

NEW ZEALAND Freemason

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Making a difference in New Zealand

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communications@freemasons.nz

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From the Editor

Preferment, Promotions and Appointments and the new scheme of things ...

To paraphrase the Address to the Brethren, "such is the nature of our constitution, that every three years, as some must of necessity rule and teach, others must of course learn, submit and obey; humility in each is an essential qualification".

"The brethren who have been selected to assist the Grand Master in the ruling and governing of the Craft for the next three years, are too well acquainted with the principles of Freemasonry and the laws of our institution to warrant any mistrust that they will be found wanting in the discharge of their duties of their respective offices or that they will exceed the powers with which they are entrusted and you brethren; I am sure are of too generous a disposition to envy their preferment".

Some will be excited, some overwhelmed, and some disappointed.

Some will be excited by their preferment, promotion and appointment. Some initially, perhaps, will be overwhelmed, but will take up the challenge, and some will certainly be disappointed this time, but understand perhaps that the position applied for went "to the best man for the job," and there is always next time.

Life is not always about 'yes' but quite often 'no', and that challenges us to prove we are up for it and to work at proving the same by our continued enthusiasm for the Craft, our good masonic example and tireless hard work for Freemasonry.

We have an exciting and challenging next three years as we transition into a new structure for our organisation. Nine Regions from Fifteen Districts, new roles of Grand Superintendents from District Grand Masters, more Lodges in our Regions to visit and support and develop closer relationships with, a smaller cohort of Officers of Grand Lodge to match our reduced membership and Transitional Divisional Grand Masters to support us through this process.

More emphasis, resources and support on masonic education and research to help us better understand how our Lodges and Organisation work and where we can fit into that, the deeper meaning and importance of Freemasonry and what Freemasonry can do for each of us at a personal level.

More work on connecting our Freemasons Charities via our Lodges with our communities throughout the country, so that they understand and appreciate that we are 'making a difference in a difference in New Zealand' and have been for over 135 years.

Take care this winter.

RWBro Duane Williams MBE, KCLJ, JP, PGW and GSec

ADVERTISING RATES PER ISSUE

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HOT OFF THE PRESS

The University Lodge of Wellington

The University Lodge of Wellington is to be constituted in Wellington on 16th August. A trial project by the Membership & Growth Committee, it will be the first university lodge in New Zealand.

Tradition and continuity are just two of the values that characterise the relationship between Freemasonry and universities. More than 200 years ago the first university Lodge – Apollo University Lodge – was founded at Oxford University in 1818. Isaac Newton University Lodge followed at Cambridge University in 1861.

This foundation led to the United Grand Lodge of England establishing the Universities Scheme in 2005, introducing Freemasonry's important values to a new generation. There are now 87 university Lodges across England and Wales.

- ♦ Membership of The University Lodge of Wellington is open to Freemasons, particularly to those who are past & present Students, Graduates, Academics, and Staff of Wellington tertiary institutions. Non-freemason students / staff may participate in educational and social activities as visitors.

- ♦ The Lodge will meet at the Wellington Freemason Centre, twice per university trimester with the installation meeting in February.



Meetings will open and close and the non-freemason visitors will be admitted for educational sessions on Freemasonry. Refectory will be held at a local low-cost restaurant.

- ♦ Initially, the Lodge will not undertake degree ceremonies. Any prospect applying to become a Freemason and thereby member of the Lodge would undertake their degree ceremony in a 'partner' Lodge. This concept will be reviewed as time goes on.

Applications from interested brethren to WBro Steve Wallace at: steve.wallace103@gmail.com

A National Lodge for New and Young Freemasons

A new kind of lodge is being established and you are invited to be part of it from day one.

New Zealand Cornerstone Lodge No 479 is being formed under the Grand Lodge of New Zealand with a clear and inspiring purpose

to support, connect, and empower new and young Freemasons, alongside experienced Brethren who are committed to mentoring and guiding them.

This national lodge will meet twice a year under a Travelling Charter, once during the Grand Installation or Grand Communication and once at a different location around New Zealand each year. This format allows for broad national participation and fosters fellowship across the country.

Cornerstone Lodge is designed to complement your primary lodge membership. It offers a space to meet Brethren from all walks of life, share ideas, experience meaningful ritual and education, and help shape the future of Freemasonry in Aotearoa.

We are currently seeking founding members to help establish the lodge and take part in this exciting journey. Membership is open to any Freemason in good standing with a lodge under the Grand Lodge of New Zealand.

Annual dues are just \$15, ensuring the lodge is accessible to all, especially those in the early stages of their Masonic journey.

The consecration of New Zealand Cornerstone Lodge No 479 will take place on 23rd October at the Canterbury Freemasons Centre. Be part of this historic occasion and help lay the foundation for a strong, united, and forward-looking future.

To express interest in becoming a founding member or attending the consecration, please visit: bit.ly/cornerstone479



For more information or to express interest, contact Bro Elliot Tuck, Secretary (Designate)
TheNewZealandCornerstoneLodge@gmail.com



FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Grand Master Designate and more

Just as every Lodge elects a new Master and installs new officers, Grand Lodge is now working through the process of electing and selecting the next leadership team that will guide us over the coming three years.

Before I go any further, I want to acknowledge and sincerely thank all the brethren who believe in what we do and put their names forward to serve as leaders in the Craft. Sadly, not everyone can be selected — that's just the way of things — but I'm encouraged by the quality of those willing to step up. If you were one of those who missed out, I encourage you to take your leadership energy back to your own Lodges, and please consider putting your hand up again in three years' time.

I also want to offer my warm congratulations

to RWBro Paul Chappel, Deputy Grand Master, on his selection as Grand Master Designate. Congratulations as well to RWBro Mick Turner, Divisional Grand Master Central, as the incoming Deputy Grand Master Elect and to our Divisional Grand Masters Elect:

- ♦ Northern – VWBro David Piper, Past District Grand Master and Board Director
- ♦ Central – VWBro Stephen Griffin, District Grand Master
- ♦ Southern – VWBro Allen Glasson, Past District Grand Master

Aside from my involvement in the implementation of the new changes resulting from our review of our Operational Structure, Penny



and I have been extremely busy representing you around the country.

I've had the privilege of constituting a new Lodge — Aurora Lodge No. 477 —

born from the amalgamation of three Wellington Lodges. And we're not done yet! Before the end of my term, we'll be constituting two more Lodges:

In July the **University Lodge of Wellington No. 478** is being formed to encourage involvement from students, graduates, academics, and staff from tertiary institutions in Wellington — including Victoria University of Wellington, Massey University, WelTec, Whitireia, Open Polytechnic, and others. Membership is open to any Freemason

who supports the Lodge's goals of fostering Freemasonry within the tertiary community. While non-Masonic students and staff won't be members, they're welcome to take part in educational and social events as guests.

And the Thursday evening before the Grand Installation **The New Zealand Cornerstone Lodge No. 479** is being established by members of the New & Young Masons Forum, following a gathering they held in Wellington earlier this year. Their aim is to create a stronger identity for the Forum and encourage younger Masons to take an active role in the future of Freemasonry in New Zealand. The Lodge will meet twice a year, with one of those meetings timed for the night before the Annual Communication, wherever



it's being held — helping boost participation and engagement.

It's worth noting that neither of these new Lodges will initiate candidates or be used for advancement — their focus is on connection, leadership, and involvement.

We've also dedicated two new buildings — one in Nelson and another in Palmerston North. Both provide fresh, welcoming spaces for our practicing of Freemasonry and for the hosting and welcoming of visitors.

While Penny and I were visiting our youngest son in the UK over the December and January holidays, I took the opportunity to meet with representatives from both the Grand Lodge of Scotland in Edinburgh and the United Grand Lodge of England in London.

Since returning from our Christmas break, I've had the pleasure of:

- ♦ Investing of RWBro Ian Hunt as Senior Grand Warden in Napier, following the sudden and tragic passing of RWBro Ian Musgrove.
- ♦ This was followed by the investiture of RWBro Paul Johnson as Junior Grand Warden in Timaru
- ♦ Lodge Wanaka's 100th Installation
- ♦ The installation of WBro Cameron Smith at Lodge of the Liberal Arts in Auckland
- ♦ The initiation of a Lewis, Bro Charley Parker, in Nelson
- ♦ The installation of the new District Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland North, Bro Gordon McMahon

- ♦ 60 Year awards to WBro Kelvin Lines at Havelock Lodge No 104, WBro Poland at The Caledonian Lodge No 16 and to RWBro Arnold Bloxham at the Manawatu Kilwinning Lodge No 47.

As well as these, Penny and I have also been proud to represent Freemasons New Zealand internationally at Grand Installations in the Philippines and in Melbourne for the United Grand Lodge of Victoria. In early June, we fly to Ireland for the 300th anniversary celebrations of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and in early July we'll be in Brisbane for the Grand Installation of the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Queensland.

This trip to Brisbane will mark the final Grand Installation of my term. It's

been an absolute honour to lead the New Zealand delegations and to represent all of you. To everyone who's travelled with us — thank you. Penny and I have really valued your company and shared some great times along the way.

As I look ahead to these final few months of my term as Grand Master, I do so with a deep sense of pride, gratitude, and optimism. It's been a privilege to serve this remarkable organisation, to meet so many dedicated brethren around the country and overseas, and to see and experience firsthand the strength, unity, and potential of Freemasonry.

MWBro Jim Watt
Grand Master

GRAND MASTER'S VISITS

8 May The Havelock Lodge No 104 60 Year Bar W Bro Kevin Lines Roll of Honour Freemasons Centre, Brayshaw Park, Blenheim

25 May The Caledonian Lodge No 16 – 60 Year Bar at home to WBro Owen Soal, by RWBro Paul Johnston, Junior Grand Warden as Grand Master's Representative.

7 Jun Scinde Lodge No 5 170th Installation W Bro Shaun Rogers Freemasons Centre Napier. Kapiti-Wellington District is conducting the installation.

10 Jun Lodge Rotorua No 153 Past Grand Bible Bearer promotion for W Bro Ross Jones PGS by RW Bro Paul Chappel, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Master Designate 2025-2028

22–24 Jun Grand Lodge of Ireland, 300th Anniversary Celebrations, Freemasons Hall, Dublin, Ireland. Grand Lodge of New Zealand delegation attending.

27–28 Jun Consecration of the Court of Aotearoa – The Masonic Order of Athelstan, RWBro Ian Hunt, Junior Grand Warden as the Grand Master's Representative.

4–6 Jul Grand Installation – United Grand Lodge of Queensland for MW Bro David Gray. Grand Lodge of New Zealand delegation attending.

5 Jul Lodge Matariki No 476 Installation RW Bro Paul Johnston, Junior Grand Warden, attending as the Grand Master's Representative.

19 Jul The Canterbury Kilwinning Lodge No 23 150th Celebration and 50 Year Service Badge W Bro Ross Cornish Roll of Honour, Freemasons Centre, Ferry Road, Christchurch.

26 Jul Lodge Waikato No 475 Installation of Bro Mark Bunting (Grand Lodge Trustee and Director on the Board) as Master, Freemasons Centre, Hamilton East.

8–9 Aug Grand Installation Order of the Secret Monitor for Very Worthy Brother Rod Biel, Palmerston North.

News clips



King's Birthday Honours 2025

Freemasons New Zealand congratulates RW Bro Edwin (Eddie) Eeles KSM, JP, Past Deputy Grand Master, on his King's Birthday Honour of the King's Service Medal (KSM) for services to pipe bands.

He has been a Freemason since 1984, was Master of the Ara Lodge No. 1 four times, and is also a member of United Masters Lodge No. 167 and Lodge North Harbour No. 182. He is the Grand Representative of Grand Lodge of F & A M of New Jersey - USA in and about New Zealand. Well done.



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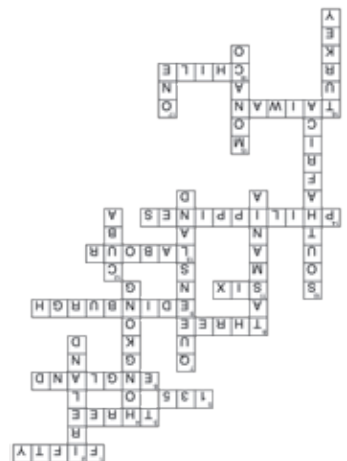
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A visit to Blind Low Vision NZ

Following a recent donation of \$20,000 to Blind Low Vision NZ by Lodge Discovery No. 501, two of us were fortunate to be invited to a facility opening event located at Manurewa, Auckland. Various generous benefactors, including other organisations, were present to view the new facility for training guide dogs.

It was opened by CEO Andrea Midgen, who welcomed us to the facility. She informed us that training a guide dog was a very intensive service. It takes around two years of consistent work by the team who are involved with breeding, training, volunteers and more.

The old facility had concrete floors and walls, no windows. Dogs could hear but not see one another,

which sometimes caused anxiety. Managing the spread of illness could also be challenging. In 2022, a campaign was launched to build a new facility, one that supports dogs' wellbeing and optimises their training.

The new facility is warm, with open kennels with glass, so dogs can see each other and the staff. A dedicated isolation building is now available for dogs with diseases, that do crop up from time to time. There is an outdoor play area for development issues and a grooming room.

A specialised mobility centre is included in the facility. This part was completed in 2023 and is a world class indoor training space that replicates real life urban settings, like an escalator, a train platform and even the interior of a

plane and a bus. It is one of only two in the world, the other one being in

Currently there are 105 dogs in training, from 11 weeks of age to a year and



Dublin, Ireland. This facility enables a new guide dog user and white cane users, to experience such an environment, before heading to the outside world.

The head of the guide dog centre, Peter Hoskin, then told us about the new technologies used in the facility. They include solar panels on the roof, underfloor heating and a sound system, to play their favourite tunes. The most popular tune being the country calendar theme music!

a half. At present, there are 27 clients waiting to be matched from all areas – from the far north to the deep south. To date, 32 teams have graduated from the facility.

A very successful day that made us feel proud to be a Freemason. Thank you, Lodge Discovery!

Thanks go to Rebecca Lawton – Trust and Foundation Fundraiser – Blind Low Vision NZ, for the invitation to attend.

Roger Quartly
Past District Grand Master



No.1 Lodge presentation

Last night at the Installation of The Ara Lodge No.1 we were privileged to be joined by Bro Joe Tristram, an Entered Apprentice from Lodge Antiquity No.1 GL NSW & ACT in Australia. I thought I would share this and the photographs with you both as Grand Secretary and as GLNZ Representative to GL NSW & ACT.

Bro Joe presented the WM, WBro Chris Agius with a Bicentennial Jewel from



Lodge Antiquity No.1 and a bicentennial Lapel Pin to the



Lodge Secretary, WBro Brent Willoughby RH.

Bro Joe advised that The Ara Lodge No.1 is a sister lodge of Lodge Antiquity No.1. The Secretary of Lodge Antiquity No.1, RWBro David T. Bahamonde PAGM and R.G.C RW Bro Gus Fiestas PJGW requested Bro Joe Tristram present these to the Ara Lodge No.1 Lodge and that the two Lodges remain connected.

Strength in Numbers

Strategies to Attract, Retain, Recover and Grow Membership in New Zealand



Executive Director Andrew Cowie.

In an era where digital connectivity is high but personal connection is low, membership organisations face a unique challenge: how to remain relevant, vibrant, and growing. For organisations steeped in tradition—like Freemasons—this challenge is even more pronounced. Yet, across the globe, Grand Lodges are finding innovative ways to attract new members, retain existing ones, recover those who've drifted away, and grow their influence. What can FMNZ learn from their approaches?

Attract: Making the First Impression Count

The United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) has made significant strides in modernising its image. Through its "Discover Freemasonry" campaign, UGLE launched a sleek, informative website and a series of YouTube

videos that demystify the organisation. The messaging is clear: Freemasonry is about friendship, integrity, and charity. This clarity of purpose, paired with accessible storytelling, has helped attract younger members who are looking for meaning and community.

In New Zealand, where community spirit is strong but time is scarce, organisations must meet potential members where they are—online. FMNZ has rolled out the Masonica App a cross platform tool, we are in the final stages of planning for a new website look and feel, we have an active social media presence, and we clearly articulate our values and benefits.

But beyond digital, there are lodges that host open days, public lectures, or community service events that allow people to experience your FMNZs culture firsthand.

The Rotary Club, for example, has successfully attracted members through community service projects and networking events that highlight their impact on local communities.

Retain: Building Belonging Beyond the Badge

Retention is not about locking people in—it's about encouraging them to want to stay. The Grand Lodge of Scotland has long emphasised the importance of mentorship. New members are paired with experienced ones, creating a sense of continuity and care. This approach fosters deeper engagement and helps new members navigate the organisation's culture and expectations.

In New Zealand, where people value authenticity and connection, mentorship can be a powerful tool. But retention also hinges on relevance. How can your

lodge ensure that you are relevant and that special blend of history, tradition and modernity?

Are your meetings meaningful? Are your events inclusive? Are you listening to your members' feedback? Regular surveys, informal check-ins, and member-led initiatives can help ensure your organisation evolves with its people. The Lions Club International has implemented mentorship programs and leadership development workshops to retain members and keep them engaged.

Recover: Reconnecting with the Lost

Every organisation has members who drift away—due to life changes, misunderstandings, or a simple loss of interest. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has taken a proactive approach to recovery. They launched a "Welcome Back" initiative, reaching out to lapsed members with personalised letters, invitations to events, and opportunities to re-engage on their own terms.

In New Zealand, where relationships often span generations and communities are tightly knit, a personal touch goes a long way. I was at a recent event in Auckland and the sage advice from a RW Bro who rightly (pun intended) suggested that often all it takes is a phone call or a coffee to a member to reignite a spark. For a non-Masonic reference, Girl Guides Association has successfully re-engaged former members through



Matheus Ferrero on Unsplash



Papaioannou Kostas on Unsplash

alumni events and social media campaigns that celebrate their contributions.

Grow: From Membership to Movement

Growth isn't just about numbers—it's about impact. Freemasons across all jurisdictions have recognised that to grow, they must be seen as forces for good in their communities. Whether it's funding scholarships, supporting local charities, or responding to crises, their visibility and generosity attract attention, admiration and desire to become part of.

In New Zealand, where community service is a cornerstone of national identity, organisations that **give back tend to grow forward**. Partnering with local schools, marae,

events other charitable organisations is in our DNA. Make your impact visible through storytelling—highlight the people you've helped, the projects you've supported, and the change you've made. The Red Cross has grown its membership by showcasing its humanitarian efforts and engaging members in volunteer opportunities.

But growth also requires internal alignment. Are your processes welcoming to newcomers? Are your leadership structures inclusive? Are you investing in the next generation of leaders? Growth is sustainable only when it's supported by strong foundations. The Scouts Association has focused on leadership development and inclusivity to ensure

long-term growth and member satisfaction.

A New Zealand Context: Tradition Meets Innovation

New Zealand's unique cultural landscape—rooted in biculturalism, shaped by migration, and driven by innovation—offers both challenges and opportunities. Membership organisations here must honour tradition while embracing change. This means being open to diverse perspectives, flexible in structure, and bold in vision.

The lessons for us Freemasons are clear: clarity of purpose, strength of community, and commitment to service are timeless values. But how these values are expressed must evolve. Whether you're a centuries-old fraternity or

a newly formed network, the path to a thriving membership lies in listening, adapting, and leading with heart.

Final Thoughts

Attracting, retaining, recovering, and growing membership is not a linear process—it's a cycle of connection. It requires intention, empathy, and creativity. By learning from global peers and grounding strategies in local realities, FMNZ can not only survive but thrive.

After all, in a world that's constantly changing, the organisations that endure are those that remember: people don't just join groups—they join communities.

WBro Andrew Cowie
Executive Director



Making a difference in New Zealand

Making a difference in New Zealand

Charity – Is your Lodge a giver or a doer, or both?

Lodges can help their communities in two ways: by funding projects or providing people power to complete the project, or a combination of both. \$2800 half from the Lodges and half from The Freemasons Charity, plus a lot of hard

work for the Wellington Early Intervention Trust.

Story here: A small school sits on a hidden street in Lower Hutt. It is a non-profit school for children with disabilities that offers an incredible programme and tremendous support to their families. Offering such

services as physiotherapy, speech therapy, music therapy, developmental planning and parent-to-parent support, the school relies on government grants and private donations. With limited funds, the school approached the Freemasons to paint and

beautify the old corrugated fence that surrounded its playground. The fence had seen many years of wear and deterioration and severely detracted from their newly renovated play area for the children.

In a joint project, members of Hutt Valley Lodge No 176 and Lower Hutt Lodge No 299 turned out in force. The fence was prepped, painted, and decorated with animal stencils over a period of a couple of months. The end result was both beautiful and gratifying.

Manager Lee Jones was also recently a guest speaker at the Lodge and outlined the purpose of the school, its programme and also offered thanks on behalf of the children and their families to the members.



Painting and beautifying the children's playground. Masters of Lower Hutt Lodge and Hutt Valley Lodge, and (Centre) Lee Jones from Wellington Early Intervention Trust.

Frocks, Fun & Fizz – Partners' Function at the Grand Installation 2025



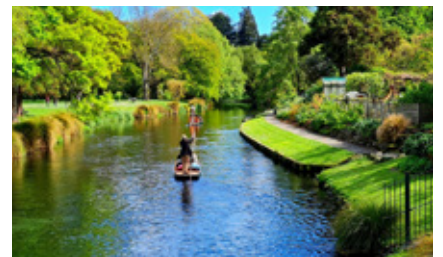
Freemasons New Zealand would be delighted to see you and your partner at the Grand Installation, 24–26 October 2025. This is something special for the partners...



Grand Installation & Communication 2025

This is being held from 24 to 26 October 2025 (Labour Weekend) in Christchurch. It will see the Business Session of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Installation of the new Grand Master and his Officers of the Grand Lodge. Venues include the James Hay Theatre, the Victoria Room, and the Limes Room in the Christchurch Town Hall, and Te Pae Convention Centre.

Freemasons and Partners are welcome to attend most of the events:



FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER

Grand Communication
Business Session (NZ Freemasons only)
Partners Event
Meet and Greet

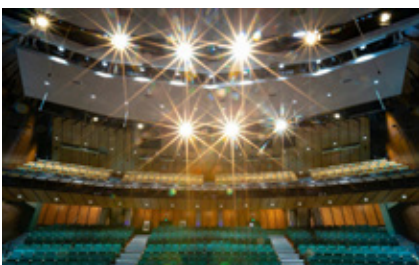


SATURDAY 25 OCTOBER

Grand Installation
Grand Banquet

SUNDAY 26 OCTOBER

Free day for exploring
the wonders of Christchurch



Registration, events and accommodation details are now open:

www.freemasons.nz.org/2025-grand-installation-and-grand-communication



Making a difference in New Zealand

Deputy Grand Master visits his Mother Lodge

Our Deputy Grand Master, Paul Chappel, visited The Te Aroha Lodge No 52 on their Installation night and was officially received.

It is his Mother Lodge, into which he was initiated in 1996.

60 Brethren attended, including 15 Visiting Masters and Officers of Grand Lodge.

Alex Daroux was installed as Master, and his Officers were invested.



District Grand Master, Worshipful Master, Deputy Grand Master, Master and Chain Gang, Visiting Masters being introduced to Deputy Grand Master, Master and his two Wardens, assembled Brethren and Master responding to Toast in Refectory.



Past Active Grand Wardens get their Chains

On Wednesday, 23rd April, Lodge Howick No. 314 hosted the Divisional Grand Master for the presentation of Dress Regalia to RW Bro Derek James PGW and RW Bro Peter Muir PGW.

Past Grand Master David Mace ONZM presented Regalia to Derek James Past Grand Warden, who had served as Junior Grand Warden 2000–02 and Senior Grand Warden 2002–04, and the Divisional Grand Master, John Lukaszewicz, presented Regalia to Peter

Muir Past Grand Warden who served as Junior Grand Warden 2016–19 and Senior Grand Warden 2019–22.

Wives, partners, family and guests were present and were welcomed on behalf of the Lodge by the District Grand Master, Andrew Alexander.

More active Past Grand Warden presentations will be made shortly as a result of the Remits passed at the Annual Communication in Auckland in November 2024.



Derek and Mavis, Peter and Anne, visitors and family in the Lodge Room, Derek and Peter getting invested and Dinner afterwards.

Grand Master visits the Grand Lodge of the Philippines



Our Grand Master Jim Watt and Deputy Grand Master Paul Chappel represented The Grand Lodge of New Zealand at ANCOM 2025, the Grand Lodge of the Philippines (GLP) Grand Installation and Communication, recently in Manila.

They were joined by delegations from the Australian Grand Lodges.

Good discussions were had on Freemasonry in both countries, and a commitment to a closer ongoing relationship. The Kiwis were well and truly looked after.

Interesting facts - of GLP's 25,000 members, 5000 attended ANCOM 2025, and 99.5% of their Lodges were represented.



5000 attendees at ANCOM 2025, Outgoing GLP Grand Master and Jim with NZ gift (a Toki Poutangata or Ceremonial Adze) for the GLP, Gift for Incoming GLP Grand Master, NZ Delegation including partners, New Zealand and Australia Grand Lodges delegation heads, Outgoing and Incoming functions and W Bro Alex Daus a member of Lodge Clinton No 183, who is back in the Philippines.

Publicity for your community events – 3 steps

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

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

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

Making a difference in New Zealand

Kiwi Masons in Melbourne!

Our Grand Master Jim Watt, accompanied by a delegation of New Zealand Freemasons and their partners, attended the Grand Installation of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria of

Most Worshipful Brother Peter Henshall in late March 2025. A very enjoyable weekend thanks Freemasons Victoria.

If you and your partner are interested in joining our Grand Master and Penny from 4th to 6th July 2025 in Brisbane for the United Grand Lodge of Queensland Grand Installation, see the Circular 2025-019 issued to Lodges or contact our Grand Secretary for details.*

From the weekend, including delegation, partners, NZ 'get together', Meet and Greet, Grand Banquet and Farewell Lunch at MCG.



HAVE YOUR SAY

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

60 Years of Masonic Service and a Train Ride

Recently, a momentous occasion in the annals of Masonic history, as one of our most revered brethren, Kelvin Lines Roll of Honour, was honoured with a truly remarkable milestone – 60 years of dedicated Masonic service. The evening was made all the more special

son, who joined him to witness this extraordinary honour. As the saying goes, "behind every good man, there is a good woman," and in the case of Kelvin and Irene, this adage rings especially true. Their enduring partnership has been a cornerstone of

Kelvin's Masonic journey, providing unwavering support and encouragement throughout the decades.

To Kelvin, we offer our warmest congratulations on achieving this incredible milestone. Sixty years of Masonic service is a testament to your

unwavering dedication, selflessness, and commitment to the Craft. Your contributions have undoubtedly left an indelible mark on the fraternity, inspiring countless brethren along the way.

May this momentous occasion serve as a reminder of the profound impact you've had on the Masonic community, and may you continue to be celebrated for your remarkable service and devotion. Congratulations, Kelvin, on this extraordinary achievement!

Our Grand Master was able to take the opportunity for a train ride in the cab from Kaikoura to Blenheim with the permission of KiwiRail.



by the presence of the Grand Master, Jim Watt, who graciously attended to present Kelvin with this distinguished recognition at the Havelock Lodge No 104 in Blenheim.

The celebration was made even more meaningful by the presence of Kelvin's loving wife, Irene, and their



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Freemasons help with Wheels for Waikato

St Matthew's Anglican Church and the Freemasons of Morrinsville work together to purchase an electric wheelchair for one of the church's parishioners.

Mary Allen, as coordinator of St Matthew's Anglican Church Selwyn Centre, saw a need as her administrator, Janice Thorne, was struggling with her mobility and realised an electric wheelchair would make her life so much easier, so to assist started to raise funds for an electric wheelchair. Having

raised a third of the cost spoke to Dave Watson, a Freemason, at one of their morning teas to see if the Freemasons could help. He passed the information on to Len Jeffrey, the District Grand Master, who asked the two Masonic Lodges in Morrinsville if they were able to assist. Lodge each and with the help of W Bro Peter Saunders, the Waikato District Charity Officer, getting The Freemason's Charity to give a one-for-one subsidy, raised the \$4000.00 needed to

complete the purchase of a special chair for Janice's needs.

The electric chair has given Janice, who has always been active in the community, the freedom to continue enjoying her life to the fullest with the fellowship at the church and able to meet with her friends again.

Ven Val Riches, Vicar of St Matthew's, is thrilled with the outcome and thankful to all involved.



District Grand Master - Waikato, Len Jeffrey, Janice Thorne and Venerable Val Riches.

Gore Health Centre given Masonic support

Forget the smoke and mirrors, the secret is out, the Freemasons in Southland are a charitable bunch.

The Southland Masonic Charitable Trust has once again reached into its coffers, this time helping out Gore Health by donating over \$4000 to the health centre.

This money was used to purchase two new pulse oximeters, used to measure oxygen saturation levels in a patient's blood, as well as their heart rate.

Gore Health chief executive Karl Metzler said

the equipment will serve a valuable purpose both in the health centre and on the go.

"We use these in transport so it's critical we have these on the road, for monitoring.

"We need one [here at the health centre], and one to go with St John and the patient."

Mr Metzler said the Masonic Trust had always been very charitable, helping out the health centre for the past 15 years.

The organisation also donates emergency toiletry kits, for when people are admitted and may not be

able to head home to grab a toothbrush and a comb.

The Southland Masonic Trust Chairman Neil O'Rorke said he was always happy to help out Gore Health.

Mr O'Rorke said the organisation was less smoke and mirrors these days and more of a charitable group in New Zealand.

"We're trying to get Freemasonry out there more, it's not a secret society ...

"Freemasons New Zealand gives away millions of dollars every year, with \$20,000 to \$30,000 just here in Southland," he said.



New toiletry kits and two new pulse oximeters were donated to Gore Health by the Southern Masonic Trust this past week (from left), Masonic Charitable Trust secretary treasurer Christine Baird, Gore Health chief executive Karl Metzler, Masonic Charitable Trust chairman Neil O'Rorke, Past Southland District Grandmaster Russell Falconer.

Gerrit Doppenberg, *Otago Daily Times* and *Gore Ensign*.

Grand Master and special family First Degree

Our Grand Master Jim Watt made an official visit to Lodge Nelson No. 288 for a first Degree, where the 'Lewis' and his father were personally known to him as a family friend.

Steve Parker, Past Grand Steward, and his 'Lewis' son Charlie Parker who was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Freemason. Our Grand Master presented Brother Charlie Parker, who is 18, with his 'Lewis' Pin.

A 'Lewis' is the son of a Freemason and is usually initiated ahead of all others.

The Grand Master Jim Watt welcomed the visiting Masters and met them in the South of the lodge. In the refectory, he elaborated on the future direction of Freemasonry in New Zealand and how we could best support new members through professional development opportunities. The brethren assembled

were receptive to the Grand Master's address.

It was a great evening all round.

The Grand Master also paid a visit to Willow Bank Heritage Village, Wakefield, where a miniature Masonic



Father, Son, Grand Master, Father, Son, Grand master, Master of Lodge Nelson No. 288, District Grand Master and Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Freemasons and our Grand Master and Master of the Lodge. The miniature Masonic Lodge at Willow Bank Heritage Village.

Lodge Room is featured and met its founder, Christine.

He recommends the Village

to any Freemasons and others visiting the area.

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Brethren, our licence plate surround fundraiser is in full swing, and we need your support to make it a success!

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Thank you to everyone who has supported us so far—your contributions are making a difference.

WaikatoNewAndYoungMasons@gmail.com

Making a difference in New Zealand

Community Project 'meating' a need!

Another community collaboration has helped ease the lot for some of Cambridge's struggling families. The Salvation Army's Foodbank was recently given a donation of meat valued at \$2000 and purchased through the combined efforts of the Cambridge-based Freemasons Alpha Lodge No 81, Café Oasis, and Pak 'n Save Te Awamutu.

This was the third such collaborative effort linking

the trio. It started as a project picked by the then Lodge master Doug McWatters for his year in office and quickly drew in Café Oasis' owner, Kon Kaewpraparn. Lodge members regularly supported her business, and she wanted to build on the activities she already did to help the community. Kon donated a portion of the \$700 profit from the Lodge's Valentine's Day shindig at the café, the Lodge rounded that up to \$1000, and The

Freemasons Charity doubled it – making for a final amount of \$2000.

Te Awamutu's Pak 'n Save store manager Nick Hewlett offered his best price on the deal, then assisted and split the meat into 400 packs made up of 500g each of either mince or sausage. Alpha Lodge collected the packs and distributed them to the Foodbank last month. All of those involved said they would be happy to

continue the collaborative project into the future.

Salvation Army community ministry co-ordinator Julieanne Seath described the group's donation as 'immense' in terms of what it means for the Foodbank. "We have noticed that donations going into our donation boxes in local supermarkets are not as plentiful as in the past, which means we are more reliant on support from the community," she said. "We get a certain amount of support from the [Salvation] Army and must raise the rest in other ways.

The generosity of Alpha Lodge, Oasis Café, and Te Awamutu Pak 'n Save is of immense value to us. Meat is one of the most expensive items a family will buy, and this will make a real difference to so many people."

Alpha Lodge No. 81 members Scott Wallace, left, and Peter Colebourne, and Café Oasis owner Kon Kaewpraparn, talk through their third successful project.

Viv Posselt



Knitting up a storm

Good morning Brethren, I need you to stop what you are doing and have a look at the attached photos of some of the knitting group and the work they have been doing for the past few months. I was astounded on

Saturday to see the display they created to show all of the items that they have produced which will go to the local maternity ward, a local school, churches etc and to think that this represents about three

months work. We should also thank the friends of the group who are also assisting but more so those who have been giving donations of wool to the group. We owe a large vote of thanks to all of them as they are putting

our Lodge on display to the wider community and again showing the relevance of Freemasonry.

Well done Ladies.



New Freemasons Centre in Palmy!

Our Grand Master Jim Watt and his Grand Lodge Team dedicated the New Palmerston North Freemasons Centre

(Manawatu Masonic Centre) in Amesbury Street, Palmerston North on 5th April 2025.

An excellent effort with mixed Masonic/Commercial use.

Arnold Bloxham, Past Deputy Grand Master, was

also presented with his 60-Year Service Bar by our Grand Master.



From the dedication ceremony, which was open to partners and guests as well as Freemasons.

Making a difference in New Zealand

“The Kirkpatrick Trust” – Masonic charity, 100 years old and still going strong

In 1925 Samuel Kirkpatrick died. A sad event, but he left behind a legacy in his will for ‘the boarding and maintenance and the education of the orphan daughters of deceased Freemasons’. A Board of six Governors – made up of members from the English, Irish, Scottish & New Zealand Constitutions and from Southern Star EC and Trafalgar Royal Arch SC – was specified in the will: the current Board oversee the operation of the Trust to this day.

Mr Kirkpatrick had been a very successful businessman and an ardent Freemason. However, he and his wife Edith had no children: Edith died from tuberculosis only three years after their marriage. Samuel treated his



Samuel Kirkpatrick

staff extremely well (he was known affectionally as “Mr Kirk”), and supported many local clubs, associations and organisations. The “K” Cup is still awarded for national hockey.

The Kirkpatrick Girls were first accommodated in Kirkpatrick House – Samuel’s



former home in Mount Street Nelson – until 1992. After that date, Kirkpatrick Girls became boarders at CJ House, Nelson College for Girls. This change was forced upon the Trust by the withdrawal of Government Social Welfare support in 1990: until then running

costs of the house – a ‘home from home’ for KP girls – had been supported by the social welfare money.

There have been amendments to the original wording to reflect changes in society and legislation. In 1974 the Board became incorporated under the Charitable Trust Act. A private members’ Bill was passed through Parliament in 1930 and created the Kirkpatrick Masonic Institute First Empowering Act. In 1983 the criteria to be a Kirkpatrick Girl was widened to include ‘daughters of Freemasons, or other female children not necessarily orphans, nominated for admission by a Lodge or other Masonic Body.’

In the early days up to 22 girls were supported. Due to increased fees and the withdrawal of the social welfare, currently only five girls are cared for by the Trust at an annual cost of approximately \$20,000 per girl per year. Funding comes from investments (now professionally managed) remaining from the will, plus donations from Lodges. These donations are always



continued next page

**MORE THAN
50% OF
AVOIDABLE
HOUSE FIRE
DEATHS**

**ARE
PEOPLE
OVER 60.**

needed and very gratefully received!

Selection of nominated candidates takes place in June/July, for girls to start at Nelson College for Girls at the beginning

of the following year. Consequently, Lodges throughout the country are encouraged to be constantly on the lookout for eligible and deserving cases. Full details can

be found at website kirkpatrickscholarship.org.nz and current activities can be seen on Facebook page www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100072113648219

A weekend reunion to mark the centennial will be held Friday 3rd October – Sunday 5th October 2025. The Sunday also recognises Samuel's birthday.

Making a difference in New Zealand

New Junior Grand Warden invested

Our Grand Master, Jim Watt, accompanied by the Deputy Grand Master Paul Chappel, went to Lodge Aorangi Timaru No 196 at the Timaru Freemasons Centre recently to invest RW Bro Paul Johnston as Junior

Grand Warden after the sad passing of Ian Musgrove and the promotion of Ian Hunt to Senior Grand Warden.

He was pleased to present two ladies, Mrs Pam Miller and Mrs Bev Dryden, who assist the Lodge

Almoner with Certificates of Appreciation for their hard work over several years.

Eoin Dryden Past Grand Director of Ceremonies presented the First Degree Tracing Board to two Fellowcrafts, who received

masonic lapel pins from the Grand Master in the masonic part of the meeting.

The Caledonian Lodge No 16 provided stewards for the night.



Grand Master investing Paul Johnston as Junior Grand Warden, Lady Almoners with Appreciation Certificates, Grand Master meeting visiting Masters, Grand Master meeting the Ladies, Refectory and Stewards.



**Making a difference
to those who will
make a difference**



**47th
year**

2025 University Scholarships

Celebrating the 2025 Freemasons University Scholarship Presentations at Parliament

On the 28th of May, the New Zealand Parliament provided a grand setting for the 2025 Freemasons University Scholarship Presentations. Hosted by MP Camilla Belich, this significant event highlighted the Freemasons' enduring commitment to nurturing the nation's future leaders through substantial educational support.

A Grand Venue and Noteworthy Guests

The New Zealand Parliament Legislative Council Chamber, a significant location of national pride and governance, was again chosen as the backdrop to the Scholarship event. Skilfully MC-ed by RW Bro Kevin Nelson, the ceremony commenced with Grand Master Jim Watt welcoming awardees and attendees alike to celebrate the 47th year of the Freemasons University Scholarships. Esteemed speakers included our host MP Camilla Belich and Professor Stephen Croucher, Head of School of Communication, Journalism and Marketing at Massey University, both of whom inspired the audience with their perspectives on resilience, success against the odds, and the power of education. Their presence underscored the high regard and serious investment Freemasons NZ places in these bright young minds.

Celebrating Scholarly Excellence

The highlight of the event was the awarding

of scholarships to 36 exceptional students from across the country. These scholars, each receiving a share of the \$260,000 allocated annually, represent a diverse array of academic disciplines and backgrounds. Presented at the event were the Freemasons University and Postgraduate Scholarships, Orakei Scholarship, Heartland Bank Freemasons Scholarships, and the Lawson-Smith Freemasons Education Trust Scholarships. The Freemasons proudly continue as New Zealand's largest private charitable funder of educational scholarships, a testament to their belief in the transformative power of education.

Impact on Scholars – Stories of Aspiration and Achievement

The stories of individual scholars underscore the profound impact of these awards to these future leaders. The 2025 Freemasons Orakei Scholarship awardee, Jean-Daniel Rosset, is pursuing a Master of Engineering majoring in

Engineering Management and Business Development at the University of Auckland, with plans to utilise his engineering expertise and passion for innovation to positively impact New Zealand's sustainability and technology sectors. He aspires to create a company specialising in sustainable technologies, automation, and robotics, reflecting the scholarship's role in supporting future leaders that with plans for enhancing New Zealand's future sustainability and integration of technology and business. Jean-Daniel is also involved in Freemasonry as a Mason of Lodge Arawhiti No. 267.

2025 was the 47th year of the Freemasons Scholarships. Thirty-six scholarships were awarded, and \$264,000 was distributed.

Ghadir Dahalan, a 2025 Freemasons Postgraduate Scholarship recipient, attended the event with her two sons, who accompanied her on stage to receive the award. Ghadir is completing a PhD in Chemistry at Massey University, focusing on the design and synthesis of multicomponent metal-organic frameworks and potential applications in catalysis, drug delivery, and gas separation. By the end of her Doctorate, she will be equipped with the practical skills necessary to pave the way for future research and industry roles

in materials science and biomedical applications. Outside of Chemistry, Ghadir is also passionate about helping children connect with their roots by learning Arabic. Ghadir's success illustrates these scholarships supporting all-rounder ambitious students undertaking meaningful scientific research to drive societal progress, while also raising a young family and giving back to the community in New Zealand.

The Philosophy Behind the Giving

Freemasons NZ's commitment to these scholarships is rooted in their Masonic values, particularly the emphasis on improving the world. The program seeks to relieve financial pressure and encourage recipients to engage in community service, thereby perpetuating a cycle of generosity and active citizenship.

The Ripple Effect of Freemasonry's Support

The scholarships do more than support individual academic pursuits; they prepare a cadre of leaders ready to tackle global challenges. By investing in areas like healthcare, technology, and environmental studies, Freemasons NZ is contributing to a resilient, knowledgeable, and conscientious generation ready to contribute positively to society.

"You are not just scholarship recipients; you are tomorrow's innovators and changemakers. You follow in the footsteps of many who once stood where you now stand—leaders in business, in medicine, in science, and in public service.

This room holds future doctors, scientists, teachers, and policy makers. More than that—it holds the spirit and potential of New Zealand's future. And if this is what that future looks like, then we are in very good hands."

— Grand Master MWBro Jim Watt

THE RECIPIENTS

Jean-Daniel Rosset	University of Auckland	FMNZ Lodge Orakei
Abbie Wood	Victoria University	Graduate Scholarship
Amosa Lene	Massey University	Graduate Scholarship
Bella Muir	University of Waikato	Graduate Scholarship
Brianna Burt	Victoria University	Graduate Scholarship
Chelsea Windleburn	AUT	Graduate Scholarship
Cullen White	University of Waikato	Graduate Scholarship
Damon Herlihy-O'Brien	University of Auckland	Graduate Scholarship
Dylan Blundell	University of Canterbury	Graduate Scholarship
Emily Thomson	Lincoln University	Graduate Scholarship
Gabriella Beecroft	University of Auckland	Graduate Scholarship
Hannah Yates	Massey	Graduate Scholarship
Ivan Zhang	University of Auckland	Graduate Scholarship
Jessica Darnley	University of Otago	Graduate Scholarship
Jessica Wratt	University of Canterbury	Graduate Scholarship
Krugar Griffith	Lincoln University	Graduate Scholarship
Michelle Maat	Massey University	Graduate Scholarship
Nicola Stanton	University of Waikato	Graduate Scholarship
Pieper Pengelly	University of Canterbury	Graduate Scholarship
Theodore Ilgaz-Celik	University of Otago	Graduate Scholarship
Wynter Tickle	Victoria University	Graduate Scholarship
Zoe Cameron	University of Otago	Graduate Scholarship
Angela Barnett	University of Auckland	Postgraduate Scholarship
Benjamin Crisp	University of Canterbury	Postgraduate Scholarship
Cathy Breed	Victoria University	Postgraduate Scholarship
Ghadir Dahalan	Massey University	Postgraduate Scholarship
Jessica Yu Samson	University of Otago	Postgraduate Scholarship
Todd Miller	AUT	Postgraduate Scholarship
Xavia Connolly	University of Waikato	Postgraduate Scholarship
Brooklyn Millar	Massey Vet School	Lawson-Smith
Lucy Corry	Massey Vet School	Lawson-Smith
Phoebe Ozanne	Massey Vet School	Lawson-Smith
Zoe Cooper	Massey Vet School	Lawson-Smith
Emilie Rosset	University of Auckland	Heartland Bank-Northern
Bridget Trott	UCOL Palmerston	Heartland Bank-Central
Brigid Gallagher	University of Canterbury	Heartland Bank-Southern

The next round of Scholarships opens on 1 July 2025, and details on how to apply for the next round of scholarships can be found at freemasons.org.nz/charity/freemasons-university-scholarships-2





From the Grand Hall and the Legislative Chamber of Parliament.



freemasonsnz.org

A tribute to a Scottish soldier

The short life of a Scottish soldier whose headstone was the first at Cambridge's Hautapu Cemetery was honoured last month.

The three sisters and distant relatives of Dugald MacColl – Kaye Turner, Dianne Baker, and Liz Saunders – flanked by Alpha Lodge Cambridge Master David Moore, right, and Masonic chaplain Ivan Smith, after the ceremony. Photo: Viv Posselt

Ensign Dugald Charles Edward S MacColl of the 3rd Waikato Militia Regiment died from illness at Camp Cambridge on August 6, 1866, aged 22.

He was buried on August 15, 1866, with full military honours – the third burial at Hautapu Cemetery. The original wooden headstone, carved by Sergeant Stuart Newall of the same militia, was the first headstone at the cemetery.

MacColl was born in Tobermory, Argyll, and sailed to New Zealand in 1862. He later became a Freemason, joining the Alpha Lodge No. 449 Irish Constitution in 1866 after being proposed for membership by Lambert William Loveday. His connection with Loveday



began after MacColl joined the 3rd Waikato Regiment (Militia) on January 9, 1864. By March 28, 1865, he was a sergeant in militia and served as a witness at the first marriage to be conducted in Cambridge – that of Lambert William Loveday and Adelaide Vogel. MacColl was promoted to ensign on February 7, 1866, and was stationed at Camp Cambridge.

Because of his affiliation with the Freemasons, it was the Alpha Lodge that arranged for last month's ceremony to be held, when a new headstone was unveiled to replace the original which was in disrepair.

Alpha Lodge Master David Moore said he had been made aware that the

headstone was in poor repair about five years ago. I visited the grave, and when I put my hand on top of the headstone, the wooden top almost broke off," he said. "When I started looking into replacing it, I discovered there were numerous hoops we had to jump through. The process has taken about five years."

One of MacColl's distant relatives, Cambridge's Kaye Turner, was making similar moves around the same time. She and her sisters – Te Awamutu's Dianne Baker and Hamilton's Liz Saunders – were at the unveiling.

Their great, great grandfather was Dugald MacColl's uncle. Their own parents are buried at the RSA Cemetery at Hautapu, and the families visit regularly on Anzac Day, usually dropping by MacColl's grave at the same time. It was on a visit around five years ago that Turner noticed the poor condition of MacColl's headstone.

"I contacted Elizabeth Harvey at the Cambridge Museum. She told me someone from Alpha Lodge had recently been in asking about the MacColl headstone and was



Alpha Lodge Cambridge members after the ceremony. They are, from left, Peter Saunders, (Master) David Moore, Peter Colebourne, Warwick Roberts, Denis Whitfield, and David Landells.

seeking family members to give permission for its replacement," she said.

That coincidental contact eventually bore fruit, with Alpha Lodge unveiling the new headstone on February 23.

"We are incredibly grateful to Alpha Lodge for this, it means a great deal to us," Turner said.

Moore said the Lodge had covered the cost of the new headstone and a protective screen over it which will preserve its new lettering. He particularly commended fellow Lodge member Warwick Roberts for his efforts in getting the job done.

Cambridge RSA member Paul Murphy said the unveiling was a very significant occasion. He explained the long-standing disparity that sees the RSA care for graves in the RSA section of the cemetery, but not those of militia members on the other side of the site.

Masonic chaplain Ivan Smith conducted the ceremony, describing it as a remarkable and deeply meaningful event.

Viv Posselt, *Cambridge News*



Blessing of the headstone during the service is Ngaruawahia-based Masonic chaplain Ivan Smith.

Viv Posselt

One hundred and thirty-five years of Freemasons New Zealand

When the Grand secretary asked me to provide a short 4-part series of articles for the Freemason I hesitatingly agreed, wondering how you reduce 71,004,600 minutes into about 1,500 times 4 words! (At least 49,275 days is a bit more manageable.)

So, this is not a full history of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand over those times nor a recitation of events masonic and generally over that period. For those can I suggest referral to such as R W Bro F G Northerns excellent works especially that covering the Grand Lodge of NZ 1890-1969. Equally for those interested

answer – “have we changed for the better?”

Least you wonder at this personal link for any of us in our 70's our own grandparents and their siblings were born around that mark in time 1890. (My own grandfather who I knew well was born in 1896 and served in WWI suffering mainly through illnesses which affected him until his death, so memories were very real.) A masonic colleague recently provided some thoughts on the cringe factor in masonry which were circulated to members of the RLW194 and associated Research and Member

robotics.” For myself there is a direct connection with members touching back to the 1890's in that I hold in trust my great-grandfathers Past Masters Jewel. Equally recently through the marvels of DNA testing linking us, I attended the installation of my second cousin at the Lodge of Unanimity Sumner #3 where between us we share a mutual great-grand father born in 1857 (not my PM's jewel one.) Ross had been initiated in Advance Mawhera over at Shantytown and remains a member there along with his father and brother.

This initial article covers the period of 1890 until 1925

Zealand from the very early days of European settlement the main truck lines in both Islands were years away (1908 for the North and 1945 for the South). The roads of that time would make any gravel road of now look like a 4-lane highway. Electricity was barely available, and the telephone was still a novelty.

Again, were you aware of how few pleasure distractions were available for our forebears of the late 19th and early 20th Centuries when the expansion of Masonry was underway? Apart from Church, one or 2 Benevolent Societies, Military groups, musical groups and sporting ones there was no real competition for a man's time or at least his leisure hours.

Jock Phillips in his excellent “Men's Clubs” in the online article for “Te Ara, the Encyclopaedia of New Zealand” (teara.govt.nz/en/mens-clubs/print) outlines these and gives details of their history, growth, maturity and current state which is far more expansive than I wish to go to here.



in some of the feelings and thoughts of the time of our establishment as a sovereign Grand Lodge my namesakes G R Harts' seminal work *A brief history of the movement in connection with the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Antient Free & accepted Masons of New Zealand* is still readily accessible. For those who prefer online versions both are on the Masonic Digital Library resource network.

What these articles are then partially is a meandering semi-personal trip through those years with some familial links along the way. What I hope to leave you the reader with is a question only you can

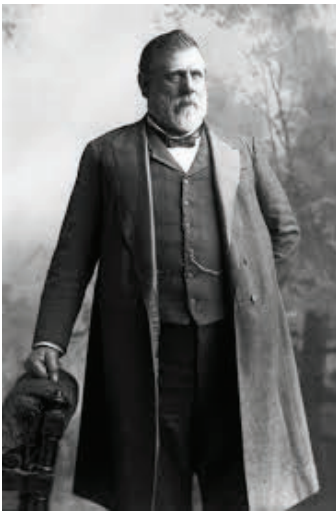
Lodges. In part he also touched on this personal timeline in observing “The advancement in technology has also progressed at a phenomenal rate. I recall at my grandmother's funeral how the minister pointed out that in her lifetime, she had seen technology move from pedestrian and horse-drawn traffic to the invention of the motor car and the aeroplane, the cure for numerous illnesses, through to men walking on the moon. And since then, the rate of development has continued exponentially – today we take for granted autonomous motor vehicles and aeroplanes, cell phones, Artificial Intelligence and

being after the Anglo-Boer Wars then the First World War and the Great Influenza Pandemic but before the Great Depression but focus's primarily on the context of our Country when Grand Lodge was formed.

Our population has grown from less than 1 million a century ago rising to 1.38m in 1925 and now to its current 5.4 million. Equally, male life expectancy changing from under 55 years then to now about 83 years which confirms what we know – we are living longer! Many things we take for granted now were in the early days of Grand Lodge only slowly becoming real. While we had trains in New



WBro J R Reyburn.



King Dick aka M W Bro R J Seddon.

However, for males in 1890 these included:

- ♦ Work
- ♦ Family including house building & maintenance
- ♦ Church
- ♦ recreation in the sense of gardening or hunting/fishing for own food
- ♦ Freemasonry
- ♦ Loyal Orange Order (from 1842)
- ♦ Savage club (from 1885)
- ♦ Knights of the Southern Cross from Catholics

To these must be added those groups which while exhibiting some aspects inimical of Freemasonry were established or mutual self-help such as:

- ♦ Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (since 1920)
- ♦ Manchester Unity Order of Odd Fellows (from 1861)
- ♦ Ancient Order of Foresters (from 1872)

- ♦ The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (from 1862)
- ♦ The Temperance Societies - 3 with the Rachabites (from 1863); the Independent Order of Good Templars (from 1872) and the Sons & Daughters of Temperance (from 1871)
- ♦ The Hibernian Society - for Catholics similar to the Odd Fellows.

To these could be added the political parties of the day and local authority service including such as on pest and roads boards just to name 2.

In the 1890s our country was slowly emerging from the "Long depression" in part due to the legislation introduced by the Liberal Party lead by the then Prime Minister our own M W Bro R J "King Dick" Seddon. Prior to the life was hard and life expectancy shortened by high infant mortality rates, poor workplace safety and lack of any form of real state support for those needing it. Even King Dick only just got through his push for a small pension hence the continued need for the self-help organisations above. Votes for women was a divisive topic and while we pride ourselves as a country on being the first country to adopt such it

was a close-run campaign (and yes, I do have a familial connection in that we have traced the signatures of several of my grandparent's generation on the petition).

In his excellent book "Sod 70" Dr Muir Gray talks of changes over the years and one comment in particular resonated. "In the Victorian era, poorer old people often finished in the workhouse because, even if they were loved, their children with their own large families could not afford to feed their parents as well."

We just avoided becoming a state of Australia on their Confederation and who knows where that act would have left us. Even the Australians participated in the Boer War actions as individual state-based forces and the whole ANZAC myth is well beyond these thoughts. The impact on our small country of WWI was brought home to me personally not merely through the deaths and injuries of my father's side but when my wife and I visited Walton-on-Thames in England several years ago and spoke with one of the librarians about the Mount Felix hospital in their location which had treated over 26,000 NZ servicemen including my grand father out of a force under arms of about 120,000. The librarian appreciated how much of an impact that place had and why so many local places have a NZ name or connection especially when I pointed out that we had then had a population of one million.

However, for Freemasonry that dreadful conflict also saw a rise in fraternity, and I recommend you trace the various works on the NZ Expeditionary Force Masonic Associations of both the



Western Front and Palestine. That fraternity saw the rise in many new Lodges around the country in the immediate aftermath of the war (which lingered for NZ troops until well into 1919 and even later through the early parts of the Russian Civil War.)

Meanwhile the country was gripped by the influenza pandemic which in two months claimed the lives of about half as many people due to influenza as had been killed in the whole of the First World War. No other event has killed so many New Zealanders in such a short time. [The 1918 flu pandemic, URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/culture/influenza-pandemic-1918>, (Manatū Taonga — Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 29-Nov-2024] The masonic annals of the time show the impact on Lodges and the like with members lost during the war being added to by those who died during this pandemic. It was one of the few times in our history when we ceased to meet.

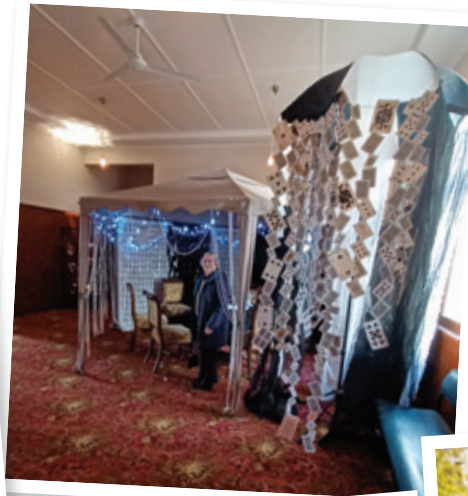
The pages of the Freemason magazine of this period reflect the activities of local masons and the exponential increase in both number of Lodges to around 230 and members to around 20,000 members. I will talk more on that time in the next article which will generally cover 1925 until 1960 or the depression through WWII to the post war boom (and the times of my own birth!).

Alan Hart, Past Grand Warden



Bro Neil Woodgate, WBro Ross Woodgate, WBro Melvin Woodgate, some guy – at Ross's installation in #3.

Oamaru Freemasons go Steam Punk



With extra photos of the Steam Punk parade from Adele Erolsky on Unsplash.

Congratulations to Lodge Oamaru Kilwinning No. 82 on their community involvement in the Oamaru Steam Pnk Festival – connecting Freemasons with locals and visitors.

Empty chair for honoured Freemason

Cambridge-based freemasons farewelled one of their own this month at an unusual ceremony that dates back to the late 1800s. The 'Empty Chair' ceremony was performed by Lodge Copernicus members to mark the passing of John Mace. The longstanding freemason, who was awarded his masonic 60-year service badge in 2021, had been central to a fundraising initiative that saw the 12 Waikato Masonic lodges collaborate to support the Waikato-Hauraki-Coromandel Rural Support Trust to the tune of \$26,000.

Lodge Copernicus led the fundraising efforts by making a significant donation to the Rural Support Trust. That was further supported by the other Waikato lodges and the Freemasons Charity.

Their donation to the Rural Trust is the third by Lodge Copernicus. The money will be used to fund professional help for Rural Support clients, ensuring access to vital services such as mental health support, financial advice and crisis management.

John Mace's widow, Kaye Lillico, attended the rarely-seen Empty Chair ceremony, as did Freemason's Waikato District Grand Master Len Jeffrey, and Matamata-based Wanda Leadbeater, who was

representing the Waikato Hauraki Coromandel Rural Support Trust.

Mace, who died in Auckland on December 29, was well known in the farming, timber processing and swimming fraternities. He was also a life member of Swimming NZ, and in 2018 was named a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to swimming in the New Year's Honours list.

He had served as vice president and then president of the NZ Swimming Federation from 1992-1996 and was Chef de Mission for the NZ Aquatic Team in Rome in 1994, overseeing swimming, diving, water polo and synchronised swimming. He played a leading role in restructuring the sport; that led to the review of Swimming NZ in 2012, and to his election as president of Swimming NZ until 2015.

Mace's journey with freemasonry started in Taumarunui in 1961. He later became a member of two Auckland lodges before joining Cambridge's Lodge Copernicus in 2008 as a trustee and a founding member. He played a pivotal role in the lodge's charitable work and was a strong advocate for its donations to the Rural Support Trust, which has gratefully



The 'Empty Chair' placed for the late John Mace, bearing his masonic apron and sprigs of acacia. It is flanked by the Rural Support Trust's Wanda Leadbeater, left, Mace's widow Kaye Lillico, and the Lodge's Past Master Marc Dresser.

Viv Posselt

acknowledged the support, saying it makes a significant difference in the lives of those navigating challenging times.

The Empty Chair ceremony is understood to date back to around 1875, a decade after the close of the American Civil War, when it was used in Masonic lodges to pay tribute to those who did not return from the war. It has since been used by many lodges to pay homage to members whose lives are lost in war.

This month's ceremony, which was characterised by ritual and precision, saw

an empty chair brought into the lodge as a symbol of Mace's spiritual presence. After addresses by

various members of the lodge, his masonic apron was placed on the chair, then members and guests filed past placing springs of acacia on the apron.

In his eulogy, Lodge member Warwick Roberts said John Mace's membership had been unwavering until his passing.

"He served as Master in the 2011/12 year, and his leadership was characterised by compassion and integrity," he said. "He understood the importance of service to others and worked tirelessly to achieve that end."

Past Master Marc Dresser, under whose leadership the funds were raised, thanked the Rural Support Trust for the work it does in rural communities.

Viv Posselt, *Cambridge News*



FAR LEFT John Mace at his investiture in 2018.

LEFT Pictured at the dinner that followed the ceremony are Lodge Copernicus Past Master Marc Dresser, the Rural Support Trust's Wanda Leadbeater, and District Grand Master Len Jeffrey.



Camp Purple Live 2025

This past year we were happy to once again support Crohn's and Colitis New Zealand with their tenth annual Camp Purple Live. Camp Purple was held in January from the 15th-20th at Camp Adair in the Hunua Ranges near Auckland and was a great success! The aim is to provide a camp for tamariki and rangitahi aged 9-17 who face the challenges of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), providing a space to participate in various activities, gain more self-confidence, resilience, and independence. This helps them to build a sense of community with

others their age who can relate to their experiences with IBD. Also included was a trip away to Butterfly Creek and Treasure Island minigolf.

Additionally, this camp is in part staffed by a full medical team and mental health professionals to fully support the kids. This allows parents to relax knowing their children are well cared for. An anonymous Q&A session also took place providing the kids with a safe a supportive environment to ask questions about their conditions and empower themselves with the knowledge needed to manage them.

Feedback for the participants has been overwhelmingly positive with 83% reporting improved confidence in managing their IDB, 87% reporting greater acceptance of their condition, 91% felt a decreased sense of isolation, and 100% forged meaningful friendships during their time at camp. This shows that the camp was successful in its aim to create a supportive network that extends beyond the camp experience in a community of peers that help in the effort to reduce the stigma associated with IBD.



WORLD IBD DAY
INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE
MAY 19



The Outward Bound Trust of New Zealand

The 21-day Outward Bound Kotahitanga course took place across March and April of this year at the Outward Bound school in the Marlborough Sounds with the support of the Potter Masonic Trust. This course is specifically designed for the development and wellbeing of young people from the Northland region. Kotahitanga, meaning to stand strong and tall together, brings Northland schools together and gives year 12 students the opportunity to build their independence and

confidence. Students are selected to attend because they show commitment to their school and wider community but lack the financial resources to otherwise benefit from an opportunity like Outward Bound without the generous support of their community. While on the course, students participate in outdoor activities such as sailing, coasteering, waka ama, and navigation with only a map and compass. This helped them to embrace discomfort together, push through

challenges as a team, and helped them to grow as individuals.

"Thank you. The course was such an amazing opportunity to experience new things I would never have done by myself. The friends I made were all so cool and I hope to keep them for life. I got out of my comfort zone so many times with the support of my watch. I could not have done this without the scholarship as my family is not the wealthiest and I'm so grateful for the opportunity. The course also helped me

realise what I want to do with my future. From here I would like to endorse the next 2 years in school and then go study law and psychology at uni. I know I can do it because this course has taught me that nothing is too difficult and pain is only temporary. Thank you so much for this giving me the chance for this adventure, I will apply what I have learnt here to everything I do for the rest of my life." - Tayla Kiihfuss, Kotahitanga 2025 Participant.

THANK YOU from Kotahitanga 2025



"I am truly grateful for the opportunity that you gave me, this course has changed my life for the better and your kindness is the reason I was able to attend this course. Thank you truly." - D'Angelo Rope

"You've invested in people and made an exponential change. I will be passing the kindness forward where I can." - Anya Slykerman



"Thank you for this once in a lifetime opportunity. I could never thank you enough." - Paytum Mahanga

"Thank you for the chance and opportunity you have given me to experience first hand some real challenges to help my growth as an individual." - Oscar Parlour

Kotahitanga 2025 Cook Watch

Standing: D'Angelo Rope, Paytum Mahanga, Andre Canning, Nikara Holmes, Zachary Cottle, Oscar Parlour, Ihapera-Ngahuka Leefe, Taylor Kiihfuss, Summer Vercammen, Tairawhiti Barbarich, Ngakau Tana
Kneeling: Anya Slykerman, Bridget (instructor) and Ben (instructor).

Crohn's & Colitis Foundation at Parliament

The Freemasons Charity's relationship with Crohn's and Colitis New Zealand began with the New Zealand Pacific Lodge no. 2's support and has led to a lasting relationship with the Freemasons New Zealand Charity. On the 19th of May, Bianca and Daria attended the World IBD Day event held at parliament with Adrian and Jim. They were hosted by Belinda Brown, the Chief Executive of C&CNZ, who led the attendees through five activities designed to communicate the effect of IBD across all areas of an individual's life. This method of displaying the effects of the symptoms of IBD was incredibly impactful, engaging attendees in thought exercises that helped them to empathise with the daily experience of sufferers.

IBD at a Restaurant

The first station was the Restaurant experience, hosted by Tanya. This covered not only an IBD sufferer's experience eating out but also encompassed the strained relationship with food in general. She had set up a "restaurant table" complete with a tablecloth, four place settings, and menus.

The fourth menu was blank.

Tanya explained that this was the probable reality for someone with IBD eating out. She further elaborated that what an individual could and couldn't eat was specific to their individual experience with IBD and that meant that there was no "IBD Diet" that the newly diagnosed

could follow immediately or that restaurants could easily cater for. Instead, a painful process of trial and error must take place to determine what foods are safe and what aren't.

Tanya posed a question. You are out with friends, celebrating something you have been looking forward to. Your illness has already flared up today, you are exhausted, you have lost the contents of your stomach, and you are hoping that will be the end of it. You look at the menu. Everything has something in it you can't have. Do you eat nothing, drink only water, endure the "surely it can't hurt just this once" comments, miss out on the focal point of the evening and be safe. Or do you ask for alterations, hope the kitchen takes you seriously and doesn't make a mistake, and risk provoking a second flare up that day.

What would you do?

There wasn't a perfect answer. There was only compromise.

IBD at the Doctor

At the second station was Nikita, who assured all that although she was not a doctor herself, she had the lived experience to help attendees understand the trials and tribulations of navigating our health system with IBD. Nikita's testimony pulled listeners into her world and the world of many others suffering with chronic illness. The questions she had



forced a reckoning with the reality of what she faces all too often.

Imagine that you have IBD, and you have just started a flare up. It is not too bad now, but you know what's coming. You are dreading it. Your GP doesn't have any emergency appointments until next week. You know how much pain you'll be in by next week. The receptionist tells you to go to the ED or A&E if you can't wait. But you know that ED doesn't have your records, won't be able to provide the follow-up continuity of care your condition needs, and besides, it's not that bad now anyway.

But it will be.

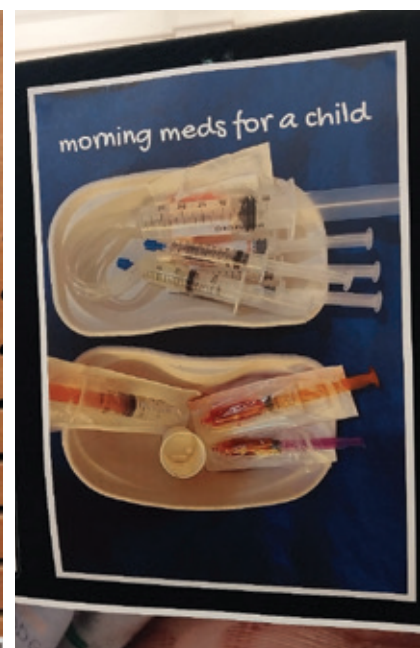
Do you hold out to see your GP? Do you risk wasting the hospital's time? Or, do you wait until it gets bad enough?

IBD at Home

Next, was Harita, who sat comfortably on the couch of the 'Home Station' and invited attendees to join her. She spoke about how home was the place everyone was supposed to feel safe and comfortable, our place to retreat from the world. But for someone living with IBD, it could easily become a prison.

Every day you have to weigh the costs and benefits of leaving the house.

You want to go to your friend's event, but you're tired, you're pretty sure there was something you shouldn't have had in your lunch today, your stomach is off, you really don't want to have to spend 20 minutes on an unfamiliar toilet, if there even is one nearby, maybe it's safer to just stay home? So, you decide to stay home, to not risk it.



And the flare up doesn't come.

Next time you're invited out, you weigh it all up again. You don't want to miss out for nothing, but you know it's not nothing. You're exhausted and shaky and you just can't face it, but you've already turned down this friend a lot. You don't want to send the wrong message. You worry they'll stop asking. Do you push through your discomfort, or do you listen to your body?

Do you risk it?

IBD on the Toilet

Charlotte ran the fourth station and wasted no time pulling listeners into her shoes. She is a youth ambassador for Crohn's and Colitis New Zealand and has been an integral part of the I can't wait campaign. Naturally, this was covered in her talk. She began by asking us if we knew where the nearest public toilets were. A few of attendees hazarded a guess, but she encouraged listeners to look it up, to try to find out. No one was right with their initial guess.

This was something she has to consider every time she leaves the house and include in her plans how far

she would be from a toilet at all times, even during her commute.

Just in case.

Having impressed upon all the importance of planning her excursions around the location of bathrooms, she furthered her point with accessibility. IBD is not a visible illness, and as such, sufferers can get stopped, questioned, or thrown a dirty look when using a disabled toilet.

But they can't wait.

Imagine you are at a concert with your friends, you are having a wonderful time, and all of a sudden, you desperately need to use the toilet. But you've planned for this, you know exactly where the public toilet is for this event. However, when you get there, the line is so long it's wrapping around the drinks stand. You know you can't wait that long. There is a disabled toilet, but you'll have to walk past the whole line to get there.

Do you use it, or do you risk waiting in the long line?

This is a dilemma faced all too often by those living with IBD. There is also the added difficulty of people being denied access to a bathroom, most commonly due to it being reserved for

staff use. These issues have been the impetus for the I Can't Wait campaign. The result of which has been the establishment of cards that fit in your wallet and can be retrieved whenever you are questioned that explain for you that you have an illness that requires urgent use of a bathroom without you having to reveal any personal or uncomfortable information.

The establishment of this support tool is a success that must be celebrated in the ongoing drive address the problems faced by sufferers that were communicated so effectively at this event.

IBD in the Workplace

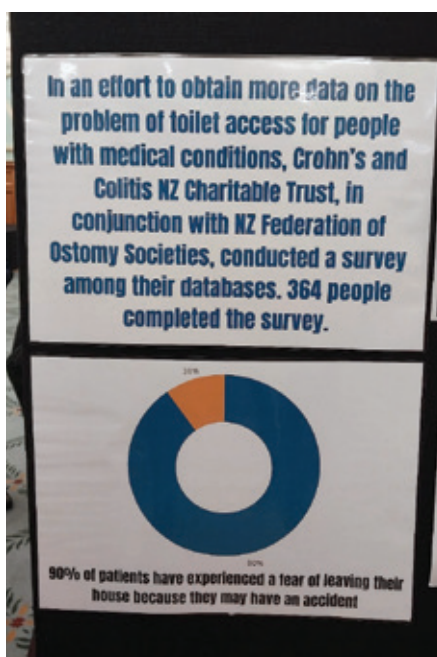
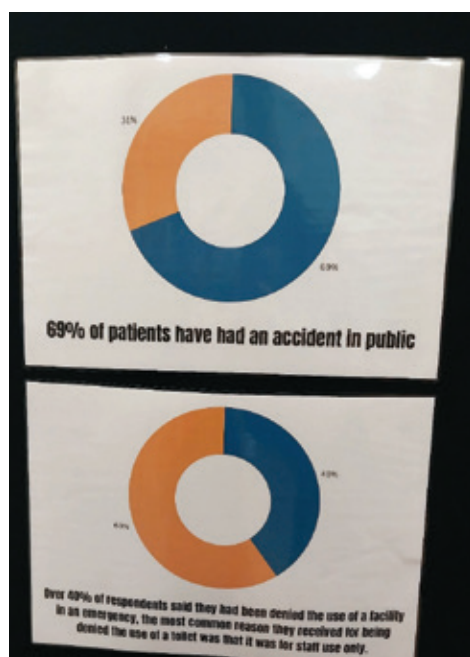
At the last station was Hollie who was standing behind her interviewer's desk, name placard and all. She took attendees through a mock interview, asking if they would disclose IBD when asked if they had any health conditions that would affect their ability to work. If they chose to, how would they explain what it was, how could it impact upon their work, on their co-workers? If they did not disclose, she asked how would they manage

all the necessary sick days IBD forces someone to take. How would they deal with feeling like they were constantly letting their team down, how would they cope in a less than understanding workforce? How would they cope financially when they ran out of sick days and yet were forced to take more?

Again, there was no perfect answer. There was only a compromise.

This experience was so clearly carefully planned to impress upon the attendees the severity of symptoms and attempt to help them empathise with aspects of the disease that may not be widely known or understood. It was incredibly impactful, and as the evening closed out with speeches from, Belinda, Charlotte, and Tanya, listeners were left with a new appreciation of the severity of IBD and the need for further support to address the many complications that IBD sufferers face in all aspects of their life.

If you want to get involved or are interested in learning more, Crohn's and Colitis New Zealand has a fantastic website and always have something on the go! See: crohnsandcolitis.org.nz





House Of Science Innovative Science Kits For Young Learners

The Freemasons Foundation is proud to support the House of Science – an organisation providing innovative, insightful and interactive science kits to schools and learning organisations to inspire and educate their junior learners.

Forest Health kit.

Forest Health kits were distributed early in term one and since then, every kit at every school has been fully booked. This means that 324 teachers and 8,748 students have used the kit and there is even more great feedback. The Forest Kit has 95 future bookings – in fact one school has booked

all the way through to 17 November 2025!

The Heart

The second half of The Freemasons Foundation support funding is going towards 'The Heart' science resource kit. This brand new health science kit will be dispatched over the next two weeks. Schools are very appreciative and consider themselves lucky to receive copies of these science kits, so the Freemasons Foundation is very proud to support the House of Science work that has enabled this to happen. Read more at www.houseofscience.nz



Our Rising Opera Star Ipu Laga'aia

The Freemasons Foundation is delighted to be supporting Ipu Laga'aia in 2025 as the NZ Opera Freemasons Foundation Company Artist. This will be an ideal environment for Ipu to broaden his skills. NZ Opera's mentoring and ongoing guidance will provide Ipu with an excellent, well-rounded base as he continues to develop his wonderful talent here in New Zealand. In future years, Ipu may well explore the possibilities outside New Zealand - but in the meantime, we are looking forward to his debut later this year in NZ Opera's production of The Monster in the Maze. Ipu is an inspiration to all our future rising stars.

Read more at www.nzopera.com



NZTrio's Biennial Composing Competition, "Liquid Architecture"

This year the NZ Trio is challenging tertiary composition students all over New Zealand to create a new work (up to 10mins in length) that is inspired by the quote attributed to Goethe: "Music is liquid architecture, architecture is frozen music".

The competition, supported by the Freemasons Foundation is open to all tertiary students completing a composition paper at Universities in Canterbury, Dunedin, Wellington, Waikato & Auckland. They are to write their original 10 minute

music piece for piano trio (violin, cello, piano).

Workshops will take place in August/September, with the trio working with students on their pieces in group sessions in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. Winning works will be announced on 19 Sept - with a final concert being held on

28 September 2025, 6pm at the University of Auckland School of Music Theatre.

(All welcome - Entry by koha) www.nztrio.com

PukaPuka Adventures a hit in Auckland's Aotea Centre

PukaPuka Adventures was held on May 17 & 18, an event where young readers experienced literary adventures through story-telling and dance. "What a ride," said co-directors Lyndsey Fineran and Catriona Ferguson. "From writers bringing STREETSIDE: BRITOMART to life to a jam-packed six days at the Aotea Centre, we couldn't be more thrilled with this year's Festival." Freemasons Foundation proudly supports PukaPuka Adventures and the Auckland Writers Festival. www.writersfestival.co.nz/news



Why do men join Freemasonry?

No man ever joined Freemasonry because Sir Winston Churchill was a Freemason.

The same holds true for Royalty and men like Robert Burns, George Washington, Rudyard Kipling, and Sir Arthur Porritt, all proud Freemasons.

Their legacies may inspire admiration, but those names

alone do not stir a man's heart to walk through the doors of Freemasonry.

And the same can be said of the many Masonic heroes who have graced our history.

While we rightfully honour them and tell their stories, no one joins Freemasonry because they think it will make them a replica of these great men.

Freemasonry isn't about becoming famous or achieving historical greatness.

It's about something far more personal, grounded in the everyday lives of the men we know and admire.

What about the incredible charitable work?

Freemasonry is widely known for its philanthropy, uplifting those in need.

However, no man joins just to donate money.

You don't need to be a Freemason to give generously to charity.

It's also not the intricacies of our rituals, as beautiful and profound as they are, that bring men to our doors.

Before they join, most men have little to no knowledge of the depth of our rituals or the careful records we keep.

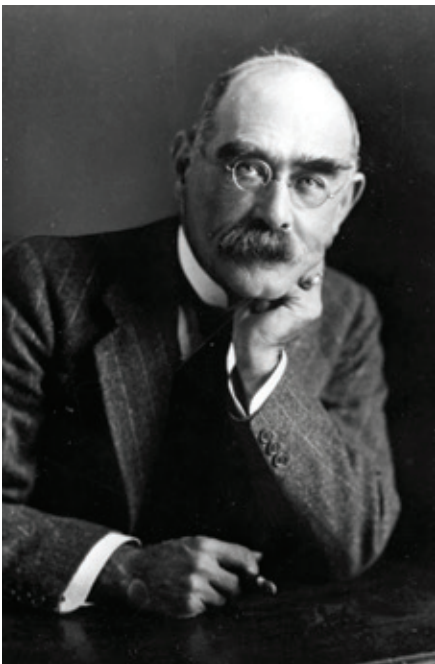
The internal workings of a Lodge, its procedures, minutes, and ceremonial exactness, are foreign to those outside of it.

Therefore, our ritual isn't the reason men seek membership either.

So, what is the major reason men join Freemasonry?

The answer is simple: they are inspired by someone they know.

It could be a father, a grandfather, a close friend, or even a colleague.



The duty to act

Doing What Must Be Done, Even When We Don't Feel Like It. It is easy to act when we are motivated. It is easy to labour when the work is exciting. It is easy to step forward when the path is smooth. But what about when the task is tedious? When the weight of responsibility presses upon us? When every fibre

of our being would rather delay, avoid, or abandon the work at hand? That is where the real test begins. That is where a Mason proves his worth.

Freemasonry teaches us that our purpose is self-improvement, the refining of our character, the shaping of our values, the steady work of transforming the

rough ashlar into the perfect ashlar. But what many fail to realize is that this work is not meant to be easy. If growth came only when we felt like it, if self-improvement required no effort, then every man would reach perfection. But the truth is, most men will never perfect their ashlar. Most will quit when the labour becomes

difficult. Most will take the path of least resistance, avoiding what must be done because it is inconvenient, uncomfortable, or uninspiring.

A Mason, however, does what must be done regardless of whether he feels like doing it.

Masonic Find
Midland District Newsletter

Freemasonry's call to action

Every lesson in Freemasonry is a call to action. We are taught industry, that our tools must be applied, our time well spent, our efforts directed toward something greater than ourselves. We are taught discipline, that the rough ashlar does not shape

itself, that our habits and choices determine the man we become. We are taught duty, that obligations are not based on convenience, but on commitment. When we knelt at the altar and took our obligations, we did not promise to be

faithful to the Craft only when it was easy. We did not commit ourselves to self-improvement only when we felt inspired. We did not pledge to support our Lodge only when we had nothing else to do. We took on a duty that always stands,

whether convenient or not. That is what separates the true Mason from the man who merely wears an apron.

Masonic Find
Midland District Newsletter

It could be the neighbour down the street who always seemed to carry himself with quiet dignity or the mentor who provided wise counsel at just the right time.

Who the person is doesn't matter as much as what they represent.

What matters is that the individual is someone to admire, a man whose life embodies values worth emulating.

That example is what stirs a man's desire to join.

Across generations and continents, this personal admiration has been the greatest recruiter.

Millions of men have joined Freemasonry because of a relationship they had with a Freemason whose character spoke louder than any words.

It's the integrity, kindness, wisdom, and quiet strength of everyday Freemasons that light the way for others to follow.

If we want to ensure the future of Freemasonry, we must focus on being that kind of man.

Someone who lives the values of the Craft in both large and small ways.

Someone whose conduct, in public and in private,

reflects the teachings of Freemasonry.

By living these principles, we offer others a tangible example of what Freemasonry stands for and why it matters.

And here's the beautiful thing...

When we live in such a way, "someone will notice".

Whether it's a son, a neighbour, a colleague, or a friend, someone will be drawn to the light we carry.

They will want to understand what makes us who we are.

They will want to know what we know.

Ultimately, Freemasonry's growth is rooted in something as timeless as human connection.

It thrives when we, as Freemasons, live authentically.

By being men worthy of admiration, we become the living examples that inspire others to join this great and ancient fraternity.

The next generation of Freemasons will come not because of our rituals, our charity, or even our heroes, but because of who we are and how we live.

Let all Freemasons set the example.

Kids Day Out 2024

Last year, United Lodge Masterton chose to support Heart Kids NZ, a foundation that supports Heart Kids NZ which plays a vital role in providing families with practical and emotional support for children with heart conditions during extended stays in hospital. They support the children and their families through their treatment, in accessing specialist equipment and attending specialised camps for children with heart conditions.

The support was focused on the Kids Day Out Variety Show 2024, that was held to raise funds and awareness to support the foundation. By all accounts it was a success, and United Lodge Masterton



OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO

United Lodge Masterton 19

**FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF HEART KIDS NZ
AND KIDS DAY OUT VARIETY SHOW**

2024

 **Heart Kids NZ**
Tamariki Manawa Māia



should be very proud of

what the helped to achieve.

Emergency Hospital Patients thank the Freemasons

Freemasons New Zealand, through The Freemasons Charity, provides Emergency Hospital Packs for male and female patients who arrive with no personal care items, which is appreciated by patients caught short.

Comments below:

"A very big thank you to The Freemasons Charity for my rescue toiletries pack in Southland hospital, following an unexpected emergency admission. My grandfather was a NZ Freemason. He would be pleased to know his organisation had helped his granddaughter out". —Annette

"Afternoon, just wanted to say a huge thank you. Something

little has really impacted my day today. I came into Waikato in severe pain early hours of the morning. And so grateful for the toiletries bag I received today, simple tooth brush, shaver, and nice body wash massively helped get my mind off the pain, and we are trying to find a pain relief that works appropriately for me. And having simple and lovely toiletries, I didn't really realise the impact until I was crying with gratitude in the shower. Do thank you and your people". —Makiha

"Recently, I have spent a month in Dunedin Hospital and on my arrival by ambulance from Ranfurly, I was given one of your care packages from the Freemasons. I want to thank you so much and tell you how grateful I was to have a comb, toothbrush, etc. and the tissue to dry tears. You added that special layer of care that I needed and reminded me of the wider love in our country.

Bless you all and your work". —Jayne.

"Several years ago, my daughter had a nasty accident falling off a tree swing far out in the Marlborough Sounds and broke her arm. Unfortunately, it was New Year's Eve, but we ended up getting her into Blenheim to the hospital. We had a couple of nights in the children's ward at the Wairau hospital before heading back out to the Sounds, and I wanted to thank the team at Wairau Hospital for their care of her (and I) over that time. Also, since we arrived with short notice we really appreciated the "toilet pack" combs, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste provided by the Freemasons of New Zealand for situations just like these. Its been a few years but the care and attention provided by staff during this unexpected hospital visit has really stuck with both of us". —Pernille and Arnya



Freemasons Hospital Emergency Packs

Special Olympics New Zealand 200 DAYS TO GO

In May this year Special Olympics New Zealand (SONZ) hosted their 200 days to go event in Christchurch. As the Premier Partner of the National Summer Games 2025, there were of course some Freemasons in attendance.

Pictured from left to right: Don Barron, the Nominee Grand Superintendent for Region 7, Dai Everleigh, the Southern Divisional Grand Almoner, Graham Wrigley, a Past Grand Master, and Chris Thorndcroft, the District Grand Master for

the Canterbury District. This event was held to celebrate the upcoming games and to help stir up a buzz of activity and excitement. With only a few months left until the games we have been really pleased to see Lodges beginning to fundraise

to sponsor SONZ clubs and athletes! The support Freemasonry provides can be the difference in an athlete making it to the games, so well done to those that have already stepped up!



Applications open for the 2026 Freemasons University Scholarships!

The Freemasons University Scholarships are offered to assist students who are active in their community in completing their tertiary education in their chosen field.

In 2025, Postgraduate Scholarships of \$10,000 and University Scholarships of \$6,000 are available to students attending the following universities: Auckland, AUT, Waikato, Massey, Victoria, Canterbury, Lincoln, and Otago. A

quarter of a million dollars each year.

To be eligible to apply, students must be a NZ citizen (or hold permanent residency), have a good academic record, demonstrate good citizenship and have proven commitment to their community.

Read the full criteria and apply here: freemasons.org.nz/charity/freemasons-university-scholarships-2



Rail Tours 2025

Special Masons Offer.

Book now and GVR will donate \$200 per person to your Lodge!



South Island Rail Adventure - 14 days

3rd September - 16th September 2025

Travel with us through the South Island. Beginning in **Christchurch** and concluding in **Queenstown**, this journey showcases the South Island's magnificent scenery and rich rail heritage.

Featuring iconic journeys aboard the **Coastal Pacific**, **TransAlpine**, and **Taieri Gorge Railway**, alongside heritage gems like **Weka Pass Railway**, **Blenheim Riverside Railway**, **The Plains Railway** and **Oamaru Steam Rail**. Other tour highlights include the **Madeville Railway**, **Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre**, **Pounamu Pathway**, **Shanty Town**, **Steam Punk HQ**, and the **Croydon Aviation Heritage Centre**.

Fully escorted. 3.4-4.5 Star accommodation through out. **All breakfasts, 8 lunches & 7 Dinners**

INCLUDES:
Return air
fares ex
Auckland

**Rail & Coach
Tour**

\$7790*

**Per Person
Twin Share**

Australian Rail Safari: Tasmania - 14 days

12 Days of Travel plus travel to/from Hobart

6th October- 19th October 2025

Traveling by road, rail and river. Take in the very best of the Australia's 'Holiday State'. Exclusive experiences and handpicked stays that showcase the island's **natural wonders** and **rich heritage**.

Highlights include **Port Arthur Historic Site** grandeur of the **West Coast**, with a magical **Gordon River Cruise** climb through ancient rain forest on the **West Coast Wilderness Railway**. Take in the alpine scenery of **Cradle Mountain**, relax in the coastal charm of **Devonport**, and soak in the elegance of **Launceston**. Travel along the spectacular **East Coast**, where we unwind amidst the white sands and turquoise waters of **Freycinet**—a perfect base to explore the world-famous **Wineglass Bay**.

Fully escorted. 4 Star plus accommodation through out. **All breakfasts, 8 lunches & 6 dinners.**

**Hurry!
Filling
Fast**

**Coach
Tour**

\$7790*

**Per Person
Twin Share**

East & West Rail Tour - 13 days

North Island by Private Train - 7 Days of Rail Travel

29th October- 10th November 2025

More rail travel than any other NZ Rail Tour. Embark on an extraordinary adventure with us aboard our **private diesel-hauled heritage train**. Journeying through the North Island's **less-traveled railway routes**, offering stunning scenery and showcasing some of New Zealand's famous locations.

Experience landmarks like the **Raurimu Spiral** and **Mt Taranaki**, alongside charming destinations such as **Rotorua**, **Ohakune**, **New Plymouth**, **Napier's Art Deco cityscape**. Handpicked activities and exclusive tours enrich your exploration **Rotorua Rail Carts**, cruise the **Whanganui River** and discover the **Gannet Colony** in the **Hawkes Bay**. Tour coincides with the award winning **Taranaki Garden Festival** with a guided tour of the best gardens.

Fully escorted. 3.5-4.5 Star accommodation through out. **All breakfasts, all lunches & 4 dinners.**

**Price
Drop!
Was
\$7990**

**Rail
Tour**

\$6690*

**Per Person
Twin Share**

For Full Free Brochure & Bookings call 09 2363546, email: railtours@gvr.org.nz. www.gvr.org.nz

*All Prices \$NZD Per Person twin share. Single supplement may apply. Optional or pre-tour packages at additional cost. Terms and Conditions apply (see website). Insurance recommended.
Operated by Glenbrook Vintage Railway Charitable Trust - Charity No. CC10348. New Zealand's Premier Heritage Railway.

REDISCOVER RAIL

Reimagine Travel with Glenbrook Vintage Railway

Until recently, rail exploration across New Zealand was somewhat limited, with only three services available, two of which traversed the breathtaking landscapes of the South Island. The third, a stalwart journey between Auckland and Wellington, has undergone many transformations over the years, still offering a voyage from one end of the North Island to the other in just under 12 hours.

However, to truly immerse yourself in the hidden beauty of New Zealand's diverse landscapes, a slower pace and a willingness to veer off the beaten track is essential. This is where the Glenbrook Vintage Railway shines, providing unparalleled service, exclusive activities, and bespoke travel experiences on New Zealand's railway network, much of which is typically reserved for the passage of freight trains.

With the remarkable ability to navigate almost any serviceable railway line in

the country, the Glenbrook Vintage Railway opens up avenues less travelled, inviting travellers to embark on a journey rich in history and natural splendour, much of which can only be accessed by rail.

As you marvel at the ever-changing scenery unfolding before your eyes, the train whisks you through iconic landscapes, from untamed pastures to remote hamlets and bustling cities, each offering its own unique charm and allure.

Beyond the scenery, rail travel in the North Island also provides access to charming towns and cultural attractions along the route. From the vibrant city of Auckland, Napier's Art Deco appeal, New Plymouth's coastal landscape, the mountain backdrop of Ohakune to the forgotten world of native bush around Taumarunui, each stop offers a chance to immerse oneself in the local culture and hospitality.



What sets rail travel, by our private train, in the North Island apart is the unhurried pace and comfort it affords passengers. Here, you can 'switch-off', savouring the gentle rhythm of the train as it meanders through picturesque countryside, providing ample opportunities to soak in the vistas or engage in lively conversation with fellow travellers.

In essence, embarking on a rail journey with the Glenbrook Vintage

Railway in New Zealand's North Island transcends mere transportation; it's an immersive experience unto itself. Whether you're a nature enthusiast, a history aficionado, or simply seeking a leisurely way to discover the beauty of the North Island, stepping aboard a train promises an unforgettable adventure filled with scenic marvels and the renowned warmth of Kiwi hospitality.



Care needed when changing retirement villages' legislation

Changes being proposed to the Retirement Villages Act could have major unintended consequences for both operators and residents, warns the Chief Executive of The Masonic Villages Trust, Warick Dunn.

The National-led Government intends to review the law in the next Parliamentary term. Warick says the sector supports the review and has already, voluntarily, moved to remedy some of the concerns raised by resident groups during the review consultation period.

But Labour wants a specific change to the part of the legislation governing the timeframe in which operators must repay to outgoing residents the capital sum those residents paid when moving in.

Currently, there is no mandated timeframe for that repayment to be made, and the Retirement Village Residents Association is concerned that, among other issues with the legislation, that gives residents a raw deal.

Labour has drafted a Private Members' Bill to address that – the Bill will require operators to repay 10 per cent of the capital sum to residents within five working days, and the balance within two months.

Warick says that's nice in theory, but unworkable in practice. "It will have major unintended consequences for both operators and residents," he said.

Under the current system operators repay outgoing residents when that vacant unit is resold.

In New Zealand's soft housing market, that resale can take time, "but usually less than six months," Warick says.

"Mandating a specific and quite short timeframe for an operator to repay an outgoing resident will often force the operator to make payment before they recoup their money from reselling the outgoing resident's unit," Warick says.

Approximately 53,000 Kiwis live in retirement villages now. That number is rapidly increasing, with roughly 130 new residents moving in each week.

That trend is expected to continue because of our aging population – one in five Kiwis, over a million of us, will be 65 by 2028.

Given the numbers involved, he says the proposed legislative change will have significant financial impacts on operators, forcing them to reconsider their operating and business models, potentially affecting thousands and thousands of older New Zealanders.



1 in 5
Kiwis will be
65
by 2028

“Operators would naturally have to defray those costs and protect themselves.”

This may mean they introduce new fees, or raise prices to counter the negative financial impacts of the proposed legislation. Or defer maintenance and investment in new builds.

“And that will hurt thousands and thousands of New Zealanders who want the advantages of retirement village living.”

Nor will smaller community, welfare and charitable operators, like The Masonic Villages Trust, have the same flexibility and financial leeway as the bigger commercial players.

“Two core elements stand as part of our charitable philosophy since our foundation over 65 years ago. They are the provision of both care and housing options for older people.

“Within our Masonic villages, we are concerned that the continued provision of affordable, comfortable and quality accommodation to New Zealand’s rapidly aging population is something we will struggle to do if we are forced to change our business model and/or increase prices.”

Warick says other options operators may be forced to consider include introducing unit titles to their villages, which would change the whole dynamic of retirement village living.

“This would mean residents would own and be totally responsible for all their living arrangements and costs, including all maintenance, upkeep, rates, insurance, security, repairs, gardening etc, much as if they lived in an apartment complex.

“The significant ‘lock and leave’ advantages of a communal retirement village living as we know it

now would be gone. Is that really what older New Zealanders want from their retirement years?”

In expressing his concerns, Warick wants all parties to this debate to be fully aware of how the various policy settings governing the retirement villages sector are complex and inter-connected.

It’s imperative to protect residents’ rights, he says, but we need to be careful not to inadvertently impinge on the rights of future New Zealanders to enjoy the very significant benefits of retirement village living.



Warick Dunn
Chief Executive
The Masonic Villages Trust

“We need a thoughtful, considered approach to addressing and resolving these issues with the best long-term interests of all parties in mind.”





Discover more

Whether you have just been raised or have been a Master Mason for some time, you probably have questions, such as what is next, how do I discover the secrets that were lost or, perhaps, what does it all mean?

You might also be wondering how to enjoy more of what Freemasonry has to offer and how to expand your social circle beyond that of your own Craft lodge.

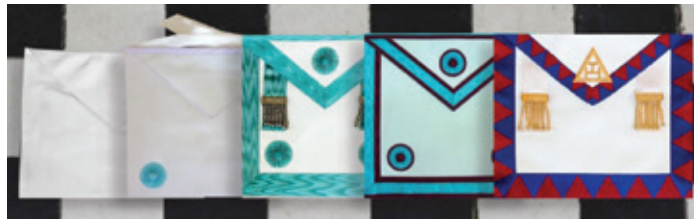
The Royal Arch provides answers to these questions and where you will discover more of what Freemasonry has to offer.

From Initiation to Exaltation

Every Master Mason should aspire to continue their journey from initiation in the craft, to exaltation as a Companion in the Royal Arch.

When the Antient and Modern Grand Lodges came together to form the United Grand Lodge of England in 1813 they declared that 'Pure Antient Masonry consists of three Degrees: the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft and the Master Mason including the Royal Arch'.

A similar declaration appears in the Book of



Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, expanded to define the Royal Arch in New Zealand. "Grand Lodge recognises only the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Excellent Master, and the Royal Arch, as being pure Antient Freemasonry." This represents an important part of our history and heritage. You will note that there are two additional degrees in the declaration.

In England there is a separate body apart from Grand Lodge that administers the Mark Master degree, and they only run the Excellent Degree on special occasions.

In New Zealand all three are administered by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand and run regularly. In joining the Royal Arch, you will progress through all three degrees.

Continuing your Masonic journey

When you become an Entered Apprentice

Freemason, you are placed in the north-east corner of the lodge to represent the foundation stone of a new building and are encouraged to raise a superstructure perfect in all its parts and honourable to the builder. You are, allegorically, the building, and urged to improve yourself with as much honour and pride as any builder would have with his work, so as to be, as near as possible, a perfect man.

Your Initiation is the beginning of a lifelong journey in which you discover more about who is that builder.

The degrees you pass through on this journey contain allegorical lessons



that aim to help you live a better life in harmony with others and serve as an example that benefits society. But even though the world has changed a lot since the 18th century when these allegories were first conceived, the principles involved are just as important now as they were then.



The Degrees

By the time you became a Master Mason, you would have learnt a lot on your Masonic journey and made great progress. However, you also learn that the journey is not finished as the genuine secrets of a Master Mason remain lost. This implies that there is more to learn, and that is indeed true.

As already mentioned, in joining the Royal Arch, you will complete the three degrees of Mark Master, Excellent Master and the Royal Arch.

Mark Master

In operative Masonry the use of a distinguishing mark to identify each craftsman's work is a long-established practice and was widely employed in the erection of cathedrals, castles, churches and other stately buildings of the Middle Ages in Great Britain and Europe. This mark served two useful purposes. It established a craftsman's entitlement to wages and, in the event of faulty work, enabled the foreman or overseer to identify the workman responsible.

The ceremony of Advancement is centred on this practice and is particularly directed to the instilling of order, regularity, diligence, and discipline. The Mark degree instructs us how that learning can be most usefully and judiciously employed for our own



honour and the benefit of our fellow man.

And while our motives may sometimes be misinterpreted, our attainments underrated, and our reputations disparaged, it demonstrates the merits of persistence in the face of adversity and the conviction that truth is right and will prevail.

The Excellent Master and Royal Arch Degrees

The Excellent Master degree is a preparatory ceremony which involves qualifying a Brother to "pass the veils". It is an impressive and beautiful ceremony to experience and witness.

The Royal Arch degree dates from at least 1752 and was for a long time an appendage to the third degree in craft masonry, being regarded by the "Ancients" as a fourth degree. It has become one of the most talked of, and written about, degrees in Freemasonry. For many it is regarded as the culmination of the craft system, having been described

by prominent historical figures as "the most sacred part of Masonry" and "the root, heart and marrow of Freemasonry". Others have described it as the perfection and completion of Freemasonry.

It covers a lengthy period following the ending of King Solomon's reign. The Temple of Jerusalem was destroyed, the kingdom of Judea divided, and the tribes taken into captivity. Babylon eventually fell to Cyrus the Great who set free the Jewish captives and invited them to return to Jerusalem to commence rebuilding the Temple.

The legend acts out the restoration of the genuine secrets of a Master Mason and this is accomplished by workmen who make a momentous discovery during their labours and an illuminating explanation of the nature of God is conveyed.

The Chapter

Members meet in Chapters between four and six times a year. These tend to be more relaxed than Lodge meetings and suppers are convivial and enjoyable. Members learn the important lessons of companionship and collaboration, with everything done as part of a team. This emphasises the further friendship and companionship to be found within the order, and the important value of working together in harmony with others.

Pure Ancient Freemasonry

The journey through "pure Ancient Freemasonry" and the discoveries each person makes in the Royal Arch are very personal. But you will discover that, even today, these allegories still represent valuable lessons



we can all learn from – and enjoy in the process.

When and how can I join the Royal Arch?

You may apply for membership of a Royal Arch chapter six months after being raised to the degree of a Master

Mason. You do not have to wait until you have been Master of your lodge, as was considered the practice some years ago.

Find the most suitable chapter and join at a time that is right for you, as long as you remain a member in good standing of a Craft lodge.

Just like in the Craft, there are many different Royal Arch Chapters, each with their own history and traditions.

Just ask any member of your lodge, or friend, who is a Royal Arch Companion, or scan the QR code at the end of this article, or contact us at gse@royalarch.org.nz.

MEComp Ken Burt,
First Grand Principal



Scan for more info
www.royalarch.org.nz

Master Masons completing the Masonic journey

Clause 71 of the Freemasons NZ Constitution recognizes three Craft degrees: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason; plus the three Royal Arch degrees of Mark Master, Excellent Master and Holy Royal Arch as being pure, antient Freemasonry. We warmly welcome these newly-advanced Mark Masters within our Royal Arch fraternity.

10/02/2025	Krishn Chandra	William Ferguson Massey No 61
11/02/2025	Bradley Lietze	Cromwell Coronation No 20
11/02/2025	David Latonio	Cromwell Coronation No 20
25/02/2025	Samuel Williams	Hutt-Wairarapa No 10
26/02/2025	Ryle Dela Cruz	North Shore No 52
03/03/2025	Mark Andersson	Tutanekai-Hinemoa No 92
06/03/2025	Andrew Nepomuceno	St Andrew No 90
06/03/2025	Primo Bacay	St Andrew No 90
06/03/2025	John Knight	Auckland No 9
13/03/2025	Mark Bentley	Rotorua No 44
13/03/2025	Alain Valeza	Rotorua No 44
24/03/2025	Hamish Taverner	Manawatu No 11
26/03/2025	Paulo Oliveira	North Shore No 52
29/03/2025	Paul McPherson	Victoria No 4
01/04/2025	Richard Blainey	Whangarei No 27
03/04/2025	Waka Hurihanganui	Rotorua No 44
05/04/2025	Christopher Lee	Tutanekai-Hinemoa No 92
14/04/2025	Xavier Dangen	William Ferguson Massey No 61
06/05/2025	John Caldwell	Whangarei No 27

Grand Master in Timaru for 60-Year Service Bar presentation

Our Grand Master, Jim Watt, went to Timaru again recently for the presentation of a 60-Year Service Bar to John Poland, Past Master of

The Caledonian Lodge No 16 at the Timaru Freemasons Centre.

John had previously received a Certificate of Merit for services rendered.

Thank you, John, for your good and faithful service.

It was a great evening with Family, Friends and Freemasons.



John and the Grand Master, Alex Solomon, Past District Grand Master, who did the oration, John responding, John, family and our Grand Master, chatting before, Refectory and the Stewards for the night.

Another 60-Year Bar in Timaru

WBro Soal's presentation was made at his home. A few days previously, Owen had been discharged from Timaru Hospital and sent to the care wing of Strathallan Life Care Village. Mrs Soal arranged for him to be brought home for the occasion.

Owen lived in Pareora near Timaru for a number of years and is known to our Grand Secretary Duane Williams PGW in his younger years as he frequently visited the 'Top Shop' run by Owen for Fish and Chips and also started his Paper Run there.

BACK ROW: RWBro Paul Johnston JGW, Mrs Eileen Soal, WBro Robin Gourdie WM the Caledonian Lodge, WBro John Poland.
FRONT: WBro Owen Soal.



Welcome to our newest Freemasons

February–April 2025

Kent Troughton	The Ara Lodge No. 1	Mark Jason Roel Consumo	Lodge Rotorua No. 153
Graeme Austin	Scinde Lodge No. 5	Roman Milton	Lodge Waitakerei No. 170
Gavin Robertson	Scinde Lodge No. 5	Mel Johnson Battad	Lodge Clinton No. 183
Wilfredo Jr Molejon	Scinde Lodge No. 5	Daniel Ribeirinho	The Avon Shirley Lodge No. 185
Arun Antony	Scinde Lodge No. 5	Myko Pedrigosa	Lodge Waihopai No. 189
Abelardo JR Esteban	Scinde Lodge No. 5	Romeo II Canoy	Lodge Doric Brighton No. 236
Ian Casement	Scinde Lodge No. 5	Brandon Kinghorn	Lodge Haeata No. 272
Blair Davis	Scinde Lodge No. 5	Jamel Grande	Lodge Wanaka No. 277
Henry Sharp	United Lodge of Masterton No. 19	Charles Parker	Lodge Nelson No. 288
Nelson Piopongco	The Concord Lodge No. 39	Karl Dela Rosa	Lodge Katikati No. 295
Keith Huckle	The Hiram Lodge No. 46	Mohammed Saleem Liyakat Khan	Lodge Zetland No. 312
Hayden Woodmancy	The Hiram Lodge No. 46	Izak Tait	Lodge Howick No. 314
Leonard King	The Te Aroha Lodge No. 52	Eric Jason Gesalta	Lodge Te Papa No. 316
Jason Parkes	The Franklin Lodge No. 58	Paul John Gutierrez	Lodge Te Papa No. 316
Willem Van Wilsem Vos	The Rawhiti Lodge No. 66	Gert van der Westhuizen	Lodge Te Papa No. 316
Jesrael Guillermo	The Alpha Lodge No. 81	Jobe Escala	The Lodge of Remembrance No. 318
Caio Eduardo Aarao Fonseca	Lake Lodge of Ophir No. 85	Devon Mackie	Lodge Eckford No. 334
Josaiah Tu'itahi	Lake Lodge of Ophir No. 85	Bradley Julian	The United Lodge No. 340
Bryan Angelo Cruz	Lodge Arrow Kilwinning No. 86	Jordan Tatum	Browns Bay Lodge No. 346
Regieval Selvido	Lodge Arrow Kilwinning No. 86	Lucas Klinkhamer	Lodge Rangitane No. 369
Jeffrey Beje	Lodge Winton No. 108	Marz Vincent Briones	Lodge Rangitane No. 369
Rowell Santiago	Lodge Winton No. 108	Sebastian Thompson	Lodge Rangitane No. 369
Jeremiah Ramos	Ikaroa Lodge No. 115	Paul Field	Lodge Orewa No. 370
Stefan Capatina	The Forest Lodge No. 116	Romel Saavedra	Lodge Kawerau No. 422
Siby Joseph	The Forest Lodge No. 116	Ayden Mita	Lodge Kauri No. 474
Lachlan McDonald	The Tauranga Lodge No. 125	Jimson George Poruthukaran	Lodge Waikato No. 475
Mark Ward	The Tauranga Lodge No. 125		



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The Last Word!

Freemasons New Zealand crossword



Solution page 6

ACROSS

- 1 How many Grand Lodges in the United States of America?
- 3 How many constitutions and their lodges helped initially to form The Grand Lodge of New Zealand in 1890?
- 5 How many years old is The Grand Lodge of New Zealand?
- 6 First Grand Lodge established in which country?
- 8 The Sister Constitutions (in the NZ context) consists of how many countries?
- 9 Where is the Grand Lodge of Scotland headquartered?
- 11 How many Grand Lodges does Australia have?
- 13 Which long weekend is The Grand Lodge of New Zealand - Grand Installation being held on?
- 14 In which Asia/Pacific country did our Grand Master recently attend ANCOM 2025?
- 16 The Grand Lodge of China is situated in which country?
- 18 Southernmost country with a Grand Lodge in South America?

DOWN

- 2 Which Grand Lodge is celebrating its 300th Anniversary this year?
- 4 United Grand Lodge of England still has Lodges in which Communist Territory in Asia? (two words)
- 7 The last triennial cycle of Grand Installations in July 2025 is being held in which state of Australia?
- 8 Which Island in Australia has a Grand Lodge?
- 10 Which country has the southernmost recognised Grand Lodge in Africa?
- 12 Which 'communist' country Grand Lodge in the Caribbean is in Amity with our Grand Lodge?
- 15 Which is the smallest 'country' with a Grand Lodge that we are in Amity with?
- 16 Which country in the Middle East has a Grand Lodge with an ANZAC connection?
- 17 France has many Grand Lodges, how many does New Zealand recognise?

SERVICE AWARDS

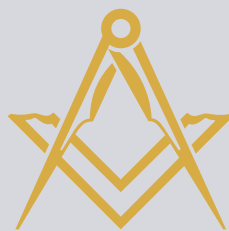
February–April 2025

60 YEAR BADGE

WBro John Hamilton Poland PM	The Caledonian Lodge No. 16
VWBro Harold Stanley Thomson P Dist GM	Lodge of Progress No. 22
RWBro Arnold Harold Bloxham P Dep GM	The Manawatu Kilwinning Lodge No. 47
WBro David Wayne Williams PM	The Fortitude Lodge No. 64
WBro Kelvin Edward Lines PM RH	The Havelock Lodge No. 104
WBro Rodney Leonard Marshall PM	The Forest Lodge No. 116
Bro Reay Hedley Pool MM	Lodge Rotorua No. 153
WBro Murray McKenzie Toms PM	Lodge Te Puke No. 261
Bro Ernest Henry Field Porter MM	Lodge Waikanae No. 433
RWBro Vernon John Cooper P Prov GM	Lodge Whitianga No. 443

50 YEAR BADGE

WBro William John Johnston PM	Patea Kilwinning Lodge No. 18
MWBro Stanley Charles Barker PGM	Lodge Abercorn-Tuahine No. 76
WBro Trevor Lindsay Grey PM	Lodge Oamaru Kilwinning No. 82
WBro Nevin James Risk PM	The MacKenzie Lodge No. 93
WBwro Harry James Gray PGD	Lodge Whangarei No. 102
WBro David Allan Stent PM	Nau Mai Lodge No. 177
WBro Graeme Peter Pengelly PM	Nau Mai Lodge No. 177
WBro Hamish Mackay George PM	Lodge Aorangi Timaru No. 196
Bro Owen Les Perkins MM	Lodge Wanaka No. 277
WBro David George Holmes PGBB	Lodge Tuakau No. 278
WBro James Allan Graham PM	The Lodge of Remembrance No. 318
VWBro Harvey William Sadgrove P Dist GM	Browns Bay Lodge No. 346
Bro Michael Geoffrey Wooldridge MM	Lodge Hatea No. 431
WBro Lester Ivan Cottam PM	The United Lodge of Wanganui No. 468



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