



FREEMASONRY

Victoria

It's an Honour!

Victorian Freemason awarded the Order
of Australia this year

The Chamber of Reflection

An exploration of the moment before
becoming a Freemason

Knights of Melbourne
Grand Council of Knight Masons
consecrated in Victoria.

From the Grand Master

It is probably an understatement to say that the last three months have been a most eventful period in the calendar of Victorian Freemasonry.

My recent letter to country building owners about rationalising our ownership and use of country Masonic buildings has, not unexpectedly, produced a variety of responses. These range from hostility, resentment and anger in some areas to support, concern and understanding in others. Brethren, these responses are both understandable and expected.

I understand that brethren have strong emotional attachments to the Lodge buildings in which they have met for so many years, and so they should. These emotional attachments may sometimes lead to short term decision making.

On the other hand, I, as the leader of Freemasonry in Victoria, together with our Board of General Purposes, must look at the long term interests of Freemasonry.

It is important that the brethren should understand that this rationalisation initiative is not in any way a vendetta against country Freemasonry. It is driven by two main factors. The first of these, which I believe no-one can dispute, is that many of our country Masonic buildings are in a poor condition and reflect un-

favourably on Freemasonry. The second is that with approximately 14,500 Freemasons we do not have sufficient money “in the system” to bring every Masonic building up to an acceptable standard. That is a sad fact of life.

My objective during the remainder of my term of office will be to engage with our country brethren with a view to achieving a mutually agreed resolution of these issues. This will not be accomplished overnight and you may be assured there will be no hasty decisions made on my part.

The building rationalisation initiative is not about closing Lodges down – it is about dealing with the problem of our buildings. Furthermore, our classification of buildings is only provisional at this stage. It is open to every building owner to lodge a submission challenging their building classification and the action that has been proposed or suggested in relation to their building. However, I must stress that if submissions are to be successful they must demonstrate that the action we have proposed in relation to their building is not in the best interests of the future of Freemasonry.

If anyone had foreshadowed 10 years ago that the Collingwood Football Club would have willingly left their beloved Victoria Park in favour of the MCG and the Lexus Centre, I suggest to you that that person would have been certified immediately. Yet that is what has happened.

I now turn to the issue of the redevelopment of 300 Albert Street. After the third of the open forums conducted in this building had been concluded, the Board of General Purposes intended to proceed with the Notice of Motion tabled in June. Although there was some opposition to the proposed course of action contemplated by the Notice of Motion, that opposition was not

united. A number of alternative suggestions had been made at the open forums and in writing, but there was no indication that any of those alternatives had widespread support. On the contrary, all the indications from the feedback we received led us to believe that the Motion would have been passed.

However, the Board has since received information from external sources, information as yet untested, but prima facie more substantive than anything else put before the Board, which has caused the Board to adjourn the Notice of Motion, for the time being. This external information may, after close examination, amount to nought. But that is beside the point. It must be tested.

I also acknowledge that a percentage of brethren, perhaps a considerable number, is not happy with the decision of the Board that is reflected in the Notice of Motion, and who have conveyed their unhappiness to us by one means or another. It is important that these brethren know that their right to disagree with the Board’s decision and to express their concerns is respected and that in so doing they are not by that action alone being disloyal to the Grand Master or to Grand Lodge.

At this stage, it is too early to advise when the Notice of Motion will be reintroduced, or indeed, if it will be reintroduced. You may rest assured however that you will be kept informed in a timely manner of developments as and when they occur.

Brethren, I made it very clear on the night of my Installation that my primary concern was with the future of Freemasonry.

If we are to survive into the future there must be change. To quote Einstein, “we cannot cure today’s problems with the thinking we used to create them”.



Freemasonry

Victoria

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From the Editor

There has been a lot of talk about the Contemporary Lodge project since its inception, much of it focused on how this is a Lodge for young men only. However, though the membership of this proposed lodge is predominantly aged under 45, there is no prohibition on membership for older Brethren.

Rather, The Lodge of Evolution, like all other Lodges in their beginning, is being formed by like minded men who share a commonality, in this instance, young families, first homes and a flexible work schedule. These are the issues which have been taken into account in the formation of The Lodge of Evolution. For instance, it was quickly established by the brethren that a vital part of the new Lodge would be to provide much greater involvement for the families and friends of members.

It was agreed unanimously that, no matter how dedicated to Freemasonry a man is, if the choice is between his Lodge and his family, there is really no choice at all. Therefore, the new Lodge is developing a social program with a solid focus on family involvement. Perhaps the most vital thing offered to future generations by Freemasonry is community and we must not deny our families and our friends the opportunity to share in that community.

The future of Freemasonry is in the communities we form now. The historically secretive, men-only nature, of Freemasonry has been destructive in too many ways, to the Lodge and to the home. This is the great tragedy of Freemasonry's last fifty years. Let us learn the lesson of that tragedy then – that he who troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind.

A Strong Foundation

Nearly \$250,000 has been distributed to worthy charities by The Freemasons' Public Charitable Foundation this year - an exciting increase from around the \$20,000 distributed in 1993. It is pleasing to report that in a year of economic uncertainty, of the 80 submissions received from community organizations, 56 received financial assistance.

In conjunction with the Y2Ker's Masters' Group, the Freemasons' Public Charitable Foundation supported Guide Dogs Victoria by continuing to sponsor the breeding and training of a guide dog puppy named Mason. As a fully trained professional guide dog, Mason will bring companionship, freedom and independence to a Victorian who is blind or vision impaired.

During the year, Chairman, RWBro George Sutherland, PDGM, welcomed two prominent Freemasons, RWBro Vaughan Werner, DGM and RWBro Dr John Maynard, PSGW, as trustees. They join trustees MWBro Bruce Bartrop, PGM, RWBro Robert Paroissien, PDGM and VWBro Allan Paull, PGIWkgs.

In July 2007, VWBro Graham

Flaherty, PGIWkgs, was appointed as an administrator to assist the Trustees in the clerical aspects of the Foundation and Grand Secretary, RWBro Barry Reaper PSGW, is the Secretary to the Trustees.

Recently a flyer was distributed to all lodge secretaries. Its purpose is to alert the brethren to the Foundation's role in the community with two simple quotations, "If you see a need - make a submission" and, "If you care to share - make a donation."

The trustees hope that on notice boards in Masonic Centres around Victoria the flyer will encourage the brethren to involve themselves in the continued success of the foundation.

The Freemasons' Public Charitable Foundation is once again sponsoring approximately 200 students from

regional Victoria to travel to the Shrine and attend the Reginald and Laura Gregory Memorial Lecture.

The Kokoda Leadership Lecture for students is an annual event



Mason, our Guide Dog in training

which honours the memory of two generous Masonic benefactors and further enhances the profile of Freemasons in the community.

From its origin the object of the Foundation has been to build and maintain a significant capital base to assist where possible many worthwhile, non Masonic, tax exempt Victorian organisations.

To achieve this objective the Foundation continues to call on the generosity of Freemasons, the general public, business organisations, estates and individual bequests.



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Making Tracks

Perhaps it's only a coincidence but if you scratch the surface of a Freemason you'll often find a rail fan and vice versa. We spoke with the newly appointed Deputy Grand Master of Mark Master Masons, RWBro Robert Paroissien, to find out more.

What first attracted you to trains?

My older brother (David) had a school assignment on transport. We both went into the VR (VicRail) Head Office to search for material about railways. That was in 1952 and from then I became interested in trains, both real and model.

What first attracted you to Freemasonry?

My dad was a Freemason so of course I grew up knowing about Freemasonry. Also as a child I went to the lodge children's Christmas party. Both my Grandfathers were Freemasons. My maternal Grandfather died when I was 5 years old, but my paternal grandfather was still alive and attending his lodge when I joined. Grandfather Paroissien was a foundation member of United Accountants' Lodge, where Dad was a member and both David & I became members.

It does seem that a lot of Freemasons are rail fans. Why do you think that is?

I can't really answer that but in my travels around the State, if I mention my interest in trains, I always find some brethren will come and talk to me about their interest in trains. Of course years ago many VR employees were also Freemasons.

For example, when I was First Grand Principal, I was proposing the toast to the Principals of the Wodonga Chapter and in those days there were a number of VR employees from the area as members. They knew I was

interested in trains and one of their members was driving an Albury bound SG goods from Melbourne and would be passing through Wodonga during the supper time. The Masonic Centre at Wodonga overlooks the railway and it was arranged that we would all go and wave to the driver, who of course whistled the "Chapter knocks" as he went past. It just happened as I was speaking, the train was approaching so the speech was interrupted to step outside to wave, after which we returned back inside and continued with the speech.

Tell us about the A.R.E.

The Association of Railway Enthusiasts (A.R.E.) was formed in 1961 by a small group of young railfans. The A.R.E. holds a monthly entertainment meeting, produces a quarterly magazine, runs local rail tours, closed line walks, overseas rail tours, and promotes

an interest in railways. Since 1972 A.R.E. has run over 100 overseas rail tours to many countries including the USA, Canada, South America, Great Britain, Europe, Japan and New Zealand. I think 15 years ago the A.R.E. set up a bookshop in the CBD called "The Railfan Shop" which specialises in books, magazines and DVDs about trains.

What is it you do for them?

I have been the Treasurer of A.R.E. for over 30 years and I have led

overseas tours to New Zealand, Austria, Switzerland and Great Britain. I also monitor the progress of the "The Railfan Shop"

What's your Masonic History?

I was Initiated 10th October, 1961 as a Lewis into the United Accountants' Lodge and Installed as Master 13th May, 1969. Conferred PSGW October, 1992, Elected & Invested as Grand Treasurer 18th March, 1998, and served four years and Conferred PDGM in March, 2005.

I was Advanced into the Mark on 7th April, 1965, Installed as Master 4th December, 1974, Appointed President of Board of General Purposes on 19th May, 2007 and Installed as Deputy Grand Master 17th May, 2008

In the Chapter I was Exalted on the 7th September, 1966 and Installed as First Principal 7th July, 1971. I was appointed Grand Director of Ceremonies in April, 1983, Elected Grand Treasurer April, 1985 and Installed as First Grand Principal April, 1993 & April, 1994.

If our readers would like to get more involved in clubs or collecting where can they find out more?

They can contact the A.R.E. at P.O. 4810, Melbourne, Vic., 3001. The Railfan Shop address is 40 Market Street, Melbourne, Vic., 3000 Telephone 9621 2238 www.railfanshop.com.au



Rail fan RWBro Robert Paroissien, DGM of Mark Master Masons

It's an Honour!

In the Australian Honours System appointments to the Order of Australia confer recognition for outstanding achievement and service.

The Medal of the Order of Australia is awarded for service worthy of particular recognition. The Order of Australia has four levels:

- Companion of the Order (AC)
- Officer of the Order (AO)
- Member of the Order (AM)
- Medal of the Order (OAM)

The Order of Australia

The Order of Australia is the pre-eminent way Australians recognise the achievements and service of their fellow citizens.

Nominations to the Order of Australia come directly from the community: either individuals or groups.

Once a nomination has been submitted the Honours Secretariat at Government House in Canberra conducts further research and contacts referees.

The 19-member Council for the Order of Australia then considers the nominations. The Council makes its recommendations, independent of government, direct to the Governor-General.

Awards in the Order of Australia are publicly announced on Australia Day (26th January) and the Queen's Birthday public holiday (June).

The design of the Medal of the Order of Australia is a badge with a gold-plated silver insignia of the Order in the centre.

The central insignia is inscribed with the word 'Australia' in gold capital letters. The circle also contains two gold sprigs of mimosa.

The medal is hung from the ribbon of the Order. It is royal blue with a

central band of mimosa blossoms.

Australia Day Honours

RWBro Russell Lawrence Aitken, OAM. For service to the communities of the Bellarine Peninsula through a range of youth, environmental, local government, emergency service and church groups.

WBro Albert Edward Kellock, OAM. For service to the community of Shepparton through a range of roles with service, charitable, social welfare and local government organisations.

Bro Alexander James Lillie, OAM. For service to the communities of Lilydale and Mount Evelyn through a range of ex-service, local government and community service organisations.

Bro Capt Peter William Wertheimer, OAM, RFD (Ret'd) . For service to the community, particularly veterans, as convenor of Reserve Forces Day commemorations and through the Defence Reserves Association.

Queen's Birthday Honours

Bro Albert Dadon, AM Service to the arts, particularly through the Melbourne Jazz Festival, to the community through philanthropic support for cultural and charitable organisations, and to business.

Bro Donald William Kinsey, AM, OS. Service to the community through public speaking programs and a range of executive roles with charitable, child health care and educational support organisations.

WBro David Alexander Christie, OAM. Service to the community of Dromana, particularly through a range of cultural and service organisations.



WBro Ronald Charles Harrington, OAM. Service to the community of Ballarat, particularly through the Royal South Street Society.

Australian Police Medal

Bro Inspector Christopher Phillip Duthie, APM

The Australian Police Medal is awarded for distinguished service by a member of an Australian police force. Prior to the creation of the Australian Honours System members of Australian police forces were acknowledged by Imperial awards:

- Queen's Police Medal for Gallantry (awarded posthumously)
- Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service
- Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal

In 1986 a distinctly Australian award, the Australian Police Medal, was created. The medal gives special recognition to members of Australian police forces for commendable service.

Freemasonry in action

Shannon Rennison was a 3 ½ year old day attendee at Yooralla Early Intervention when his teacher approached the Lodge of Quest with a special request. Shannon wasn't able to walk or move about in any way on his own, owing to Cerebral Palsy and had to be lifted every time he needed to be moved. It was felt that a wheel chair would give mobility and independence resulting in improved quality of life which would then assist him in moving into a new school where his developmental needs could be better met. Correspondence was received from a physiotherapist, the Rennison family and a quote from the Wheelchair builder for almost \$5000!

In August 2007, after being installed as Master of Lodge of Quest by RWBro.Vaughan Werner DGM and other members of the Unanimity Grand Lodge Officers' Installing Team, Gavan Knight announced a special project to fund a wheel chair for Shannon during his year. Unanimity immediately offered a significant contribution from their fundraising efforts.

On the 17th November 2007 Lodge of Quest held a night with Ken Jacobs



Shannon in his custom built wheel chair.

talking about his Cricket World Cup experience. As part of the evening and in the presence of visiting Rotarians from Wantirna Rotary, WBro Gavan and Unanimity member WBro Morris Brady PJGD presented a cheque to the family comprising Matt, Angie, Shannon and 8 month old Sydney. They thanked Freemasons for their support and Sandy Giles, the teacher from Yooralla who had made the approach, gave a brief overview of how much the chair would assist Shannon to have independence and improve his socialisation.

The family promised to come back and visit when Shannon received the specialised and purpose built

wheelchair. Unfortunately Shannon had some health set backs and was suffering from regular seizures which prevented him from catching up with us at Lodge. When Shannon's condition was stabilised by means of medication, a home visit was made to see how Shannon was coping. It was a delight to see the young boy being able to move himself around as he wanted rather than dragging himself along the floor. The Square and Compasses are proudly displayed on the wheels and seat back. The family is often asked why the Masonic symbols are displayed and they are pleased to tell the story of how Freemasonry has helped enhance Shannon's life.



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Official Communications

As of the 28th of July the office of Freemasons Victoria gained a new staff member when the roles of editor, webmaster and secretary of the Image, Marketing and Communications committee were brought together under the one position of Communications Officer. After much consultation the inaugural appointment to this position was given to the current editor of Freemasonry Victoria, WBro Robert Reid.

The responsibilities of the new Communications Officer include maintaining and updating the new website, producing the quarterly Masonic journal, brand management, handling contact with the media and, with the IMC committee, developing and implementing a Public Relations policy for Freemasons Victoria.

Historically Freemasonry has been reticent to attract too much attention to itself, preferring to do good works in the community and eschew credit. It is undeniable that times have changed and attitudes regarding publicity and modesty have changed with them. In these media directed days, if an organisation is to attract members and survive it must have a consistent and widely recognised public profile.

The development and promotion of the public image of Freemasonry is the first responsibility of the Communications Officer. Too often Freemasonry's reputation in the community is thought of as secretive and suspicious or anachronistic and irrelevant, a relic of a bygone era. A key element in Freemasonry's return to active involvement in public life is turning that image around. Freemasons must be seen to be vital, intelligent and trustworthy members

of their community if we are to survive and prosper.

Of course, marketing and image management can only go so far. A purely cosmetic approach will not be enough. Lodges must be welcoming places for men and their families and each individual Freemason must cultivate a positive attitude and take an active interest in his Lodge and his community. The responsibility for the future of Freemasonry does not lie at the doorstep of any one Freemason but is a burden that must be shouldered by us all.

The first official task of the new Communications Officer was to launch the new Freemasons Victoria website, which is now live on the web at www.freemasonsvic.net.au

The feedback on the newly redesigned site has been extremely positive and the usage reports have shown a marked increase in traffic. Some brethren have been a little thrown by the redesign of the members-only log-on page. It should be noted that there has been no change to the password, though it is case sensitive, so ensure your entries are in all lower case. At this point your user name can be anything you choose. Alterations to this policy will be announced before they take effect.

The IMC committee is in the process

of meeting with the webmasters from individual lodges, districts and other Masonic organizations to develop policies and procedures to extend our brand into the wider community via the web. An electronic package containing the full brand suite, including logos, fonts, backgrounds, desktops and PowerPoint presentations is available on CD from the Communications Officer through the Grand Secretary's office.

Most importantly, it is the role of the Communications Officer to assist local lodges and groups to most effectively gain publicity for their involvement in their community. Any group which has arranged a presentation to a charity or community group, is inviting media to an open installation or wishes to publicise its activities, they should contact the Communications Officer well in advance in order for him to arrange to be present.

Policies are currently being put in place to ensure swift and effective communication between all parties, but in the meantime the Communications Officer can be contacted through the office of the Grand Secretary on 9411 1027 or on email at reid@freemasonsvic.net.au

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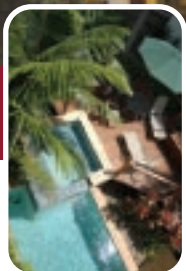
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Rosicrucian world Readers gather

The Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia, or Rosicrucian Society of Freemasons, has been active in Melbourne for over 120 years. At the end of August the Province of Victoria, led by its Chief Adept, RWFra. VRev. Frederick Shade VIII^o 9^o, hosted the Triennial General Assembly of the Society. This is the first time that the Assembly has been held outside England and the Supreme Magus, MWFra. John Paternoster IX^o, presided over the Assembly which was attended by members from interstate, New Zealand and England, and was held at the Kew Masonic Centre.

The Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia does not constitute just another interesting degree in Freemasonry, to be acquired in the course of ordinary

Masonic progress. The Society is the ideal forum for Masons who wish to extend their contemplation of the hidden mysteries of Nature and Science. The S.R.I.A. can provide the

thoughtful Mason with resources for his enlightenment. The Society also provides a forum for sharing insights, presenting papers and participating in study groups.



The Chief Adept for Victoria, Fra. Frederick Shade (left) and the Supreme Magus, Fra. John Paternoster (fourth from left) with other Chief Adepts of Provinces in Australasia.

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The Board of Benevolence

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Benevolence

According to Rule 86 of the Constitution of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Freemasonry consists of the following Degrees, *'the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, the Master Mason, the Mark Master Mason and the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch.'*

Mark Masonry

In operative masonry the use of a distinguishing mark to identify each craftsman's work is a long established practice and was widely employed in the erection of castles, churches, and other buildings of the Renaissance period in Europe. This mark served two purposes, to establish a craftsman's entitlement to his wages and to identify his work.

The ceremony of advancement to the degree of Mark Master Mason dramatises this practice, teaching the

lesson that our application of Masonic principle must extend beyond the literal and into the conceptual. Accepting the principles we are taught, without coming to a real and personal understanding of them, can cause us to pay only lip service to them and overlook their real practical value and application.

Like the Second Degree in Craft Masonry, the Mark Degree is less concerned with the past and future and more with the here and now.

Acknowledgement as a Mark Master Mason represents a further step in the quest for Masonic self knowledge. A brother must be a Master Mason before he is eligible to become a Mark Master Mason. The spirit of friendship is considered to be the very essence of this degree.

The Holy Royal Arch Chapter

In the earlier days of Freemasonry, none but the Masters of Craft Lodges were permitted to enter the Holy Royal Arch. This stringent condition prevented many worthy men from participating in Royal Arch Freemasonry, but today all Master Masons are eligible for membership in a Royal Arch Chapter.

In a Royal Arch Chapter a Freemason completes the Third Degree and receives the 'genuine secrets' of a Master Mason – yet it is the ideal or

philosophy presented to them which really matters. Emphasis is on the spiritual rather than the material. In the Chapter answers may be found to many of the problems facing the Masonic Order and the world in general.

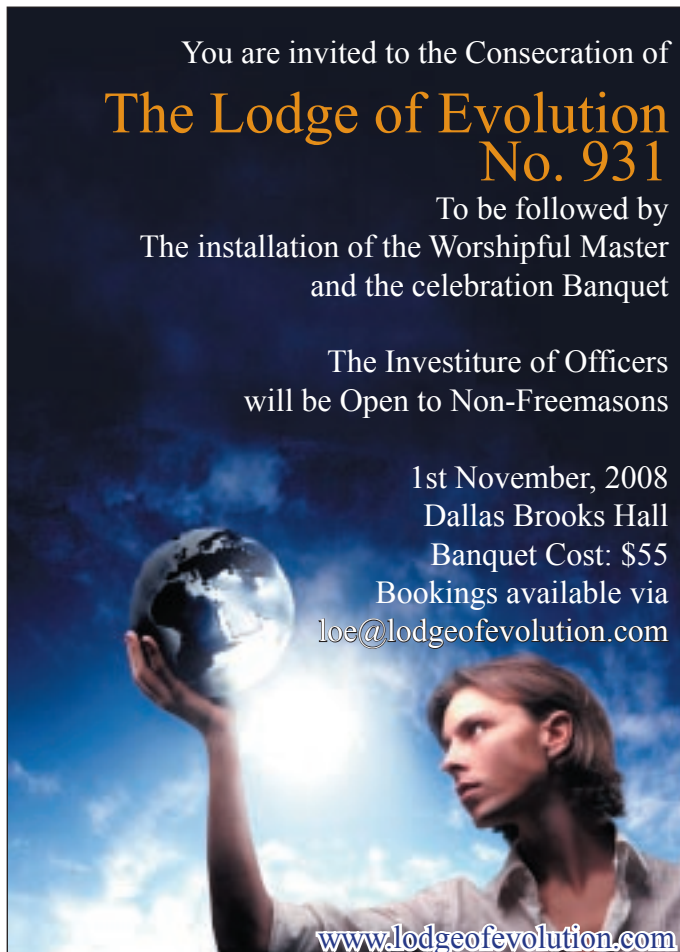
For those who delve, it is disclosed that there is an incompleteness about Masonry if it stops short of the Royal Arch. Indeed, there are many who are adamant that, properly approached, the Royal Arch is the summit and perfection of ancient Freemasonry.

The story of the recovery of the secrets is very different from the story of the building of the Temple told in the three Craft Degrees. The ceremony is colourful and the candidate plays an active part. To be exalted in this Order is an unforgettable experience.

Royal Ark Mariners

The Royal Ark Mariner degree is based on one of the oldest stories in Freemasonry, being the legend of Noah and the great deluge. As with the Craft it is based on a triumvirate of wisdom, strength and beauty but in this instance refers to Noah's building of the Ark.

The fraternity of Ark Mariners is administered in Victoria by the Mark Degree and the office of Grand Commander is filled by the incumbent Grand Master of Mark Master Masons. The rainbow ribbon, emblematical of Royal Ark Mariner Masonry, symbolises the dawn of the new day and a new world. The degree is symbolically considered to be of great antiquity. A brother must be a Mark Master Mason before he may be elevated to the degree of a Royal Ark Mariner.



You are invited to the Consecration of
**The Lodge of Evolution
No. 931**
To be followed by
The installation of the Worshipful Master
and the celebration Banquet

The Investiture of Officers
will be Open to Non-Freemasons

1st November, 2008
Dallas Brooks Hall
Banquet Cost: \$55
Bookings available via
loe@lodgeofevolution.com

www.lodgeofevolution.com



From the Chairman

WBro Neil W Price PGStdB

Over the past years there have been many individuals who have given their time as members of the

executive and have moved on to pursue other activities within their districts. It is the nature of the beast that they continued their interest in the Task Force, helping the district and lodges with projects and other deeds within their communities. The executive thanks them for their continued support and will always be ready to assist them when required.

Freemasonry as we know is founded on three great principles - Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Brotherly Love is as it states, to love your fellow man; Relief is to give relief by means of gifts of product, money, assistance or time and Truth is self-evident.

For example, Pauline Bates' from the Freemasons' Homes told us how in East Timor Kids Ark, an organization run to minister to ill and invalid children and the Salesians Brothers of Don Bosco, who have an invalid hospital, are both desperately short of hospital equipment. In response we organised to collect, store, repair, clean and send the surplus medical equipment from the Homes to Timor.

Mal Hurst of Manufacturechina.com donated freight and landing charges, Neil Bright of Pakenham Containers donated two 7 metre containers and Perry Cohen organised members of Melbourne High School Lodge to assist with loading a container at Windsor House. Mullum Valley Lodge assisted with the loading at Centennial Lodge, Russell Medhurst of Lodge Prospect has also been a great help with his tandem and car trailers.

Ken Carslile of Yarra Glen lodge, Tom Butera and Trevor Moore of the Lodge of Quest assisted with repairs, Mr. Geoff Belleville of Fisher Lane donated wheel chairs and walking frames and several working bees have been run by members of Mullum Valley, Old Scotch Collegians, Pakenham, Vermont, Moorabbin Daylight Lodges.

The Freemasons Victoria Task Force as it has evolved is your way of fulfilling those great principles, especially Relief. There are many ways you can give relief, your time can be of assistance to help those less fortunate than you, such as helping local charities in your community. Brethren, now is an exciting time to be active within the Task Force and all we ask is that you be out there, wear a tabard, and be proud to be a Freemason Volunteer.

I am.

Freemasons Task Force Executive

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Royal Freemasons' Homes of Victoria 29th Masonic Charity Golf Day

Monday, 17th November, 2008

Rossdale Golf Club

Sixth Avenue, Aspendale

Competition: Stableford -

Combined Singles and Teams Event

Assembly: 12.00 noon for siren start

Entry Fee: \$65.00 per player
covers all events and includes
Green fees and food
Entries close on Thursday
13th November, 2008

Tournament Director

GS (Spencer) Sherwood

ph: 0439 757 873 to register,

or P O Box 7007,

Aspendale, 3195

Rumours of our Death...

In response to a request from the 2004 meeting of the Grand Masters of North America, the Masonic Information Centre has committed itself to improving public awareness of Freemasonry. It annually recognises lodges that have demonstrated exemplary work in constructing a positive Masonic identity within the lodge itself and for the local community. These lodges receive the Mark Twain Masonic Awareness Award.

The award borrows Mark Twain's identity as a lively innovative communicator whose work consistently challenged the listeners and readers to think and act responsibly and to ask questions and seek enlightenment. Mark Twain, born Samuel Clemens, (1835–1910) joined Polar Lodge #79, Missouri in 1861 and later joined Carson Lodge #1 in Nevada.

Oklahoma Indian Team

Since its formation in 1950 this group of Masons has travelled the length and breadth of United States to demonstrate the Master Mason Degree ceremony, well over 800 times. The team does not charge for its work but will not do mock or simulated degrees. Every time it performs it raises a new Master Mason. Host lodges often associate the visit of the team with a fundraising event. The team can put on a dance program in authentic tribal regalia to entertain friends and family as well as Lodge members.

Many of the Principal Chiefs were Freemasons, having received their degrees in Washington DC or Arkansas before Oklahoma became a state. The early Masonic lodges were practically "all-Indian" in membership, with a few merchants and military men. Tradition has it that Will Rogers, himself a Cherokee,

first suggested that Indian brethren do something in Masonry "as a group". Currently there are ten tribes represented in the team of fifteen members including the "Sycamore Tribe".

The sycamore tree, having a white bark, represents men and women who, while without a bloodline connection to Native Americans are deeply interested in the cultural traditions of the tribes and are students of that culture.

Italian insights

The focus of the activities of a Freemason's Lodge can vary a great deal from one jurisdiction to another. For example, many European jurisdictions present a very intellectual and philosophical approach that goes far beyond the Australian Masonic experience. The following notes, based on a speech by MWBro Gustavo Raffi, Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Italy, illustrate this point.

"Freemasonry is an initiatory Order that proposes a challenging spiritual progress. Through the ritual, and attention to the symbols on which we meditate, we are taught to question ourselves. A Freemason continually searches for knowledge and at the same time questions himself. He is convinced that nothing can be absolute or unchangeable in his knowledge, except for his love for knowing and longing for a better and fairer world."

Freemasonry UCLA

The University of Sheffield and the European Science Foundation led the way in placing Masonic research within the scholarly community in Europe a few years ago. Now we learn that an endowed multidisciplinary research centre focussing on Freemasonry has been foreshadowed as a part of

the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). It is expected that the American and European Centres will complement and assist each other.

The People of the Book

Within Freemasonry the term VSL can apply to a number of sacred writings, important to the membership. There is another phrase that alludes to that same inclusive and tolerant viewpoint. Within Islam the phrase "People of the Book" refers to the sacred writings of all of the children of Abraham. Christian, Muslim and Jewish people are referred to as "People of the Book" because they share a common spiritual ancestry and all trace their theological roots back to the covenant that God established with those peoples through Abraham.

In the September 2008 issue of *The Alberta Freemason* the Grand Chaplain provides a timely article on this subject. It is timely because September marks a significant holy period for both Muslim and Jewish people. For Muslims there is the month of Ramadan and for the Jewish, Rosh Hashanah occurs on September 30 and begins a period of ten days concluded by the holiest day of Judaism that is Yom Kippur.

The article points out that as Freemasons we might recognise many similarities in our symbols and rituals that we share with the "People of the Book". The most important beliefs are tolerance, care for our fellow man and showing due respect to the Creator of all life. If you are fortunate enough to have Jews or Muslims in your Lodge (or among your associates) it is appropriate to wish them well during these special holy periods. And we would all do well to learn more about the meanings attached to the customs related to these periods.

Written by RWBro Murray Yaxley, PDGM (Tas)

Freemasons Are... Premiers

Sir Henry Edward Bolte GCMG (20 May 1908 - 4 January 1990) was the 38th and longest serving Premier of Victoria. In his later years he became known as the last Australian politician to advocate, and use, capital punishment.

Henry Bolte was born in Ballarat, the son of a publican of German descent. After working in various manual jobs he married Edith Elder in 1934 and bought a small farm at Bamganie near Meredith, where he lived for the rest of his life, running sheep and cattle.

In 1940 Bolte joined the Australian Army and served as a sergeant with a training regiment until 1945. After the war Bolte returned to farming and became active in the newly-formed Liberal Party. At the 1945 election he stood unsuccessfully for the seat of Hampden in the Victorian Legislative Assembly, but in 1947 he stood again and was elected.

He was initiated into Lodge Meredith No 163 on the 9th of October 1946 where he remained a member until 1976.

When Bolte was elected to Parliament the Liberal leader was Thomas Hollway, who also came from Ballarat but was a much more liberal politician. In 1951 he tried to reform the electoral system, which caused a split in the Liberal Party and his replacement by Trevor Oldham, with Bolte as Deputy Leader. When Oldham was killed in an air crash en route to the coronation of Elizabeth II in 1953, Bolte was elected Leader.

Some of his great projects were increased coal production and power generation in the Latrobe Valley, new offshore oil and gas fields in Gippsland, the West Gate Bridge, a new international airport for Melbourne at Tullamarine and two new universities (Monash and La Trobe).

In 1967 Bolte became embroiled in a bitter controversy over capital punishment. In 1965 two prisoners, Ronald Ryan and Peter Walker, had escaped from Melbourne's Pentridge Prison, allegedly shooting dead a prison guard while doing so. They were recaptured, and Ryan was sentenced to death for murder, despite considerable doubt that he had fired the fatal shot. Bolte had the power to recommend clemency, but declined to exercise it, arguing that the death penalty was a necessary deterrent. Ryan was hanged in February 1967.

Strategic Plan Update

Leadership Governance

A District Co-ordinators' Meeting was conducted at the Masonic Centre on 14th July 2008. A large portion of the day was devoted to the Lodge Renewal Program. The next meeting is scheduled for 6th October 2008.

The Book of Constitutions has been fully reviewed and draft proposed amendments are being forwarded to Senior Grand Officers for appropriate comments.

Financial Management

A review of appropriate Funds and Investment Structures is ongoing. A presentation of a training and resources pack for Lodge treasurers is planned for early 2009.

Image and Marketing

Stage one of the new website is now operational. FMV generic email addresses are being developed. All FMV information brochures are being reviewed in line with the new Brand Design system.

Membership Growth

The "Members Matter" booklet and questionnaire has been distributed and well received by the Lodges. Several Lodges have amalgamated and others have indicated their intentions to pursue this course. The proposed Fellowship Warrant is progressing and is in the hands of the Board of General Purposes.

Masonic Quality

Information Packages have been placed on the intranet outlining the Accreditation Program in simple and easy to understand terms. The Committee is considering a 2 tiered accreditation system. The Exemplification Team has made several visits to Districts/Lodges.

Masonic Centres and Lodges

A letter has been forwarded to each Country Masonic Centre, provisionally classifying each building and inviting owners/managers to submit proposals according to the requests. Progress is being made in regard to Masonic Centres in Bayside and Ballarat. A submission regarding Inner Eastern is being progressed for consideration by the Board of General Purposes.

Masonic Education and Training

The Committee is formulating a brochure re proper solicitation. Following huge demand, a follow-up mini Xped is being prepared. A training program for Lodge Education Officers is being devised.

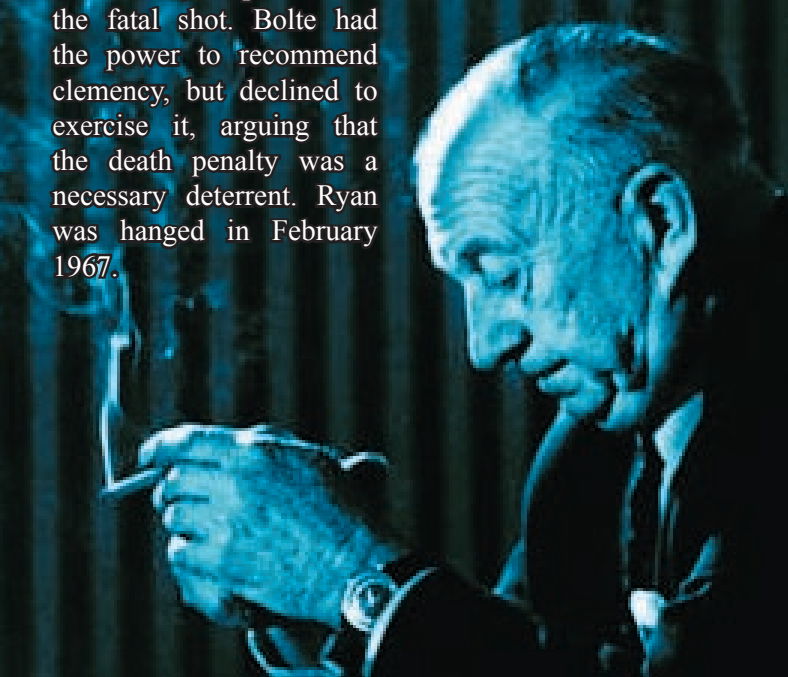
Benevolence and Charity

Nearly 200 Brethren have availed themselves of Rule 234 of the Book of Constitutions in respect of relief of Grand Lodge dues. A letter has been mailed to all Lodge Secretaries offering Lodges the opportunity to invite a Benevolence Board member to speak at a Lodge meeting.

Masonic Systems

The new accounting system is now well bedded in. All members have been offered the option to receive correspondence via email. Stage 1 of the new website is now operational.

www.freemasonsvic.net.au



Top of the class



RWBro Trevor Burkitt PBB and MWBro Garry Sebo, GM, with the 2008 Board of Benevolence Scholarship recipients

Freemasons Victoria has established a more extensive scheme for awarding scholarships and bursaries to suitably qualified pre-tertiary students. This has been made possible by the generous and thoughtful bequests of significant gifts to Freemasons Victoria by donors who were not members of the Craft but who had received friendship, relief and ongoing assistance from thoughtful and concerned members.

Freemasons Victoria Environmental Scholarship

Awards will be made at the discretion of the Freemasons Victoria Scholarships and Bursary Committee to applicants who will complete the Victorian Certificate of Education in the year prior to the award being made or are otherwise qualified for entry to a further education course approved for the purpose of these awards.

Each award is tenable for the first year of an approved, full-time, tertiary course at an approved Advanced College or University; or an approved, full-time middle level course at an approved Technical College anywhere in Australia and is of a value up to \$4,000.

Maurice Feitel Bequest

Five scholarships of an annual value of \$400 Tenable for one year and awarded to students entering Year 7. Entries: On the prescribed form obtainable from the Grand Secretary's Office, close 31st January each year. Copies of academic results must accompany application.

Brunswick St. John's Lodge No 78 Scholarship

Four scholarships of an annual value of \$400. Tenable for one year and awarded to students entering Year 7. Entries: On the prescribed form obtainable from the Grand Secretary's Office, close 31st January each year. Copies of academic results must accompany application.

Lodge of Judah, Arch Moffitt Educational Fund

Five scholarships of an annual value of \$400 Tenable for one year and awarded to students entering Year 7. Entries: On the prescribed form obtainable from the Grand Secretary's Office, close 31st January each year. Copies of academic results must accompany application.

Freemasons Victoria Mature Age Education Bursary

Awards will be made at the discretion of the Board of Benevolence. Applicants must be at least 23 years of age and a member of Freemasonry for at least five years, must demonstrate a need for assistance and a potential for further educational opportunities. All applications must be supported by a school or business reference together with a personal reference.

Other Scholarships available include

Freemasons Victoria Scholarship; Freemasons Victoria Post Secondary Education Award; Harry Burt Memorial Architecture Scholarship; Sydney George Manfield Memorial Residential award; King Edward VII Scholarship; C.J. Barrow Scholarship; James Meldrum Scholarship; John & Ann Clements Music Scholarship; Eliezer Benedykt Memorial Scholarship in Music; Bill Burrell Memorial Scholarship; Freemasons Victoria Education Bursary.

The Chamber of Reflection

Presented at the Vancouver Grand Masonic Day, October 16, 1999
by WBro. Helio L. Da Costa Jr.

The tenets of Freemasonry are universal, however, the way in which they are presented to the profane, as he knocks on the doors of our temples, varies according to the ritual used at any particular temple. Although the lessons presented in these rituals may be similar, the way in which they are transmitted to the prospective initiate may be quite different from one area to another. Therefore, in order to acquaint the Brethren of our Grand Jurisdiction, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of British Columbia, with a piece of ritual widely practised throughout the world, but absent here, I propose to expound on the Chamber of Reflection.

Most of the Brethren who received their initiations in Mexico, Central

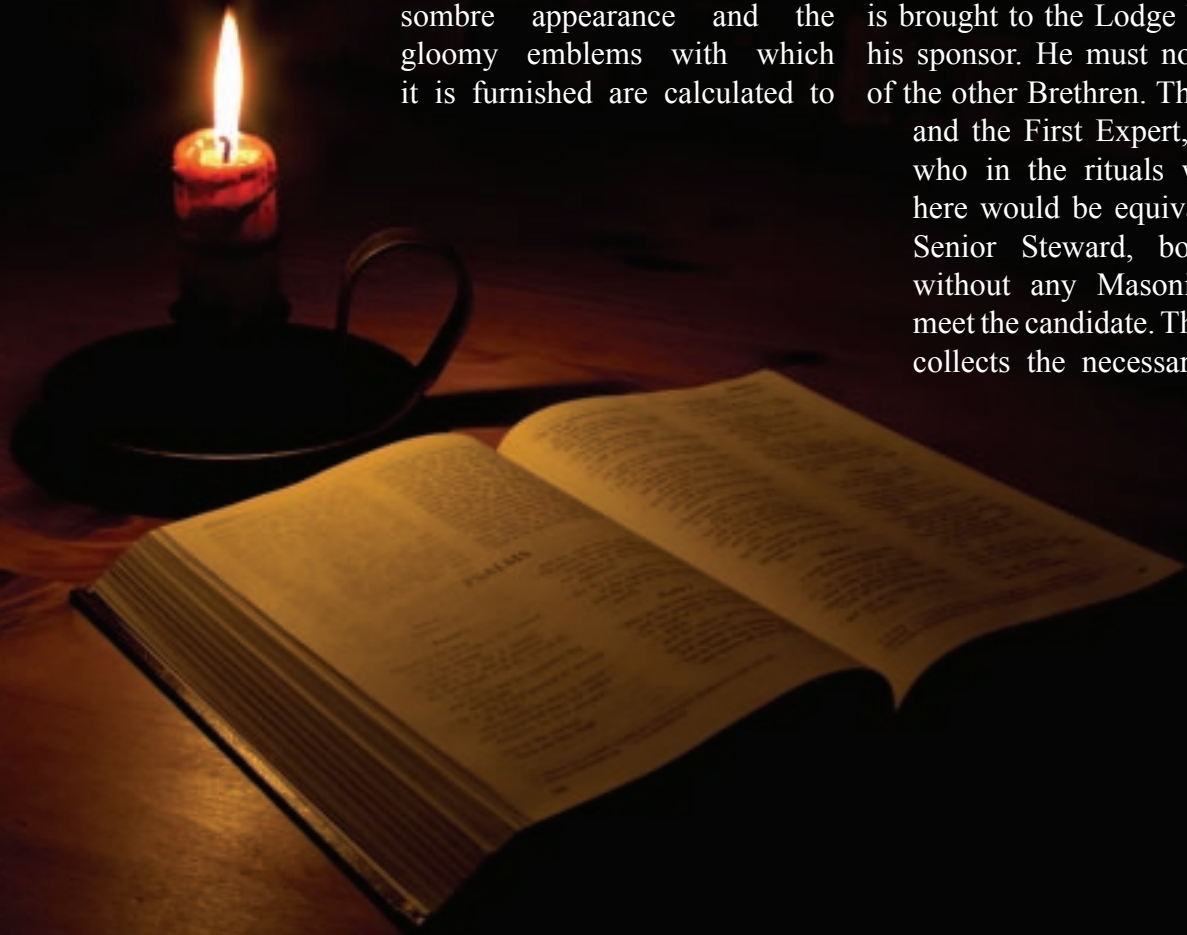
and South America, Europe, Middle East and Africa will be acquainted with the Chamber of Reflection. It is used in the first degree in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, the French Rite, the Brazilian Rite and other rites derived from the ones just mentioned. The word chamber is an archaic term for room and the word reflection means, according to the Oxford Dictionary of Current English, "reflecting or being reflected; reflected light or heat or colour or image; discredit or thing bringing discredit; reconsideration (or reflection); idea arising in the mind, comment (on or upon)." Albert G. Mackey in his Encyclopedia of Freemasonry explains that the Chamber of Reflection is:

...a small room adjoining the Lodge, in which, preparatory to initiation, the candidate is enclosed for the purpose of indulging in those serious meditations which its sombre appearance and the gloomy emblems with which it is furnished are calculated to

produce. It is also used in some of the advanced degrees for a similar purpose.

This small room or chamber, which does not necessarily adjoin the Lodge room, is dark, with the walls painted black, or, as in one case I saw, imitating a rocky underground cave. It contains the following: a simple rough wooden table on which we find: a human skull, usually on two crossbones, a chunk of bread, a pitcher with water, a cup with salt, a cup with sulphur, a lighted candle or lantern, an hourglass, paper, ink and pen, a wooden stool or chair painted on the wall: a rooster, a sickle, the acronym V.I.T.R.I.O.L.(U.M.) and various sayings.

Before commenting on these symbols, let us follow a candidate's journey into the Chamber of Reflection on the day of his initiation. The profane, dressed in a black (or at least dark) suit and tie, is brought to the Lodge building by his sponsor. He must not meet any of the other Brethren. The Treasurer and the First Expert, an officer, who in the rituals we observe here would be equivalent to the Senior Steward, both dressed without any Masonic insignia, meet the candidate. The Treasurer collects the necessary fees and



returns to the Lodge room. The Expert stays with the candidate, while the sponsor also goes into the Lodge room. The Expert blindfolds the candidate and introduces him into the Chamber of Reflection and gives him a piece of paper with questions that the candidate must answer. He also indicates to the candidate that he must also write on the paper his moral and philosophical testament. The Expert also instructs the candidate that when he has finished this task, he should ring a bell to manifest that he is ready to proceed with the rest of the initiation. He is also told that once the door is closed he should remove the hoodwink. Once our profane does that, he sees the chamber and the objects described earlier.

THE CHAMBER

The chamber reminds one's self of the caves where primitive men lived. In psychoanalysis, it is a symbol of regression. It is also a symbol of the maternal womb. The profane is regressing to a time of innocence and to a state in his mother's womb. When he emerges from the chamber, it shall be as if being born as a new man. Contrariwise, the cave can also be the symbol of a sepulchre, as the tombs of the ancients in biblical times. Thus, the chamber indicates, at the same time, a beginning and an end: the end of one's life as a profane, and the beginning of a new life as an initiate in search of light, truth and wisdom. This can also be interpreted as a form of resurrection. This motif of death and resurrection is mentioned in Plutarch's *Immortality of the Soul* thus:

The soul at the moment of death, goes through the same experiences as those who are initiated into the great mysteries. The word and the act are similar: we say *telentai* (to die) and *telestai* (to be initiated).

THE SKULL

Together with the crossbones, sickle and the hourglass, the skull naturally refers to mortality and is linked to the alchemical references also present in the Chamber. The alchemists aimed at transmuting base metals into silver and gold through the process of putrefaction. So must the profane transmute his nature, through a symbolical burial in the chamber, into a new transformed man in the form of an initiate. In alchemy this is called the great work. Indeed, man's refinement, transmutation and transformation from a brute base metal into gold requires great work! The skull in alchemy, named *caput mortuum*, is the epitome of decline and decay. The crossbones are usually tibias, the weight-bearing bones of the lower legs.

BREAD AND WATER

The chunk of bread and the pitcher of water are symbols of simplicity, pointing to the future initiate how he should conduct his life. Bread is made of wheat, an element connected to the goddesses Isis and Demeter. Isis is the Egyptian mother goddess and also the goddess of the dead, again, two of the aspects of the Chamber of Reflection. Furthermore, according to the ancient description of an initiation into the Mysteries of Isis by Apuleus, the candidate was placed in a secluded cell and subsequently participated in

a ceremony in which he had to overcome trials. Demeter was celebrated at the great festival at the Temple of Eleusis, which became known as the Eleusinian mysteries. The bread and water represent the elements necessary to life, but even though food and the material body are indispensable, they remind the candidate that the physical aspect should not be the main objective in one's existence. Moreover, these elements remind us of the biblical narrative regarding the prophet Elijah, who is also connected with these elements and a cave (see I Kings 17: 8-11). He established a school of prophets in a cavern on a mountain. Furthermore, Elijah after eating bread and water, climbed the mount of God, in the same way that our future initiate nourished by these symbols can withstand the trials ahead and climb his own mountain. Elijah, once on the mount, also heard God as the still small voice, just as our candidate should follow his inner voice throughout his life, as we can read in I Kings 19: 5-13.

ALCHEMICAL ELEMENTS

Three of the alchemical elements used in the great work were sulphur, salt and mercury, all of which are present in the Chamber of Reflection. Sulphur is symbolical of the spirit, being a masculine principle, referring to enthusiasm and corresponding to the virtue of Faith. Salt is a symbol for wisdom, being considered neutral, as far as gender is concerned, referring to pondering (something the candidate does in the Chamber of Reflection) and corresponding to the virtue of Charity. Mercury appears as the rooster drawn on the

wall of the Chamber of Reflection. This animal is connected to the deity Hermes, that is, Mercury. It is a feminine principle, referring to Vigilance and it also corresponds to Faith. As the rooster sings at dawn announcing the light of day, so it announces to our future initiate, the Light he may receive.

THE HOURGLASS

This object is a reminder of mortality. It also brings to mind that time runs fast, just as the sand runs through the hourglass. It also conveys the meaning that we should make good use of the time given us. Moreover, our candidate is reminded that therefore, he should write his answers and philosophical testament within the allotted time.

V.I.T.R.I.O.L.(U.M.)

Vitriol is a sulphuric acid or a sulphate used in the alchemical operations of yore. This word is the origin of the adjective vitriolic, meaning caustic or hostile, referring to speech or criticism. However, in the esoteric sense, it is an acronym for the Latin phrase: *Visita interioraterrae, rectificandoque, invenies occultum lapidem*, which means: "visit the interior of the earth, and rectifying it, you will find the hidden stone." Some times this acronym appears with the addition of U.M. at the end, which means, *veram medicinam*, the true medicine. If one takes this advice metaphorically, the meaning conveyed is that, one must search within oneself, as the truth is hidden there, and this truth is the real solution to our problems. Again, a very appropriate acronym to be placed on the wall before the future initiate, while he has to write his philosophical testament.

PERSEVERANCE AND VIGILANCE

In some rites these two words are also placed on the wall. The word perseverance is placed under the hourglass, if one is not physically present but painted on the wall, while the word vigilance is placed under the figure of the rooster. These two words intimate to the candidate that he must possess these qualities in order to succeed in his Masonic life. The symbols, allusions, allegories and metaphors of the rituals are not plain. The Freemason must scrutinise them persistently in order to appreciate their richness and deep significance, and be vigilant that the lessons learned therefrom be not forgotten.

VARIOUS SAYINGS

Besides the profusion of symbols in the Chamber of Reflection, as our candidate removes the hoodwink, he will read various sentences on the wall. Most often he will read the following sayings: If you think we will find out your defects, you will feel uncomfortable among us. If curiosity spurred you towards us, go away. If you are capable of deception, tremble, you will be found out. If you take notice of human differences, leave, we do not know them here. If your soul is fearful, do not proceed! If you persevere, you will be purified, you will overcome darkness, you will be enlightened.

In some rites, such as the Brazilian Rite, other sentences may be found on the wall, such as: Think of God with humility. If you want to live well, think of death. Serve your country with devotion. Remember the great citizens who were Freemasons. Know thyself. If your heart is well intentioned, go on and you will have our support.

PHILISOPHICAL TESTAMENT

As mentioned earlier, our candidate

was given a piece of paper with questions, which he must answer in order to proceed with the initiation.

The answers to the questions asked of the candidate become the initial point towards the elaboration of his philosophical and moral testament. The philosophical testament provides a glimpse of the attitude and character of the future initiate and is unique to each individual. The candidate's true nature will be shown in his answers to the proposed questions as well as in his philosophical testament. On the other hand, it can also bring him discredit, depending on his answers. In the Chamber of Reflection, he has time to reconsider his request for admission in our Fraternity. If his motives are not pure as admonished by the writings on the wall, or if he is fearful and not courageous enough, then he might not be able to keep inviolate the secrets of Freemasonry. Furthermore, solitary in the Chamber of Reflection, our prospective initiate can ponder on the questions presented to him, on his life, and future. Therefore, the reflection to which the title of this Chamber refers, is not just the pondering of the candidate, but primarily the reflection of his own inner being. This could bring him discredit in certain cases. Note that all the dictionary meanings of the word reflection invoked at the beginning of this exposition are represented in the Chamber and obey the same hierarchical order.

THE MIRROR

In another ritual of French origin, the Rectified Scottish Rite, during the First Degree initiation, the concept of reflection expressed in the sense of giving back a likeness as in a mirror, is revealed in another way. At the moment the hoodwink is dropped from the candidate's eyes and he sees for the first time the

faces of his Brethren around him, the WM says: "It is not always before oneself, that one finds his enemies. That which is to be feared the most is many times behind oneself. Turn around!" When the candidate turns he sees himself in a mirror! This means that the enemy can be also within! Incidentally, the word mirror is in Latin speculum, deriving from the verb specular, which means, to scrutinise. That is exactly what one does in the Chamber of Reflections, as he scrutinises himself and the symbols around him.

THE BRAZILIAN RITE

In the Brazilian Rite, the candidate in the Chamber of Reflection also receives another piece of paper that he must read. In it are found articles I and II of the Constitution of the jurisdiction, dealing with Freemasonry and its Principles. Moreover, he must also sign a declaration.

TRIALS

After the candidate leaves the Chamber of Reflection, he is conducted into the Temple to be subjected to certain trials. Traditionally, the ancients and the alchemists believed that the universe was composed of four elements: earth, air, fire and water. Traditional initiatory societies, such as Freemasonry, have preserved this teaching. Furthermore, one of the marks of these esoteric initiatory

organisations was a series of trials through which the candidate was subjected. The Chamber of Reflection, being a cave, becomes then, the first trial, that of the earth, and it is followed later by other trials, as it is made plain by the words of the ritual itself in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

THE MAGIC FLUTE

As you can notice, Brethren, the rituals performed in the first degree in our Grand Jurisdiction are not similar to the ones I have been describing. To a Freemason only acquainted with the local rituals, the opera *The Magic Flute* by our Brother, W.A. Mozart is not as clearly intelligible as to those who have received their initiation in a Continental European rite or one derived from it. That opera was first performed at the Theater auf Der Wieden in Vienna on September 30, 1791 and it is in a certain way a re-enactment of a first-degree initiation with all its alchemical and Masonic allusions. The protagonists, Tamimo and Pamima are left alone in the darkness and required to keep a vow of silence. A scene at a vault, and tests of fire and water follows this.

Even without going beyond the scope of this exposition, and presenting the rest of the first degree ritual as performed in most countries of the world, you can imagine what an impression this initial part of the ritual makes on a candidate being ushered into our honourable institution. The Chamber of Reflection teaches, indeed, powerful lessons. True initiation is an individual internal process. Nobody can transform a man but himself. Others may guide and help, but ultimately, the individual alone is the only one who can perform the great work. The Chamber of Reflection truly epitomises this process. It is my hope, that those of us, who have not experienced this ritual in our Masonic life, have at least derived some small benefit, although vicariously, from this allocution today.



Knights of Melbourne



Left to right: Right Excellent Sir Knight Kent Henderson, Right Excellent Deputy Grand Superintendent; Right Excellent Sir Knight Timothy Coulter, Right Excellent Deputy Great Chief; Most Excellent Sir Knight Bernard Woods, Most Excellent Great Chief; and Right Excellent Sir Knight Robert Barnes, Right Excellent Grand Superintendent.

The Grand Council of Knight Masons was constituted in 1923 with its headquarters in Dublin, Ireland. It controls three degrees – Knight of the Sword, Knight of the East and Knight of the East and West, all worked within a Knight Masons Council, together with the Chair Degree of Excellent Chief. Candidates must be financial Master Masons, Mark Master Masons and Royal Arch Masons. There are Knight Mason Councils throughout Ireland and they can also be found in the United States of America, South Africa, Jamaica, Hong Kong, New Zealand and Australia.

A number of Australian brethren progressively joined various Knight Mason Councils in Ireland, beginning in the early 1990s. Once numbers

were sufficient, Nebuchadnezzar Council No 85 was constituted, in June 2003, to meet in Launceston, Tasmania. This was followed in November 2006 by Esdras Council No 90 to meet at Williamstown in Melbourne.

Interest spread, and Grand Council received petitions for a further Council in Melbourne, as well as for one each in Adelaide and Sydney. As a result, the Great Chief (Grand Master) of the Order, Most Excellent Sir Knight Bernard Woods and his Deputy, Right Excellent Sir Knight Timothy Coulter, recently travelled to Australia and constituted Leinster Marine Council No 95 in Sydney on 13th September; Duke of Leinster Council No 93 in Adelaide on 20th September; and Ecbatana Council

No. 94 at Ringwood, Melbourne, on 27th September.

On 29th September the Great Chief convened a special occasional meeting of Grand Council at Ringwood and formed the now five Knight Masons Council into the Province of Australia. He thereupon appointed and invested Right Excellent Sir Knight Robert Barnes as Right Excellent Grand Superintendent, and Right Excellent Sir Knight Kent Henderson as Right Excellent Deputy Grand Superintendent. The occasion was followed by a celebratory banquet.

Interested brethren who are both Mark Master Masons and Royal Arch Masons are welcome to enquire about membership. Contact Kent Henderson:

kenthen@optusnet.com.au

Myrtleford Masonic Centre Holiday Units

An Excellent Holiday Opportunity for Brethren and Friends.

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Should I Make a Will?

It is essential to make a will if you are concerned about who will receive your assets and belongings after you die. It is particularly important to make a will if you have a family or other dependants. Even if you are married with dependants you may need a will. If husband and wife are killed together, for instance in a motor accident, the older person is normally presumed to have died first.

If you were the younger person, you might have inherited assets from your spouse – even though you were by then dead – but if you had not made a will your assets would be distributed under a rigid formula regardless of what you might wish.

What is a will?

A will is a legal document that names the people you want to receive the property and possessions you own at the date of your death. These people are known as your beneficiaries.

What is a “valid” will?

A valid will is one that has been accepted by a court and put into effect by a grant of probate. To be valid your will must be in writing, signed and witnessed. Two witnesses must be present when you sign your will or acknowledge it and they, too, must sign in your presence, but they do not have to be present together at the time they sign.

If your will is not made in this manner it may not be enforceable; the court has the power to grant or not grant probate (confirm that the will is valid) and your property could be disposed of as if you had not made a will.

Can I make a will myself?

You can make a will yourself if you wish; printed will forms are available from stationers. There is no requirement that a Solicitor draft a will. However, it is not in your best interests to draft your will yourself.

There have been very many cases where homemade wills were either

unclear, not properly drawn up or caused an unwanted tax liability. Many of these cases end up in court and carry on for years, causing distress and perhaps hardship to the family of the deceased.

How can I make sure my wishes are carried out?

You should appoint in your will a person called an executor to handle your affairs after you die. If you wish, you can name more than one person to act as executor. You can choose anyone to be your executor but you should first ask them if they are prepared to take on the task and confirm with them that they have been appointed.

Being an executor is a very responsible position. The executor has to obtain probate of the will and pay any taxes, debts or expenses before finally distributing the balance to the beneficiaries named in your will. An executor who is not a beneficiary may apply to the court for payment for his or her work as executor.

What happens if I don't make a will?

The legal procedures are more complicated and time-consuming and may cause expense, worry and even hardship to your family.

The law provides a formula which sets out who is entitled to the property of a deceased person who has not left a will. The formula may not distribute your assets in the way you would have wanted.

It is not true that the Government takes a deceased person's property if there is no will. This can happen only in exceptional cases where there are no close relatives or persons in a family relationship surviving the deceased.

Can I change my will if I change my mind?

You are free to alter your will at any time. If your circumstances change, you can and should alter your will.

However, you cannot simply make an alteration by, for instance, crossing something out on the original will and writing in your new wishes.

If the alterations are minor, you can make a codicil (a separate document in which you change a provision in your will) but it is usually better to make an entirely new will unless the change is very simple. A codicil must be signed in the presence of two witnesses, in the same way as when you make your will.

What if I marry or divorce?

If you made a will before you married, it will automatically be revoked when you marry, unless it was made with a particular marriage in mind, or stated in general terms that it was made in contemplation of marriage. So if you marry, it is more than likely you will need to make a new will.

Any gift or appointment (e.g. as an executor or guardian) in favour of a former spouse in your will is automatically revoked when a divorce decree becomes absolute or a decree of nullity is made. It is in your best interest to make a new will or codicil if you are divorced or have been separated for an extended period.

Can I leave my assets to anyone?

Yes, but you should make proper provision for your spouse and children, including ex-nuptial children. If you do not, they could take proceedings under the Family Provision Act to obtain provision, depending on their needs.

Where should I keep my will?

It is preferable not to keep the will yourself in case it is mislaid. If the will is mislaid, it may be presumed to have been revoked. Solicitors hold wills on behalf of clients, usually at no charge. You should keep a copy of your will and note on it where the original is kept.



Its too important not to RWBro Mervyn Hallam, PSGW Grand Superintendent of Education

In my last article I pointed out the importance of the Candidate taking 12 months to complete his apprenticeship and that the Education Committee and the BGP agreed that the 'Masonic Advancement Education Modules' which include the 'Walk-through' segments become mandatory for the Candidate after each degree ceremony is completed. These modules will be supervised by your respective District Education Officer (DEO) and it is the intention of the Education Committee to present candidates (or anyone else that wants to take part) with a small lapel badge acknowledging the successful completion of the Advanced training modules.

For those who attended the September Quarterly, you are now aware that the Notice of Motion relating to the exten-

sion of time between 1st & 3rd degrees to 52 weeks was withdrawn and replaced with a Notice of Motion that incorporates both that and the mandating of the 'Masonic Advancement Modules'. This will be voted on by you at the December Quarterly and I cannot stress enough the importance of this motion being ratified.

I have indicated before the importance of not pushing our new members into office too soon and we (GM – Education – Membership Committees and Grand Secretary) fully appreciate the need in most Lodges to have MMs to go on so there is a succession of Masters for the Lodge. However, that has been happening and most Lodges (including my own) are really no better off, we have lasted another year but are any of us more knowledgeable as individuals? The Master joined his Group and represented the Lodge

admirably in the District and sometimes out of it but is he any more knowledgeable regarding the understanding of the ritual, its content, its message? I did a 'Walkthrough the 1st degree' in a Lodge in July and the Master was in the chair for the 5th time but he said to me afterwards that he had learned a lot that night. I found it most uncomfortable when a brother told me that he didn't know how many 1st degrees he had seen over his 55 years in the Craft but now he understands the 1st degree having recently seen a Walkt-hrough.

At the risk of repeating myself, I cannot stress the importance of slowing down the learning period for a candidate and ensuring he receives the best mentoring and education we can provide - because it's too important not to.

Presenting the Future

The Masonic Motorcycle Association of Australia Inc. (www.themmaa.com.au) has been operating since 2001 and currently has five Chapters, with members in all States and the Northern Territory. It is a social motorcycling association with a membership comprised of Masons and non-Masons, who enjoy riding as a leisure activity and are committed to fostering the image of Freemasonry in the community.

According to WBro Terry Webster, National President, the MMAA's Community Connection Project involves the sourcing and upgrading of second hand PCs and presenting fully configured refurbished systems to community organisations and people in need. To date the MMAA has refurbished and issued 106 fully configured systems. Forty have been given to community organisations, and the balance distributed to deserving individuals and families.

WBro Terry said, "We understand the importance of computers and technology in today's educational environment and have focused on distributing systems to deserving families with school-aged children. The feedback from recipients

has been terrific."

The MMAA is involved in several charitable projects nationally, but the "Community Connections Program" is run by the Victorian Chapter. Through their Community Connections Program and in particular the efforts of WBro Greg Marshall, GSwdB the MMAA have been able to source computers from a number of companies. Significant PC donations were made by Melbourne based Worley Parsons and Uhde Shedden Australia Pty.Ltd.

"The success of this venture has been made possible by the generosity of a number of Lodges, Master's Groups, and the Board of Benevolence." RWBro Mervyn Hallam, Grand Superintendent of Education thanked WBro Terry Webster saying, "The computers will

be used in the IT Training Program currently being developed by the Education Team and are targeted at Lodge administrators who have little or no computer knowledge or experience but they will also be open to all members of the craft. The courses will be held in the Education Administration and Training Centre recently established on the third floor at 300 Albert Street. This area was previously the Past Masters' Annex". WBro Mervyn added, "Watch this space for further details".



WBro Terry is pictured presenting four computer systems to RWBro Mervyn Hallam, PSGW GSuptEd

Everybody, Every Decision, Every Day

VWBro Garry Bradd

Grand Superintendent of Communications



The forming of this new portfolio under the control of the Grand Superintendent of Communications in March, 2007 was one of the main platforms of the Strategic Plan. One of those business goals was the vision of "Freemasonry as an integral part of society".

Over the past eighteen months the Image, Marketing and Communications Committee has been busy developing a brand strategy, style guide, and brand design manuals.

The brand essence, "A Principled Way of Life", is the organisational rally cry and the idea that drives the brand. It should be the essence of everything we do and stand for. The development of the brand slogan "Our principles make a difference" helps connect to our audiences on an emotional level.

Freemasons Victoria needs to engage its membership and make the picture clear that this is an organisation which can make a difference. The IMAC Committee is working to get the membership focused on the difference it can make.

Everyone involved with Freemasons Victoria has either a positive or negative effect on the brand. What we say and what we do effects Freemasons Victoria's reputation and how it lives in the minds of its members and the general public.

It is vital to nurture, protect and build the brand for the long term and in doing so, secure the future of Freemasonry for generations to come.

With our brand foundation now in place we have started to develop some of our main image drivers that hopefully will give Freemasonry an improved image within the community and send the right message to potential members.

The main areas we are currently focusing on are magazine, website and market research.

The magazine Freemasonry Victoria has undergone a redesign over recent months and, while we are happy with

the improvements that are taking place, I believe we still have a way to go if it is ultimately to be a recruitment tool for new members.

The new website has now been launched and the feedback to date has been encouraging. We have met with Lodge webmasters and Masonsconnect to begin development of the next phase of Freemasons Victoria's online presence. Some of the areas we are looking at include; Lodge web portals, District web portals, improved functionality on the intranet for members, secretaries and District Coordinators, online merchandise purchasing and online Grand Installation registrations.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate WBro Robert Reid on his appointment as Communications Officer for Freemasons Victoria, where his duties will include magazine editor, webmaster, secretary to the committee and general liaison officer for lodges requiring assistance in these specific areas of responsibility. In the near future we will be developing a public relations policy to assist Freemasons Victoria gain better publicity.

Whilst the magazine and website will always be ongoing areas the next main focus will be in market research. We are currently reviewing submissions of several market research proposals. The main aim will be to look at where we were, where we are and provide

some plan which is both statistical and visionary as to where we are likely to go next.

This is the hardest question to answer. The portfolios of buildings, membership, education and communications tend to overlap - therefore any effective marketing plan cannot solely restrict itself to the Communications portfolio.

It is the vision of our Grand Master that to attract new members into the Craft we need to provide them with a minimum of four main ingredients; modern and up-to-date meeting places, well performed ceremonial, a thorough Masonic education and a south as entertaining and as vibrant as the other recreations a young man can participate in today.

Market research will assist us in reviewing our existing strategic plan. Certainly we need to confirm what type of an organization we are to become in the eyes of the community; philanthropic maybe, leaders in the community or an organization that is seen to be making a difference in the community.

Whatever our role will be in the future, the need to have it recognised by the community at large is essential. Membership growth will not be achieved if the public believes our organization is irrelevant.

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Membership enquiries to:
 The District Grand Secretary
 PO Box 4266
 Knox City Centre VIC 3152
 Email: fayet@optusnet.com.au
 Phone: 03 9884 0235

Heartbeat Galen Lodge

meets at
Kew East Temple
 at 4.30pm

Partners also attend and are joined in the South by the Brethren for dinner at 6pm
 Tyler's toast at approx. 8.30pm



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The Scout Foundation can assist in the writing of your bequest.

We also welcome direct donations and new members to the Foundation.



For more information
 Reply Paid 1240 (no stamp required)
 The Secretary, The Victorian Scout Foundation
 PO Box 774 Mt Waverley 3149

**Phone: 8543 9800 or
 Freecall: 1800 640 454**

The Francis Ormond Lodge

No 286

Francis Ormond (November 29 1829 - May 5 1889) was a Scottish-born, Australian grazier, member of the Parliament of Victoria and philanthropist. He is notable for his philanthropy in the areas of education and religion.

He founded the Working Men's College of Melbourne, which became the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), and donated the majority of funds towards the establishment of the residential college, Ormond College, at the University of Melbourne.

Ormond Hall at the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind, Ormond College at the University of Melbourne, Ormond Road in Geelong and the Melbourne suburb of Ormond, are all named in his honour. A bronze statue of Francis Ormond by Percival Ball stands outside the former Working Men's College building (now RMIT's Francis Ormond Building) on La Trobe Street in Melbourne.

The Lodge was founded in 1921 by teachers from The Working Men's College. The founding Worshipful Master was WBro S N Rodda, Principal of the College.

Education is still a major focus of

the Lodge. New Brethren undertake a course of self guided study leading to a Certificate of Masonic Education, developed by WBro Kent

Henderson and WBro Tony Pahl. It consists of three modules covering each degree, with written and verbal parts to be completed. The verbal parts include the learning of about fifteen "Extra Questions" which are asked during the proof of proficiency

in the Second and Third Degrees. Brethren also have the option of reciting their obligation of the former degree if they wish to meet a further challenge. Entered Apprentices and Fellows of the Craft are encouraged to take their time before progressing to the next degree, moving forward only when they feel

confident that they have mastered each step in their education. A brother typically becomes a Master



Mason after about eighteen months to two years.

The Lodge actively welcomes men of all faiths. Current Brethren have taken their obligation on the Koran, the Torah and the Bible. Our oldest member is 92 and the youngest is 22. We are like a family and enjoy doing unusual things like re-enacting catechetical lectures from the 1700s; and holding our meetings in historic places such as Charlie Napier Hotel at Sovereign Hill in Ballarat.

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VMMA recent activities have included providing a motorcycle escort to Freemasons Victoria's Car 321, at the start of the Variety Club Bash and seven donations to worthy causes throughout Victoria, Fundraiser Trivia/Games Fun Night that raised \$3600, all of which will be donated to community based organisations.

It is pleasing to report that Dean Lugton has progressed to the office of President of the VMMA and will be supported by elected Vice President David Cash.

Over the past few months the combined involvement of the VMMA, Freemasons Victoria, individual Lodges and the general community have achieved very rewarding outcomes that have assisted individuals and organisations throughout Victoria.

Australian Education Industry Centre Inc

Through the initiative of Malcolm Pitcher, a VMMA member from Stawell,

we have become involved in assisting the Australian Education Industry Centre Inc., assisting the restoration of 2nd hand bicycles which are then donated back into the community. Our initial involvement was a donation of \$200 towards purchasing materials to restore seats. Feedback from the A.E.I.C. is that whilst attempting to secure seat materials from bicycle manufactures they actually utilised the \$200 to purchase brand new seats for \$3 each.

The VMMA's continued involvement with the A.E.I.C. will be to promote the awareness of this bicycle restoration operation within Freemasons Victoria. Donations of second hand bikes and spare parts can be made on Saturday 27th September at the South Eastern Masonic Centre car park. The bicycles will then be transported down to Seaford AEIC workshop with a motorcycle escort and concluding with a BBQ.

Zaidee's Rainbow Foundation

The VMMA once again has been invited to become involved in raising funds for the designated charity selected by the Motorcycle Grand Prix Corporation, which this year is the Zaidee's Rainbow Foundation. Zaidee Turner was the first child under 16 to donate her organs in Australia and her father Allan Turner set up the charity to raise public awareness of organ donation. Our involvement will be to provide at least 25 people for each of the three days to sell badges around the circuit; all volunteers will receive free entry into the Grand Prix



MWBro Garry Sebo joins the VMMA in seeing out Car 321

and accommodation at the Phillip Island Masonic Centre.

This will take place at Phillip Island on Friday 3rd, Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th October 2008 and will raise approximately \$35,000 for Zaidee's Rainbow Foundation. If you are attending the Grand Prix introduce yourself to our volunteers around the track.

Pierre Robin Australia

The VMMA has been invited by Bro. Mick Cannon to assist with the setup of a new organisation to be named "Pierre Robin Australia" and it is very satisfying to announce that the VMMA has received a donation specifically to cover the costs to set up this worthy charitable organisation.

Bro. Cannon told us, "My son Balin was born with a rare genetic disorder called Pierre Robin Syndrome/Sequence. He spent 6 months in intensive care as a new born and will require several operations and frequent hospitalisation throughout his life. New Idea Magazine published an article on him and we received support from Ronald McDonald House during his hospitalisation."

Chris Wells
 Publicity Coordinator

Motorcycling Freemasons

The Victorian Masonic Motorcycle Association Incorporated, or VMMA as it is commonly known, was initially developed by a small group of Freemasons who wanted to promote motorcycling and Freemasonry, by way of a motorcycle rally to raise money for the Freemasons Hospital.

For more information or to arrange for the association to pay a call on your lodge

Contact:

President - Dean Lugton

0400 977 123

Secretary - Pedro Eberbach

0409 127 716

Redmond Park

selling fast



The redevelopment of the former Princes Hill Village is well underway and due for completion in June, 2009, when it will open its doors as Redmond Park, Princes Hill, welcoming both returning and new residents.

Demand for the units has been exceptionally strong and we now only have 24 of the 61 units still available. We are delighted that many Freemasons have already decided to take up residence and with demand this strong we will hopefully be in the enviable and unusual position of having all units taken up prior to completion.

Redmond Park will provide high quality deluxe seniors' apartments allowing for superb retirement living and offering magnificent views of Melbourne's dramatic skyline. Levels one to six will house the private apartments which will

undergo extensive refurbishment to the very highest standard, with residents able to enjoy real peace of mind knowing that it is owned and operated by the RFHV.

The exterior of the existing building will undergo significant change including the crowning addition of two penthouse levels. The internal spaces will also undergo a total transformation. A dramatic two storey entrance foyer of glass, marble and timber panelling sets the tone for the extensive shared resident spaces, which occupy the entire ground floor. Beyond is a stunning lounge, with feature stone fireplace, a library, billiard room, games room and a residents' dining room where restaurant quality fare will be available on select days. A magnificent television room and

bar adjoin the reception area, adjacent to the arts and crafts studio, gymnasium and workshop. Redmond Park also features consulting suites where a general practitioner and associated allied health professionals will be available for resident consultation. Our friendly, professional and qualified staff will be on hand 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to assist with any medical or other emergency.

Any Brother interested in the incredible lifestyle and support options available at Redmond Park, can visit our display suite located on site at 300 Pigdon Street North Carlton, or contact our sales team, John Prowse (0418 360 312) and Tracey Forbes (0422 229 363)

RFHV Physiotherapy and Music Scholarships

The generosity of the Keith and Aya Thornton Homes Fund has made it possible to establish both a Physiotherapy and a Music Therapy Scholarship in 2008. The Scholarship provides for \$10,000 support each to University of Melbourne Music Therapy student, Rachel Shelley and LaTrobe University Physiotherapy student, Amy Barlow, who are our successful Scholarship applicants.

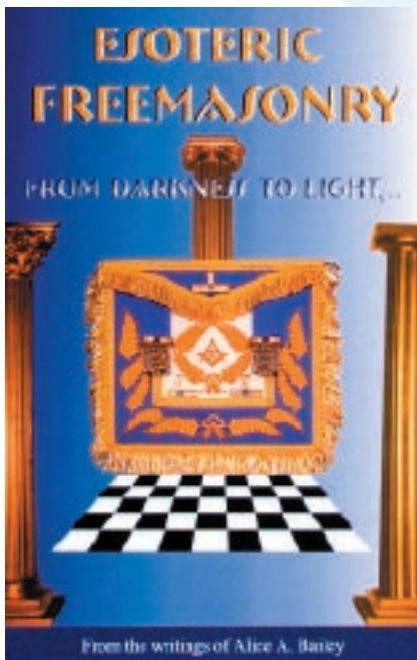
Scholarship conditions require Rachel and Amy to provide a minimum of 15 hours per fortnight of paid employment within facilities operated by RFHV for two years post qualification. This initiative delivers enormous benefit in terms



Scholarship students, (L) to (R) Amy Barlow and Rachel Shelley with Assistant Coordinator Allied Health Services, Merilyn Hawke

of overcoming the typical residential aged care difficulty of attracting these vital allied health professionals into employment in our facilities.

Both Amy and Rachel have been well accepted by residents and staff and excellent contributors to our therapy programs.



Esoteric Freemasonry

by Roy Robinson

Review by VWBro. John Molnar, GReg.

Much of the writings of Alice Bailey have brought me to a deeper understanding of the significance of Freemasonry. The books by (or through) Alice Bailey written over some thirty years, vary in complexity. I say "through" because she alleged that 18 of her 24 books were "channelled" from a being, called in her writings "the Tibetan", otherwise known as Djwhal Khul. Born in Manchester in 1880, and dying in 1949, Alice Bailey's writings comprise some 10,000 pages. Our own Grand Tyler here in Victoria, Roy Robinson, has published a summary of her work, especially as it regards Freemasonry (as a distinct echo, or a fading memory, as she puts it, of the original mysteries) under the title "Esoteric Freemasonry: From Darkness to Light" (Southwood Press, NSW, 2003). It is hard to do this work justice in a short page.

I should state at the outset that nothing I say here should be taken to imply that I personally agree with all Baileys views, interesting though they may be. However, for the purpose of this article, the truth or otherwise of her world-view is not as important as the ideas expressed regarding, for example, the Great Precession. During the year, the Earth's rotation about the Sun, makes the Sun, to our observation, pass through the zodiac. However, until I read Alice Bailey's "Labours of Hercules" I had not grasped that the Sun and the whole solar system also moves through the zodiac - but in the opposite direction. This great solar revolution takes some 25,000 years. It gives rise to many connections between ancient myth with

cosmology. We should not forget, as pointed out in the First Degree Tracing Board lecture, that the lodge is meant to represent our solar system.

A few quotations from Alice Bailey's work will give you a taste of her style:

"Hierarchy is simply the world of souls" (Discipleship in the New Age (2) p 137)

"The Great White Lodge on Sirius is the spiritual prototype of the great white lodge on Earth, of which modern Masonry is the distorted reflection, just as the personality is a distorted reflection of the soul." (Esoteric Astrology p 350)

"The coming form of Masonry in the New Age... Its present form, resting as it does on a Jewish foundation which is nearly 5,000 years old, must disappear... because it is old and reactionary and has not followed the evolutionary passage of the Sun through the zodiac. This passage should and does symbolise human evolution, and just as the sin of the children of Israel in the wilderness was their reverting to a dispensation and religious ritual which had passed and gone (the religion of the people in the time of Taurus, the Bull, symbolised by their falling down and worshipping of the golden calf), so today modern Masonry is in line to do the same; and the ancient usages and forms, consistent and right in the Jewish dispensation, are now obsolete and should be abrogated." (The Rays and the Initiations p 531)

While not accepting all of Bailey's views as valid, I do find the idea of matching ancient myths with the cosmological issue of the Great Precession fascinating. There is no doubt that our ancient

ancestors were great astronomers, and astrology certainly played a great part in their story telling. Perhaps there are still useful lessons for us to draw from their myths.

Copies of the book are available from the author by emailing him on royrobinson@internode.on.net

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THE HOMES' CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Cards are for sale again this year from the Royal Freemasons' Homes' Ladies Auxiliary. The cards will be available from the Residents' Shop opposite the Kiosk at Coppin Community Hostel for \$6.50 per pack of ten.

Orders can be placed with Mrs Edna Hore by ringing telephone (03) 9561 2781 or email: reged@bigpond.net.au



Grand Installation 2009

The United Grand Lodge of Victoria
invites you to
the Grand Installation of
MWBro Garry Sebo
as Grand Master

21st of March, 2009

Tickets available soon from the offices of
Freemasons Victoria

Submission Guidelines for *Freemasonry Victoria*

Text

It is preferred that articles for submission be typed and submitted either by mail or electronically via email or disk. If necessary other arrangements may be discussed with the Editor.

Articles must not be written in the First Person.

We accept submissions on Word, PDF, email and simple text formats. Please do NOT format word documents. Do NOT include set tabs, italics, bold, etc.

The editor's decision to publish is final. No correspondence will be entered into.

The author retains all intellectual property rights to the article. Publishing rights remain with Freemasonry Victoria for two years. The publishing rights of Freemasonry Victoria are negotiable in terms of relinquishment on condition of acknowledgement of Freemasonry Victoria's original publishing, and other conditions as agreed to at the time.

The editor reserves the right to edit the article but will seek the author's permission to publish if edits significantly affect the essence or meaning of the article.

Submissions should be sent to:
WBro Robert Reid
Editor
Freemasonry Victoria
PO Box 154, East Melbourne
VIC 8002
reid@freemasonsvic.net.au

Feature articles must be between 200 and 600 words in length.

Submissions must be made on paper through the office of Freemasons Victoria.

Consideration is not a guarantee of inclusion.

Images

Images are to be of no less than 300 dpi resolution.

Images are to be submitted as JPEG, TIFF or High Resolution PDF.

Photos must be full colour.

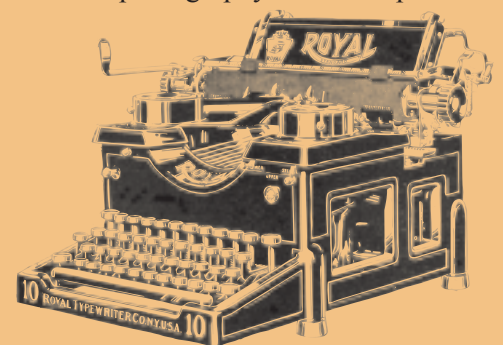
Photos will not be returned unless a stamped self addressed envelope is included. Please do not send originals.

Images are to be well lit and in focus.

Images must comply with the constitution on publishing images of the Craft.

Please avoid the use of flash photography whenever possible.

Please submit also a description of the image, caption or details (ie: who is in the image, where is it taken, what's going on.)



**Royal Freemasons' Homes
of Victoria Limited**

Wanted

Volunteer Bus Drivers for Coppin Community Hostel

We are seeking experienced Bus Drivers to be involved in taking our Residents on Bus Trips. These trips will include scenic drives and full day outings. This is a part of our Lifestyle Department.

Carrying capacity of buses – 9 passengers, including 1 wheelchair

Please contact
Karen Millar on (03) 9011 7351

Mixed Charity Open Bowls Day Royal Freemasons' Homes of Victoria Limited

Sunday, March 29th, 2009
Glen Eira Bowling Club
Joyce Park, Tyrone Street, Ormond

Start: 9.30 a.m. Morning Tea
Mixed Teams of Four
(Ladies required in each Team)

Entry fee: \$60.00 or
Single Entries \$15.00
includes two games of 13 ends

Entries close: 24th March, 2009
Non-Freemasons welcomed

Please contact: Frank Anning
(03) 9585 5206 as soon as possible
entries are limited

Tournament Director:
Joel Solomon (03) 9850 3369.

Windsor House

Extra Service Nursing Home

Operating as a special unit within Centennial Lodge



For those seeking exceptional care at an affordable cost – **Our Extra Service fee is only \$20.50 per day!** Windsor House, in Wantirna, is operated by Royal Freemasons' Homes of Victoria to a standard designed to satisfy the most discerning tastes. This includes an à la carte menu prepared by our own chef. For admission enquiries and an information package, please contact the Admissions Officer, Natalie Webb ((03) 9210 9600 during business hours.