



Hold a Garage Sale at the Lodge Rooms

Based on an idea from Warriors St. John Lodge in Colac, Victoria, Australia. A fun initiative which has many advantages.

We all (well most of us) have items around the home or garage (or perhaps our workplaces) which are surplus to requirements. This is a great opportunity to put them to use by donating to a Lodge garage sale.

Select a local community group to support and approach them to ask how you might help them. Agree a project with a realistic fundraising target the Lodge can achieve (with or without Freemasons Charity support) and task the brethren to raise money with a garage sale.

Set a date, publicise to brethren and their friends, task them to advise if they have goods, schedule a pick up or delivery a couple of days before (avoids having to store goods), advertise the event (local newspaper etc.). Be prepared for an early start on the day. Finally make arrangements with a local second hand goods store for passing over goods not sold.

Use the Lodge rooms – crush and or refectory, to display the goods. That brings members of the public into your facilities. Get approval for the Lodge room itself to be open and have a competent brother to explain the room and answer any questions about Freemasonry.

Invite the community group to run a sausage sizzle / cake stall at the garage sale, possibly sharing the proceeds.

This is a good project too to invite some of the Lodge widows along to. From experience it is always good to have plenty of hands on deck. There are plenty of jobs to do from sorting and pricing goods, keeping the tables tidy, making tea and coffee, keeping an eye on the cash etc.

Finally endeavor to get publicity for passing over the donation or completed project.

