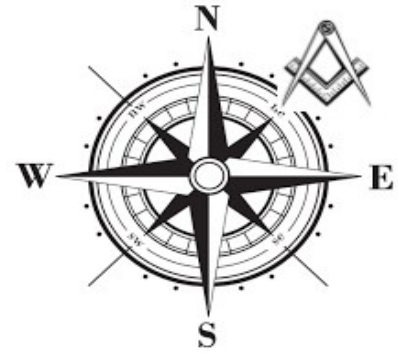


North East Corner

No 8

December 2019

A newsletter for Bath Freemasons



Bath Freemasons go to sea!!

Well nearly - to Portsmouth!

1856 saw the foundation of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, an event in which the Royal Cumberland Lodge of Mark Master Masons Time Immemorial was actively involved. Other Lodges, of course played their part: Bon Accord (London), Old Kent (London), Northumberland & Berwick-upon-Tweed (Newcastle) and Phoenix Lodge No.2. Phoenix celebrated its 200th year of existence on 28th September in the Guildhall Portsmouth.



As part of the 'Foundation' reunion program, (commenced in Bath 2014), invitations were extended to members of Royal Cumberland Lodge of Mark Master Masons to attend the meeting at which the MW Grand Master was present.

The members of RCLMMMTI witnessed an enactment of an Ancient Mark working by a demonstration team from Sussex. This was followed by an excellent luncheon at which over 300 dined in the Guildhall.

Left to right members of RCLMMMTI

Bro. Keith Surrey, W.Bros David Dixon (Secretary), Justin Hawkins (WM), Richard Cooper, Geoff Ifill Michael Jakins

We have all heard of the Universities Scheme - tales of 4 or 5 initiates in one evening - but what is the scheme and how does it work in Somerset? David Hogg, of St Alphege Lodge has kindly written this article for us.

UGLE Universities Scheme

The **Universities Scheme** is a pioneering attempt by the United Grand Lodge of England to help forge links between well placed, enthusiastic Lodges and the many students and other young people, who are seeking to become involved in freemasonry but who may not know where to begin.

Tradition and continuity are two of the values which characterise the relationship between Freemasonry and universities. It was nearly 200 years ago that the first university Lodge, Apollo University Lodge, was founded at Oxford, with Isaac Newton University Lodge following soon afterwards at Cambridge. Since then many thousands of young men have been introduced to Freemasonry through these two Lodges, and they provided the inspiration for the Universities Scheme. This was set up at the beginning of 2005 with the objective: *'To establish and/or enhance arrangements and opportunities for undergraduates and other university members to enjoy Freemasonry'*

There are now 85 other Lodges pursuing a similar, yet distinct, course. Their membership



consists of undergraduates, postgraduates, senior members of the university and alumni, ranging in age from 18 upwards.

Since joining the Scheme in 2007 St Alphege Lodge has been very fortunate in attracting many bright and enthusiastic young men who bring a fresh dynamic to our membership.

We do not necessarily keep them for long as most have to leave the area to pursue their careers; although several have stayed loyal to their Mother Lodge, attend regularly and still hold office.

A conference is held every two years and this year was at the home of Cheshire Freemasons at a wonderful conference/masonic centre just outside Chester.

Have a look at their website and imagine what we could do if someone gave us two million pounds for our building!

<https://cheshirereview.co.uk/>

One of the speakers at the conference was Dr Alex Rhys, a past master of St Alphege Lodge and currently our Junior Warden.

Alex was initiated in 2011, WM of St Alphege Lodge in 2016 and appointed MetGrStwd this year in recognition of his contribution to the scheme in London. We are watching his progression with interest!

David Hogg

Universities Scheme Liaison Officer

St Alphege Lodge 4095

For more information visit <https://www.universitiesscheme.com/>

It may be Bath's youngest lodge but Elizabethan can still boast big number birthdays!

Elizabethan

"A milestone for Elizabethan in October as the lodge marked it's 500th Lodge of Instruction, just over a week after installing W Bro Mick Fitch into his first tenure as Worshipful Master.

Following a truncated run-through of the Third Degree - much needed, as three candidates are lined up for raising before the end of our Masonic year! - the Brethren decamped to Cappadocia restaurant, overlooking Pulteney Bridge and the Weir, for a meal out to mark the occasion.

Our assistant DC, W Bro Kent, also gamely located and, where needed, translated, the hand-written minutes of the first ever Elizabethan LOI, dated 27 September 1955 and held at the Smiths Rooms, located above that which was formerly a Co-op furniture shop, but is now Halfords/Sports Direct. Presided over by WM Sidney L. Taylor, it details the practice of a ceremony of Installation, in anticipation of Master Elect Bro. H.J. Grantham's then-impending investiture. While much has changed in the intervening decades, some things remain the same - the LOI in 1955 duly opened at 6:30, and concluded shortly before 8pm, just as it continues to do so into the present day."



Freemasons do like dressing up!

Royal Cumberland recently had a Trafalgar night and one famous Worshipful Master entered the spirit by wearing an Admiral's uniform and a bicorne (that's me showing off)



Richard Thurston, "Admiral" Trevor Quartermaine, Bob McKeegan-Brown (initiate and wondering what on earth he has joined), Craig Harding.

Am I seeing double?

Those of you who are Royal Arch Masons know that the installation ceremony can be a bit confusing! Three principals playing what can look like musical chairs. Well if you were present at the recent meeting of Royal Cumberland Chapter that feeling of confusion took on a whole new dimension.

In a very special ceremony our Provincial Grand Master was taken through the three chairs in one ceremony alongside those who would eventually be the Principals.

Full marks to the DC, Graham Jeffery and to Douglas Burford who designed the unusual ritual—it all worked out perfectly. Mind you it had to with the Grand Superintendent and a Past Second Principal of Supreme Grand Chapter (plus numerous Provincial Officers) all in attendance.



Something to look forward to in the New Year!

Everyone is invited to Royal Cumberland Lodge no 41 Burns Night 2020... wives, partners, non masons, children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents. Even the little boy who lives down the lane!

Burns Night

Prosecco Reception

Menu

STARTER
Cock-a-leekie soup

SECOND COURSE
Haggis Warm Reekin' rich wif' Champnit Tatties and Bashed Neeps and Gravy

MAIN COURSE
Roast beef with Yorkshire Pudding in a red wine jus served with fresh seasonal vegetables & roast potatoes

DESSERT
Raspberry Cranachan & shortbread

FOLLOWED BY
Cheddar, Stilton & Somerset Brie cheeses
Grapes, Celery & Biscuits
Coffee & tea, chocolate nibbles and a we' dram

The Ceremony of Piping in the Haggis

Address to the Haggis

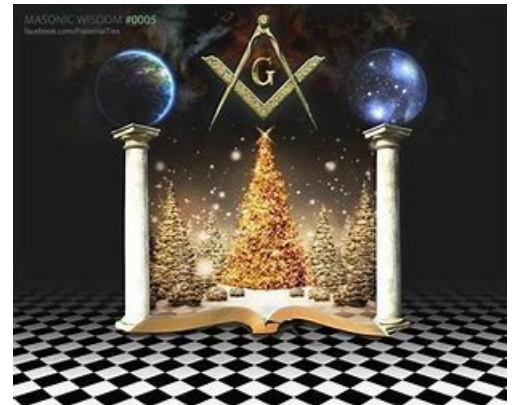
Toast to the Haggis

18:00 Thursday 6 February 2020

Hosted by Royal Cumberland Lodge no.41
Dining in The Temple at The Old Theatre Royal,
Old Orchard Street, Bath. BA1 1JU.
Ladies, Partners and Non-masonic Guests welcome

Lounge suit or morning dress with Kilts if preferred; Craft, Provincial, Royal Arch or black tie, white gloves.

Tickets: £25.00 rcsocial@hotmail.com



Message from the Editor!

To everyone's surprise (not least mine) this little newsletter has reached its third year. It works because you send me pictures and text and I do my best to put things together.

It is informal (as you can see) and meant to be a friendly way of bringing us together as masons in this great city!

Thank you for your support and I wish you all a

Very Happy Christmas.

Alan Morsley

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