



## Pre-Meeting Function

Bring the brethren together before your regular Lodge meeting to add another dimension to the evening by the provision of wine and soft drinks along with some snacks/nibbles prior to tiling.

By introducing a pre-meeting activity, it is expected, as well as tiling on time, that:

- Members will come earlier and socialise, especially those not at refectory
- Generate interest and enthusiasm for the coming meeting
- There will be a better opportunity to greet early visitors and new members
- Opportunities occur to explain customs of the lodge to new members and visitors
- There is a check that the officers of the lodge are ready to carry out their duties
- The Master can greet his members prior to the meeting
- More time can be spent with a new candidate attending for initiation to ensure he is comfortable with the up-coming ceremony.

How To:

1. This should be instituted as a standard procedure at every lodge meeting with responsibility for the organisation resting with the Junior Warden and the Stewards.
2. Members should be encouraged to attend early.
3. A note that light refreshments will be provided prior to the meeting should be promulgated via the District/Division notification of meetings.

Tips:

- Make budgetary provision for this activity
- Make the presentation of the food and drink of a good standard
- Define the time available prior to the meeting and promulgate the start time
- Leave supplies out for visitors who arrive after tiling
- Ensure the Tyler is allocated responsibility for both inviting later visitors to partake and for clearing up after all visitors have entered the lodge.

