

NEW ZEALAND FREEMASON

Issue 3, 2007 (Vol 37)

Inside

BIG Science Adventure Competition Winners in the UK and Greenland

\$1.5 million in grants from The Freemasons Roskill Foundation

The History of Freemasonry in New Zealand

www.freemasons.co.nz

Grand Master



Grand Master MW Bro Barry McLaggan
Photo courtesy of Kerry Blakeney-Williams

Brethren,

As I pen this, outside in the rain are cows having calves, so Spring must be close. With Spring comes better weather and new growth.

Throughout New Zealand, there is an air of optimism and encouragement, not born out of hope, but rather through what is happening. I will list a few happenings which reinforce that optimistic feeling:

- A District, in conjunction with a Masonic Trust, has donated \$150,000 to Hospice.
- Kirkpatrick House continues to assist girls in their welfare, including boarding at Nelson Girls High School.
- 85 Grand Lodge Officers entering the lodge with me at an Installation.
- 46 Master Masons retiring before a Board of Installed Masters opened.
- 5 Entered Apprentices at a meeting I attended.
- 27 Master and those representing their lodges, were introduced to me in a provincial city.
- An increase in the numbers of 35-45 year-olds joining freemasonry.
- An increase in Lodge and District projects that the Board of Benevolence is assisting.
- Freemasonry being acknowledged in a positive manner at the British High Commission in Wellington - farewelling 3 wonderful young ladies on their Big Science Adventure to Greenland.
- The penetration we are getting with our Public Relations efforts – with the Universities, The Arts

Foundation, Royal Society of New Zealand and the general public.

- The number of lodge projects that are being helped from our Building Fund.
- The number of brethren who are wanting to help and promote freemasonry by looking outside the square.

Brethren, I have not mentioned the wonderful work being done by our Almoners throughout New Zealand. Nor have I mentioned the many people who are working with our Divisional and District Committees. Nor have I mentioned our ladies who work behind the scenes in so many ways.

That is what Masonry is about. Lodge buildings don't make lodges. People do.

At Communication, I issued a challenge: Let's make it happen - Let's make a difference. I believe - We are making it happen - We are making a difference.

There are tremendous challenges ahead, but I believe we have taken the first step on a long journey – all working together and with one vision.

The dream is worth the effort.

GRAND MASTERS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

5	Lodge Oamaru No.260 - Installation of V W Bro Graeme Munro	District 30	Oamaru
8	Lodge Kaikohe No 255 - Reg. mtg. & Maori Brethren carrying out 2nd degree	District 1	Kaikohe
10	Beta - Waikato Lodge No 12 - Reg. mtg - Third degree	District 12	Hamilton
14-16	Lodge Whitianga No 443 - Installation meeting & associated functions	District 10	Whitianga
19	Masters & Past Masters Lodge No 130 - Regular meeting	District 25	Christchurch
20	Trentham Lodge No 262 - Reg. mtg. & 2 50 year badge presentations	District 21	Trentham
22	Lodge Rotorua No 153 - Centennial Celebrations	District 11	Rotorua
25	Lodge Tokoroa - Orakau No 344 - Reg. mtg. - Double 1st degree ceremony	District 11	Tokoroa
29	Lodge Tironui - Jubilee Dinner	District 7	Papakura

OCTOBER

6	Lodge Orewa No 370 - 2 50 year badge presentations	District 3	Orewa
7	Grand Lodge Officers Luncheon		Wellington
13	Golden Bay Lodge No 144 - Installation meeting	District 23	Takaka
17	Puketoi Lodge No 149 - Reg. mtg. - 2nd degree	District 18	Pongoroa
29	The Waikato Lodge of Research No 445 - Emergency meeting	District 11	Waikato

NOVEMBER

3	Lodge Nau Mai No 177 - Installation meeting	District 8	Taumarunui
3	Lodge of Endeavour No 504 - Installation meeting (Dep GM to attend in GM's stead)	District 26	Christchurch
14	The Waipawa Lodge No 119 - 60 year badge presentation	District 8	Te Awamutu

DECEMBER

11	Lodge Onehunga Maungawhau No 168 - 60 year badge presentation	District 4	Onehunga
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Tena Koutou Katoa,

Having been working in the Grand Secretary's office for four months now, I feel as though my feet are slowly becoming settled under the Communications Advisors desk. There are so many aspects and facets to this job and I am always busy with something to do. I have yet to learn so much more.

I have had the pleasure of meeting many people within Freemasonry now and I must say, I was very surprised at the kindness and genuine interest that is shown to me every time I meet someone new. Please don't get me wrong, I am not at all trying to say that I was expecting otherwise, well actually, I didn't know what to expect when I first became an employee of the Freemasons. Now that I am here and have experienced a little bit of what goes on, I must say that I have a new appreciation and respect for such an organisation.

The charity and goodwill that the Freemasons bestow upon people in need never ceases to amaze me. Nor does the willingness to do so without fan-fare or attention. There are many organisations throughout the country that provide assistance to people and organisations but the publicity they receive from such charity is huge. The Freemasons carry on with their good deeds and kindness without too much upset when media and other publicity avenues fail to acknowledge their efforts if they are not required to.

Now, when I am asked questions about my role within the Grand Secretary's Office, and other questions like 'why do you work for the Freemasons, you're a woman' or 'so...have they taught you the secret hand shake?!' I can say with all honesty and conviction that the Freemasons are an amazing organisation who give willingly and ask for little in return; that the Freemasons are not 'spooky' and that if I were a man, I would definitely consider joining.

Gabrielle Moke
Editor.

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Contributions to the magazine are greatly appreciated and should be of interest to a wide audience. Contributions, including letters to the Editor, may be edited. Photographs should be high quality, preferably in tiff or eps format.

Contributions to the magazine can also be forwarded through these people:

Northern Division, Michael Whitlock, PO Box 28 272, Remuera, Auckland
Central Division, Colin Heyward, 10 Rose Street, Waipawa
Southern Division, Malcolm Moore, PO Box 247, Alexandra
Royal Arch, Geoff Davies, 81 Warwick Street, Wellington

Magazines are distributed in March, June, September and December. The deadlines for contributions are the first day of February, May, August and November.

Front Cover Photo:

Susan Smirk, Annikka Metua and Peggy Russell, winners of the 2007 Freemasons BIG Science Adventure Competition on their trip to the UK and Greenland. Photo courtesy of Jinty McTavish

It is always rewarding to delve into the history of any society or organization. You are hardly a well informed citizen (Freemason) unless you have some knowledge and appreciation of the roots of the society... I also firmly believe that it is essential to place the stages of that organization into an historical – especially social – setting. And this is certainly the case with Freemasonry.

As VW Bro D.A. Young PPres Bd GP commented in a paper “The Pioneers of Freemasonry in Oceania” presented to the Research Lodge of Wellington in 1968: “The early history of Freemasonry is interwoven with that of the establishment of European settlement and the colonization of our county. By 1838, Kororareka, in the Bay of Islands, had a European population of approximately one thousand...” and the New Zealand Company had been founded.

These pioneer settlers brought with them the traditions and institutions of their Homeland. And, naturally, a number of these early settlers were Freemasons. There was an old tradition or saying that “no new settlement was complete without a Masonic Lodge”. According to some, there was an unverified tradition that a Lodge was formed and was working in the Bay of Islands around 1840. Certainly, a number of ship’s captains (especially whalers) were Freemasons and there is every possibility that an early Lodge was formed in the North – or perhaps in the South around Akaroa. But, more about that later...

In any case, local Masonic Lodges would have been very important in these early days where transport was difficult (mainly by sea) and fledgling communities isolated. There were very few, if any, social services and the “brotherly love, relief” tenets of our order would have been vital. As you could imagine, Lodges had a high profile and were probably more highly regarded than today.

A “snapshot” of the history of the Thames Goldfields helps to illustrate this. When the Corinthian Lodge No. 1655 EC was being set up a procession was held

through the town of Thames – some 119 brethren from other lodges from Thames and Auckland participated. Also a church service was held in St George’s Anglican Church and a full report on the proceedings was carried by The Thames Star.

In these early years European settlement was concentrated in a few localities, e.g. coastal ports. Some were Wakefield settlements – so it is obvious that some of our earliest Lodges started in these areas – as well as at other focal points such as gold mining in the Thames/Coromandel. And, once the NZ Wars had been settled, farming areas cleared, main trunk rail built settlement spread and Lodges started in provincial towns and cities.

FRENCH CONSITUTION

It was from the French that the first sign of Freemasonry in NZ was recorded. It is said that in c. 1837 several ships from a French whaling fleet were in port at Port Levy on Banks Peninsula. The captain of one of these vessels – who was a Freemason under the Grand Orient of France gathered all Freemasons from the ships and held a meeting on the vessel Comte de Paris. At the time the French were intent on claiming the South island for France – but Governor Hobson forstalled this by dispatching HMS Brittomart to Akaroa on 10th August 1840 – French settlers arrived on the 18th. On 12th April 1843 a request was sent by various brethren to the Supreme Council of France asking it to regularize a Lodge established by them under the name Primitive Antipodienne Francaise Lodge. It does appear that this Lodge held some meetings – but it only seemed to last about a year then it faded into oblivion.

The French had a second attempt in Wellington early in 1890 when the Grand Orient of France issued a warrant for the establishment of a Lodge called L’Amour de la Verite. Several high ranking New Zealanders became members including the Premier, the Hon John Balance and Sir Robert Stout, who was at one time Attorney General in the Government. The Grand Orient had done away with a belief in a Supreme Being as one of

its tenets and was trying to establish itself in a country that had been claimed masonically by a resident Constitution. This was against all Masonic rules – so you can imagine the deterioration that occurred in fraternal relations between the two constitutions. The NZ Constitution forbade any NZ Lodge under its jurisdiction to receive visitors from the other Constitution or to visit the French Lodge. This French Lodge soon folded – which was just as well because the new New Zealand Grand Lodge could have been faced with the unpleasant task of disqualifying the Prime Minister! In the meantime the PM died so the situation did not arise. But, Sir Robert Stout persisted against Grand Lodge, who, though not disqualifying him from the Craft, relieved him of his Grand Lodge rank.

IRISH CONSTITUTION

This arose from a social function in Auckland which was recorded in the NZ Herald and Auckland Gazette of 31 July 1841 when it was reported that at the laying of the foundation stone of St Paul’s Church – “The Gentlemen in Auckland, who are Freemasons, appeared with the decorations and insignia of their Order”. This event prompted Freemasons in Auckland to form a Lodge where they could meet regularly. As transport to Britain was lengthy and mail irregular – they applied to our nearest neighbour, Australia – in fact to the Australian Social Lodge No. 260 IC of Sydney and a dispensation dated 5 Sept. 1842 was granted. The Lodge had its initial meeting on 9 Feb. 1843. It was initially called the Auckland Social Lodge No. 348 IC but in 1850 changed its name to Ara. The Irish Constitution had to wait another 16 years for the next Lodge to be formed – this was Scinde No. 419 in Napier 1859. The two Lodges applied to the Grand Lodge of Ireland and were granted Provincial Status in 1859. Between 1859 and 1890 a further 14 IC Lodges were formed (for example, in Thames, Coromandel, Tauranga, Wellington, Gisborne, Petone and Waipukurau). Around 9 of these eventually joined the NZ Constitution, whilst others closed or amalgamated.

Freemasonry♦♦♦♦

Beginning

ENGLISH CONSTITUTION

At about the same time Auckland Brethren were acting to form a Lodge, the following advertisement appeared in the "Colonial and Port Nicholson Advertiser" on 9th August 1842 under the heading "Freemasonry".

The advert read "The Brethren of the above Order are requested to attend a meeting of the fraternity at the Southern Cross Hotel, this evening, Tuesday 9 August, at half past eight o'clock to consider the propriety of applying for a warrant to hold a Lodge in Port Nicholson."

In the meantime, in 1839 the United Grand Lodge of England had appointed a Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Australasia – with his headquarters in Sydney. He was approached by the Wellington Brethren and he granted them dispensation to form a Lodge on 9th September 1842 (4 days after Auckland) – the name of the Lodge was New Zealand Pacific, which was originally 757EC which after renumbering became 517EC. The first meeting of this Lodge was held on 23 November 1842 with W Bro George Smith as its first Master.

It was almost 9 years before the next EC Lodge was formed – Unanimity in Lyttleton 1851, then St Augustine, Christchurch 1853, Mount Egmont, New Plymouth 1853, Waitemata in Auckland 1854, Tongariro in Wanganui 1857, Southern Star in Nelson 1858 and Southern Cross in Kaiapoi 1859. Dunedin got its first EC Lodge in 1860. And, at various dates between 1859-1875 most areas in NZ got provincial status – Canterbury, Otago and Southland, Westland, Wellington and Auckland. By 1 January 1890 there were 86 EC Lodges in NZ.

SCOTTISH CONSTITUTION

This was much later coming to NZ. First was St Andrews No. 418 in Auckland – then Otago Kilwinning 417 in Dunedin 1862. The Grand Lodge of Scotland granted provincial status for NZ in 1871. The North and South islands were separated in 1877 and Canterbury

was further divided from the South Island in 1884. At 1 January there were 49 SC Lodges – with 17 having the name Kilwinning in their title to mark the respect they had for their traditional "mother" Lodge.

MOVEMENT TO FORM A NZ CONSTITUTION

The first attempt to form a NZ Constitution came in September 1876, at a meeting convened by RW Bro Vincent Pyke (Past Provincial GM SC) and by W Bro E.T. Gillon (PM of a Wellington Lodge). At that time Pyke was also a Member of Parliament. There was a certain amount of dissatisfaction with administrative matters in NZ – notably with Provincial Grand Lodges. Ten Lodges were represented at this meeting. It was resolved that it was desirable to form a NZ Grand Lodge and a committee of 7 Past masters was appointed to consider its implementation. But, nothing more was heard of this committee or of any report.

The next attempt, in March 1884, was when Leinster 469 IC wrote to NZ Pacific 517 EC suggesting that another attempt should be made. But, they received a negative response from the EC Lodge.

Over the Tasman, Australian States were setting up Grand Lodges. First was the Grand Lodge of South Australia in 1884. NZ acted. In February 1889 a meeting was held in Wellington – the prime movers being W Bros Gillon, Robertson, Williams and Hamerton. 19 people attended the meeting and after much discussion it was moved that a United Grand Lodge be formed – and it was passed with only one dissident. A central executive was formed to carry this out with W Bro Gillon as Chairman and W Bro Robertson as Secretary. All Lodges were contacted and meetings called in all provinces.

There was quite a deal of opposition to this but, eventually, in September 1889 the union was agreed to. There were some 64 Lodges in attendance.

The office of Grand Master was first offered to the then Governor, the Earl of

Onslow – but, after much politicking and given the fact that not enough Lodges indicated they would join (as far as he was concerned!) – the Earl of Onslow declined. The RW Bro Henry Thomson DGM EC of Canterbury was invited to be Grand Master and he was duly installed as such at the first Annual Communication, Christchurch, 29 April 1890. W Bro Gillon was Installing Master, RW Bro Pyke acted as Deputy Grand Master and W Bro George Robertson as Grand Secretary. So all the main initial players were back with success!

So the formation of the New Zealand Grand Lodge was complete – of the 151 Lodges that were then in existence only 65 joined initially, with another 20 to follow later. It is interesting to debate why such a low % joined in the first place, as determined efforts were made by the founders to get a higher %. Some possible reasons include:

1. There was a communication problem – no roads, rail or telecommunications as we know them today. The mail system was slow – no emails or texts.
2. There was the attitude of some Officers in established Lodges – allegedly EC – who may have worked actively against the establishment of a NZ Constitution. Perhaps they were afraid of losing rank.
3. The Earl of Onslow, Governor of NZ, was a member of the UGLE and he kept constantly in touch with the hierarchy in London. They in turn kept resisting the move in NZ. It is quite probable that more Lodges would have joined if there hadn't been so much opposition and more help from England and from Onslow.

by V W Bro Ian Lawson

A continuation of this article (Part 2) will be published in the next edition of the New Zealand Freemason so please keep a look out for this interesting and very pertinent account of 'New Zealand Freemasonry...from the beginning'.

“Eagle vs Shark” soaring and swimming through its New Zealand premiere



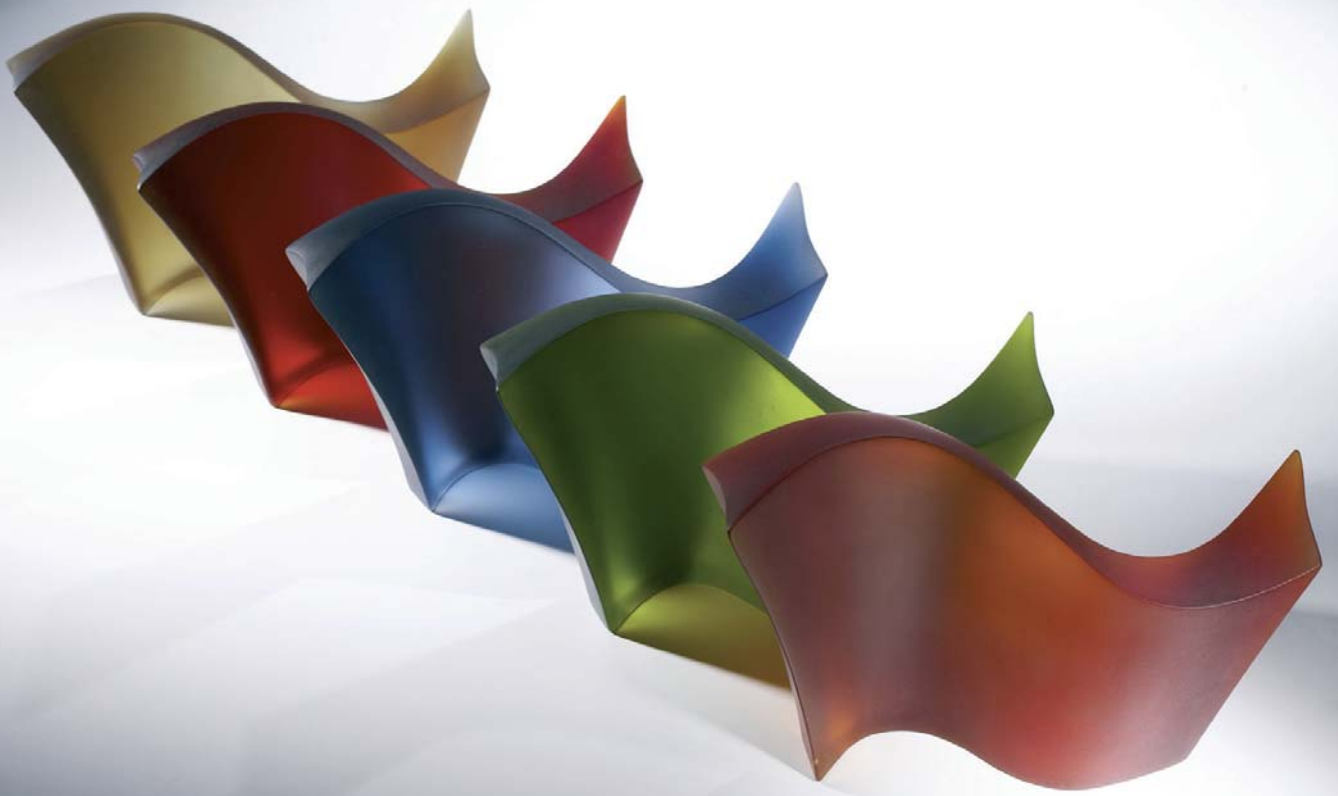
Following the release of his first feature film “Eagle vs Shark” Taika Waititi was named, by the influential United States entertainment magazine *Variety*, as one of ten new international talents to watch. Taika had already been recognised on the global stage in 2005 when his short film *Two Cars, One Night* earned an Oscar nomination and *Tama Tu*, his second short film, won recognition in festivals in Sweden and the United States.

Eagle vs Shark portrays the quirky romance of two misfits. It premiered at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival, before winning the prize for best screenplay at the 13th Annual US Comedy Arts Festival. It opened in the US for general release on 1 June. The film was selected for the Berlin and Rotterdam Film Festivals, and had its New Zealand premiere at the 2007 Telecom International Film Festival in July and was released on 16 August

Filmmaking is not Taika’s only skill. He has been involved in the arts for several years, as a visual artist, actor, writer and director, and has been involved in some of New Zealand’s most innovative and successful productions as a performer and comedian. His strong background in comedy writing and performing (with fellow comedian Jemaine Clement), has seen Taika win New Zealand’s top comedy award, the Billy T Award, and also the Spirit of the Fringe Award in Edinburgh. He has regularly done stand-up gigs, launched a solo production Taika’s Incredible Show in 2004, and has been critically acclaimed for his dramatic abilities, including being nominated for Best Actor at the 2000 Nokia Film Awards for his role in the Sarkies Brothers’ film *Scarflies*.

“The biggest challenge I had making the film [Eagle vs Shark] was making the film. The whole thing was a challenge. Development was easy compared with shooting. Shooting was easy compared with editing. Editing will be easy compared with watching it with real people in the audience.” As told to *Indiewire.com* on the eve of Eagle Vs. Shark’s world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival, Thursday 1 February 2007.

Since the Eagle vs Shark premier on the international stage of the Sundance Film Festival, its premiere in New Zealand was in July 07 at the Wellington International Film Festival and of course the film has been recieved extremely well by New Zealand audiences. Eagle Vs Shark is currently screening in movie theatres throughout the country.



New Generation Recipients

Eve Armstrong will join with Darryn George, Sarah Jane Parton and Areta Wilkinson at the City Gallery Wellington, in Contemporary Projects, 11 August - 4 November 2007. Presenting new and recent work, the projects are not linked thematically, but have been selected by curator Sarah Farrar to respond to, and spark off, one another.

Warren Maxwell's album *The Onus of Sand*, with band the Little Bushman, became number two on the IMNZ Independent Album Chart for March 2007. Warren wrote the song *Little Fish*, dedicated to Toi Maori's *Waka Te ika a Maui* (the Fish of Maui) that appeared at the opening ceremony for the America's Cup.

Tze Ming Mok was an invited speaker/reader at the Shanghai International Literary Festival, in March. Tze Ming was selected with Bill Manhire (Arts Foundation Laureate 2005) as recipients of the International Writers' Programme for 2007, designed to assist New Zealand writers in attending high-profile literary festivals

Joe Sheehan features in an exhibition at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, until 2 September. *New Nature* shows the work of twelve artists/collectives from the Pacific Rim. Joe has recently launched his blog site www.greentones.blogspot.com

These five artists were each awarded an inaugural Arts Foundation of New Zealand New Generation Award at the end of 2006. The New Generation Awards are presented by Freemasons New Zealand.

Scholarship gives earthquake researchers solid financial foundation

University of Canterbury student Brendon Bradley has been awarded a Freemasons Postgraduate Scholarship for 2007.

The \$10,000 scholarship will help Brendon as he studies for a PhD in civil engineering.

Brendon's area of research is earthquake engineering and for his PhD he is working on the development of risk/loss assessment methods to help estimate the likely lifetime cost of structures due to earthquakes.

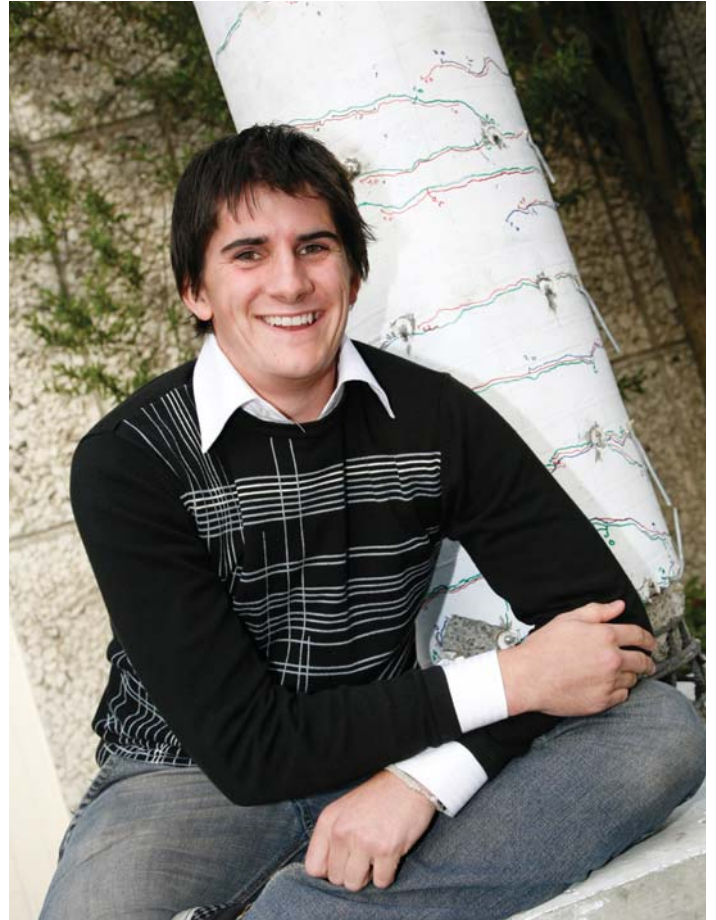
A main outcome of the project will be the development of a computer program that will calculate financial, death and business downtime losses by taking into consideration the site of the structure, how the structure responds to earthquakes, the damage associated with the response, and losses due to damage.

Brendon said current earthquake design philosophies only considered preventing collapse during a design-level earthquake (the intensity of ground shaking that a structure is designed to withstand), but do not take into account the likely resulting damage.

He hoped the development of a loss assessment tool would help enable rational design decisions based on minimising the lifetime cost of the structure, in addition to ensuring life safety.

"It will be a more advanced method of assessing structures using probability theory and detailed analyses. So, to make it feasible in a consulting situation there is a need for purpose-built tools to enable the assessments to be carried out efficiently," he said.

The computer program will be based on research data Brendon collects, as well as on structural testing he intends to carry out in the University's earthquake lab.



Brendon Bradley

Photo courtesy of Canterbury University

IMPORTANT DATES

Important dates for the *New Zealand* Freemason are as follows:

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Contributions are appreciated and should be e-mailed to: editor@freemasons.co.nz

Photos should be of high resolution and e-mailed without any adjustments made to the photo or the file size.

Lodge Arawhaiti No. 267

Spectacle, excitement, reverence, renewal: all were evident in the August 1 Installation ceremony at Auckland's Lodge Arawhaiti No.267 for the new Master W Bro Gavin Cook PGD. The evening evoked a return to big events of the 1960s. But its extraordinary success was rather due to a rare fusion of factors.

Firstly there was the presence of the Grand Master MW Bro Barry McLaggan plus four Past Grand Masters, RW Bros D.Mace, J.McManemin, W.Ross and K.Norton - an unusual concentration of dignitaries, and a certain draw card. There were 82 Grand Lodge officers and 13 RW Brethren in the total attendance of 185, which is hailed locally as the biggest such turnout of recent times.

It comes at the crest of a buoyant year for Arawhaiti, under the feisty leadership of W Bro Gary McCrystal who was back on national TV refereeing top-class boxing just three nights after his successor as Master was installed.

On the big night the supply of seating had to be quickly augmented as richly-adorned Grand Lodge Brethren streamed into the spacious lodge room, yet proceedings went ahead on time, and all visitors had been received by 7.30 following the calling-on at 7pm - a feat of organisation in itself. Meanwhile at street level, vehicles jammed the car-park and a pre-arranged precinct took the overflow.

Two keyboards manned by the Grand Organist W Bro Reg Newcombe and W Bro David Vujanic buoyed the evening, odes were sung and when the colourful assembly filed out at the end it was to an upbeat, slightly jazzy rendition of Just a Closer Walk With Thee. The Grand Master having made his exit, suddenly reappeared on a hand-shaking circuit of the room which took in 32 of Arawhaiti's own members. One senior officer spoke for many when he noted that it was an evening with "excitement in the air."

The good humour and fellowship of the occasion carried over into refectory where refreshment, speeches, song - which could be heard in the car-park two floors below - and lively chat continued till past midnight.

The three other lodges which share the St Benedict's St Masonic Centre with Arawhaiti all gave assistance on the big night. Ara Taimau No.1 and St Andrew's No.8 helped in refectory, and Auckland No.87 members did security duty.

After such an evening, with a new Master and new officers installed, Arawhaiti had not only a sense of renewal, but pride of accomplishment as well.

by Bro Jack Leigh, Lodge Arawhaiti No. 267

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Gratitude from a Scholarship Recipient

Dear Editor,

My name is Paul Hopkins and I was one of the Freemasons scholarship recipients for 2007. I am writing to again say a very big thank you to Freemasons for the award. It is really great. I have been flat out with assignments but Uni is going really well and I am enjoying every minute of it. I am really enjoying the Agriculture studies and I can't wait to get out in the real world next year and put my knowledge into practice. At present in class we are learning a lot about financial business management, economics & commodity systems, pasture growth & cow feed requirements. I am playing rugby for the Massey Agricultural team and so far we have not lost a game. Thank you once again to Freemasons, your financial support has given me a real edge for the future.

Paul Hopkins

Website Correspondence

Dear Editor and brethren,

My son is there in New Zealand. He is a psychologist and he is trying to develop new abilities. I ask for the understanding and help of the nobleman Brother. He is in Waikato area but he is happy to go to any place. He wants to improve the English language to work with special children.

I thank you and my brethren for any consideration they may have in this respect.

Evanildo Vasco Viana

Sete de Setembro Lodge no. 1
Grand Lodge of Sergipe
Aracaju - Sergipe - Brazil
Past Grand Secretary

Letter from a Fellow Freemason

I am Albino E. Agraan, a mason of San Mateo Lodge 319, Grand Lodge of Philippines. I came to New Zealand by a Visitor's Visa through my sister here in Kaitaia. I am a civil engineer with experiences in water works and some in road works and building construction. I do not have a work permit and to get one I need someone to sponsor me or give me a job offer as one of the requirements for applying for a work permit.

If you can help, please contact me on stancaro@xtra.co.nz or ph: 09 408 7573.

Fraternally,
Albino E. Agraan

Thought Provoking Information

Dear Editor.

A few months ago, Lodge Aurora held their regular meeting with all interested parties in order to solve some problems concerning a number of lodges in the district who were having difficulties.

V W Bro. Brian Coutts, Dist GM, chaired the meeting.

After a number of actions were agreed upon, V W Bro Ed Collett, P Asst GDC., read out a paper that was very thought provoking.

The Dist GM agreed that it was worthy of further discussion and a small committee was set to look into the items of the paper. Convener : V W Bro K. J. Dennison, V W Bro Ed Collett, W Bro Brian Hastie.

To my knowledge there has not been a meeting or any discussion as yet on this paper.

After the meeting with R W Bro. Mark Winger, held in the Dunedin Masonic Centre, Ed Collett again presented a paper at our recent standing committee meeting.

As Secretary, I have been instructed to send them to the editor of the magazine with the hope that they are deemed worthy of a place in the next issue, so that all Freemasons may gain from the ideas in these papers.

Yours fraternally

Brian Hastie,
Secretary,
The Hiram Lodge No. 46.

The paper entitled "Freemasonry at its Best" can be found on page 16 of this publication. The other paper entitled "Freemasonry at a Cross Roads" can be found on page 17 of this publication.

Letter from a Fellow Freemason

Hello Brethren,

Lodge Pukekohe No 382 has handed in its Charter as at Thursday 23rd August and is no longer in operation.

The last night saw a huge number of Brethren (No seating was left in the Lodge Rooms) attending, what was a sad occasion and to see the Charter officially surrendered to the Northern Divisional Grand Master R.W.Bro Selwyn Cooper. Some of the Lodge history and highlights was retold by several Brethren. We also had a number of Brethren from the body of the Lodge Rooms recount past events.

However I am pleased to inform you that 26 Brethren transferred to Pukekohe's Mother Lodge , The Franklin Lodge No 58. Although one chapter has closed another one opens.

On behalf of the Brethren of Lodge Pukekohe both past and present, I would like to thank the many Brethren and Lodges

who have supported the Lodge over the many years since 1953. We have enjoyed your company and trust we will see you all at The Franklin Lodge.

Fraternally Yours,

W Bro Alan Kelway

Freemasons Making Positive Impact in Health Care for Elderly

Dear Editor,

The Freemasons of New Zealand can be proud of what it is achieving in the eldercare sector. At the recent Healthcare Providers New Zealand conference in Rotorua the Freemason sponsored Chair of Geriatrics Professor Martin Connelly was a keynote speaker on what New Zealand does for the elderly. Warwick Dunn, the CEO of the Wellington Masonic Association, co-presented a business section on "Growing Your Business". The Napier District Masonic Trust Chief Executive, Stuart Roper, and Taradale Masonic Residential Home and Hospice Nurse Manager, Leigh White, presented their entries in the inaugural innovation Healthcare Providers NZ/Insite Excellence in Care award entries. The Taradale Masonic Residential Home and Hospital won the "Training and Staff Development Award" and came away with the "Overall Excellence in Care Award".

These awards are significant as the Healthcare Providers NZ represents over 80% of all residential home care facilities in New Zealand delivering services to over 33,000 elderly New Zealanders. Freemasons New Zealand should be proud of the part it is playing in this important sector and it has people committed to fulfilling the ideals of assisting others.

Yours faithfully,

Stuart Roper
Chief Executive
The Napier District Masonic Trust.

Questioning the Value of the Sum of the New Generation Awards.

To the Editor,

I write in regards to the publishing of several articles in the New Zealand Freemason regarding significant awards given to New Zealand artists. Although I am in agreement with the funding of the arts, I wonder at the return on investment for Freemasonry through these awards.

I believe there was around \$125,000 gifted to 5 emerging artists. However I have not seen what exposure or goodwill has been affected by these gifts. I realise that charity should ideally be blind, and not ask for anything in return, but the reality is that

Freemasonry does need to gain exposure from its good works so that the public view us favourably and good men seek to join us. I fail to see, and I admit I may be mistaken, how any of the profiled artists intend to provide exposure and goodwill to our society.

I appreciate the talent of the artists involved, but do any of them acknowledge our support and generosity? I notice that the musician has several top selling albums; is Freemasonry acknowledged on the covers? I notice a successful film maker; do the square and compass appear on the movie credits? Do any of the exhibiting artists display our support at their installations?

This may appear slightly selfish, or even mercenary in thought, but as these artists are enjoying high profiles, public acclaim and publicity why do I not see Freemasonry also enjoying the ride? Perhaps I am ill informed, and if so I would appreciate enlightenment on what has been achieved.

I am proud of the crafts generosity but I feel strongly that we should always question and examine our actions for the betterment of Freemasonry. I hope this correspondence is received in such spirit.

Yours Fraternally,

Bro. Myles Buckland-Jones

Response to "Questioning the Value of the Sum of the New Generations Awards."

Dear Bro Myles Buckland-Jones,

We need to keep our expectations in perspective in regard to recognition from people and organisations we sponsor. Yes last year we funded some new generation artists and our support to them will be a great financial help over the coming year and in their future projects. However, the works they currently have in distribution were evolved and produced over the last few years and we have had no influence or effect on them. A full length musical CD or full length movie do not happen over night and take years to plan, develop and execute. We have no right to ask for recognition on these as we have not been involved in any way in their production. Their previous supporters have that right.

What I can assure our members is that the New Generation Artists are acknowledging our support when the opportunities arise. Further to this the Arts Foundation is currently working with the Publicity Committee to hold events featuring the New Generation Artists and acknowledging Freemasonry's support of them in locations such as Hamilton, New Plymouth, and Dunedin in early 2008 to which the public as well as freemasons will be invited.

By Grand Secretary VW Bro Laurence Milton

Grand Lodge Office address

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Freemasons New Zealand
PO Box 6439
Marion Square
Wellington 6141

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Freemasons New Zealand
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Wellington

Letters of appreciation from grateful University students

With the recent University Scholarship awards, The Freemasons Charity and the Scholarship chairmen have been inundated with letters of appreciation from students from around the country. All express their great appreciation for receiving scholarships and are more than keen to provide reports on what they have planned for their study in the near and distant future.

The positive relationships that have been formed through the many years that the Freemasons have been providing scholarships are testament to the commitment of the Freemasons to support the hard working students and in turn, their communities.

Below is an example of the many letters of thanks and warm regard for the Freemasons from students. This letter was sent to Stuart Brooker, Chairman of the 2007 Victoria University Freemasons Scholarship Committee, from Daniel Bassett, a recent scholarship recipient from Victoria University.

Hi Stuart
Hope all is well.

I wanted to send you a quick note first and foremost to thank you and your fellow freemasons for the hospitality we received at the award ceremony, but also to update the freemasons of my progress. I was waiting until all my exam results were released before doing this but nevertheless apologies for the delay.

The award ceremony was a really nice occasion and it was especially nice for my parents who were thrilled to have the opportunity to come along and share in our success. Our host member and his wife were exceptionally nice and made us feel very welcome. I was most taken back by the genuine interest that so many of the members had in my study and I enjoyed the opportunity to discuss a wide variety of earth science topics with them.

As far as my current progress is concerned, I did really well in my first trimester exams and managed to get A+'s in both the geology papers I was taking, Tectonics and Stratigraphy. Tectonics will be of more immediate use as far as my Masters project is concerned but it is good to have a fair understanding of most topics in geology and geophysics especially when job hunting. This term is comprised of my final four postgraduate papers and once I complete those in 3 months, I will begin some work on my thesis out at GNS. The papers I am taking this term are Geophysics, Basin Analysis (Hydrocarbon exploration), Technical Petroleum Geoscience (Essentially learning about the various geological and geophysical tools used in Hydrocarbon Exploration) and Volcanology. These will keep me extremely busy so I probably won't get a chance to work on my thesis until late October.

For my major project, we have finally collected all the primary data I will use for my project so now it is simply a matter of processing it all down into seismic cross-sections which I will make my interpretations from. Processing will take several months but I am planning to get up to the East Cape a couple of times to have a look around and make some geological observations based upon the rocks exposed along the coastline. These will be helpful as knowledge of rocks in the Raukumara ranges, immediately adjacent to the basin where a lot of my seismic data is acquired will help identify the layers observable in my seismic cross-sections and will increase the quality of my seismic lines. I will also need to process some satellite gravity data to fill in the gaps between my seismic lines but hopefully this shouldn't be too difficult.

Anyway, I just wanted to thank you and the Freemasons for the kind hospitality we received at the presentation and to keep you all updated regarding my progress.

Kind Regards
Dan Bassett

“Ladies and Gentlemen, Lend me Your Ears....”

South Waikato Secondary School 2007 Debating Competition

Putaruru College have been named the winners of the Junior School Debate competition in the recent Freemasons New Zealand Debate 2007, in the southern Waikato.

The South Waikato Secondary School Debating Competition has been in operation for approximately four and a half years and is run by Lodge Putaruru No. 401 in conjunction with Lodge Matamata No. 265 and Lodge Okarau No. 344.

Originally the competition was only for senior students but two years ago, the lodges involved were asked to organise, promote and run a Junior School Debate competition, the second of which was run in June 2007.

The schools involved in the 2007 Junior School Debate were Putaruru College, Tokoroa High School, Matamata College and Forest View High School. Matamata College's Jeremy O'Reilly and Sarah Davidson hosted the event while Mr. Roy Robbins was the Chairman. The judging for the competition was carried out by



Putaruru College Junior Debate team and winners of the South Waikato Secondary School 2007 Debate competition; Nicky Dodds, Stevie Shaw and Rochelle Anderson pictured with their trophy.

four senior students – one from each college.

All schools submitted a team and were then given a moot. This year's moot proved to be extremely difficult for both teams – “That Capitalism is the Dominant Value in the Modern Mindset”

The debate evening kicked off with Matamata College as the affirmative team, who presented a series of arguments favoring capitalism. According to teacher Jonathan Beesley, their argument was well put together and placed the

Matamata team as difficult adversaries for Putaruru College, who argued the negative case.

The second debate saw Tokoroa High School compete against Forest View High School. However, it was the opening debate that provided the competition for top place – the judges took some time to make their decision and dividing the teams by only one mark, Putaruru College was announced the winning team.

Sailing Away in Sunny Gisborne

Lodge Gisborne No 233 is pleased to have been successful in obtaining funding for a children's sunshade for Ormond School. After being approached by the committee of Ormond School, an application was made to the Masonic Trust Boards. The Potter Trust found that the project met the Trusts' criteria and approved funding of \$18,000. The School fund-raised a similar amount, to meet the all up cost of approximately \$34,000.

As may be seen in the photograph, the aim has been to cover

Cheque presentation

L to R: Mura Love, Deputy Principal of Ormond School, W Bro John Otton, Master of Lodge Gisborne and Debbie Johnson, Treasurer of Ormond School Board of Trustees



cont. over page ►



the school play area with a colourful array of shade sails. The summer sun in Gisborne is strong, and the need for shade is important for the children's wellbeing. Ormond is a small village a few kilometres north of Gisborne, a part of the very early settlement of the district and now an attractive rural satellite of the city.

The School and Lodge Gisborne have great pleasure in acknowledging the generosity of the Potter Trust. A suitable plaque to permanently record the gift was installed at a special ceremony at Ormond School during the September school holidays.

The installed sunshade at Ormond School.

Golf and Freemasons driving the future of children

Earlier this year, the Counties-Manukau District Golf Trophy tournament took place at Firmount Park, Ormiston Road, Manukau.

Normally, the tournament is played out in all seriousness on a 18 hole course, but this year proved to be different. The trophy was played on a 9 hole course, and all Masonic teams included a child player from The First Tee of New Zealand. The tournament organizers, members of The Mangere Lodge No 330 are currently sponsoring two children to attend The First Tee of New Zealand golfing programme, while canvassing to sponsor a third child in the near future.

The First Tee of New Zealand is a mentoring school with character, using golf as a vehicle to teach valuable life skills to children between the ages of 7-14 years old. The First Tee programme began in the United States as an initiative of the World Golf Foundation. It has the full and active support of leading World Golfers such as Tiger Woods. The First Tee of New Zealand Patron is Phil Tataurangi.

The benefits for the children participating in the programme are vast. As they pass through the First Tee levels of achievement, they learn in addition to golf skills and course etiquette the importance of a positive attitude, decision making, how to define and set goals and how to transfer the nine core values from the golf course to everyday life.

The nine core values are: honesty; integrity; sportsmanship; respect; confidence; responsibility; perseverance; courtesy and judgement.

The children are expected to remain on the

programme for a solid year in order to receive the full benefit of its teachings. When the children graduate from the programme, they qualify for a trip to America to experience golfing at a higher level. Currently the children who are sponsored by Lodge Mangere No 330 are still working towards graduating from the programme but one of the sponsored students has been picked by NZ golfing legends Michael Campbell and Phil Tataurangi as having the potential to be just as successful as them, if not more, in the future.

The organizers of The Counties-Manukau Golf Trophy tournament decided to include students of The First Tee this year to affirm the relationship between Freemasons in the district and the children and their families involved in the programme. The tournament also provided the children with an opportunity



Golfing talent, 10 year old Tom Bebbington taking a big swing at the ball and an even bigger swing at his future. Tom is picked by Michael Campbell and Phil Tataurangi to be the future of golfing in New Zealand.

to show case their skills, as well as learn new ones, on the course.

A great time was had by all judging from all the laughter around the course, and it is suspected that some of the children benefited from “On the Day Masonic Golf Rules!” This included the die hard golfers who took great delight with the children. The children impressed everyone with their politeness and enthusiasm and while enjoying the sausage sizzle and BBQ after the tournament, the Chief Executive Officer of The First Tee of New Zealand, Mr. Mike Jeffcoat thanked the Freemasons for their invaluable assistance and inclusion of the children in the tournament. The Freemasons were also thanked by a First Tee player for the fun golf day and the lovely sausages.



Mike Hattie “.....if they can do it, so can I!”

“Wairarapa Wanderer”

On 15th of February, about 30 members of the Caravan/Motor-home Club met in Napier at the beginning of our three week “Wairarapa Wander.” Members came from the Far North, Auckland and the Bay of Plenty to attend first the Napier Art Deco Weekend and following that to explore the Wairarapa right to Wellington and Cape Palliser before we returned home.

We all enjoyed the Art Deco events, many of us dressed in the costume of the 30’s for them.

Next stop was Clifton Beach to ride on tractor towed trailers to visit the Gannet Colony at Cape Kidnappers.

Somehow our new member was discovered to be wearing nail polish on his toe nails so by Happy Hour that night all the Masons were wearing various shades of pink and blue on their toes – either they didn’t want him to stand out from the crowd or perhaps to feel embarrassed by his peculiarities.

On the way south, various shops and centers caught the ladies attention and museums and “motor places” the men’s. At Masterton we had a lovely “pea, pie, pud” meal with a large order of pies from an award winning pie shop in Waipukurau. They deserved their award too. The pies were excellent. Our picnic lunch at Castle point was on a lovely sunny day. With a stop at Tinui and the little museum and some photo stops in the scenic hills it was a full day.

From our next stop at Greytown we visited Stonehenge Aotearoa – wonderful, and we learnt so much about celestial navigation, seasonal changes in the skies and even our correct horoscope signs. We went to the annual Martinborough fair and came back with loads of goodies, and to Wellington by train for the day. Our final outing together was to Cape Palliser for a picnic and a walk to the Pinnacles for those who wished.



Art Deco Weekend in Napier

Members of the Carterton Lodge visited us for Happy Hour and they dined with us at the Greytown Workingmen’s Club for our final dinner together. We had BBQ’s, shared meals and pot-luck meals and of course, the famous pea, pie and pud meal.

Now we look forward to our next combined gathering, the Hot Pool Safari in July and meanwhile enjoy weekends together in our own areas.

If you have a caravan or motor-home and would like to join us, please contact:

In Northland – Peter Faber Ph. (09) 438 7613

In Auckland – Barbara Barnes Ph. (04) 473 8919

In Bay of Plenty – Sonny Hemmingson Ph. (07) 579 1338

Or you could begin a group in your area. As the bumper sticker says “2BE1ASK1”. It will be lovely meeting you.

by Barabara Barns, wife of George Barnes, Lodge 346 Browns Bay.



The Spirit Lives On

The Freemasons Roskill Foundation, formerly known as the Northern Masonic Association Trust Board, owner and operator of the Roskill Masonic Village in Auckland, has recently announced grants to the community of almost \$1.5 million.

It is just two years since the Village complex at Mt Roskill was sold and these grants, which focus on age-related health issues, revive the spirit of benevolence and concern for the elderly represented by the Village and held dear by Freemasons in the Northern area.

Beneficiaries include the Hope Foundation, South Auckland Health, Hospice Waikato and the University of Auckland medical Faculty.

Foundation chairman, MW Bro David Mace in announcing the grants, said that the Board was delighted to begin this contribution to the community after the transition from owner-operator of the Village.

“The proceeds of the sale having been carefully invested with other assets and producing good returns, we are now able to start on a new journey of providing assistance to the community in another form. But we are keeping the traditions and intentions of the Village foremost in our deliberations”

He explained that the change of name has been made to better reflect the new role of the Board but retaining traditional connections. The Foundation incorporates the NMATB as well as the John A Redwood Masonic Trust and remains as an amalgam of all Masonic Constitutions in the northern areas of New Zealand.

RW Bro Mark Winger, President of the Board of Benevolence and Deputy Chairman of the Foundation said “This support from the Foundation for the research work at the University is a great example of the co-ordination and co-operation between and within our charitable resources. These grants to both of the areas supported for many years by the Board of Benevolence will enable the continuation and expansion of our very successful relationship to date. And it will also allow The Freemasons Charity to get on with furthering it’s revitalised role of caring for our own”.

The Foundation has recently moved into its own new premises in Newmarket in Auckland. The building in Great South Road, is currently nearing the completion of a complete refurbishment and will soon be predominately leased as a commercial venture.



**Above: At the Auckland University Medical School.
From left: RW Bro Mark Winger, MW Bro David Mace, Prof. Richard Faull, Dr Iain Martin, Dean of Faculty.**

**Right: V W Bro Warwick Rogers, Waikato Hospice CEO Elizabeth Bang, and Grand Master M W Bro Barry McLaggan at cheque presentaion.
*Photo courtesy of The Waikato Times***

The beneficiaries of the Foundation's grants were:

- Hope Foundation

The Hope Foundation is a charity established to facilitate research into the ageing phenomenon. Professor David Richmond, the first Masonic Professor of Geriatrics and latterly an advisor to the Roskill Masonic Village, is a principal participant in the Hope Foundation.

The Board approved a grant for administration expenses (\$30,000) and a co-sponsorship of a seminar in mid 2008 aimed at the business and commercial sector (\$40,000).

- University of Auckland Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Freemasons have enjoyed a long relationship with the University, through the Chair of Gerontology and through the Huntingtons research undertaken by Prof Richard Faull. The Board continued this support by making the following grants:-

- An annual grant of \$112,000 for a maximum of 4 years to further research by Prof Martin Connelly, the Masonic Professor of Gerontology, into the value and practicality of nurse-led management systems to reduce unnecessary hospitalisation and improve the care and quality of life for elderly residents.
 - An annual grant of \$150,000 for a maximum of 4 years to enable Prof Richard Faull and his team to develop therapeutic drugs and other therapies which may assist with earlier interventions with the older portion of our population.
 - A grant of \$130,000 to enable the purchase of a tissue microarray machine, the latest technology to process multiple brain tissues simultaneously, for use by Prof Faull's team.
- South Auckland Health

The Board had identified a need, not met by central government, for a portable Diagnostic Ultrasound to be used in South Auckland for Thyroid testing. A grant of \$45,000 was made based upon appropriate recommendation from two referees.

- Hospice Waikato

A community project in Hamilton to establish and furnish a new Hospice facility.

The Freemasons Waikato District, including lodges from a cross-section of constitutions, adopted this as a District wide project and raised in excess of \$30,000. The Board supported the project with a 5 to 1 subsidy up to a maximum of \$125,000. The magnificent effort from the Waikato Freemasons will attract appropriate naming rights.

Waikato Freemasons Score for Hospice

The Ranfurly Shield may have been a bright light quickly fading for the Waikato people this rugby season but when it

comes to a caring heart their community spirit shines on.

No more so than in the building of a new \$7million Hospice in Hamilton where our Brethren of the area have shown the light of Freemasonry stands out when it comes to helping those in need.

A donation of \$150,000 has been made by Waikato Freemasons to the Hospice Waikato Building appeal. Well, \$151,807, to be exact, according to District Grand Master, VW Bro Warwick Roberts when the cheque was presented to Hospice CEO Elizabeth Bang at a function held recently at the present Hospice premises in Harwood Street. Hospice executives and Freemasons gathered to acknowledge the gift. He said the Freemasons of the district cheerfully accepted the challenge to contribute to the hospices' aim of ‘



sustaining hope through meaningful action'. "I am proud of the Masonic Lodges of the District who have so ably supported the project. Many hours have been spent by many Freemasons in raising these funds"

A substantial subsidy from the Freemasons Roskill Foundation (Northern Masonic Association Trust Board) boosted local fundraising efforts to achieve the total amount donated.

Attending the function was Grand Master MW Bro Barry McGlaggan and Mrs Jill McGlaggan, Chairman of the Freemasons Roskill Foundation, MW Bro David Mace and Mrs

Anne Mace, and RW Bro Mark Winger Deputy Chair of the Foundation.

MW Bro McGlaggan, himself a Waikato Freemason, noted the total support for the project from all Lodges in the District while MW Bro Mace pointed out that Freemasons were making contributions to over thirty hospices throughout the country and were the major provider of palliative care in the central North Island.

The new Hospice will be formed from the complex previously the Hillcrest Motor Lodge and will move into the first stage of the new building in February next year.

Freemasonry at its Best

At the appointed day and time, Almoners and members from their respective Lodges throughout the Otago Districts, also representatives from Southland assembled at the Masonic Centre in Dunedin to share their knowledge experiences, and learn more about the very important duties of a Lodge Almoner.

This gathering was organised under the skilful direction of R W Bro. Ollie Laytham and his worthy team of assistants, who supplied a well prepared morning tea and luncheon including soup which was received with enthusiasm by all of the ninety five Brethren and two ladies present who were in one place and in one accord, waiting in anticipation to obtain new ideas and gain others by the input from the various speakers followed at times by some interesting debate

Much was to be gained from all of those six who presented their respective papers and constructive ideas of an Almoner's Duty to the Lodge Members, Widow's and Widowers.

It was worthy of note that R W Bro. Mark Winger, President of the Board of Benevolence, in his report of it's intention to get back to basics and to make the primary focus on our own aged Brethren, their Widows and families, how important the role of Almoner was.

So much so that, after the Worshipful Master, the Almoner was next most important office in the Lodge, and if he required assistance, that was to be given by the Wardens as part of their usual duties.

There was an interesting point, which a Brother raised from the body of the meeting, which I am sure most of us have never had enter our thinking, that in the modern world of ours, we have a lack of trust of strangers in our midst.

It was therefore suggested that when visiting a widow, it may be prudent to invite your wife to accompany you, which could save embarrassment from any wrongful idea's created by neighbourhood watch.

The final paper was presented by a brother who suggested a dream of some difference that of Grand Lodge, or Districts, embracing an organisation such as St Johns Ambulance, to share the annual subscription between a member of a Lodge and Grand Lodge, or each individual District, thus providing assistance to the community, members of the Lodges who would be interested in such a scheme of belonging to a worthy organisation, which they may require one day, and to assist St. Johns with much needed finance.

What better way to assist our ageing membership?
Food for Thought!!

After a cuppa and bite, and indeed a very fruitful and worthwhile day, all departed satisfied in Peace and Harmony.

by V W Bro Ed Collet

Famous Freemasons through out time

MONARCHS

King George IV 1762-1830
King William IV 1765-1837
King Edward VII 1841-1910
King Edward VIII 1894-1972
King George VI 1895-1952

STATESMEN

Edmund Burke 1729-1797
George Canning 1770-1827
Lord Randolph Churchill 1849-1895
Cecil Rhodes 1852-1903
Sir Winston Churchill 1874-1965

SCIENTISTS

Sir Joseph Banks 1744-1820
Dr Edward Jenner 1749-1823
Sir Alexander Fleming 1881-1955

EXPLORERS

Capt. Robert Falcon Scott RN 1868-1912
Sir Ernest Shackleton 1874-1922

ACTORS

William Abbott 1789-1843
Sir Henry Irving 1838-1905
Peter Sellers 1925-1980

WRITERS

Alexander Pope 1688-1744
Robert Burns 1759-1794
Sir Walter Scott 1771-1832
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle 1859-1930
Rudyard Kipling 1865-1936

Freemasonry at a Cross-Roads

If the membership continues to decline at the present yearly rate, in ten years our membership will be less than 5000 nationally, and we will be lost in the wilderness.

What is the Solution? Where have we failed?

Firstly our lifestyle has changed dramatically, so has the world!!!! Yet, we have not. Our Ritual & Practices are the same as three hundred years ago and sound, as ever, with high moral and social values to mankind and ourselves. But these cannot and must not be changed at any cost or sacrifice.

Whenever a Lodge closes or amalgamates members are lost for some unknown reason some members believe they have lost something very personal to them. Monthly meetings are failures, because of a lack of contact with members. Do we support other Lodges as we once did? I do not think so.

But let us not forget most Masters have been there before, are we supporting our Worshipful Master?

Unfortunately as the years roll on we do not have the same contacts as before so this places an added burden on the younger members being the age group required for survival unless we begin thinking of our immediate family members, which brings me to thinking of a friend's night in which I was involved. It was a well organised evening with a guest speaker explaining some of the principals and values of Freemasonry with a light supper provided, three candidates were the result.

Perhaps the most interesting event of the night was a conversation I had with the Lodges S W's son who had no interest in becoming a member. As our friendly discussion was concluding, I passed a very simple remark, 'you sure would make your Dad proud if you changed your mind.' He did and signed a week later. His Dad was very proud and so was I, thinking a little moisture on the seed that had already been sown, bore fruit, so a friend's night can work with effort ... nothing is gained without it !!!!!!!

So much has been mentioned in recent years about involving our wives or partners, but as we all are aware this has certain limitations, but there can be ways of accommodating this problem by other means, why not investigate other clubs or organisations that are retaining membership or even gaining, there are not many. What about the growing numbers of folks joining Probus Clubs?

Some will suggest this is for senior citizens — that is true, but you are not required to learn Ritual — true, or take Office — true, — but you can be entertained by guest speakers or be involved, it is your choice, somehow there must be a message that we can gain from this to benefit our flagging organisation.

Some years ago, in discussion with a Grand Lodge Officer about the above discussion, his reply was straight to the point "If that is what you want then join a Probus Club." Somehow he missed my point.

Yet our sister Lodges in Alexandra I believe have a "Fish and Chip" tea on a Friday night with a guest speaker of quality with their ladies present once a month which as I understand is well

supported. So there is scope for variation but there must be support, not like I've seen, at Men's Health Week alter an excellent organisational effort.

When joining Freemasonry, I was well informed it was not a benevolent society, having witnessed over a period of nearly forty years many thousands of dollars distributed to the community to assist others in need. It certainly gives us all a great deal of satisfaction, but this also has never helped in membership.

Of course this has never been the object of helping others in need, as Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth have and always will be our fundamental principals.

"I have a dream," famous words spoken equally by some, who became famous people. May I quote a text from the V of the SL. "your young men will have visions and your old men shall dream dreams."

Let me share my dream with you.

As already stated much assistance has been given to the community without any return, as with scholarships 70% are awarded to female's who will never join Freemasonry

So why not do something for the community with a benefit to our members, Widows and Widowers. Grand Lodge is involved in a financial scheme with the National Bank, three parties benefit, the Bank, the investor and Grand Lodge. My dream is on similar lines — if G/L. or Districts became involved with St Johns Ambulance, on a subsidised and a reduced bulk fee for members and their dependants, there would be many winners, St Johns, G/L, Members of the Community, also the Members participating. How could this possibly work? You may ask.

The present cost of being a member of St Johns is \$45.00 p.a. per Couple. \$30.00 p.a. per Single.
\$20.00 Subscriber contribution
\$20.00 District contribution
\$5.00 Bulk purchase Reduction by St Johns.

If 400 Brethren from Otago and St John embraced this idea, the organisation would benefit by \$16,000 p.a.

Just imagine the impact if 3,000 Masons nation wide took up the challenge, supported by Grand Lodge \$120,000.00 towards assisting mankind as well as helping our own. You may need their assistance one day.

May I leave this thought with you?

Water the seeds and your garden will flourish.
Do nothing and they will wither and die.

Present Standard Cost for Ambulance Service Call Out: -
For an Emergency, \$ 54.00
For Non Emergency \$105.00

Submitted by Lodge Aurora No.155

Our Once In A completed but f



Below is an account from Otago Girls High School teacher Wendy Dunn, on the trip won by Peggy Russell, Annikka Metua and Susan Smirk from Otago Girls High School through the 2007 Freemasons BIG Science Adventure.



**New Zealand War Memorial on edge of Hyde Park,
London**

photo courtesy of Sarah Bennet

The journey directly to London had us arrive at 6am. The drive from the airport gave the girls a glimpse of the city and after checking into the hotel we wasted no time getting out and about. A picnic lunch in Hyde Park was followed by a visit to the very good NZ War Memorial established this year. The London Eye was definitely worth the queue and was a fantastic introduction to the city. The next few days were a well planned mixture of formality with the serious nature of our visit and the informal times when we were tourists. However we did prefer to think of ourselves as “travellers” rather than tourists! The Beddington

Carbon Zero housing development was an interesting composite of ideas with the aim of having zero carbon emission.

The Natural History Museum was fascinating. Even though we spent about 5 hours there it still wasn't enough. One of the curators, Steve Caffety has now established links with the groups on these Royal Society trips to the U.K. and it was obvious why. He was an interesting and engaging person who generously gave his afternoon to us. Steve showed us the Banks Collection. These plants were collected on Cook's Voyage around NZ and so are approximately 250 years old. It was a real treat for us to visit this otherwise inaccessible collection. There were dried and pressed samples along with sketches and they were kept in an air-conditioned room. London was very hot during our visit and so the visit to this room was a relief.

A day trip to Cambridge was both relaxing as we punted along the river and also incredibly stimulating. We met a fellow New Zealander, Gerry Gilmore, who is the head of the Astronomy department at Cambridge University. His knowledge of the history of this department, the first university department to be established in the world, was staggering. We went through the original building where Einstein had also visited, learnt about the origins of the term “computing” when typically young women calculated or “computed” the positions of the stars. How fitting



A Life Time Trip

Far from forgotten

for our trip of seven females! His own physics really appealed to the girls and they enjoyed quizzing him about the nature of his work.

Lord Rees, President of the Royal Society of London and Master of Trinity College, Cambridge made a lasting impression on the whole group. He greeted us warmly, spent more time with us than planned and we all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We were treated to a very traditional English afternoon tea after the interview and filming. What an intelligent and inspiring person. While we met so many amazing people, meeting and chatting informally with Lord Rees was definitely a highlight.

Our overnight stay in Iceland while en route to Greenland was extended due to the fog preventing flights in and out of Kulusuk on the East Coast of Greenland. This phenomenon is an increasingly common occurrence in summer as a direct response to climate change. Iceland was cold – the strong, icy wind made for an unpleasant start to the day. We did enjoy the chance to see more of Reykjavik, the capital city during our extended stay however.

Flying into the island of Kulusuk was stunning. The brown, bare mountains rising out of the blue sea, with glaciers and icebergs adding a dash of white made for a spectacular start to the pinnacle of our trip. We were quite emotional upon arrival. It demonstrated to us just how much we had been looking forward to this trip. We were greeted at the airport by an Englishman Alun Richardson who was our guide for this part of the trip. The hotel is a 15 minute walk from the small (350 people) traditional village of Kap Dan. After walking into the village, past colourful houses, many huskies (still the main form of transport in winter) and children playing and riding their bikes we tried our hand at a spot of fishing for Arctic char. The clear

Approaching the Sermilik Fjord, home to the worlds most productive glaciers



Walking into the village of Kap Dan in Kulusuk, East Greenland

waters were teeming with them but unfortunately we couldn't land one. In the evening we travelled by boat across the fjord to Apusiajik glacier. The scale of it is only realised when you are on land watching the seemingly tiny boat as it approaches the ice face.

cont. over page ►



It too, is suffering from warming temperatures and has retreated over a kilometre in the last decade.

A local fishing boat was our main form of transport for the next few days. We stayed in the larger (1800 people) village of Tasiilaq for several days. Here we learnt more about the local ways. The port is where in summer supply ships bring in the frozen and tinned foods that compliment the largely seal meat and fish diet. We ate well in hotel buffets. The lamb is even dearer and tastier than NZ lamb. Stock raised in the south has high costs associated with winter sheltering and the diet of herbs gives the meat a fragrant taste. We also ate fish and beef. Locally mushrooms are grown but little else however the warming of the climate means that tomatoes and potatoes are now grown outside in fjords on the west coast.

Both villages had large, modern primary school buildings although if further education (10 years and above) is gained it is typically in West Greenland. This drain of young has contributed to the breakdown of the strong traditional family structure and also to the decline of the East Coast language. We came across very few people who spoke English. The population is a mixture of mainly Inuit but also Danes and Icelanders.

The weather was variable. We had some stunning days travelling on the boat with clear sunny skies. The temperature was around 8°C although with our merino layers we felt very warm! However we had two days of rain and this prevented us flying by helicopter up onto the ice sheet. We interviewed and sent two NZ adventurers on their way hauling sledges across the ice cap before kayaking a section of the west coast.

We spent a day travelling to and exploring the village of Ikateq abandoned in the late 1990s. Due to the changes in climate the ice has not always formed allowing hunting of seals. The small east coast population of is far more traditional than the west coast and essentially lead a subsistence lifestyle. It is still visited by hunters for short periods as they sledge using huskies overland to the village in winter but permanent residents have left and while the church, school and some homes are in good condition others have deteriorated rapidly. This was a magical day. We cruised along a coastline littered with icebergs and watched seals and whales in the distance.

Upon returning to Iceland we did a plane trip around some of the highlights – volcanic mountains, geysers, massive glaciers and colourful valleys. We were certainly surprised by the scale of what we saw.

The last night together was spent in Bath – a lovely town to relax in. Annika, Susan, Peggy and Wendy all returned to New Zealand directly from here. As

we now look through our photos and relate our trip to friends and family we often reflect on what an amazing trip we had. It was quite spectacular and we often reminded ourselves how fortunate we were to have such forward thinking and generous sponsors. The trip ran so smoothly and this is credited to the planning and organisation of Faith Atkins from the Royal Society.

We can't thank the people responsible for putting this experience together enough. We are sincerely appreciative and all acknowledge that this truly was a "once in a lifetime" experience.

By Wendy Dunn

The 2008 Freemasons BIG Science Adventure competition theme will be *Charles Darwin and The Theory of Evolution*. This time there will be two exciting trips up for grabs; a two week trip to the UK and a mystery voyage to a remote location.

With prizes such as these, the competition promises to be just as successful as previous years and draw the same outstanding level of interest and talent from students and secondary schools from throughout the country.

Keep a look out in the next editions of the *New Zealand Freemason* and www.freemasons.co.nz for details and updates on next year's competition.

More images of the Otago girls and their trip to the UK and Greenland will also be available for viewing on www.freemasons.co.nz

Defining the Indefinable

I like to play Computer Games and because of this I have joined an internet group called The Older Gamers www.theoldergamers.com. At this internet site, called a forum, computer gamers over the age of 25 discuss everything from computer games to cooking.

A recent discussion, or to use internet speak a thread, was about Freemasonry. It started when one of the gamers, a Freemason from Victoria, asked if there were any other Freemasons on the forum. To his and my surprise the discussion took off and before long there were 20 pages of questions and answers about Freemasonry from some very interested computer gamers.

Many of these had fathers or grandfathers who were or had been freemasons but yet they knew very little about this fraternal organisation. This lack of knowledge was the biggest stumbling block to their joining. In some cases Dad or Granddad had asked them to join but had refused or been unable to supply any background information stating simply that they needed to join to find out more. Our open discussion on the forum gave them an opportunity to ask their questions and to find out more about the Craft, it also gave me a view of the thoughts of some younger potential candidates.

Their questions were many and diverse but one of the biggest issues that arose was over the requirement of Freemasonry to have a belief in a 'Supreme Being'. It was not so much that the individuals concerned did not have such a belief just that they did not think that their belief would be acceptable to Freemasonry. The reason was that they did not necessarily support a particular religion or religious view but had a personal concept of deity. Their older relatives followed the mainstream religions but the younger men hold a more personal and individual belief.

Because of this difference they were attempting to define the term 'Supreme Being' from a Masonic viewpoint to see if their belief concept would be compatible with that definition. Being men of the information age they had looked up another internet

source, the ever popular Wikipedia and found the following definition "The term 'Supreme Being' is often defined simply as "God", and it is used with this meaning by theologians of many religious faiths, including, but not limited to, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Deism and Scientology. However, the term can also refer to more complex or philosophical interpretations of the divine. Many fraternal organizations, especially those which admit members of diverse religious backgrounds (such as Freemasonry) use the term as a generic description, allowing the candidate to adhere to whichever deity or concept he holds to be appropriate."

This gives a very liberal interpretation but still leaves room for doubt. Particularly as Wikipedia goes on to say "Most Freemasons would take the view that the Supreme Being equates to God; others hold a more complex or philosophical interpretation of the term."

Our enquirer still finds himself trying to determine if his belief fits with what might be considered "a complex or philosophical interpretation" But to my mind what follows in Wikipedia is more important from the Masonic context as it states "...the candidate is not asked to expand on, or explain, his or her interpretation of Supreme Being. The discussion of politics and religion is forbidden within a Masonic Lodge so a candidate or Mason should not be placed in the situation of having to justify the interpretation."

In other words a new candidate to Freemasonry does not require a definition because a member's concept of a 'Supreme Being' is personal and may well be undefined; it is left to the individual to preserve his own understanding according to his own religious traditions. He simply has to believe in a 'Supreme Being' and be prepared to take an oath on a Holy Scripture of his choice.

Simply put the attempt to fit a particular personal belief to a generic definition was the only real problem. I wonder how many potential candidates we may have lost because of attempts to define the indefinable.

by Grand Secretary VW Bro Laurence Milton

Freemasonry and Membership

As many of you may be aware, one of the tasks of the Board of General Purposes is to discuss and set policy for the betterment of the Craft. The Grand Master and his team of Divisional Grand Masters, charged with the task of leading our fine organisation, with the assistance of the District Grand Masters, implements this policy. It has become apparent that although the former has been accomplished, the later in a majority of cases, is lacking in functionality.

In our hierarchal structure these procedures, together with their tools have been provided from above but unfortunately the implementation of these have in a good number of cases been ignored or at best left to the other brother. The volumes that have

been written and in many cases presented to lodges on Planning and Membership must be gathering much dust if no action has been taken regarding their implementation. The choice of acting on these or not is a 'no brainer'. The horse has been lead to a trough full of water, surely it can't taste THAT bad!

I write this well in advance of proposed discussion to be held at Board level, but feel convinced that should not a major upturn voluntarily occur, some pressure, the outcome of which may be quite unsavory, will be forced upon us. I refer specifically to the lack of medium to long term planning for the future of our craft lodges and those progressing the imitable culture of 'waiting for

god'. The Education, Membership and Planning advisory teams have been addressing and assisting those lodges with a positive inclination but are becoming hoarse or ringing their hands in anticipation waiting for the other.

There are examples of those lodges that have 'tasted the water' – they are progressing and finding the enjoyment that previously existed.

Brethren, we only have a limited time on this earth and it would

be irresponsible and a slight on our forebears should we leave our beloved craft in a condition worse than when we joined. Considering the time, effort and no doubt money – much harder earned than today – our founding members input, surely we can do better. I implore you to grasp this mettle and bring the enthusiasm back to the craft that was surely evident when we took our first step.

By R W Bro Wally Latham. Article is courtesy of the Divisional Grand Masters report from the 'Central Craftsman' September 2007.

Whats happening in Publicity?

Measuring Our Image

Every Freemason knows the size of Freemasonry. The lecture on the tracing board of the first degree tells us that the science is boundless, that Freemasonry is vast and limitless in all directions. That will always be the measure of the Craft.

But the philosophic measure is outweighed in our everyday by countless other less glorious measurements and its numbers. So we come to judge Freemasonry by numbers of Lodges, numbers of members, numbers of candidates and numbers of resignations! These are the reckonings of our health and future. Fortunately we all realise now that there are other measures that must be considered too. Things that represent not only quantity, but quality.

Many will remember those forecasts of doom, not that long ago, when graphs plotted the end of our days. But just like any predictions of future events, patterns change. Maybe the forecasts themselves were the stimulus we needed but whatever the case we are still here still busily counting numbers, but somehow in a better frame of mind.

But this story is supposed to be about publicity. Well it is. It's about counting publicity numbers. It's one of the things that have changed since the doomsayers days. One. There is a national publicity plan. Two. It has been running for seven years. Three. We have made vast progress in many ways. But how much progress? The singular task of the Publicity Committee has always been "To create a favourable public image for Freemasonry". Has the public image of Freemasonry changed in that time? And how do we measure what we have achieved?

Starting from zero the first tasks were fundamental – new internal

materials, means of communication for those 'outside' - new brochures, telephone book listings, our website, displays large and small.

Then, actively being seen in public – favourably. There's been a string of projects. The University Scholarships, the Cancer Society Smokefree schools competition, the Young Farmers Awards. On top of all that there was FAME. We would have scored well if we had measured our 'ratings' in November that year! The Men's Health promotion followed two years later! Now we are involved with the Royal Society and The Arts Foundation both providing high-profile publicity.

All this costs money. Grand Lodge has made the funds available. Most who understand the extent of the effort are convinced it has all been well worthwhile. Moving public opinion is a huge task. And with the centuries-old ingrained attitudes prevailing amongst many, we are, as the saying goes, between a rock and a hard place. But then that is not our goal. Our effort is strategically targeted. We are not aiming at 'all people'. We don't have the resources anyway. And it would do more harm than good to our image. Saying we don't have secrets is not the way! We will continue to probe with the tactics of 'association' as for example, with our relationship with The Royal Society of NZ.

Meantime, anecdotal evidence all points in a positive direction. We are making an impression in the right circles. Is it time to take our 'temperature' by using public research methods? Possibly. It is being considered. Tune in to the next exciting episode!

By VW Bro Noel Ryan

Dancing Their way to the Top

A \$200 cheque presented in June '07 by the Stokes Valley Lodge No 460 to the Samuel family of Stokes Valley has proven to be well worth it and well deserved.

Way back in the beginning of the year, Maureen Samuel began fundraising for her three children to attend and compete in the 2007 World Dance Challenge in Los Vegas. The Stokes Valley Lodge got wind of the fundraising venture and decided to get involved and lend a helping hand.

Maureen's children; Aroha (16) Marie (10) and Matiu (8) have been studying dance with the Jeanette Mullins School of Dance in the Stokes Valley. This year, the trio competed in the Australian Showcase final and through that competition, they qualified to attend the 2007 World Dance Challenge in Los Vegas in July 2007.

Maureen needed to find \$20,000 to finance the trip for her three children and so began her involvement with the Freemasons. Stokes Valley Lodge Master Ian Lawson and other Lodge members



The Samuel family at the cheque presentation ceremony. From L to R: Aroha, Marie, Matiu, mum Maureen and R W Bro Ian Lawson.

approached various local businesses and The Flight Centre Upper Hutt donated a \$100 voucher while Hair at the Top Stokes Valley donated a \$60 hair product voucher. These items were then raffled off through the Lodge to create more revenue for the fundraising.

Since the fundraising venture and the presentation of the cheque in early June, the Samuel family have been and returned from the World Dance Challenge, winning a total of 19 trophies between them. Aroha was placed 14th out of 140 dancers in the World Dance Challenge, achieving High Firsts in Tap, Open and Musical Theatre, which also earned her the Miss Happy Feet special prize.

Marie also did exceptionally well in her entered categories, achieving High Firsts in Tap, Open and Musical Theatre, to come 11th in the 9-12 years category and placed just outside the Top 10 in the World.

The most successful of the three was younger brother Matiu, who managed to topple 50 dancers from the United States and Australia to win the Eight-and -Under category, competing and winning the Tap, Open, and Song and Dance as well as the Mr. Mini Las Vegas title.

Now that they are back on home soil and settled back into everyday life, Maureen says that the trip was well worth it and she is very appreciative to the Freemasons and in particular Lodge Stokes Valley for all their support of her and her three children.

The North Shore Poetry and Essay Competition

The Lodge of Enlightenment No. 502 recently held their fourth annual North Shore Colleges Essay and Poetry Contest with outstanding results and interest. The contest is open to all the North Shore secondary schools to determine who, amongst all the colleges, has the North Shore Essay and poetry winner for 2007.

This year, a large selection of entries were submitted and as in previous years,



Essay winner Chantelle Potter and judge Robyn Langwell

the poetry competition was judged by North Shore's literary icon author, poet and artist Kevin Ireland. The Essay contest was judged by the well known journalist Robyn Langwell.

The prize giving ceremony was held at the Spencer & Byron Hotel on Monday 13 August 2007 and was attended by contest entrants, their parents and the participating Colleges Heads of Department.

Chantelle Potter from Corelli School was named the Essay



Poetry contest winner Grace Shelley with RW Bro Neil Ingram

contest winner, closely followed behind by Stephanie Fink from Glenfield College as runner up and Peter Yoo from Rosmini College who received a merit award.

The poetry contest was won by Grace Shelley from Takapuna Grammar, runner up was Callum Wright from Glenfield College and Kara Koroinuvuku from Corelli School was given a merit award.

All entries were commented upon by the judges and both Kevin Ireland and Robyn Langwell felt that as all entries were of such a high standard, it was almost impossible to separate them all and that in their own right, each person was capable of winning. The judges also said that it was only after much consultation and discussion that the winners and runners up were separated.

Such a contest being run by The Lodge of Enlightenment No 502 is extremely pertinent since the lodge was established for the purpose of promoting, rewarding and encouraging integrity and excellence in education for the youth of the North Shore.

Prizes and trophies amounting to \$3000 were awarded to the winners, runners-up and merit winners.

The Head Injury Society Receives a Donation from the Freemasons

Freemasons New Zealand have donated a new 'state of the art' photocopier to The Head Injury Society of New Zealand Inc at their Pacific Branch in Porirua, near Wellington.

It was originally started as District Project in the old Wellington Central District under VW Bro Dave Egley P Dist GM. Lodges Aquarius, Zetland, Tamahine-Brooklyn (now ceased), Empire Fergusson and Hinemoa contributed just over \$2200.00 and The Freemasons Charity made up the balance of the total cost of \$7000.00 and it finally came to fruition under VW Bro Dick Forbes Dist GM for the newly amalgamated Kapiti-Wellington District.

The new Photocopier will, according to Chriztine Gemmell National Director of The Head Injury Society of New Zealand Inc, allow the Organisation to improve their communications by producing professional brochures, pamphlets, newsletters and other support and training materials for the clients, families, care



Photo – L to R - VW Bro Dick Forbes Dist GM Kapiti-Wellington District, W Bro Duane Williams MBE, PGStdB Project Co-ordinator, Lisa Tialata (kneeling) Support Worker Head Injury Society, Chriztine Gemmell National Director Head Injury Society and VW Bro Dave Egley P Dist GM at the Official Handover.

givers and all those involved with Head Injuries.

The commonest site of injury in accidents is the head. Each year 9000 New Zealanders are admitted to hospital with head injuries which is about 170 a week. Males are the most likely to have a head injury and are the least likely to do something about it. The most frequent causes are car/motorcycle accidents, sports and home accidents with 50 percent of those injured aged 15-34 years old. Alcohol is also a factor in the large number of severe head injuries.

Both Dave and Dick agreed that it was a very practical way for Freemasons to assist an Organisation dealing with clients suffering from the

partial or total loss of one's faculties due to a Head Injury and the sometimes devastating consequences for those affected, their partners and families. A recent Sunday Night British Drama on TV One highlighted that.

by W Bro Duane Williams MBE, PGStdB

Lodge Otangaki Mo. 70

The July meeting of Lodge Otangaki proved a memorable occasion for three of its members. Two of which are brothers besides being Brothers. W. Bro. Bruce Moar (left) was presented with his 25 year Badge by his brother Richard.



W Bro Bruce Moar and his brother W Bro Richard Moar
It is actually 47 years since he was initiated by his brother so he is looking forward to receiving his 50 year Badge in another 3 years. Bruce was Master of the Lodge in 1974, and at his Installation meetings had the honor of receiving greetings from 20 Lodges.



R W Bro. W Wong and W Bro Richard Moar
Now here is the rub. His brother W Bro Richard (Dick) Moar received his 60 year Badge which was presented by R W Bro W Wong P Prov G M (who also presented R W Bro Wong with his 50 year Badge) W. Bro. Dick Moar was proposed by his Father, W. Bro. J. T. Moar.

Dick was initiated in April 1947. Passed in September and Raised in December of the same year. He was installed as Master in 1960 and on that memorable night a ballot was held for his brother Bruce. The highlight of his year

was the opportunity of Initiating, Passing and Raising his own brother. Dick is the first member of the Lodge to receive this Badge as a continuous member for the 60 years.



Dick's wife and his son, his grandson, granddaughter and other members of his family came for the occasion, some of them coming from Dargaville.



W Bro Graham Stidolph and V W Bro David Patterson

The third presentation was a 50 year Badge to W. Bro. Graham Stidolph by W Bro David Patterson.

This was presented to him by W. Bro. David Patterson of Trentham Lodge No. 262, President of the Railway Craftsmen Association. "Stidey" as he is known was initiated in July 1957. Passed as part of a double Passing with a Brother of the Palmerston North Lodge No. 283 at the 800th meeting of the Lodge in March 1958 and Raised in December of the same year. He became Master of Lodge Otangaki in 1995. Graham is also a member and regular attendee of the Kimbolton Lodge No. 123. In his private life, Stidey was a marine engineer working for the Union Steamship Co., after which he joined the N. Z. Railways retiring in 2000. Graham's brother, W. Bro. Syd Stidolph and their partners were there to support and celebrate with him.

The whole evening was a great success for the Lodge in general and particularly for the recipients. Entertainment in Refectory was provided by a Barbershop chorus and refreshment, giving great delight to the Brethren Ladies and visitors.

50 Years Dedication

Like many other Freemasons before him, M W Bro R J Duncan PGM is one of many to be acknowledge for his commitment to the craft and honored by his fellow freemasons in an enjoyable "This is Your Life" evening.....

At the Cashmere Masonic Centre, Christchurch, on the 14th March 2007, Most Worshipful Bro Raymond John Duncan P.G.M and his wife Joan were received by his Lodge, United Forces Lodge No. 245 whilst his personal "R J Duncan March" was played. MW Bro Duncan was "Brought to Light" by a "This is Your Life" presentation for his 50 year service badge.



Compare, R W Bro Neville Patrick addressing Mrs. Joan Duncan and the man of the evening, M W Bro Raymond Duncan

Present on this occasion were the Grand Master, MW Bro Barry McLaggan and seven Past Grand Masters, some accompanied by their wives, a large contingent of Grand Lodge Officers, sitting Masters and brethren of all ranks. DVD greetings from Past Grand Masters who were unable to attend were played on screen.

MW Bro Duncan was presented with his 50 year badge by RW Bro Neville F Patrick P Dep. GM, after which Mrs. Janine Cawley presented Mrs. Duncan with a bouquet. Bro Kevin Cawley was the compare of "This is Your Life" evening. An evening that was steeped in history, fun and interestingly enough, secrecy.

As imagined, the evening had been planned for many months with a small group working behind the scenes. Even after the lodge had opened and Grand Lodge admitted, M W Bro Duncan was still very unaware of what was going to occur and indeed had no idea that his wife and family would not only be present but would also play a part in the evening procedures.

The presentations made by the GL officers and wives, selected brethren and Mrs. Duncan brought many moments of laughter from the assemblies.

Much was said of the knowledge shared by all those who relied on M W Bro Duncan's precious records and memories of Masonic regularities and his consistent preservation of our ritual and rules. His advice was not considered "forceful but wiser to accept" by many.

M W Bro Duncan has assisted in the maintenance of the Cashmere lodge building, refurbished the lodge World War 1 and 2 Honours board which were rededicated at their new home, The Cashmere Masonic Centre, with pride and reverence by United Forces Lodge.

Raymond John Duncan was born at Hokitika on 4th August 1926. Educated at Hokitika District High School, he entered the building industry in which he spent all his working life. He has worked as a building supervisor on his own account and was deputy head of the Buildings Department Waimairi District Council whilst Grand Master in 1984.

Sport has always occupied much of MW Bro Duncan's leisure time and M W Bro Duncan is a Past President of Probus and a life member. He has been a member of brass bands for nearly 25 years, initially as a cornet player with the Hokitika Municipal Band and then with

the Band of the 1st Battalion Canterbury Regiment, playing the tenor horn. Ray and Mrs. Duncan are both music lovers.

MW Bro Duncan was initiated into Pacific Lodge No 1229 (English constitution), passed and raised in 1957. In 1961 he joined Avon Lodge No 185, serving as Master in 1970, and is a member of Masters and Past Masters Lodge No

130. He was President of the Prov. Board of Benevolence in 1973-74,

Asst. Prov. GM Canterbury from 1977-78, Prov. GM 1981-84 and Grand Master 1984-86. He has been the representative for the Grand Lodge of NZ to the United Grand Lodge of England since 1985. He is a member of the Grand Masters Advisory Committee and is Chairman of the Ritual Ceremonial and Protocols sub-committee. For 12 years he served on the Canterbury Masonic Charitable Trust Board and was a member of the steering committee for the establishment of low rental flats in Canterbury.

In Royal Arch Freemasonry, MW Bro Duncan joined Shirley Chapter No 86 in 1966 and was first principal 10 years later. In 1981 he was made a Grand Lecturer in Grand Chapter. He was also a member of St Augustine Cryptic Council No 1, Excelsior Rose Croix No 78 and of Royal Canterbury Preceptory No 246 Knights Templar. He is currently Deputy Master in United Forces Lodge No 245.

Undoubtedly a night that will not be forgotten and will be remembered by those attending as a night fitting for a Freemason who has given 50 years exemplary service to the craft.

70 Year Awards

Name	Lodge	District
Bro Albert Christian Voss MM	Petone Daylight Lodge No. 458	Hutt/Wairarapa

60 Year Awards

Name	Lodge	District
Bro Thomas Charles Sproule MM	South Otago Lodge of Unity No 14	Wickliffe
W Bro Donald Frederick Johnston PG Std B	The Ponsonby Lodge No 54	Auckland Central
Bro Lionel Oscar Edwards MM	The Fortitude Lodge No 64	Southland
W Bro William Joseph Hutt PGBB	St Augustine Lodge No 99	Midland
Bro Alan Kitchiner Godfery MM	Lodge North Harbour No 182	Northshore
W Bro Robert John Monteith Wallace PM	Pono Lodge No 203	Northland
R W Bro Oliver Ross Nicholson PGBB	Lodge Arawhaiti No 267	Auckland Central
R W Bro Roy James Towers PGW	Lower Hutt Lodge No 299	Hutt/Wairarapa
W Bro Alexander Thomas Ross PGBB	Lodge Mana No 352	Kapiti/Wellington

50 Year Awards

Name	Lodge	District
R W Bro Evered Hugh Hadfield Goodall PGW	Motueka Bays Lodge No 117	Nelson/Marlborough
W Bro James William Thompson PM	Pacific Leinster Lodge No 2	Kapiti/Wellington
V W Bro Harry Thomas Arcus PGC	Pacific Leinster Lodge No 2	Kapiti/Wellington
W Bro Rodney Harrison Wimsett PM	Scinde Lodge No 5	Eastland
W Bro Brian Athlone Sanders GS	Manukau-Westmere Lodge No 24	Auckland Central
Bro Malcolm Allan Peach MM	The Ashley Lodge No 28	Pegasus
W Bro Mark George Williams PM	The St George Lodge No 29	Midland
W Bro Denys Lester Sparrow PM	The Concord Lodge No 39	Pegasus
Bro Frank John Robins PM	Lodge Wairoa No 55	Auckland East
W Bro Graham Brian Fred Stidolph PM	Otangaki Lodge No 70	Ruapehu
Bro Walter Grant Richards MM	Lodge Oamaru Kilwinning No 82	Otago Lakes
W Bro Vernon Leslie Alexan Powell PM	Marlborough Lodge of Unanimity No 106	Nelson/Marlborough
Bro Kenneth Guy Lynch MM	The Waipa Lodge No 119	Waikato
W Bro Kenneth Francis Osborn PM	The Kimbolton Lodge No 123	Ruapehu
Bro Robert Arthur Campbell MM	The Crown Lodge No 138	Pegasus
Bro Leslie Frank Hall PM	Rongotea Lodge No 146	Ruapehu
W Bro Ian Robert McArthur PM	Lodge Musselburgh No 154	Wickliffe
W Bro Lennox Mounsley PM	Lodge St Martin No 162	Midland
Bro Frank Parsons MM	Lodge Te Marama No 186	Waikato
W Bro Harry Dewhurst PM	Lodge Takapuna No 202	Northshore
V W Bro Peter Minshaw Kershaw G Lec	Lodge Takapuna No 202	Northshore
W Bro Roger John Galilee PM	Lodge Kaikohe No 255	Northland
Bro Donald Edward Allen MM	Lodge Awatea No 258	Ruapehu
V W Bro Matthew Tweedie PGDC	Te Mata Lodge No 298	Ruahine
Bro Garry Neville Linkhorn	Lodge Te Papa No 316	Bay of Plenty
W Bro Winsbury James Robinson PM	The Lodge of Peace No 322	Auckland East
W Bro Peter Gow Riddell PM	The Lodge of Peace No 322	Auckland East
W Bro Kenneth Edmund Seal PM	Lodge Hern Bay United No 340	Auckland Central
W Bro Jack Bourke PGBB	The Milford Trinity Lodge No 372	Northshore
W Bro Edward George Mosely PM	Lodge Fendalton No 384	Canterbury
R W Bro John Anthony FitzHerbert P Prov GM	Lodge Putaruru-Tirau No 401	Geyserland
Bro Morris Aaron Lawson MM	Lodge Kaimanawa No 426	Geyserland
W Bro Stanley James Wilson PM	Lodge Whitianga No 443	Hauraki
W Bro Raymond Charles Langmead PM	The United Lodge of Wanganui No 468	Ruapehu
W Bro Jack Garfield Naylor PGO	The Lodge of Liberal Arts No 500	Auckland East
W Bro Norman William Bradley	Lodge Orewa No 370	Northshore

Congratulations to everyone who received Long Service Awards

Back in the Game After 50 Years

After 50 years of entering the Chair for Mokoreta Lodge in Southland, W Bro Andrew “Bain” McLeod has taken up the position again.

Andrew McLeod, known as “Bain”, first joined the Freemasons in 1949 and was passed in Mokoreta Lodge where he has remained through out his entire Masonic career.

His decision to re enter the Chair came when he noticed that many masters were having a second or third attempt at the Chair and he decided that he wanted to have another turn also. W Bro Bain acknowledges that although it is quite common for a Master to take up the position for a second or third time, he is probably one of few that have done so 50 years after their first time.

“I haven’t noticed too any changes since my last time in the Chair, but perhaps the most obvious change would be my memory...its not so good these days!”

W Bro Bain says that he has always been an active member and attends meetings regularly and to feels that being placed back in the chair is a huge achievement.

W Bro Bain and his wife Dorothy met in 1948 and married in 1953. They spent most of their married life in Dacre where like his father, W Bro Bain entered the farming industry as an adult and for 25 years he and his wife ran a mixed farm. With the help of his wife and young family, he ran the farm single handedly milking up to 100 cows as well as other daily chores. W Bro Bain recalls the hard work as being ‘7 days a week and not much of a break from it.’ W Bro Bain and Dorothy retired from farming several years ago and now live in Invercargill.

As well as the farm, W Bro Bain and Dorothy had 4 children and now 6 grandchildren and they both agree that retirement and moving to Invercargill has enabled them to spend more time with their grandchildren than ever possible.

Obituary

Bro Harold John Jenks RH

14 October 1906 – 30 June 2007

Harold was a distinguished land surveyor, a Fellow of the NZ Institute of Surveyors and the recipient of several awards.

He qualified as surveyor in 1928 and spent most of his working life with the Ministry of Works carrying out surveys for power investigation, being appointed the Ministry’s first Chief Surveyor in 1967.

After his retirement in 1971 he moved to Mt Maunganui and wrote his life story primarily for his grandchildren. The NZ Institute of Surveyors recognizing the historical value of this work arranged to have an extended version published. Thus Harold’s book “The Wind in the Tussocks” describing his surveying achievements on the Waikato River and the central North Island plateau from 1933 to 1949 was launched at a Fellow’s Dinner in October 2006, just after his 100th birthday.

The writer first became acquainted with Harold through his work in the 1960’s but it was only when Harold came regularly to visit and then live in Nelson that we realized we were both members of the Craft. From then on the writer regularly visited Harold and a fast friendship developed.

Harold joined the (now dormant) Combined Forces Lodge No 284 in Auckland of which his father was a Past Master in 1939. He already had a favourable opinion of the institution because as he said in his oral history recorded just before his passing “I can remember as a young boy how my father used to bring people home and I could tell when the visitor was a Freemason by the way they spoke to each other and their general attitude”. His father at that stage would have been a member of the King’s Navy Lodge No 2901 EC meeting at Gillingham in Kent.

Harold was a member of Lodge Tokoroa-Orakau No 344 and became a member of Lodge Mt Maunganui No 376 in 1983. He was awarded the Roll of Honour in 1998. In Nelson he was occasionally able to visit Lodge Nelson No 288.

He was a very keen and knowledgeable Freemason and enjoyed discussing the origins and meaning of the Craft and in his oral history running to 80 pages, two are devoted to Freemasonry.

Harold John Jenks was a meticulous and highly respected surveyor, a good Freemason and a gentleman. We are the poorer for his passing.

Prepared by V W Bro R M Chapple

Grand Master attends Jewish Service

The Grand Master MW Bro Barry McLaggan and Mrs Jill McLaggan accompanied by a large number of Brethren and ladies attended a regular service of the Jewish Progressive Congregation honouring the Freemasons at the Beth Shalom Synagogue in Auckland on Friday evening 10th August.

Visitors included Past Grand Master MW Bro David Mace, Divisional Grand Master RW Bro Selwyn Cooper as well as leaders of our Sister Constitutions: RW Bro Angus Graham, Scottish Constitution, RW Bro Peter Gudsell, English Constitution and RW Bro Roland Whyte, Irish Constitution as well as many Jewish Freemasons.

The service, which was an interesting and enjoyable occasion for all, especially the singing of the choir, included an address by The Grand Master :

**Lorraine Lippman, President of the Congregation,
Ladies & Gentlemen of the Jewish faith,
Brethren & Ladies,
Families,**

On behalf of the Freemasons of New Zealand, I am delighted to be here with you this evening at this family service honouring the Freemasons.

In representing the New Zealand Constitution of Freemasons, I also acknowledge the presence of my Brothers and colleagues from our Sister Constitutions

The connections between the Jewish people and Freemasonry stretch from ancient times to the present, but above all, what brings us together is the sharing of principles. In particular those of family and community values.

The traditions and teachings of Freemasonry are founded on Old Testament stories, mainly those surrounding the building of King Solomon's Temple, but it is the universality of the craft that allows men of all persuasions to bind together as Freemasons.

Freemasonry is not a religion but a system of morality, and accommodates all religions, being the union of all good men in peace, love and harmony. It encourages each to worship in whatever way they please and works to avoid conflict by banning the discussion of religion in our Lodges.

The book always open in Freemasons Lodges is known as the Volume of the Sacred Law and refers to those sacred writings particular to the members of the Lodge. In New Zealand, this book is most usually the Holy Bible. This acknowledgement that the Book is peculiar to the individual

members of the Lodge is demonstrated in Israel itself, where, in all the many Lodges under the Grand Lodge of the State of Israel, perhaps 60 or more, it is customary to display three volumes – the Hebrew Bible, the Christian Bible and the Koran –each, the Volume of the Sacred Law for their followers.

We are proud of the many Jewish men who have been and still are members of our Fraternity in Auckland and New Zealand, and they have included many notable people. Both Rabbis Samuel Goldstein and Alexander Astor were members of the Ara Lodge No 1 here in the city, and both were Grand Chaplains before they became Masters of their Lodge.

Your own Rabbi Samuel Tov Lev was a member of Lodge Remuera No 1710 in the English Constitution and also the District Grand Chaplain.

Prominent Jewish names in Auckland have had strong connections with the Craft historically and right through to today, including the Nathan and Ross families.

So we meet and worship as true friends and Brothers. All of us working for goodwill amongst all people and to help those in need.

We thank you for allowing us within your temple and community.

**We thank you for receiving us with dignity and love
We thank you for allowing us to be with you on this special occasion, and may the love we share today be the catalyst for tomorrow.**

250 Years of Freemasonry in Eyemouth, Scotland

Lodge St Ebbe, No 70 in Eyemouth, Scotland celebrates its 250th anniversary during 2007, having been consecrated in November 1757. The Lodge is holding four functions during the year and the photographs show one of these, namely the Lodge Church Parade which was held in conjunction with the Annual Church Parade of the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lothian and Berwickshire.

In picture below at the rear of the parade is Bro James Tarvit, Right Worshipful Master of Lodge St Ebbe, accompanied by Bro George RJ Donnelly, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master. In front of Bro Tarvit is RW Bro Alex Thomson, Past Provincial Grand Master of Canterbury, New Zealand, who was initiated into Lodge St Ebbe in April 1951. RW Bro Thomson made a special effort to attend this function and he wears his Grand Lodge of New Zealand regalia. The Church Service was

conducted by Bro Rev Daniel G Lindsay, PM of Lodge St Ebbe and Past Provincial Senior Grand Chaplain.

Three other functions which will be held during 2007 are: a Ball; a visit to St Ebbe Chapel and Priory; and finally, a Rededication and Consecration of the Lodge, and the presentation of new Lodge Regalia, by the Grand Master Mason of Scotland. This final function will be held on the first Saturday in November which is the actual date of the anniversary. RW Bro Thomson would love to be there but it coincides with the Installation Ceremony of his own Lodge, Harmony Lodge, No 325.

If any brother wishes to visit Lodge St Ebbe, No 70, the Lodge meets on the First Thursday of every month except January and the Installation Ceremony is always held between Christmas and New Year.”



Te Whare Awhina helps out

Earlier this year, Peter Wyatt, one of our senior Brethren from the Bay of Plenty District travelled to Auckland Hospital for cardiac surgery which was cancelled at the last minute and he was asked to return a week later. The accommodation which had been arranged for his wife Pat, was not available for the following week and she was placed in a backpackers type hostel which was not at all suitable for her needs at this trying time. After several days it was suggested that she moved to Te Whare Awhina, which is whanau-based accommodation at the former nurses home at Auckland Hospital. There she found warm and caring people, many of them volunteers, who provided the support that she needed. Awhina means friendliness or to befriend. No organisation could have been more aptly named for indeed it was a place of loving-kindness.

In June, members of the Bay of Plenty District and their wives travelled by coach to North Shore on a fraternal visit. The District Grand Master, V.W.Bro. David Daysh suggested that the District should recognise the kindness extended to Pat by offering a substantial “koha” to the staff and helpers at Te Whare Awhina to thank them for their support and to assist them in carrying on their caring work. At the request of the staff it was given in the form of grocery vouchers. A collection on the coach raised more than half of the sum required and the balance was met from District funds.

The Freemasons of the Bay of Plenty are grateful to the staff and volunteers of Te Whare Awhina for their thoughtfulness in caring for Pat during a very difficult time and would like to publicly acknowledge their great work.

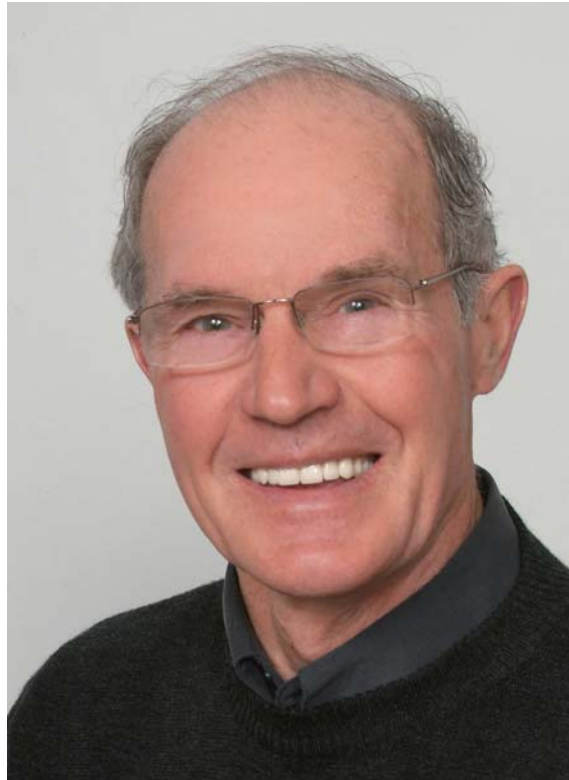
John Livingstone

John Livingstone is the newest member of The Freemasons Charity Board of Benevolence having been appointed in May 2007. Like all the other members of the board, he was appointed by the Grand Master MW Bro Barry Mc Laggan.

As with many other brethren, John Murray Livingstone's Masonic career has been vast. John was initiated into Freemasonry at The Manawatu Kilwinning Lodge No 47 in May 1968. After 17 years of service, he was installed as Master of the lodge in 1985.

John joined the Ruapehu Research Lodge No 444 in 1994 and was installed as the Master in 1999, having previously been the Junior Grand Deacon in 1998. He was then installed as a Grand Lecturer for 2000 – 2002 and during this time also served as the treasurer for the Ruapehu Research Lodge for 2001-2003, the chaplain of the Manawatu Kilwinning Lodge in 2002, and a trustee of the United Kilwinning Trust Board for a lengthy period of 1993 – 2002. John also served as a trustee of the Ruapehu Research Lodge in 2004 and the trustee of the Manawatu Masonic Association Trust in 2006.

John was born and raised in Dunedin where he attended Otago Boy's High School. Like many people of his generation, John left school at 15 years of age and by the time he was 21 years old he was working his passage as a second pantry man aboard



the Shaw Savill cargo and passenger ship "S.S Gothic" to London travelling through the Panama Canal.

After a number of years of travelling and experiencing the world, John returned to New Zealand in 1961 and in 1962, John began working for Henry Berry's Butchers & Bakers Merchants as a commercial traveler and in 1970 Avery Scales as a Salesman. When he left Avery Scales in 1980 John was the Central Regional manager. John re-joined Henry Berry's in 1980 until 1990 when he left to form his own business known as 'Livingstone's Business Equipment' selling cash registers. He was the owner-operator of this business until selling it in 2001. From 2001 until his retirement in 2006, John was a Business Broker and Commercial Real Estate Agent.

Apart from John's extensive Masonic and working career, he has had many interest from being a tenor drummer

in a pipe-band, sailing, skiing, bee keeping and tramping. He is also a keen Rotarian and past president of the Rotary Club in Palmerston North (2002-2003). John was made a Paul Harris Fellow in 2005 in recognition of his work on the Camp Rangitiki Woods project at Pohangina. Since 1962, John has also been a member of the St Andrews Presbyterian Church in Palmerston North, where he has been an elder since 1966.

John is married to Jean Batcheler (nee Robb) and has one daughter and three sons from a previous marriage. John and Jean live in Palmerston North.

Update on Past Scholarship Recipient

Lisa McClintock is a recipient of a 2003 University Scholarship from The Freemasons Charity and our most recent success story.

At the time of being awarded her scholarship, Lisa was studying a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in Chemistry, at Otago University. In the same year, Lisa graduated top of her class.

Once completing her degree, Lisa went on to do post graduate studies in her chosen field and gained another scholarship to assist with



her study. However, this time it was from "A Bright Future Top Achiever" doctoral scholarship which gave her tenure for 3 years to support her PhD studies. This scholarship is one of the most prestigious in the country.

During the course of her PhD, she has attended and presented her work at international conferences in Europe, America and Australia. Earlier this year, she was also selected as the New Zealand representative for a student talk competition at the Australia and New Zealand inorganic chemistry

The Freemasons Charity

conference in Hobart, Tasmania. Lisa says she found the whole experience “challenging but a fantastic opportunity to show case my work to other researchers and get constructive feedback.”

At the end of the ‘nail-biting’ experience, Lisa was declared joint winner of the competition and is the first New Zealand recipient of the prize.

Lisa is currently writing her thesis and anticipating the next stage of her life – full time employment.

“I wish to express my thanks to the Freemasons for awarding me the scholarship in 2003. It was encouraging for me to know that there are people who could see my potential and were prepared to invest in my future. As such, I would like to encourage you to keep doing good work, it does make a difference!”

The Freemasons Charity Board of Benevolence comes to Blenheim

Continuing its commitment to take its meetings outside Wellington the Board of Benevolence members assembled in Blenheim on 14th August for their third meeting of the year. The group landed in Blenheim to be greeted by sunshine and a biting wind off the Alps!

W Bro Andy Wrighton and his wife Barbara made everyone very welcome at their motel, Brydan on Rose in Blenheim.

The Conference Room at the motel became home for the next 1-1/2 days.

In the afternoon 26 Almoners from the Nelson Marlborough region, including District Grand Master VW Bro Roger Chapple, assembled for a meeting convened by W Bro Cedric Cole, Divisional Benevolence Officer.

The meeting covered a couple of hours and gave the President the opportunity to address almoners on initiatives being taken by the Board on their behalf.

Comment heard on the break up of the meeting. “best Almoners meeting I’ve ever been to”

Later in the afternoon the Board members were taken to the Marlborough Hospice, an organisation given great support by the local Freemasons and The Freemasons Charity by way of

purchase of equipment and physical assistance in landscaping and concreting the grounds. The group was spontaneously invited into the building by a senior staff member for a tour of the Hospice, a chance to see some wonderful work being done by some exceptional people.

The Board started its deliberations early on Wednesday morning and continued on for some 7 hours addressing a range of issues both strategic and practical. VW Bro Chapple and W Bro Cole attended as invited local representatives.

The Chairman of the Publicity Committee W Bro Dexter Bambery addressed the meeting on the committee’s plans to publicise the works of The Freemasons Charity both internally and externally.

After the close of the Board meeting W Bro Andy gave the group a tour of the historic Marlborough Village in Blenheim and introduced them to the CEO of the Marlborough Museum. As always, time ran out and the group dispersed late on Wednesday afternoon with much to think about and some very pleasant memories.

Thank you Blenheim!

Pictured below are the current members of the Board of Benevolence hard at work in Blenheim.

Lto R: VW Bro Harry Halliday, VW Bro John Livingstone, VW Bro Jack Price, Grand Secretary VW Bro Laurence Milton, President of Board of Benevolence VW Bro Mark Winger, MW Bro Barry McLaggan (obscured) RW Bro Derek James, W Bro-Ron Mail and W Bro Dexter Bambery



Maori Chapter Marks Centennial

First Grand Principal Rod Biel, accompanied by Third Grand Principal Henry Driver, was in attendance when Maori Royal



Arch Chapter No 28 celebrated its centenary in Dunedin on Saturday July 14.

Special thanks were extended to R E Comp Driver and his wife Val, who had travelled from Kerikeri especially for the celebrations.

In an additional ceremony M E Comp Biel invested R E Comp W J McCallion as Grand Superintendent of the Otago District.

Companions from South Otago, Central Otago and South Canterbury attended and enjoyed a very pleasant weekend. M E Comp Biel commented that it had once again been a great pleasure for him and his wife Raewyn to enjoy some classic Southern hospitality.

By Eoin Dryden PGZ

Back row: V E Comp R E Lobb H, R E Comp W J McCallion GSupt, V E Comp A J Thorley Z, V E Comp M StJ Robertson

2nd GSoj J. Front row: M E Comp G M Daniels PGZ, M E Comp R H Biel GZ, M E Comp E G Dryden PGZ

GZ strikes Wellington Double

First Grand Principal Rod Biel took advantage of coming to Wellington for an Executive meeting in July to make two Chapter visits.

He attended Tutanekai-Hinemoa Chapter No 92 on Tuesday July



At Brooklyn Chapter. L to R: R E Comp Phil Brooke (Grand Superintendent of the Wellington District), W Bro Kevin Smith (Assistant District Grand Master, District of New Zealand, Grand Mark Lodge of England), E Comp John Miller (District 2nd Grand Principal, District of North Island New Zealand, Supreme Grand Chapter of England) and M E Comp Rod Biel GZ

10 for a Royal Arch working, at which the candidate was Comp John Young, and then the next night he was at an emergency meeting of Brooklyn Chapter No 24, held to advance Bro Andrew Potter.

Both meetings were well attended by Wellington District companions. For most of them, it was the first opportunity to meet M E Comp Biel, at least in his new role as the head of the Order.

By Phil Brooke GSupt



At Brooklyn Chapter. L to R: M E Comp Jack Warren PGZ, newly-advanced Bro Andrew Potter, and M E Comp Rod Biel



First Grand Principal Rod Biel (front row, extreme left) was one of the heads of Orders (or their representatives) who attended the installation of Bernie Richmond (third from left) as Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor in Wellington on August 11. (Others in the front row are Grand Supreme Rulers in Australia.)

The working tools of a Freemason's wife

Bev Dryden, the "other half" of Eoin Dryden PGZ, has delivered this charge around the country and says it's always well-received . . . we wonder why that might be!

I will now explain to you the Working Tools of an unpaid housewife.

They are the Saucepan, the Rolling Pin and the Vacuum Cleaner.

The Saucepan is a utensil used to try and construct square meals, and to assist in bringing rude ingredients into palatable form. The Rolling Pin is to lay level pastry and prove doughs. And the Vacuum Cleaner is to try to beat and sweep carpets whilst cleaning them at their proper bases.

But as we are not professional, but free and inventive, or unpaid housewives, it is the morals to be derived from using these tools to which I would direct your attention.

The Saucepan teaches us to regulate our ovens and hotplates according to Electricity Trust of New Zealand line and rule, and to balance our budgets so as to render them acceptable to that (questionably) divine being from whom all housekeeping allowances spring, and to whom we must (supposedly) give an account of all our expenses.

The Rolling Pin demonstrates that we have all sprung from the same culinary college, are partakers of the same foods, and sharers in the same recipes. Although differences among housewives are necessary to preserve our husbands' interest, yet no swelling heads should make us forget that we are all women,

and she who is on the low side, washing and ironing, is equally entitled to a fair go . . . as a time will come, and the wisest of us knows not how soon, when all discrimination, save those of mistress and de facto, shall cease, and marriage, the great leveller of all human desires, will put us all in the same club.

The infallible Vacuum Cleaner, which like every other appliance connects plug to power, is the ultimate in beating and sweeping. It teaches us to walk justly and uprightly before lounge and table, turning neither to the right nor the left from the expanse of the hall carpet. Not to be untidy, slovenly, dirty, or a concealer of dust, neither bending under beds, tables, chairs, lounge suites or the TVs and stereos of mankind, but by giving up carpet sweepers, brooms and dustpans, which might have a tendency to miss corners, to steer the cleaner over the rough pile of carpets without missing the edges, which is the highest perfection that a housewife can attain.

As we raise our standards of housekeeping by the aid of the Vacuum Cleaner and Saucepan, so ought every housewife conduct herself towards her home - to observe due medium between clean and dirty, to set the scales on a level table, to leave passions and promises in the bedroom, and in all her pursuits to have her husband in view.

So the Saucepan teaches compatibility, the Rolling Pin defensibility and the Vacuum Cleaner justness and uprightness of back and torso. Thus, by square meals, level pies and upright backs, we hope to ascend to those tidy mansions from which only harmony, love and cleanliness emanates.

Friends, the Working Tools of a Freemason's wife.

This must be the “Temuka Times”!

Temuka Royal Arch Chapter No 83 has seen it all this year.

In early February the Chapter had an official visit from the Grand Master, M W Bro Barry McLaggan (a PGZ in the Royal Arch), when Companion Andrew Peter Donehue was exalted to the Royal Arch Degree.

And in his first official visit newly installed First Grand Principal Rod Biel visited the Chapter on April 9.

On the occasion of the Grand Master’s visit, in extending a warm welcome to outgoing Canterbury Grand Superintendent Tony Waters, First Principal Les Freeman commented that it was an historic event for a degree to be worked in the presence of the two main Orders.

R E Comp Waters received the then First Grand Principal, M E Comp Eoin Dryden, accompanied by Grand Chapter officers, who in turn received our Grand Master and officers of Grand Lodge. Ladies had been invited for a social hour after which they joined companions and brethren in a very cheerful and vocal refectory.



From left, R E Comp Tony Waters (then GSupt), M E Comp Eoin Dryden (then GZ), M W Bro Barry McLaggan GM, V W Bro George Hughes DistGM (Midland) and M E Comp Trevor Griffiths PGZ



From left, M E Comp Eoin Dryden, then GZ, Comp Andrew Donehue and M W Bro Barry McLaggan, our Grand Master

The previous day the Grand Master and his wife Jill were guests at a barbecue held by the brethren of the Midland Masonic Choir, a meal which naturally enough finished up with a chorus of voices around a keyboard.

It’s very clear that Freemasonry works very well (and very much in harmony in more ways than one) in South Canterbury!

Temuka Chapter was a very fitting venue for the First Grand Principal’s “debut”: it is his predecessor M E Comp Eoin Dryden’s Chapter, and the GZ used the occasion to present R E Comps Eion Miller GSupt, R E Comp Paul Johnston GLec, V E Comp Dennis Gordon GDC and V E Comp Ian McCone PGStdB with their patents of office. The next day M E Comp Biel headed even further south to visit Huiroa Royal Arch Chapter in Gore.

By Eoin Dryden PGZ

M E Comp Rod Biel GZ congratulates V E Comp Ian McCone PGStdB on his Honoris Causa rank while R E Comp Paul Johnnton GLec looks on.



Communities to benefit from Sports First Aid Course

St John is now offering a first aid training course designed to give New Zealanders practical knowledge of how to deal with sports injuries on the scene.

The course is aimed at sports teams, clubs, gyms, athletes, coaches, managers, parents, schools, event organisers and anyone else with an active interest in sport.

The course gives people the skills and confidence they need to provide first aid and emergency care on the rugby field, netball court or at any other sport or athletics venue.

Participants will learn how to assess whether a person needs further treatment, such as being taken to a doctor or hospital, or whether an ambulance is required. If it is an emergency, they will learn how to provide the necessary care while an ambulance is on the way.

This is an eight-hour course focusing on first aid relevant to effectively treating and managing sporting injuries. The diverse range of practical topics include injury prevention, CPR (the resuscitation technique), bleeding control, spinal injury, head injury, concussion, fractures and dislocations, soft tissue injury, tooth injury, and generally how to assist with any sporting injury.

The course was designed by Sports Medicine New Zealand and endorsed by ACC and SPARC. As a provider, St John is applying its expertise built up over more than 120 years in New Zealand. St John already offers a wide range of St John First Aid Training courses nationwide, and is a leading provider of first aid and emergency care services at events.

Considering that sport is such an important part of the New Zealand lifestyle, it is not surprising that St John is now moving to actively empower sporting communities with knowledge and skills to make a difference on the scene.

The price per person is \$115 including GST. Participants must be over 16 years of age to attend the course.

St John is a trusted not for profit organisation with firm roots in New Zealand communities. Fees from First Aid Courses go back into supporting the work of St John, including ambulance services and other community initiatives.

To learn more about Sports First Aid Courses visit our website at www.stjohn.org.nz or phone 0800 STJOHN (0800 785 646)



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