

The CAMBRIDGESHIRE MASON



Congratulations!

Spring 2011 Issue 2

At the Annual Provincial visit to Grand Lodge on Wednesday 9th March 2011, attended by well over one hundred members from Cambridgeshire, the Provincial Grand Master was delighted to announce during lunch the following appointments and promotions.

Grand Lodge

WBro. David Hammond to be appointed to Grand Pursuivant.
WBro. John Sherriff to be appointed to Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. WBro. John Norris to be promoted to Past Junior Grand Deacon. WBro. Alastair Townsend to be re-appointed Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Supreme Grand Chapter

E. Comp. Tim Pearce Higgins to be appointed Past Grand Standard Bearer

Provincial Grand Lodge

WBro. Brian January to be appointed Senior Grand Warden
WBro. Paul Gillingwater to be appointed Junior Grand Warden

Provincial Grand Chapter

E. Comp. Edmund Brookes to be appointed Third Grand Principal

Our best wishes and congratulations to all the deserving recipients.



WBro. John Sherriff, E. Comp. Tim Pearce Higgins and WBro. Alastair Townsend



WBro. Brian January and WBro. Paul Gillingwater

Festival 2012 - the last big push



The good news is that by the end of December 2010, £540,000 has been raised. With one last push, we certainly can reach the target of £700,000.

The Provincial Grand Master set that target in 2006, when interest rates were at the dizzy height of 5% and the credit crunch was not even a figment of the imagination. WBro. Justin Curtis and his Events team must be thanked for their effort. The Great Fen Walk not only raised almost £20,000, but also provided an amazing lift to the fundraising effort both in money and enthusiasm. The 'Return of the Gavel' on 10th - 12th June 2011 is being looked forward to with even greater support and enthusiasm. The continued participation of Lodges, Chapters and all other Orders and Clubs will ensure success.

Several Lodges and Chapters have reviewed the need to hold large balances in their reserves. Four Lodges have made lump sum donations and have consequently qualified them for a Gold Festival Honorific Award.

They are the Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441, Alma Mater Lodge No.1492, St. Andrew Lodge No. 4087 and the Gild of St. Mary Lodge No. 7288. The Cambridgeshire First Principals' Chapter No. 7429 has even qualified for a Platinum Award.

The Provincial Grand Charity Steward thanks everyone for supporting the Festival 2012. (Stuart Lingard)

Message from the Provincial Grand Master

I am often amazed how rapidly time passes and also how much quicker it seems to go the older I get. I know this isn't original thinking, but surely it was only a couple of weeks ago that I was writing a few words for the first edition of our new Provincial Newsletter – The Cambridgeshire Mason? Clearly not - for here we are already moving into spring 2011, with the worst of the winter behind us, and daffodils, crocuses and more importantly, our second Issue, bursting forth!

We are told that time passes quickly when you are enjoying yourself, and this of course is what has happened. I don't particularly like venturing out on cold dark and often wet evenings between November to February, but I have had some wonderfully happy occasions visiting Lodges and Chapters throughout the Province. The warm welcome I receive is always special, but what I enjoy most is seeing and sharing in the obvious expression of our first grand principle shown by everyone, and the equally obvious sense of fun and enjoyment that is present, and which I have always emphasised is so important for successful Freemasonry.

Within this second Issue, you will find not only a record of some of the very many exciting and successful events which have taken place in the Province since the autumn, but also a number of important dates for your diary. Please support as many of these as you can, and encourage your family and friends to participate too.

Please also encourage our hardworking editorial committee with feedback and constructive criticism. They want to hear from you! This magazine belongs to all of us, Cambridgeshire Freemasons, and its continued success will depend on it providing its readers with what we want to see.

Congratulations to The Cambridgeshire Mason on Issue 2!



Our Page 3 girl...is on Page2!



Our Jill Ding is Cambridge born and bred. After attending Brunswick and Coleridge schools – and she wasn't keen on either. She walked down the aisle at St. Matthew's Church at 19 years old and celebrated later at the Golden Hind, Milton Road.

"It was Coronation year," she says. "I decided to have a spring wedding and although I wore white, the bridesmaids wore red, white and blue to be patriotic."

In 1976 she heard via a friend that the Freemasons' Hall needed

a washer-up and turned up on its doorstep – and she hasn't left since. Washing-up turned into waitressing when Fred and Olive Hayward took over the management in 1981 but she has stopped short at getting behind the bar as she feels she is not a 'bar girl'.

Jill did once take on setting up the Guildhall for the Annual General Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, although she admits she was grateful for the help of Ron Kitson, the Provincial Grand Tyler.

Has she ever thought of joining the Lady Masons?

"No" comes a quick reply, "I'm too busy doing other, more interesting things in life."

Jill enjoys her work and was delighted that her son, Vaughn, came to the Hall for the first time this year to see the pantomime. As for the four people dead or alive she would most like to see around her dining-table – Graham Palmer, Gordon Field, John Sherriff and Roly Bowers – all Freemasons and in Jill's words "all lovely people".

A traditionalist when it comes to a choice of films, Jill prefers old favourites like *Gone with the Wind* and *The African Queen*. She is also a great fan of musicals and organ music.

There are four grandchildren in Jill's life, three boys and one girl and her dream would be to have a mansion with servants and horses, because she loves the countryside.



"I would like to be rich enough to buy whatever I want, including the most expensive and biggest earrings in the world" she adds.

Eat your heart out Pat Butcher!

(Michael Allan)

Cathedral comes alive with the sound of music

Cambridgeshire Province held its third Festival of Carols in Ely Cathedral on 10th December 2010 by kind permission and support of the Dean and Chapter. Watched over by a huge Christmas tree and the full Ely choir a packed audience sang in the start of the festive season with gusto.

The programme, created by WBro. David Adams, included carols, Christmas songs and an eclectic range of readings from the light-hearted to the more sincere. Celebrity readers included the High Sheriff, Nigel Brown, Member of Parliament and Secretary of State for Health, Andrew Lansley and our own Deputy Provincial Grand Master, V.WBro. Tim Pearce Higgins. The broadcaster, Mark Peters, from Star Radio made a huge impression with his reading from 'Shirley Valentine' but a lasting memory for many of us will be the fantastic rendition of John Betjeman's 'Christmas' by Rex Walford, who sadly died on New Years Eve in a tragic accident on the Thames.

Paul Treppe, Director of Music at Ely, inspired his choir with a programme of amazing carols, hymns and Christmas songs to send everyone home humming their own favourite melody. The Provincial Grand Master prefaced the second half of the concert with an address on Freemasonry and Charity and his best wishes to everyone for a happy Christmas.



Photograph courtesy of Cambridge News

The grand finale was a very moving and heartfelt address given by Leanne Grose, standing on her remaining leg, who described her experience of fighting cancer at the age of 20 and paying tribute to the support provided to her and her family by the Macmillan nurses. This left many of us with a tear and inspired a closing collection of over £1,200. The concert, which also attracted the support of seven corporate sponsors, raised over £24,000 to be divided between Macmillan Cancer Support and The Ely Cathedral Trust.

The next Festival of Carols has already been arranged and will take place on Friday 7th December 2012. (Bill Dastur)

To Aqua

In 1975, Anglian Water occupied an office on the corner of Forehill and Broad Street in Ely. Before long, it emerged there were several Freemasons from Cambridgeshire and other Provinces on the staff. Having been brought together through employment, they decided they would like to form a Lodge in Ely. St Audrey Lodge No. 2727 acted as their sponsor and they proceeded with their application. Associated with the water supply industry, they chose the name 'Descensus Aquarum' meaning 'a fall of Water' – what a Masonic coincidence – and consecration of the Lodge took place on 24th September 1975.

The founding members, feeling responsible for supplying good clean water to the area, wanted to reflect that responsibility in the Lodge's customs and practice. It was decided that at the Festive Board, the Provincial Grand Master should be toasted with clean tap water.

This custom required each place setting to have two glasses, one for wine and one for water. That custom continued until around the Millennium, when there were not enough glasses to meet the demand. Stewards had also been complaining about the extra work in washing and drying glasses. As a result, it was decided to abandon the original idea.

Instead, now at the Festive Board when the Wardens escort the Master to the top table, the DC explains the origins of the Lodge, and the taking of water. Three special glasses containing tap water are in place in front of the Master, who with the Wardens, raise glasses, and in turn say 'Brotherly Love' – 'Relief' and 'Truth'. They then touch glasses and drink the water.

Mind you, it has been known that some 'naughty' Masters have, at times, substituted gin for water. (John Williams)

Grant to Spinal Research

The Provincial Grand Master presented a cheque for £25,000 to Dr. Mark Bacon, Director of Spinal Research at a ceremony held at Bateman Street, Cambridge on 3rd February 2011. This grant was given by The Freemasons' Grand Charity to finance current research at the Cambridge Centre for Brain Repair on a potential new treatment for paralysis. The research aims to overcome the barrier of scar tissue produced after injury, which stops nerves from reconnecting and restoring function. (Peter Sutton)

Photo, courtesy of Cambridge News, shows the Provincial Grand Master, WBro. Peter Sutton, Dr Liz Muir and Professor Roger Keynes of the Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience, University of Cambridge, Liz Sutton, Trusts Manager of Spinal Research and Dr Mark Bacon.



Photograph courtesy of Cambridge News

Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107 celebrates 125 years 1885 - 2010

On Thursday 19th November 2010, Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107 celebrated its 125th anniversary. The Warrant is dated 13th August 1885 and the Consecration took place on 12th November 1885. Scientific Lodge No 88, is its Mother Lodge, and research from the Minutes Book of the years 1883 to 1886 does not mention Etheldreda at all. However, the Cambridge Chronicle of 20th November 1885 gives a good account:

Newmarket - Consecration of a Masonic Lodge

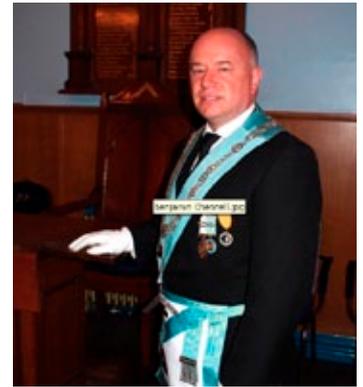
'A Provincial Lodge of Freemasons was, yesterday week, held in the rooms of the Jockey Club at Newmarket, which had been kindly lent for the occasion. Bro. The Earle of Hardwick, PGM, presided, and there was a large attendance of the Freemasons of Cambridgeshire, as well as a few visitors from Grand Lodge and from other Provinces. Officers were appointed and installed for the ensuing year, and a sum of £315 was voted to the Masonic Charities.

But the chief work of the day was the erection and consecration of a new Lodge, to meet at Newmarket, and be called the Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107. The ceremony was most impressively performed by W.Bro. Col. Shadwell Clerke G.S, assisted by WBro. Richardson, PGD, Bro. The Rev. W. Cunningham, PGC acted as Chaplain and delivered the following oration, which by permission of Bro. J. Neal York DPGM, we are able to give in full, Bro. J. Neal York was installed as first master of the new Lodge with Bro.s Chennell and Hills as wardens.

The brethren subsequently adjourned to the Rothesay Rooms for an elaborate banquet. There were some capital speeches in connexion with the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts.'



Bro. Benjamin Chennell



WBro. Steven James

The menu for the 125th anniversary was based upon the original one served in 1885, but perhaps not so lavish.

Special events do happen in Lodges and Etheldreda is no exception. At a Meeting held on 12th April 1900, a few days after an assassination attempt had been made on the Prince of Wales in Brussels, the Lodge's Members recorded their happiness that his life had been spared. The Prince of Wales was also the Grand Master at the time.

On 17th February 1941, a bomb was dropped on Newmarket and killed 20 people, including the Senior Warden Bro. W. H. Bryant. However, this did not deter 78 brave Brethren and visitors attending the Installation Meeting the following Thursday.

(£315 in 1885 would be the equivalent of £54,000 today - Ed.)

Our newsletter travels far...

Cambridge is more than 6,000 miles from Mauritius yet copies of 'The Cambridgeshire Mason' have been seen and admired by our Brethren in the Indian Ocean.

On his last trip to Mauritius in November 2010, WBro. Michael Allan was invited to the Lodge of Instruction of the only English Lodge on the island, the Lodge of Friendship No 1696, now in its 134th year. He delivered a short presentation on 'Freemasonry in Cambridgeshire' and was delighted and honoured that MW Bro. Lindsay Descombes, the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mauritius was present. After his presentation WBro. Allan presented a copy of the newsletter to the Grand Master, who expressed his admiration for our first edition and wished 'The Cambridgeshire Mason' well for the future. (Michael Allan)



MWBro. Lindsay Descombes

The Chris Godden Memorial Lecture

Following approval of the Provincial Grand Master and official endorsement of Grand Lodge, an inaugural presentation of The Chris Godden Memorial Lecture will take place at Kynaston Lodge on 24th March 2011. It will feature the 2nd and 3rd sections of the 1st Degree Lecture.

The idea for the Memorial Lecture grew out of the joint presentations given over a number of years by Kynaston Lodge No 5810 and its daughter Lodge, Nourse No 8590. These presentations are based on extracts from The Lectures of the Three Degrees of Craft Masonry.

A repeat performance of the 2nd and 3rd sections was given at Nourse Lodge 200th Meeting, when some of its Founders took office and the late VW Bro. Chris Godden acted as WM.

That presentation impressed Chris so much that he wrote to both Secretaries afterwards:

'The Lectures were superbly co-ordinated and well rehearsed. It made me very proud to be a member of both Lodges. I firmly believe that joint lectures or ceremonies in conjunction with Nourse are a progressive step, which should be encouraged...'

In early 2010, WBro. Brian Fenton proposed that VWBro. Godden's wishes should be developed by both Lodges, creating an annual joint meeting. The concept provides a framework for keeping junior Past Masters actively involved and offers young Masons an opportunity of working with more experienced ritualists. (Brian Elliott)

Fenland Meridian Lodge No. 9858...or how to start a new Lodge

It all started in 2008, when WBro. Brian January thought that as the south of the Province had a Daylight Lodge, why not the north? Many Brethren in the Fens favoured the idea, including the six Craft Lodges in the area. With approval of the Provincial Grand Master, WBro. Roger Outram posted the suggestion on the Provincial Website, but as it was then the end of the 'Masonic Year', little happened. However, the local secretaries did their work and a great response came back at the start of the new season.



The insignia is in hexagonal form, with the six sides representing the six lodges in the north of the Province, namely: Caldwell Lodge 3201; Stone Cross Lodge 6704; Gray Lodge 4334; St Andrew Lodge 4087; Lodge of United Good Fellowship 809; and the Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge 6125. The picture represents Fenland in all its glory with the water, reeds and a curlew beneath a midday sun. Grand Lodge approved it all, including the motif and the by-laws and granted the Warrant to the Fenland Meridian Lodge.

In February 2009, a meeting was held in March, attended by 30 to 40 prospective founders and a Steering Committee was nominated. At its first official meeting, the Steering Committee discussed the project in depth and its financial involvement. A Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer were appointed.

The next stage, the Petition, required seven founder members, to include the first Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens. Grand Lodge insisted that to become a founder, a Brother must have been a Master Mason for at least three years, and clearance certificates from their Lodges were required.

The name of the Lodge was agreed, and WBro. January designed the Lodge Motif. It was also agreed that the Lodge would meet three times a year, using the Emulation working, two meetings when the Ladies would join at the Festive Board and that Lodge meetings would rotate around the six Lodges in turn.

Consecration took place on Tuesday 14th September 2010 at Wisbech St. Mary Community Centre using furniture borrowed from Wisbech Lodge. Founder Members received a jewel and Consecrating Officers were made Honorary Members. And so Fenland Meridian Lodge No 9858 became a reality. (Brian January)



The Provincial Grand Master and RWBro. C. H. Hutchinson PProvGM

Happy 90th Birthday Douglas!

Historians consider 1921 a 'Bleak Year' – unemployment in Britain exceeded one million and the country slipped into depression. On the plus side the year saw the first helicopter flight and ten days into January, the birth of Arthur and Maggie Forsdyke's son, Douglas Eric.

Douglas became a pupil of Auckland Road Primary School, Brunswick School and finally Cambridge and County High School for Boys, eventually honoured as the latter's 'Past President of the Old Boys' Society.' Sport has played a big part in Douglas's life both at school, where he shone at cricket and rugby and afterwards, at Shelford Rugby Club, as a member of the 1st team. He also made a name for himself as a Rugby referee. Although interrupted by WWII – he was in the RAF and did part of his service in Egypt – his career was in accountancy and he retired from Deloitte as Office Manager.

Douglas was initiated into Thirkill Lodge No 7333 on 22nd April 1968 and became its Master in 1977. He joined Virtute et Fide Lodge No 7959 in 1972 and installed as Master in 1985. In 1978 he became a Joining Member of the Cambridgeshire Installed Masters Lodge. He was heavily involved in the formation of the Daylight Lodge – Cambridge Meridian Lodge No 9687 – as a Founder Member, and was invested as its first Senior Warden. He was installed as Worshipful Master in 1999.

In 1984 Douglas was appointed Provincial Grand Registrar, in 1988, Provincial Grand Warden and in 1997 received 'The Provincial Grand Master's Certificate of Service to Masonry.'

When it comes to Chapter, Douglas was exalted into Chapter of Fidelity No 441 in 1973 and installed MEZ in 1983. He became a Founder of Kynaston Chapter No 5810 in 1988 and in March 1990 became its MEZ. In 1993 he was a Founder of the Cambridgeshire First Principals Chapter No 7429 and took the office of MEZ in 2002. He was appointed 'Third Provincial Grand Principal' in 1995

We are deeply indebted to Douglas for his untiring and outstanding work in both Craft and Royal Arch Masonry. Many Masons have much to thank him for in helping them on their way. We wish him many more years of enjoyment of his great love of Freemasonry and rejoice at seeing him attending meetings and partaking of the Festive Board. (Douglas Reed.)



Cinderella sold out!

Members of Scientific Lodge No. 88, under the direction of WBro. Mark Long, staged three performances of Cinderella at Bateman Street, Cambridge on 28th and 29th January 2011. WBro. David Adams provided the accompanying music. As usual, members of several other Lodges throughout the Province swelled the cast and chorus, with stunning costumes and renditions of familiar songs.



All performances of the Pantomime were sold out and £3,000 was raised for the Festival Appeal 2012. Copies of the DVD of this and previous pantomimes are on sale to swell the profits from the shows. If you would like a copy or would like to volunteer for the next pantomime please contact WBro. Long. (Peter Sutton)

Burns Night Supper at Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492

Alma Mater Lodge held its 12th Burns Supper on 22nd January at Bateman Street, Cambridge. As customary, WBro. Stewart Kerr organised this regular event and this year 64 masons and guests attended. WBro. Stuart Lingard started the proceedings with the traditional Selkirk grace. Following a first course of Cock-a-Leekie soup, WBro. Kerr, dressed in Scottish attire including Tam O'Shanter, piped the haggis in. It was duly served with customary neeps and tatties enhanced with a dram of whisky. WBro. John Parker gave the Address to a Haggis with a perfect rendition of all eight verses.

WBro. Neil McKittrick proposed the toast to The Immortal Memory of Rabbin Burns and WBro. David Blair toasted The Lassies; both were received with much enjoyment. Karen Miller replied on behalf of the Lassies in fine style. A raffle raised £432 for the Festival Appeal and the evening concluded with Auld Lang Syne. (Peter Sutton)

Royal Arch and the Craft - the background

The Book of Constitutions says, '...pure Ancient Masonry consists of the three degrees and no more...the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch.' But how did this come about?

At the end of the 17th century, there was only one degree - the 'Fellow of the Craft.' It was soon divided to create the 'Entered Apprentice.' In the mid 1720's another degree emerged from it, the 'Master Mason's rising.' Progress to that degree was not automatic; those who reached it were considered 'Masters of the Craft' in their Lodges (but not Masters of Lodges).

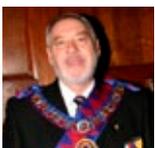
Around 1735, another degree was introduced and available only to 'Masters of Lodges.' Those who practiced it called it 'The Holy Royal Arch.' After 1751, the Antients' Grand Lodge regarded it as the 'root, heart and marrow' of Freemasonry. This degree remained the preserve of those who had passed the Craft Chair until 1836. Surviving Minute Books of the 1750's show that the Royal Arch was worked within Craft Lodges under both the Moderns and the Antients Grand Lodges, and in Lodges of the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland. The Antients Grand Lodge was enthusiastic about the Royal Arch, but there was no Chapter as such - its Royal Arch rules were dealt with in Grand Lodge and were incorporated in the Craft regulations up to the Union of the Antients with the Moderns.

Two more degrees were introduced during the 18th century, and are still used in Ireland and Scotland. The 'Excellent Master' conveyed the Mark Master to Past Masters of the Craft, and 'Super Excellent Master' (or The Veils) told the story of Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt back to the Promised Land. The latter degree is still worked exclusively in the Province of Bristol as part of their RA ceremony, and is known as The Veils.

The Modern Grand Lodge was reluctant to recognize the Royal Arch. In 1759, its Grand Secretary wrote that 'Our Society is neither Arch, Royal Arch or Antient,' and in 1767 that 'the Royal Arch is a Society we do not acknowledge.' Following the Union of the two Craft Grand Lodges on 27th December 1813, the Duke of Sussex summoned the two Grand Lodges at Freemasons' Hall on 18th March 1817. Both Lodges opened in different rooms, then processed into the Grand Hall. The Duke formed them into the United Grand Chapter and appointed Grand Officers and a committee to provide Regulations to govern the Order.

As everything prior to 27th December 1813 had ceased to exist, the Union was simply a continuation of the original 1766 Modern's Grand Chapter with the addition of members of the Antients Grand Lodge who were Royal Arch Masons. The United Grand Chapter of England quietly changed its title to Supreme Grand Chapter in 1821. (Stuart Moore)

STOP PRESS - Calling all Royal Arch Masons



It has been rumoured around the Province that there is an interest in a Daylight Chapter. The ME Grand Superintendent and the Executive would like to know your views and ideas. Please get in touch with your own Scribe E or Provincial Scribe E if you are in favour of such a proposal. The two Daylight Lodges currently within the Province have been so successful that a Daylight Chapter could well add to the harmony. Cambridge or Ely - where would you prefer? (Roger Impey)

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of East Anglia

The MW Grand Master, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, appointed WBro. Paul Anthony Norman as Provincial Grand Master for the Mark Province of East Anglia. This followed the appointment of RWBro. Peter Hamilton Rollin as President of General Board and his subsequent retirement as PGM.

The Installation of WBro. Paul Norman, PGJD, took place at Mildenhall College of Technology on Thursday 28th October 2010. The meeting was attended by over 200 members of the Province, 19 RW PGMs of other Provinces and more than 40 official visitors.

The Pro Grand Master, MWBro. John Hale, with a team of Grand Officers, was processed in with the Pro Grand Master taking the chair. He then proceeded with the installation of WBro Norman. The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested VWBro. Dr. John Anthony Elmore, PGJO, as Deputy Provincial Grand Master and WBro. Raymond Charles Clarke, PGJD, as Assistant Provincial Grand Master.

Following the meeting, over 240 Mark Masons attended the Festive Board in the college dining room. MWBro. Hale was presented with a token of thanks from the RW Provincial Grand Master, for the splendid way he conducted the Installation and as a memento of his visit to East Anglia. (Ed.)



VWBro. John Elmore - RWBro. Paul Norman - WBro. Raymond Clarke

Residential, Nursing and Respite Care

When it comes to Residential, Nursing or Respite Care, help is available. Your Lodge Almoner or the Provincial Grand Almoner has the answer.

Residential Care

Most enquiries are passed on to Judy Morrow, the Care Advice Visitor for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution (RMBI) based at Cornwallis Court, Bury St Edmunds. She sets up an appointment and explains the various procedures prior to obtaining accommodation. Visits for a potential resident and his or her family can be arranged. Any Brother with their family wishing to visit Cornwallis Court to view the facilities can do by contacting their Lodge Almoner or Tony Mason. People are sometimes deterred from making enquiries on account of costs, which initially may seem excessive. In most instances the cost can be reduced with the aid of State Benefits and in the case of nursing care by Local Authority or the NHS.

Nursing Care

Cornwallis Court has a fully equipped Nursing Wing and a Dementia Support Unit. All RMBI homes, wherever situated in the country, run on a similar basis to State homes regarding financial contributions towards costs. The main difference being, when

a resident's income or savings reach the lower statutory limit (currently £14,250), the RMBI steps in and contributes towards the fees. Where a resident has a partner or spouse the value of the main residence is not taken into account.

Respite Care

The Province of Cambridgeshire Charity for Care and Relief runs a Respite Care Scheme different from other schemes. It is not subject to a financial assessment and enquiries should be made to the Lodge Almoner. If care is needed, the family will be invited to visit a home within convenient travelling distance. If they are satisfied with the facilities they will be asked to book for a period of care, usually one or two weeks. On receipt of invoice, this should be forwarded to the Provincial Grand Almoner who arranges payment in full. Half the cost is paid by the Charity for Care and Relief, the other half to be agreed between the Lodge and the family. In most cases families agree to a contribution, but Lodge Almoners are very tactful, as no applicant should be denied care due to a lack of finance.

For any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the Provincial Grand Almoner – Tony Mason –Tel: 01353 665185 email: tonymason345@hotmail.com, or your Lodge Almoner.

Editor's Column

Dear Brethren

We have almost come to the end of another Masonic season and what a few months it has been as the second edition of The Cambridgeshire Mason demonstrates. Stories have rolled in, some more promptly than others – and a big thank you to those who sent them ahead of my final, desperate plea, as the deadline loomed large – it has become obvious that there was a huge need for a Newsletter to keep our large Province in touch.

I hope you like the mix of news, articles, pictures and expressions of celebration, and also the expert layout, now being done so willingly by WBro. Michael Hinton, who has joined the Editorial Team. While technically the months ahead may see us meeting formally less often, the charity events and socialising continues, so please remember that the next Newsletter will be going to press in October. Keep the stories and pictures coming. Don't wait for the official call but send them in as and when they happen. Have a good summer!

WBro. Michael Allan Tel: 01638 744050



Festival 2012 - What's coming up

Saturday 16th April – St George's Day Feast @ The Wesley Hall, Wisbech Lodges
Contact WBro. N Williams on 01945 463446 or WBro. J.Grevatt on 01945 700567

Sunday 17th April – St George's Day Club Lunch @ Cambridge Masonic Centre
Contact WBro. Fred Northrop on 01954 789525

Saturday 23rd April – Nourse Lodge Easter Bonnet Tea Dance @ Cambridge Masonic Centre.
Contact WBro. Graham Goodwyn on 01223 512652 or WBro. Bob Sculthorpe on 01353 774030

Saturday 7th May – An Evening of Musical Merriment & Buffet @ Cambridge Masonic Centre.
Contact WBro. John Smythe on 01954 250515 – Gild of St. Mary Lodge

Saturday 28th May – The Kynaston Summer Cruise @ Clayhithe, Cambridge
Contact WBro Peter Langran on 01223 354698

Saturday 4th June – The Descensus Aquarum Barn Dance @ Wisbech, Littleport
Contact WBro. Fred Brown on 01353 862229

Saturday 11th June – The Nourse Lodge Race Night – Details to follow
Contact WBro. Graham Goodwyn on 01223 512652 or WBro B. Sculthorpe on 01353 774030

Friday 10th to Sunday 12th June – The Great Fen Walk – return of the Gavel
Contact WBro. Justin Curtis on 07818 023261 or your Charity Steward

Thursday 9th July – The Provincial Golf Day @ Bourn Golf Club – Bourn, Cambridge
Contact WBro. Jim Stokes on 07885 694426

Saturday 20th August – The Johnny Dee Cabaret @ Ely Football Club
Contact WBro. Smith on 01353 778688 – St. Audrey Lodge

Saturday 24th September - The Johnny Dee Cabaret Night @ Newmarket Masonic Centre
Contact Bro. Ian Barnes on 01353 740218 – Meridian Lodge

Saturday 15th October – St Audrey Lodge Auction of Promises @ Ely Masonic Centre
Contact WBro. Smith on 01353 778688

Sunday 23rd October – Sponsored Row from Ely to Cambridge
Contact WBro. Raith Overhill on 01223 863383 – Lodge of Three Grand Principles

Friday 11th November – The Inter Lodge Texas Scramble @ Gog Magog Golf Club –Cambridge
Contact WBro. Jim Stokes on 07885 694426

EDITORIAL BOARD

WBro. Michael Allan – Editor
WBro. John Sherriff – Provincial Grand Secretary
WBro. Peter Sutton – Provincial Information Officer
WBro. Brian Elliott – Photographer
WBro. Michael Hinton – Layout

Please send any information, suggestions or enquiries to pgsec@pglcamb.org.uk