake a stick at? Well it turns out all of them, plus their Deputies.

It was with great pleasure that we received (in no particular order):
MWBro's D.M. Booker (SA&NT),
L.N. Hicks (NSW&ACT),
A.B. Bucca (V),
J.L. Watt (NZ),
D.L. Ganon (WA) &
J.R. Harper (Q).

We thank them most sincerely for attending with their delegations and look forward to reacquainting in the future.



Wynyard Poulett Masonic Lodge 18T.C.



On the 15th April 2023 our most esteemed brother, RWBro Joe Porter was installed in the Chair of King Solomon by MWBro Luke Wood and the North West Grand Installation Ceremonial Team. This was the first Installation that MWBro. Wood had conducted in the North West since becoming Grand Master in February.

RWBro Joe is a very keen Freemason who is a member of Burnie Masonic Lodge, St Helens Masonic Lodge and Wynyard Poulett Masonic Lodge and continues his involvement with the Grand Lodge team in the North West, this year as Grand Sword Bearer. He is also a member of the Royal Order of Scotland and continues to support the OES Tasman Chapter.

As many would know, Joe's other passion is music and he play's several instruments, which include the banjo and bagpipes. One will also constantly find him behind a lodge organ, bringing harmony to our lodge meetings and ceremonies.

Another passion is touring in his much loved campervan which he has only recently updated to a later and more comfortable model.

As a much loved and well respected Brother across the State, we wish you well for the ensuing year as Master of Wynyard Poulett Masonic Lodge.



Mt Lyell Installation 25th March 2023

The 25th March saw Masons from across the state gathering in Queenstown for the Installation of Bro. Rob Fitzpatrick as the Worshipful Master of Mt. Lyell Lodge 24T.C.

In addition to the 20 members of the Grand Lodge team in attendance to support the Installing Master RWBro. Brian Waters, there were five visiting Worshipful Master's and a number of visiting Masons.

With the Installation of WBro. Fitzpatrick completed, it was time to present the Immediate Past Master his jewel. WBro. Peter Purcell was presented with the Gerry Mercea IPM Jewel. It was first presented to and worn by WBro. L.G. (Gerry) Mercea. He was twice master of Mt. Lyell and a tireless worker for the Lodge everywhere he travelled. He would travel with his dinner suit and regalia to enable him to visit other lodges. Once he returned to Queenstown, he would report to the Lodge all the details of his visits. He was a well loved family man who was well respected community member. A great and honoured Mason.

Following the Installation, a banquet was held at the Silver Hills Motel (where most of the visitors were staying). Fine food and wine was consumed, along with the normal raft of speeches and toasts. The new Master outlined some exciting ideas and initiatives for the coming year, which hopefully will see Mt. Lyell Lodge growing and being well recognised within the local community as a valued member of the West Coast community.

The following day, as the normal practice for the Mt. Lyell Installation, the Lodge hosted a breakfast BBQ. This year it was held at VWBro Bradshaw's sawmill. Bernie's mill focuses on specialist timbers and the smell of savaged Huon Pine permeated the mill, making the BBQ very special indeed.

For those who have not had the opportunity to visit their lodge rooms lately, they have been undergoing a refurbishment programme over the past few years and are being brought back to their former glory, so we highly recommend Brethren take the opportunity to visit the Lodge and make the most of the West Coast while there.



The Installing Master – RWBro. Brian Waters (centre) with the IPM – WBro. Peter Purcell (left) and the new Worshipful Master, WBro. Rob Fitzpatrick (right)



Toast to Grand Lodge courtesy of Mt Lyell



W. Bro. Rob Fitzpatrick with members of Mt Lyell Lodge

International Women's Day 2023



Lodge Lauriston 72T.C. turned their hand to catering yet again for the International Woman's Day breakfast organised by Soroptimist International George Town.

The event was held at the Graham Fairless Centre and after preparing for the event the night before, the Lodge members assembled at 5am and worked diligently to serve a full English breakfast at 7am for 110 guests.

The director of ceremonies for the event was Rachel Williams (ex-TV Presenter) and the event was

Our Delegation at the Victorian Grand Installation March 2023

Delegation L to R:

R.W.Bro's Peter Bradley & Phil Kline,
M.W.Bro's Luke Wood & Phil Oddie,
V.W.Bro. James Seville and
most importantly Bro. Alistair Bradley



The Vacant Chair

Each year, the Burnie Masonic Lodge 89T.C. conducts the ceremony of the Vacant Chair on its April meeting. This year the regular meeting night fell on the 25th – ANZAC Day.

The ceremony itself is thought to date back to 1875, a decade after the close of the American Civil War when it was used in Masonic Lodges throughout the United States to pay tribute to those who did not return from the war.

The Lodge was closed for the Vacant Chair Ceremony, with family, friends and guest's seated in the lodge room. The brethren retain their regalia for the ceremony.

An empty chair was placed in front of the Worshipful Masters podium facing West, and the ceremony commenced with a welcome and introduction from the Worshipful Master, then the Chair Party Retired to collect the wreath before marching in to the sound of the bag pipes being played by R.W.Bro. Joe Porter.

W.Bro. Peter Newport then gave a moving rendition of the poem – *'At the going down of the sun'*

The symbolism of the Ceremony of the Vacant Chair was explained and the laying of the wreath and sprigs of Acacia by Brethren, Ladies and Guests followed. Then Bro. Jason Murray recited the Ode and the Last Post and the Rouse were sounded.

To round out the night, Occasional Address was presented by the Honourable Leonie Hiscutt.



Grand Installation 24th February 2023

