



## Appoint a Director of Music

Many Lodges find it is becoming increasingly difficult to find brethren who have musical skills required to play the organ at our ceremonies. This unfortunate situation means that increasingly Lodges are deprived of the pleasure of having music played for the singing of odes unless the Lodge can identify a brother who can operate a music device such as CD player or computer with digital music files. Note the position of 'Organist' is conferred upon a Brother who has the necessary skills to play that musical instrument and recognises his abilities in this regard. It is therefore inappropriate for a person who operates the music playing device to be called the 'Organist'.

Therefore in lieu of an Organist, a Lodge may appoint and have invested a '*Director of Music*'. This office is the same order of precedence as the Organist while the jewel of office is the 'treble clef'.

The suggested wording for investiture is:

*"As you have been elected/appointed Director of Music of the Lodge, I now invest you with the collar and jewel of your office. Your jewel is the treble clef, an emblem of sweet sound. In this aspect music typifies the concord and harmony which have been amongst the foremost characteristics of our order. Having studied the liberal arts and sciences, you are able bring the world's great music to the Lodge room. As the great composers sought excellence in their work, so music should encourage us to seek excellence in our ceremonies."*

Various brethren have taken the initiative, with varying degrees of success, to produce suitable recordings of the various odes and musical expressions used in our ceremonies. Refer the additional Tool in the Toolbox covering the latest available Lodge recorded music.

Previously the provision of this recorded music was by means of a CD player but now a computer is the recommended platform with speakers attached. In either case, in order to be fully effective, the musical equipment must be operated by a brother who starts and stops the player at the appropriate moment - this is a task that requires some practice and when properly executed provides an excellent alternative source of music for the enjoyment of the brethren.

