

The CAMBRIDGESHIRE MASON



Cambridgeshire Masons



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Provincial Grand Master announces new appeal

Autumn 2014 Issue 9

Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. Rodney Wolverson is challenging the Province to raise a substantial six-figure sum for a hospice appeal.

The Arthur Rank Hospice in Cambridge, which provides nursing and loving care for the critically ill, has launched an appeal to raise more than £7m to build a new hospice with improved and larger facilities near the Gog Magog Golf Club south of Cambridge.

Although based in Cambridge, the Hospice serves a huge area including every corner of our Masonic Province. In addition to in-patient care, it also provides home visits and home nursing through the Hospice at Home section.



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

"The Hospice is an enormously important, indeed vital facility, and to support it is at the very core of the second of our three grand principles – namely relief," said the ProvGM.

Therefore from 1st September and for the following 15 months or so, he is challenging the Province to raise a substantial six-figure sum for this appeal.

The Arthur Rank Hospice is to be one of the joint beneficiaries at the biennial Carol Concert at Ely Cathedral – this year being held on Friday 5th December (details below) – where it is hoped to raise a sum in excess of £30,000 to be shared between the two nominated charities, and provide a good boost for this appeal.



"Cambridgeshire is at its best and most generous when we have something specific on which to focus," said the ProvGM. "Supporting the Arthur Rank Hospice Appeal would be ideal for us – not just being a cause we could and should promote – but showing that we as Freemasons are not only part of the local community, but that we are anxious to be seen as a force for good within the community, being involved with, and actively providing assistance to, an essential section of that community."

With his term of office as ProvGM due to finish at the end of 2015, he added: "I would very much like to complete that very happy term for me and to mark the occasion with a last charitable project, which I would please ask you to support."

On 2nd September the Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association staged an event for Lodge charity stewards, Masters and Wardens to launch the appeal, at which a presentation of the project was given by Donna Talbot of the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity.

Paul Gillingwater

Festival of Carols supports hospice fund

A spectacular event in celebration of Christmas is being staged at Ely Cathedral on 5th December 2014. Supported by the Province, it will feature the choristers and gentlemen of Ely Cathedral Choir, The Ely Imps and soprano Laura Wright, interspersed with seasonal readings and poems.

Tickets range from £10 to £30 with pre-concert and interval champagne and canapé receptions in the Lady Chapel for an additional £18. Tickets are available from Ely Cathedral Box Office 01353 660349 or online at tickets.elycathedral.org.

Pat Kilby



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Freemasonry - what's it all about?

Everyone should have received a copy of the new DVD produced by UGLE with the summer edition of Freemasonry Today, and copies are available from the Provincial Grand Secretary's office. This has been produced to inform your family, friends and potential members. Any comments can be directed to WBro. Stuart Lingard, Provincial Communications Officer, by email: stuartlingard.14@gmail.com

Stuart Lingard

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Yo ho ho! Fun at the races

Pirates invaded Bateman Street, Cambridge, when a hearty crew of Freemasons and friends from two Cambridge lodges enjoyed a themed race night on 31st May and helped raised £850 for charity. Organised by WBro. Graham Gardiner on behalf of Thirkill Lodge No. 7333 and Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441, the Pirate themed event included a fish, chicken and chip supper. Thirkill's half of the cash raised will be added to the Thor laser appeal for the Arthur Rank Hospice, Cambridge, which is the Worshipful Master WBro. Tim Pagram's charity for the year.

Graham Gardiner



Brenda Rose receives a prize from WBro. Alan Hunter and Bro. Terry Read

Help for good causes from Caldwell Lodge

Caldwell Lodge No. 3201 has handed over the proceeds from its Oklahoma Indian Demonstration Team event to two deserving causes. At its installation meeting in April, Lodge Charity Steward WBro. Brian Sutton PPJGW presented Deputy Provincial Grand Master VWBro. William Dastur with £650 for the Province's Lifelites appeal and £400 to WBro. Graham Turner, ProvGSwdB, for the Widows Friendship Club. The demonstration of a Raising by the Oklahoma Indians was staged by the Lodge at Wisbech St Mary in 2013.

Brian Sutton

Race Night aids building fund

A race night held at March by the town's two lodges, Caldwell No.3201 and Stone Cross No. 6704, raised £1,021.50 for their building fund.

Organisers WBro. Nigel Philpott, of Stone Cross, and WBro. Les Mills, of Caldwell, handed over a cheque to WBro. Andrew Pugh, chairman of the trustees, at the March meeting of Stone Cross Lodge. The money from the event held on 15th March will go towards further improvements planned at the Masonic Hall in City Road.

Cliff Brown

Grand Charity gives £50,000



A total of £50,000 has been awarded to organisations in Cambridgeshire by The Freemasons' Grand Charity. Awards for £25,000 each were granted in June to the Red Balloon Learner Centre in Cambridge to fund bursaries for severely bullied children and to Villiers Park Educational

Trust to fund bursaries to enable disadvantaged children to attend residential educational courses.

John Sherriff



Jim and Sue Burt with Graham Gardiner dressed as pirates

Full house at Descensus Aquarum

It was a full house at Descensus Aquarum No. 8655 on 17th May, when the Lodge held a successful bingo and quiz night at Ely. The bingo, with its alternative calling, brought a smile to all and a high level of quizzing showed that intelligence was not dead on the night. From potatoes to deep fat fryers, rubber cricket bats to weed pullers, the vast selection of prizes for the evening was donated by members and guests. The evening raised £600 for Lifelites and local charities.

Jon Cooper



The Deputy ProvGM receives a cheque from WBro. Brian Sutton

Donation from Royal and Select Masters

East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) have received a £2,000 cheque from University Council No. 26 of the Order of Royal and Select Masters. University Council, based in Cambridge, presented the cheque to Rt. Ill. Comp Peter D. Miles, District Grand Master for the District of East Anglia, for his favourite charity in recognition of his continuous and loyal support of University Council over more than 10 years as DGM.



The presentation was made by Henry Bland at Freemasons' Hall, Cambridge, shortly before the DGM opened the meeting of University Council on 31st May.

Peter Beaumont

Masons help Lifelites bring joy to children at Milton hospice

There were smiles all around on 4th September as children's technology charity Lifelites and Brethren from the Province visited East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) with a brand new package of specialist technology.



The Provincial Grand Master hands over the £35,000 cheque to Andrew Ross, the chairman of the management committee.

Brethren from the Province, which donated £35,100 to Lifelites to be used towards the technology package at EACH Milton, were impressed by what they saw at the hospice, particularly the revolutionary Eyegaze. This can provide even the most disabled user with an opportunity to control a computer – all through the movement of their eyes.

Lifelites, which began as a Masonic initiative in 1999 says the cutting-edge equipment will empower children and young people receiving care and support at Milton, many of whom have complex healthcare needs and life-threatening conditions, to be creative, to communicate and take control.

WBro. Paul Gillingwater, Provincial Grand Charity Steward, said: "The equipment is out of this world. The versatility of it and the way it has been adapted to the needs of the children is really just fantastic."

WBro. David Watson, WM of St Audrey Lodge No.2727 in Ely, said: "The magic carpet is incredible, it has really opened my eyes to the technology and what a difference it can make to the children."

Josie Dwyer, EACH Milton service manager, said: "We're delighted to have the continued support of Lifelites at EACH Milton and we'd like to thank them for their support and expertise. We'd also like to thank the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire for their generosity."

All of Lifelites' work is funded by donations: the equipment, ongoing technical support and training at each hospice costs around £50,000 over four years.

Paul Gillingwater

John Terence Watkins 1935 – 2012



Masonic research conducted by the late WBro. John Watkins has been donated to the Province's library. WBro. Watkins was born and brought up in Pontypridd, South Wales, the youngest of five children. On leaving Grammar School, he worked as a mining surveyor. After marriage and two children he moved to Essex where he worked for Thurrock District Council as a land surveyor and later as a building surveyor with Essex County Council. It was at that time he was initiated in Lodge Avilion No 4879 (Essex).

Opportunities took him to Saudi Arabia and Jordan for American companies and between contracts he furthered his qualifications at Edinburgh's Herriot Watt University (MSc Construction Management in 1987). Once back to the UK in 1992 and now divorced, he settled in Long Melford and eventually lectured in business studies. He gained an MBA from the Open University and at the same time received a CEPCE from Anglia Polytechnic University.

John enjoyed choral singing and theatrical involvement and through an odd quirk of fate met his second wife Jill at the St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir. Following retirement the couple moved to Cambridge where John researched further into Freemasonry at an international level.

During his Masonic career, John joined several Lodges and Chapters in Essex, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire, including Alma Mater No. 1492, Cambridgeshire Installed Masters No. 7429 and Euclid Chapter No. 859 and Cambridgeshire First Principals Chapter No. 7429. He was a Past Master and Past Z, Chaplain, Treasurer, Charity Steward, Tyler and Almoner.

Michael Allan

Honour for Cambridge Mark Mason



A Past Master from York Lodge of Mark Master Masters No. 334 in Cambridge has been appointed as the Mark Provincial Grand Senior Warden. On 26th July, WBro. Jim Haggarty was invested to the office for the Mark Province of East Anglia and joins a select group from Cambridgeshire, including Dr Stanley Aston, Peter Marr, Henry Bland, Paul Burniston, Nigel Williams, Stewart Kerr and Richard Cook, who have all been Mark Provincial Wardens.

The appointment will mean a busy programme of events at the 35 Mark and 27 Royal Ark Mariner lodges of the Province, which covers Cambs, Norfolk and Suffolk.

Cambridgeshire has Mark Lodges at Cambridge, Newmarket, March, Wisbech and Ely. You cannot be advanced as a Mark Master Mason without being a Craft member, and having been raised. It helps to add further detail to Craft Masonry via the second degree.

Charitable giving, as in Craft Masonry, is an important part of the organisation. In 2013 £50,000 was donated to Addenbrookes Hospital to tackle prostate cancer.

The Royal Ark Mariner degree comes under the wings of Mark Masonry and is built on the history and meaning of the flood and the Ark. These are popular and fulfilling degrees and Brethren who are not already Mark Masons are urged to consider joining.

If you do not have a contact for your local Mark Lodge, ask the Mark Provincial Secretary David Cuthbert at davidcuthbert@talktalk.net.

Stewart Kerr and Nigel Williams

Cambridgeshire brethren and friends get Grand Lodge tour

Forty-seven brethren and family members from across the Province visited Grand Lodge on 12th April. Arranged by WBro. Brian Elliott, initially for members of Kynaston Lodge of Instruction, the Cambridgeshire visitors were treated to an inspiring tour. Apart from spending time in the superb museum, the trip included a behind the scenes look at the Grand Officers' robing rooms where the Grand Master's throne and Grand Wardens' chairs are kept. The chairs were made by Robert Kennett for the Duke of Sussex (Grand Master, 1813-1843) and on which every Grand Master since that time has been enthroned.



Moving through the processional corridor, with its marble and mosaic floor and stained glass windows depicting the four Cardinal Virtues and a fifth portraying Charity, the group entered the three vestibules forming the ceremonial approach to the Grand Temple. The first is the setting for the war memorial shrine and window and which also contains the names of all the Lodges that contributed to the fund for the erection of the building and for which they qualified for the Hall Stone Jewel.

The morning's visit culminated by entering through the two bronze doors, each weighing one and a quarter tons, to see the Grand Temple and view the superb ceiling and great cove decorated in mosaic work. Before leaving for lunch at The Sun Tavern in nearby Long Acre, the party visited Lodge Room 23, known as The Secretary's Room, for final questions.

RWBro. Yasha Beresiner, who is a respected Masonic scholar and author, was the walking tour guide for the afternoon. He took the group from Grand Lodge through the old Knights Templar district in Holborn via the Courts of Justice into the Temple area and along Fleet Street to St Paul's Cathedral. Here is the plaque commemorating the foundation of Grand Lodge. Passing St Vadast and other churches, Goldsmiths and other halls, the group ended the afternoon near The Guildhall.

Brian Elliott

Distance swim ends after jellyfish attack

An intrepid member of Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441 had to abandon a 22-mile charity swim after an attack by jellyfish. In September Bro. Ed Williams, who was raising funds for Wateraid, was stung all over his body while attempting what many consider to be the ultimate long distance swimming challenge – crossing the North Channel from Donaghadee in Northern Ireland to Portpatrick in Dumfries and Galloway.

"The calm water meant that jellyfish were out in their thousands and I was stung repeatedly," he said. The bite from these red jellyfish, which affects the nervous system and is very painful, caused Ed to vomit repeatedly and have muscle spasms, both warning signs of a severe reaction before becoming life threatening. "I decided it was not worth putting my life at risk, so reluctantly called it quits," he said.



A founder of Cambridge's Elite Swimming Academy, Ed, aged 27, completed 18 of the swim's 22 miles. He has already decided to try again in August 2015 and hopes to finish in 12 hours or less and will be carrying forward the £6,000 in sponsorship to that attempt. If successful he will be one of the youngest to swim the North Channel, completed by less than 20 people.

It isn't just the distance that is the challenge, but the variable conditions ranging from mirror flat to wind Force 6 and wave heights in excess of two metres. Next year Ed is also hoping to take part in a 28-mile race around Manhattan Island and to swim the Gibraltar Strait between Europe and Africa.

Stuart Britt

Wisbech fund boosts local causes

Four local charities will benefit from donations being given out by Wisbech Masonic Benevolent Fund. An appeal by the town's Sea Cadets to buy a new rowing boat was boosted by a £500 donation towards the £3,500 needed to pay for the vessel. The Fund also paid the £450 bill for a maintenance project at the town's Robert Hall Community Centre.



The cheques were handed over by WBro. David Bays, top, and WBro. Bob Kiger, above, representing the Wisbech MBF, which is supported by the town's two craft lodges, United Good Fellowship No. 809 and Gild of Holy Trinity No. 6125. Further donations will be handed out shortly.

Bob Kidger

Merit awards for Ely and Whittlesey Past Masters

Two stalwart Masons have been awarded the Cambridgeshire Certificate of Service to Masonry by the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. Rodney Wolverson. At the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at The Guildhall, Cambridge, on 18th June, the ProvGM presented WBro. Roy Peacock with his Certificate of Merit for Distinguished Service to Cambridgeshire Masonry and a special lapel pin.

The ProvGM stated that the current success of Masonry in Ely is very largely due to Roy's enthusiasm. He said WBro. Peacock had served St Audrey No. 2727 and Descensus Aquarum No. 8655 with distinction, being WM in 1980 and 1988 respectively. He is a Past Junior Grand Warden of the Province. Similarly, he has given great service to Caldwell Chapter No. 2727 being MEZ in 1986 and 1987.

A formal presentation of a certificate and lapel pin was due to be made to the second recipient, WBro. Ted Little, of St Andrew Lodge No. 4087, Whittlesey, in October.

WBro. Little was Senior Warden of the Province in 1987 and WM of St Andrew Lodge in 1968 and 2001. In the Royal Arch he served as MEZ in St Andrew Chapter in 1973 and 1980, and was 2nd Provincial Grand Principal in 1996 and 1997. He has also been through the chairs of Cambridgeshire Installed Masters Lodge and Cambridgeshire First Principals Chapter.

Cliff Brown

Charity wins by a long neck

Bateman Street witnessed a thrilling evening of racing organised by Nourse Lodge No. 8590 and Kynaston Lodge No. 5810 on 14th June. The event, attended by 53 members, family and friends, raised £1,300, all of which will go to the East Anglian Children's Hospice at Milton. It will help Lifelites towards its target of buying 10 new IT packages to enrich the lives of children with life-limiting conditions.

Godolphin, the Maktoum family's famous horseracing stable, donated race attire and four tickets to a Newmarket race meet, which ensured that the raffle a major contributor to the overall sum raised. The starter was Bro. Ted Ridgway Watt and the Tote was organised by Bro. Stephen Teverson, with their partners, Tara Flanagan and Wendy Wallace.

Edward Ridgway Watt

Married by his Brother

When WBro. David Searle, centre raising glass, remarried recently he was supported by 11 Masonic friends from March...and the ceremony was conducted by WBro. Les Mills, back row, right. Les is a registrar in March and oversaw the ceremony for widower David, of Caldwell Lodge No. 3201, and his new wife Maggie. Brethren from Caldwell and Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704 attended.

Frank Allen



Celebration of Multiple Sclerosis research

The pioneering research being conducted at Cambridge University's Clinical Neurosciences Department into Multiple Sclerosis was celebrated at a recent charity evening held for the fifth time in Cambridge.

Dr Alasdair Coles, who is leading the research, is shown with the Provincial Grand Master together with Professor Alastair Compston, head of the Department of Clinical Neurosciences and Jacqueline Garget, the associate director of Trusts and Foundations at Cambridge University.



The Freemasons' Grand Charity and the Masonic Samaritan Fund have each made a grant of £50,000 towards the research project investigating the safety and tolerability of the drug Bexarotene, which is capable of repairing brain damage caused during the early stages of Multiple Sclerosis.

Representatives from 25 local charities, drawn from a range of medical and care services, were invited to a supper at Freemasons' Hall. They shared in grants of £29,000 from The City & University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust and Charity for Care and Relief, with The Grand Charity giving £4,000 to the Cambridgeshire branch of the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Guests were able to inspect an exhibition of masonic history and regalia, prepared by WBro. Justin Curtis, and those who were visiting the Hall for the first time were invited on a tour of the premises conducted by WBro. Jim Whitehead.

The evening concluded with an address by Dr Coles on his research into Multiple Sclerosis, which now extends over 20 years, and Dr Lynn Morgan, the chief executive of the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity, who announced an appeal fund to finance the building of a new hospice.

Peter Sutton

Virtute et Fide starts school bursary

As part of celebrations to mark Virtute et Fide Lodge's 50th anniversary and to continue links with the 'old school', a bursary has been established at Hills Road Sixth Form College for the student doing the most for charity each year.



The award is marked by a shield donated by Bro. Tony Wright and a £100 cheque. The first award went to Hayley Stevens, who organised charity events, in memory of her father, for her Extended Project work, raising more than £3,000 for Cancer Research and Macmillan Nurses. Hayley completed the Three Peaks Challenge in 24 hours and also organised a memorial football match. WBro. Ian Bissett told her "I'm delighted we are able to make this award to such a worthy winner.

Les Waters

New Athelstan ProvGM for East Anglia

On Saturday 5th July, RWBro. Brian William Coshall was installed as the fourth Provincial Grand Master of East Anglia. RWBro. Coshall, who had been Deputy Provincial Grand Master for the Province since 2013, was installed by the Assistant Grand Master in Charge, RWBro Dr Christopher Ansell.



RWBro. Coshall, RWBro. Ansell and VWBro. Le Gry

This was a very well subscribed event with more than 75 brethren attending the meeting at Diss, which also saw the Installation of VWBro Nicholas Le Gry, formerly Provincial Grand Secretary, as Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The event was honoured by the presence of the Grand Master, MWBro. Paul Johnston, who promoted three brethren of the Order to the rank of Past Grand Sword Bearer – VWBros. Nicholas Le Gry, Roy Leavers (Deputy PGM of Sussex) and Richard Goodwin (Deputy PGM of Essex).

RWBro. Coshall appointed WBro. Ian McLachlan to succeed VWBro. Le Gry as East Anglian Provincial Grand Secretary. The meeting was followed by the Installation meeting of the Court of St Edmund No 76, where WBro. Peter H Rollin installed WBro. Andrew Pryke as Master. The Annual Provincial Assembly of the Order was on 6th September 2014 at Newmarket.

Chris Ansell

Brother's dream of Chateau Mason

A member of Granta Lodge No. 6129 in Newmarket has seen his dream of owning a vineyard become reality – not in France but Henley-on-Thames. WBro. Jan Mirkowski had been looking to buy a property with land to plant a vineyard and found the perfect location on seven and a half acres of sloped land. In May 2013 Jan and his wife Anthea planted 12,000 French vines at Fairmile Vineyard at Henley to kick start their production of still and sparkling white and rosé wines.



Image courtesy of Henley Herald

Initiated into Granta Lodge in 1988 while based in Cambridgeshire, he left the county in 1992 and until two years ago he lived in Marlow and worked in telecommunications. Having made wine non-commercially for three decades, Jan decided he would like his own vineyard so studied to be a viticulturist. Jan is hoping to bottle a small amount of still wine in 2015, and to offer his first sparkling wine for sale in 2018. In the future he hopes to open the vineyard as a visitor attraction and educational centre.

WBro. Mirkowski is also a member of Marlborough Lodge No. 1399 in Woodstock, Oxon, where he was Worshipful Master in 1999, and Temple Manor Lodge No. 8143 at Marlow, Bucks.

Cliff Brown

Half Crowns represent Masonic wager



A wager between three friends was long-forgotten by WBro. Fred Rynsard until he received a package following the funeral of his friend Norman Underhill earlier this year. The correspondence came from Norman's daughter Linda Pepper and contained three half crowns.

The three were all Newmarket Masons – Tiny and Norman were members of St Wendred Lodge No.8374 and Fred is in Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107. The coins – one each for Tiny Fiber, Norman Underhill and Fred Rynsard – represented a bet between the three more than 30 years ago.



The wager was that the one living the longest would receive the half crowns. The eldest, Tiny, died some years ago and Norman passed away in February leaving Fred, who was 96 in July, the winner of the three coins. "Tiny had the idea – he would bet on anything – and Norman was the guardian of the coins," said Fred. So, what will Fred do with the coins? "I will have to think of some way to pass them on, along with the story," he said.

Fred Rynsard

Metropolitan Grand Lodge investiture

Three Cambridgeshire masons – WBro. Jonathan Mead PSGD (4520), VWBro. Simon Duckworth PGSwdb (859) and WBro. Nigel Penn PSGD (441) – were invested to senior office at the annual meeting of Metropolitan Grand Lodge in March. Jonathan was reinvested as a MetGInsp, Simon as an AMetGM and Nigel Penn was appointed to MetGInsp at Great Queen Street, London.



WBro. Mead, VWBro. Duckworth and WBro. Penn

Each Metropolitan Grand Inspector looks after about 90 lodges and each Assistant Metropolitan Grand Master oversees four Metropolitan Grand Inspectors, namely overseeing approximately 360 lodges.

Nigel Penn

Granta Lodge takes to the High Seas

Masons at Newmarket have learned of life in the Royal Navy during the Falklands War and aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia. On Saturday 17th May the Brethren of Granta Lodge No. 6179 and 13 visitors were piped aboard to receive a lecture from the IPM, WBro. David Atkinson, who was a NAAFI Manager and Petty Officer in the Senior Service.

The talk concentrated on his time aboard HMS Endurance leading up to and during the Falklands War and then a far more pleasurable posting aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia. Aply assisted by WBro. Ian Greig, of Walden Lodge No. 1280, those present were treated to a slide show followed by a rarely seen film, shot aboard HMS Endurance, showing life in the South Atlantic.

HMS Endurance was a Royal Navy ice patrol vessel and was in the South Atlantic when the Falklands War broke out and landed its small detachment of Royal Marines on 25th March 1982, going on to play an active role throughout the conflict. Time aboard the Royal Yacht was a very different affair. WBro. Atkinson reminisced and showed pictures of the crew socialising with the Royal Family and reunions, pictured.



The evening finished with a reading of WBro. Atkinson's commendation by Junior Warden Bro. Stuart Cowe, and all present were touched by the heartfelt praise that it contained.

Dan Heath

Classics event for St Audrey Lodge

The Worshipful Master of St Audrey Lodge No. 2727, WBro. David Watson, and his wife Denise hosted a "That'll Be the Day" event on 27th July, and raised £1,050 for the Province's Lifelites appeal. Around 200 people attended the event on their meadow in Littleport. The original idea for the event came from Bro. Stephen Teverson, who organised proceedings. Guests were welcomed with a glass of Fenland Punch, prepared by WBro. Chris Cridford, and a bar, manned by WBro. Fid Hall and WBro. Bob Smith, was kept busy supplying refreshment to accompany the American-themed lunch.



Many Masons took along their classic cars, motorcycles and tractors and each owner was presented with a commemorative plaque and licence holder made especially for the occasion. Bro. Joe Fuller rode his 1961 Triumph motorcycle from Chatteris, closely followed by his family in their car.

Live musical entertainment was provided by Jason and his 18-year-old double bass player, and Simply Dead, a band led by drummer WBro. Gordon Cox, of Sothius Lodge No. 8774 (Northants and Hunts). Many guests had dressed in the style of their chosen decade from the 1940s to 1970s. Best costume winners were Bro. Martin Strudwick and his wife Julie, who dressed as hippies complete with VW camper van.



Bro. Martin Culverhouse and Mrs Caroline Culverhouse, above, not only sported full 1940s outfits, but brought along their authentic Willy's Jeep. A bouncy castle provided by WBro. David Smith proved popular, while a set of stocks and wet sponges seemed to be in regular use by guests who paid to throw sponges at Lodge Secretary, WBro. David Deverson. There was also a raffle, organised by WBro. Michael Allen, the Lodge's Charity Steward, and lucky number competition, organised by Mrs Nessie Amory, wife of Bro. Tony Amory.

Stephen Teverson

Thirkill hosts talks on other Orders

Brethren of Thirkill Lodge No. 7333 were treated to talks by six members of different Masonic orders at its meeting on 19th May at Bateman Street, Cambridge. After the Lodge was Called Off, the speakers entered and gave a brief explanation of the history and background to their Order, the requirements to be able to join and the regalia required.

Speakers (pictured left to right) were David Adams, of the Red Cross of Constantine; John How, for the Royal Arch; Steve Mann, of Holy Rood Preceptory, Knights Templar, assisted by Nick Bowsher in Malta regalia; the Worshipful Master; Stewart Kerr, for the Mark Master Masons; Jon West, Most Wise Sovereign of Cantabrigia Chapter, Rose Croix, and Paul Gillingwater, Order of the Secret Monitor.



None of the workings was exposed, but there was sufficient detail to make the talks interesting and to give the Brethren an insight into each. Lack of time prevented open questions, but Brethren were encouraged to approach the speakers in the bar and at the festive board.

David Kirkham

Lodge celebrates golden anniversary

Virtute et Fide Lodge No. 7959 celebrated its first 50 years in style at Bateman Street, Cambridge, on 7th June. To mark the occasion the Lodge Banner had been professionally restored and was re-dedicated in a moving ceremony by a full Provincial team, pictured below, led by VWBro. Tim Pearce Higgins PDepPGM, ably supported by the Provincial Director of Ceremonies, WBro Brian Elliott, and the Provincial Grand Chaplain WBro. The Rev Christopher Woolley.



The history of the Lodge was celebrated in talks on the first 25 years by Founder member WBro. John Woolfenden, the last 25 years by WBro. Keith Poulson and with a booklet incorporating a specially commissioned Lodge photograph.

A golden anniversary luncheon, with music from JazzWave, was followed by afternoon tea when two huge commemorative cakes were consumed. The Worshipful Master, WBro. Ian Bissett thanked the Lodge's planning group for putting together a truly memorable day.

Les Waters

More help for Foodbank from Thirkill

As a result of a successful Ladies Festival, W.Bro. Bill Finney, Worshipful Master of Thirkill Lodge No. 7333, presented a cheque for £1,000 to Evvy Edwards representing the Cambridge City Foodbank. The presentation, which followed a previous donation of £635 raised from a raffle organised by lodge treasurer W.Bro. Graham Gardiner, was made outside The Guildhall, Cambridge, before the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge on 18th June.

David Kirkham

Train aid for Province's appeal

The summer saw a repeat of last year's successful tea and trains event at the home of Provincial Grand Scribe Ezra, E.Comp. Edmund Brookes. Supported by the Craft's ProvSGW, WBro. Colin Bell, Edmund once again provided rides on his Southern Railway U Class or Colin's Battery Electric locomotive. Attended by about 50 Masons and their families, a total of £750 was raised for the Province's Lifelites appeal. WBro. Alan Jones and his wife Carol ran a tombola and lucky dip, while Colin's daughter baked a Hogwarts Special themed cake that was raffled. Janet Hendy and Val Bell assisted with the food. It is hoped to stage a similar event in 2015 in aid of the Arthur Rank Hospice appeal.

Edmund Brookes

Widows enjoy trip to seaside theatre

A busload of happy Masonic widows and helpers enjoyed an annual day out on 16th July at Hunstanton, Norfolk, where they were treated to an afternoon matinee at the Princess Theatre of the show 'Happy Days' featuring music of the 1940s, 50s and 60s. Membership of the Province of Cambridgeshire Masonic Widows' Friendship Club is free and open to all Masonic Widows of the Province and those who reside in the area. Details can be obtained from any Lodge or Chapter Almoner.

Tony Mason

Ely hosts annual Stableford golf day

Winner of the top trophy at the Cambridgeshire Masonic Golf Association's annual 18-hole Stableford contest was Michael Munnely, of St Ovin Lodge, No. 7774. As leading individual in the event, held in glorious weather at Ely City Golf Club on 12th June, he was awarded the Roy Perks Memorial Trophy, ahead of runner-up Bob Hammett, of Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441. Thirty-seven golfers took part.

In the contest for Lodge teams, the Hamblin Smith Cup went to the Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107 trio of Andy Brown, Dale Smith and Tony Withers. Runners-up were Alf Mills, Neil Hedge and Michael Mayne, of Thirkill Lodge No. 7333. Pete Corley and Tim Downes, of St Andrew Lodge No. 4087, won the Ernest Mathers Trophy (foursomes over nine holes), with George Brennan and Barry Smith, of Gray Lodge No. 4334, finishing second.

The Isaac Newton Salver (handicap of 17 or less) was won by Bob Hammett, Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441 and the Sydney Cole Trophy (15-17) was won by Michael Hayne, Thirkill No. 7333.



The Widdicombe Cup (18-20) was won by Dale Smith, Etheldreda No. 2107, the Corbett Cup (21 or over) by Barry Smith, Gray No. 4334; the Frank Brittain Cup (age 55 or over) by John Parker, Alma Mater No. 1492, and the Chairman's Cup (age 65 or over) by Peter Manchett, Etheldreda No. 2107. Nearest the pin was Alf Mills, Thirkill No. 7333 and the longest drive was by Neil Hedge, Thirkill No. 7333.

The Association's Texas Scramble will be played at Gog Magog Golf Club on 24th October.

Peter Corley

EDITORIAL BOARD

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Please send any material for future issues to the editor: editorcambsmason@yahoo.co.uk

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