



Autumn 2019 Issue 19

The Cambridgeshire Mason

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The ProvGM and DepProvGM with WBro. Paul Gillingwater and those who took part in the ceremony. **Picture:** Tim Smith

ALL THE FUN OF THE FESTIVAL

A request from the Provincial Grand Master that our Masonry should be fun was certainly fulfilled when the Cambridgeshire Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards No. 9927 staged a 'Celebrity Apprentice' ceremony to raise funds for the Festival 2023 appeal for the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

Leading the way at the meeting, which took place at Freemasons' Hall, Bateman Street, Cambridge, on 19th September, was the ProvGM, RWBro. William Dastur, who gamely agreed to be the candidate for the evening. Brethren were invited to bid to take on an office or perform ritual at the meeting and this raised £1,900 out of a final total of £2,683.

Taking on the role of Worshipful Master was WBro. Tim Shorey ProvSGD, of St Wendred Lodge No. 8374. Other officers were: Senior Warden, WBro. Mark Layzell ProvJGD, of Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492;

Junior Warden WBro. Stewart Kerr PPJGW, Alma Mater Lodge; Senior Deacon, WBro. Martin Holmes PPGStwd, of Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No. 6125; Junior Deacon, WBro. Danny Ellis, ProvSGW, of St Andrew Lodge No. 4087; Inner Guard, WBro. David Smith PPJGW, of Thirkill Lodge No. 7333 and Chaplain, WBro. Stuart Lingard PAGDC, ProvGChap, of Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441. The Lodge Director of Ceremonies, WBro. Tim Smith ProvSGD oversaw the ceremony.

The Explanation of the First Degree Apron was given by Bro. Scott McKevitt, of St Andrew Lodge; the North East Corner by WBro. James Rowney, WM of Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704, the Working Tools by Bro. John Malone, of St Wendred Lodge, and the Charge after Initiation by WBro. Jonathan Lambert PAGStdB, ProvGDC, of Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107.

Cliff Brown

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THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER AND GRAND SUPERINTENDENT SAYS:

May I welcome you to the latest edition of the Cambridgeshire Mason as we embark on a new masonic year in Cambridgeshire.

I hope you are as excited as I am because we have a great nine months ahead of us with many interesting events, initiatives and challenges, as well as the prospect later in 2020 or early 2021 of at least one if not two lodge consecrations. As growing our influence and membership is fundamental for our future – I think this is hugely encouraging.

I continue to be amazed by your support and the fantastic progress we are making towards our 2023 Festival to support the MCF. We are very close to having raised £350,000 and are well over halfway to our target when committed funds are included. This is really good progress and I encourage you all to keep your foot on the pedal so that we can show once again that Cambridgeshire can punch well above its weight for charity.

The MCF is our charity and it deserves our support; it is totally dependent on freemasons for its funding but, whilst I would ask you to support it generously, please only give what you can comfortably afford.

The celebrity apprentice evening in September was a brilliant evening and the candidate (aka the ProvGM) thoroughly enjoyed his second initiation, especially as we raised more than £2,500 for the Festival. There are many other fun events being arranged by Lodges in the coming months and I encourage you to support them fully.

Our two Provincial meetings in June were, I think, astounding successes in our new location at the West Road Concert Hall in Cambridge. The air conditioning and more modern facilities made for a very comfortable afternoon and dinner at Queens' College was as good as ever. Our Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards did an admirable job with car parking duties, reception of our guests and generally looking after everybody as well as being part of the ceremony. We were also flattered by the attendance of no less than 15 Provincial Grand Masters from other Provinces –



possibly a record.

We must concentrate in the next year on membership both in the Craft and the Royal Arch. We have some excellent tools and help through the Membership Pathway and our approach is being expertly led across the Province by VWBro. Pat Kilby, our Deputy Provincial Grand Master, with his implementation team in the Craft and EComp. Tony Just in the Royal Arch. This area is so critical to the future and whilst recruitment remains important so also is re-engaging with those brethren or companions who no longer attend. Do they need a lift, a friend to travel with or have they just lost interest? I am sure that if we were each to contact one such brother and encourage him to return at the next meeting, we would all benefit and our meetings would be even more fulfilling. Please do try.

Our Light Blues Club will be extending its activities. As well as supporting the Pathway rollout, it is looking to involve new members of Lodges with a buddy system.

All new initiates will be invited to join the club. More information will follow in the next few months, so please ensure each Lodge has a Light Blues' representative. I encourage you all to support its members as they really are the life blood of Freemasonry.

I hope you will enjoy the photographs and news recounting what has happened over the past six months, particularly for the Festival. Enjoying our freemasonry and having fun must be an integral part of our meetings and fund-raising activities; I encourage everyone to remember this.

I very much look forward to meeting with many of you in the coming months either at a lodge or chapter meeting or even both.

Bill Dastur



The Grand Superintendent with his Deputy, EComp. Tony Just PGSwdB and Second and Third Provincial Grand Principals, EComp. David Blair and EComp. Paul Gillingwater.

FESTIVAL OFF TO A FLIER



The Provincial Festival 2023 has hit £348,358, which represents more than a third of its £900,000 target in support of the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

In October, it was announced by Provincial Grand Charity Steward, WBro. Paul Gillingwater, that the Festival fundraising had reached £348,358.



Access to an immediate running total is now at the fingertips of the Festival team, thanks to the Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association, among others, being invited by the Relief Chest Scheme to pilot a new technology, called APEX-IMPACT. Helping trial the system are CMBA secretary WBro. David Cameron and Festival co-ordinator WBro. Mark Shields.

APEX-IMPACT is business intelligence tool, which integrates with the current Adelphi System used by the UGLE and the MCF. Following a pilot scheme, it was rolled out to Provinces earlier this year and Cambridgeshire can now obtain details of every transaction into the Festival 2023 Relief Chest, received from Brethren, Lodges, Chapters and other Orders supporting the Festival 2023 Appeal.

It provides a facility for the Festival team to report to each Charity Steward on the latest levels reached. Every Gift Aid envelope, member's donation, including those made online using the Festival website or appeal pages, is automatically allocated and can generate reports right down to an event, Lodge, Chapter or individual.

Festival Fact: A total of 381 Festival Steward jewels have been awarded so far.



Left: Close-up of a Festival 2023 badge. **Above:** Provincial Grand Charity Steward, WBro. Paul Gillingwater (left) and WBro. Brian Elliott.

In addition to providing the Festival team with the ability to announce that the level of donations reached so far, it can produce an ongoing forecast of anticipated regular payment promise income and Gift Aid tax to be received.

When using Festival 2023 Gift Aid Envelopes for collections, Lodges and Chapters must make immediate submissions to the Relief Chest Scheme so that individual member's donations are correctly and quickly allocated.

Look out for further updates on the overall total and your Lodge's progress. With the Province of Cambridgeshire having a well-deserved reputation for punching above its weight when it comes to fundraising, there will be plenty of activities and events designed to surpass the target figure.

Paul Gillingwater

DAREDEVIL STUNT AIDS FESTIVAL 2023



Above: WBro. Bob Hammett, Charity Steward, Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441.

Right: Bob (left) abseiling down London's Orbit Tower (far right).

On a sunny but windy day in July, daredevil Bob Hammett arrived for his moment of destiny – his chance to abseil down London's Orbit Tower – only to be told that the lift wasn't working, and they were waiting for the lift engineers.

Two hours later, Bob, Charity Steward of Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441 was back and getting kitted up and having his safety talk.

"When looking up from the bottom, the 80 metres to the top looked like 180 metres," said Bob, whose descent was in aid of the Province's Festival 2023.

When he arrived at the viewing gallery and went to the descent point, it was, in his words, "blowing a gale". While all the crew wore rough weather clothing, redoubtable Bob stood in his Masonic Charitable Foundation t-shirt with the adrenaline flowing so much he didn't notice the chill.

"Walking out on to the platform was the scariest moment, although we were tied to the building. The walk to the edge and waiting for the crew to secure all the abseil lines and safety lines seemed to go on for ever," added Bob, who was Worshipful Master of 441 in 2009.

Once secured to the abseil rope, he had to walk backwards over the edge with his backside in mid-air. "You lean back until your legs are straight and then you are allowed to start to walk down the short frame at the top of the tower, and then there is nothing, just fresh air," he recalled.

"You are hanging by your harness. The one thing I didn't do was look down, I just kept feeding the rope through the descender and enjoying the view."

"The one thing I didn't do was look down..."



Bob expected to descend very quickly, but with the weight of the rope it turned out to be what he described as a "very pleasant slide down" and a "fantastic experience".

He expects his final total for the Festival will be more than £1,500, compared to his original target of £800.

"He's a braver man than me," commented Festival co-ordinator, WBro. Mark Shields.

Cliff Brown

ELY LODGE VISITS BATTLEFIELDS OF FLANDERS



Masons, their partners, friends and family spent a few days in May visiting the battlefields in the Ypres area of Belgium. Thirty-five people made the trip on a coach provided by Bro. Richard Grey (Greys of Ely Travel).

Organised by WBro. Jon Cooper and WBro. Martin Rose, both members of Descensus Aquarum Lodge No. 8655, the visitors attended the evening ceremony held every night at the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing, where WBros. Jon Cooper (8655), Clive Webber (7774) and David Lane (2727) laid a wreath on behalf of all Ely Masons.

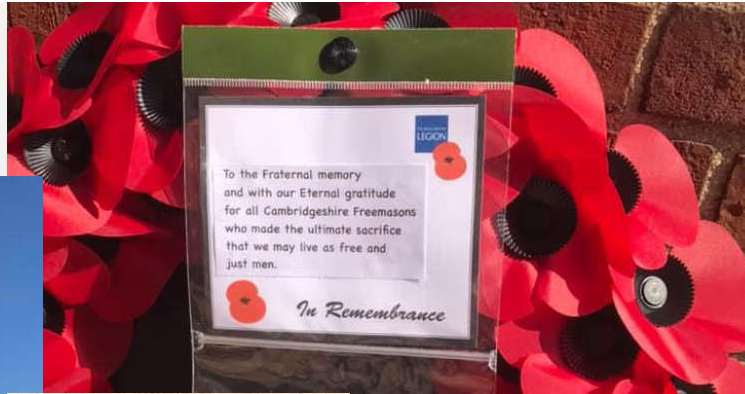
Bro. Freddie Lawes, and his wife Maurita, also laid a wreath in memory of his uncle who died just outside Ypres and whose name is listed on the famous memorial. This had been preceded by a visit to the site where his uncle lost his life while fighting beside his own brother, who was a member of a different regiment.

Bob Leeds and his daughter Jo commemorated the loss of his uncle by placing a Royal British Legion cross under his name at the wall of the huge Tyne Cot Cemetery. Following a rendition of the famous extract from the Laurence Binyon poem ('They shall not grow old') by tour manager, Andrew Spooner, of Skylark Battlefield Tours, of Chatteris, the last post was played beautifully by the coach driver. It was a very simple but extremely moving occasion.

The hugely successful and very informative event culminated on our last evening with a group dinner held at a lakeside restaurant in Ypres.

Martin Rose





(Top) One of the two wreaths.
(Left) The Thiepval Memorial.
(Bottom) Gerry and Andy Clifton at the Menin Gate.

HONOURING THE FALLEN

Two members of a Wisbech lodge have laid wreaths at major battlefield memorials of the First World War.

"An honour and a privilege to be part of such a moving experience," said Bro. Gerry Clifton, when he described the laying of a wreath along with Bro. Andy Clifton at the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing, in Ypres, Belgium.

The pair also laid a wreath at the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing on the Somme. The wreaths were laid in recognition of Cambridgeshire Freemasons who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Great War. This was Gerry's third trip to both sites to pay his respects to those who died in the 1914/18 war, but it was a first such venture for Andy.

"It's such a moving experience to see where these brave soldiers fought and died in the most atrocious conditions. It's only right and just that they should always be remembered," he said.

Andy found the sites visited to be most moving, especially when he made a special trip to lay a wreath at Dud Corner Cemetery, Loos, where his great uncle is remembered on the memorial wall to those fallen who have no known grave.

"I felt we owed it to our uncle to let him know he is not forgotten, even after over 100 years, and the whole experience is one everyone should undertake to remember our brave soldiers," said Andy.

While sharing the same name, Gerry and Andy are not related, but Brothers in Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge, No.6125. In fact, they met through Masonry and have become great friends. They also visited Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele and the grave of Willie McBride, who is celebrated in the folk song "The Green Fields of France".

The pair are grateful to the Province of Cambridgeshire for permission to perform the ceremony and for their sponsorship of a wreath and look forward to returning next year.

Ray Page

Remembering those who served

A Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 10th November at Freemasons' Hall, Bateman Street, Cambridge.

NOURSE LODGE HOSTS 1823 INITIATION CEREMONY



Nourse Lodge No. 8590 hosted an early 19th century Initiation ceremony performed by the Northumberland Masonic Demonstration Team.

At a meeting by Dispensation on 29th June, held at Freemasons' Hall, Cambridge, the Lodge members and visitors were treated to a 90-minute ceremony from the year 1823.

This was conducted, in period costume, following extensive research into the accuracy of the presentation, and provided a fascinating insight into the formality of the ceremony in those times and created many questions of interest.

The Demonstration Team has been touring the country and presenting period enactments of all degrees for more than 10 years and is renowned throughout the UK and in great demand, so it was an honour for Nourse Lodge to act as hosts.

The demonstration team and producer WBro. Brian Denton AsstProvGM with the WM of Nourse Lodge, WBro. Gordon Dunn and Past ProvGM RWBro. Rodney Wolverson.

The dedicated Northumberland brethren perform on behalf of their local charities and seek no contribution towards their travelling and overnight costs.

Producer, WBro. Brian Denton, AsstProvGM (Northumberland), said: "We really enjoyed our trip to Cambridge on the hottest day of the year so far. On behalf of the team I thank you for your friendly welcome, the fantastic hospitality we received and the kind donation of £985 towards our causes."

Nourse Lodge has invited the team back to Cambridge to perform a ceremony of Raising.

John Butler

A GRAND DAY OUT



It was a special day for EComp. Brian Elliott when he was invested as an active Grand Standard Bearer in Supreme Grand Chapter on 25th April.

Not only was he supported by a good turnout from Cambridgeshire, but the annual investiture was presided over by the First Grand Principal, MEComp. HRH The Duke of Kent. Brian was succeeded as 3rd Provincial Grand Principal in June by EComp. Paul Gillingwater.

On 13th September, Brian also had the honour of acting as Grand Director of Ceremonies escorting the Third Grand Principal, MEComp. Gareth Jones OBE on an official visit to Lincolnshire.

The visit was to the Geoffrey Cooper Chapter of Installed First Principals No. 9467 being held under Dispensation at the Masonic Hall in Grantham. The Geoffrey Cooper Chapter takes its name from EComp. Geoffrey Cooper, Past Grand Superintendent in and over Lincolnshire, who, now in his nineties, was present and still plays organ for the Chapter.

The meeting was also attended by the current Grand Superintendent, EComp. Dave Wheeler and the immediate Past Grand Superintendent, EComp. Graham Ives and around 90 companions. Brian had responsibility for looking after the 3rd GP, his procession and escort of 12 Grand Officers, the outgoing procession, wine-taking and toasts at the festive board.

The Third Grand Principal gave an address to the meeting of the importance of Royal Arch Freemasonry.

Cliff Brown



Above: On duty are (left to right): EComp. David Wheeler, Grand Superintendent in and over the Province of Lincolnshire, MEComp. Gareth Jones OBE, Third Grand Principal, and EComp. Brian Elliott GStdB acting as GDC.



EComp. Elliott celebrates his investiture with other Grand Officers from the Province of Cambridgeshire.

SUCCESS FOR JOINT LODGES EVENT



A cheque for more than £3,800, representing money raised at the summer fair, was presented to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro. Patrick Kilby, at the installation meeting of St Ovin Lodge by WBro. Clive Webber.

Pictured (left to right): WBros. David Watson, Steward Robinson, Jon Cooper, John Phillips, with VWBro. Kilby and WBros. Webber and David Lane.

The first day of September turned out to be a glorious day for the four Lodges of Ely - St Audrey No. 2727; St Ovin No. 7774; Descensus Aquaram No. 8655; and The Porta No. 9511 - to hold their first Summer Fair in aid of Festival 2023 at WBro. David Watson's meadows in Littleport.

Several months in the planning, the event included a display of classic cars, tractors and motorbikes, a barbeque, a bake-off cakes stall, a megabola with more than 400 prizes, live music, superb games and activities for both children and adults and a bar.

More than 250 people attended, including at least 50 children and young adults, many of whom were able to delight in free ice cream as well as the attractions listed.

This is the second event this year that the Ely Lodges have jointly organised, the first being the successful Murder Mystery in February. Members of each of the four Lodges worked together to ensure the success of the event which raised £3,825.40 for the Province's Festival 2023.

Peter Crussall





The Provincial Grand Orator says... Ya-buts

'Ya-buts' are monstrous beasts that inhabit the meetings and conversations that take place all over our Fraternity. A Ya-but's purpose in life is to sap the team of its strength, and kill any new ideas or creative approaches as soon as they are suggested.

They do this by saying things like:

'YA-BUT' We tried that three years ago.

'YA-BUT' We've never done it like that before.

'YA-BUT' It probably won't work.

'YA-BUT' It won't work here.

'YA-BUT' The Brethren would never buy into that!

'YA-BUT' Province would never go along with it!

'YA-BUT' They (the ubiquitous 'they' who control the World & Masonry) won't let us.

Be aware that when these 'Ya-buts' creep into a discussion during a meeting, or swoop-down into a lodge- room conversation, or pop-up at the festive-board, they don't look monstrous at all. Often, they adopt the appearance of a charming and friendly being, there to make a 'capable, perfectly acceptable, and helpful contribution' to the discussion.

The Provincial Grand Mentor says...

Why do we need Lodge Mentors?

Masonic Mentoring is a learning process where a more experienced brother invests time, energy and Masonic experience in assisting a new brother to enjoy his Masonry to the full.

What does "to the full" mean? Well, not everybody wants the same from their Masonry.

The main thing is to ensure that our newer brethren are enjoying their masonry so much that they not only wish to stay, but also wish to take an active part.

In this way the Lodge Mentor acts as a bridge between the past, present and future of our Lodges.

Jonathan West



If not recognised and neutralised right away, 'Ya-buts' usually succeed in their deadly, negative missions. Their interventions soon change the flow of ideas, from, '*This is how we can make it work*', to become '*How can we make this work?*' followed by incorporating all the reasons, '*Why it won't work*', and in the end convincing everyone, '*It's not worth trying*'.

In the past, Masonry has adapted to accommodate new ideas and changes in society. Likewise, today it must change, to take on-board the challenges of modern life; embrace technology and employ it to good effect; make its ceremonies relevant and its social functions family-friendly.

This does not mean throwing out the basic tenets that have stood the test of time, far from it, but rather just evolving and changing to reflect the world we live in, and to be meaningful to a new generation of men. However, in so doing, we must understand there is a natural aversion to change, and strive to maintain harmony.

Masonry is no mere luxury of reminiscence. It has grown out of the past, but it transforms the present and enlarges and brightens the prospects of the future. Remember what happened to the Dodo!

This and many other 'nuggets' can be found on the Solomon database – <https://solomon.ugle.org.uk>

Harry Rooke



VWBro. Pat Kilby with Lt John Kell (left) and Staff-Sgt Steve Rudderham.

Donation for Linton Army Cadets

A new Army Cadet Force detachment has benefitted to the tune of £400 from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire's Charity for Care & Relief.

After being contacted directly by Lt John Kell, of the Cambridgeshire ACF, asking if the Freemasons could support a newly formed detachment in Linton with training aids and equipment, the trustees of the Charity were pleased to support this local youth activity.

The ACF's Linton detachment was formed in 2018 and now has 40 cadets. The donation funded equipment for two cadets at their annual camp in July at Thetford.

The DepProvGM, VWBro. Patrick Kilby presented the cheque to Staff-Sgt Steve Rudderham, of the Linton detachment, on behalf of the Charity for Care & Relief.

Alan de Laune

Great support for Tom's Trust

On behalf of the Charity for Care & Relief, the DepProvGM VWBro. Patrick Kilby presented a

cheque for £3,500 to Debbie Whiteley, founder and CEO of Tom's Trust. This is a small, but rapidly evolving charity based in Cambridge, and dedicated to providing clinical psychology for children with brain tumours within UK hospitals.

Its clinical psychologists work within a pioneering team ensuring that the children and their families are fully supported, enabling the children to reach their full potential. Currently every child diagnosed in the East of England is cared for by the Tom's Trust team of clinical psychologists and its first aim is to continue to support and improve the provision at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to care for all children in the East of England.

The second aim is to identify and work with other UK hospitals and it is in the process of setting up a similar service at the Great North Children's Hospital in Newcastle, and the overall vision is to eventually support all children and families in the UK.

Alan de Laune



VWBro. Pat Kilby presents the cheque to Debbie Whiteley, of Tom's Trust.



FULL STEAM AHEAD

The Festival 2023 Appeal benefitted by just over £1,000 following the garden party and barbecue organised by Gild of St. Mary Lodge No. 7288 and Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492.

The main attraction was the 220-yard long 1/8th scale model railway, which was built by and runs in the garden of our ProvScribeE, EComp. Edmund Brookes. The model of a 1930 Southern Railway U Class 2-6-0 tender engine in full steam ensured that more than 70 adults and many children had a wonderful afternoon.

Some were even lucky enough to be driven round by 'guest driver' the Deputy Grand Master RWBro. Jonathan Spence, who is a member of Alma Mater Lodge.

Kevin Mader

CHEQUE FOR CORNWALLIS COURT

The Provincial Grand Almoner and secretary of the Province's Charity for Care & Relief, WBro. George Brennan PAGDC, presented a cheque for £2,500 to Peter Gosling, chairman of The Friends of Cornwallis Court, during the residents' annual garden fete at the care home in Bury St Edmunds.

George Brennan



PROVINCE'S SHOUT-OUT ON RADIO 2

Some superb publicity for Cambridgeshire Freemasonry was achieved by our new Communications Officer, WBro. Mike Hinton, when he managed to get June's Provincial meeting mentioned on BBC Radio 2's breakfast show by presenter Zoe Ball.

The popular radio host gave a 'shout-out' after WBro. Hinton tweeted her with information about the meeting on 20th June. On air, she said: "They've all been superheroes raising tonnes of cash for charity."

Cliff Brown



New Chapter of Improvement

The first steps in forming a new Chapter of Improvement in the Province took place on 16th September at March Masonic Hall.

The new unit, likely to be under the auspices of the Cambridgeshire First Principals Chapter No. 7429, will

replace the two existing Chapters of Improvement, namely Fidelity, based in Cambridge, and St Wendreda, based in March.

The meeting at March also included talks by EComp. David Sowman PGStdB, who spoke of his time as Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, while EComp. Jon West explained what the Royal Arch meant to him.

EComp. Bob Steer, Z of St Wendreda Chapter No. 3201, acted as Z. The meeting was opened using Provincial Grand Chapter workings and closed with St Wendreda ritual.

Cliff Brown



EComp. Dave Sowman at this year's Provincial Grand Chapter meeting.



VWBro. John Sherriff presents the certificate to WBro. Derek Traylen.

Celebrating sixty years in Masonry

February 2019 was a big day for WBro. Derek Traylen, a Past Master of the Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441.

Derek had moved away to Biscester some years ago, but had maintained his membership of the Lodge and would have loved to attend to receive his certificate for 60 years in Freemasonry. Due to his age and mobility this was not to be possible, so the Past Deputy ProvGM, VWBro. John Sherriff visited his home to present the certificate. Derek was overwhelmed and intends to hang it on his study wall next to his prized certificate marking 50 years of membership.

Kevin Mader

MARCH HELP FOR CHARITIES

Two charities will receive £250 each from Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704, based in March. The recipients are Eddie's, an operating division of the Edmund Trust, a charity which has supported people with learning difficulties in Cambridgeshire for more than 75 years, and Breath Easy Fenland (British Lung Foundation). Half of the donation has been provided by the City and University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust.

Festival Donations

The Worshipful Master of Scientific Lodge No. 88, WBro. Tony Barrios raised £1,300 for Festival 2023 by running a series of first aid training courses over a two-day period at Freemasons' Hall, Bateman Street, Cambridge.

Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492 has donated £10,000 to Festival 2023.

Cliff Brown



BETTING ON A GOOD NIGHT FOR CHARITY

A race night with fish and chip supper, organised by Descensus Aquarum Lodge No. 8655 at Ely raised £1,688 for the Children with Cancer UK charity.

Held in the Masonic Hall at Silver Street and attended by more than 70 people, the successful event attracted sponsorship from local businesses, with racing equipment and film supplied and operated by Bro. Jamie Hills.

Winner of the main auction prize, a gift voucher for a barbecue from Homebase, went to young Alfie Bottley, and was presented by the Worshipful Master, WBro. Jon Cooper and Bro. Hills.

Martin Rose



Alfie Bottley receives the gift voucher from WBro. Jon Cooper and Bro. Jamie Hills.



WBro. Mike Massen, WBro. David Broker and WBro. Edwin Broad present the cheques to representatives of Year 6 at Elm Road School.

Boost for school's memorial fund

A lodge in Wisbech is helping a school fund a memorial to a child who lost his life in a road traffic accident.

The Lodge of United Good Fellowship No. 809 handed over cheques for £500 to Year Six pupils at Elm Road School, Wisbech. It consisted of £430 from a raffle at a social event and two personal cheques.

The £500 was a contribution to a memorial at the school for 10-year-old Kastytis Dambrauskas, who was killed as he cycled to school with his mum cycling behind him.

The memorial will be a wooden gazebo painted in bright colours and will have musical instruments that are able to be played outside. In total £6,595 has been raised for the school's project.

Mike Massen



Left: WBro. Cassidy presents the cheque to WBro. Mason.



Right: WBro. Sutton with WBro. Mason.

HELP FOR WIDOWS' CLUB

At the annual afternoon strawberries and cream tea for the Province's Masonic Widow's Friendship Club, cheques of £550 were presented to club chairman WBro. Tony Mason by representatives of two lodges.

WBro. Mick Cassidy handed over a cheque for £200 from The Ely United Lodge of Instruction, which is for junior members of the four lodges in Ely and is a regular supporter of the Widows Friendship Club. A further £350 was presented by WBro. Brian Sutton from Caldwell Lodge No. 3201.

"The club does an excellent job. All lodges should support it," said WBro. Sutton.

Mick Cassidy

APPRECIATION FOR MASTER'S WORK

Illness prevented WBro. Graham Kent being presented with a token of appreciation for his time as Worshipful Master of Cambridgeshire Installed Masters Lodge No. 7429, but this was rectified on 1st March.

WBro. Kent, who was WM in 2017/18, and his wife Anne were presented with gifts from the Lodge, by the Provincial Grand Master,

RWBro. William Dastur, and his Deputy, VWBro. Pat Kilby. They were accompanied by Provincial Grand Secretary, WBro. Kevin Mader, and Lodge secretary Kenneth 'Danny' Ellis.

Danny Ellis



At the heart of the community

St Andrew Lodge No. 4087 supported its local community in Whittlesey by providing the Masonic Hall as the venue to assist Defibrillators for All and CRY (Cardiac Risk in Young People).

One hundred 14 to 35-year-olds were screened for heart defects, with the project funded by the Whittlesey-based Defibrillators for All charity.

CRY is a national charity with a mission to screen youngsters and prevent early cardiac-related deaths in young people.

Dave Sowman



Rt.Em.Kt Geoffrey Hewitt, with Provincial Prior, R.Em.Kt Stewart Middleton KCT; the newly installed Preceptor, Em.Kt John Taylor; Provincial Sub-Prior, V.Em.Kt William Haggart; V.Em.Kt Richard Beardall and Em.Kt John Rowell PGtHer.

Celebration time for Ely's Knights Templar

The Isle of Ely Preceptory of Knights Templar No. 677 celebrated its 10th anniversary in July. Among the 80 present were nearly all of the original Consecrating team - including the Consecrating Officer, Rt.Em.Kt Geoffrey Hewitt, Past Provincial Prior, and the Installing Officer, V.Em.Kt Richard Beardall, Past Sub-Prior, along with 13 of the Founders.

The evening opened with two new Knights being installed into the Preceptory bringing the Preceptory total strength up to 42 from the initial 27 Founders gathered by Em.Kt John Rowell in 2009.

The Eminent Preceptor, Em.Kt Stephen Teverson, then Installed his successor, Em.Kt John Taylor, before retiring to a Festive Board based on the original Consecration meal. At the end of the evening a birthday cake, created by the daughter of E.Kt Tony Mason, was presented and the candles blown out by the Provincial Prior, Rt.Em.Kt Stewart Middleton KCT.

John Jones



Handing over the cheque to two representatives of No Pain No Gain are W/Bros. Bharat Khetani and David Coupland and Lodge treasurer WBro. Terry Stacey.

FARMERS FUND SYRINGE DRIVER

Fenland Farmers Lodge No. 9933 donated £1,100 to buy a syringe driver for a local charity to donate to a health centre.

A syringe driver is a small machine that delivers drugs to patients so they can remain at home rather than going to hospital or a hospice.

The local charity, called No Gain No Pain, buys the machines and supplies them to local health centres, from where they are loaned to patients to use at home. These machines are used many times during their working lives.

The money was raised during the current Worshipful Master, WBro. David Coupland's year and during that of his predecessor, WBro. Bharat Khetani. The Lodge also secured a £250 grant from the Bethel Scheme run by the City & University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust.

No Pain No Gain has supplied more than 60 machines to local health centres and is still working hard to supply more.

David Watson



Some of the 70 'punters' enjoy the race interval meal.



Punters bet for building fund

The annual race night at March Masonic Hall on 30th March attracted more than 70 'punters' and raised £1,300 for the building fund.

A joint venture between Caldwell Lodge No. 3201 and Stone Cross No.6704, it was organised by WBro. Les Mills and Bro. Gavin Philpott. A two-course meal was prepared by members of Stone Cross. Lodge members had purchased the right to be horse owners for the night, while others sponsored individual races. **Les Mills**



The finalists and winners from Kynaston Lodge No. 5810.

Remembering Colin Hutchinson

What a great way for the Cambridgeshire Masonic Bowls Association to remember the late Past Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. Colin Hutchinson with a continuation of his Inter Lodge Bowls competition.

Held at Chippenham Bowls Club, the matches took place on the hottest day of any July in history and the players did well to give their all in the conditions. Seven teams from lodges in the Province took part with the two pairs to compete in the final, both from Kynaston Lodge No. 5810. The solution was to share the trophy and avoid another half an hour in the blazing sun, so, Jim Burt, Trevor Smith, Roy Metson and Malcolm Brown bathed in the glory.

Anyone wishing to join the Masonic bowling fraternity should call Jim Burt, tel: 07860 521183.

David Mason



GARDEN PARTY BOOSTS FESTIVAL



A sum of £1,000 was raised for Festival 2023 when a Strawberry Tea was held by the Wisbech lodges at the home of WBro. David Bays in Tydd St Mary.

Organised by the Lodge of United Good Fellowship No. 809 and Gild of Holy Trinity No. 6125, the two charity stewards, WBro. Nigel Williams and WBro. Martin Holmes, thanked David and Mrs J Bays, their family and band of helpers who made the event on 2nd June so successful.

David's garden looked magnificent and was a real treat for garden lovers. It also enabled David to sell more than £200 worth of plants that he had been propagating since February.

His daughter and daughter-in-law worked tirelessly producing a mammoth amount of sandwiches, which were supplemented by donated homemade cakes, and the strawberries and cream. The raffle raised more than £300 towards the expected four-figure total.

Ray Page



Saint's day event helps children's charity

An annual St George's day lunch at Whittlesey, which attracted Brethren, family and friends, raised more than £500 for a local children's charity.

The event, organised by St Andrew Lodge No. 4087, was held at the Masonic Hall in Woolpack Lane, Whittlesey, with the money raised going to a local children's charity nominated by the Worshipful Master, WBro. Matt Biggin and his wife Karen.

WBros. Tim Smith and Graham Turner along with the St Andrew Angels prepared and served a four-course meal. A rousing session of traditional 'Last Night of the Proms' songs, led by WBros. Nick Thompson and Ian Fawcett rounded off a memorable afternoon.

Dave Sowman

Help for High Sheriff's Fund

At the annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge on 20th June, RWBro. William Dastur presented the High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire, WBro. Neil McKittrick (pictured), with a cheque for £1,000.



The sum, donated by the Province's Charity for Care and Relief, is towards the High Sheriff's Fund, administered by the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation.

"In my year as High Sheriff I am concentrating on volunteering and on local charities and national charities with bases in Cambridgeshire," said WBro. McKittrick. "This donation will indeed be faithfully applied and really go to benefit those who need it most."

The High Sheriff's Awards recognise achievement and awards grants to projects involving young people in positive activities that benefit the community. The award scheme was established in Cambridgeshire more than 18 years ago to support this charitable work.

Cliff Brown



HELPING OUT ON THE FARM

An organic care farm providing therapeutic horticulture to people with learning difficulties has been supported by the Province's Charity for Care & Relief.

The Prospects Trust charity is celebrating 30 years of "growing differently" this year and is looking to mark this milestone with an exciting new development. It is trying to raise £30,000 to enable it to renovate an old farm hovel building and transform it into an internal accessible learning space for existing and new co-workers (people with additional needs).

The Trustees were pleased to support this local charity with a £1,000 funding. WBro. David Cameron and WBro. Alan de Laune presented the cheque to the placement workers and co-workers of The Prospects Trust on behalf of the Charity for Care & Relief.

The Prospects Trust has an 18-acre organic care farm in Reach, near Burwell. The farm is open to people with additional needs (co-workers). It specialises in providing therapeutic horticulture to people with learning difficulties, disabilities and those with varying health needs. It is a real farm providing real work experience producing organic products and produce.

Alan de Laune

Handy boost for YOPEY scheme

Provincial Grand Almoner, WBro. George Brennan, in his role as secretary for the Cambridgeshire Masonic Charity for Care & Relief, presented a cheque for £500 to Tony Gearing MBE, the founder and chief executive for a local charity, YOPEY (Young People of the Year Charity).

YOPEY is all about 'creating tomorrow's great citizens today'. It runs Befriender schemes where young people befriend care home residents who are lonely, many living with dementia. By doing this, YOPEY improves relations between the generations and also reduces the stigma associated with dementia. YOPEY is supported by grants from charitable trusts and by care homes paying for their own YOPEY Befriender scheme.

George Brennan



Grand gesture from Charity for Care & Relief

An organisation providing chair-based exercise and personal programmes has received £1,000 from the Province's Charity for Care & Relief.

Pos+Ability asked if the Freemasons could help financially to recruit and train more staff in order to expand their services within the Cambridgeshire community. The Charity for Care & Relief were pleased to support this local charity, with the cheque presented by the DepProvGM, VWBro. Patrick Kilby to Pos+Ability trustee Dr Ian Lindsay.

Pos+Ability has sessions in Ely, Histon, Littleport and Soham and provides chair-based exercises and personal programmes to those who survive strokes and are living with Parkinson's, Multiple Sclerosis and other long-term conditions. These sessions help maintain levels of mobility, enable continued independent living, increase confidence and self-esteem and offer respite for carers and family members.

Alan de Laune



ATHELSTAN DONATION TO FESTIVAL

The Court of Aelfred No. 2, of the Masonic Order of Athelstan, has presented £250 to the Province's Festival 2023.

The donation was presented to the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur, at the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire on 20th June, by RW&EmBro. Dr Chris Ansell, Grand Prior and Past Assistant Grand Master of the Order, together with W&EmBro Alex Allan, Provincial Grand Master designate for the Athelstan Province of East Anglia.

The Court of Aelfred is the primus Court of the Masonic Order of Athelstan. Founded in 2005 at Newmarket, it meets within the Athelstan Province of East Anglia.

Chris Ansell

TRAGIC MUM'S WISH COMES TRUE

When Jannine McHaffey, a young mum in her mid-twenties who was suffering terminal cancer, her one wish was to make lasting memories for her seven-year-old daughter Leyla – the main aim being to take her to Disneyland in Florida.

When informed of the situation, members of the Lodge of United Good Fellowship No. 809 dug deep into their hearts and pockets. This was followed by the Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No. 6125 and the Fenland Farmers Lodge raising more than £2,500 from just three meetings.

Sadly, the young mum did not make the trip, but Leyla fulfilled her mum's dreams when she went to Florida with Wesley Broker and his family and most touchingly a small amount of her mum's ashes also went with them.

As well as Disney, they also experienced the launch from Cape Canaveral of the TESLA space probe.

David Broker



Leyla and the Broker boys on the trip.



WBro. John Sinclair, Charity Steward of Descensus Aquarum Lodge, presents the cheque to Evelyn Woodward, chairman of the Mepal and Witcham Preschool, who was accompanied by the managers, Helen Cooper (left) and Michelle Willson (right). Picture: Freddie Lawes.

Lodge helps preschool's survival

A preschool in a funding crisis has been helped to secure a five-year plan to keep it open thanks to a donation of £1,000 from Descensus Aquarum Lodge No. 8655 in Ely and the Province of Cambridgeshire Charity for Care and Relief.

The Lodge raised £500 and successfully applied to the Charity for Care and Relief, which granted a similar amount in matched funding to help prevent the loss of a valuable community service.

The cheque was presented to the Mepal and Witcham PreSchool by the Lodge's Charity Steward, WBro. John Sinclair.

The preschool was struggling financially with its survival in doubt, with council funding squeezed to a minimum. It was brought to the Lodge's attention by one of its members who lives in Mepal.

"I think this is a good example of local Masonry helping local causes that help communities of which our members are a part, not only at Lodge level, but also with the support of the wider Provincial funds. It demonstrates what we can do for the local communities," said WBro. Sinclair.

John M.A. Sinclair



DOUBLE TOP FOR ST ANDREW

Whittlesey's St Andrew Lodge No. 4087 did the double in the Province of Cambridgeshire Masonic Golf Association's annual competition by winning the trophies for the top individual and best team of three.

Held at Lakeside Lodge Golf Club, Pidley, near Huntingdon, for the first time, the Association's annual competition proved to be very successful and attracted the highest number of competitors for some time.

Traditionally, the event has been played on a course within the Province, however, following the success of the event last year at Ramsey, it was again played slightly out of the area, albeit in the centre of Cambridgeshire in the hope of attracting more players. The course was in excellent condition for the event on 30th May.

Following a post-match meal, the ProvGM, RWBro. William Dastur, presented trophies to the following brethren:

Roy Perks Memorial Trophy (overall winner): Terry Waters, St Andrew Lodge No. 4087.

Hamblin Smith Challenge Cup (aggregate score of three lodge members): St Andrew Lodge No. 4087.

Isaac Newton Salver (14 and under handicap): Richard Rowlett, St Ovin Lodge, No. 7774.

Sidney Cole Trophy (15-17): George Brennan, Gray Lodge, No. 4334.

Widdicombe Challenge Cup (18-20): Rodney Wolverson, Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492.

Corbett Cup (21 and over): Steve Keen, St Andrew Lodge No. 4087.

Chairman's Cup: Richard Hough, St Audrey Lodge No. 2727.

Frank Brittain Cup: Keith Fayers, St Audrey Lodge No. 2727.

The Golf Association has also presented £750 to the Festival 2023.

Kevin Mader





KYNASTON HELPS RIDING FOR THE DISABLED

Kynaston Lodge made its third and final charitable presentation of the 2018/19 year in September.

With £250 from the Lodge, coupled with matched funding from the Province of Cambridgeshire Charity for Care and Relief and a most generous donation from The City of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust, a cheque for £750 was presented to Gillian Newsum, chairman of Cambridge College Riding for the Disabled, at its base at the College of West Anglia, Milton Campus.

The Lodge had been made aware, by WBro. David Parker whose relative was one of the volunteer helpers at the Centre, of the group's need for financial support to help purchase a replacement horse, due to the retirement of two of their long-serving animals,

In the absence of the Worshipful Master, WBro. Ted Ridgway Watt, due to work commitments, the presentation was made by WBro Bob Wordsworth, Lodge Almoner, accompanied by WBro. David Parker.

The presentation coincided with the national Riding for the Disabled week and provided the opportunity to generate publicity for the group's dedicated work and that of Freemasonry in helping such organisations helping those in need.

Bob Wordsworth

BOOST FOR MAGGIE'S CENTRES

St Audrey Lodge No. 2727 at Ely raised £2,027 for Maggie's Centres, Cambridge, which provide support for those suffering from cancer.



New plan to expand participation for Province's bowls association

Despite a difficult year due to declining membership, the Cambridgeshire Masonic Bowls Association completed its summer season with its Annual General Meeting held at the City of Ely Bowls Club on 3rd September, which was opened by the outgoing President, WBro. Jim Burt.

The main business of the meeting centred on the future of the Association and, after prolonged discussion, it was decided that as the majority of the Association resided in the north of the Province greater emphasis would be made on making fixtures with clubs in that part of the world.

To stimulate future membership, an Associate Membership will be created to encourage participation from wives of members as well as close friends from other Provinces. An open day will be organised in the spring and, in the meantime, all members were encouraged to spread the word among their respective lodges to try and recruit new members.

Three inter-lodge competitions were held during the summer, resulting in success for St Andrew Lodge No. 4087 in the Frank Matthews Pairs, Kynaston Lodge No. 5810 in the Colin Hutchinson Pairs and a mongrel team consisting of members from three different Lodges securing the Rushmore Cup Triples.

As in previous years, Cambridgeshire, along with 19 other teams from Provinces nationally, was represented in the MACE Trophy, held this year at Worthing. Donations of £250 each were granted to the Three Pillars charities in Cambridge and Peterborough respectively, who care for the homeless, and to the Provincial Festival.

Any mason who wishes to join the Association, with or without experience, would be welcomed and should contact in the first instant the Secretary WBro. David Mason on 01733 208 215 or e-mail annandave49@yahoo.co.uk

David Mason

Support new direction for Light Blues club

The Cambridgeshire Light Blues is a group created for and run by those who are new to Masonry in order to support and connect Masons across Cambridgeshire. One of its goals is to enhance the social side of Masonry, allowing Brethren to get to know other Masons from lodges across the Province of Cambridgeshire. It will soon take on a wider role in the Membership Pathway, including a Buddy Scheme.



Many of its events are organised so that family and friends can also participate. These have included barbecues, race nights, clay pigeon shoot, and afternoon tea. However, as it is a Masonic club, it also encourages lodge visits, both within Cambridgeshire and out of the Province, including trips to the Grand Lodge in London, particularly the September Quarterly Communications. It is not another lodge, merely a means to make new friends in a sociable atmosphere.

It has some exciting events in the pipeline. To find out more search for **The Cambridgeshire Light Blues Club** on Facebook, **CambsLightBlues** on Twitter or visit the website: www.cambslightblues.org.uk

For more information, Paul Dunham at secretaryclb@gmail.com.

Paul Dunham

INTEREST SOUGHT FOR SERVICES LODGE

Interest is being sought in forming a new lodge in the Province for past and present members of the uniformed services.

In June, it was announced that the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur had given permission for such a lodge to be considered. Qualifying brethren are being sought to be come founder members.

"It is hoped that membership will be drawn from both career servicemen and reservists and that the membership for this special lodge will come initially from Cambridgeshire, but hopefully in due course from further afield," said the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, WBro. Jonathan Lambert PAGStB.

Cliff Brown

Editorial Board

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