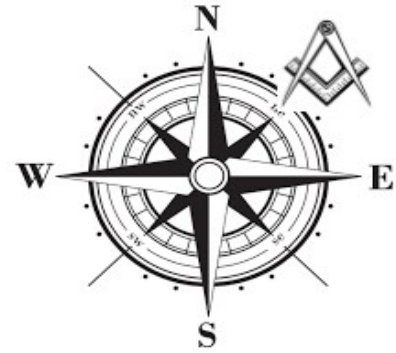


North East Corner

No 7

October 2019

A newsletter for Bath Freemasons



Welcome back to a new masonic season! Not that the Bath Hall had much of a rest with the Fringe Festival and other bookings but now is the time for the lodges to return to business and I hope you have a great year.

As always if there is something to report on, something to advertise for the future or just an article of interest do let me know - this newsletter is informal and designed to be quickly read and keep you up to date.

Thanks

Alan Morsley (Editor)

Back in April a lunch was held to raise funds for a project that could help us all!

Royal Albert Edward Lodge



Good company, good food and a good cause—perhaps the essence of Freemasonry.

Sunday 14th April saw some 59 people gathered to enjoy a pleasant Sunday lunch at the Cumberland Park Golf Club held by the Royal Albert Edward Lodge.

Members of RAEL and other Bath Lodges enjoyed a pleasant meal in beautiful surroundings and the satisfaction of 'charitable works'.

Following the meal W Bro Richard Cooper presented a cheque (£1000) to the guest of honour Graham Fulford, (Graham Fulford Trust). The Trust provides PSA testing and has so far identified almost 190 Freemasons with various stages of Prostate Cancer which has enabled medical intervention to be undertaken.

Testing for Bath and Somerset Freemasons is planned to commence, (before too long).

The Dunckerley Club

Under the auspices of the SMFA, the Dunckerley Club was established to encourage older Brethren to attend a social event with younger members and several successful meetings have been held since its inception in 2014

At our last happy gathering Tony Carter was elected Chairman and we enjoyed a talk about wine from David Hayward, who very generously provided a few samples for tasting.

The next event will be a special Sunday Lunch at the Bath Masonic Hall, on 8th December, to which wives/partners and non-masonic friends will be invited.

It is also hoped that the Bath Masonic Widows' Association will be joining us then.

Think about someone you may not have seen for a while, and bring him along.

David Hogg

Secretary



Who was Thomas Dunckerley?

There are whole books about this great mason but the following paragraph perhaps gives some idea of his formidable achievements

In 1767, he was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire. At that time, the office of Provincial Grand Master had fallen into disuse, but Dunckerley would personally revive it in several counties, although the exact chronology is hard to establish. He is known to have been the Provincial Grand Master for Essex at least from 1776, and a document of 1786 appoints him Provincial Grand Master for the Counties of Dorset, Essex, Gloucester, Somerset and Southampton, the City and County of Bristol and the Isle of Wight. In 1785, Dunckerley founded the Lodge of Harmony number 255, at the Toy Inn at Hampton Court, presumably as his own home lodge. It was at Dunckerley's request that the Province of Bristol was created, still unique in English Freemasonry as the only province confined to a single city, and having all of its lodges meeting in the same building.

Would you like to increase your knowledge of freemasonry?

There is so much to look at these days (not all of it accurate or well– researched) but here are two suggestions for gaining some more information reliably. The first is to become aware of a rather special lodge—the *Quatuor Coronati Lodge* which is the world's premier research lodge. Established in 1884 and consecrated in 1886, the lodge's founders wished to advance an evidence-based approach to the study of Masonic history and research into the origins of freemasonry.

W Bro Martin Cox, a Bath mason is the man to approach if this interests you. He writes

As Roving Local Secretary for South Wales & South West my brief is to highlight the Premier research lodge and to help in promoting it to Lodge members. For £35 a year you can be a member of the Correspondence Circle, attend any of the five lodge meetings held In FMH London and in June, in the Provinces. There are many interesting lectures which at the year end are sent to each subscribing member in a bound volume setting out the lectures given that year. Also should a lecturer be needed for a lodge meeting, one of the full Lodge members could be available to help fill your programme.

I am happy to discuss any issues with you so please get in touch.

We are on Twitter at @QcccLocalSecre1 and this account can be followed to inform you of QC matters and other information.

Here is the second idea!



You've got it - the picture is of Solomon (yes it does look like one of our Worshipful Masters!) There is the clue. The [Solomon project](https://solomon.ugle.org.uk/) is now fully up and running and is a source of masonic material available to all.

Some lodges now have a “nugget” at each meeting and they can be quite fascinating - I recently attended a lodge in Keynsham where, after the main business, four minutes were given to “what is a cowan?”

But it is not all about lodge meetings and mini-lectures—the website has many short and longer articles for you to read, absorb and learn and many more will be added, I am sure!

To gain access just go to the site below and register—it takes about 5 minutes and you only do it once (so long as you remember the password you start with!)

The site is <https://solomon.ugle.org.uk/>

An important date for the future - clearly a big Bath event to look forward to!



St Alphege Lodge 4095 – Centenary

St Alphege Lodge will be celebrating their Centenary on Monday 7th September 2020 with a Ceremony early that evening followed by a Festive Board at the new Bath Apex Hotel.

It is eagerly anticipated that all Bath Lodges will support them, especially their *Mother Lodge* Royal Albert Edward 906 and *Grandmother Lodge* Royal Cumberland 41, and everyone will be made very welcome.

Further details to follow but make a note in your diary now to avoid booking a late summer holiday at the same time!

David Hogg

Director of Ceremonies

Thinking about other degrees beyond the craft?

The Ancient and Accepted Rite (usually called the Rose Croix though that is only one of the 33 degrees in the rite) wants you to be aware of its presence in Bath.

The two Rose Croix Chapters in Bath, namely St Peter & St Paul No 6 and Antiquity No 95 have enjoyed a long existence and seen many local Masons enjoy what it has to offer.

To be a member you have to profess the Trinitarian faith of a Christian.

“Of all the many orders and degrees outside the Craft and the Royal Arch, there is no doubt that for many the pinnacle of their Freemasonry is membership of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. The 18^o is the one 'beyond' the Craft that they would be most reluctant to lose. It is very rare to hear any member speak lightly about the Rose Croix. They are right to value it so highly.” (Quote from article in Freemasonry Today 2001)

This short article is to bring to all Bath Masons attention the fact that this degree is worth joining. There are four meetings per year and should any brother be interested in joining please ask an existing member or enquire via the respective Recorders (secretaries) B Mogg and D Bond.