

NEW BOOKS JUNE 2016 ONWARDS IN FREEMASONS NEW ZEALAND LIBRARY

THE APPRENTICE PILLAR by Peter Durney



"Jamie Linton, the son of a widow, does not manage at school. After an unfortunate episode he is asked to leave, and his future looks bleak. His one talent is carving small, wooden figurines. Although he feels that his reputation as a non-achiever is unjustified, his dreams and ambitions seem absolutely unattainable. This story demonstrates that with personal determination and the assistance and encouragement of others, the seemingly impossible may be within reach"

The Apprentice Pillar by Peter Durney - reviewed by Tim Rogerson

The author, Peter Durney, is an interesting person who has taught engineering, been to South Korea where he taught English, spent four years on a narrow boat on the Grand Union Canal in England and as a kiwi Gold Card holder has taken to writing books.



In support of the 125th Anniversary, NZ author Peter Durney was invited to write a novel that was not only relevant to the projects being supported by Freemasons, but also to convey some of the spirit of Freemasonry. In this story, the author has created a subtle blend of Masonic tradition with present day Masonic activity in a story that everybody can relate to. The book costs just \$25; and can be obtained from Brian Crone at jccrone@xtra.co.nz. Further information will be forthcoming from the District Grand Masters in the next few weeks"

I am glad that he has as "The Apprentice Pillar", his fifth book in five years, is a darn good read. Durney has said of his writing, "I like to think that my stories are comfortable, entertaining and thought provoking".

What he has done with this most recent book of his is to clearly weave a Masonic legend into an absorbing tale of a lonely, low self-opinioned "son of a widow" who climbs out of his self-pitying world to make himself a person to be admired. If you would care to acquaint yourself with the first book of Kings, chapter VII, verses 13-40 you will come upon the story of the King of Solomon calling in the help of Hiram Abif, King of Tyre and "son of a widow", in his urge to build a temple to the glorification of God. Hiram Abif agrees to do so and provides the timber from the cedars of Lebanon. But the most note-worthy pieces of architecture are two brass columns which Hiram fashioned for the entrance to the Temple. They are truly magnificent and universally admired.

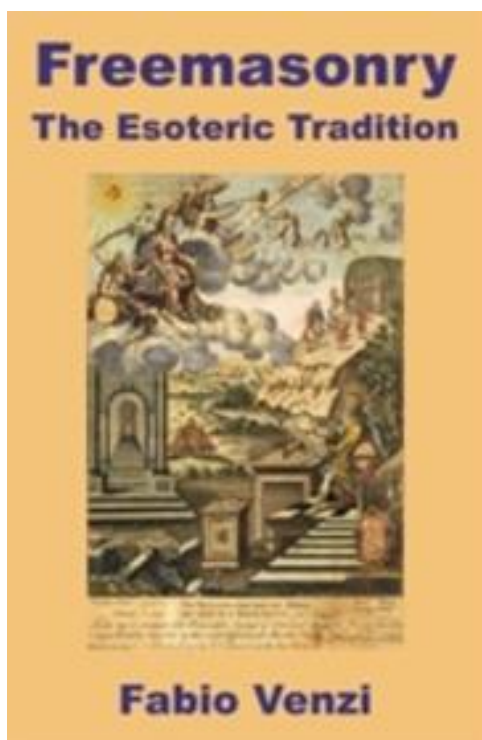
In the foreword to Durney's book there is an explanation of the similarity of the Rosslyn Chapel's Apprentice Pillar legend and the legend surrounding Hiram Abif's murder after he created his pillars for Solomon's Temple. Peter Durney's modern interpretation of this old masonic legend is worth every penny of the asking price which goes to support the NZ Blind Foundation and BLENNZ.



300 FAMOUS AUSTRALIAN FREEMASONS by Kent Henderson

Discover 300 Masons that Built the Craft in Australia

This carefully crafted book features the biographies of the most influential and well known Brothers of the Craft that have moulded Freemasonry in Australia. Beautifully and extensively illustrated throughout, this book provides a unique insight into the history of the Craft and its membership through the lives of those that served it.



FREEMASONRY – THE ESOTERIC TRADITION by Fabio Venzi

In recent times the aims of Freemasonry and its ritual has changed. The ritual is purported to no longer disclose any 'hidden' elements, there is nothing to 'reveal', indeed, the ritual appears to have made everything clearer; the individual, the Freemason, is now seen merely a principled person par excellence, whose sole aim is to do good and set a good example.

It's now only increasingly rare individuals who behold something of a deeper nature in our Masonic ritual

and teachings and are often considered as somewhat eccentric or individuals or 'fantasizers'; to be charitably tolerated as long as they do not overstep the mark with their fantastical interpretations.

This volume is devoted to those members of society who maintain that Freemasonry should be interpreted, experienced and lived as an authentic Initiatic School, as was doubtless intended by the creators of its complex ritual forms, brimming with symbols, allegories and hidden meanings.

From a metahistorical point of view, the true 'figure' of the Freemason will be portrayed as a sort of 'Archetype of Enlightenment', which is clearly recognisable and presented in the western tradition throughout history. From the Eoptes of the Eleusinian Mysteries, to the Hermetic of the first centuries B.C.; from the Magician and the Neoplatonist of the Renaissance to the Rosicrucian; from the Alchemist to the Freemason, the same goal of, an individual featuring a series of common characteristics and, in particular, a similar 'vision of the world', is manifested cyclically in specific historical moments.

Thus, the "Initiate" is representative of a human figure cyclically presented under different 'guises', all bearing essentially similar symbolic characteristics; as the Hermetic carries out his work in the search for an absolute purity, and the Alchemist focuses on his ability to achieve, from an imperfect and impure matter, a perfect substance capable of transmitting this perfection to other substances, the Freemason represents a roughly hewn stone that will need to be smoothed by means of an concerted inner effort. It should however be underlined that both the alchemical procedures and the undertaking of the Masonic and hermetic pathway are performed in the presence of the transcendent, the hermetic, alchemical and Masonic initiatic journeys will never be achieved as the result of a theoretical or experimental knowledge, but, on the contrary, represent the outcome of an endeavour, an opus, in which the spirit is returned to the matter, animating and ennobling the same.

This book charts the pathway of the true masonic initiate. The term "Initiate" is applied to an individual featuring a mandatory and essential 'qualification', i.e. a 'predisposition' to embark on a pathway of gnostic development that culminates in an authentic 'transmutation', which may even be detached from the strictly 'ritual' connotation of 'initiation'. The end of the Initiatic Schools, with their binding thread of the 'secret' and 'mysteries', is marked by a return to awareness of the divine nature of an individual (or, as Jung would say, the rediscovery of Self and the achievement of an integrated personality). Indeed, although the premises and doctrines of these Schools appear to diverge somewhat, in line with the differences encountered in the historic contexts in which they take place, their symbology and principal aims evolve into a form and tension unwaveringly focused on the 'Transcendent', in an attempt to obtain a reprieve, a return to an entity 'lost' over time.

This arduous journey is obviously not suited to all, and can be achieved only by minds free from superstructures and opinions, uncorrupted, and above all, unconditioned minds. The ideal type of "Initiate" requires no ideological support to enable him to manifest his innate 'freedom' and 'originality' and is concomitantly, thanks to this singular feature, qualified to survive in and endure even the most oppressive historic context. This particular type of human elaborates arguments at a deeper and higher level, having achieved total inner freedom.

This book is not only a manual for those who are undertaking this path and covers all aspect of the work involved in being a Freemason including ritual, philosophy and symbolic work. Its also a enthralling exploration of Masonic esoteric philosophy past present and with visions of what it could be in the future for those that believe the initiatic potential of Freemasonry is still conspicuous, and conceivably primed for 'activation'; although, to achieve this aim, several fundamental transformations would need to take place both internally, and, more importantly, among the higher ranks.

AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND
MASONIC RESEARCH COUNCIL
PROCEEDINGS



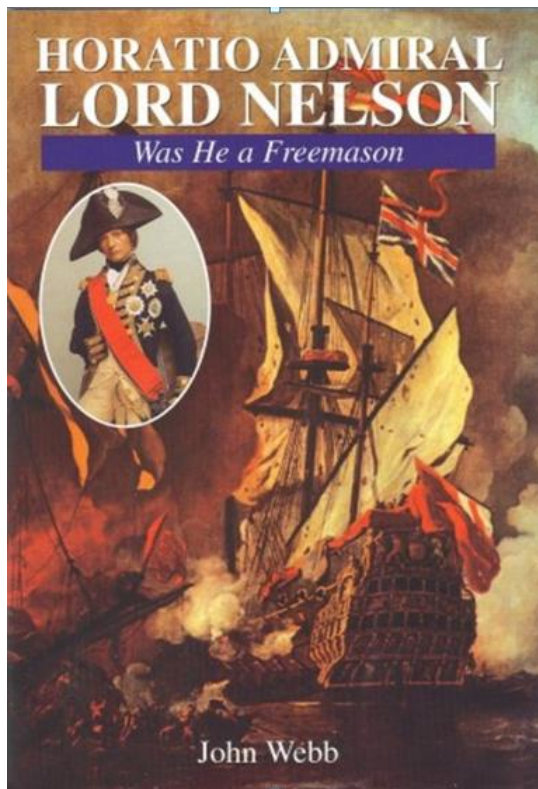
2016

Biennial meeting and conference
Launceston, Tas. 25–28 August 2016

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND MASONIC RESEARCH COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS 2016

These proceedings contain the 2016 Kellerman Lectures

- Southern Lights (The journey from the darkness of his birth in the Buchenwald Nazi Concentration Camp to the land of the Southern Lights [Tasmania] and his entry into the Light of Freemasonry.)
 - The Answer is a lemon (An interactive session demonstrating a way of learning and imparting knowledge.)
 - Is Freemasonry a Progressive Science?
 - The Oak Island Legend: The Masonic Angle
 - King Athelstan and the Craft
 - Freemasonry, Qabalah, and Tarot
- Two enduring Treasures: Why they are not Ornaments (Masonry on the Goldfields of Australia)
- Lodge Liberty Cherie - The Story of a Masonic Lodge Established in a Prison Camp during World War 2
- King Solomon's Temple and the Legend of the Third Degree
- The Symbolism of Free Gardenerly and the Lost Degree of the Knights of Gethsemane and St Joseph.



HORATIO ADMIRAL LORD NELSON - WAS HE A FREEMASON? By John Webb

On 21st October 1805, Vice-Admiral Lord Nelson led the British fleet to victory against the combined might of the Franco-Spanish fleet. It was one of the most important and decisive battles in British naval history.

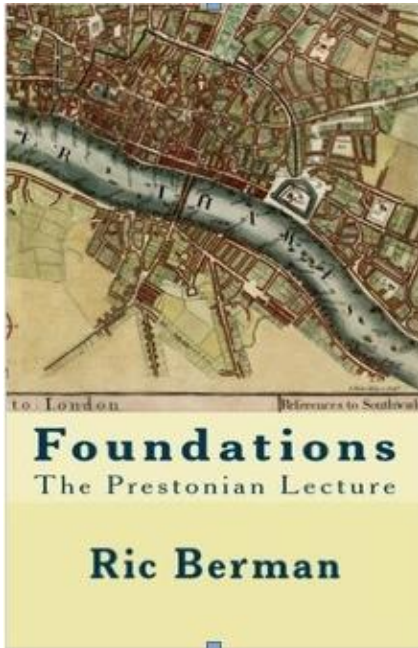
But was England's greatest hero a Freemason?

With this book we hope this will give more people the opportunity to learn about the life of this brave and impressive man.

Nelson possessed 'a pair of sumptuous Derby ice pails painted with his coat of arms which were probably given to him by Alexander Davison after the Nile. But there is no explanation for the equally ostentatious display of Masonic devices on the pails.... Nelson 'moved within an influential network of freemasons ranging from his naval mentor Sir Peter Parker to his proxy in the Lord, Lord Moira'.

We know that his adversary Napoleon was on the Square, but was Nelson?





FOUNDATIONS THE PRESTONIAN LECTURE by Ric Berman

“Foundations” brings new light on the formation and early years of the Grand Lodge of England

The Book explores the evolution of Freemasonry, queries long-standing myths, and explains the step change that occurred with the creation of the first Grand Lodge of England in 1717.

Ric Berman outlines the connections between Freemasonry and the British establishment in the eighteenth century, and how and why its leaders positioned Grand Lodge as a bastion of support for the government. He also touches on how Freemasonry was used to advance Britain's diplomatic objectives and for espionage.

2017 marks the 300th anniversary of the formation of the first Grand Lodge and sets a context for the celebration.

The Prestonian Lecturer is appointed by the United Grand Lodge of England. Ric Berman, is the author of Foundations of Modern Freemasonry now in its second edition; Schism, which examines the conflict between the Moderns and the Antients; and Loyalists & Malcontents, a history of colonial Freemasonry in America's Deep South.

Ric Berman has been a freemason for forty years and holds London and Provincial Grand Rank. He is a PM of the Marquis of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 1159 (EC); Treasurer of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076 (EC), England's premier research lodge; and a PM of the Temple of Athene Lodge, No. 9541 (EC), the research lodge of the Province of Middlesex

