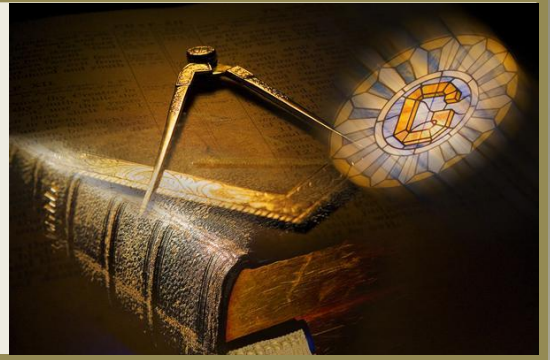


# C.S. Harley Lodge No. 281



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER - 2013

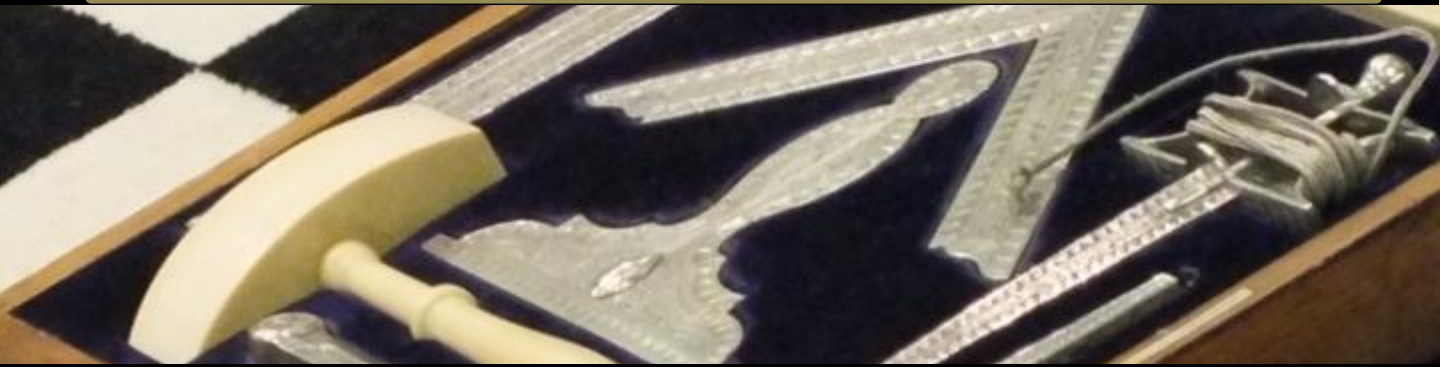
## SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

**A**t our regular meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> September, we initiated Mr. Jim Turk into Freemasonry. Jim was an excellent candidate and conducted himself with confidence throughout the ceremony. We all have no doubt that Jim will make an excellent Freemason and we wish him a long and happy relationship with our lodge and Freemasonry in general.

W Bro Roy English was attending a school reunion in Sydney, so WBro Ian Kelly stood in as Senior Warden. We were helped by our good friends, WBro Don Fenwick who took the IPM's chair and WBro Graham Dixon who stood in as Inner Guard.

We also had the pleasure of a fraternal visit from our neighbours, Charles Stum. It was great to have their company which made for a fantastic night .....and a bigger than usual festive board.





## *EMERGENT MEETING - 3<sup>rd</sup> DEGREE*

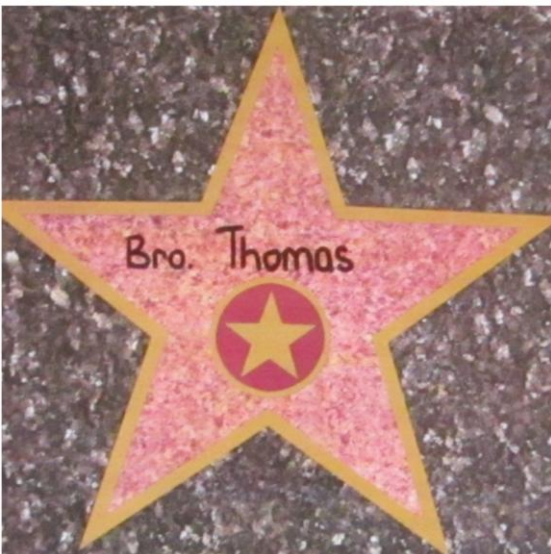
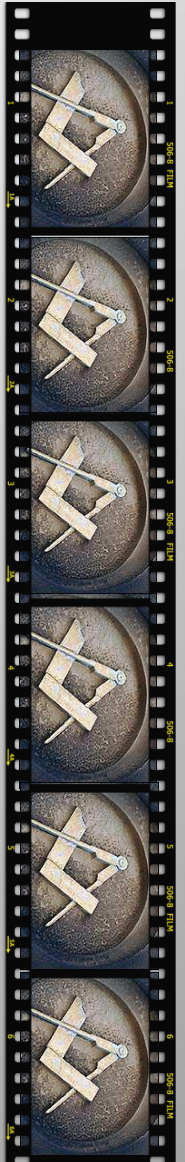
**W**e held an emergent meeting on 28th to raise Bro Thomas Baird to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Bro Thomas answered his questions to perfection, and as with all things that he does, he was distinguished and confident throughout the ceremony.

Indeed, all the Brethren of C.H. Harley are so proud to see Bro Thomas become a Master Mason. He is a keen Freemason and active member of our lodge. He has supported the lodge in many events this year and is highly regarded by all of our members. We all wish him well in his Masonic Career.

We retired to the Festive Board for a evening themed on the Movies. Few would know the influence that Freemasons have had on the Motion Picture Industry, casting their influence across four of the biggest Hollywood studios.....see more on that later in the newsletter.











13

14

15

16

13

14

15

16



## FREEMASONS AND HOLLYWOOD

Many Freemasons have made significant contributions to the success of the film industry.

**Cecil B. DeMille**, was a member of Prince of Orange Lodge No. 16, in New York City . He entered films in 1913 and directed dozens of silent films, including Paramount Pictures' first production, *The Squaw Man* (1914). He reached the apex of his popularity with such films as *Cleopatra* (1934); *Samson and Delilah* (1949); *The Greatest Show on Earth* (1952), which won the Academy Award for Best Picture; and *The Ten Commandments* (1956). DeMille was certainly the creative genius behind Paramount Pictures.

**Louis B. Mayer**, of MGM movie studios was initiated into St. Cecile Lodge No. 568. He is generally cited as the creator of the "star system" within Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in its golden years. He was one of the founders of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, famous for its "Oscars" Academy Award. Known always as Louis B. Mayer and often simply as "L.B.", he believed in wholesome entertainment and went to great lengths so that MGM had "more stars than there are in the heavens." As a studio boss, Louis B. Mayer built MGM into the most financially successful motion picture studio in the world and the only one to pay dividends throughout the Great Depression.

**Darryl F. Zanuck**, cofounder of 20th Century Productions, was a member of Mt. Olive Lodge No. 506, California. In 1933, Zanuck left Warner Bros. to found 20th Century Films with Joseph Schenck and William Goetz, releasing their material through United Artists. In 1935, Schenck and Zanuck bought out Fox studios to become 20th Century Fox. Zanuck was president of this new studio and took an interventionist approach, closely involving himself in editing and producing.

He played a major part in the Hollywood studio system as one of its longest survivors, earning three Academy Awards during his tenure.

**Harry, Jack and Samuel Warner**, the founders of Warner Bros. Studios, were also members of Mt. Olive Lodge No. 506, California. Warner Bros. was a pioneer of films with synchronized sound (then known as "talking pictures" or "talkies"). In 1925, at the urging of Sam, the Warners agreed to expand their operations by adding this feature to their productions. Harry, however, opposed it, famously wondering, "Who the hell wants to hear actors talk?" Throughout the early history of film distribution, theatre owners hired orchestras to attend film showings and provide soundtracks.

After a long period of denying Sam's request for sound, Harry agreed to accept Sam's demands, as long as the studio's use of synchronized sound was for background music purposes only. The Warners signed a contract with the sound engineer company Western Electric and established Vitaphone. In 1926, Vitaphone began making films with music and effects tracks, most notably, in the feature *Don Juan* starring John Barrymore. The film was silent, but it featured a large number of Vitaphone shorts at the beginning. Vitaphone was the last major analog sound-on-disc system and the only one which was widely used and commercially successful. The soundtrack was not printed on the film itself, but issued separately on phonograph records. The discs, recorded at 33 1/3 rpm (a speed first used for this system) and typically 16 inches in diameter, would be played on a turntable physically coupled to the projector motor while the film was being projected. Many early talkies, such as *The Jazz Singer* (1927), used the Vitaphone system. The name "Vitaphone" derived from the Latin and Greek words, respectively, for "living" and "sound".





## *BRIDGE TO BRISBANE*

C.H. Harley Lodge entered a team of ten of its most athletic Brethren and their partners in the Bridge to Brisbane Fun Run, that took place on Sunday 1st September. Many of the team members gave up their "sleep in" on Fathers Day for a 6:00 am start at the bottom of the Gateway Bridge on the ten kilometre course to the Exhibition Grounds.

It was all for a good cause, as Team C.H. Harley raised over \$4,000 for worthwhile charities, the major beneficiary being the Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation who received \$3600.

The ten team members stood out in the crowd of 42,000 as they were decked out in Craft colours emblazoned with the Queensland Freemasons logo.

There were no world records set, no "first across the line", and next day there were a few aches and pains, inevitable shin splints, a bit of sunburn and the odd blister. However all concerned vowed to give it a go next year to see if they can raise the bar a bit higher.







ovarian  
cancer  
research foundation  
[www.ocrf.com.au](http://www.ocrf.com.au)

1300 OVARIAN











## THE ORIGINS OF BIRTHDAY CANDLES

In ancient times, people prayed over the flames of an open fire. They believed that the smoke carried their thoughts up to the gods. Scholars also say that the custom of placing candles originated because people believed that Gods lived in the skies. They thought that lit candle helped to send signals and prayers to their god so that it could be answered more effectively. The other belief that people held was when a person makes a wish while blowing out the candle a signal or message was received by their god and the prayers would be answered.

The tradition of placing candles on Birthday cake is attributed to early Greeks, who place lit candles on cakes to make them glow like the moon. Greeks used to take the cake to the temple of Artemis-the Goddess of Moon.

In present times too, people place candles on Birthday cakes and a silent wish is made before blowing out the candle. It is believed that blowing out all candles in one breath means the wish will come true and the person will enjoy good luck in the coming year.



Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm.

- Sir Winston Churchill



## *A FAMOUS FREEMASON*

### **Sir Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill**

(30 November 1874 – 24 January 1965)

Freemasonry has attracted many distinguished men, but surely in the top ranks of that company would be found Sir Winston Churchill, who is generally regarded as the greatest British statesman of recent history.

Winston, was born in Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire on November 30, 1874. He was the son of Lord Randolph Churchill, a politician, who was the third son of the 7th Duke of Marlborough and had served as Chancellor of the Exchequer. His mother, Lady Randolph Churchill was the former Jennie Jerome, daughter of an American millionaire Leonard Jerome.

His father died on 24 January 1895, aged 45, leaving Churchill with the conviction that he too would die young and so should be quick about making his mark on the world. Winston Churchill was initiated into Studholme Lodge, London in 1901. The Lodge records give the date of Churchill's initiation as 24 May with his address as 105 Mount Street, his age as 26, and his occupation as a Member of Parliament. Brother Winston was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on July 19, and became a Master Mason on March 5, 1902. Studholme Lodge was a prominent Lodge. The guest list of the Lodge's 21st Installation Banquet in 1897 had no less than seventeen Members of Parliament, including the Lord Chancellor, as well as numerous Lords, Earls, Knights, and high-ranking members of the armed forces.

Studholme Lodge amalgamated in 1959 with United Lodge No. 1629 to form United Studholme Lodge, and amalgamated again in 1976 with Alliance Lodge No. 1827 to attain its present status as Studholme Alliance Lodge, retaining its original number 1591.

In 1902 Winston Churchill, half way through his first term as member of parliament for Oldham, placed an order for his apron from H.T. Lamb's catalogue, a copy of which can be found at 'The Masonic Emporium' at the Library and Museum of Freemasonry in Freemasons' Hall in London's Covent Garden. Costing £1 15s 0d (approx £142.00 in today's money) records show that the future prime minister did not in fact pay the bill for his purchase until 1904. Sir Winston Churchill's apron, and the case in which it was kept, are amongst the items on display in 'The Masonic Emporium' at the Library and Museum of Freemasonry. The apron case is inscribed - Bro. Winston L.S. Churchill Studholme Lodge No 1591 - in gold lettering.





Freemasonry in England had undergone a renaissance during his lifetime. The election of the Prince of Wales, later Edward the VII, as Grand Master in 1875, the year after Brother Winston was born, gave a huge impetus to the Craft, and the Prince was an exceedingly popular Royal and Grand Master. Lodge membership in England was not a casual affair, and the members were expected to be active and attend all meetings. Given the demands on his time as a Member of Parliament and the knowledge that he would no longer be able to play the role expected of him in Lodge, Winston resigned from the Studholme Lodge but continued his membership with the Craft and on a number of occasions his involvement in Masonic affairs was sought and willingly provided. It is fair to say that Brother Winston, who was selected in a BBC poll as the "Greatest Britain of them all," lived his life guided by the values and principles he learned in Studholme Lodge.

Sir Winston died at home on January 24, 1965 at age 90, exactly 70 years to the day after his father's death. By Royal Decree, his body lay in state for three days and a state funeral was held at St. Paul's Cathedral. Churchill's funeral was the largest state funeral in world history up to that point in time, with representatives from 112 nations. The Royal Artillery fired the 19-gun salute due a head of government, and the RAF staged a fly-by of sixteen English Electric Lightning fighters. The funeral train of Pullman coaches carrying his family mourners was hauled by Battle of Britain class steam locomotive "No. 34051 Winston Churchill." In the fields along the route, and at the stations through which the train passed, thousands stood in silence to pay their last respects. At Churchill's request, he was buried in the family plot at St Martin's Church, Bladon, near Woodstock, not far from his birthplace at Blenheim Palace. Churchill's funeral van—Southern Railway van S2464S—is now part of a preservation project with the Swanage Railway, having been repatriated to the UK in 2007 from the US, to where it had been exported in 1965.

Throughout his life, Churchill's quarrel was with tyranny. Almost certainly he saved Western civilization by holding out against Hitler in 1940-41. But he despaired that his great postwar goal of world peace was not achieved in his lifetime. Perhaps no better epitaph exists than the one by Hungarian-American historian John Lukacs: "He loved life very much; and he made life possible for many of us because he had a very old, and very strong, belief in the possibilities of human decency and of human greatness....In the long and slow and sad music of humanity he once sounded an English and noble note which some of us were blessed to receive and to remember."





## *MASONIC CURIOSITY*

Worshipful Brother Godfrey Comrie recalls....Recently, our Bro Junior Warden asked me about the origin of our pair of handsome swords in front of the Wor. Master's desk. This is how they came into our possession.

On the morning of our October meeting in 2007, whilst unpacking our locker in order to set up the Lodge Room, Bro. Organist and I encountered the Master Elect and Secretary of Charles Stumm Lodge who were engaged in a similar activity.

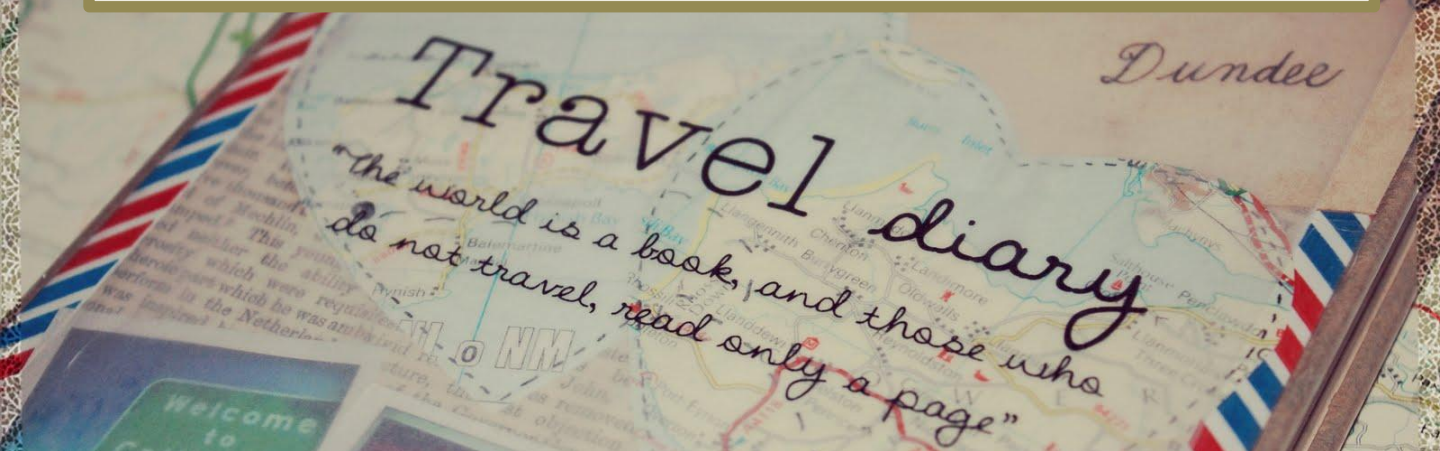
Both CHH brethren commented on a very handsome Tyler's sword which the Stumm Brethren were unpacking. The Secretary mentioned that he had a pair of swords which had belonged to James Stoddart Lodge, now defunct.

They were made by Bro. Victor Mortensen in the Postmaster General's Works Department in Bulimba, and were presented to James Stoddart Lodge in 1922.

MWBro. James Stoddart was Grand Master in the Grand Lodge of Queensland. The Secretary of Charles Stumm Lodge went on to say if we knew of a Lodge that would like these, to let him know.

A very enthusiastic duo of voices followed with "Yes – we do. It's us!" Upon which, the Secretary of Charles Stumm replied "I will bring them along tonight."

As it happened, we were planning to initiate a Candidate that evening, so the Candidate and the swords made their first appearance in C H Harley Lodge that night. Regrettably, though, the Candidate did not have the required "stickology".



**9<sup>th</sup> September** WBros John and Godfrey were at Camp Hill for a well conducted 1st Degree, and at Theodore Unmack for an exemplification of the 2nd Degree, with the usual well - conducted work and good company in the Festive Board. A cheery way to start the new month.

**19<sup>th</sup> September:** The two penguins were at their "other" Lodge, Dennistoun, where a double First Degree was conducted in fine Dennistounian style. VWBro Graham Schulz unearthed from somewhere, that it was International "talk like a pirate" day. Now, he couldn't have made that up, could he ? Well, this information had a strange effect on the good Brethren of Dennistoun and their visitors, which, hopefully, will prove temporary. It was a great evening., and sleepy old J managed to stay for the Festive Board.

**21<sup>st</sup> September** WBros John and Godfrey, were at AIF Memorial for en excellent Installation Ceremony to see old friend Bro Brian Mitchell installed in the Chair of King Solomon, and a bright shiny new Grand Lodge Team led by AGM, RWBro Alan Townson. It was a pleasure to participate in the event.

**23<sup>rd</sup> September:** On a roll with installations, it seems, and WBros Godfrey and John attended the installation of VWBro John Clegg at Prince Albert Lodge. The ceremony was excellent, with quite a sprinkling of sharp wit, and it was very well attended, which should have been gratifying for the Brethren of Prince Albert. It was good to see such a number of younger Brethren taking office, and we wish them all well in the year ahead. It seems they have good prospects for work.

**26<sup>th</sup> September:** A very fine 1st Degree at Viking this month followed by an excellent Festive Board. It is good to see new Brethren taking over the reins of office in preparation for a busy year ahead.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to the newsletter were received from:

WBro Godfrey Comrie    WBro Peter Davison    WBro John Henriksen