

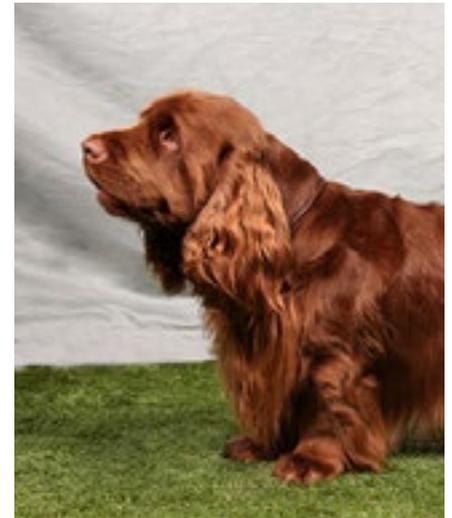
The Second Rising

1st Edition

April 2020



It's a dog's life for 7288 Master



When the Worshipful Master of the Gild of St Mary Lodge No. 7288, WBro. John Evans, and his wife Susan, decided to leave central Cambridge and 'move to the country' some five years ago little did they realise that it would lead to them becoming the owners of a winner at Crufts.

Their Sussex spaniel called Wilbur won Best of Breed, was a winner of the English and Ireland Vulnerable Breed competition, and a Certificate of Excellence, the first time a Sussex Spaniel has ever reached such heady heights.

Wilbur and his half-brother Bernard are pets and exercising companions of John, who is banned from dog shows by his wife as he creates mayhem, just as he does in the lodge. Well done to Susan, Wilbur and, of course, John.

The Provincial Grand Master says...

"This newsletter came about after an excellent suggestion from my deputy, VWBro. Pat Kilby, that we think about an electronically distributed, temporary news sheet so that we have a mechanism for keeping people informed, but also engaged with Cambridgeshire freemasonry".

"It will essentially support good news stories with a view to maintaining interest and morale. It must be informative, interesting, upbeat and something to keep us in touch with each other in these troubled times. The Light Blues have offered help by the young for the old and each lodge, I am sure, will have stories of what they have put into place to support their members. All this information can also be included."

In a letter to all brethren, the ProvGM reminded brethren of how we should be exemplary in the discharge of our civil duties and be useful to mankind.

"Now is the time, Brethren for us to implement that part of our freemasonry practically. Isolation brings many problems but perhaps we can each alleviate a few of those problems, always without detriment to ourselves or connections."

What has the CLB been up to?



The Cambridgeshire Light Blues club is a membership of newer brethren to the craft, priding itself on being a support and social group for all the brethren. As a collective the CLB has been in touch with the Provincial Grand Almoner to offer help. It has a list of Light Blues who are ready to react quickly, across the Province, to help those brothers and their families who might need a helping hand in these stressful times.

While Bro. Nick Knights has considerably altered his training routine for a charity obstacle race, he has found that remaining positive, keeping as active as possible, and maintaining strict discipline have all helped to keep him healthy and happy.



"I rise early each morning, have an intense home workout (using some improvised weights), then get started on work. During the lunch hour, I go for a run and it's back to working. Once the working day is done, I have devoted extra time to all the creative pursuits I'd normally love to do but would otherwise never seem to have the time for".

"This, of course, applies to my daily advancement of Masonic knowledge, for which Solomon has proved extremely useful. When this is all over, the companionship of friends will never have been sweeter, so let's all look forward to that moment!"

Bro. Gavin Dovey, who is usually hard at work in own plumbing business, said: "Since my isolation I have found the time to refine my culinary skills. I have recently started to experiment with fusion foods. I also like to keep fit as much as possible by watching yoga and Pilates on Youtube."

New Entered Apprentice, Bro. Oliver Bircham said: "Life has changed a lot, but for me at least there has been some semblance of normality. Since saying a fond farewell to my students after the closure of the schools, I have been keeping busy working alongside my parents in our fishmongers' shop in Newmarket.

Bro. Tony Orfeo said: "Having recently been furloughed from my job in field sales, I'm keeping myself busy renovating my house having just moved back there after renting it out. I've been especially happy to help my girlfriend's family as they shield themselves. Shopping is so much more rewarding when you know you're helping others. On this break from lodge I'm doing my best to learn for the coming years."

Bro. Mark Dovey, managing partner of Prestige Properties, said: "Since the outbreak the housing market has paused completely. I've been helping my father care for my family and have been flying my drone and making Youtube videos to pass the time while in isolation: <https://youtu.be/aCk-abs9VSU>



Networking skills

At Descensus Aquarum Lodge No 8655, Bro. Freddie Lawes helped instigate a plan to set up an email network of its members. Around 75 per cent of the members agreed and now share news and can email individuals if required. The Lodge has also set up a page on Facebook.

Shortly before the postponement of masonic activity, Bro. Clinton Elkin, of Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704, set up facebook group for all those meeting at March. Find it on Facebook at March Masonic Centre.

The Province has also asked all lodges to circulate member lists with contact details to all their members.

The Wisdom of Solomon

With the aim of better supporting your daily advancement in masonic knowledge, you can gain access to the United Grand Lodge of England's online repository, named Solomon.



There's a lot to learn - you can subscribe to Solomon at:

<https://solomon.ugle.org.uk>

Annual meetings on hold

Following the announcement of the suspension of Lodge and Chapter meetings for four months from March, the Provincial Grand Lodge and Chapter Annual Meetings that were scheduled for Tuesday 16th June have been postponed. At this stage any planning is conjecture, but everyone will be advised on any planning as soon as it is possible. Guidance is awaited from UGLE and from Supreme Grand Chapter on practical issues, such as how delayed installations can be handled.



Village effort

A member of Thirkill Lodge No. 7333 has been at the forefront of his village's efforts to help the vulnerable in the community.

WBro. Adrian Peters was part of the effort in the Highfields Caldecote to respond to Covid-19. He divided the village into nine areas, each with its own co-ordinator and volunteers looking after up to 15 homes, and arranged a leaflet drop which offered help to those in self isolation with tasks such as picking up shopping and urgent supplies, posting mail or making a friendly phone call.

Vulnerable residents were identified, and Adrian contacted trusted neighbours and arranged daily calls.



Help in the Fens

Caldwell Lodge No. 3201 at March has handed over £1,000 to local charities, with support from the City and University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust.

The Lodge handed over £250 each to March in Bloom and Young People March, and £500 to the East Anglian Air Ambulance in memory of WBro. Geoff Hearn – a charity that he and his wife Sheila supported each year by displays of classic cars and motorbikes at their home.



Young People March also received £250 from Fenland Meridian Lodge No. 9858, which also gave a similar amount to the Amicus Trust for

the homeless in March, again with part funding from the City and University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust.

Did you know?

St. Andrew Lodge has donated £250 to a foodbank in Whittlesey.

Thirkill Lodge has donated £250 to a Foodbank in Cambridge.

A Brother has been funded for a motorised scooter.

Housdens caterers are delivering Sunday lunches.

Bro. Mark Petrou is offering deliveries from his fish & chip shop.

The latest edition of 'Freemasonry Today' mentions Cambridgeshire three times - did you spot them all?

The other charity

WBro. George Brennan, secretary of the Province's Charity for Care & Relief says: "I am sure that every brother is aware of our national charity, the Masonic Charitable Foundation. Indeed, we are all supporting it during the Festival. The monies we raise continue to help the charity support brethren and their families in all Provinces and long may it continue."



Tech matters

Self-isolation has not prevented the Provincial Executive staying in touch and continuing to operate. On 30th March, members of the executive had an online virtual meeting with the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur.



"Although masonry is currently suspended, it is important that we get information to our members as regularly as possible, especially during these very difficult and challenging times. I know that there are many good things happening in the background, especially regarding contacts with members to ensure they are kept safe," said Provincial Grand Secretary, WBro. Kevin Mader.

Can you help?

The NHS is "rallying the troops" for the war on coronavirus, with volunteers being called up to help vulnerable people stay safe and well at home. The nation is looking for up to 250,000 volunteers to help up to 1.5 million people who have been asked to shield themselves from coronavirus because of underlying health conditions.



Members of the public can sign up quickly and easily to become NHS Volunteer Responders to do simple but vital tasks such as delivering medicines from pharmacies; driving patients to appointments; bringing them home from hospital; or making regular phone calls to check on people isolating at home.

goodsamapp.org/NHS

"But what about 'the other charity' - the Province of Cambridgeshire Charity for Care and Relief. This is the Province's own charity, which we support when not in festival. It dispenses funds to poor and distressed masons and their dependents, masonic charities and to other charitable institutions and societies. The charity has supported many worthwhile charities and helped Brethren with day-to-day expenses. During these uncertain times, charity donations may appear to be on hold but that's not to say we can't help if the need arises."

"The Government has shown commitment to support us all during this difficult period, but there will always be those who will fall through the net. I encourage brethren who find themselves in a distressed situation, or their almoners, to contact me to see if our charity can assist them in any way."

'The Second Rising' is produced by WBro. Cliff Brown and WBro. Michael Hinton.
Email your stories and pictures for the next edition to editorcambsmason@yahoo.co.uk