

FMVQ4

SUMMER 2016

FREEMASONS VICTORIA JOURNAL

LOOKING
FORWARD

Good men, supporting each other,
their families and the community.



FREEMASONS
VICTORIA



THE EASTBOURNE

by mirvac

Artist's impression: The Eastbourne from Victoria Parade

A LIFE EXTRAORDINARY

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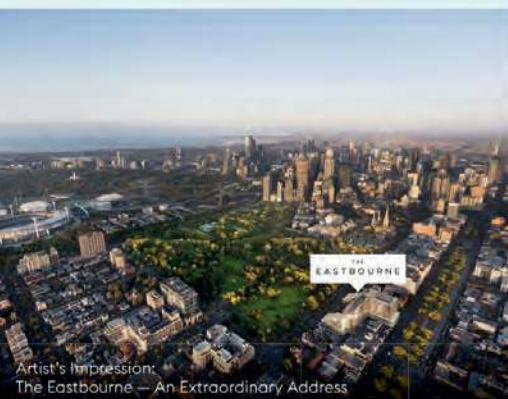
- Concierge
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Artist's impression:
The Eastbourne — An Extraordinary Address



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Artist's impression:
A sanctuary in East Melbourne: Pool, gym and yoga pilates zone

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VICTORIA

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APOLOGY

In the Winter edition of this
journal, we incorrectly referenced
Bob Semple. The correct
reference should have been
"Bro. Robert Semple, OAM, BEM."

FROM THE EDITOR

Hasten Cautiously

At a time when many organisations
are winding down for the festive
season and summer break, at
Freemasons Victoria we are ramping
up! Over the past 2 months, we have
made substantial steps forward in
planning for our future and our
pathway to 2025. We are encouraged
and energised by your support,
input, advice and wisdom.

In this issue, you will read about our
change agenda, about our collective
thoughts for our collective future —
and you will be asked to become
active participants in that future.

Please ramp up your own engagement
with us: get connected with email,

social media and the website;
become active advocates for
Freemasonry in the community
and wear your Square and Compass
pin with pride; invite us to your
district to discuss our new strategic
plan (see summary details below).

Most importantly, help us to
reinforce in everything that we do:

**Freemasonry is an organisation
of good men supporting each other,
their families and the community.**

From Freemasons Victoria to you,
your families and your communities,
please enjoy a safe and happy festive
season; we look forward to continuing
our journey together in 2017.

IN THIS ISSUE

LOOKING FORWARD

- 2 Embrace the Future
- 6 Next Steps
- 7 The Future is Bright
- 8 Just who is Today's Man
- 10 Shining the Light
- 12 A Woman's Touch
- 14 Staying Connected in the Digital Age

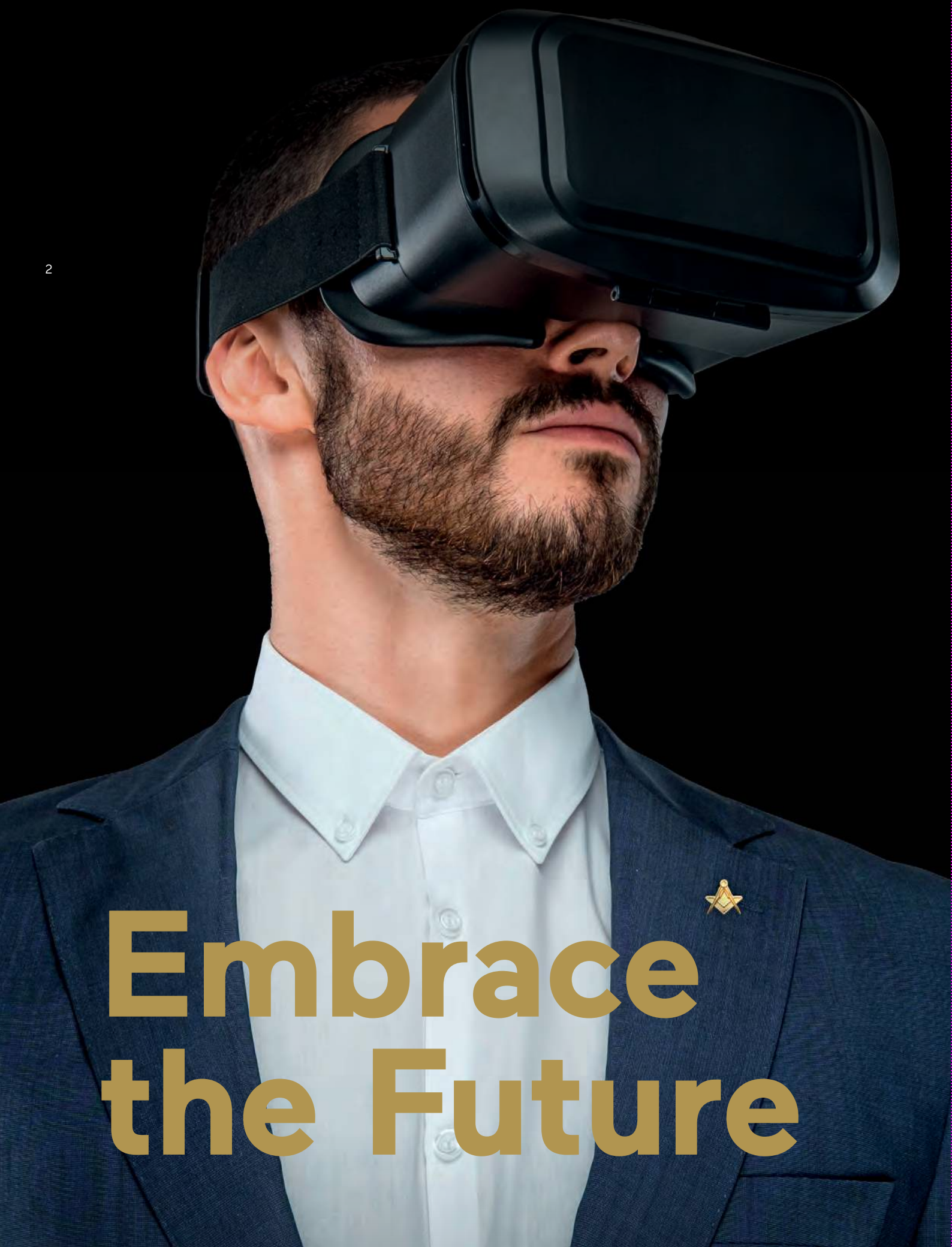
INNER SANCTUM

- 16 Yarrowonga Lodge of St David Installs an Icon
- 17 Great Priory Installation
- 18 Finding Tune in Freemasonry
- 19 Remembering Brotherly Love
- 20 From the Chamber
- 22 Preserving our Heritage
- 23 Welcome our New Members
- 24 Awards for Service

COMMUNITY

- 27 2017 Scholarship Program Applications Now Open
- 27 From Little Things...
- 28 Thinking Pink for 6 years
- 30 Faith, Integrity and Service Rewarded with an OAM
- 33 Victoria's Brightest Musical Talent Awarded
- 34 Pedalling the Shepparton Fruitloop
- 35 Gippsland Lakes Masons Fund Accessibility
- 36 Extending the Welcome
- 37 Twin Triumphs at King David Lodge

Embrace the Future



MWBRO. DON REYNOLDS
GRAND MASTER



As Freemasons, we share a strong and long-established set of values and principles, which encourage us to provide social, benevolent, symbolic, intellectual and moral guidance for the benefit of each other, our families and our communities. The consistent framework of our ceremonial structure reinforces those values, and is designed to stimulate our thinking and develop self-awareness.

Throughout our history, we have been challenged by changing times and this is again the case as we seek to consolidate our place and confirm our relevance in the 21st century. Freemasons Victoria of the future can honour and retain the excellent ritual and ceremonial work for which it is known, but it is the value added to men and their communities that will allow Freemasonry in Victoria to be a beacon of relevance amongst community and fraternal organisations.

The time is now, for all Freemasons in Victoria to:

- Address our self-identity
- Develop new infrastructure in growth corridors
- Build better professional and member networks

"We are what we are because of the people who are amongst us... I firmly believe that the first person singular has no place in the grammar of progress. All achievements are the result of a team effort with every part of that team performing to his or her utmost".

Past Grand Master, John Connell

- Position Freemasons Victoria for relevance
- Align Masonic giving with the strategic focus of Freemasons Victoria
- Restore strong membership through empowerment and engagement
- Remove constitutional and administrative barriers to growth and member satisfaction;
- Build a strong internal and external communications strategy to tell our story.

In our future, our members and the community will say: "What a remarkable organisation Freemasons Victoria is, with a strong and healthy culture of openness and transparency, a real understanding of the values and principles which underpin all that it does, and a recognised community asset."

In that future, our members will be strongly aligned with the vision of Freemasons Victoria, well informed about the governance and management of the organisation, and have significant opportunity to be leaders. The management and administrative team will provide first class service and will support members and Lodges to perform their vital roles at the front-line.

In that future, our brand will be synonymous with the development of good men and the support of valuable charitable pursuits. Our symbols will be everywhere. The branding of the fraternity will be supported by effective marketing which recognises the merits of Freemasonry and makes recruitment that much easier.

Brethren of the lodges I have visited know that I believe that we need to put the Square and Compasses in the community eye; to that end I have asked each of you to wear these with pride,

not on your dinner suits, not on your tails but out there in the community. When someone says 'what is that?' you can proudly declare that is the symbol for Freemasonry. And when they say 'what is Freemasonry?' you can be equally proud to say that "Freemasonry is an organisation of good men, supporting each other, their families and the community".

The Board has appointed a Chief Executive and Assistant Grand Secretary. It has also approved the engagement of a "Change Manager", responsible for the introduction and management of the change agenda. A Strategic Planning Workshop was conducted in November this year, to develop a Business Plan for Freemasons Victoria, a Strategic Plan, Strategic Direction and a Communications Strategy.

A review of the Constitution is currently being undertaken by the Legal and Constitutional Committee, with the assistance of the Grand Secretary.

The aim of this review is to:

- Contemporise our Constitution
- Remove any barriers to progress
- Allow Lodges to operate more effectively & efficiently; and
- Support the organisational principles of Accountability, Alignment and Agility.

A range of Constitutional changes will need to be made and I ask for your favourable consideration of these changes in December.

Brethren, this is an exciting time for Freemasons Victoria and one which will benefit from the cooperative and collaborative support of all members.

Listen to the Grand Master's Address at www.freemasonsvic.net.au/Video/quarterly-september (Quarterly communication of Grand Lodge, September 2016).

Our Strategic Plan

OUR OBJECTIVES

1. To build the brand for today's man
2. To attract membership by engaging today's man
3. To refine the member experience
4. To further enhance capacity for compassion and philanthropy
5. To strengthen the organisation to enable the change process

2016–2025

OUR VISION

Freemasons Victoria is recognised and respected as an organisation of good men who support each other, their families and their communities.

OUR APPROACH

We will monitor our achievements and success, using contemporary media to communicate with and assist members to make the most of the opportunities to build a sustainable future for Freemasons Victoria.

OUR MISSION

To be a meaningful and relevant organisation in the twenty-first century that empowers Lodges, members and the community by providing leadership, guidance and administrative support systems to ensure the perpetuity of Freemasonry in this State.

OUR VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

Masonic teaching is at the heart of Freemasons Victoria. Teaching is based on brotherly love, relief and truth and is enabled through ceremonial structure and a network of Lodges that reinforce these values and stimulate care, trust, empathy, respect, fellowship, networking, support and a generous community compassion in which diversity is embraced.

THE VALUES DRIVING OUR ORGANISATION

- Responsiveness
- Integrity
- Impartiality
- Accountability
- Respect
- Human Rights



Bro. Lucas Crandles and WBro. Ted Finch

Next Steps

RWBRO. RICHARD ELKINGTON
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES

Aligned, Accountable, Agile. These are the behaviours that will underpin the next era of Freemasons Victoria as we develop and implement our 2025 Vision.

What an exciting and progressive decade we have ahead of us. In paving the way, the Board has appointed a Chief Executive (Jane Sydenham-Clarke, the first woman to hold this position) and Assistant Grand Secretary (WBro. Bruce Cowie) who bring their valued talents to our executive team.

Our organisation has many inherent strengths. However, in order to survive, flourish and remain relevant in 2025 and beyond, we need to overcome our natural resistance to change, restore our trust in one another and move forward together strategically and steadfastly.

With these matters in mind, the Board of General Purposes commissioned an extensive and independent review of the structure, operations and organisational effectiveness of Freemasons Victoria. Overall, 20 recommendations came from this review which will improve the effectiveness of Freemasons Victoria.

Implementation of the recommendations will require careful and considered planning in order to ensure optimal outcomes and minimum disruption to the organisation. A Strategic Planning Workshop held in November this year provided the foundations for a new Business Plan for Freemasons Victoria, a Strategic Plan, Strategic Direction and a Communications Strategy. A detailed change plan has been developed and a dedicated “change agent” has been engaged.

To enable recommendations to be fully implemented, some changes to the Constitution will be necessary and have been the subject of a series of communications over recent weeks at the September Quarterly, through visits to Lodges and districts and in weekly communications in e-newsletters from me.

I ask for your favourable consideration of these changes when they come before you in December.

We must all play our part in building a sustainable future for our great organisation. A future that can allow our families to also enjoy the wonderful world of Freemasonry.

Brethren! Please join us in building a vibrant future for Freemasons Victoria!



Follow the President's regular updates on proposed Constitutional Changes at www.freemasonsvic.net.au/news/articles/ (Weekly reports in Engage)

The Future is Bright

JANE SYDENHAM-CLARKE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE, FREEMASONS VICTORIA

In 1964, Bob Dylan famously observed — the times, they are a changin’.

In 2016, writing my first article for this journal, I am reminded just how much they have already changed. I am the first female Chief Executive of Freemasons Victoria. I am the daughter of a proud Freemason.

In my first months I have been made to feel welcome and empowered to support and implement the progressive agenda that the leadership at Freemasons Victoria is keen to embrace.

So what is that agenda?

Build the Brand for Today’s Man

Freemasonry is undergoing major change. With a 300+ year history it is now in a period of renewal, recognising the need to adapt to the demographics and psychographics of our fast changing world. We need to be Aligned, Accountable and Agile.

Over the next few months, and with your support, we will develop a fresh and vibrant contemporary brand, creating new content for deployment through multiple channels. We will leverage external news with appropriate angles, and show good men doing good things across TV, radio, and print. We will find our champions. We will tell our wonderful stories, including over 9,500 good men supporting each other, their families and their communities.

Grow Membership by Engaging Today’s Man

Freemasons Victoria will create a strong multi-media presence with a new website¹ and social media channels² enabling us to present content to a wider audience, to link with partners, and to share our stories about what it means to be ‘a good man’.

We will open up gateways to new

members including universities and school alumni, business networks and consulates. We will explore the opportunities that our richly multicultural State — in which there are 135 faiths with residents from over 200 countries — affords.

Supporting our existing members is a key focus; we want to retain existing members through ensuring a wonderful experience and building great loyalty. We must meet the needs of Today’s Man — at all ages and stages — and ensure a terrific experience when he comes to Lodge. Being a Freemason must impact positively on every member’s quality of life and reputation.

Shine a Light on Philanthropic Giving and Compassion

There is enormous opportunity to work with the Foundation to align our philanthropic interests with the agreed key issues for our markets.

My commitment is to work with the wonderful team at Freemasons Victoria, filled with men and women of intelligence, energy, passion, public and private influence and enormous commitment to what is something very special. Together we will plot a course that enables good men to support each other, their families and their community.

To Don Reynolds Grand Master, Keith Murray Deputy Grand Master, Richard Elkington President of the Board of General Purposes, Peter Henshall and all the staff, thank you for the generous and supportive way in which you have facilitated my engagement into the organisation. I look forward to working with you as we build on the strengths of Freemasons Victoria and equip the organisation for the future.

1 Visit us at www.freemasonsvic.net.au

2 Watch our new video for Freemasonry in Victoria at <http://www.freemasonsvic.net.au/master-nav/about-freemasonry/>

Join our online community on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.



Great stories help to build pride and purpose in membership.

We have been so generous through the Freemasons Foundation and out in the Lodges there is great work happening every day

- 1. Garibaldi Lodge** (North Brunswick) has done incredible work giving hundreds of thousands of dollars to community including the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Australian Nurses, and Northern Health
- 2. Lodge of Concentration** (Ringwood) has for 17 years been running a special needs kids swimming Olympics
- 3. Sunshine Wisdom and Seavic Lodge** members painted the offices of the Josephs Corner Charity and raised \$8,000 to support families with drug related challenges in the Western Suburbs
- 4. Macedon Ranges Lodge** has an initiative to provide breakfast for Lancefield children that might otherwise go hungry
- 5. Trafalgar Lodge** is planning a leadership course to assist locals with their development
- 6. And two incredibly generous Freemasons** recently gave over \$1.5 million to Epworth Freemasons Hospital



MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

Just who is Today's Man?

8

THE EVOLVING VALUES OF TODAY'S MAN

20s



ALL ABOUT ME

- World travel
- Self improvement
- Idealism

30s



TIME OF TRANSITION

- Healthy lifestyle
- New found wealth
- Making serious goals

40s



SAFETY & BELONGING

- Career vs parenting
- Financial security
- Safety in the world they live

50s



SHARING KNOWLEDGE

- Desire to give back
- Providing guidance
- Confidence from experience

60+



NEW FOCUS

- Aspiration for adventure
- Physical limitations
- Importance of friendships

In mapping the path to a sustainable future it is critical that we understand the profile of younger Victorian men so that we can meaningfully connect with them by offering a unique value proposition that meets and exceeds their needs.

Freemasonry has a proud 300+ year history and is now in a period of rejuvenation, recognising the need to adapt to the contemporary and future demographics and psychographics of our fast changing world. At Freemasons Victoria, we are undergoing significant structural

and cultural change to optimise our capacity for contemporary relevance and future membership growth. In doing so, we must also protect the strong sense of history, symbolism and charity, and the central pillars for personal growth, friendship and belonging, particularly in our increasingly alienating world today.

While retention of existing members is a focus for our internal team, finding new ways of engaging with the wider community to raise awareness, improve perceptions and attract appropriate new younger members is critical to our future.

Over the next few months, Freemasons Victoria will be working

very closely with our strategic brand partner, BrandHook, who we have appointed to provide us with insight into our position in society today and create a growth strategy for the future.

The first stage will be a research program, an exploratory piece aimed at uncovering how Freemasons Victoria can become more relevant to the "Millennial Male" without losing sight of our rich history. The research program has been designed to deliver a 'journey of understanding' of Today's Man. The research has been designed across four key stages that include:



Research Review

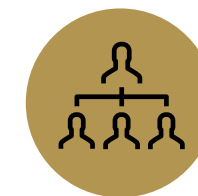
The review will bring to life what men at each stage of their life value, what challenges they face and how life has changed for them over the years. This important stage of the research will set the context of how we as an organisation can fit into more men's lives and ensure the messages communicated outside our organisation and the way we are perceived in the community aligns with our values.

The timeline represents what men want from the world at each stage of their life and the key attitudes that define them. The research review will delve more deeply into these stages to understand the lives of potential members and the place Freemasons Victoria can occupy in their worlds.



Stakeholder Interviews

Key members of our leadership team will help us to understand what success for our organisation will look like from their perspective and identify the key areas of exploration. This will provide the research team with a contextual understanding of what Freemasons Victoria can bring to the lives of our members and their families. This will be highly important, as in the next stage of the research, we will be speaking with male members of the community who are not Freemasons, but who align themselves with the values we cherish.



Focus Groups

This stage represents the first step in understanding the broader community's perception of Freemasons Victoria and our perceived relevance in today's society. Focus groups will be conducted with members and non-members and will provide a chance to hear life truths from men in their own language. The objective of this stage is to explore what triggers and barriers exist to engaging with the Freemasons brand and what is required to overcome these barriers.



Member Survey

The final stage of the research will be a larger scale survey that we will invite all members to complete. This will be your chance to have your say anonymously and will allow us to quantify and better understand your needs and provide the support we need to maximise future opportunities for Freemasons Victoria across the state.

UPDATE YOUR MEMBER DETAILS

Your help is needed to keep us in contact with all our Members. See "How To" details on Pg 14.

9

Shining The Light

10

The Blue Lounge Social Club is a grassroots membership initiative that exists for the purpose of recruiting, retaining, educating, supporting and advocating on behalf of young Freemasons in Victoria. In the previous issue of the journal, you were introduced to the Blue Lounge and were given the opportunity to learn a little more about us and our strategic vision.

Freemasonry is undergoing an incredible transformation, not just here in Victoria, but around the world as we seek to grapple with the incredible societal, cultural and technological changes that have redefined the ways in which young people need to be engaged. The Blue Lounge is completely grassroots, we are by members and for members, and whilst we enjoy the support of Freemasons Victoria we operate through our own efforts.

Over the last year there have been many success stories that the Blue Lounge has been a part of, including the creation of the Southern Hemisphere's first Masonic Podcast Brought to light, or the daily role we play in the recruitment and retention of our younger members. The Blue Lounge is continually growing into a State-wide initiative that is positive about the future of Freemasonry.

In this edition, we thought we would share with you news of our recent expansion and some of the positive stories we took away from those launch events.



Maroondah District Blue Lounge Launch

In September the Blue Lounge launched its second club in the Maroondah District at the Inner Eastern (Box Hill) Masonic Centre. This new branch launched with a real bang where over 50 young Freemasons, their families and friends joined together for a fantastic night of trivia, live music, drinks, food and fellowship thanks to the efforts of Maroondah District President Bro. Thena Nadarajah and his team! The night was electric with young Freemasons from all around Victoria coming together to build friendships and lasting experiences that will no doubt have energized their masonic experience.

It was particularly pleasing to see a number of young children of Freemasons coming along for the fun and it was great to see Freemasons, young and old, enjoying each other's company and simply having a great night together! Aside from the fun and invaluable experience



of the Maroondah Launch, we also received six applications for initiation for the district and their respective lodges from this night alone.

The Maroondah District Blue Lounge covers the Ringwood, Inner Eastern (Box Hill) and Lilydale Masonic centres and will be hosting regular social events whilst also supporting candidates and lodges by visiting on nights of initiation. If the recent launch is anything to go by, our new branch in Maroondah will be a huge success in ensuring that our young members stay energised about the craft and more candidates of quality join local Lodges.



Greater Gippsland Region Launch

After the great success of the Maroondah District Launch, the Blue Lounge was incredibly excited to launch its first country or regional branch in the Greater Gippsland Region.

The Greater Gippsland Region Blue Lounge Social Club extends from Phillip Island through to Gippsland. The club is active across this vast geographical region and is currently in the process of appointing additional Masonic Centre representatives to support their passion for Freemasonry and its future!

Therefore on the 7th of October Greater Gippsland Region President Bro. Simon Reynolds and his team launched another new branch of the Club in Traralgon. The launch event was fantastic, with over 40 young country Freemasons, their family and friends in attendance. The night brought brethren from across a large distance together for meaningful fellowship. About 20 young brethren from the city made the trek up to Traralgon to support the event and also enjoyed an incredible weekend in the LaTrobe Valley thanks to WBro. Jordan Mercer who was kind enough to allow us to stay at his property. The energy of the young masons in the Greater Gippsland Region was really impressive as was the quality of the candidates who signed up to join their local lodges after the event.

With our country lodges feeling the brunt of the recent decline in membership we are so excited that young masonic leaders of tomorrow have taken up the opportunity to help reenergise the craft in these important regional areas. Congratulations to the entire Greater Gippsland Team and we are very excited about the future of this branch of the Blue Lounge Social Club.

Our Plans for Further Growth in other Districts

As State President it has been incredibly humbling and encouraging to receive messages of support and requests for expansion from a large number of districts across Victoria. The energy that we are seeing being reinvested into the craft is inspirational and I am pleased to let you know that the Blue Lounge will be taking up the next phase of its organic growth by expanding to a number of new metropolitan districts. Recently I announced and appointed new district liaisons for the Club in the Central District, Bayside District and Monash Gully District to get the ball rolling on establishing these new branches of the club. Our structure is efficient, effective and easy to implement with each district requiring a President, Secretary and one (two if possible) representatives from each major masonic centre in the district. Therefore if you are a young mason who is excited about the future of Freemasonry and wants to play a fun role in energising your fellow youth and recruiting quality new members to a Lodge near you then get in contact and join the new teams being established in the Central, Bayside and Monash Gully Districts.

If your lodge or district is interested in our club and would like to have us on your team working towards positive outcomes and growth in your area then do not hesitate to pick up the phone or send me an email!

Our motto is 'Bringing Young Men to Light' and we look forward to continuing this grassroots effort to support our Lodges, members and reenergise our fraternity from the bottom up.

Until next edition keep safe and stay on the level.

Opposite

Top: Bro. Simon Reynolds, Beau Atkinson (initiating in January 2017) and Bro. Jack Aquilina.

Bottom: Bro. Liam Cole and his wife Rebecca Cole.

Left

From left to right: Bro. Jordan Mercer, Bro. Sasitharan Sanmugathas, Bro. Jack Aquilina, Bro. Paul Aquilina and Bro. Thibault Duche



Blue Lounge Social Club

Supporting young Freemasons where so ever they may be dispersed

Bro. Jack Aquilina
State President

Mobile: 0449 589 277
jack.aquilina@blueloungesocial.com

www.blueloungesocial.com

JOIN OUR
ONLINE
COMMUNITY

Find us on
Facebook, Twitter
and LinkedIn.

11

A Woman's Touch



12

It's no secret that the United Grand Lodge of Victoria does not accept female applicants to join traditional Craft Freemasonry.

What is perhaps less well known is that the work of Freemasons Victoria is nevertheless enriched by women of intelligence, energy, passion, public and private influence and enormous commitment to what is something very special. These women, their daughters and granddaughters are key to the future of Freemasonry in this State.

We asked three very special Women in Freemasonry about their personal journeys.

MYA G. GRAYLY

Mya is the partner of our Grand Master MWBro. Don Reynolds

FMV: What is your role in Freemasonry in Victoria?

Mya: My role is to support Don and the goals of the organisation moving forward.

Having worked in advertising and promotions I like to try and inject some glamour, energy and a fresh young approach to help attract younger members. In today's world, social media is a big part of connecting and engaging with people and I see my role as promoting our experiences in the world of Freemasons Victoria and taking people along on our journey.

I enjoy meeting and mixing with new people, socialising and taking photos to share of all these wonderful masonic experiences and getting everyone involved.

I am fortunate to have gained some organisational skills running my own business in the health and fitness industry which helps in planning Grand Lodge Installation events, team weekends away and heading up the GL Ceremonial Team Ladies Events and Quarterly Dinners.

FMV: What contribution do women make generally to Freemasonry in this State?

Mya: Besides their significant contribution of time and support to their partners in Freemasonry, women also play a major role in Benevolence.

FMV: Have you seen significant contributions from women to Freemasonry in Victoria?

Mya: Absolutely! Many of the charitable functions and events raise incredible amounts of money due to women's support. Earlier this year we attended the Amicus Carnivale Ball. The lodge raised in excess of \$50,000 which was matched by the Freemasons Foundation. A cheque for \$100,000 was presented to the Olivia Newton-John Wellness Centre from Freemasonry.

Being an Amicus Member and knowing many of the women that worked so hard on the social committee, it really gives me a sense of pride in what they accomplished not only for Freemasonry but for such a worthwhile cause.



MAIKE SHELLIE

Maike is the wife of VWBro. Peter Shellie, Grand Superintendent of Works

FMV: What is your role in Freemasonry in Victoria?

Maike: My role in Freemasonry in Victoria is to support my husband in being a Mason as well as the Chair of the Social Committee for SEAVIC Lodge No 8.

FMV: What contribution do women make generally to Freemasonry in this State?

Maike: The role that women play in Freemasonry in Victoria has probably been another best kept secret! We support our husbands and partners and, if we choose to, we are very involved in organising the social and charity activities. By doing so, we are never alone as we have other women to assist. It is always a team effort and very satisfying to work with likeminded, passionate and supportive people.

FMV: Have you observed significant contributions from women to Freemasonry in Victoria?

Maike: To single out one or two contributions would probably not do justice to all the other contributions that have been made by females over the past years. In probably any social or charity activity there are ladies involved; that is their contribution to charity and the craft.

FMV: Are there any benefits for woman getting more involved?

Maike: Yes! I love the opportunity to meet new people, be part of social and charity activities, and yes, I do love dressing up! For women who

"I love the opportunity to meet new people, be part of social and charity activities, and yes, I do love dressing up! For women who are more introverted, it is a very safe way of meeting new people and developing new social skills and networks.

are more introverted, it is a very safe way of meeting new people and developing new social skills and networks. Within SEAVIC Lodge No 8 for example, we have a "Ladies Night" (social event) prior to every Lodge dinner and we usually have an average of about 30+ ladies of all ages and stages attending. It has been a huge success and one reason why our membership is continuously growing. And without the ladies, all the Charity work would probably not be as successful!

FMV: What contribution do women make generally to Freemasonry in this State?

Sharon: What amazes me is the commitment displayed by the Freemasons I meet as well as the solid and enthusiastic support of their partners, who themselves are capable, intelligent and engaged. I am sure that the commitment of the man is in direct proportion to the commitment and support of his wife.

These intelligent women are also great fun to be around, exchanging experiences about everything from family to fashion and their views on Freemasonry. I freely admit that I like to simply socialize with other Lodge members' wives and the wives of members in the ceremonial teams.

FMV: Are there any benefits for women getting more involved?

Sharon: One secret to maintaining an active and viable membership is to ensure that both men and women are involved and active in Lodge activities. If the interest of the women is maintained, they are more likely to support their partners in the various roles that they play within the organization. It also facilitates wives and husbands forming life-long friendships, whilst not neglecting the foundation pillars of Freemasonry — charity and support.

Involvement assists with your own growth as a person and broadens your social circle. I have attended many presentations at Lodges and met many interesting people— this has enhanced not only my knowledge and communications skills, but also my enjoyment of this wonderful fraternity to which we all belong.



SHARON HENSHALL

Sharon is the wife of RWBro. Peter Henshall, Grand Secretary

FMV: What is your involvement in Freemasonry in Victoria?

Sharon: My father and uncles were active Freemasons. Their enjoyment of the organization gave me insight into the meaning of Freemasonry and what it provides to its members. But it wasn't until my husband joined Freemasonry that I really appreciated its true meaning and how it benefits not only the man, but also his family, friends and workmates.

13

Staying Connected in the Digital Age

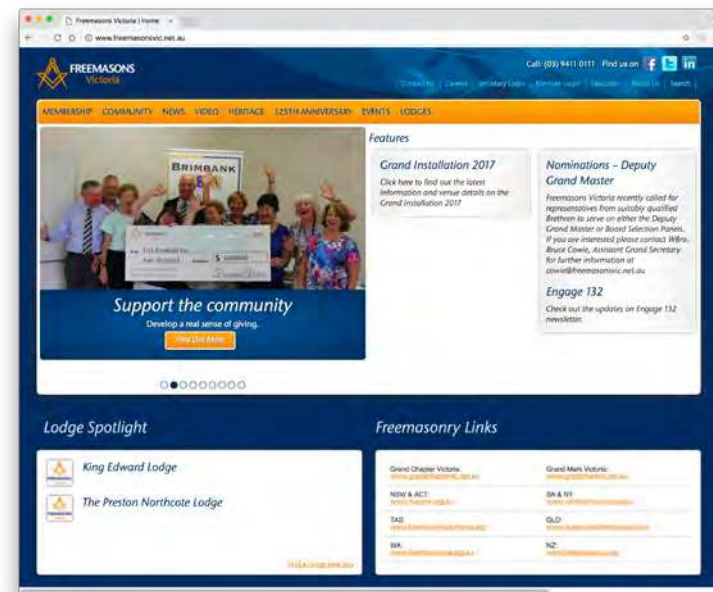
14

An important element of our membership and communications program is to ensure we have current contact details for all our members. We've recently identified some significant gaps in our member information, particularly with viable email addresses, and we're taking many steps to address this. Lodge Secretaries are assisting and you may receive a call from us asking to confirm your details.

We are also asking for your direct assistance to review your contact details on your Membership Record and update these in the Members portal, in particular your:

- email address,
- mobile phone number,
- home phone number, and
- mailing address.

If you have any questions or prefer to update your details by phone, please contact Roger Schie on 9411 0111.



How to update your details online

1. Log on

Log on to www.freemasonsvic.net.au and choose "Member Login".

2. Log in

Login to your account.

User Name = your member number followed by @freemasonsvic.net.au eg. 123456@freemasonsvic.net.au.

Forgotten your password?

Click on "Forgot Your Password?" and enter your username and click on continue. A new email will be emailed to the email on your membership record.

3. Your details

Click on "Your Member Details".

4. Edit

Click the "Edit" button.

5. Save

Click "Save".

6. Log out

Log out

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[www.freemasonsvic.net.au/
publications/edm-archive](http://www.freemasonsvic.net.au/publications/edm-archive)

INNER SANCTUM

Good men, supporting each other,
their families and the community.



Yarrowonga Lodge of St David Installs an Icon

Mulwala Freemason, VWBro. Stan Clarke OAM was installed as Worshipful Master of the 132 year old Lodge of St David.

Sixty seven Freemasons, including Freemasons Victoria's Deputy Grand Master RWBro. Keith Murray, were in attendance. Stan's installation ceremony was a 'show' to remember. Guests came from Wagga Wagga, Melbourne, Nagambie, Tallangatta and many towns in between to see Stan take up the Chair again, and it was clear the intensive planning and effort by the Lodge paid off.

Lodge of St David's reputation of being a good host was maintained with 40 partners and wives of Freemasons being treated to a film at Yarrowonga Mulwala Golf Club Resort while the installation ceremony took place. Over 100 guests attended the installation banquet held in the Lodge supper room.

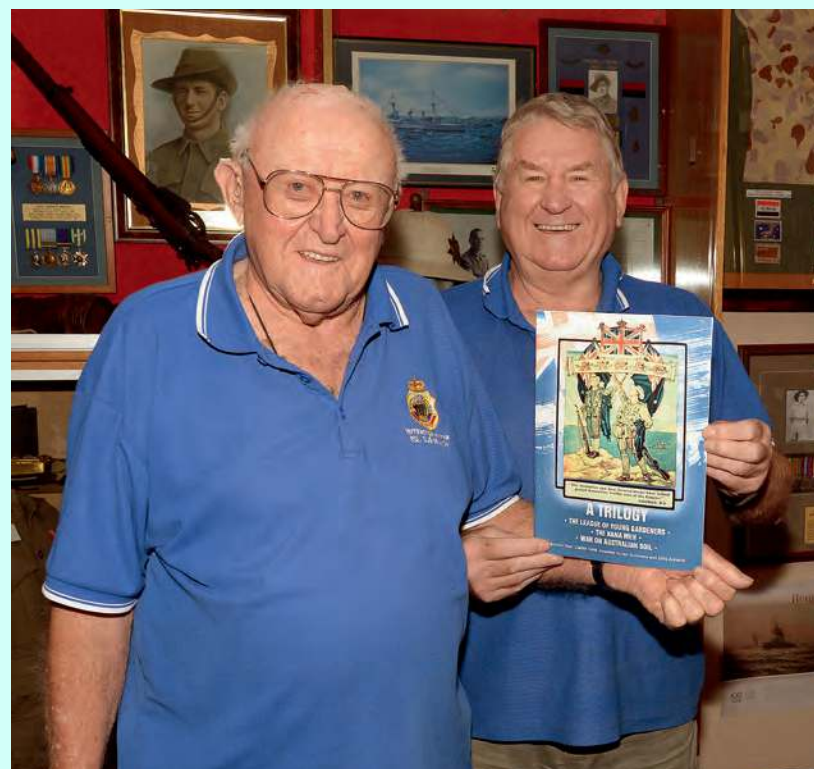
Stan believes the Lodge is set for another busy time beginning with renovations to the Lodge's 90-year-old building. The Lodge will continue with their regular fundraising sausage sizzle at the Farmers' Market, however the immediate focus will be on improving the standard of their building.

There is no sign of Stan slowing down either. The 92-year-old scoffs at any suggestion that he could be too old for the Lodge's top job, admitting he "gets uptight about any mention of age discrimination."

Adding to his swag of achievements this year is the self-funded publishing of a trilogy of wartime stories he authored, which are now being distributed to local schools. Stan joined the RAAF as a telegraphist in January 1943 at age 18, and served in Australia, New Guinea, Netherlands, East Indies and the Philippines with RAAF's wireless unit, later referred to as The Kana Men.

The League of Young Gardeners, The Kana Men and War On Australian Soil tell lesser known stories about Australia's involvement in the two World Wars.

The League of Young Gardeners reveals the role school children played in contributing to Australia's



war relief effort by cultivating garden plots in their own backyards. Originally called the War Relief Gardeners League, the program was highly successful in its fundraising efforts, and according to Stan, had a "positive effect on children's minds, making them more ingenious, resourceful, generous and independent," he said.

The Kana Men tells the story of Australian katakana wireless operators and code breakers who transcribed Japanese signals in the field and supplied valuable information about enemy movements at a time when the allies defending the Pacific region had little to fight with.

War on Australian Soil describes the various attacks on Australian soil during World War 2, and the many ships sunk by the Germans and Japanese around Australia's coastline.

Gayle Pinn, Principal of Mulwala Public School, remarked on the value of Stan's books, saying that, "It's good to have a local aspect on the war and we will be using the trilogy as a teaching resource."

Copies of Stan's trilogy are available for \$10 through the secretary's office of Yarrowonga/Mulwala RSL Sub-branch, or directly from Stan.



Top
VWBro. Stanley Clarke OAM (left)

Bottom
VWBro. Stanley Clarke OAM



Great Priory Installation

REmKt. Brian Crane KCT was Installed as the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of The Great Priory of Victoria on 27 August, succeeding MEMKt. David Paroissien, who had held that office for the past three years.

Attending the colourful ceremony were the leaders of the Knights Templar of Western Australia, New South Wales, Queensland and New Zealand, as well as representatives from South Australia.

All but two Masonic Orders in Victoria were represented by their leaders together with representatives from the Mark and Holy Royal Arch. RWBro. Richard Elkington, President of the FMV Board of General Purposes, was also in attendance along with Deputy Grand Master RWBro. Keith Murray who was welcomed as a Scottish Knight.

The photographs show the range of different, colourful and interesting regalia of the different orders in Freemasonry.



Top
A group of representatives from Masonic Orders in Victoria

Bottom
Left to right: MWBro. Ian Coad, RWBro. Richard Elkington, MEMKt David Paroissien, MEMKt Brian, Deputy RT Eminent Knight Ross Peterken, MEMComp Peter Crick

Finding Tune in Freemasonry

18

WBro. James Taylor discovered Freemasonry in 1998 after his colleague in the British Army said he was going 'off to Lodge'. Being part of an era of Freemasons who believed a potential member had to enquire three times about membership, James did just that, and has been an active member ever since.

Arguably WBro. James's greatest gift to Freemasonry has been his extraordinary musical talent. Confessing he can, "play any instrument you blow," music came very naturally to him from a young age.

Singing and reading music from age seven, James sang and played in the Cathedral Choir until age 14. At 15, he joined the British Army, achieving a string of musical accomplishments including acceptance into the Royal Military School of Music at Kneller Hall, where he learnt to play the oboe under the instruction of Professor George Morgan.

After graduating, James played in a normal county regiment for eight years as an instrumentalist on saxophone, flute, clarinet, oboe and bassoon.

At 26, he auditioned for the Royal Military School of Music, as a student Band Master. This involved three years of study to master all instruments in the band as well as harmony, theory, arranging and conducting. James was posted to the Pegasus Band of the Parachute Regiment where he became the first Band Master with a rank of Warrant Officer Class 1. He remained in this position for seven years.

At 34, he was commissioned as Officer after passing the Advanced Certificate of Music with the Army. He was made a Captain and Director of Music where he managed fifty musicians and over 200 public performances each year.

At 50, James retired from the Army to take up the esteemed position of Director of Music as a Commanding Officer at the Royal Guard of Oman

in Muscat, where he also ran the School of Music for the Sultan of Oman for two years.

In 2011, James made the bold decision to shift his family from The Hamptons in England to Australia, stating that the Australian way of life, and the Aussie values of hard work and community giving, were what he aspired to for his two teenage daughters.

Staying an active Freemason was never a question. James found Geelong Lodge of Unity and Prudence No. 5, visited and never left. They even meet on the same night as his old Lodge, Royal Gloucester No. 130 EC!

James's musical talents were quickly recognised and before long he was playing with the National Tylers Band alongside WBro. Charles Smith and WBro. Roger Gilbert-Kent. They recruited James' wife who drums, WBro. Eddie Baroon who plays guitar and Eddie's wife Jacqui who sings. Their amusing tunes include Stuff it, I'm Having A Swim, Stand By Your Don and If I Were A Grand Master. James aims to donate \$2,000 from funds raised from the National Tyler's gigs to a deaf children's charity.

James has also played for the HRAC, Order of the Secret Monitor as Assistant Grand Organist, at the Dallas Brooks Centre closing ceremony and for a combination Lodge country and western nights.

A Freemason for nearly two decades, James loves giving back to his community and enjoying the camaraderie with other Freemasons.

"As our society ages, Freemasonry will become more important to older men. Freemasonry is a way men can maintain social connections and support into their vulnerable years."

James has just been accepted to audition as Assistant Grand Organist for Freemasons Victoria, and we are sure to enjoy more of his music. Music is one of the seven liberal arts esteemed by Freemasons. Freemasons Victoria supports this and endeavours to give everyone a chance to experience it.



"Freemasonry is something I need. After 35 years in the British Army and as one of five boys, I need male company to survive! Freemasonry does a great deal for men; it gives us a chance to talk about things that are important to us"

WBro. James Taylor

Remembering Brotherly Love

Vale Bro. Alan Cashin MM

BY RWBRO. BRUCE STOCKDALE

Bro. Alan Cashin passed away on September 29, 2016 and I was privileged to attend his funeral.

I first became aware of Bro. Alan when visiting the Derrimut Daylight Lodge at the Sunshine Masonic Centre — not long after the Lodge had opened, the door near the Secretary's table was quietly opened, and a member was brought in and seated next to the Senior Deacon.

Nothing remarkable other than that Bro. Alan was in a fully motorised wheel chair, his apron placed on a pillow resting on his lap.

During the meeting I started to notice a number of things; firstly not one member had batted an eyelid on Alan's entry, the Senior Deacon would occasionally stand and adjust Alan's head angle, wipe the corner of his mouth or other simple acts to ensure his comfort.

The meeting ended and without any fuss or bother Alan was wheeled to the South. During the luncheon the Senior Deacon sat with Alan; feeding him, giving him a drink, even a port which I later found out was his favourite drink, wiping the food from his chin — simple acts of kindness — more so, acts of brotherly love. I came away from that meeting knowing that I had been privy to one of the greatest demonstrations of the core principals of Freemasonry — brotherly love and charity. This was a man of great courage, dedication and in many ways a quiet achiever.

Through visiting Derrimut Daylight Lodge a number of times I became aware of Alan's story — he rarely missed a Lodge meeting, his only excuse was that he was in hospital, no one cared that he would often snore through the ritual or a talk, he joined Derrimut Daylight Lodge in February 1992 as a founding member, was a Freemason since his initiation in April 1975.

More of Alan's story was revealed to me during his funeral; through the

eulogy delivered by Cathy his wife, and his two sons' loving reminiscences about their father.

Alan came to Melbourne from Colac as a young man; boarding with family, starting work, meeting his future wife, getting married, becoming an enthusiast for car rallying (a devoted Ford man), a real petrol head.

His career in banking was cut short by the onset of multiple sclerosis (MS), but that didn't stop Alan having a family and being a great father. MS became part of Alan's life for over 40 years; it did not dominate him, did not diminish his love of life and his family, enjoy the milestones of his family, particularly those of his sons growing up, through to the recent birth of his granddaughter. He continued to enjoy his music and his passion for motor racing — don't expect much conversation during a Bathurst broadcast.

The progress of the MS was such that Alan was no longer able to be cared for at home. Alan became resident, first in an Aged Care Home, and then later at Cyril Jewell House — a facility that caters for MS sufferers, as well as the aged. Alan lived in care for over twenty years.

Alan's wife, Cathy, paid a very significant tribute and thank you to the members of the Derrimut Daylight Lodge for their support of Alan throughout his time in care, in hospital and especially when he attended Lodge meetings. Cathy also expressed thanks to the Derrimut Daylight Lodge for the substantial contribution to the cost of a motorised wheel chair that ensured Alan's ongoing mobility.

I was recently asked why I wanted to be part of Freemasonry. To have been in Alan's presence, witness the true demonstration of the core principles of Freemasonry by the members of his Lodge and finally to be privileged to be present at his funeral is answer enough.

I feel truly humble in the presence of my brothers, Freemasons.

Vale Bro. Alan John Cashin
April 7 1949 – September 29 2016



"I was recently asked why I wanted to be part of Freemasonry. To have been in Alan's presence, witness the true demonstration of the core principles of Freemasonry by the members of his Lodge and finally to be privileged to be present at his funeral is answer enough."

19

From the Chamber

20

Supreme Grand Chapter

The First Grand Principal, MEmComp Peter E Crick GZ, along with a number of Victorian Companions and ladies, recently made the trip to attend the Annual Grand Convocation of the District Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Middle East held in Genting Highlands, at an altitude of over 2,000 metres and one hour north of Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia.

Eleven Companions, which included Don Reynolds and Keith Murray, accompanied Peter in the delegation, which was received by their Grand Superintendent, MExComp Dr Ernest Yong Foo Yen, who was in attendance at our Grand Installation in 2015. Peter had also been present at the Installation in Malaysia last year to witness Ernest Yong being installed as the leader of their order.

As a continuance of the strong fraternal ties that exist between our jurisdictions Peter and Deidre Crick had returned, not only for the Convocation, but to witness Bro. Dr Kang Tee Yong installed as the 18th District Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge of the Middle East.

Most Excellent Companion John Alexander (Ian) Fraser, the Most Excellent First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, accompanied by his Grand Principals and Grand Scribe Ezra were also in attendance for both ceremonies.

A very large delegation from Freemasons Victoria, led by MWBro. Don Reynolds Grand Master and accompanied by RWBro. Keith Murray DGM were present to witness this special occasion and celebrations.

Delegations from over 21 jurisdictions, made up of over 500 brethren from as far away as Western Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Ireland, the Bahamas, China, India, Michigan USA and most parts of Asia, made the journey to Genting



Highlands, with the fine display of different regalia making it a very spectacular ceremony.

Footnote: The festivities for the weekend included a welcoming Oktoberfest Fellowship Buffet, as well as an 8 Course Chinese Joint Harmony Dinner, both held at the prestigious Genting Club. Peter was most appreciative of the great support given by those Ladies and Companions from Victoria who had enjoyed the great experience.

Visit to the National Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Switzerland.

The Grand Master of Mark Master Masons of Victoria, RWBro. Ian Coad with his wife Marg and the Deputy Grand Master RWBro. Peter Julier with his wife Lyn, had the pleasure of travelling to Switzerland to attend the Installation of RWBro. Herve' Richard, as Grand Master of The National Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Switzerland.

Above
Left to right: EmComp Lawrence Stendt, EmComp John Molnar, REmComp Grahame Cameron, REmComp Max Murray, MEmComp Peter Crick, EmComp Gordon Stewart, Comp Don Reynolds, Comp Alan Paull, Comp Keith Murray, EmComp Barry Minister and MExComp Brian Crane

Opposite
Chillon Castle Montreux, Switzerland

They arrived to spend 4 days in Paris before travelling to Geneva and on to Montreux where the Grand installation took place at the Eurotel Hotel on the Eastern shore of Lake Geneva. The Grand Installation was preceded by a reception to welcome visitors.

A tour of the Chillon Castle, which stands on an historic site located on a very narrow pass at the base of the steeply rising eastern shore of Lake Geneva, was enjoyed by all. There is evidence that this site has been occupied since the Bronze Age, and the first written record of the castle dates to 1005. Due to its strategic location this site was used as a toll station where traders and merchants were forced to pay for access to the Great Saint Bernard Pass over the Alps to Italy. Later due to the wealth accumulated from this lucrative business the castle was built and over the centuries underwent successive extensions and renovations in the hands of various influential families. During the 12th century the castle was used as a summer residence for the Dukes of Savoy, during the 16th century it was used by the Savoy's as a prison, the most notable prisoner being François de Bonivard, a Genevois monk, who was imprisoned for 6 years until 1536 when he was released by his countrymen who took the castle by force. François de Bonivard's incarceration is the subject of a poem by Lord Byron called, The Prisoner of Chillon.

On the steep rocky mountain edge above the town of Montreux there is a church, built in the name of St Vincent; again successive constructions have enhanced the original church which had the Latin name of Monasteriolum from which the town of Montreux takes its name. The earliest of the constructions on this site date to the 8th and 9th centuries.

In contrast to the very early history of this area, the Grand Lodge of Switzerland has been in operation for only 20 years. The current Grand Master MWBro. Herv'e Richard succeeded MWBro. Peter Ribi, who was Grand Master for 10 years.

The Grand installation was attended by close to 135 Brethren. Delegations from 15 different Grand Lodges were welcomed, the largest delegation being of 5 members. I was pleased to have our Deputy Grand Master RWBro. Peter Julier and WBro. Stewart Pike, PJGD (aka, Spike), representing the United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Victoria.



The Grand installation proceeded very smoothly and was enjoyed by all. A notable part of the installation occurred after the new Grand Master was installed into his chair; the Immediate Past Grand Master left the Lodge room to play no further part in the ceremony, completely handing over to the new GM.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Switzerland has just over 300 members with 8 Lodges spread over this small country.

The 'Pathway' Ceremony gains momentum...

Since the 'Pathway' Ceremony was first presented in November 2015, the ceremony has continued to build upon its success. So far the Team has performed the ceremony five times which is in line with the expectations of Supreme Grand Chapter to limit its exposure to keep it fresh.

It's interesting to note that the ceremony was never intended to be the 'silver bullet' for recruitment for the Holy Royal Arch Chapter in Victoria, as its role is to start up

a conversation about the Supreme Degree between those within the Order and Master Masons. Happily, it has done just that! For a number of reasons, some clear and some not so clear, every time the ceremony has been performed, the host Chapter has increased its membership. By any measure, the ceremony has exceeded its purpose. It seems that when a Chapter takes the plunge and requests a ceremony to be performed, things just start happening whether it's due to increased communication or effort or whatever, the Chapter seems to benefit.

Performances of the 'Pathway' Ceremony in Bairnsdale on Saturday 10th December 2016 and in Echuca on Saturday, 18th February 2017, when local Companions will be joined by the Grand Chapter of NSW and Grand Chapter of Victoria, are events to attend.

Any Freemason who has obtained the rank of Master Mason can attend a 'Pathway' Ceremony, so if you're curious and want details or you want to request a performance of the ceremony for your Chapter please contact the Office of Supreme Grand Chapter on 9411 0113 or by email on chaptermarkmasons@freemasonsvic.net.au.

21

Preserving our Heritage

22

As a result of a Board strategy to conserve our heritage and its temporary relocation from the Dallas Brooks Centre to the Royal Freemasons Homes, the Freemasons Victoria Library and Museum has undergone a huge transformation in an effort to maintain its assets and heritage within a safe and secure environment.

Through assessing and packing this diverse collection, not only have many objects been individually examined, but their overall significance as part of this collection has been evaluated. Many of the documents, portraits, books and objects within this collection not only retain an important historical association between the United Grand Lodge of Victoria with the United Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, but also with Freemasons who were prominent within the development of the city of Melbourne from the early 19th century.

Although it is uncertain how some of this material came to be part of the Library and Museum collection, the United Grand Lodge of Victoria maintained an extensive array of books from when it was officially established 1889. Gradually over time this collection has been added to by both individual Freemasons who have been prominent within the United Grand Lodge of Victoria as well as other Lodges within this State.

As a result, the museum collection now includes various rare aprons dating from the early-17th century onwards, rare Masonic jewels, a Masonic inkwell made from an emu egg, Masonic alabaster miniature dioramas created by French Masonic prisoners from the Napoleonic and various other items of historical importance. Furthermore the library includes

a collection of rare bibles, the earliest dated 1566, whilst the portrait collection maintains approximately 45 paintings of both Provincial Grand Masters, Grand Masters and First Grand Principles. Most of these paintings date from the mid to late 19th century, amongst them famous Australian artists including Joshua Smith, William Beckwith McInnes, William Dargie and Charles Wheeler. The Freemasons Victoria Library and Museum maintains the largest recognised Masonic collection of its type within the State which holds links to the early development of this City and therefore holds significance at a State, National and International level.

Recently the importance of this collection was recognised when the Library and Museum was officially awarded a Community Heritage Grant through the National Library of Australia on the 25th October 2016. The Community Heritage Grants provide grants of up to \$15,000 to various community organisations throughout Australia and includes collections which are maintained by libraries, archives, museums, genealogical and historical societies, as well as multicultural and Indigenous groups. The National Library, which manages the Community Heritage Grants Program, is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Communication and the Arts—with the National Archives of Australia, the National Film and Sound Archive and the National Museum of Australia.

This grant will enable the Library and Museum to employ an external expert to undertake a Significance Assessment report of the collection and give guiding principles for its future care and management. The Significance Assessment will also greatly assist towards exposing the historical value and research

potential of this collection to both Freemasons as well as to the wider community. Most importantly however, this report will contribute towards how Freemasons Victoria moves forward towards developing the new Library and Museum and protecting this highly significant collection whilst still maintaining a ‘best practice’ approach in Library and Museum standards.



Top
Parian-Ware Bust of Prince Albert (of Wales)

Bottom
Geneva Bible, Imprinted at London by the Deputies of Christopher Barker, Printer to the Queen 1599

Welcome our New Members

23

Name	Lodge	No.
Bro. Jamie Allan	Whittlesea Lodge	256
Bro. Ad Al-Shakhly	Yarraville Lodge	164
Bro. Darren Andrews	Lodge Integrity	376
Bro. Paul Aquilina	Brunswick United Lodge	924
Bro. Jacob Arnold	Brae Dale Lodge	936
Bro. Aidan Barry	Yarra Glen Lodge	762
Bro. Peter Benjamin	Dandenong Lodge	635
Bro. Philip Blackman	Melbourne High School Lodge	759
Bro. Joel Blashki	Pakenham Lodge	496
Bro. Desmond Broad	Southern Cross Lodge	24
Bro. Tristan Burke	Guiding Star Lodge	922
Bro. Adrian Caldwell	Williamstown St. Andrew Lodge	470
Bro. Vittorio Caruso	Weston Street United Lodge	94
Bro. Bernard Cashin	Commonwealth Lodge	186
Bro. Gary Celepci	Victorian Naval and Military Lodge	49
Bro. Martin Chichester	Geelong Lodge of Unity and Prudence	5
Bro. Ashleigh Cotter	Union Lodge of North Gippsland	62
Bro. Joshua Crute	The Mornington Lodge	160
Bro. Saublet	Macedon Ranges Lodge	97
Bro. Daniel Edmonds	Frankston Lodge	217
Bro. Jeremy Elias	The King David Lodge	460
Bro. Scott Ellis	Sir John Quick Lodge	933
Bro. Junnifer Fuerte	The Revival Lodge	926
Bro. Andrew Hall	The Melton Lodge	367
Bro. Lee Heron	The Mordialloc Lodge of Charity	258
Bro. R. Jeyabalasingam	Victoria Lodge	82
Bro. Mason Kabalan	Lodge Fraternal	603
Bro. Allan Lambert	St. Andrews in the South Lodge	149
Bro. Matthew Lever	Peace and Loyalty Lodge	261
Bro. Christopher Mah	Canterbury Lodge	312
Bro. Roman Malanta	Swan Hill Lodge	919
Bro. Jayden Manno	Garibaldi Lodge	890
Bro. Matteo Marucci	Lord Northcote Lodge	191
Bro. Raymond McCurry	Powlett Lodge	661
Bro. Stuart McDougall	Victoria Lodge	82
Bro. Shane McGovern	The Mornington Lodge	160
Bro. Stephen Meehan	Yarra Glen Lodge	762
Bro. Paul Morton	Comacine-Acanthus Lodge	400
Bro. Raymond Mumford	Duke of Abercorn Lodge	137
Bro. Goetz Neugebauer	The Doutta Galla Lodge	902
Bro. Kingsley Okafor	Robbie Burns Phoenix Lodge	88
Bro. Robbie O'Reilly	Rosebank Lodge	348
Bro. Bradley Outschoorn	The Revival Lodge	926
Bro. Sanders Payne	Macedon Ranges Lodge	97
Bro. Waldemar Pieczonka	Cranbourne Lodge	290
Bro. Nick Ploumis	Lodge of Honour	799
Bro. David Pniewski	The Brighton District Lodge	37
Bro. Arron Priestley	Seaford Lodge	720
Bro. John Raptis	Lodge Fraternal	603
Bro. Grant Reeves	The Army Lodge	478
Bro. Ariel Sabado	Swan Hill Lodge	919
Bro. Ryan Thomas	Peace and Loyalty Lodge	261
Bro. Angelo Thomas	Lord Northcote Lodge	191
Bro. Mohammed Tiriaki	Antient York Lodge	80
Bro. Steven Tolnai	Gardenvale Mobility Lodge	243
Bro. Alexander Tolnai	Gardenvale Mobility Lodge	243
Bro. Giuseppe Virga	Dandenong Lodge	635
Bro. Milovan Vujadinovic	Canterbury Lodge	312
Bro. Greg Weaver	Gippsland Lakes Lodge	715
Bro. William Wong	Blackburn United Lodge	915
Bro. Samuel Young	Middle Park Lodge	206
Bro. Michael Zampaglione	Brunswick United Lodge	924



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MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

Awards for Service: June-August

24

50

Name			Lodge	No.
JUNE				
WBro.	DJ	Bayley	The Lodge of Euclid	447
WBro.	GA	Bayley	The Lodge of Euclid	447
WBro.	K	Bitans	Sturt Buninyong	23
WBro.	RJ	Bowers	Sturt Buninyong	23
WBro.	BA	Crane	Canterbury	312
Bro.	RT	Daniels	Antient York	80
WBro.	R	Davis	Richmond	89
WBro.	R	Dowal	Yarra Glen	762
WBro.	ME	D'Esterre	Keysborough St.Andrews Daylight	706
WBro.	PG	Edmonds	The Lodge of Cordiality	331
RWBro.	AA	Holden	Melbourne St.Clair Reunion	17
VWBro.	RP	Keppie	Ringwood	382
Bro.	BW	Parker	Guiding Star	922
WBro.	L	Parker	Gisborne	298
Bro.	RJ	Phillips	Keysborough St.Andrews Daylight	706
WBro.	GW	Russell	Moorabbin	161
VWBro.	DB	See	Sandringham District	220
VWBro.	JG	Smith	Liberation	674
VWBro.	WTH	Tonkin	Keysborough St.Andrews Daylight	706
WBro.	S	Trevillian	The Sunshine Wisdom Lodge	226
Bro.	V	Van Bert	Metropolis	895
WBro.	DL	Watson	Whittlesea	256
WBro.	EJ	Webster	Liberation	674
JULY				
Bro.	JH	Bigmore	Killara	259
Bro.	GM	Dupuy, PSM	Campaspe Valley	937
Bro.	NR	McEwan	The Army Lodge	478
Bro.	NR	Galatis	Baden Powell	488
WBro.	A	Lubke	Rupertswood-Numurkah	104
VWBro.	HR	Lupton, OAM	Peace & Loyalty	261
WBro.	DJ	Newberry	Richmond	89
VWBro.	RCW	Norton	Koo-Wee-Rup	323
Bro.	BW	Parker	Guiding Star	922
RWBro.	GW	Pitcher	The Diamond Valley	252
WBro.	PR	Prideaux	Australia Felix	1
AUGUST				
WBro.	WJ	Amor	Border	466
WBro.	KJ	Brooks	Transition	-
WBro.	AL	Chudleigh	Gippsland Forest	101
WBro.	RF	Haynes	Watsonia Daylight	870
Bro.	KD	Hoffman	Melbourne High School	759
RWBro.	J	O'Reilly, ED	Lodge of Rapport	920
WBro.	CMH	Powers	Jonadab	771
Bro.	BW	Parker	Guiding Star	922
VWBro.	KJ	Stewart	Killara	259
WBro.	AJ	Wyatt	Transition	-
JUNE				
VWBro.	WG	Beattie	Pascoe Vale Daylight	483
RWBro.	RAM	Cameron	-	89
WBro.	HA	Gorfine	Keysborough St.Andrews Daylight	706
WBro.	KJ	Hall	Liberation	674
WBro.	KR	Hall	Lawson Poole Daylight	916
RWBro.	JS	Kennedy	Duke of Connaught	190
WBro.	DJ	Lawrence	Lodge of Rapport	920
Bro.	CG	Martin	Campaspe Valley	281
WBro.	HD	Meinrath	Transition	-
RWBro.	WM	Mortimer	Moyhu Valley	749
Bro.	PJ	Nixon, AO	Orbost	402
VWBro.	BR	Pallot	Traralgon	925
WBro.	EA	Paulin	Liberation	674
Bro.	KG	Pennington	Lodge of Welcome	510
Bro.	RC	White	Liberation	674
WBro.	AJ	Williams, QPM	Kensington	77
JULY				
Bro.	RK	Anson	Dandenong	635
WBro.	RJ	Ashbolt	Caulfield Grammarians	364
Bro.	PG	Barnard	Gisborn	298

60

Name			Lodge	No.
WBro.	SM	Collins, AM	Mitchell River	742
WBro.	BH	Day	Portland	6
WBro.	JW	Fitts	Deepdene-Balwyn	275
RWBro.	FR	Harrison	Malvern	121
WBro.	KW	Hawkins	Gisborne	298
WBro.	AAI	Howard	Prince of Wales	40
WBro.	ATG	Jennings	Deepdene-Balwyn	275
RWBro.	MC	Martin	Baden Powell	488
Bro.	MC	Moon	Ebden	871
WBro.	FJ	Nicholson	Hand of Friendship Fellowship	932
RWBro.	R	Reid	Footscray St.Johns	71
WBro.	T	Spirason	Deepdene-Balwyn	275
Bro.	JWE	Watkins	Transition	-
AUGUST				
VWBro.	GL	Basterfield	Moorabbin	161
Bro.	WG	Box	Orbost	402
Bro.	NM	Crammer	Watsonia Daylight	870
WBro.	IW	Davidson	Caulfield Grammarians	364
RWBro.	H	Dunbabin	Watsonia Daylight	870
VWBro.	IC	Gallagher	Lodge of Amity	339
RWBro.	WJ	Galley	Victoria Lodge	82
WBro.	DR	Grierson	Essendon Daylight	861
WBro.	RW	Jackman	Wimmera	70
RWBro.	WJ	Mudford	Kyneton	192
Bro.	WG	Munro	The Doutta Galla Lodge	902
Bro.	WL	Ogden	Marangan	64
WBro.	JE	Rook	Hearts of Oak	681
WBro.	AW	Ross	Hearts of Oak	681
RWBro.	PV	Selover	Caulfield Grammarians	364
RWBro.	WM	Tippett	Wimmera	70
VWBro.	DN	Weston	Allara	855
JUNE				
RWBro.	HW	Browning	Concentration	753
RWBro.	RAM	Cameron	Richmond	89
Bro.	WT	Edwards	Richmond	89
RWBro.	NC	Lee, OAM	Baden Powell	488
RWBro.	EH	Lamb	Keysborough St.Andrews	706
WBro.	IF	Warren	The Brighton District	37
JULY				
RWBro.	JHH	Foster	Allara	855
WBro.	RB	Jones, OAM	The Brighton District Lodge	37
Bro.	GM	Milner	Gisborne	298
Bro.	GWT	Richards	Prince of Wales	40
VWBro.	B	Store	Malvern	859
Bro.	KR	Wilson	Lodge of Welcome	510
AUGUST				
VWBro.	WE	Belfrage	Arlington	182
RWBro.	HN	Currie	Marangan	64
WBro.	GJ	Leslie	Middle Park	206
VWBro.	NS	Murray	Mount Franklin St.George	12
Bro.	KR	Wilson	Lodge of Welcome	510
JUNE				
Bro.	KR	Johnston	Liberation	674
VWBro.	WC	Welsh	Morwell	202
JULY				
RWBro.	ER	Booth	Rupertswood-Numurkah	104
RWBro.	JA	Court	Golden and Corinthian	7
RWBro.	MH	Grace	Vitoria	82
Bro.	HM	Miller	Mildura	170
WBro.	K	Wailes	Caulfield Grammarians	364
AUGUST				
WBro.	EH	Blythe	Samaritan	380
RWBro.	NA	Cornish	Williamstown	16
Bro.	WS	Cumming	Learmonth	177
RWBro.	MH	Grace	Victoria	82
RWBro.	JD	Urquhart	Mordialloc Lodge of Charity	258
JULY				
Bro.	RFC	Campbell	Transition	-
JULY				
WBro.	MTP	Kuhn	Transition	-

65

70

75

25

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COMMUNITY

2017 Scholarship Program Applications Now Open



Freemasons Foundation Victoria award over \$400,000 each year in Scholarships and Bursaries, for academic excellence or for students requiring financial support to complete their studies. There are a range of Scholarships on offer for secondary students entering Years 7 to 12, Tertiary Entrance Scholarships and Music Scholarships.

Further details about the scholarships on offer and the application forms are available on the Freemasons Foundation Victoria Limited website at www.freemasonsfoundation.org/scholarships. Applications are open until 31st January 2017.

The Freemasons Foundation supports many Lodges with their charitable works within the community. Last financial year the Foundation approved 156 Lodge grant applications. Since July 2016, the Foundation has continued to support worthwhile Masonic and non-Masonic causes such as assisting Sir John Quick Lodge with a matching grant to 1st Eaglehawk Scout Troop to assist in the updating the kitchen in the local scout hall or assisting the Mildura District Lodges with a grant to Sunassist Volunteer Helpers Inc to enable young people from underprivileged homes to learn to drive safely and to gain their 120 hours experience in order to be able to sit for the driving licence.



BY WBRO. GEORGE ENTWISTLE VA

From Little Things...

In the 1990s we lived in a small country town where we had lovely neighbours with a bunch of lovely kids. One little girl would come regularly with walk-a-thons, lamington drives, school raffles; you name it she was selling it for the school or brownies. She also saved, for her own benefit, 5 cent pieces, so my wife and I saved them for her too.

Tragically, at the age of 12 she was diagnosed with Myeloid Leukaemia. The 5 cent pieces continued to be her little "thing to do" and of course I kept it going as well.

Unfortunately this dear child did not make her 16th birthday.

I still kept saving the 5 cent pieces and donated them to a children's cancer project every year. The first time I asked the Brethren at Lodge Parallel (Caulfield) if they would save along with me, we raised \$180 which was donated to the Freemason's car entered in the Charity Bash. When I joined the Gippsland Lodge,

I again requested the Brethren save the 5 cent pieces to donate to a worthy cause for cancer each year.

Over the past four years, not only members of my Lodge but members from Lodges throughout Gippsland have saved their 5 cent pieces and I have gathered them at Lodge meetings.

The money raised in the first two efforts was donated to the Freemason's Motor Cycle Club on their great ride for Cystic Fibrosis. \$295.00 donated.

Next was a Quadriplegic Traralgon boy. To allow him to remain at home with his family, their house required remodelling. \$520.00 donated.

I would like to challenge all Victorian Lodges to join in and surprise themselves at the amount that can be raised from that "Little 5 cent Piece." And then to have a gathering of Lodge representatives meet at the Grand Lodge Quarterly Meeting in September each year and the proceeds presented to the Grand Master to be put toward a Cancer Research Fund.

**From little things...
Big things grow!**



Above MWBro. Don Reynolds receives a Certificate of Appreciation from the Think Pink Living Centre co-founders, Irene Hendel OAM and David Hendel. October 2014. Left: Breast Cancer survivors Fem Belling, Kym Vassilios and Sue Bermingham at the Think Pink Living Centre Launch.



Thinking Pink for 6 years

October this year marks the Sixth Anniversary of the wonderful partnership between Freemasons Victoria and The Think Pink Foundation. Initiated by MWBro. Vaughan Werner in 2010, the working relationship has blossomed through the guidance and steadfast commitment of MWBro. Robert Jones, MWBro. Hillel Benedykt and most recently MWBro. Don Reynolds, Grand Master. Throughout the period, Freemasons Victoria has sponsored a highly qualified Breast Care Nurse at the Centre and has provided funding for the Living Centre's wig bank and other programs.

This support from Freemasons Victoria was initially offered through The Board of Benevolence when it funded the Breast Care Nurse at The Living Centre for the first five years and more recently, by the Freemasons Victoria Charitable Foundation.

Over the last few years, the Ladies of the Grand Lodge Team have also become involved in the cause through the various events and functions held during the annual Grand Lodge "Pink Fundraising" campaign in October which is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Freemasons' Benevolence has enabled Think Pink to provide quality counselling to its clients and hundreds of wigs to patients in financial hardship.

No doubt, all of us have been touched by the effects of breast cancer. If not a member of your family, you will know of someone's mother, daughter, sister, wife or best friend who has been afflicted by this disease.

Whilst research is continuing in the quest for a cure, there are very real needs for those women now living the fight for survival. When you are undergoing surgery, chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy, the treatment can last 12 months and it's hard to hold down a job. The bills continue to roll in. The struggle to live is compounded by the struggle to survive.

This is where the Think Pink Foundation and its Living Centre are so vital in providing practical support services to breast cancer patients and their families. Through its six year commitment to the Living Centre, Freemasons Victoria has helped the Living Centre to achieve some remarkable outcomes throughout Victoria.

The Centre is a non-clinical based facility where the focus is on wellness not illness. This resonates with those

In the past 12 months The Living Centre has seen a huge increase in the uptake of its support services. Here are some interesting facts about the Living centre:

Clients

- 81% increase in new clients over previous year
- 15% compound annual growth rate in past 4 years
- 297 new clients
- 463 active clients from following areas:
 - metropolitan: 47%
 - outer metro/inner rural: 6%
 - rural/regional: 20%
 - interstate: 1%
 - Unknown: 26%

Programs

- 196 sessions
- 1063 attendances

New Programs

- Walking Group
- BCN and Health Professional Forum
- Beyond Pink
- Lymphoedema Update

Volunteers

- 45 registered
- 29 in last 12 months
- 14 volunteer program facilitators
- 12 clients who also volunteer
- 5 Health Professionals to assist BCN
- 8 volunteers providing administrative support

seeking assistance to develop coping strategies around treatment, to connect with others who may have experienced similar disease pathways and to manage issues around survivorship after the completion of active treatment.

The Centre accepts clients from any treatment centre, at any stage of their journey from initial diagnosis, through treatment and into survivorship. Thanks to the support of its Principal Partners including Freemasons Victoria all its services are provided totally free of charge.

Since its official opening on 9th September 2010 by The Hon Daniel Andrews MP, Minister of Health For Victoria, the Living Centre has in face to face sessions, by telephone and through the internet provided support to over 3,000 clients on over 7,000 occasions. When one takes into account the positive effect on family members and carers of patients, Think Pink services have likely been of benefit to over 12,000 people.

A number of the clients receiving support from the Living Centre have been the wives of Brethren and the Centre also offers a

unique support program called the "Supporting Blokes" program which is a support group for males connected by a person who has been affected breast cancer.

This man could be a partner, husband, brother, uncle, father, adult son or friend. The program provides a unique opportunity for these men to explore some of the real issues and topics that they may not be able to address with their own partner, family and friends. The session allows these men to share experiences, feelings, seek advice and guidance or just hear from others sharing similar experiences to themselves.

This group, which doesn't exist anywhere else in Victoria is held every second Wednesday night of the month and is facilitated by a Senior Social Worker and Senior Breast Care Nurse. On occasions the group invites guest speakers to present on certain subjects or the facilitators will have a topic for discussion but the content revolves around conversations and discussions that the participants offer the group.

Additionally, one of the most vital of the support services

offered is the onsite 2-bedroom residential apartment which provides accommodation for those women travelling more than 100kms from home to receive their treatment in Melbourne. The apartment is always in high demand (>85% occupancy) and is ideal for those rural based clients who may otherwise face the burden of a long daily journey or the financial strain of paid accommodation.

As a direct result of the partnership with Freemasons Victoria, Bro. David Hendel who has been a Director of Think Pink since its inception in 2006 become a Freemason, joining the Middle Park Lodge No 206 early in 2011. This year he has now been installed as its Junior Warden and hopes one day to ascend to the Master's Chair.

Irene Hendel was last year awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2015 Australia Day Honours List and was the first female to be invited to address Grand Lodge from the dais at a Quarterly Communication. Irene speaks regularly at various charitable fundraising events and is a passionate advocate for Freemasonry at every speaking opportunity.

FAITH, INTEGRITY AND SERVICE

Rewarded with an OAM

30

At 93 years of age, VWBro. Allan Lorraine PGIWkgs is now living in an aged care facility in Edithvale. You might picture a small man sitting quietly in his arm chair, granny-rug on his knees, sipping a hot cup of tea while watching the day go by. But that is NOT VWBro. Allan Lorraine!

He is either up and about or sitting at his desk, typing on his typewriter, or referencing his books, most of which he has written himself.

He hasn't been a resident at his Edithvale facility home for any more than 2 ½ years though; and the fact that he can comfortably sit at his desk today is part of the reason why he has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours.

VWBro. Allan and his wife Rose moved into the Mentone Gardens nursing home in 2009, and they expected to see out their days together at the facility. But in June 2013, it was discovered that the facility was about to go into administration having taken bonds from its elderly residents, some up to \$250,000 to a total of \$9.5 million. He and his wife had \$400,000 tied up in the facility, and when they were told there was little hope of recovering the funds, VWBro. Allan wouldn't hear of it. For the next two years, Allan fought on behalf of all the residents of the Mentone Gardens nursing home to recover bond amounts, and ensure that the facts would be brought to notice of the Victorian Department of Health and its Minister.

"I wasn't only doing it for Rose and myself, I was doing it for all of the other residents, some of whom had no capacity to challenge the facility's actions, and for those who had sadly died before the case was resolved" Allan said.

With assistance from the Victorian Ombudsmen, Allan was instrumental

in recovering \$4.33 million in owed bonds, enabling dozens of residents and their families to regain their dignity and independence.

It is for this reason that VWBro. Allan was recognised in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours for 'service to the community, particularly to aged care'.

"I'm glad I was able to do what I did" Allan said, "I'm delighted".

Allan has a Bachelor of Commerce from Melbourne University and was an Associate of the Certified Practising Accountants Society's predecessors from 1949-1975 and Fellow, since 1975, qualifications and experience that the Department of Health would never have expected to encounter at his age.

"I wrote numerous times to the Minister for Health, detailing all the evidence of the Department's failure and negligence, but while the Minister was stonewalling, thirteen of the former residents died waiting for the rotten mess to be sorted out," VWBro. Allan said, "We all were left wondering if they were just waiting for the rest of us to die."

Sadly, Rose Lorraine passed away in January this year and was unable to see her husband get the recognition he deserved for his efforts. "She would have been very proud" Allan said, "Rose and I started this battle together".

VWBro. Allan said that despite everything, his biggest achievement in life was marrying his wife Rose. She was an ex-WRAN (Women's Royal Australian Navy). "We met in an ice rink, still both in uniform and went on to enjoy 68 wonderful years together. We have a son and two daughters, seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren". Rose was President of the Bayside Ladies Auxiliary for fifteen years, until it disbanded in 2015. She was awarded Life Governor and a Vice President Jewel from the Royal Freemasons homes.



31



"I wasn't only doing it for Rose and myself, I was doing it for all of the other residents, some of whom had no capacity to challenge the facility's actions, and for those who had sadly died before the case was resolved"

In 1978, the couple knew very little of their family's ancestry unlike today, when looking up your heritage is as simple as jumping onto a website. They travelled the world to find out about his and Rose's family backgrounds. Their expedition and passion took them to England and Scotland four times, where they found themselves scrolling through reels of information on microfiche of the International Genealogical Index, plus examining hundreds of births, deaths and marriages registers.

In the process, they found information on his family dating back to the 14th century which led to his receipt of a Patent of arms from the Lord Lyon King of Arms, Edinburgh, Scotland. Allan said that his motto in the patent was the values he has lived by, namely 'FAITH, INTEGRITY and SERVICE'.

VWBro. Allan's passion for genealogy expanded to becoming President of the Genealogical Society of Victoria in 1986-1988, after serving as Councilor from 1977-1988, Treasurer from 1981-1982 and again from 1986-1987. He has been a Fellow of the Society since 1989.

With an active mind and still sharp as a tack, Allan also wrote the history of the St. David's Anglican Church, Moorabbin in 2000 at the request of the vicar, having been a member of the Parish Council in 1969 and 1972-1983 and serving as Church Warden in 1970-1971 and 1978-1983.

Allan has been a member of the Returned and Services League since 1948, having served in World War II from 1942-1946.

VWBro. Allan's journey as a Freemason began when he was initiated into Parkdale Lodge No. 554 in 1958, where he later took the chair as Worshipful Master three times. He was also Worshipful Master Moorabbin District Daylight Lodge No. 738 from 2007-2008, and is now a member of Keysborough St. Andrews Daylight Lodge No. 706. He was conferred as Past Grand Standard Bearer in 1987, Past Junior Grand Deacon in 1994, and Past Grand Inspector of Workings in 2005.

"You can't do that without being committed!" VWBro. Allan said.

VWBro. Allan wrote a history of Parkdale Lodge No 554, in 1999. In 2007-2008, he issues his stories of other Lodges, predecessors of Moorabbin Lodge No. 738. These were the Arts & Crafts Lodge No. 738, Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge No. 763 and Sir Walter Raleigh Arts & Crafts Lodge No 738. As well, he wrote two volumes about the Moorabbin District Daylight Lodge No. 738.

Allan was also involved with the Corinthians No. 12 Group from 1988-1989 to 2006-2007, as Leader and Secretary of its Unknown Soldier Lecture Demonstration Team, that was responsible for raising more than \$66,000 for the Freemason's Hospital, and gave 383 performances across the state. In 1999 and 2007 he wrote 2 volumes about its activities.

When asked whether VWBro. Allan planned on continuing his service to the community in the area of aged care, he said "Certainly. I will always have an interest in it as long as I am living in an aged care home".

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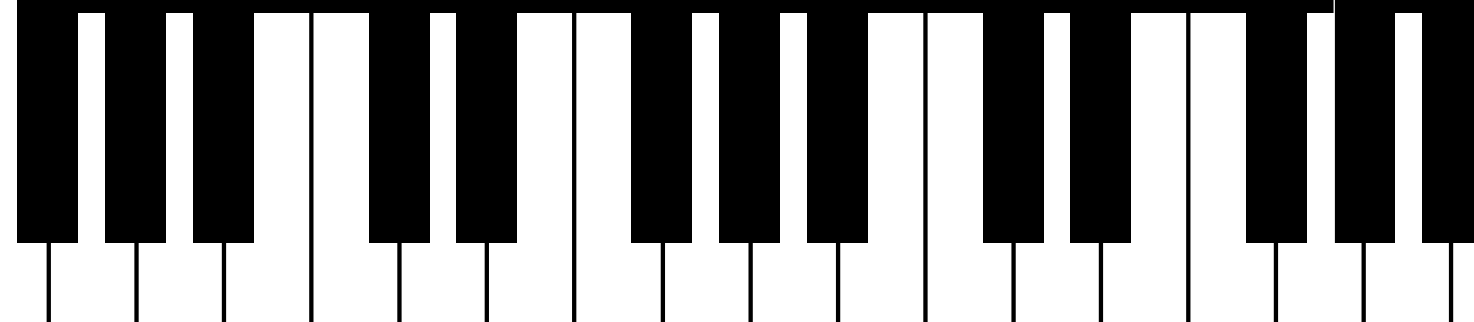
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To learn more please contact Christina Chia on 1300 176 925. Christina will be delighted to introduce you to the **Royal Freemasons** organisation. Alternatively, email her at cchia@royalfreemasons.org.au. For general information and more on donations projects, visit www.royalfreemasons.org.au

Victoria's Brightest Musical Talent Awarded



The 3MBS Freemasons Victoria Young Performer Award was held on Sunday 30 October at ANAM, South Melbourne Town Hall. Now in its 28th year, the competition celebrates and recognises the talent of Victoria's brightest musical talent. The 2016 event featured performances by finalists Kim Falconer (flute), Charlotte Miles (cello) and William Soo (piano) competing for the title of 3MBS Freemasons Victoria Young Performer of the Year.

The selection process for the Young Performer Award is rigorous and each of the finalists had performed in an audition and a finals concert judged by experts in their respective fields. On the night there can only be one winner, and this year's judges awarded the prestigious prize to nineteen year old pianist William Soo.

Director of the Freemasons Foundation, RWBro. Barry Minster PJGW presented William with a \$5,000 cash prize and an invitation to be featured in a live-to-air performance and interview at

the 3MBS Abbotsford studio. William was delighted to have been selected by the judges and felt humbled at his achievement, saying "what an honour to have won, I am looking forward to representing Victoria in the nationals".

The winner of the Audience Award of \$1,000 was fourteen year old cellist Charlotte Miles who accepted the prize saying "I am so proud to have been chosen for this award. I love playing music and love my cello — thank you".

William Soo represents Victoria at the 2016 National Fine Music Network Young Virtuoso of the Year Award, which this year is also proudly hosted by 3MBS in Melbourne, with support from Freemasons Victoria. The annual competition is run by the Australian Fine Music Network, a collaboration between Fine Music FM (Sydney), 3MBS FM (Melbourne), 4MBS FM (Brisbane), 5MBS FM (Adelaide) and ArtSound FM (Canberra). The winners from each state's own Young Performer Award competition make up the finalists for the Young Virtuoso of the Year Award.

Freemasons Victoria, through the Freemasons Foundation, has supported 3MBS Fine Music with provisioning of the prize monies for the Young Performer Award and Young Virtuoso Award, totalling \$13,000 each year. The Freemasons Foundation has supported these events for the past two years and has a commitment to do so until 2017.

Freemasons Victoria has a long and proud history of supporting youth in the community, providing opportunities for self-development and seeking excellence in all pursuits. As the main sponsor, Freemasons Victoria has joined with 3MBS and the Fine Music Network to provide the best and brightest young musicians the opportunity to kick start a major performing career.

3MBS is Melbourne's only community operated classical music radio station. It was established in 1975 and a team of over 200 volunteers and a small group of paid staff continue to work together to keep the station on air and broadcasting fine music 24 hours a day. The station's activities are reliant on funding from the community and stakeholders in the form of subscriptions and sponsorships as well as grants and donations from the philanthropic sector and individuals.

3MBS has a commitment to nurturing and furthering the careers of Victoria's talented young musicians. With the fantastic support of Freemasons Victoria, which prizes enterprise and high standards, 3MBS has been able to showcase the exceptional abilities of our young people. Many past winners of the Young Performer Award have gone on to enjoy wonderful careers in classical music.

Above
William Soo, winner of the 3MBS Freemasons Victoria Young Performer Award 2016, performed works by Claude Debussy, Frederic Chopin and Alberto Ginastera on piano

Pedalling the Shepparton Fruitloop



The Freemason Cycling Club (FMCC) was founded in New York City, USA in 2010. The Brethren there were cycling in charity events and wanted to promote Freemasonry at the same time. They created the club, and the jersey that the Victorian Freemasons wear to this day.

The FMCC (Vic) team started in Victoria as a group of Wodonga Lodge members riding together with the same benevolent attitude as the US Brethren. As no similar club existed at the time in Victoria, members of Wodonga Lodge contacted the US Freemasons who were more than happy for them to join what they had already established. The team in Victoria currently has seven members, with hope to grow in the next year.

On Sunday 11th September, The Shepparton Fruitloop was held. The Freemasons Cycling Club (Vic) members; WBro. Malcom Mann, WBro. Milton Mann, Bro. Cyril Land and Bro. Matthew DeNatris, were up and about early ready to participate in the event. The occasion was The Rotary Club of Shepparton Central, Fruitloop Ride 2016, in support of the Goulburn Valley Hospice Care Services.

The hospice offers palliative care that aims to improve the quality of life of patients and their carers who are facing the challenges associated with living with a terminal illness. They offer both clinical and bereavement care, and also care to supporters, both family and friends of those with terminal illnesses.

It is a cause that gives the cycling club a purpose to ride.

After a good night's sleep at the Victoria Lake Caravan Park and a hearty breakfast at the local café, the Brethren pedalled to the Fruitloop Ride start at Princess Park in Shepparton for their first start in the event. Along the way, they met up with newest club member WBro. Keith Stuart of Mooroopna Lodge No. 131.

While Keith headed off early for the 115km journey, the rest of the team took the opportunity to meet some of the locals and be included in some of the photos of the event— suitably with some of the fruit dressed mascots! It was a great opportunity for the club members to socialize with those who participated and those who were there to support the riders.

At 9.30am, the flag dropped and the 50km event got underway, taking in the picturesque countryside around Shepparton.

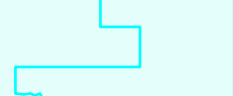
As usual, the club members gathered up a group of riders (including Matt's wife Johanna), swapped explanations about jerseys, shared stories and had some laughs along the way— such as awarding 'King of the Mountain' Points for crossing over the irrigation channel bumps!

After the event, the club members enjoyed a BBQ lunch with other event participants, and made sure everyone knew the Freemasons Cycling Club (Vic) would be back for next year's event.

Top
WBro. Malcolm Mann, WBro. Milton Mann, Bro. Matt DeNatris and Bro. Cyril Land pictured with Geoff (official Fruitloop starter)

Bottom
WBro. Malcolm Mann with fruit mascots post ride

50km loop



100km loop



180km loop



Gippsland Lakes Masons Fund Accessibility



Above

Left to right: Gippsland Lakes Community Health doctors Ashley Doery, Sale Useni, Darren Irvine, Ann Ayou and executive manager of clinical and nursing services, Cheryl Bush. Ms bush is presented the cheque by Gippsland Lakes WMBro. Steve Coleman, Secretary WBro. Darrell Traplin and District Coordinator WBro. Chris Scott

Gippsland Lakes Lodge has helped make Gippsland Lakes Community Health (GLCH) Lakes Entrance a more accessible place for those with limited mobility through their recent donation of \$16,415.

The grant will go toward the purchase of height adjustable beds, which are crucial for older patrons, particularly as the region's retiree population rises.

GLCH executive manager of clinical and nursing services, Cheryl Bush, said to be the recipients of such a significant donation was "wonderful".

"Without donations like these, we wouldn't be able to get this kind of equipment", Ms Bush said.

"We've had the same beds here for the past 20 years— we just can't afford to purchase new beds on our own, so it's a real privilege".

"It's all about client safety, our patients are our top priority, and these beds are part of that".

District Coordinator, WBro. Chris Scott, said this is the second donation made to a health institution this month, and the Lakes Lodge expects to donate a further \$14,000 to another deserving recipient in a fortnight's time.

Gippsland Lakes Worshipful Master, WBro. Steve Coleman said it is the desire of Freemasons to "help the local community as much as we can", and offering donations of

this sort to local institutions is just part of what we do.

"There are a lot of people retiring to Lakes Entrance, so we need the facilities to cope with that", Steve said.

While previously shrouded in secrecy, Freemasons Victoria has in the last few years been endeavouring to make its work public.

In addition to funding local projects, the Gippsland Lakes masons contribute to international relief efforts and the running of the Royal Freemasons Homes of Victoria. Members of the Lodge also take part in the Freemasons Task Force, which takes on charity work across Australia. The team helped with bush fire recovery works in Queensland after fires hit the area, while Queensland members previously made the trip south, to assist during Victoria's bushfire season.

"We do a lot in the background", Chris said.



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Above
WBro. Peter Fuchs,
MWBro. Don Reynolds and
RWBro. Peter Henshall

Extending the Welcome

BY RWBRO. PETER HENSHALL

In Australia, Masonic jurisdictions are drawn on State/Territory lines. Each Australian jurisdiction, as well as the New Zealand jurisdiction formally comes together every two years in joint conference, to explore matters of importance and mutual benefit. At their last conference it was resolved to increase this interaction by having key areas within each Grand Secretariat, formally meet to initiate ideas and programmes that have universal appeal and relevance. This process has already begun.

Furthermore, Freemasons Victoria has and continues to explore closer relationships with sister Grand Lodges in the broader South East Asian region, particularly Malaysia, India and more recently the Philippines, Taiwan and Japan.

During October, we had the opportunity to attend the installation of the District Grand Master of the Middle East of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. MWBro. Kang Tee Yong, was installed by the Grand Master

Mason of Scotland in an impressive ceremony in Genting Highlands, Malaysia.

While in Malaysia, Freemasons Victoria had the unique opportunity to meet with the Grand Master Mason of Scotland, as well as his Grand Secretary, to discuss a number of matters of mutual interest, including membership initiatives, governance matters and the general health of Freemasonry in our respective jurisdictions. This discussion was most valuable in firstly establishing a personal relationship with one of the Home Grand Lodges, at the highest level, and also for the insight it gave us into how they were addressing their own membership matters and the advances that they were making.

While in South East Asia and at the request of the Grand Lodge of China, Freemasons Victoria was invited to the 2016 Asia Pacific Forum in Taipei and asked to present a paper on Membership Attraction and Retention. This

paper was well received and attracted considerable interest from the conference delegates, which came from over twenty Masonic jurisdictions ranging from California to France. A copy of the paper is available for interested Brethren.

The conference and Grand Installation which followed provided great opportunity to engage with many international Masonic jurisdictions. We had formal talks with the Grand Lodges of the Philippines, California and Japan, establishing a platform to further explore the workings of their Grand Lodges and to exchange ideas.

Having previously met with the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, our visit gave us a further opportunity to formalise our relationship with that Grand Lodge. We have now drafted a Memorandum of Understanding, for approval by the Board of General Purposes, which anticipates the formation of a technical reference group to explore such joint programmes as:

- The promotion and encouragement of reciprocal Lodges;
- The development, for the approval of our respective Grand Lodges, of Lodge "sisterhood" agreements;
- Development of programs which will best promote a mutual appreciation and understanding of the three Craft degrees in Freemasonry by exemplification of how they are worked in each other's jurisdictions, through demonstration or as otherwise agreed appropriate;
- Development and promotion of Masonic education in each other's jurisdictions through the sharing of curriculum and associated material;
- Issuing invitations for representatives of each other's jurisdictions to attend their respective Annual Communications, Grand Installations and associated functions; and
- Examining the feasibility of reestablishing a Confederation of Grand Masters to encourage greater cooperation among Masonic leaders in the region.

This approach will assist our Grand Lodge in having a greater presence in the South East Asian region and also assist in cementing relationships with jurisdictions with which our various multicultural communities have an affinity.



Twin Triumphs at King David Lodge

On Monday 19th September, WBro. David Moss had the pleasure of initiating his 18 year old twin sons into Freemasonry at the King David Lodge in Prahran.

Brothers Daniel and Matthew are the first set of twins to be initiated into the King David Lodge, and the fourth generation of Moss' at the Lodge.

Matthew, who is currently studying Maths Methods, Specialist Maths, Psychology and Sociology at university, is a St Kilda football supporter and is extremely keen to get involved with helping his community, and being part of an organisation where you can "put others above yourself".

Daniel, also at university studying Engineering Science (RMIT) and an Essendon football supporter is looking forward to being involved in Freemasonry just how he has "seen his dad invest and obligate" to the organisation.

Members of King David Lodge pulled out all the stops to ensure the night was memorable, and over 90 Freemasons attended. The South was buzzing and full of spirit as the young men were welcomed into Freemasonry.

WBro. David Moss was also given the privilege of sitting in the Master's

chair for the ceremony of initiation, and was able to select his Initiation team. The team was made up of members of David's 2006/07 and 2008/09 Grand Lodge teams, and members of his Bayside Masters Group 'The Stone Cutters' from 2012/13. Also, the team included members of the King David Lodge and friends.

It was not surprising that brothers Daniel and Matthew transitioned into Freemasonry eagerly as they have grown up with many members of their family being King David Lodge members. When asked why they joined Freemasonry, Daniel replied "I like what they do for charity and I want to see what it's about!", with Matthew also commenting "I like to help people and from the comments that I have heard, Freemasonry revolves heavily around this". Naturally, King David Lodge was their Lodge of choice due to their large family presence there.

It was a true family affair, as also present on the night was WBro. Peter Lazarou (grandfather), RWBro. Stanley Moss (great uncle) and Leonard Batkilin (uncle) to support the family initiations. Their great grandfather Bro. Teddy Moss was also a member.

In addition to their Masonic family history the twins have been actively involved in Freemasonry since they were little, attending Lodge social events and functions, and assisting with Installation set-ups. They have also attended Grand Lodge events with David and his wife Mandy, and participated in 7/11 tin collecting for the Royal Children's Good Friday Appeal each year.

These two young men have a very bright future in Freemasonry ahead of them.

"I like what they do for charity and I want to see what it's about!"

David Moss

"I like to help people and from the comments that I have heard, Freemasonry revolves heavily around this"

Matthew Moss



Top left
The Moss boys: RWBro. Stan, Bro. Matthew, Bro. Daniel and WBro. David

Above
Top: Brother Matthew Moss to be
Bottom: Brother Daniel Moss to be



John Fowler, General Manager of Le Pine Funerals with staff members of the Masonic Lodge.

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