

# NEW ZEALAND Freemason

Issue 1 (Vol. 46), March 2018



## Nicole's story

*Camp Purple Live*



[www.freemasons.nz.org](http://www.freemasons.nz.org)



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**COVER** Grand Master Mark Winger and Nicole Thornton at Camp Purple; and a camp activity.

**LEFT** Lake Tekapo with Southern Alps in the background.

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## From the Editor

### 2018 and the year is nearly a quarter over ...

This is the year for getting our house in order and finding different ways to talk with non-freemasons every week – we need to build on the momentum that has already started.

Freemasons New Zealand is getting its house into order; are our Lodges doing the same?

Does it have a new coat of paint? Are the lawns and gardens tidy? Has the furniture been fixed? Will you get properly fed? Are the right people running the household? Do we have interesting and varied activities to keep most of the members/visitors coming to visit most of the time? Are we telling everyone about our house? And are we asking them to visit and even stay?

The future of Freemasonry in New Zealand is in our mouths (literally) – we need to be talking at least once a week to a non-freemason about Freemasonry. Be it talking about our Lodge, the organisation nationally, our charity both national and local or about how we got into freemasonry and what it has meant to us personally in terms of self-development, fellowship and helping others. Interest in Freemasonry needs to be sparked by the conversations we have with others on a regular basis.

The Grand Master always enjoys the company of fellow Freemasons as he traverses New Zealand to support our Lodges and travels to Australia to support our neighbours. Opportunities abound to join with him in these important events throughout the country and the Grand Installations of our Australian counterparts.

Let's all get our house in order and tell anyone who will listen the 'Good news that is Freemasonry'!

This issue contains articles on Mental Health, Camp Purple, Powering Potential, Freemasons in Action, Lord Bledisloe, Masonic Education, Famous Freemasons Crossword, Speak Up, and the usual regular features from The Freemasons Charity, the Freemasons Foundation, the Masonic Villages Trust and the Royal Arch. We also have the latest *Charity Herald* as an insert. Something on every page to delight, inform and educate.

VWBro Duane Williams

MBE, JP, KLJ, PDistGM

## ADVERTISING RATES PER ISSUE

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Quarter page	120mm	85mm	\$350	\$250

All figures GST exclusive. For full advertising details contact [communications@freemasons.nz.org](mailto:communications@freemasons.nz.org)



# Hot Off the Press

## New District Grand Master for Kapiti-Wellington District

WBro Russell Pratt PGS has been appointed by the Grand Master as the new District Grand Master for Kapiti-Wellington District to replace the late VWBro Merv Johnston who sadly died in office.



Russell is a Past Master, Past Grand Steward and currently the Central Division Appointee on the Board of General Purposes. He will be invested at Empire Fergusson Lodge No 225 on Thursday 22 March 2018 in Wellington by the Grand Master.

## Some interesting Remits at this year's Divisional Conferences

The 2018 Remits have been circulated to all Lodges and also to your Lodge Delegate or Proxy at these conferences along with their Lodge voting power.

Included in the Remits in 2018 are: Moving the age of becoming a Freemason from 21 to 18 years but retaining the 'Lewis', changing the timing and frequency of Divisional Conferences, the potential for postal or electronic voting on Remits in the future, a couple of procedural remits and some others on Lodge property and assets.

## New Southern Division Appointee on Board of General Purposes

Bro Harry Fox has been appointed by the President of the Board as the new Southern Division Appointee on the Board of General Purposes.



Harry is currently Junior Warden of The Phoenix Lodge No 43 and lives in Akaroa. He is a management consultant.

Harry will be attending his first Board meeting on 28 February 2018 along with his predecessor VWBro Terry Carrell who retires at this meeting.

## Grand Installation 2019

Planning has been underway since the last Grand Installation in 2016.

It is being held in Wellington on 15-17 November 2019.

Already venues and hotels have been booked, the programme for weekend settled.

Venues secured include the Michael Fowler Centre and TSB Arena and several major hotels in Wellington.

The exciting Programme includes Business Session, Ladies Function and Welcome Function (Friday 15

November) – Grand Installation and Grand Banquet (Saturday 16 November) – Farewell Breakfast (Sunday 17 November).

The Northern Division is hosting The Grand Installation, Communication and associated events with assistance if required from the Central Division.

For Freemasons and their partners there are many separate and conjoint events to participate in. We will have Freemasons from around New Zealand and Overseas including the Australian

Constitutions, Sister Constitutions and other Overseas Constitutions.

All Freemasons are welcome from Entered Apprentices to Grand Masters and especially their partners.

This year there will be a basic registration fee on top of which can be added individual event fees (with some events being free like Business Session and the Grand Installation). This can be paid in instalments between when Registration opens and deadline for final payment to make budgeting easier.

You need to make your own arrangements for accommodation and insurance, but options are available on the Registration Form which will be both online and paper based. Plan now for the Grand Installation 2019.



## GRAND MASTER'S VISITS

**14 Mar** The Ara Lodge No 1 – 175th Celebrations, Auckland

**22 Mar** Investiture of WBro Russell Pratt PGS as District Grand Master Kapiti-Wellington District

**24 Mar** Central Division Conference, Palmerston North

**3 Apr** Double 1st Degree, The Ponsonby Lodge No 54, Auckland

**6-9 Apr** Grand Installation of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Melbourne

**20-22 Apr** Grand Installation of the Grand Lodge of South Australia and the Northern Territory, Adelaide

**28 Apr** Installation Meeting of Lodge St Andrew No 418 SC, Auckland

**9 May** 50 Year Badge to VWBro John Livingstone PGLec, Palmerston North

**12 May** 150th Celebrations Mt Ida Lodge No 97, Ranfurly Central Otago

**23 May** Double 1st Degree on twins Lodge Kaikohe Ohaeawai No 101, Kaikohe

## Are you feeling well informed?



As Grand Master, I am delighted to get around New Zealand visiting our Masonic family in their home towns, in their Lodge-rooms, putting Freemasonry into practice in their daily lives. I met some wonderful people who invariably are proud of our organisation and who are keen to Speak Up For Freemasonry. Photos, yes there are a few photos along the way – lots of talk, and some great reminiscing.

I return to Auckland and within hours I see reports of the visits appearing on our social media. My Facebook page is one avenue of the information getting distributed, with my friends disseminating the stories far and wide, not just across Australasia but worldwide.

The Divisional websites carry stories and human interest pieces about our activities, and carry some useful resources detailing not only historical items but also practical hints to assist development of Lodges, thought-provoking items, and opinion pieces. District newsletters carry yet more stories with a local focus, not forgetting our magazine which regularly contains more in-depth articles and discussion pieces.

It was not too long ago that many of these avenues of information did not exist. We have them now and I for one know the value of regularly keeping in touch on what is happening.

Information is far broader than simply news stories, so I was encouraged when our Executive Director spoke of conducting electronic surveys to glean views and opinions from our members.

For example National Office has conducted an online survey of some 560 members who resigned within the last 5 years. The survey generated 160 replies, with people appreciative of being asked their opinions, and willing

to provide constructive and helpful answers to questions about their exposure to Freemasonry. Exit interviews of this nature are fundamental to understanding more about who we are, what we do, and why some of our members resign. National Office is gaining some useful information from resigned members which will help guide and direct our future.

National Office then conducted a survey of 3000 Freemasons, asking opinions about communication, information, and the like. Within 48 hours, 1100 replies had been received – brethren delighted to be invited to offer an opinion, delighted to express a view on how they would like Freemasonry to be delivered to them, just delighted to be sharing information with National Office. More essential information to help plan and deliver strategies which will be of use to our brethren at Lodge level.

There are more surveys to come – the positive feedback from our Masonic family indicates collecting this information electronically is simple, speedy, and cost-effective. We will analyse it, consider it, and plan based upon the responses. I urge you to participate in these surveys as it is another avenue for you to express your thoughts and ideas – your views are being collected, considered, and analysed which will then will be part of the development of Freemasonry in New Zealand.

Lets all be better informed – whether by visiting Divisional websites, Facebook pages, or newsletters – the more we learn about Freemasonry and what is happening around our great country, the more pride we will take in our organisation and the louder we will Speak Up For Freemasonry.

*Mark Winger,  
Grand Master*



## Now let's move



Now is the time to stop looking backwards and put all our activity and focus into 'moving forward'.

The recent surveys (to gather views and comments from the Brethren), have assisted us greatly in our decision making so far – and we will continue this information seeking with regular reporting from both District and Divisional Grand Masters on how Lodges and Districts are performing, where resources may be needed, and how to best focus assistance where and when it is required.

Over the coming months new initiatives will be launched to build on the successes of the 'Speak-Up for Freemasonry' promotion and further increase our activity in the areas of Membership retention, acquisition and communications.

These initiatives are part of a coordinated communications strategy – developed by our team at National Office. Coordination is key to our success (as we move forward), so please ... let's act as one. If you have a specific activity / initiative planned, please advise our Executive Director Gareth Turner via email. You can reach him on [executivedirector@freemasons.nz.org](mailto:executivedirector@freemasons.nz.org). Gareth and his team are here to assist and to ensure we are all aligned (i.e. through our messaging, initiatives and other promotional activity).

As your Board, we are focused on providing the right levels of support and resources for the Craft to move forward. Membership, Communications and Finance remain our key areas of focus, but alongside this, we now include 'Processes'. Our Executive Director has been asked to look at all our processes and recommend changes that will make

## Fit for Future – National Office Update

### forward ...

them easier, smoother and more efficient – which in turn will assist all of us in ensuring we are spending more of our time and effort in the areas we need to i.e. retention and recruitment.

Over the past few months the make-up of your Board has changed. VWBro Mike Cadman, Grand Treasurer has replaced RWBro Ray Burgess and Bro Harry Fox has replaced VWBro Terry Carrell as the Southern Divisional Appointee. Also, as I write we are in the process of advertising for a replacement for WBro Russell Pratt, Central Divisional Appointee – who has just been appointed the Dist GM for Kapiti-Wellington District – many congratulations Russell.

In appointing the new members to the Board, we look to increase the range of skills around the Board table, specifically looking at skills we will need over the next few years (e.g. strategy, governance, marketing and communications).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who are retiring from the Board (through finishing their term or through promotion) – their input and time has been invaluable to Freemasonry.

I am also pleased to advise that we are in negotiations for new premises for National Office. Renting (not buying) and out of the Wellington CBD, nearer to the airport – which will add further savings.

In closing, we are already well into our Masonic year – before we know it 2018 will be leading into 2019. We have a lot to do and we need to get on and do it. With this in mind, I look forward to reporting on action taken and resulted achieved in my next update.

*Peter Benstead,  
President of the Board*



Over the past three months National Office has seen a variety of changes take place. Guiding this change has been the question, what is the purpose of National Office and why is this? To answer this question, we have asked ourselves as staff and more importantly, you as Freemasons.

Put simply, National Office is here to help New Zealand Freemasonry, it is here to serve its members and make sure the collective trajectory is that of a positive one. Over the last three months National Office has created, distributed, and analysed surveys from both current Freemasons and those resigned clear. It has investigated how and created guides and plans to help Lodges be more involved with social media, we have restructured our staffing resources to aid in the processes taking place.

A key question we are working with from all of this is how to increase the levels of engagement and enjoyment you as members feel as Freemasons. Are you engaged with your Lodge? Do you feel like you might have a few ideas on how to improve your experience as a Freemason, not only for yourself but those around you too? Where does Freemasonry meet your expectations and is there anywhere that falls short? 1100 Brethren have answered these questions to help us understand where we sit. We believe

more contact with you as Freemasons is a necessary thing, this is why we are updating our emailing system and creating monthly newsletters to keep you well informed. This also involves updates to the Freemasons websites, looking at making access to key information as easy as possible for all.

The other question we have focused on is how to reach out to new members and begin engaging with a new generation of Freemasons. We have started working with different social media platforms to better understand who is most interested and why. These days with the right approach it is easy to spread the message of Freemasonry to many young men, however the message is only the beginning. Social media is a great tool to get someone interested, but the real essence of a membership drive is being able to talk to an active Freemason and get a better understanding of the craft.

Here at National Office we are conscious of Freemasonry as it is today, and we are determined and striving towards a Freemasonry of tomorrow. Moving forward we have identified key outcomes and goals in the domains of communications, membership, and operational efficiency. Over the coming months we will be providing Lodges with new tools and guides to ensure they remain vibrant and engaging, stay tuned!

*Gareth Turner,  
Executive Director*





# CLASSIFIEDS

<p><b>MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS!</b> We provide complete Property Management, Leasing and Real Estate Services for Residential and Commercial Properties.</p> <p><b>3BR - Single Family \$32,990</b> Single Family - 3 Bedrooms 1 1/2 Bath, Property has been COMPLETELY RENOVATED!</p> <p><b>RENT TO OWN</b> If you cannot qualify for a traditional mortgage through the banks, NO PROBLEM! Call Now!</p> <p><b>BUSINESS</b> We provide complete Property Management, Leasing and Real Estate Services for Residential and Commercial Properties.</p> <p><b>ATTENTION: HOME OWNER</b> Your home's privacy has been completely renovated and is currently occupied! Both bedrooms are currently on leases and cash can be raised at \$400.</p> <p><b>EXCELLENT INVESTMENT</b> 2 Family (DUPLEX) - Both Units have 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. Property has been completely renovated and is currently occupied! Both bedrooms are currently on leases and cash can be raised at \$400 and \$425.</p> <p><b>COMMERCIAL LOANS</b> We will consider applications on the following industry types: • Multi-family residential • Retail Centers • Office • Mixed Use If you have some money to purchase their home with 25-30% money down, call us today to prepare a proposal for an offer on your property.</p> <p><b>NO MONEY DOWN</b> We help some buyers to purchase their home with 25-30% money down, call us today to prepare a proposal for an offer on your property.</p> <p><b>OFFICE AVAILABLE</b> 3 individual enclosed office space cubicles with desks at a great location, use of Boardroom and general facilities. General Parking nearby. \$750/each. Location Downtown.</p> <p><b>LOOKING FOR INVESTORS</b> Local investors' investments are primarily located in Real Estate Market.</p> <p><b>RENT TO OWN</b> If you cannot qualify for a traditional mortgage through the banks, NO PROBLEM! Call Now!</p> <p><b>RENOVATED 1 BEDROOM</b> This great corner unit has just finished being renovated including new paint, flooring and appliances. Only for \$695. Call Now!</p>	<p><b>OFFICE AVAILABLE</b> 3 individual enclosed office space cubicles with desks at a great location, use of Boardroom and general facilities. General Parking nearby. \$750/each. Location Downtown.</p> <p><b>LOOKING FOR INVESTORS</b> Local investors' investments are primarily located in Real Estate Market.</p> <p><b>RENT TO OWN</b> If you cannot qualify for a traditional mortgage through the banks, NO PROBLEM! Call Now!</p> <p><b>RENOVATED 1 BEDROOM</b> This great corner unit has just finished being renovated including new paint, flooring and appliances. Only for \$695. Call Now!</p>	<p><b>3BR - Single Family \$32,990</b> Single Family - 3 Bedrooms 1 1/2 Bath, Property has been COMPLETELY RENOVATED!</p> <p><b>RENT TO OWN</b> If you cannot qualify for a traditional mortgage through the banks, NO PROBLEM! Call Now!</p> <p><b>LAKE VIEW 1 BEDROOM</b> This is a beautiful 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom unit with a large deck. Fully equipped large kitchen, full bathroom with tub and shower. Now only \$495. Call Now!</p> <p><b>TWO BEDROOM for \$595</b> Beautiful 2 bed/2 bath open floor concept condo comes with a lovely balcony, charming living room w/ fireplace and dining room w/ fireplace and balcony. Now only \$495. Call Now!</p> <p><b>HOUSE FOR SALE</b> 2 bed/2 bath open floor concept condo comes with a lovely balcony, charming living room w/ fireplace and dining room w/ fireplace and balcony. Now only \$495. Call Now!</p> <p><b>CALL NOW!</b></p> <p><b>BY OWNER</b> The suite is spacious and bright. Bedrooms feature queen beds. Bathrooms are fully equipped. Fully equipped large kitchen, full bathroom with tub and shower. Now only \$495. Call Now!</p> <p><b>RENOVATED 1 BEDROOM</b> This great corner unit has just finished being renovated including new paint, flooring and appliances. Only for \$695. Call Now!</p> <p><b>GARDEN MAINTENANCE</b> Experienced in multiple services such as, lawn mowing, tree trimming, plants, 10555, planting, and other maintenance and installation. Location: West River RD. Are you looking for a waiter? Maybe you just have some questions. Maybe you don't know what to do. Call us today!</p> <p><b>WEEKEND RECEPTION</b> We are seeking a general office assistant for Sunday afternoon's from 11:00am to 11:30am to 6:00pm. \$12/hour.</p> <p><b>GENERAL MANAGER</b> A non-profit social enterprise is seeking a full-time General Manager with business experience to lead and manage the focus of the work will be on sales, marketing. \$8,000 per annum.</p> <p><b>Medical Assistant Training Course</b> We want you to be successful. Just click the link and follow today.</p> <p><b>ENGLISH CLASSES</b> English as a Second Language / Accent Reduction. Residential. Lesson fees are: \$25/hr per person. \$7000 per person for both students.</p> <p><b>WEEKEND RECEPTION</b> We are seeking a general office assistant for Sunday afternoon's from 11:00am to 11:30am to 6:00pm. \$12/hour.</p>
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## Past Grand Master from Washington DC visits New Zealand

Akram Elias Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington DC who was on a short trip to New Zealand and whilst in Auckland attended the Installation Clem Devine as the new Master of Wayfarers Lodge No 389 with a ceremony conducted by Mike Wyse Past District Grand Master.

MWBro Akram Elias was Grand Master in Washington DC in 2008. He also visited Freemasons New Zealand National Office in Wellington with his wife a few days before.



David Mace Past Grand Master, Mike Wyse Past District Grand Master and Akram Elias Past Grand Master the Grand Lodge of Washington DC.



## Where in the World? #2

A photo from the Masonic Museum in Lisbon, with busts (no doubt cast in molten bronze) of some of their recent Grand Masters, with recent magazine WBro David Ryan.

Got a photo of you and the *New Zealand Freemason* magazine somewhere in New Zealand or Overseas then send it to [communications@freemasons.nz](mailto:communications@freemasons.nz) with a few words.

## It pays to advertise!

The *New Zealand Freemason* magazine will be offering Classified Advertising in future issues of the magazine.

Cost is \$100 for a full year (four issues) or \$50 for 'one off' classifieds.

You get four lines to cover your advertising hook, business name, products and contact detail and up to 100 characters including spaces. Example:

### Get your Alphabet Soup!

ABCDEFGHIJ Limited Help with learning the Alphabet. Contact: Ph xx xxx xxxx, Email abcdef@gmail.com

It does pay to advertise as regular placement of your business before readers gets into their awareness and brings inquiries and business.

You have the added advantage that the magazine is also online.

Help grow your business and support Freemasonry.

Advertisers after something more substantial for their advertising needs should look at the pricing on page 2 of this magazine.

All enquiries to [communications@freemasons.nz](mailto:communications@freemasons.nz)

## Library at Grand Lodge

This is wonderful resource not only for our membership but others interested in all things masonic.

Services include a lending service (for books, publications, etc), genealogical research and information on members and lodges in New Zealand.

Library Index is available to Freemasons in the membership area of the website [www.freemasons.nz](http://www.freemasons.nz), which requires you to log in.

Volunteers are currently moving data from our Leather-bound Volumes dating back to 1890 onto computer records; a very time-consuming process.

Membership records for The Grand Lodge of New Zealand are held on Leather-bound Volumes, Card Index system and Computer.

If they can't find what you are after they can generally point you in the right direction.

Volunteers generally work on Fridays along with the Honorary Grand Librarian Keith Knox and can be contacted on [library@freemasons.nz](mailto:library@freemasons.nz) or telephone 04 385 7843



A small portion of the Library's contents.

# Freemasons University Scholarships – 40 years on

Education is the cornerstone of any civilised society as it imparts knowledge, helps us develop ideas and create new and better propositions as we take a constructive part in our communities. Education is part of the Masonic tradition, especially the second degree, which encourages learning in the liberal arts and sciences. Freemasons NZ recognises this through The Freemasons Scholarships which have now recognised perseverance and success for the 40 years the programme has been running.

While the University Scholarships are probably the best-known national programme, there is sometimes an impression that it consumes a major part of the Charity budget to the detriment of Lodge projects and individuals in need. In fact, it represents only 20% of the annual expenditure as against 25% for the latter two.

The Scholarship recipients are young men and women, more often than not burdened by student debt, who have mastered hours of study to gather knowledge and demonstrate that mastery to their university. Yet, despite all this, they have managed the time and energy to meet that very special criteria of our programme, which is a demonstrated service to the wider community. We are supporting the leaders of tomorrow and the benefit of our support will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

Over the years the presentations have been held in various University Centres. The experience of a function at Parliament has become the preferred choice, much appreciated by the Scholars and their families. This year's ceremony will be held in Wellington on 8 May. To make this presentation more accessible this year we will be streaming

it live on the internet. Log in/access details will be posted on the main page of [www.freemasons.nz.org](http://www.freemasons.nz.org) over the coming week.



While there is considerable benefit to be gained by both recipients and Freemasonry in general from a national presentation function, there is also the opportunity for Lodges to engage with successful candidates on a local basis. The Freemasons Charity can assist with funding to invite them, both men and women and their families to a meeting, get them to tell their stories, including their aspirations. Talk to them about Freemasonry, particularly charity, as demonstrated both nationally and locally. Look for the angles which could invite media interest, remembering also to engage the power of social media.

## THE FREEMASONS CHARITY UPDATE – SOME OF THE WAYS WE'VE HELPED NEW ZEALANDERS — THANK YOU!



**\$2 MILLION**  
TOWARDS BRAIN  
RESEARCH



**373**  
'I GOT YOUR  
BACK'-PACKS  
FOR WOMEN'S REFUGE

**7** AT-RISK CHILDREN  
FUNDED TO ATTEND  
**CAMP ADAIR**  
TO LEARN LIFE SKILLS

**18**

CHILDREN FUNDED TO ATTEND  
**CAMP PURPLE**  
CROHNS+COLITIS NZ



**128**

DEFIBRILLATORS  
DISTRIBUTED  
THROUGHOUT NZ



**1300**  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
AWARDED LAST  
40 YEARS

**\$55,000**  
CONTRIBUTED TO  
**CAMP**  
QUALITY  
FOR CHILDREN WITH  
**CANCER**



**300** MEALS FOR **32**  
**INTELLECTUALLY**  
**DISABLED PEOPLE**  
ENABLING THEM TO  
LIVE IN A COMMUNITY

# HAVE YOUR SAY



## Freemasons and Camp Purple

Dear Editor

My name is Sam Allan and I am 16 years old and in July 2016 I was diagnosed with Crohns Disease. It has been a bumpy road since, culminating in a hospital stay at Starship and having several centimetres of my large intestine removed. I woke up with a stoma bag as the surgeons wanted to give my large intestines a rest and chance to heal while I continue on drug therapy to switch off my immune system. The bag has had its challenges, and it also had me feeling somewhat 'lost'

My Mum heard about Camp Purple Live and applied for me to go, and I have to be honest here and admit that to begin with I did not want anything to do with hanging out with other Crohns kids, but once I got to camp my whole attitude changed.

I met other teens dealing with the same issues and facing the same battles. I made some good friendships with people who I know I will have as friends for the rest of my life. Having a disease, any disease, sets you apart from your peer group, and especially having a disease that is all about bowels, poo and pain is very lonely when you are among a bunch of kids at school. At the camp I was able to also connect with the amazing helpers who were there who themselves have either Crohns or Colitis, they got me and understood me, and taught me a lot about the future I can have despite having this horrible disease.

The purpose of this letter is to thank the sponsors (including the Freemasons) who have supported the organisation either with money or products so that the camp could happen for us. My Mum says that it is tough these days for anyone looking for sponsorship and it is amazing

that the sponsors who got behind Camp Purple Live could see how important 5 days spent with other kids who have the same disease actually is for all of us who got to attend this year's camp at Camp Adair.

So, thank you, thank you for the airfares and bus fares, the food, the products, the amazing day out at the White-Water Park in Manukau City, the sweatshirt, and most of all, thank you for helping me to make some great memories, make some cool new friends and most of all, thank you for the smiles and laughter, it was the best

*Samuel Allan*

**Harbour City**  
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The Speak Up for Freemasonry campaign is not over and ...

# YOUR GRAND MASTER NEEDS YOU



When our Grand Master MWBro Mark Winger introduced his programme 'Speak Up for Freemasonry', he was relying on every Freemason in New Zealand for their support. A year has passed and he is again asking for your help. He needs you. That's right, we're pointing at you!

It is not much more than 12 months since our Grand Master introduced the idea that if we all started talking to the public about who we are and the good that we do then we could begin a revival in the Craft. While our numbers are not what they used to be there are still many thousands of us out there and every single one is important in this endeavour.

We all need to start talking! And that means you! Yes, you!

He wants you to know that the programme has only just started. There's a long way to go! At least two more years. In fact the plan is for speaking out to become just a normal part of our lives as Freemasons – permanently! No more secrecy – well, just the necessary privacy!

So you haven't found an opportunity to talk about Freemasonry to those who are not members – to tell the public about Freemasonry and about the good that comes from being a member?

So you need things to say? Have you read the 'Simple Answers' booklet? Then how about starting there?

Please take this as a personal reminder from MWBro Mark that we need you and every Brother in the country to make this happen.



He doesn't expect miracles. But he would like your continued enthusiastic and on-going support. This campaign will only bear fruit if we keep at it. This year, next year and probably much longer.

**C'mon Brother, do your bit – speak up!**



Event Barnes / Flickr



Form 5 — Rule 54

**PROPOSITION of INTENDED CANDIDATES**

TO: The Worshipful Master, Officers, and Members of \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Number of Lodge

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being a free man, and of the full age of twenty-one years, do acknowledge my belief in a Supreme Being, and do declare that, unbiased by the improper solicitations of friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary or other unworthy motives, I freely and voluntarily offer myself a candidate for the mysteries of Freemasonry; that I am prompted by favourable opinion preconceived of the institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere wish to be serviceable to my fellow creatures; that I am possessed of sufficient means to enable me to meet the charges of my initiation and the support of my membership in the Craft without detriment to my family and connections; that I have not within twelve months past been rejected by any Masonic Lodge; and I promise, if found worthy, to conform to all the ancient usages and established customs of the Order.

Information to be supplied by intending candidate:  
 Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Name/Address/Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Partner Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cellphone: \_\_\_\_\_

I confirm that the foregoing replies are true and correct, and I wish to establish my good character.

# The personal touch is the most effective proven way of raising enquiry for membership



Speaking up for Freemasonry can take many forms. One that many Lodges use successfully is getting involved in your community. Doing something worthy for a local cause, like a donation makes you known to the people running that cause. And you might get a mention in your local newspaper that helps spread our name – and reaches more people. Put some stories about the Lodge on Facebook and you reach more and different people. And you can spell out more detail. All will have some effect in bringing Freemasonry to the minds of the public in general. And that's good. We encourage Lodges to show their face publicly in this way. But Speaking Up for Freemasonry was devised to be much more direct and to work on a personal level. If we want enquiry for membership, and that's what this project is intended to do, then going one-on-one is the fast way forward.

Take the initiative. Create the opportunity. Only members explaining what we do and telling prospects what they can gain from membership will prompt enquiries that can be acted on.

It's up to the membership to speak up about their Lodge and tell non-masons the benefits of belonging. But there is much that Lodges can do too in creating an attitude and an environment amongst members that encourages them to speak up.

Your next steps in getting on with it: **The Lodge** – could add a permanent reminder notice in every Summons for all members to Speak Up – with a logo to attract attention!

**Every Freemason** – Each week for the next four weeks tell someone, that doesn't already know, that you are a Freemason.

If it's new members you need then **SPEAK UP FOR FREEMASONRY**.

It's been a great start but don't stop now. we are just getting going.

## You want to know how to speak up? Try this...

Have *you* started speaking up? If you have then the Grand Master says thank you. And you'll have some experience. If not then please make the effort and start immediately after you have read this.

How will you do it? Well the next friend, close or not, that you run into, pick a time in the conversation, swallow hard and say ... 'By the way, have I ever mentioned that I am a Freemason?'

Then tell him ... about the national campaign of

Freemasons New Zealand to be more open about our organisation, so that the public knows more about us and the good that we do for the whole community.

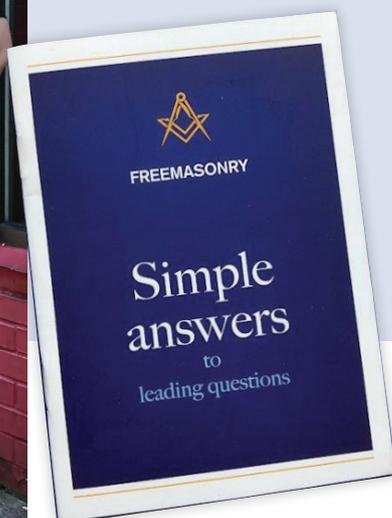
Then tell him ... that our Grand Master has asked every Freemason to speak up about Freemasonry (and you have picked him to tell!)

Then tell him ... why you joined and how it's an organisation of good men whose company you enjoy and it's based on high principles of kindness, honesty and trust.

Then mention ... a couple of our national charitable projects, say, the millions of dollars we give to medical research into brain diseases; and that we have the largest privately funded University scholarship programme in New Zealand. Open to all!

Then offer him ... the *Simple Answers* booklet.

Then change the subject! Let's not start preaching!



# Freemasons in action

## Freemason's generous donation to Riccarton Community Patrol – from the insiders

Eighty-four Totara Street, Riccarton is a building that many people have never ventured inside, yet I pass this imposing structure on a daily walk with the dog. The land for the Riccarton Masonic Centre was purchased in 1925 for the princely sum of £285 and the Lodge building as it was then known, was constructed and then dedicated in August 1929. Originally the home of Lodge Riccarton 276, it subsequently combined with Lodge Cashmere due to falling membership, and was renamed Unity Lodge 271. An entrance hall and vestibule area were designed and added in 1967 and membership grew to 87 by 1975 at the time of the Golden Jubilee, 50 years anniversary commemoration. Many men consider it an honour and status symbol to belong this organisation and members meet once each month at the Lodge.



Freemasonry was founded in England in 1717, and currently has a world-wide membership of six million members. Initially Masonry was very much a 'closed shop' for skilled crafts men, however membership broadened and it was no longer was thought of as a 'trade' organisation and it became a social order with a code for daily living. Military, political and theological dialogue was banned within their communications. Several

- ◆ Promote good citizenship with high moral and social standards
- ◆ Be encouraged to serve their own religion and community
- ◆ Render practical aid to the less fortunate
- ◆ Enjoy company and develop team spirit and friendship

misnomers exist about Freemasonry, therefore to clarify, it is not a secret society, religious order, convivial club or a reform society. Historically many famous men have been Freemasons, these include Winston Churchill, George Washington, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Rudyard Kipling, to mention just a few.

The organisational members' principal aims state:

Canterbury Masonic Charitable Trust was set up to satisfy its philanthropic aims and oversee the distribution of funds for worthy charities. Riccarton Community Patrol Inc. comprises of 45 voluntary patrollers, who act as 'eyes and ears' for the police within the Riccarton area. The Patrol made application for funding to provide extra security for the patrol members with the use of radio telephones whilst out patrolling in the vehicle. (We had previously approached Unity Lodge and obtained funds to assist the patrol with the purchase of a Portable Automatic Defibrillator.) The application was duly sent and approved, and three Committee Members attended the official handover of the handset in December. This was followed by a tasty meal and time to learn more about the Brothers, their regalia and their building.

*J F Pearson and I E Jonassen*



Mobile digital radio telephone presentation: from the left, three Riccarton Community Patrol representatives: Ivan Jonassen – Trainer and Past Master of Lodge Riccarton 276, Joan Pearson – Treasurer, Dave Gillett – Chairman and Worshipful Master Brother Geoff Cain of Unity Lodge 271.

## HAVE YOUR SAY

- ◆ Write a letter to the Editor – preferably 300 words maximum.
- ◆ Submit an Opinion piece – 800 words plus a 100-word author biography, and a photo.

## Fly in and fly out 50 Year Service badge at Ormondville

In 1967, the year that Bro Len Beilby was initiated into freemasonry in the Lion Lodge No 114, which is a rural lodge in the village of Ormondville in Hawke's Bay, most of the smaller towns throughout New Zealand had a police station, possibly a railway station, some banks, a school, a hotel or two and a post office. Sadly, since the "Rogernomics" reforms of the 80's, all those institutions have been abandoned or down sized and the men who were the policemen, the station master, the bank manager, the school teacher, the publican or the postmaster have moved on and the rural lodge membership depleted as a result. The Lion Lodge was no exception.

Len Beilby was the Ormondville postmaster when he was proposed for membership. He had transferred from Whakatane on promotion the year before and quickly settled into the community and its many activities. He said that he was attracted by the warmer climate and the fresh fruit abundant in Hawke's Bay.

Ormondville was founded on timber milling and farming and had a busy railway station that transported sawn timber and live sheep and cattle to markets and processing plants north or south. The town had a thriving population. The

Lion Lodge's founding members in 1899 included farmers, timber mill owners and employees and local businessmen.

A few years after being raised as a Master Mason, Len was transferred to Porirua and briefly joined Lodge Parirua before moving on again. His profession saw him being continually on the move from town to town and, as such, was unable to take

any office in the three lodges he had joined. He finished his postal career in the South Island in 1989 but moved to live in Whitianga in retirement. He continued his membership of the Lion Lodge throughout and is proud to be included as a

'country' member. In retirement he has pursued his hobbies of wood turning and flying.

During his career Len gained a pilot's licence and flew his own plane from job to job. He even undertook, in his younger

days, a successful solo flight to Australia and back. Although he no longer holds a licence to fly, he invoked a Whitianga friend to fly him to Waipukurau so he could attend the Lion Lodge's November meeting to receive his Fifty-Year Service Award from VWBro Mike Kendrick, Grand Almoner. He and the brethren present had a fun filled daytime meeting.

As part of a Lion Lodge tradition, selected brethren are invited to become members of the "Hip Flask Club", an elite group of lovers of the Scotch amber liquid. Len Beilby is now the latest member.

Len enjoyed having a tour around the Ormondville district that was provided for all at the lodge meeting, bringing back pleasant memories from fifty years ago. This included the railway station which is now a heritage site used to provide overnight accommodation in the former waiting room, station master's office and ticket office as a fund raiser for the Ormondville Rail Preservation Group who now own the station buildings.



VWBro Kendrick and Bro Beilby.



TOP Lion's Master, WBruce Williams, presents Len with his Hip Flask.



ABOVE The Ormondville railway station – Bro Derek Batchelor Senior Deacon as guide.

## No brother is too far!

WBro John Godfrey Fritschi RH – a member of The Mangere Lodge No 330 on the presentation of his 60th year Bar and lapel pin by WBro Alex Bagley, WBro Peter Durney and VWBro Mike Hattie on Saturday 27 January 2018 at Tawa in Wellington.

John's daughters, Iris and Ariadne and his son-in-law Dennis Fountain were also in attendance for what was a splendid occasion for all concerned, but especially for John who enjoys relatively good health at 96 years of age.

John was initiated into the English Constitution on 4 January 1958 and is also a member of United Masters Lodge No 167 and The Mangonui-Kaitaia

Lodge No 78 and was presented with a Roll of Honour on 18 August 1999.

John was also a founding member of Lodge Trivandrum No 168 in India and the Master in 1967.



# Freemasons in action

## 300 FOR 300 PROJECTS

Many Lodges throughout New Zealand took up the challenge of 300 for 300 Years of Freemasonry with special charitable projects to celebrate this milestone.

### Freemasons help female Apprentice

There is no such thing as a “man’s job” at Shontae Ellmers’ new workplace.

Aided by a recent \$300 grant from local Freemasons, the 17-year-old officially started as an apprentice mechanic at Autotech Waipukurau last week.

And while a female apprentice might not be such a rarity these days, Shontae’s workplace is a rare, small-scale example of gender parity in what continues to be a male-dominated industry.

Fifty per cent of all paid staff at the family-owned automotive service and repair centre are female.

Working alongside Shontae is qualified mechanic Melissa Chapman, whose mum and co-owner Karen Wilson sits next to husband Garry in the office, where Catherine Hobbs-Turner works as the administration officer.

Shontae started doing work experience at the garage one day a week last year as a Year 12 student through CHB College’s employment Gateway programme.

After picking up some paid work during the school holidays, she decided not to return to finish school but instead embarked on a five-year apprenticeship through the industry body, MITO.

“To begin with, it took me while to grow into it and start really enjoying it. Now, I enjoy all of it,” Shontae said.

She had found it quite good to be able to work alongside and learn from a qualified female mechanic in Melissa, who had already taught her a few good lessons.

“We may do it in different ways, but we all get there in the end, in our own way. And not to let a man tell you how to do something, or take over doing a job for you. We can do everything ourselves,” Shontae said.

Melissa spent a year studying at EIT after leaving school. But, perhaps with grime and grease in her blood,

soon realised she wanted to pursue her passion.

“I’ve wanted to do this [be mechanic] since I was 10 years old,” said Melissa, who deliberately completed her apprenticeship away from her father, Garry, who worked at the Waipukurau garage for 30 years before taking it over with wife Karen in 2014.

Melissa said she was often the only female mechanic at industry training courses and, aside from Shontae, did not know of any other female mechanics.

With qualifications and years of training, Melissa admitted she was frustrated at the outdated attitudes of some people.

“Sometimes a customer would ring up and say ‘Are you a mechanic’ or ask to speak to a man. It did get a bit annoying after a few years.”

Owner Karen Wilson said she and husband Garry had often used the college’s Gateway programme to find potential apprentices and, while not all of them had worked out, she was pleased to say Shontae had been taken on based on her merits.

“She’s got everything you could want in an apprentice and as an employee. She made the decision, it was something she wanted to continue with and we went from there, and we are signing her up,” she said.

Shontae is among a falling number of female apprentices, according to Josh Williams, chief executive of the Industry Training Federation, which represents New Zealand’s eleven industry training organisations.

“Only eleven percent of apprentices were female in 2016, and this proportion has actually declined very slightly over the past three to four years, since the areas where apprenticeships have been



growing most quickly, such as construction, are male-dominated,” he said.

The automotive industry was one where they were attempting to increase the numbers of women undertaking apprenticeships through campaigns such as Got A Trade? Got It Made!, showcasing young women who were experiencing success in what had been traditionally male-dominated areas.

“For us, that’s about making sure young Kiwi women know that they should apply, that there is no such thing as men’s jobs or women’s jobs, and they should go for it,” he said.

To help her buck the trend in the male-dominated industry, Shontae recently received a prize given to commemorate the 300-year tercentenary of the formation of Freemasonry in London, England, in 1717.

Freemasons from two Central Hawkes Bay lodges, Woburn Lodge No 25 in Waipukurau and the Lion Lodge No 114 in Ormondville, presented Shontae with \$300 to help her purchase tools and other items for her future career.

## Food for thought with thought for Food

With a busy Festive and summer holiday period having largely left their cupboards bare and families bearing the additional burden of paying for school uniforms and books, Stokes Valley Foodbanks are delighted the local Masonic Lodge chose them as recipients of its community anniversary project.

Stokes Valley Lodge Master Laurie Fyfe says 2017 saw Freemasons celebrate 300 years and lodges throughout the country celebrated this international milestone by following the theme of 300 to celebrate 300 years and charitable projects to support local communities,

Stokes Valley Lodge members decided to contribute 300 items to their two local foodbanks run out of St Philips Anglican Church and Koraunui Marae. But they then went a step further by adding \$600.00 of the rental fees they received for hiring out their lodge rooms to the Stokes Valley Library during the building of the Hub and engaged Stokes Valley New World to act their foodbank shoppers.

While Koraunui Marae was unable to attend the handover of an impressive range of goods, Sharyn Horn of Stokes Valley Foodbank now based at St Philips



Lodge Master Laurie Fyfe (right) with Sharyn Horn of Stokes Valley Foodbank and Project organizer and Lodge member Herb Carberry.

was present and said there had been a huge increase in the number of people seeking help over the Christmas period, not just locals but Wainuiomata, Upper Hutt, Taita and Pomare residents as well.

## Over 116 years of Compassion for Wellington

The Home of Compassion Soup Kitchen has been run by the Sisters of Compassion in Wellington for over 116 years.

The Soup Kitchen currently providing Breakfast and Dinner six days a week for all those in need.

Freemasons have been supporting the Soup Kitchen for many years and Lodge Zetland No 312 who regularly supports it with canned goods collected at each meeting from its members decided to do an extra

push as part of the '300 for 300 years of Freemasonry' project.

The Lodge raised \$300 with The Freemasons Charity providing another \$300 and have supplied the Soup Kitchen with many cartons of canned goods for their Soup Kitchen pantry.

Items like tinned baked beans, tomatoes, corn kernels, etc., provide great fillers for soups and stews to make meat and vegetables go even further.





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# Freemasons in action

## You're not here to enjoy yourself, you know! The Alpine Scooter Safari

A Freemason Team made up from the members of the Widow Sons (the Freemasons Motorcycle Association) and guests from four different districts (including two Divisional Grand Masters) will be taking part in this year's Alpine Scooter Safari, 19 May 2018. The Scooter Safari is a charity event involving motorised Scooters riding 250kms Coast-to-Coast, up and over the Southern Alps from Christchurch to Hokitika to raise funds for the New Zealand Cancer Society.

It's not a race or for the faint hearted – The event is designed to be the coldest, longest, hardest, most gruelling and uncomfortable test of endurance (on a scooter) in New Zealand.

Why do we do it? To raise money and awareness for cancer sufferers; and to

show our support for the hardship those living with cancer go through during their treatment.

The event was started back in 2009 which saw 32 riders and raised \$14,000 in donations for the Cancer Society. Since then the event has grown with over 250 scooters now taking part and to date it has raised just over \$789,000. The 2018 ride will be the sixth event, where it hopes to reach the one-million-dollar mark.

All money raised goes towards vital scientific research into the causes and treatment of all types of cancer, as well as providing health promotion and education programmes to reduce cancer risk, awareness campaigns and support and information services for people affected by cancer.

What we need is your help! We would like to be able to make a sizable donation



on behalf of New Zealand Freemasons that will really make a difference in the fight against this terrible disease. If you would like to sponsor our efforts as a Lodge or as individuals any contribution would be gratefully accepted.

Any Donations/Sponsorship can be paid into the Widows Sons Charity Account BNZ 02-0876-0001948-003

We will be riding 50cc scooters with an average speed of 30kms per hour on the open road. The purpose of the ride is to endure some hardship in support of those living with cancer. We hope that an 8-hour journey on a 50cc scooter traversing the Southern Alps in the middle of winter is worthy of your sponsorship.

For more info visit the Safari website: [www.scootersafari.co.nz](http://www.scootersafari.co.nz) or email Sam Rowntree: [samrowntree42@hotmail.com](mailto:samrowntree42@hotmail.com)



## Marathon from sea to shining sea

The Coast to Coast World Multi-Sport Championship event has been held every February for the past 36 years. This year over 960 competitors entered.

Starting from Kumara Beach on the West Coast of the South Island and it finishes on the East Coast at New Brighton, Christchurch, a distance of 243km.

Featuring a 3km run from the beach, the cyclist then cycles 55km to the runner who runs 33 km over the mountain range finishing at Klondyke Corner in the Arthurs Pass.

Day 2 begins with a 15km time trial by the cyclist, followed by a 67km kayak down the Waimakariri river where the cyclist then cycles the final 70 km to New Brighton.

One of the competitors this February was John Livingstone of the Manawatu Kilwinning Lodge. Part of a three-person

team John cycled the cycling legs totaling 140km.

When asked how he the oldest competitor at 79 years ever to compete in this event felt afterwards, he said "It was the toughest thing I have ever done. It's not the distances so much but the cumulative effect of doing it over two consecutive days, sleeping in a tent for two nights, and rising at 4.30 am each morning. That coupled with battling the easterly wind rising to 28km for the 70km ride to the finish tests both the body and the mind."

John's (who is 80) team of three featured his gym mate Lawrie, 72 years, who did the 33km run and Lawrie's daughter Ann a firefighter and an Olympic Kayaker who represented Samoa at the Rio Olympics. The team name 'Beyond Beelief' came from John's interest in beekeeping.

*John Livingstone*



# 150TH CELEBRATIONS 19–21 JANUARY 2018

## The St Andrew Kilwinning Lodge No 79, Wanganui



Wanganui's Heritage weekend on 19–21 January 2018 was an obvious choice for the St Andrew Kilwinning Lodge to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the formation of the Freemasons lodge.

As the name suggest the St Andrew Kilwinning Lodge was formed under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and was formally constituted on the 10 January 1868. The lodge since joined the Grand Lodge of New Zealand on the 12 May 1892, but proudly retains its Scottish ritual, custom and practices including the option to wear Scottish attire and partake in Celtic faire.

The founding fathers of the City are well represented in the membership of The St Andrew Kilwinning Lodge and a glance at the honours board will show most of the streets and parks in town, members have included

- ◆ two Governors General
- ◆ one Prime Minister (Hon John Ballance)
- ◆ two Members of Parliament
- ◆ one Victoria Cross recipient
- ◆ four or five Wanganui City Mayors.

The weekend events were attended by a number of out of town guests and several

overseas visitors came from as far away as Brisbane, Melbourne and Malaysia.

A highlight of the weekends activities was the opportunity for the members to be able to visit the former Bell street Lodge rooms which has been sympathetically converted into a home and

of the St Andrew Kilwinning Lodge until the final meeting on St Andrews night in December of 1998 following which, the Lodge moved to a modern single-story building on the corner of Dublin and Keith Streets.

Due to the significance of the milestone, the weekend of celebrations included an official visit from the Grand Master, MWBro Mark Winger who presided over the ceremony of rededication of the Lodge and formally presented the members of the Lodge with a



150th Jewel.



150th Certificate.

working artist/glass studio, whilst still retaining many of the original features of the Lodge building. In the Early days, the Lodge met in many different buildings around Wanganui including the Rutland Hotel, Oddfellows Hall and the Institute building, before a purpose-built Lodge rooms was constructed in Bell street (next door to the police station.) and consecrated on the 18 April 1884. The Bell Street Lodge rooms served as the home

jewel to commemorate the occasion. The formal part of the celebrations concluded with a formal dinner attended by lodge members, their partners and guests at The Grand Hotel on Saturday evening. The weekends festivities were concluded with a BBQ lunch at the Bason Botanical Gardens where His Worship the Mayor, Hamish McDouall attended to meet and address the out of town guests and overseas visitors.



Members of the Lodge assembled.



Oldest member with Master and Grand Master.

# Freemasons in action

## Marlborough gets a Past Grand Warden

Lodge Eckford 334 in Blenheim hosted Grand Master MWBro Mark Winger and accompanying Grand Lodge Officers for a special presentation in Marlborough on Saturday afternoon, 9 December. Masters from Nelson-Marlborough and brethren attended along with wives and partners for a special public presentation for RWBro Harry Halliday.



A local community newspaper published a photo of Eckford members with award recipient Brother Harry. Full coverage and reporting has featured on the Southern divisional website, with photographs with highlights from the visit. Lodge Eckford hosted an afternoon tea that was well received by the visitors. An informal dinner in the evening at the Woodbourne tavern was attended by Freemasons from all the Marlborough lodges and was a fitting end to a very special day

The full day of activities, including a ceremony in Picton hosted by Lodge Waitohi for the support they have given to the Edwin Fox project. The Grand Master, MWBro Winger added charity support – to the efforts and fundraising of Lodge Waitohi.

The Grand Master met with sitting Masters from the District in the Charles Street Freemasons Centre in Blenheim in a forum to discuss the 'Speak Up Programme'. Also, to offer practical assistance and resources to raise Freemasonry's profile in the district, and help lodges with their plans.

RWBro Halliday was awarded for the many years of service to the Freemasonry the rank of Past Grand Warden. MWBro Winger then invested Harry with the appropriate regalia, as a mark of respect for all Harry has contributed to Freemasonry. Harry was Initiated into the Lodge of Remembrance No 318 Invercargill in 1966; He was Master, Secretary Treasurer of Lodge Eckford No 334 at various times from 1993 to now in Blenheim He held various Grand Ranks up to Past Grand Warden 2017. In addition; Harry was a Member of the old Board of Benevolence (now The Freemasons Charity) 2001–16 and Chairman Nelson-Marlborough Freemasons Charity.

When Harry entered the craft, he knew very little about Freemasonry.



What he discovered was a fraternity that offered life-long friendships that is founded on the principles of tolerance, care, kindness, honesty, and trust – values he holds most dear.

As a young man he was looking for an organisation to join where he could enjoy the company of other men. He noted that we have many young men joining the craft and he hopes he can give them the support and encouragement he had received over the last 50 years from Freemasons throughout the New Zealand.



## Grand Master in Waipukurau at Woburn

Mark Winger Grand Master visited Waipukurau and Palmerston North over the weekend of 27–28 January 2018. It was his third official visit over what is normally the holiday period.

He presented Jim Logan PGW with his 60 Year Service Bar at The Woburn Lodge No 25 in Waipukurau with an excellence attendance of Freemasons and partners on Saturday afternoon. This was preceded with a meeting with the

Masters from Eastland Ruahine District and Lunch. It was followed on the Sunday morning with a meeting of the District Grand Masters and others in the Central Division in Palmerston North.





## Father and Son 50 and 25 Year Service Badge presentations

Bro Bob Pearson (50 Years) and his son Bro Jared Pearson (25 Years) at Titirangi – Mt Albert Lodge No 204 along with Bob's wife Glennis and daughter Juanita on a special night with a surprise visit from Mark Winger Grand Master to round it off.

A great masonic family double!

The Grand Master also met three potential candidates at this meeting.

What a great way to introduce potential candidates to a Lodge by allowing them to socialise with members, highlighting the attraction of being a Freemason, the longevity of membership and meet the Grand Master!



## Another 70 Year Freemason!

Harry Atkinson Past Master received his 70 Year Bar from Mark Winger Grand Master recently at Browns Bay Lodge No 346 in Auckland. A good crowd of Freemasons, family and friends were there to wish Harry well on this tremendous milestone.

The Grand Master was in attendance to mark this very special occasion.

Two Fellowcraft Freemasons Trent Barrett and Craigen Perrie demonstrated the connection between some of our newest and more experienced Freemasons (namely Harry).



Harry and his son Peter, some of the well-wishers, two Fellowcraft Freemasons and Harry with Grand Master Mark Winger and wonderful group photo with Harry Atkinson front and centre.



## Publicity for your community events – 3 steps

**BEFORE** Ensure someone is responsible for publicity, arrange for a photographer, plan photographs, involve recipients and find a hook that would interest local media.

**DURING** Seize good photo opportunities, concentrate on 'action' not 'satisfaction', get names for captions, make notes. If media comes ensure that they are looked after and opportunities set up.

**AFTER** Act quickly to spread the word, send press release and captioned high resolution photo, focussing on a newsworthy aspect to local media, district and divisional newsletter and *NZ Freemason*.

# Freemasons in action

## Supporting the Hub

The Southland Masonic Trust has donated \$20,000 to St John Invercargill as a contribution towards its proposed building, to be known as the St John Invercargill Hub. This will bring all St John emergency core and community based services into one purpose-built building, which will also serve as a base for out-lying health shuttle services and ambulance staff when patients are transported to Southland Hospital.

In addition, the Hub will service the district's vehicles, provide training rooms and general administrative facilities.

Back row: Phil Fraser, John Marshall, Bob Hill and Neil O'Rorke.

Front row: Owen Davis, Christine Baird, John Marshall and Ken Broad.

Janette Gellatly



## Freemasons support the Blind in Northland

Charities such as The Blind Foundation rely on money donated by communities to help them with their good work.

Thanks to the efforts of the organising committee of the Northland District Freemasonry's annual tournament, the Freemasons recently handed over a \$3000 to The Blind Foundation to support the work they do in Northland.

Bowlers, supporters, and a team of "behind the scene workers" turned out to the Kamo Bowling Club on November 28 for the tournament, which has been a feature of Northland District Freemasonry for 49 years.

Whangarei's Jacqui Gardner is one of those the foundation has helped. As a child she fell and developed a brain tumour which resulted in her starting to lose her sight from the age of 10.

Today Gardner, who is the mother of three sons, has some vision mainly limited to movement, colour and shapes. She, along with her guide dog Paris, has



taken up writing songs and can be found busking at Okara Plaza on Saturdays.

The cheque was accepted on behalf of the foundation by Theresa Liederberg who for the last three and a half years, has worked with the Blind Foundation in Auckland.

Liederberg is totally committed to raising awareness of the needs of people with who are sight impaired in our communities.

She points out that with the exodus of mature age people who have low vision from Auckland to Northland, the Blind Foundation's regional office at Kamo is always on the lookout for more volunteers.

"Donations such as the one from the Freemasons of Northland are greatly appreciated," she says.

## Freemasons and theme park!

the Freemasons who meet at Ferrymead Heritage Park in Christchurch are supporting the park in many ways and "Speaking Up for Freemasonry" at the same time.

There are four Lodges and other orders who meet there from three constitutions including Freemasons New Zealand and these signs are the brightest and newest at the park.

Initially requested for the monthly night market at which Freemasonry has an event – the design was changed slightly to be multi-use – which gives us more bang for our buck.



VWBro Gerald Robertson GDC Aaron Roper Night Market Manager and Jane Armstrong Event Marketing Manager.



# ANZAC Day 2018

Freemasons New Zealand and the Royal New Zealand Returned Services Association are about to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), to find ways to mutually assist each other where possible, and which has been approved by both Boards.

ANZAC Day is an important National Day of Commemoration in New Zealand and our Grand Master Mark Winger hopes that Lodges and their Members will find ways to participate appropriately in it, either before, during and or after ANZAC Day.

As a Fraternal and Charitable organisation, Freemasonry has a long and honoured connection with the events that led to this National Day of Commemoration, with many thousands of Freemasons serving and a number making the ultimate sacrifice.

Our organisation owes some of its previous strength to the need of servicemen to find ways to continue their fellowship forged in the mate-ship of those world conflicts.

This year also represents 100th Anniversary of the end of First World War. Lest we forget.



## Moving ceremony on 100th Anniversary of Passchendaele

A moving ceremony was held at Timaru Boys High School with Grand Master Mark Winger in attendance with WBro Jeff Elston.

Jeff's story here – my two Great Uncles 15902 Leonard Henry Dixon Hight & 15901 Cecil Morland Hight, both enlisted together, fought through the Somme, Messiene and died together at Passchendaele 12 October 1917 at 09.25 am, 200 yards from the German front line. This was witnessed and subsequent visit when returned

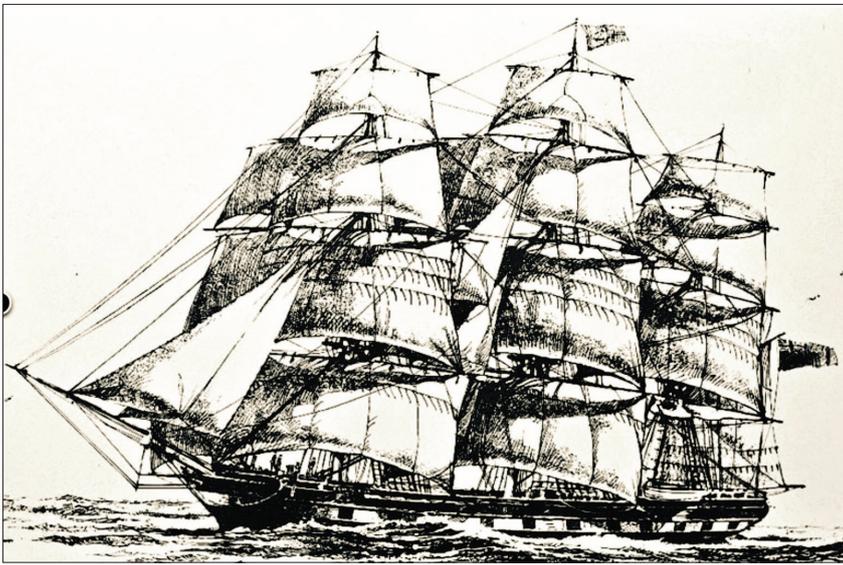
of Len's best friend at Timaru Boys High School, Lt Stephen Parr MC, who

retrieved their personal belongings and buried them in a shell crater together, with grid reference to later uplift their bodies for a decent burial. Both killed when an artillery shell landed between them.

Grand Master Mark Winger helped with this small service, at Timaru Boys High Memorial Library, to the very hour & minute, 100 years after they died.

A very moving remembrance for those brethren assembled.





# Preserving Maritime History

## Freemasonry Partnership with the Marlborough Heritage Trust

The *Edwin Fox*, which has been undergoing preservation in Picton, is the world's second oldest surviving merchant ship and the only surviving ship which transported convicts to Australia. The ship is dry-docked at the *Edwin Fox* Maritime Centre in Picton.

**T**hrough the initiative of Waitohi Lodge No.111, an on-going partnership has been formed between The Marlborough Heritage Trust and Freemasonry with the purpose of continuing the preservation of the *Edwin Fox*. This partnership was recognised at a function when, on last December 9, the Grand Master, MWBro Mark Winger, presented a cheque for \$15,000 to the Trust. This represented a 2:1 subsidy from The Freemasons Charity to boost the \$5,000 raised by the Lodge, largely through a project to cut and deliver firewood.

### The story of the *Edwin Fox*

The *Edwin Fox* was built at Sulkeali on the Ganges Delta, India in 1853, as a Moulmein Trader, she was the last of her type. Similar to those built for the East India Company she was constructed exclusively of teak and saul timber in just 9 months. She was sold to Sir George Hodgkinson of London prior to her launching and he named her *Edwin Fox*.

On her maiden voyage to London via the Cape of Good Hope she carried 10 passengers and a general cargo. Less than a year later she was purchased by Duncan Dunbar and was immediately put into service with the British Government as a troop ship for the Crimean War, reputedly carrying such illustrious



**TOP** Edwin Fox in its heyday.

**RIGHT** The Grand Master takes the wheel guided by WBro Dale Webb.

passengers as Florence Nightingale. After the fall of Sebastopol she was refitted out to again carry civilian passengers and general cargo.

*Edwin Fox* made her first voyage to the Southern Ocean on 14 February 1856 carrying 5 passengers and some cargo arriving in Melbourne on 28 May. The ship then spent a period trading between various Eastern ports culminating in a contract to carry 300 coolies from what was then Swatow in China to Cuba where they were destined to work in the cane fields. Large amounts of extra water had to be taken on this voyage.

In 1858, she was again chartered by the British Government to transport convicts to Fremantle in Western Australia.

Between 1858 and 1872 *Edwin Fox* was used primarily to sail between England and the East as a trader carrying a range of cargoes including several trips to India carrying a pale ale earning her the nickname of "Booze Barge". Later, it served as a troop ship again, making several voyages with troops from UK to Bombay and returning with casualties.

Duncan Dunbar died in 1863 and the ship was sold to Gallatly, Hankey & Company of London.

In 1873 the *Edwin Fox* was chartered by Shaw Savill Company to carry immigrants to New Zealand from England. She was to make four such voyages carrying a total of 751 passengers to the new colony.

By the 1880's the age of steam had arrived and the sheep industry in New Zealand was booming. *Edwin Fox* was fitted out as a floating freezer hulk and was used as such in several South Island ports. She was finally towed to Picton, arriving 12 January 1897, where she



ABOVE The hull today. BELOW A work in progress.



has remained ever since initially as a freezer ship, later as a coal hulk and now preserved under cover as a prominent tourist attraction.

In 1965 the *Edwin Fox* Society was formed and the ship was purchased for one shilling. She lay derelict in Shakespeare Bay for 12 years

subject to the ravages of the weather. Attempts were made to move the ship to Picton and volunteers worked for weeks to clear out her holds and refloat her. By Oct 1986 all statutory approvals had been granted and she assigned a permanent berth in Picton. Despite many problems building her dry dock she finally came to rest on 18 May 1999. The *Edwin Fox* now has Heritage New Zealand category 1 classification in recognition of her huge significance to New Zealand's maritime history.

*Morris Robertson*

*With thanks to The Marlborough Heritage Trust and Waitohi Lodge*



# We are not alone

## CAMP PURPLE LIVE 2018

The September 2017 issue of *New Zealand Freemason* carried the story entitled 'The invisible disease revealed', which described the problems encountered on a daily basis by those afflicted by Crohn's and Colitis disease, (collectively IBD). The article went on to describe the annual camp for IBD children, held that year in Waikanae, where they could interact and have fun with their peers with a mutual understanding of their condition.

Camp Purple Live 2018 took place over five days 5 days at Camp Adair, a YMCA Camp in the Hunua Ranges south-east of Auckland.

NZ Pacific Lodge No.2 was an early donor towards the cost of the 2016 camp and, as a result of Past Master, Adrian Douglas, visiting the camp on behalf of the Lodge, it was agreed that support for Camp Purple Live should be a major project for its 175th year.

Special visitors to the camp on the first day were the Grand Master, MWBro Mark Winger and the Northern Division Grand Almoner, VWBro Brian Crone. The atmosphere of the camp is best summed up in the words of the Grand Master.



### THERE IS PRECEDENT

While there is no cure for IBD, it is possible to make small, but meaningful changes, that can positively impact on the lives of those affected. In USA fifteen states have passed laws to assure access to toilets for those with medical illnesses. This began with the initiative of Ally Bain, a 14-year-old with Crohn's disease. While shopping in a retail store in Chicago, Ally needed a toilet urgently. Doubled over in pain, despite pleading to use the employee bathroom, she was denied access and had an accident in public. This is not an isolated occurrence. People with IBD often carry a change of clothes and plan their trips from home around the location of accessible toilets. Many choose not to venture far from the house.

Rather than let the situation be a source of discouragement and embarrassment, Ally and her family successfully worked for the passage of the first toilet act in the United States. Since the bill became law in 2005 in Illinois, 14 other states have passed similar legislation, as has the UK Government.



**ABOVE LEFT** Camp briefing, from left Mark Winger, Grand Master, Brian Poole, founder and Co-chair, Christine Ho, IBD charge nurse specialist, Dr Richard Stein, Co-chair and Brian Crone, Divisional Grand Almoner.



“Crohns disease seems to be flying under our radar – it is however an ailment we need to be aware of and to support those afflicted with it. Camp Purple provides a fun environment for the children facing challenges associated with Crohns disease, and helps communicate reliable information to the parents and families about treatments and support that is available.

While the children swim, climb, play, and cavort like youngsters do, their caregivers, who were invited for the first two days are being informed about the disease by volunteer experts from

around New Zealand. The level of peer support amongst the families is transparent and provides awareness that they are not unique, they face similar challenges, there are solutions and support mechanisms available, and Camp Purple is making a real positive difference to the level of quality in their lives.

I was tremendously impressed with the children I met at the Camp – fine young people, facing huge challenges, but doing so with determination and the great support of the Camp Purple team of volunteers”. In addressing the parents, who were

present on the first day, Mark Winger spoke about potential synergy with Camp Quality, which is also supported by Freemasonry and concluded by announcing that the donation of \$15,000 from NZ Pacific Lodge, supplemented by \$2,250 from Titirangi-Mt Albert Lodge, to support the camp would be increased to \$25,000.

The 2019 camp will be held near Christchurch in January. If your Lodge would like to offer support to this camp, please email: [info@crohnsandcolitis.org.nz](mailto:info@crohnsandcolitis.org.nz)

## Nicole's story

Nicole Thornton is a 13-year-old schoolgirl from Wainuiomata, who has Crohn's disease actively supports CCNZ as a Junior Ambassador.

The first signs of Nicole Thornton's inflammatory bowel disease showed up in her joints in primary school. As she grew, the pain shifted to her bowel, and she was diagnosed, aged 8 by an astute doctor, with Crohn's – an incurable disease where the body's immune system attacks healthy cells, causing serious inflammation and, on bad days, an urgent need to use a toilet.

“I used to have to always make sure there was a toilet around ... to feel safe,” Nicole, 12, said in the corridors of Parliament on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017.

In January 2017, she presented a petition to Parliament seeking a law change to require retailers to allow IBD sufferers access to their restrooms in areas where there are no public facilities available. The petition, initiated by 57 children and

young people at the 2017 Camp Purple Live, received 3,600 signatures in just over a week. Nicole presented the petition to her local MP, the Hon Trevor Mallard, now Speaker of the House.

Nicole says the petition aims to “make life more liveable” for the estimated 20,000 people living with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

“If this becomes law, this would be a huge step to help everybody with Crohn's and colitis to make life more liveable for them,” Nicole said.

“I've had a relapse a few times and they're horrible ... you get cramps in your stomach and your stomach turns and you're basically in the toilet the whole day.”



Nicole addressing a Parliamentary breakfast last year.

Crohn's and Colitis New Zealand issued a card to patients in 2016, which could be shown to shop owners to request the use of their toilets. But, some shop owners ask for an explanation, and had the right to turn people away, “We made this card so people can go, ‘Yes, here you go, through to the toilets.” Nicole said.

Story and photographs  
Morris Robertson



# Bledisloe: Our Twentieth Grand Master *Benefactor of Taonga to our Nation and Sport*

**A**t this time of the year our attention is often directed to the events surrounding Waitangi Day, but little mention is made of the gift from MWBro Bledisloe in 1932 which allows the land surrounding the Treaty House to remain available to the public.

Likewise, in a few short months for those interested in Rugby our attention will be drawn to the long-standing battle with our Australian cousins for the Bledisloe Cup again with little mention of Viscount Bledisloe himself.

Most New Zealanders if they are aware of him at all will (like myself) know little of the man as a person beyond the photos of a typically Edwardian gentleman in all his Gubernatorial finery.

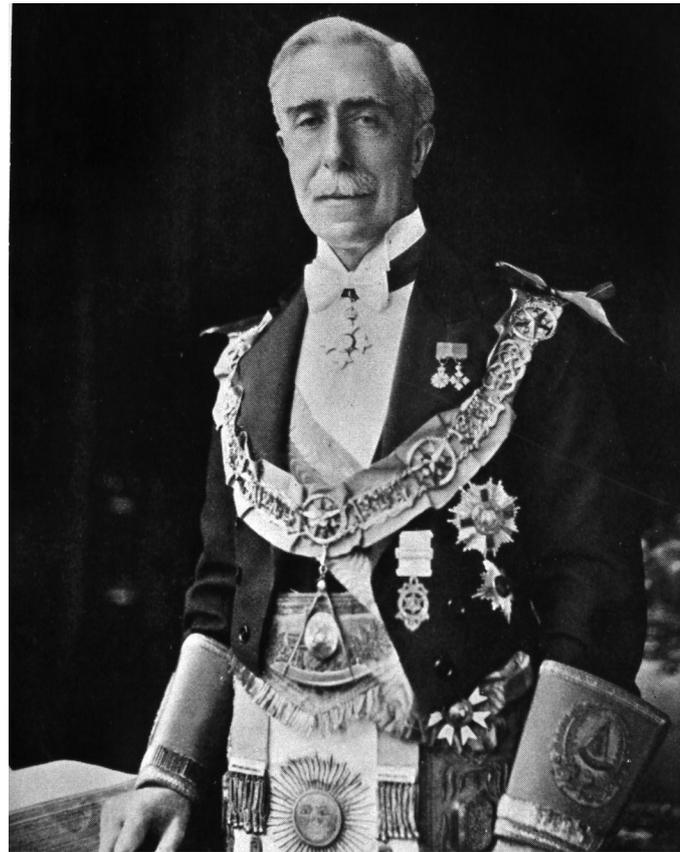
A short biography on Lord Bledisloe, which in summary notes, that he was born on 21 September 1867 as Charles Bathurst, the son of Charles Hiley Bragge Bathurst, a solicitor and his wife Mary Hay. The Bathurst name will be well known to many in connection with the races at Bathurst in New South Wales named after an earlier prominent member of his family, Henry Bathurst, 3rd Earl Bathurst, Secretary of State for War and the Colonies in 1815. The Bathursts have lived at their family seat at Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire since 1690. For those interested in trivia JR Tolkien was involved with archaeological research at the site of the roman temple on the estate.

MWBro Bledisloe followed his father as a lawyer but also became a politician being first elected to the UK House of Commons in 1910. He served in a number of capacities at varying levels of ministerial portfolios including that most interesting one of director of sugar distribution during the latter years of WWI. He was knighted for these services in 1917 and then the following year was elevated to the peerage as Lord Bledisloe, Baron of Lydney and Aylburton, Gloucestershire after the family estate. The name 'Bledisloe' was apparently taken from an ancient name for the area of the Lydney estate as he did not wish to offend the population of any particular

area and hence used an Anglo-Saxon name given to the area. Further ministerial roles followed after the war until he was appointed to succeed MWBro Sir Charles Fergusson as our fourth Governor General. He served in that role from March 1930 until March 1935, a period of some concern in New Zealand with the effects of the depression leading to the "Sugar Bag Years". All records show how committed he and his second wife (his first died in 1926 and he remarried in 1928) Lady (Alina) Bledisloe were to the whole gambit of our society. Their gift of the land for Waitangi Treaty Grounds was not the only tangible demonstration of their philosophies.

There is more evidence of their compassion shown in such as the items on Papers Past relating to the devastation of the Napier Earthquakes of 1931. This was in part demonstrated by their immediate return from a formal visit to the South Island to travel to Wellington then immediately to go to Hawkes Bay where on the Sunday following the devastation he addressed an open-air church service. They personally donated substantial funds (well over \$20,000 in current terms) to the appeal to both initiate it and sustain the progress in fund raising.

The Bledisloe Cup for contests between Australia and New Zealand was presented following the match in 1931 when apparently no physical presentation was made – Lord Bledisloe may have attended that match and noted this deficiency as it was shortly afterwards that he offered the NZ Rugby Union a suitable cup which we have been battling



The Right Honourable The Viscount Bledisloe GCMG, KBE, PC.



James Busby's house at Waitangi.

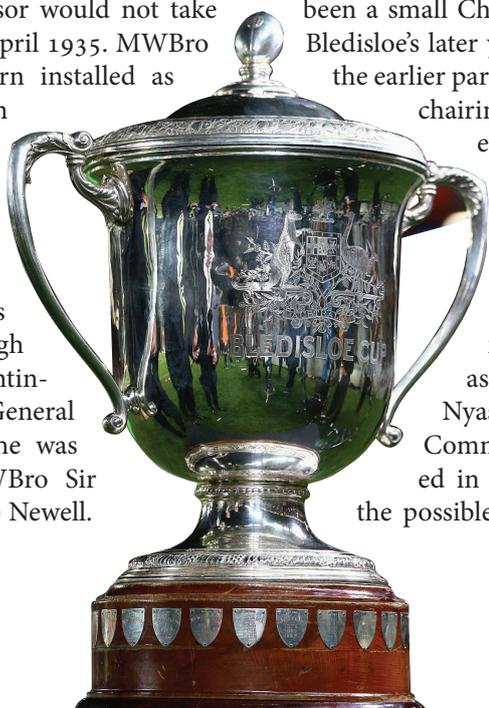
for ever since – the results still favour NZ considerably. Since we first played them in 1903 as a full international game, NZ has won 111 of the 161 games played with Australia winning 43 times and 7 games being drawn.

Just to slightly confuse readers there was also a number of other Bledisloe Cups, trophies and medals being presented from 1933 until recently for

NZ Chess Federation, NZ Gold Open, Order of St John Ambulance Cadet and Camera Clubs for competitions, the best kept native garden trophy awarded by the Wellington Horticultural Society and the Bledisloe Medal to the Canterbury Agricultural College. Lincoln (now Lincoln University).

As mentioned Lord Bledisloe followed MWBro Fergusson as Governor General and as Grand Master being installed as such at Christchurch on 26 November 1930. He had been initiated at the Apollo University Lodge No 357 EC at Oxford in 1887 when he was studying. The connection remains as members will recall this was the Lodge our current Grand Master, MWBro Mark Winger and RWBro Graham Wrigley, DepGM, had discussions with a member of while in England for the tercentenary of the UGLE. While in NZ Lord Bledisloe joined NZ Pacific Lodge No 2 whose Centennial records many visits by the Grand Master both to the Lodge and other masonic occasions during his term notwithstanding his extensive public commitments. There were only 2 Lodges consecrated during his term as Grand Master and he joined Hawkes Bay Research on its foundation (but not Lodge Kororareka).

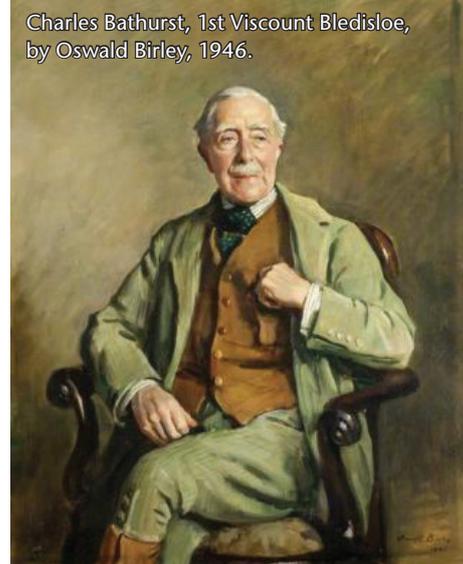
During his term as Grand Master he was supported by MWBros James H Harness of Westland and Sir Stephen Allen of Auckland as Pro Grand Masters for 1930–31 and 1932–33 respectively. Lord Bledisloe installed MWBro JJ Esson as Grand Master on 28 November 1934 possibly as his term as Governor General was rapidly closing and Viscount Galway, his successor would not take up that role until April 1935. MWBro Galway was in turn installed as Grand Master in November 1936 by MWBro Esson, serving until 1939 when he installed MWBro Charles J Ronaldson as his successor although due to WWII he continued as Governor General until 1941 when he was succeeded by MWBro Sir Charles (later Lord) Newell.



MWBro Bledisloe was also involved in both the Royal Arch as well as the Rose Croix while he was in New Zealand. His predecessor as Governor General, Sir Charles Fergusson had also served as First Grand Principal in 1928 but Bledisloe does not appear to have taken a similarly active role although both Galway and Newell also served as GM/GZ. Bledisloe's interest in matters masonic after returning to England is referred to in both RWBro Barclays' History of Grand Lodge as well as the Centennial history of NZ Pacific Lodge No 2. This interest is noted by RECompanion Ian Nathan in his Centennial History of Grand Chapter in recording that at the consecration of Bledisloe Chapter No 77 in 1941 the then Viscount Bledisloe "presented a very handsome chair for the use of the First Principal." Barclay also notes that "*he maintained a regular correspondence with his Masonic friends here until his death on 3 July 1958 at the age of 90 years.*"

His services as Governor General were acknowledged by HM King George V (a non-mason) on 28 June 1935 when he was created a Viscount and entitled as such as The Right Honourable The Viscount Bledisloe GCMG, KBE, PC, KStJ, DSc, LLd, DCL.

Shortly after their return to England the Bledisloes hosted six of the All Black team including George Hart at their estate in October 1935 as part of the 1935–36 Tour of Britain, Ireland and Canada. All members of the team were later presented with a silver ash-tray by the Bledisloes as what appears to have been a small Christmas gift. MWBro Bledisloe's later years were as busy as the earlier parts of his life including chairing the commission established in 1937 to investigate the future of the three British colonies in Central Africa. The Bledisloe Commission, also known as the Rhodesia-Nyasaland Royal Commission, was appointed in 1937–39 to examine the possible closer union of the



three territories of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Te Ara also records his involvement with many horticulture activities as well as being the Chairman of the National Council of Social Service from 1935 to 1938 and the President of the Museums Association in 1939.

During WWII he and Lady Bledisloe offered their estate at Lydney as a convalescent home for New Zealand service personnel first in September 1939 then more generally. They also hosted evacuee children at their estate during the worst periods of the war – they moved out of the main house to allow it to be used as a school for evacuee girls and lived during the war in a small house on the estate.

Lord Bledisloe returned briefly to NZ in 1947 on a tour in part for the Royal Agricultural Society of England via Australia. However, he undertook several other engagements including officiating at the inauguration of the Great Priory of NZ for the Most Venerable Order of St John where he installed the Governor General WBro Sir Bernard Freyberg VC as the Order's first Grand Prior.

MWBro Lord Bledisloe died, aged 90, at Lydney on 3 July 1958. He died after a life well "spent in acts of piety and virtue" in the service to his country and ours being respected and remembered in numerous ways including the trophies and cups mentioned before as well as considerable numbers of locations, streets or roads, parks (including that in Papakura being the site of scouting camps) and the like around New Zealand.

Alan Hart



## Youth theatre transforms young lives



**The Foundation has recently helped an organisation dedicated to the development of young people through performance of on-stage theatrical shows. The National Youth Theatre Company is devoted to creating opportunities and generating confidence and life skills for children through the performing arts.**

James Doy, General Manager & Music Director of NYTC told us more:

“Our programmes can take a child from shyly hiding at the back of the room to confidently standing centre stage, and these changes impact their whole lives. Our students go on to deliver speeches in their classes, to confidently interact with their peers, to more well-rounded lives. Some are inspired to a career in the theatre, all benefit from the unique experience.

Through our OnStage programme, up to 220 students at a time can participate in two full-scale musical productions every year. Any young person aged 7-21 is offered the opportunity to participate and no audition is required to be a part of any of National Youth Theatre Company’s programmes. Every student performs in every show, and all lead roles are triple-cast, to maximise the opportunities available.

Our OnStage students go through a four month journey, discovering a major work of musical theatre and learning new skills and disciplines. At the end of the rainbow are professionally supported performances at the Aotea Centre, on one of the biggest stages in New Zealand.

Our rapidly expanding Outreach Programme is working with students who couldn’t otherwise afford the experience, both through our own endeavours and in partnership with Variety, the Children’s Charity. We’re partnering with low decile schools, fully funding them to come and see our shows, and then following up with the offer of full scholarships to their students to join our OnStage Programme. Our aim is that this year 20% of our

intake will be scholarships to deserving students. Over our last two productions, more than 6,000 students and teachers from 33 schools were fully sponsored, including transportation, to see the performances.

At NYTC we focus on developing the next generation of emerging professionals, Many young technicians now working full-time in the industry got their start on an NYTC production. We ensure our high standards are maintained by contracting a core of seasoned professionals to support both our cast and the development of our tutors and technicians. Our inspirational Artistic Director Jonathan Alver is hugely experienced and before moving to New Zealand directed and produced on the West End.

Next on the agenda for us is Andrew Lloyd Webber’s CATS at the Aotea Centre, June 22-23, followed by Shrek the Musical at the Civic, Nov 30 - Dec 1. We hope you will join us and be inspired by the enthusiasm and talent of all those involved. We are grateful to the Freemasons Foundation for their support.”



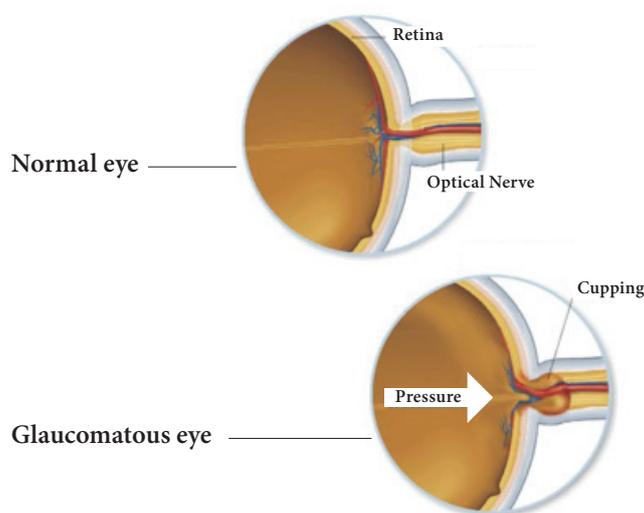
# Speaking out on glaucoma - the silent disease



About 91,000 New Zealanders over the age of 40 have the eye disease glaucoma, and more than half don't know they have it. That means there is a very real possibility they will go completely blind. Glaucoma is the number one preventable cause of blindness in New Zealand and with the help of the Freemasons Foundation, Glaucoma New Zealand aims to eliminate it.

A charitable trust established in 2002, Glaucoma New Zealand's full aims include enhancing public awareness about glaucoma, supporting and informing people with glaucoma, educating eye health workers and facilitating research. "Glaucoma is a silent disease, you can be legally blind before you notice the symptoms," Chairwoman of Glaucoma New Zealand Professor Helen Danesh-Meyer says.

"The key message for all New Zealanders is that early detection of glaucoma is vital when it comes to preventing blindness."



*The following is extracted from the Glaucoma NZ website*

## What is Glaucoma?

Glaucoma is the name given to a group of related diseases where the optic nerve (at the back of the eye) is being damaged. The nerve fibres progressively die taking away the peripheral or side vision first. Therefore visual loss goes undetected until it is quite advanced.

Glaucoma causes irreversible damage to the optic nerve. The nerve cannot be repaired but damage can be prevented by early detection and appropriate treatment.

## Diagnosis

Glaucoma is diagnosed by assessing the optic nerve and its functions including the visual field. Glaucoma is present when the optic nerve is damaged in a particular manner called glaucomatous cupping. Risk factors include eye pressure, age, ethnicity and family history. **It is wrong to think: "I have no symptoms therefore I do not have glaucoma."** Glaucoma damage occurs progressively over a long period of time before you are aware of it.

## Testing for Glaucoma

Glaucoma NZ recommends testing once by 45 years of age and 5 yearly thereafter. People with higher risk factors such as a family history of the disease, may need more frequent eye examinations.

## Public Meetings

To find out more, join one of these public information meetings.



Auckland West	7 April
Taupo	19 May
Hamilton	20 May
Palmerston Nth	23 June
Auckland Central	14 July
Auckland East	4 August
Blenheim	22 September
Nelson	23 September
Christchurch	6 October
Whakatane	10 November

For dates, venues and times check Glaucoma NZ's website  
[www.glaucoma.org.nz](http://www.glaucoma.org.nz)  
Or: Tel :0800 452 826 email: info@glaucoma.org.nz

# Charting a way ahead

## Future scientists seek new solutions to current problems

Forty talented science students from around New Zealand explored, discovered and shared innovative solutions to future problems during a week last December. Organised by Royal Society Te Aparangi in partnership with Freemasons New Zealand, the **Powering Potential** programme allowed the students the opportunity to work together in teams with input from a scientist, to research and come up with possible solutions to the question posed by their science mentor.

The principal goals of Powering Potential are to inspire participants to be catalysts for positive change in the future and to empower them to realise their potential contribution and participation in the sciences and technology areas.

After less than 48 hours, the students presented their ideas to an audience, which included the Grand Master, MWBro Mark Winger and several other Freemasons. They received feedback from their science mentors, who were all impressed with how quickly the students had come to grips with the topics given to them and the creative solutions they had come up with.

The presentation ceremony began with introductions from The CEO of the Royal Society, Andrew Cleland, and the Grand Almoner, VWBro Bob Monson. Each team then presented in



2017 participants.

turn, followed by comments from their mentor.

Team **Te Pūtaiao ō Rūaumoko** gave insights into how to balance building

safety in an earthquake with other social aspects, using the Christchurch cathedral as a case study. Their science mentor was Alistair Cattnach, Director, Dunning Thornton.

Team **Pāua to the People** used paleo-climate data and marine fossil records to show that rising sea acidity and warmer oceans will likely cause mass extinctions of our marine species like has happened in the past and urged all take action on climate change. Their science mentor was Dr Kate Sparks from the Marine Department at the University of Otago.

**Hour Team** questioned whether New Zealand should continue to have daylight



The Lawn Moas with their mentor.



The Brodents with their mentor.

savings, given the disruption it causes to body clocks and noted the trend to stop applying it in other areas of the world. Their science mentor was Dr Lora Wu, Sleep/Wake Centre, Massey University.

Team **Lil' Rusty** described the pathogens behind kāuri dieback and myrtle rust and came up with a suite of possible solutions for each including self-cleaning hiking boots and empowering communities and Iwi to help reduce the pests spreading. Their science mentor was Dr Kirstin Wurms from Plant & Food Research.

Team **The Lawn Moas** explored the ethics of de-extinction of iconic New Zealand species such as the moa, but cautioned whether this would take resources from conserving our many threatened species. They asked «Extinction may soon not be forever, but should we still allow it in our future?» Their science mentor was Dr Lara Shepherd from Te Papa.

Team **The Brodents** explored the topic of animal research and the possible

ways to further the 3 Rs: replace, reduce, refine and ensure the 5 freedoms (such as the freedom from thirst and hunger). Looking at rats, they came up with innovative solutions for the animals to modify their own cages for comfort. They argued that eventually we should

be able to use accurate computer models in place of animal testing. Their science mentor was Dr Nicky Watson from the Ministry of Primary Industries.

Team **The Pathogeniuses**, created the story of Tyrone, skilfully explaining how overcrowded, damp and poorly-heated heated houses and second-hand smoke can lead to infectious diseases in young people. Their science mentor was Dr Donia Macartney-Coxon from ESR.

Team **The Vacteens** explored how vaccinations may assist us against the rise in antibiotic resistance but some surveying they did of the public suggested there may be some social resistance to overcome. Their science mentor was Dr Benji Compton from the Ferrier Institute, Victoria University of Wellington.

At the conclusion of the presentations a social function was held to allow the students to mingle with the guests. Powering Potential is just one of the many areas where Freemasonry can be seen to be supporting the youth of New Zealand, many of whom destined to become leaders in their field.

*Story and photographs Morris Robertson with thanks to The Royal Society*



Relaxing after the presentation.





The Freemasons  
Charity

# Honouring our widows

## *The special role of the Almoner – a person of rank*

The Oxford Shorter Dictionary defines “Almoner” as “an official distributor of alms of another, a functionary in a religious house, in the house of a Bishop, a person of rank”.

Historically almoners were Christian religious officers whose duty was to distribute alms to the poor. Monasteries were required to spend at least one tenth of their income on charities for the poor (a tithes). Bishops kept their own almoners and almoners were also attached to the courts of the kings of France. Charles VIII of France had a Grand Almoner in his employ. In Britain, the Marquess of Exeter also holds the title of ‘Hereditary Grand Almoner’.



the Installation, his duties are stated as: *to visit the sick and needy and to dispense such comforts, as in your opinion, are necessary, reporting thereon to the Lodge at the first opportunity thereafter.*

In some Lodges, the Almoners duties extend very much to the lodge widows as well as to our own Brethren. When a brother passes away he may leave behind a wife or partner who has been associated with Freemasonry for many years. We assume all ‘widows’ are “masonic friendly” and many will have spent years of discussing lodge matters with their husbands/partners. Their inevitable solitude as a consequence is considerably relieved

when they know of our masonic belief in their continuing care.

From *The Toolbox* we learn that there are many good practices to be adopted on how your Lodge can involve and care for your Lodge widows. These include:

That every Masonic widow, at the earliest opportunity, is approached with the assurance that their future will include brethren who will willingly assist them in times of need.

The Masonic Widows pin is a brooch that can be worn at any Freemasons function they may attend worldwide. It has universal recognition that any assistance required by the wearer will receive the immediate attention of any Freemason approached in moments of distressed circumstances.

Invite the Widows to regular Lodge social functions as a guest of the Lodge and offer to provide transport.

Each year The Freemasons Charity sources a “gift for no reason” for distribution to widows. Giving of this gift provides a good opportunity for the Master and/or the Almoner to visit the recipient.

When a lodge closes and members from the closed lodge are welcomed into their new lodge the widows need to be included in that welcoming process. Likewise, Brethren should keep their ears open for any Masonic widows who have moved in from another District.

Although an Almoner is appointed, the very nature of Freemasonry makes every member a potential Almoner and we should all try to help in our own way, where possible. The Lodge Almoner should, therefore, act as a coordinator and, to this end, Brethren who have any information regarding sickness or distress amongst Brethren or their families, are asked to contact. It is also important to make contact with widows who have moved address.

Today, one of the most prominent offices is that of the Anglican Lord High Almoner, who is responsible for organising the Queen’s annual distribution of Maundy money on Maundy Thursday. The “Almoner of His Holiness” is the Pope’s official almoner. He is charged with carrying out works of charity in accordance with the criteria employed during the Pope’s lifetime and continues in office even after the Pope dies.

However, while the job of the Lodge Almoner is not quite so grand, he is nevertheless “a person of rank within the Lodge”. When the Almoner is invested at



## THE BROKEN COLUMN

The broken column memorializes the end of our earthly life. Surrounding the broken column are acacia leaves, symbolic of our eternal life. It can be presented to the Widow at an appropriate time in a caring and compassionate way, and only to widows that are positive about Freemasonry.





# On the conveyer belt

It is with pride that we read of the achievements of our Freemasons University Scholars subsequent to the receiving of their scholarships. We have long accepted that our programme may only be a stepping stone, and gateway, to higher goals on the conveyer belt of education. While we applaud their successes, we do encourage them to eventually return and give back to their country. What follows is feedback from three 2017 scholars and a postscript from a 2001 scholar who has experienced a hyper-speed conveyer belt.

## Charlotte Steel

In the process of completing a BSc, majoring in neuroscience Otago University scholar, Charlotte Steel, received a Freemasons University Scholarship in 2017. Charlotte is now the recipient of a three-year Cambridge-Rutherford Memorial PhD Scholarship. Up to two Cambridge-Rutherford Memorial PhD Scholarships are awarded each year. These are jointly funded by the Rutherford Foundation and the Cambridge Commonwealth, European and International Trust.

They are intended to provide full support to enable completion of a PhD at the University of Cambridge in pure or applied science. Charlotte's PhD project is titled "how protein misfolding can be prevented in neurodegenerative disease". She will receive a living allowance of approximately £13,900 per annum, and will have her course and college fees

paid. In addition, she is eligible for one, non-transferable, return airfare between the United Kingdom and New Zealand per annum.



Charlotte Steel



Nathanael Walker-Hale.

## Nathanael Walker-Hale

Nathanael, who was an undergraduate Freemasons University Scholar in 2017 is one of the three recipients of the Woolf Fisher Scholarship, worth \$300,000, giving him a free ride to study at Cambridge University. He will be using his scholarship to undertake a PhD, majoring in plant sciences. Nathan plans to study the evolution of traits that were highly significant in the context of plant evolution. He says that. "This research is important for crop improvement in challenging environments and is also economically important to New Zealand growers". Having previously studied at Cambridge, in conjunction with his Victoria University degree he is excited to return without having to worry about any financial burden.

## Kimberley Whitwell

Lincoln University undergraduate scholar, Kimberley, having completed her Bachelor of Environmental studies is now the recipient of a "Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia". She is currently in

Zhuhai where she has been placed in a charity for eight weeks. Kimberley hopes to find employment in the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. Otherwise, she may continue with postgraduate studies. To quote Kimberley. "I feel very lucky and thankful that I was selected as a Freemasons Scholar, which has enabled me to relax a bit on the financial side during my last undergraduate year. I never thought in a

million years that I would receive one, or even two, scholarships. The Freemasons scholarships gave me the confidence to feel that I had worked hard enough to be worth it".

## Postscript

At the 2017 Scholarships Award Ceremony, the Parliamentary Host, newly elected MP for Mt. Albert, Jacinda Ardern spoke of her 2001 undergraduate scholarship, saying with pride. "The Freemasons Scholarship enabled me to go beyond the ticking of a box and realise that education is a conveyer belt to jump on and off throughout one's career. In the past nine months Jacinda has been Electorate MP, Deputy Leader and subsequent Leader of the Opposition, Prime Minister and mother-to be. Now, that's some conveyer belt!



*Morris Robertson*

# The Spirit of Freemasonry 2018

For every dozen Freemasons initiated only a handful follow up on their freemasonry, journeying from rote learning of words in the ceremonial book to practice in their lives. A good working knowledge of our ceremonial is not enough in itself, so what else is needed. The following events answer this question.

During a meeting of people with differing faiths the discussion centred around the various ways our religions were similar and how they differed. All the people present came to realise that the basic tenets were the same: don't steal, don't kill, tell the truth, don't cheat, help people in distress, share what you have, be kind to everyone. However, at some stage there was disagreement about the correct name of God and how he should be worshiped.

After a few minutes of heated debate, one member (a wise old priest) told us **not to confuse religion with God and this stopped the discussion in its tracks**. "What do you mean, don't confuse God with religion, religion is all about God isn't it?" someone asked. "Not true", said the old priest. "Religion is man-made – God isn't" he replied. We had to take some time to understand what he had just said. The rest of that meeting was very constructive for us in understanding our spiritual awareness of God. Religion and spiritual awareness are not the same thing, in fact, they are miles apart.

To be a Freemason you have to acknowledge a spiritual awareness of a supreme being (notice how we cleverly avoid any argument about the name of God). Each of us has his own understanding of what a supreme being is and this is OK because a supreme being will be greatly beyond our understanding. Many writers agree on this and then go on to tell us what God wants and how God wants us to behave. All these ideas are in the minds of human people and

probably bear no resemblance to the truth because of our limited understanding. The important thing is that we have a belief in some guiding power outside our own self, some spiritual force much greater than ourselves. This leads me to two interesting questions: the first is why was this condition put into our society in the first place; the second is, "What is the Spirit of Freemasonry?"



To answer the first question, there are several reasons, not least is that our founding fathers lived in days when the church in Scotland, England and France had a firm grip on society so no gathering could meet without some acknowledgement of the importance and influence of God. Those writing our original rules and regulations had the foresight to avoid using the word 'God' and thus avoiding difficulties with different religious groups.

It was probably due to that early influence that we start our meetings with a prayer, just like Parliament, the Scouting movement and, many other societies. We invoke blessings on Candidates and

ourselves thereby acknowledging the presence of a Supreme Being – yes, the presence – meaning that we believe that this spirit is actually present in the room with us. In one of our closing prayers we refer to "the all-seeing eye observes us". To some Freemasons these may be words used in the ceremonial, to others these words have deep significance. For many these words represent an ingrained, almost primeval feeling which is at the core of our very existence. It could be that it is this feeling that makes a good man better and leads to that bonding which we call brotherly love.

So, the second question about the spirit of Freemasonry. How would you describe the spirit of Freemasonry to a non-free-mason? This would provide a useful topic of discussion for 10 minutes in a Lodge meeting instead of putting the Lodge at ease in the middle of the ritual when a Candidate goes out to restore himself to his personal comforts.

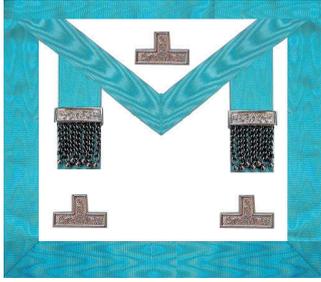
Several pointers that might get you started are: What attributes and characteristics should be included? What should definitely be excluded? How tolerant of other Freemasons' ideas would you be prepared to be?

Please let me know your views by e-mail: [drgeorgeallan@gmail.com](mailto:drgeorgeallan@gmail.com)

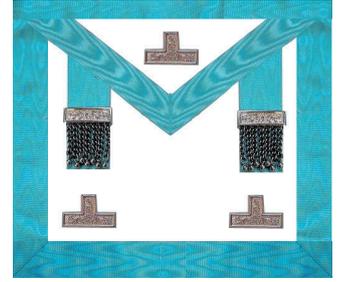
This would make an informative article for our Masonic Education webpages to be found at [www.themasons.org.nz/cdiv/education.php](http://www.themasons.org.nz/cdiv/education.php)

These pages are worth a look as I have been collecting articles of interest and putting them up on the web for about two years now. The pages are arranged in layers which you get to by clicking a drop-down box. Some of the pages are password protected so you will need the passwords of the various degrees in the Craft. The road to success has two necessary rules: Rule 1 = Begin; Rule 2 = Continue.

*Dr George Allan PGLc*



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## New First Aid Courses by Red Cross

New Zealand Red Cross gives you the choice of how to complete your First Aid course. Choose between face to face classroom style or m-learning (mobile-learning) using the First Aid App to learn and understand the basics, followed by a face-to-face practical skills workshop.

### How you learn is your choice

#### Unit Standards 6402, 6401 and 6400

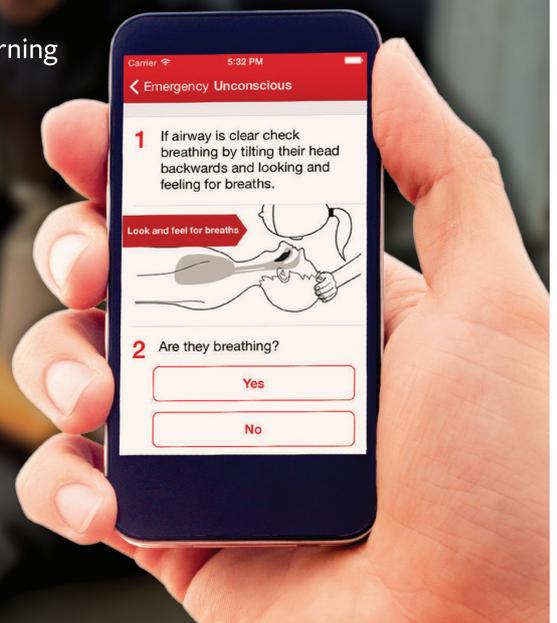
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#### Unit Standards 6402 and 6401

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#### Revalidation Course

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- Workplace Revalidation app pre course learning + 4 hours – Skills workshop



**Book your course now**  
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# Take a small step towards wellbeing

**We all face challenges to our mental health. Depression and anxiety can change the way we think, feel and deal with tough times.**

It's good to have a range of ways for dealing with the feelings, thoughts or behaviour that can come with depression and anxiety, and visiting the **depression.org.nz** website can support you to identify those small steps to help get you on the path to enjoying life again.

The website includes steps for getting well, information about staying well, places to go for help, advice for people who are supporting others, and videos of people across New Zealand sharing their own stories to inspire others, as well as the website's self-help tool – *The Journal*.

Here are some small steps towards wellness you can take today.

## Look after yourself

Looking after your body with physical activity, good food and sleep will also help you look after your brain. Try going to the beach or local park and listening to the sounds of nature, or get your hands dirty in the garden. Get out and do something physical like going for a run, walk or playing a round of golf.

## Take some of the stress out of life

Taking care of your mental or emotional health is important and being strong mentally means you're better prepared for life's challenges. Taking steps like postponing major life changes until you're feeling better, or taking a break from work if you can, and relaxation techniques such as yoga, meditation and breathing exercises can help.

## Connect with friends or whānau

Connecting with people can help you feel better faster and stay well for longer. Meet a friend for a cuppa, spend more time with the children or grandchildren, attend family get-togethers or help out at the local community centre.

Your family, your whānau and your community can be your strength, providing a strong sense of belonging and support. Getting involved, spending time with others, and even doing things for others can give you a feeling of purpose and wellbeing.

## The Journal with Sir John Kirwan (JK)

*The Journal* is a free online self-help programme. It's easy to use and all you need is access to a computer or mobile device. JK, alongside mental health experts, will take you through a series of online lessons to cover everything you need to know, including:

- How to stay positive
- How to create lifestyle changes that improve mental health, and
- Three steps to problem solving

Find out more about how *The Journal* can teach you the skills to help yourself at **depression.org.nz**



*depression.org.nz*

**Depression.org.nz** is supported by a free and confidential 24/7 helpline **0800 111 757** and text services **4202** (for adults) provided by the National Telehealth Service.

**Thelowdown.co.nz** website is available to help young people navigate life's ups and downs and is also supported by a free and confidential text service **5626**.



## Staying well at work

Research shows there are five simple things you can do as part of your daily life, at work and at home, to build resilience, boost your wellbeing and lower your risk of developing mental health problems. These simple actions are known internationally as the Five Ways to Wellbeing – Connect, Keep Learning, Be Active, Give and Take Notice.

### Why the Five Ways work:

- 1. Connect:** Strengthening relationships with others and feeling close to and valued by others, including at work, helps us stay motivated and engaged.
- 2. Keep Learning:** Being curious and seeking out new experiences at work and in life positively stimulates the brain.
- 3. Be Active:** Being physically active, including at work, improves physical health and can improve mood and wellbeing and decrease stress, depression and anxiety.
- 4. Give:** At work, a culture of giving helps to build a positive emotional environment and promotes connection, empathy and team work.
- 5. Take Notice:** Using attention to increase awareness, concentration, and focus on the current moment and task at hand, has been shown to improve wellbeing and mood.

### The Five Ways in action:

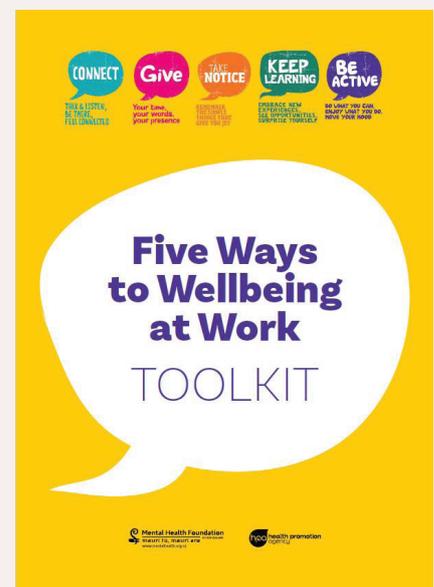
- **Connect** with the people around you. Organise a shared lunch. Talk or phone instead of emailing.
- **Keep Learning.** Try something new. Rediscover an old interest. Take on a new responsibility at work.
- **Be Active.** Break up long periods of sitting. Step outside. Try a walking meeting.
- **Give.** Do something nice for a teammate. Thank someone. Volunteer your time.
- **Take Notice.** Look out the window. Have a break from digital devices. Do one thing at a time.

### Five Ways to Wellbeing at Work Toolkit

The Five Ways to Wellbeing at Work Toolkit is a stepped guide to improving mental wellness in the workplace. It includes fact sheets, tips, tools and templates to make it easy for workplaces to support their people to build the Five Ways into their daily lives.

The Five Ways to Wellbeing at Work Toolkit is available at:

[www.mentalhealth.org.nz/fivewaysworktoolkit](http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/fivewaysworktoolkit)



The Mental Health Foundation and Health Promotion Agency developed the toolkit in partnership to enable New Zealand workplaces to flourish.

# Grand Master reminisces on 50 years of Masonic Chapel

Nearly 90 Freemasons, Partners and Friends attended a service commemorating 50 years of the Chapel at the former Roskill Masonic Village. Here are the Grand Master's reminiscences of 50 years of the chapel...

The Founding Trustees of the Northern Masonic Association Trust Board were remarkable in not only conceiving the idea of a Village but also in perceiving the need for a Chapel.

The Village came first. With no Chapel on site, a Thanksgiving Service was held at the Cathedral Church of St Mary of Auckland on Sunday 12 March 1961 on the occasion of the Official Opening of the Roskill Masonic Village.

Services were then held on site, in the Residents' Lounge. Some of you will remember that room with its view out towards the flag pole and the rose



Edgar Faber Memorial Chapel/Chapel of the Good Shepherd.

garden. Perhaps you attended one of the weekly services.

It wasn't an ideal situation so the fundraising began for a dedicated Chapel. The plans were drawn and in 1966 the contract was let for the building work. It was expected to be completed in 30 weeks.

But as with all building work it took longer. The building was not officially opened until 24 February 1968, two years later. Fifty years ago yesterday.

We are here today to celebrate that important milestone.

The opening was a grand affair with the Governor General, Sir Arthur Porritt and Lady Porritt. And in keeping with an ecumenical church, a number of faiths were involved. The consecrating

Chaplain was Rev Alexander (Sandy) Marshall, recently retired as the Minister at Somervell Presbyterian Church, with His Lordship the Bishop of Auckland, Eric Gowing, and His Grace Archbishop Liston also participating. The weather was perfect, just like today, with nearly 2,000 Brethren and their wives present.

One of the Northern Board's founding Trustees and the first Chairman had been a prime mover for the Chapel. He did not live to see it finished but in recognition of his foresight, the Chapel was named in honour of him, The Edgar Faber Memorial Chapel.

This building has many happy memories for us all, whether just in normal worship, or because of personal connections with all the marriages, baptisms and funerals held here.

Some features stand out.

The beautiful leadlight window in the East was a present to the Village by the Trustees of the ASB.

The four small windows represent the Coats of Arms of the four Constitutions, the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, Ireland and New Zealand.

The Chapel Organ dedicated on Sunday 12 October 2003 in the memory of the Very Reverend John Rymer, Past Chaplain of the Village.

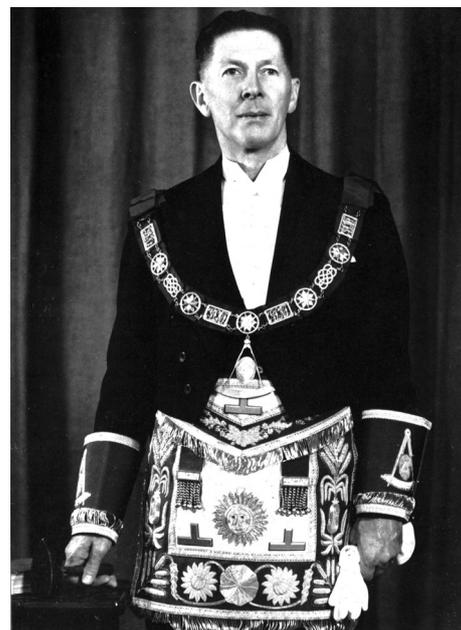
Throughout the chapel can be seen examples of the striking furniture, beautifully crafted by Warren Howard, the most recent addition being this Reserve Sacrament Box to my left, presented in November 2012.

There have also been a number of people involved over the years in running the chapel. Just a few of the names (and apologies that it is not a full list) will bring back memories:

*The Sacristans:* Ian Kerr, Joe McManemin, Dennis Greenstreet, Alan Bucheler, Bob Price, Frank Robbins, Bruce Anderson, Ed Parnell, Ken Galley, John Kernohan, and now Ian Boshier

*The Organists:* John Wentworth, Marilyn Goodall, Rodney Vialoux, Harvey Sadgrove, David Vujanic, Susan Gaddis, Les Borrell, Ian Carey

*The Florists:* Olive McEwen



Edgar Faber PGM.

*The Chaplains:* David Calder, Sandy Marshall, John Cumming, Adam McFarlane, Ernie Walsh, John Rymer, James Withers, Mark Anderson, Paul Clark, Marianne Hornburg and now Lucy Nguyen.

There have been many changes over the last fifty years and there will continue to be changes over the next fifty years as society continues to develop. Since November 2005, the Selwyn Foundation have treasured this building as the Masonic fraternity did before them. We are grateful to the Selwyn Foundation for their continued support of Lodge attendance at Sunday worship.

We all have our own memories of this building and all that has happened within it but let me close with a story from the past.

One past Chaplain, The Rev Ernie Walsh, had a prolific memory. He was able to quote poetry and scripture by heart. Mrs Walsh would sit in the rear pew and, when the time was right, she would hold up her left hand, tapping her wrist watch indicating it was time for her husband to stop talking.

On that note, I too take my leave – I do hope you will join us for morning tea adjacent and lets continue to reminisce about the first fifty years of this Chapel.

# Let your money work for you

Heartland Bank is proud of its association with Freemasons New Zealand via the Freemason Deposit Scheme. We appreciate the loyalty extended to us by Freemason members, and are pleased to be able to continue to offer competitive savings rates.

The table below lists the deposit account options with interest rates, features and suggested optimal usage.

All term deposits also attract an additional 0.4% p.a. interest, which is paid as commission directly to the Grand Lodge on a monthly basis.

Heartland encourages comparison of these rates with competitor banks and is confident the rates provided are competitive in today's market.

We look forward to continuing our long standing relationship with the Freemasons.

Please do not hesitate to contact your local Heartland Branch or ring 0508 373 362 if you have any questions or wish to implement any changes.

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Direct Call Account	Individuals – for short term monies on call	2.75% p.a.	Funds can only be paid away to one nominated account.	Nil
Term Deposits	Longer term deposit needs providing a fixed interest rate	Varies according to term. Interest can be compounded or paid away	Minimum deposit \$1,000. For terms of 12 months or longer with a minimum of \$50,000, interest can be credited monthly.	Nil



# THE MASONIC VILLAGES

## New Masonic village welcomed by local community

The mayor of Lower Hutt and representatives of the local community have welcomed the decision of The Masonic Villages Trust to build a new retirement village near the centre of Wainuiomata, one of the city's outlying suburbs.

It will be the first 'greenfield' village development by the Trust since stage one of Manadon Masonic Village was opened in New Plymouth in September 2015. Since then the Trust has rebuilt the retirement community at Woburn Masonic Village, Lower Hutt, replacing dated single-story units with Woburn Apartments, a stunning boutique development.

With a resource consent in hand, the Trust is now wasting no time in getting groundworks for the Wainuiomata Village underway while the soil is still relatively dry. The village will be built in stages over several years on former council reserve land, with the aim of having the first retirement villas ready to occupy by spring 2019.

Trust chief executive Warick Dunn says the villas will be followed by community facilities and finally by the rest home and hospital. On completion, the village will house around 200 people in total.

In the retirement community, there will be 80 single-story villas available in single, two- and three-bedroomed options. The rest home and hospital will provide beds for up to 60 residents and become one of the largest local employers.

Lower Hutt mayor Ray Wallace says the decision is great news for the suburb, particularly its elderly residents. "A local retirement village will give [them] the option to be able to enjoy their retirement in familiar surroundings, close to their whānau and established network of friends. I would like to thank The Masonic Villages Trust for their commitment – this is a huge vote of confidence in Wainuiomata."

**With 227 aged care beds and 450 retirement villas and apartments, the Trust is one of the largest charitable aged care providers in the lower North Island.**



*Trust and community representatives on the site of the new Masonic Village that will be built in Wainuiomata, a Lower Hutt suburb*

The establishment of such a village has long been sought by local residents.

"It is only because The Masonic Villages Trust is a charity and has been given significant support by the Hutt City Council that we will be able to turn the community's vision into reality," Dunn says.

"Even with that support, the Trust will in due course be seeking donations and grants to help fund rest home and hospital equipment and facilities that are not supported by government aged care funding.

"These extras make a huge difference to the lives of patients and those who care for them. When we built Glenwood Masonic Hospital in Masterton in 2010, public support enabled us to build the sort of state-of-the-art facility that we envisage for Wainuiomata."

With 227 aged care beds and 450 retirement villas and apartments, the Trust is one of the largest charitable aged care providers in the lower North Island.

"We believe we perform an important social role by providing quality accommodation and care to older people with a wide range of interests, lifestyles and budgets.

"Our villages tend to be smaller than would be economic for commercial operators, often in provincial towns and suburbs. Our residents enjoy spacious modern homes and great community facilities, while maintaining their individual identity and local connections. They also benefit from the Trust's non-profit, charitable ethic that sees any financial surpluses – along with donations and bequests – invested in facilities and services that benefit current and future residents."

# TRUST

The Masonic Villages Trust is a charity set up in 1960 by Freemasons in the southern North Island to provide care and services for older people. The Trust and its two charitable operating companies, Masonic Care Ltd and Masonic Villages Ltd, have an enviable reputation for providing great care and great communities to people from all walks of life.



## You can help us

**The Masonic Villages Trust operates on the charitable and benevolent principles that lie at the core of Freemasonry. We provide quality accommodation and care for retired people from all walks of life in towns across the southern North Island.**

For those who can afford a comfortable retirement we offer modern villas, boutique apartments and care suites that enjoy strong demand from potential residents.

However, unlike the commercial operators, the Trust also provides care and (in some of its villages) rental accommodation to older people of limited means. We also have villages located in suburbs and provincial towns where it is uneconomic for commercial providers to operate. This allows residents to retire in the community where they have lived their lives, close to friends and family.

The Trust can only afford to provide these services to older New Zealanders because of the generous donations and bequests from individual Freemasons, Lodges and members of the wider community. We are also fortunate to have individuals who volunteer their time to help the residents of our rest homes and hospitals.

To donate, make a bequest, or contribute your time and skills to the Trust, please go to the 'Support us' page on our website. Or contact our chief executive Warick Dunn, T 04 569 8512, E [warick.dunn@masonicvillages.co.nz](mailto:warick.dunn@masonicvillages.co.nz)

## New chair elected

Steven Molotsky, a Wellington chartered accountant, has been elected chair of The Masonic Villages Trust, replacing Bill Arcus who retired in November.

Steven, whose gentle accent points to his origins, migrated from the United States in 1988, initially settling in Australia where he worked as financial controller for a large hotel group. He had previously worked for Ernst & Young, one of the world's largest accountancy practices.

In 1995 he moved to New Zealand and in 2002 bought into a private accounting practice, which has since merged with two other Wellington-based practices and trades as MTM Accounting.



*New Trust chair  
Steven Molotsky*

In 1989 Steven was introduced to Freemasonry by a close friend. "I liked the Freemasons I met through him and it was a good way to meet people and to become part of the community."

For several years he has been a Trustee of The Masonic Villages Trust. As chair he says he wants to build on what former chair Bill Arcus has achieved. (See the Bill Arcus profile, *NZ Freemason*, December 2017).

"One of the challenges is to ensure the Trust – as it becomes more independent – continues to achieve the purposes for which it was established. This means constantly reviewing our processes and activities to ensure the assets of the Trust and the interests of residents are protected."

The Trust's two operating companies, Masonic Villages Limited and Masonic Care Limited, are chaired by Sean Hannan, a professional director with wide commercial experience.

Molotsky says Freemasons make up the majority of members on the boards of the Trust and its operating companies. "The Freemason members are appointed for their professional skills and because they are familiar with the Trust's culture and history. In recent years they have been joined by independent directors, men and women who bring diversity and an external perspective to our decision-making."

## The Masonic Villages Trust

Head office: 63 Wai-iti Crescent | Woburn | Lower Hutt 5010  
New Zealand | Tel +64 4 569 8512 | [www.masonicvillages.co.nz](http://www.masonicvillages.co.nz)  
[warick.dunn@masonicvillages.co.nz](mailto:warick.dunn@masonicvillages.co.nz)

# MYTH BUSTERS

## Grand Lodge & Craft Lodge Insurance Scheme

### MYTH

"We pay more for our policy to subsidise Lodges that have had to claim for natural disasters."

### BUSTED

Every Lodge is assessed based on its own risk profile and is then charged accordingly. Claims from one Lodge do not affect other Lodges.

## Freemason Deposit Scheme – Heartland Bank

### MYTH

"I don't invest because I can get a better deal elsewhere."

### BUSTED

Heartland Bank pride themselves on offering market leading rates. If there is a better advertised rate in the market call 0508 FREEMASON (0508 373 362) and ask them if they can match it. They would love to hear from you and do what they can to help.

## Freemasons Scholarships

### MYTH

"The Scholarships are only given to students who come from wealthy, privileged backgrounds."

### BUSTED

This is far from the truth. Students are selected by local brethren, who are guided not only by academic ability, but the level and type of community engagement is equally important.

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- Supply and engrave back plates for refurbished PM jewels.

For information and advice contact **Joe Hatwell**

✉ joseph.hatwell@outlook.co.nz

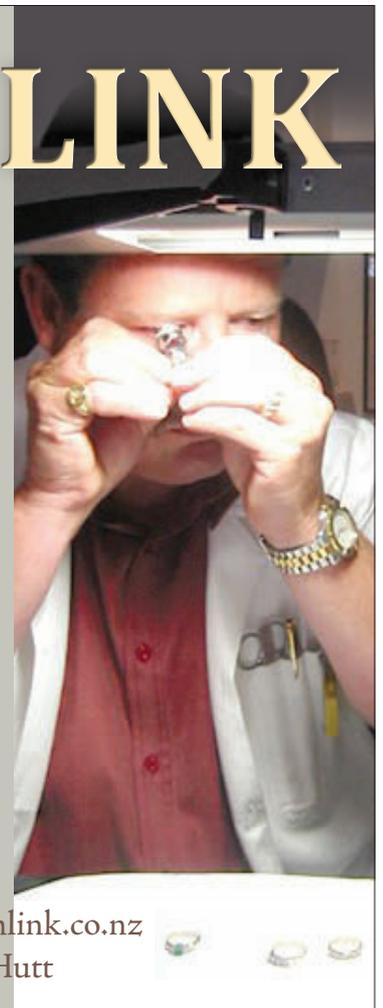
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**“Evidence is mounting that men of calibre  
in our communities are asking more about  
our organisation and many of them are joining”**





# CONVOCATION

**M**any thanks and congratulations to Ruapehu/Taranaki Immediate Past Grand Superintendent Roger Gregory, his partner Emily Wood and their small band of helpers on the well-organised and creative Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter held in New Plymouth over March 2-4.

From the various Friday sessions and evening meet and greet through to the Sunday bus trip and walking tour of Pukekura Park, one of the jewels in the New Plymouth crown, it was a most enjoyable event for all in attendance at the Devon Hotel – an excellent venue where we were able to keep everything under one roof except for the Order of the Silver Trowel meeting, which was held at the De Burgh Adams lodgerooms, and at which 30 candidates received the degree.

Highlights of the Saturday business session included the election of the Grand Principals for 2019–2021. Congratulations to :

- ♦ GZ: REComp Graham Redman (Wellington)
- ♦ Depute GZ: REComp Nigel Petrie (Hawke's Bay)
- ♦ Grand Haggai: REComp Phil Ivamy (Nelson/Marlborough/Westland)

- ♦ Grand Jeshua: REComp John Evered (Hauraki)

In other business, Constitutional amendments proposed by Management Council brought the practical responsibilities and expectations of Grand Lecturers up to date, and introduced a post-nominal for holders of a First Grand Principal's Award – they are now entitled to the letters GPA after their names in Royal Arch matters.

A feature of the meeting was a presentation from Dr Peter Sergel, the director of the Hamilton Gardens, who is the recipient of the 2018–19 Centennial Award. The Gardens team is currently busy establishing a Picturesque garden which includes some Masonic symbolism and illustrates 18th-century concepts through a depiction of Mozart's opera *The Magic Flute*. It will be an outstanding attraction which will appeal to all visitors, not just Freemasons.

Recipients of this year's Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Fund awards were also announced at the business session. Altogether, 15 young people received amounts totalling \$18,250. (This will be covered in more detail in the next issue of the Freemason.)



ME Comp Les Borrell invests VEComp Glen Houlihan (Wellington, right) and VEComp Ian Hunt (Hawke's Bay) as Grand Standard Bearers.

The afternoon's ceremonial, the Proclamation of MEComp Brian White as our First Grand Principal through to 2019, was attended by representatives of almost every Masonic Order and other Royal Arch Constitutions in the country, and several Australian Constitutions.



**LEFT** First Grand Principal Brian White welcomes RWBro Steve Salmon as the Grand Master's representative to the Proclamation ceremony

**ABOVE** Representatives of other Orders and Constitutions join in greeting RWBro Steve Salmon.

# A GREAT SUCCESS



**ABOVE** MEComp White promotes REComp Ron Lane to the rank of Past Grand Haggai.

**ABOVE RIGHT** REComp Roger Gregory about to receive an unexpected First Grand Principal's Award.

Freemasons New Zealand was represented by RWBro Steve Salmon PDepGM.

It was a great success, and at its conclusion MEComp White recognised the considerable service to the Order of Auckland's Ron Lane PGLec by promoting him to Past Grand Haggai; and presented Roger Gregory with a very well-deserved First Grand Principal's Award.

The evening's banquet was the final formal event. During the excellent buffet meal, there were several auctions organised by Roger Gregory for which VEComp Tony Russell, a professional auctioneer, did the honours. Two bottles of spirits fetched \$80, an unusual piece of bread-tag art went out the door for \$350, and finally a miniature Wallabies rugby jersey signed by Australia's 1999 World Cup-winning team sold for \$1000. The proceeds of both went to the Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Fund.

*Geoff Davies*

**M**anagement Council Chairman Geoff Davies was very happy to complete a piece of 'unfinished business' whilst in New Plymouth for Convocation 2018: the presentation of a First Grand Principal's Award he made while GZ to REComp Dennis King, Grand Registrar 2005–16 just before his death in February 2016. Dennis's wife Yvonne and daughter Claudia received the award at a morning tea which they very kindly hosted at the

family law practice. Dennis King was a highly-respected Freemason in New Plymouth and recognised especially for his outstanding service at national level as Grand Registrar, and locally for his unstinting support of Paritutu Chapter No 5, where he served three consecutive terms as First Principal (2005–07). From left, Ruapehu/Taranaki Grand Superintendent Roger Gregory, Claudia King, Yvonne King, and Geoff Davies.



# You are never too old!

**D**ear Brothers, thank you for requesting a story from me. Joining the Freemasons at the ripe old age of 70 is something I had thought about many times, but my lifestyle had never been helpful. In my early 20s after getting a pilot license and no jobs in NZ, I headed to Papua New Guinea.

My first job was as a mission pilot in a remote area of PNG, \$18/ month, later progressing to an aviation company in the highlands. Again after surviving that, I moved to Air Niugini. The new airline starting up when PNG received independence. I was not aware of a Freemason Lodge in PNG at the time, or there was nothing to alert me. After 16 years in PNG I joined Air NZ, but with only 10 days a month at home in NZ I was consumed by family, skiing & fly fishing etc. One benefit of travel was whilst in London I visited the Grand lodge a couple of times which impressed me. Eventually I was declared too old to

fly internationally, so we retired to Taupo the home of fly fishing & skiing at Ruapehu. Our daughter Jenya is very active in ski racing & I have long since stopped trying to keep up with her along with her horse riding.

This gave me some spare time to join Freemasons. My father was a Master Mason & fortunately I still have his leather bag, apron & books.

Belonging to Freemasons has allowed me to further my interest in historical culture. Meeting new people is also an advantage. My wife Teresa is a Social Worker involved in voluntary work at Hospice & a charitable agency "Adoption First Steps" which helps people adopting children from overseas. Whilst having been in the Lodge for a short time I realize I have much to learn especially in the larger questions of life and the path to self-development. I hope to be able to contribute.



## From the ashes

**F**reemasonry, a peculiar subject that a lot of people ponder about but never seem to find the answers. This was me Gabriel Wilhelmi. Back in 2013 when the Waipa Lodge no. 119 was destroyed by a fire, I was working for the company NT Joinery, who at the time were in charge of replacing the damaged cabinetry, I was shown around what was left of the lodge, this is when I first became curious about the freemasons. For years I wondered and researched, though it was hard to define what was fact or just speculation. For the next few years I travelled and worked throughout Australia, when I returned home I started working for the company ASAP Contracting where I met employee and now good friend WBro Sam Annison, Through Sam, I was drawn by the idea of learning about morals and principles for proper conduct and that there is a group of driven and likeminded men



that held and taught the ancient history and secrets of the Freemasons. Within the small amount of time I have been a Freemason it has helped me to become

more confident and self driven, to do more and want more out of life.

I have since left my role at ASAP to pursue my own business, I am now founder and Director of Able Contracting Ltd, My name is Gabriel Wilhelmi and I am proud to be a Freemason.

*Note: The WBro Sam Annison he mentions is currently Master of The Alpha Lodge No 81 in Cambridge.*

*Alpha held an open day some months ago, two of Sam Annison's work fellows attended the open day and asked to join Freemasons.*

*As one lives Te Awamutu and the other (Gabriel) intends to reside here soon, Sam Annison suggested they join Waipa No 119.*

*Both are now our Entered Apprentices, also a further 31-year-old from ASAP Contracting did his Initiation in Waipa No 119 last month.*

# Welcome to our newest Freemasons

November 2017 – January 2018

Phillip Stevenson	New Zealand Pacific No 2	Telai-Afitu Sefesi	Trentham Lodge No 262
Jonathan Kerr	Scinde Lodge No 5	Evan Churcher	Trentham Lodge No 262
Donato Betonio	The Concord Lodge No 39	Lourd Jumamil	Unity Lodge No 271
Philip George	The Concord Lodge No 39	Paul Armitage	Lodge Kumeu No 279
Mark Webb	The Wairau Lodge No 42	Brett Dickie	Lodge Kumeu No 279
Edward McKay	The Manawatu Kilwinning Lodge No 47	Steven McClune	Lodge Kumeu No 279
Stephen Houston	The Methven Lodge No 51	Liam Taylor	Lodge Nelson No 288
Mark Enfield	The Ponsonby Lodge No 54	Neil Brocklehurst	The Herbert Teagle-Taia Lodge No 300
René Dubbelman	Papakura Lodge No 56	Jeetan Parbhu	Westminster Lodge No 308
Martin Charleson	The Cromwell Kilwinning Lodge No 98	Nathan MacDonald	Lodge Te Papa No 316
William Kraakman	Lodge Manuhierika Kilwinning No 109	Joe Marcuelo	Lodge Te Papa No 316
Kain Dunn	The Waipa Lodge No 119	Ron Savage	Lodge Te Papa No 316
Gabriel Wilhelmi	The Waipa Lodge No 119	Joshua Navarro	Lodge Te Papa No 316
Mikhail Fisher	The Tauranga Lodge No 125	Christopher Greenslade	Ngatiawa-Russell Lodge No 345
James Cass	The Crown Lodge No 138	Jéan Petherbridge	Lodge Orewa No 370
Luis Rodriguez-Surroca	Lodge North Harbour No 182	Frank Borrell	Lodge Te Atatu No 414
Sherwin Domingo	Lodge North Harbour No 182	Christopher Smith	Lodge Kaimanawa No 426
Dexter De Guzman	Lodge Clinton No 183	Jonathan Gradwell	Lodge Maungarei No 427
Patrick Holland	The Avon Shirley Lodge No 185	Craig Nicholls	Stokes Valley Lodge No 460
John Patrick	Lodge Omarunui No 216	Raven Alp	Lodge Kauri No 474
Brent Stoodley	Lodge Omarunui No 216		

*Being open about Freemasonry is encouraging enquiry from men of calibre and nurturing these new members will bring about a lifelong involvement in Freemasonry.*



## History in the Making

### *First Millennium Lewis to become a Freemason*

On the 18th of January 2018 Lodge Kauri No 474 initiated Mr Raven Alp a Lewis born in 2000, making him the first millennium Lewis in New Zealand and possibly the first Millennium Lewis in the world to be initiated into the craft.

The occasion was marked by the Grand Master MWBro Mark Winger investing Bro Raven Alp with his entered apprentice Apron, something which Bro Raven will cherish for the rest of his masonic journey.

It also makes four Father and Son combinations within the Lodge. WBro Paul Ashley and WBro Jason Hodson, Bro Kelvyn Alp and Bro Raven Alp. Bro Peter Dix and Bro Brenton Dix, WBro Ted Clark and Bro Philip Clark.

Lodge Kauri believes it has the youngest Master WBro J Hodson 25 years at the moment and say the average age of Lodge Kauri members is 45. The Lodge also took the opportunity to present the Grand Master with a Lodge Kauri Members Jewel.

*Ian Pownall*

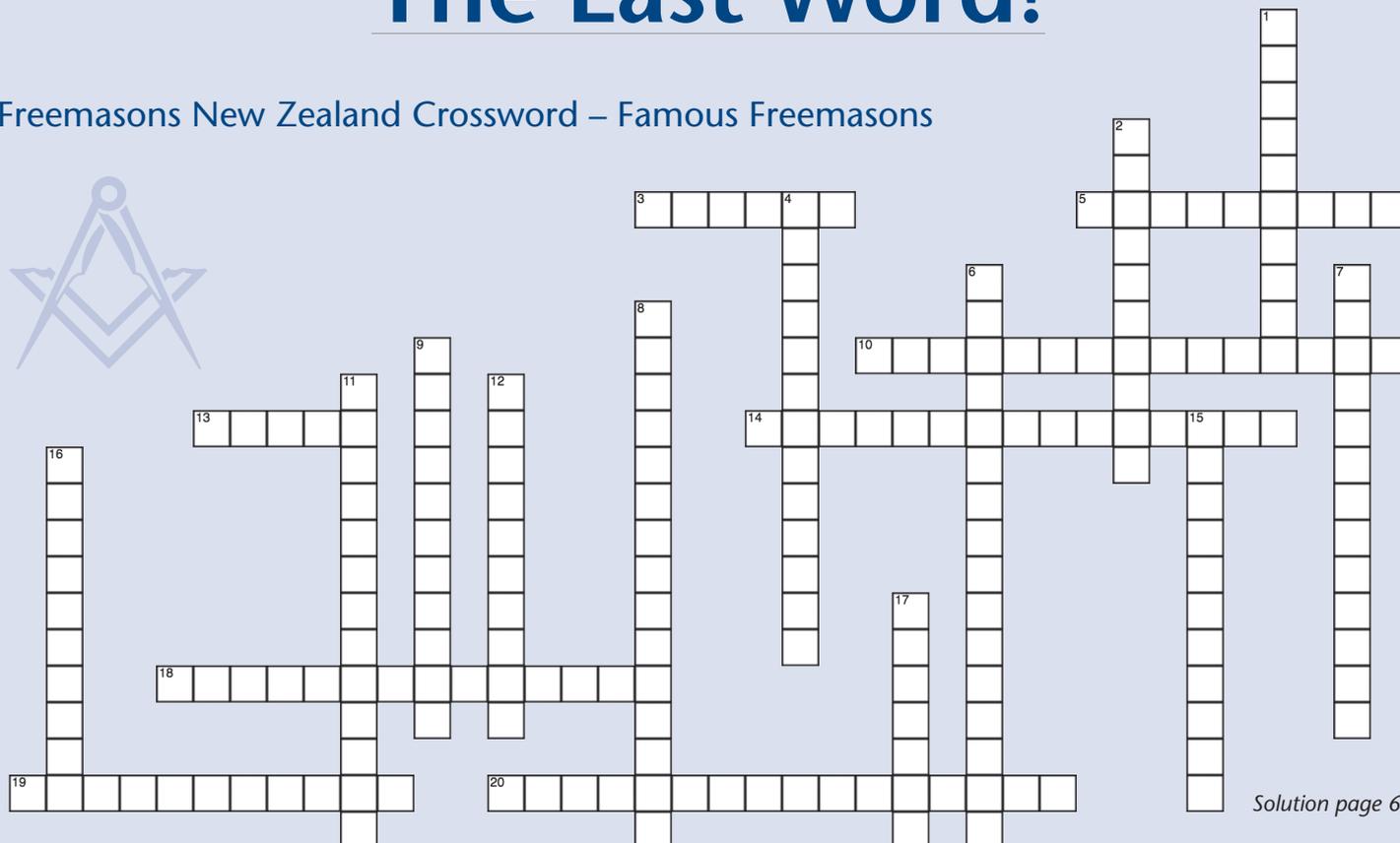
**ABOVE RIGHT** From left: VWBro Dennis Waller Dist GM, Bro Kelvyn Alp SD, Bro Raven Alp EA, MWBro Mark Winger Grand Master.

**RIGHT** Members of Lodge Kauri with the District Grand Master & Grand Master.



# The Last Word!

## Freemasons New Zealand Crossword – Famous Freemasons



Solution page 6

### Across

- 3 Composer of the 'Magic Flute' and Freemason (surname)?
- 5 Of Huckleberry Finn fame – pen name (two words)?
- 10 Two Antarctic Explorers of last century (both surnames)?
- 13 One of the Marx Brothers who was a Freemason (first name)?
- 14 Second man on the moon who was a Freemason (three words)?
- 18 African American NBA Basketball Player (two words)?
- 19 Australian World War II POW and Surgeon (two words)?
- 20 Freemason who appears on US \$100 banknote (two words)?

### Down

- 1 Freemason and writer of *The Importance of Being Earnest* (two words)?
- 2 Male heartthrob from the 1940s who was a Freemason (two words)?
- 4 New Zealand Prime Minister and Grand Master (two words)?
- 6 Sherlock Homes author (three words)?
- 7 Freemason who wrote the words for 'God Defend New Zealand' (two words)?
- 8 Comic opera duo who were both Freemasons (both surnames)?
- 9 Famous African American Singer (three names)?
- 11 New Zealand Governor General of Waitangi and Cup fame (two words)?
- 12 First President of USA who was a Freemason (surname)?
- 15 Famous Scottish Poet who was a Freemason (two words)?
- 16 Queen's father who was a Freemason (two words)?
- 17 Italian Opera Composer and Freemason (surname)?

### *Simple formula for living*

Live beneath your means. • *Return everything you borrow.* • Stop blaming other people. • *Admit it when you make a mistake.* • Give clothes not worn to Charity. • *Do something nice and try not to get caught.* • Listen more; talk less. • *Every day take a 30-minute walk.* • Strive for excellence, not perfection.

- *Be on time. Don't make excuses.* • Don't argue.
- *Get organised.* • Be kind to unkind people. • *Let someone cut ahead of you in line.* • Take time to be alone. • *Cultivate good manners.* • Be humble. • *Realise and accept that life isn't fair.* • Know when to keep your mouth shut. • *Go an entire day with criticising anyone.* • Learn from the past but plan for the future. • *Live in the present.* • Don't sweat the small stuff. It's all small stuff.

### Not a Freemason?

Interested? Freemasons are ordinary men in the community, 21 years and over, of all religions and backgrounds, who share a concern for human values, moral standards and the rights of individuals. Ask one to be one ... or enquire at Freemasons New Zealand: [www.freemasonsnz.org](http://www.freemasonsnz.org), [communications@freemasonsnz.org](mailto:communications@freemasonsnz.org), 04 385 6622 or write to PO Box 6439, Marion Square, Wellington 6141.

# SERVICE AWARDS

November 2017– January 2018

## 70 YEAR BADGE

WBro Henry Arthur William Atkinson PM Browns Bay Lodge No 346

## 60 YEAR BADGE

WBro Raymond Hector Tavendale PM	Southern Cross Lodge No 6
Bro Ronald Annadale McCrory MM	The Methven Lodge No 51
Bro Alan Francis Woodward MM	Lodge Abercorn-Tuahine No 76
WBro James Mansbridge Huxtable PM	Lodge Ohinemuri No 107
WBro Graham Henry Reynolds PM	Lodge North Harbour No 182
WBro Robin Harry Langford Webb PM	Lodge Waihopai No 189
WBro Alan Evelyn Ferriss PM	Lodge Koranga No 197
WBro Frederick George Copeman PGSwdB	Lodge Whangamomona No 234
WBro Robert Samuel Atkinson PGStdB	Lodge Te Puke No 261
WBro Maurice Colgan Mayston PM	Lodge Te Puni No 315
WBro John Godfrey Fritschi PM RH	The Mangere Lodge No 330
Bro Robert Arthur Reay MM	Lodge Orewa No 370
WBro Russell Robert Breen PM	The United Lodge of Otago No 448
Bro William Edward Lemberg MM	Meridian Lodge No 449
WBro Trevor Stanley Jones PGSwdB	Lodge Waitomo No 469

## 50 YEAR BADGE

WBro Leo Michael Mumford PGSwdB	New Zealand Pacific No 2*
Bro Ian Neil Holyoake ONZM, MM	Scinde Lodge No 5
WBro Willoughby Allen Wheldale PM	The Belmont Albion Lodge No 45
WBro Gordon James Ballantyne PGStdB	Lake Lodge of Ophir No 85
Bro Alfred Bruce Carey MM	The Mount Ida Lodge No 97
Bro Ernest Leonard Beilby MM	The Lion Lodge No 114
WBro Noel Greville Henry Robb PM	Hinemoa-Kairangi Lodge No 122
WBro William Gordon Cope-Williams PM	Lodge Erewhon No 200
WBro Ivan Winston Muckle PM	Harmony Lodge No 325
WBro James Alexander McMeekin PGBB	Ngatiawa-Russell Lodge No 345
WBro John Alexander Barlass PM	Lodge Takahe No 397
WBro Bruce Rodger Scott PM RH	Lodge Arawa No 406
WBro Edward Harold Zinsli PM	The Petre Lodge No 457
WBro Peter William Norrie PM	Lodge Aquarius No 466

*\* Since deceased but presented*

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