



# Summer 2017

# Medical detection dogs – story page 7

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# Masonic event at De Vere Horwood Estate, Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire

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## PGM'S VIEW

**By now you will be aware that I will be standing down as Provincial Grand Master on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 and this will be my last opportunity to write the foreword for Concord.**

Retirement was not an easy decision for me to make and it was one that I deliberated over for many months. The role of a modern-day PGM is extremely time-consuming and I therefore decided that six years was enough and a change of lifestyle was required. I am extremely proud to have served this Province as your Provincial Grand Master. I will never forget the support you have given to me and the enjoyment I have had during my tenure and I hope that you have enjoyed it too.

I must thank all those who have worked tirelessly in their respective offices during my term and those unseen heroes in the background who make everything tick and create the successful story that is Buckinghamshire Freemasonry. A huge and special thank you must go to my Executive, past and present, and to the Provincial Office. Without the assistance from them all I could never have survived my busy schedule. I must also thank my wife, Frances, for her unstinting support during my time in office and she

wishes to pass on her thanks for the courtesy, kindness and hospitality shown to her at the numerous events and functions that she has attended throughout the past six years.

My congratulations go to John Clark as my successor and I hope you will give him the support he deserves as your new PGM and that you will support the new team he will choose to lead the Province into the future. From Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 and until John is officially installed, Robert Wharton will take charge of the Province and I know that you will also give him your full support and wish him well.

The recent Sky Television programme *Inside the Freemasons* has created numerous enquiries about freemasonry in Buckinghamshire and I believe that many of these will produce initiates. The Provincial Membership Officer and his team are working extremely hard to process these enquiries and they will place the candidates into those lodges which are considered to offer them the best chance of enjoying the experience and be well looked after.

The 300 years of freemasonry celebrations throughout the country are progressing well and our event at Windsor

## PGM designate



**We are delighted to announce that APGM John Clark is the Bucks PGM designate. A profile on John will appear in the March 2018 Concord.**

Racecourse is another opportunity to enjoy ourselves with our families and to promote what we do. As a reminder of this important milestone, can I encourage you to consider purchasing a Tercentenary Jewel and also consider the Tercentenary Master's collar ornament, details of which can be found on page 11.

*Continued on page 21*

## New classic car lodge hits the road!

**Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 saw the consecration of the second new lodge in less than twelve months in the Masonic Province of Buckinghamshire. The Buckinghamshire Classic Car Lodge is the result of 18 months of hard work and organisation by a number of keen masonic car enthusiasts.**

APGM John Clark explains: "The Executive has always believed that specialisation lodges are the way forward and, following the formation of the Motorcycle Lodge last year, a Classic Car Lodge was the obvious next step.

"The PGM, Gordon Robertson, immediately agreed to let us go forward with

this; we advertised the idea to the Province and had a superb response.

"We have a large number of beautifully restored and maintained cars owned by members within Bucks and it is wonderful that the owners now have their own lodge to meet at and discuss the finer points of their pride and joy.

"Sincere thanks go to Matthew Eaton and David Waterton for the huge effort they have put into this endeavour over the last eighteen months and to all the founders for their support in setting up the lodge."

John continued: "There is no requirement for members to actually own a classic car, merely to have an interest and love of this genre of transport. We have forty-six founding members and will meet on Saturdays in May, July, September and October at the Beaconsfield Centre. It is hoped that we will also attend other classic car lodges in other Provinces whenever possible."



**■ 1956 Corvette belonging to Bill Smithson of Haddenham Lodge and a founder member of the Classic Car Lodge**



**■ Pictured (l-r) Tony Robinson, Senior Warden, Sir Stuart Hampson, Primus Master and John Clark, Junior Warden**

The consecration took place at the Sindlesham Masonic Centre and was attended by 180 freemasons from Buckinghamshire and other Provinces.

The PGM conducted the ceremony with the assistance of his officers of the year. This was followed by the installation of the first Master of the Lodge, Sir Stuart Hampson, by the Bucks APGM, Peter Moody. The Master then appointed and installed his officers.

The day's ceremonial concluded with a fine festive board and everyone in attendance wished this new lodge the very best for the future, both at home and 'on the road'.



## FREEMASONRY IN THE COMMUNITY

### Young carers meet a Prince and a princess among cars

Over the weekend of 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> April, Silverstone hosted the first round of the Vintage Sports Car Club's (VSCC) Formula Vintage race season.

Amongst the visitors was Prince Michael of Kent, a member of the British Racing Driver's Club and Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex. He was there to present the awards for the day's special Stanley Mann Cup. Also attending the event were twenty young carers from YC2 based in north Bucks who were the guests of lodges based in Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire.

The group of youngsters, aged between nine and seventeen, were treated to a fun-packed day at the races, which included chatting to some of the drivers, watching the vintage car races, enjoying the funfair and having lunch at the Pit Stop Café.

YC2 is a self-funded charity, founded by Margo Jackson, which looks after young carers in the Buckingham and Winslow areas. Margo said: "We would like to thank Bucks and Northants freemasons for enabling the YC2 group to have a wonderful day out."

"The youngsters work so hard looking after their family members so it's lovely to see the pleasure they get from a day off with their friends and really being able to enjoy themselves as young people should."



■ Above: Prince Michael of Kent with some of the YC2 youngsters

Below: some of the youngsters with Webster Springer (kneeling)

"The highlight of the day for many of them was meeting Prince Michael who came over and chatted to them and showed off one of the beautiful cars at the event, a 1932 Lagonda."

Alastair Hunt and his son James – both members of Bourne End Lodge – have previously organised a similar event for young carers. Alastair commented: "I'd like to express my sincere thanks to Webster Springer of Buckingham Lodge and Dermot Bambridge of Silverstone Lodge for their hard work in this joint venture and ensuring that the costs of the whole day were met by local lodges. A big thank you must also go to the VSCC for providing the tickets and organising Prince Michael's visit."

"Since the Silverstone Circuit straddles the Bucks/Northants border, it was an ideal opportunity for the two Provinces to hold a joint venture in this, our Tercentenary year."



■ The 1932 Lagonda, owned by Graham Thorn of Penn & Tylers Green Lodge



### Scientific Lol helps with play area

Scientific Lodge of Instruction recently raised £500 for a small special community school for children aged four to nineteen.

The school helps children with learning difficulties and disabilities to excel and also helps to prepare them for the world outside.

An old school house is currently being renovated and converted into a tea house and bed and breakfast facility to provide life skills for the older children.

The £500 will help provide soft toys for the sand pit area in the school for the kids to play safely with.

■ Tony Higgins (left) and Mark Richardson, deputy head of the school; Carl Devereux (Treasurer of Scientific Lodge of Instruction) was also at the presentation





## Treats for young carers

### Farm trip

The Young Carers Bucks charity supports children and young people aged 6-18 years old who care for a family member who has a physical or mental illness, disability or a drug or alcohol related misuse.

To give the children a break from their daily routine Young Carers Bucks recently treated a group of 27 local youngsters aged six to ten years old to a day out at Odds Farm in Burnham. They enjoyed a fun-packed day, feeding the animals, relishing a picnic lunch and having a great time on the various activities in the play areas.

As an extra treat, the Beaconsfield Masonic Centre Committee for *Freemasonry in the Community* provided Easter eggs for every youngster.

Steve Matthews, committee chairman said: "It is always a pleasure to help Young Carers Bucks in their wonderful work in giving these youngsters time off from their caring commitments. The children love their days out and providing Easter eggs for them all was our way of saying well done for the hard work they put in every day."



■ Above: Freemasonry in the Community committee chairman Steve Matthews hands over an Easter egg to 8 year old Billy Allaway

■ Above right: Young carer Tianne Shurety Muturi being put through her paces

■ Right: young carers and teachers at the recent clay pigeon shoot at Great Missenden

### Gym and chocs!

Following a successful and enjoyable gymnastics party given to a group of 10-12 year old young carers at Bracknell Gymnastics Club in April 2016, the Beaconsfield Freemasonry in the Community committee recently took another group back to the Club for a day off from their caring duties.

After a gentle warm up with the coaches James, Sacha and Ed, the youngsters were taken through a full range of gymnastic events which they all joined in with great enthusiasm. This was followed by lunch and an extra special treat of Easter eggs, presented by committee member Barry Sparks.

Maxine Lansdell, a Young Carers Support Worker, said: "We had the best time ever! Such a fabulous afternoon filled with fun, laughter, delicious food and Easter eggs! Our sincere thanks go to the Beaconsfield FiC committee, especially Steve, Barry, Tony, Sean, Andy and Rob, for looking after us so well. We really do appreciate the kindness and generosity shown to our youngsters. The children were so happy and full of beans and chocolate on the journey home."

Barry added: "This trip was to enable these very hard working youngsters to have some much needed time off from the daily routine of looking after family members. Special thanks go to Peter Tranckle, Manager of Bracknell Gymnastics, for his help and assistance in the organisation of this great day out.



### Clay pigeon shooting

Helping young carers in the Beaconsfield area enjoy themselves away from their daily responsibilities, the Beaconsfield Freemasonry in the Community committee took a group of youngsters for a day out to try their hand at clay pigeon shooting.

Under the watchful eyes of the very patient, professional and safety aware Roger Hance and Roger Hatcher, they were given expert tuition and plenty of opportunity to shoot.

They were also treated to a wonderful barbecue, cooked by Barry Sparks of Penn and Tylers Green Lodge, ably assisted by his wife, Juliana, and Frances Knock.

Lisa Kelly, Carers Assistant, thanked Steve Matthews and his committee, Andy Sutton, Sean Boardman and Graham Thorn, for organising the fantastic day and asked him to make sure of another shoot next year

The next event involves a group of autistic children and their carers who will be going to Holmer Green Model Railway on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.





## FREEMASONRY IN THE COMMUNITY

### New barbecue catches the smile

The MTSFC (Masonic Trout & Salmon Fishing Charity) is now in its eleventh year and has hosted more than 1,100 special needs children since its inception across Buckinghamshire.

The MTSFC is supported by many lodges and benefactors with both cash and materials necessary to run the events.

A member of Nelson Cork Lodge, which meets at Beaconsfield, approached the officers of the Bucks MTSFC to ask what the lodge could contribute to the work of the group and to thank the team for supporting friends and family.

After review, a new barbecue to feed hungry casters and children was suggested which had its first test on 28<sup>th</sup> April.



■ Officers of the Bucks MTSFC presenting a thank you certificate to Dave Pitwell of Nelson Cork Lodge

The Bucks MTSFC officers would like to thank all members of Nelson Cork Lodge for their generous donation.

### PSA testing continues to help

Recently the Aylesbury Masonic Centre once again hosted the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust as they carried out PSA testing on local residents.

As part of this initiative – started by PGM Gordon Robertson to raise awareness of prostate cancer in the UK – Bucks masonic centres have been hosting PSA testing sessions since 2015.

The Graham Fulford Trust provides the nursing staff and administrators to oversee the testing. Any freemason in the county can bring a friend along: both can be tested at no charge.

Approximately 10% of those tested have shown elevated test results and have been referred to their GPs for further investigation.

Lloyd Harrison of Buckingham Lodge attended the session and said: “Prostate cancer is one of the biggest killers of men and although a positive PSA test is not in itself indicative of cancer, it can be an early warning. A good friend of mine attended a session some 18 months ago. Following a positive test, he received prompt attention by the NHS and is now fit and healthy and grateful that his cancer was detected and dealt with before it was too late.”

More information on PSA testing at: [www.psatests.org.uk](http://www.psatests.org.uk).

### Masons help with music mash up!



Formed in July 2011, Chesham-based Chiltern Music Therapy (CMT) is dedicated to providing high quality, evidence-based music therapy services to people of all ages and many different needs across the south east.

The Community Music Programme provides weekly sessions to a variety of different groups ensuring their specialist service is accessible to all. As part of their desire to provide opportunities to everyone, DJ Skills and Music Production projects for vulnerable young people, who are at risk of

■ Joel, one of the youngsters at Chiltern Music Therapy, using the equipment

dropping out of school or have turbulent home lives, have recently been started.

These projects required some essential equipment and this has been supplied by the Bucks Masonic Charitable Foundation through the auspices of BMCF Secretary, Andrew Hough.

The committee was delighted to provide a grant of £2,600 to cover the purchase of controllers, speakers and headphones.



■ Phlebotomist Lindsey Griffin carrying out a PSA test on Lloyd Harrison of Buckingham Lodge

Elizabeth Nightingale, Funding and Sponsorship Manager at CMT, said: “We are extremely grateful to the BMCF for this very generous donation and we know our groups will gain so much from the use of the equipment and classes.”



# Canine Clouseaus!

The sum of £1,000 was recently donated to the Milton Keynes-based charity Medical Detection Dogs (MDD), which was raised at a Ladies Evening Gala Dinner in March.

Medical Assistance Alert Dogs are trained to become partners for people with Diabetes I, Addison's Disease, Narcolepsy and POTS (Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome) or even those with nut allergies.

MDD receives no Government Funding whatsoever! It costs over £5,000 per day to run the charity. All funds are raised by supporters and volunteers and through a multitude of fund raising events throughout the county. Roman Way Chapter and some Bletchley Lodges are also supporting the charity.

Currently the charity is undertaking a clinical trial into prostate, kidney and bladder cancers with Milton Keynes University Hospital.

A new trial into the detection of malaria in collaboration with Durham University, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and Medical Research Council Unit in the Gambia, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is also under way.

Dogs are prepared for their work through training and fostering in a process called socialising. David Lewis of Eric Deung and Golden Fleece Lodges and Roman Way Chapter has been fostering Poppy for eleven



■ Pictured at MDD headquarters to present the cheque were (l-r) David Lewis, PPJGW, ADC Eric Deung Lodge and Junior Warden in Golden Fleece Lodge; Dan Howard, chief operations manager MDD; Michael Glossop, IPM of Golden Fleece Lodge; David's wife Christiana with Medical Alert dog-in-training Poppy and bio detection dog Heidi

months and she has now been paired with a person suffering with the type of tachycardia which causes unconsciousness. Another dog David fostered is now a fully qualified bio detection dog working on cancer samples, in conjunction with Milton Keynes University Teaching Hospital.

The front page photos were taken at this year's Dogs Day Out event held in April.

For more information check out the MDD website at: <https://www.medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk/>

## Second year for garden project

The Milton Keynes University Hospital garden project is in full swing again for the second year running.

Volunteers are loosening the soil, fertilising, pruning, weeding and planting ready for a grand display of flowers in the coming months.

Pictured, seated (l-r) are Andrian Diaper, John Elgie and



## TVAA

Tom Borland (pictured below), of Manor of Swanburn Lodge, has passed on details about this year's Thames Valley Air Ambulance Open Gardens scheme for Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire.

They provide pleasant summer days out with unique access to private family gardens and splendid estates.

TVAA receives no government funding – all fund raising is supported by hard working volunteers. All proceeds from events in aid of the charity, including the modest entry fees, garden plant sales and tea and cake sales from the Summer Open Gardens programme, is donated by private garden hosts to the TVAA.

For details of those gardens open in July and August please visit: [https://issuu.com/thamesvalleyairambulance/docs/tvaa\\_open\\_garden\\_brochure](https://issuu.com/thamesvalleyairambulance/docs/tvaa_open_garden_brochure).



■ Tom Borland helping out with the Thames Valley Air Ambulance stand earlier this year

Peter Loake, with Vincent Leiu keeping them under control!

Other volunteers who were not available for the photo: Brian Wright, Alex Shorey and members of the Bletchley Masonic Centre Ladies Luncheon Club.



# New masonic booklet – now on sale!

## Masonic Miscellanea – Volume One



Collected short talks for  
new freemasons

By WBro Brian Baker PPSGD  
(Bucks) of St Giles Lodge No. 8555

Foreword by PGM Gordon Robertson  
Ten collected talks that explain some of the  
symbolism for new freemasons (40 pages)

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Payments can be made by cheque payable  
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### Masonic Miscellanea – contents

1. The Initiate's Preparation
2. The Journey Begins
3. Why Do We Wear White Gloves?
4. The Origins of Our Ritual
5. The Apron: Distinguishing Badge of a Mason
6. Jacob's Ladder
7. Suppliers of Masonic Regalia
8. Craft Fire
9. The Foundation Stone
10. Why Do Deacons Carry Wands

Brian will be giving a  
presentation to St Giles Lodge on  
Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at  
6.00pm at Bletchley Masonic Centre  
entitled **English Freemasonry –  
The First 300 Years**.

For more information please contact  
him at: 01908 377127 (office)  
or mobile: 07798 765958.

# HATS off to overseas visits!

Over the years, trips have been taken  
by Bucks masons to lodges in other  
provinces and constitutions. Following  
the Heatherden Lodge visit to Cyprus in  
2016, it was decided to consider forming  
a lodge to promote regular visits to other  
lodges, both in the UK and abroad.

This has led to the formation of **Hands  
Across the Seas** or HATS, aiming to make  
three visits a year: one to a lodge abroad,  
one to another province and a third which  
could be abroad, within the UK or supporting  
another lodge within Bucks.

HATS will start in October 2017; at this  
stage, membership will be informal, with a  
small committee to arrange the visits. It will  
be open to any mason of any rank and from  
any province or recognised constitution. It is  
hoped to swell the numbers from members  
of lodges visited. Members would not be  
expected to attend every meeting.

The objective is to experience masonry in  
unusual venues and with different workings,  
and to promote a new and interesting strand



■ The logo, designed by Brian Wilson,  
depicts the Bucks swan breaking free from  
its chain and flying across the globe;  
the clasped hands of friendship over the  
seas represent the aims of HATS

for experienced masons. It will also give an  
opportunity for wives, partners and families  
to join in, making a holiday out of such visits.

After three years the position will be  
reviewed in order to reassess recruitment and  
make a decision as to whether there should  
be a formal proposal to found a lodge. This  
will build on the successes of the group and  
allow members to put themselves forward  
as founders. It will continue with its travelling  
and visiting theme but on a formalised basis,  
with dispensations for meetings outside  
Bucks, and an annual meeting within the  
province for the installation of the Master  
and officers.

Foreign venues under consideration  
are the USA, Thailand, Malaysia and the  
Philippines where relations with other lodges  
already exist, but it is hoped that contacts  
with lodges in countries closer to home will  
also be fostered.

If the concept appeals to you why not  
put yourself forward? At this stage this won't  
commit you to anything other than maybe a  
visit or two as your diary permits. Just drop  
an email to [hatssec@outlook.com](mailto:hatssec@outlook.com) to indicate  
your potential interest.

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## OBITUARIES

### John (Jack) Surridge 10<sup>th</sup> September 1933 – 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**John Surridge – better known to all as Jack – was a retired Garage Manager, latterly at Beaconsfield Motors.**

He was Initiated into the Princes Risborough Lodge in December 1978 and remained a member of this lodge for 39 years.

He was also a member or Honorary Member of six Craft Lodges and one Chapter, and a Founder Member of Wendover Lodge; he held almost every office in those lodges, including Worshipful Master

However, he will be best remembered for being the Tyler for twenty-two lodges and was still tiling for nineteen at the time of his death. He was also Janitor for thirteen Chapters and was still active with ten when he died.

He was Exalted into Princes Risborough Chapter in 1983 and was a companion of the Royal Arch for twenty-four years.

Jack's passion was motorcycling but it wasn't until the Consecration of the Buckinghamshire Motorcycle Lodge, when he was invested as the 'primus' Senior Warden and pictures were displayed showing him performing on bikes he had built, that some members realised how dedicated he was to the sport.



### Brinley Lloyd Edwards 5<sup>th</sup> November 1946 – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Brin was born in mid-Wales and only spoke Welsh until the age of 10. On leaving school at 15 he was offered an apprenticeship in plumbing with the Llandeilo town council which he completed in 1967 to become a first class craftsman.**

Brin continued his training after moving to Guildford and joining Drake & Scull in their overseas department before being sent to Lagos in 1969 where he met his future wife, Chris.

While he had many hobbies and interests his greatest love was freemasonry. He was initiated into Ebute Metta Lodge, Nigeria in 1972 and later became a joining member of Temple Manor Lodge in



Marlow in 1973. He went on to join several lodges and to become a Deputy Provincial

It was in his early years that Jack's love of all things mechanical and speed developed.

He was called up in 1950 aged 17, joining the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME). He trained at Honiton before finally ending up in the Highlands of Scotland where he learned to ski and ice skate, competing in both for the Army. He also joined the Army motorcycle trials team.

After his National Service, Jack invested in a competition bike, taking up grass track racing and scrambling, as well as having a dabble at speedway.

In 1956 his motorcycle racing career came to a shocking end when he was involved in a head on collision whilst riding his bike. He spent many months in hospital before being deemed well enough to be discharged.

In celebration of this passion, a motorcycle hearse was used at his funeral and there was a motorbike escort by members of the Bucks Motorcycle Lodge.

Jack was a keen supporter of the Thames Valley Air Ambulance and used his persuasive powers to ensure almost everyone who met him came away with the air ambulance lapel badge!

Grand Director of Ceremonies in Buckinghamshire. He was appointed to the acting grand rank of Assistant Grand Standard Bearer in 2008.

He was involved in many events and ideas in the province of Buckinghamshire including starting up the Provincial Shows Team, and was always on hand to undertake any tasks in the setting up of the annual Provincial Meeting.

Brin started his own plumbing company, Edwards Engineering Services, in 1979, which expanded to Edwards Heating Ltd in September 1988. The company grew successfully for many years and became a leader in the heating industry in Buckinghamshire.



# £125,000 raised for good causes

**On Sunday 7th May a cheque presentation session was held at the Aylesbury Masonic Centre when more than £125,000 was donated to local and national charities and good causes.**

Hosted by APMG Graham Dearing, the major cheque for £35,000 was for the South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust to cover the cost of two brand new First Responder vehicles to be deployed in the county. The money was donated by the Bucks' Masonic Centenary Fund (BMCF) in memory of Rodney Meerza.

Among the many other recipients were the Thames Valley Air Ambulance, the Aylesbury Prostate Cancer Support Group, Child Bereavement UK, the Gateway Club and the Disability Karate Federation, a registered charity that creates mass participation in martial arts for people who are disabled, disadvantaged or living with poverty.

PGM Gordon Robertson attended with his wife, Fran, who collected a cheque on behalf of Macmillan Nurses from Marlow Bridge Lodge (£1,147). Additionally, a total of £35,775 was donated to the Festival by Marcellians, Wineslai, Manor of Swanburn and Burke Lodges.

- 1 Cardiac Risk in the Young presented to Jeffrey Markham by Martin Fifield of Cestreham Lodge (£800)
- 2 Chiltern MS Centre presented to Darayus Motivala by Jason Larkin of Vale Lodge (£500.00)
- 3 Motor Neurone Disease Association presented to Paul Shepherd by Steve Perry of Manor of Swinburn Lodge (£1,406)
- 4 Chiltern Music Therapy presented to Rebecca Atkinson by Andrew Hough representing the BMCF (£2,600)
- 5 Willen Hospice presented to Mark Dykes by Steve Smith of Hughenden Lodge (£2,000). The Hospice also received £500 from Longueville Lodge and £4,575 from Manor of Swinburn Lodge
- 6 Child Bereavement UK presented to Ruth Sanger by Phil and Jennie Cole representing Temple Manor Lodge (£3,000)
- 7 BMBF presented to Phil Blacklaw by Nick Pond of Chalfont St Giles Lodge (£500)
- 8 MK Snap presented to Rod Shepherd by Steve Perry of Manor of Swinburn Lodge (£1,738)
- 9 Macular Degeneration presented to Alan Walter by Martin Fifield of Cestreham Lodge (£1,500)
- 10 Myaware presented to Ginny St John Glew & Mark Stock by Steve Pepper of Marlow Bridge Lodge (£1,147)
- 11 Workaid presented to Rob Levine by Myles Higgins of Hampden Lodge (£2,950)
- 12 GOSH (Great Ormond Street Hospital) presented to Graham and Linda Dunlop by Alan Lines of Seer Green Lodge (£1,000)
- 13 First Responders presented to Rachel Coney and Derek Flint by Steve Acton and Gordon Robertson representing the BMCF (£35,000)

- 14 Aylesbury Prostate presented to Brian Cole by Peter Thomas of Vale Lodge and Myles Higgins of Hampden Lodge (£1,700 in total)
- 15 ALF (Adventure Learning Foundation) presented to Heidi Nugent and Jonathan Boulton by Andrew Hough representing the BMCF (£3,961)
- 16 TLC (Teddis for Loving Care) presented to Mel Shah by Steve Smirthwaite, representing the BMCF, and Trayton Mitchell of Marlow Lodge (£5,200 in total)
- 17 Disability Karate Foundation presented to Ray Sweeney (in karate kit) and members of the DKF by Graham Dearing of Phyllis Locke Trust Vale (£1,000)
- 18 PACE presented to Leah Lewis, Amanda Richardson and Dominic Bennet by Greg Meehan of Buckingham Lodge (£400)
- 19 Shelter presented to Darren McDermott by Elliot Collins of Chalfont St Giles Lodge (£2,500)
- 20 TVAA (Thames Valley Air Ambulance) presented Sarah Sharkey by Colin Cruse of Armistice Winslow Lodges, to Trayton Mitchell of Marlow Lodge and the Masonic Charitable Foundation (£5,200 in total)
- 21 Gateway presented to Gemma Draper and Paul Maddock by Peter and Joyce Thomas representing Vale Lodge (£1,400)
- 22 Furze Down School presented to Linda Patterson by Paul French representing Winslow Lodges (£3,500)

Other charities which received donations but were not available for photographs: SM Cancer and Haematology Fund (£5,000 from Phyllis Locke Trust Vale); and Wycombe Homeless (£2,000 from Hughenden Lodge).







# Putting his stamp on it!

The Isle of Man Post Office wanted to mark 300 years of Freemasonry and recognise the vast charitable donations made by the organisation in the Isle of Man and elsewhere.

Ben Glazier, a member of Hampden Lodge, explained his involvement in the design of these Tercentenary stamps: "I was commissioned to do this a long time ago by the Isle of Man Post Office. The Royal Mail is not producing a set, so I worked with Grand Lodge, which has adopted these as the official stamps of the Tercentenary Celebrations."

The stamps gained Royal Approval a few weeks ago and were presented to His Royal Highness, The Duke of Kent in May to mark his 50th year as Grand Master.

A close look at the stamps will show the names of six lodges, one of which is Hampden Lodge. This means that the lodge will go into the histories and records of the Tercentenary and will, of course, feature in Stanley Gibbons reference books forever.



Stamp designer Ben Glazier of Hampden Lodge

The stamps are available to collectors and the public and can be ordered from [www.iomstamps.com](http://www.iomstamps.com) – special sets will be available, including a First Day Cover, a special sheetlet of six stamps and framed editions.

Find out more at: Isle of Man Freemasonry [www.freemasons.im](http://www.freemasons.im); Isle of Man Post Office [www.iomstamps.com](http://www.iomstamps.com); United Grand Lodge of England [www.ugle.org](http://www.ugle.org); or Buckinghamshire Freemasons [www.buckspgl.org](http://www.buckspgl.org).



## BE PART OF THE CELEBRATION UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND TERCENTENARY JEWEL (1717-2017)

The UGLE Commemorative Jewel, authorised in conjunction with the Tercentenary, may be worn by all Freemasons who at any time between 24th June 2016 and 31st December 2017 are members of Lodges under UGLE. The jewel is also available for purchase by members of other Constitutions recognised by UGLE.

The MW The Grand Master has approved it as a permanent jewel and it may therefore be worn in perpetuity by qualified Brethren. Grand Officers will be encouraged to wear it during the period to the end of 2017 and may continue to do so thereafter.



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### Tercentenary Master's Collar Ornament

The ornament will be available from the beginning of May to be worn from the Tercentenary Anniversary on 24th June. This handsome silver gilt ornament may be stitched to the Worshipful Master's Collar.

Tercentenary Hallmarks stamped on the lower edge. Orders can be made immediately.

Silver Gilt: £300.00

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# Festival 2021 focus

From Festival Chairman  
Graham Dearing

## Festival update



**Welcome to the third edition of Festival Focus.**

We are now nine months into the Festival and have made great progress in ensuring that every lodge is fully engaged in raising much needed funds for the Masonic Charitable Foundation. I never miss an opportunity to remind brethren that we in Bucks in the past eleven years have received over £2.5m of support for our brethren and charities.

I am always mindful that not every lodge can give large donations; there will always be smaller lodges who cannot achieve large totals. However, the really positive thing is that every lodge is doing something and supporting this wonderful Province.

There have been many enjoyable events held by lodges so far, including: a Blues Brothers Night held by Bletchley Park Lodge, raising over £3,500; a Murder Mystery night arranged by the Provincial events team at Missenden Abbey which raised £2,500; and the Manor of Swanburn casino night which raised £3,275 and the Grand Union Walk which saw ten teams walk a 10km stretch of the Grand Union Canal (both pictured right right). A Provincial Team led by the PGM Gordon Robertson undertook the walk which raised £2,500.

To the organisers of any events which I have not mentioned I apologise – there are so many. Please keep the invitations coming as I will try to attend as many as possible.

You will now start to see brethren – including the PGM – wearing their very special *I took the Festival Challenge* pin (pictured in the Autumn 2016 Concord).

If you have taken part in a sponsored event or done something special for the Festival, please apply for one of these pins. They can only be earned and not purchased. Just email me at [grahamdearing@aol.com](mailto:grahamdearing@aol.com) and I will send one by return of post. Let me know what you have done and wear it with pride.

To every lodge and member that has donated, or that is in the process of doing so, a huge thank you.



**Masonic**  
Charitable Foundation

Brethren, my final requests to you all are:

- If you have not donated or pledged a regular donation and can afford to, please do so. The easiest way is go to [www.bucks2021.org](http://www.bucks2021.org) and set up a regular donation online.
- Wear your Festival Jewel with pride: honorific bars will be available for those who would like one later in the year
- Wear your Festival Challenge pin with pride.
- Make it your daily advancement in masonic knowledge by visiting [www.mcf.org](http://www.mcf.org) and find out more about the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

**Lastly, have a great summer break!**

### Provincial Festival Representatives

You will all be aware that we have six Provincial reps for the Festival who have all been fantastic in helping to raise awareness and helping lodges and individuals understand more about the Festival and how they can help.

I thought it would be a good idea to remind you of who they are and how they can be contacted:

#### Area 1

David Dyson: Aylesbury, Thame, Kimble, Linslade and Penn lodges  
[daviddomappliance@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:daviddomappliance@tiscali.co.uk)

#### Area 2

Steven Matthews: Beaconsfield & Denham lodges  
[steven.matthews2@btinternet.com](mailto:steven.matthews2@btinternet.com)

#### Area 3

Gary Charnock: Olney, Stony Stratford and Wolverton lodges  
[gary.chnock@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gary.chnock@hotmail.co.uk)

#### Area 4

Bobby Cole: Slough lodges  
[bobcole8@live.com](mailto:bobcole8@live.com)

#### Area 5

Steve Perry: Bletchley, Winslow and Buckingham lodges  
[perrys7@sky.com](mailto:perrys7@sky.com)

#### Area 6

Mark Stock: Marlow lodges  
[mstockcfs@aol.com](mailto:mstockcfs@aol.com)

■ Right: Paul French, pictured with Steve Perry, Rod Shepherd and the dancing girls, entertaining the gamblers

## Grand Union Walk



■ Brentford Locks on a sunny Saturday morning with (l-r): Mike Dearing, (Graham's son), Graham Dearing, Fran Robertson, Martin Wing and PGM Gordon Robertson. The photo was taken by Paul Waldron who also walked

## Vegas comes to Bletchley

**In April, Manor of Swanburn Lodge organised an amazing Vegas Casino evening at Wilton Hall in Bletchley.**

With over 175 attendees the event raised a staggering £3,275 which was donated to the 2021 Festival at the Provincial cheque presentation evening on 7<sup>th</sup> May.

The event treated guests to a wonderful meal and entertainment, and the chance to buy some virtual casino chips to use at the tables.

The event was arranged by the Manor of Swanburn Charity Steward Steve Perry and the Master Rod Shepherd. Singer and freemason Paul French gave it that Vegas feel, entertaining the diners and acting as MC along with the Vegas girls.







## MCF Community Awards

As part of the UGLE 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, the Province chose six charities to share a grant totalling £58,000, part of a £3million Masonic Charitable Foundation Tercentenary Fund which is being distributed across every Province in the country, another great reason why we should all support the Festival.

The six charities nominated in Buckinghamshire are:

☞ Karen's Big Smiles charity trust: a fund to help local young adults with life limiting conditions (<http://karensbigsmiles.org/>)

☞ Stoke Mandeville Cancer Care and Haematology Fund (<https://www.cchf.org.uk/unit/>)

☞ Hearing dogs for deaf people (<https://www.hearingdogs.org.uk/>)

☞ The Graham Fulford Charitable Trust (<http://www.psatests.org.uk/>)

☞ Medical Detection Dogs (see also page 7)

☞ Lindengate (a Buckinghamshire mental health charity – <http://www.lindengate.org.uk/>)

These represent not only a geographical split across the Province but cover many charities with whom we have worked and supported over the years. Believe me, it was not an easy choice.

As part of a public vote taking place between 12<sup>th</sup> June and 31<sup>st</sup> July, supporters of these charities will be asked to nominate their charity in order to determine who will receive the largest share of our fund. The minimum any charity will receive is £4,000 while the charity with the winning vote will receive £25,000.

**To vote for your nominated charity please log into [www.mcf.org.uk/vote](http://www.mcf.org.uk/vote).**

**Let's all support and vote for our charities and continue to celebrate the Tercentenary.**

## New Charity Steward

**At the Bucks Masters Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, the PGM announced the appointment of a new Provincial Charity Steward, Michael Clanfield.**



Mike has a hard act to follow after Ron King who did such a wonderful job launching the Festival so successfully.

Mike is a very active member of Vale

Lodge and has also been active in many Provincial programmes over the years. We all wish him well in this new role which will formally start when he is invested at the Provincial Meeting in October.

It is vital when raising money for any charity that you know where the money goes, and you are strongly urged to visit [www.mcf.org](http://www.mcf.org). This will tell you everything you need to know about the Masonic Charitable Foundation and hopefully spur you on to want to donate.

## Commemorating the brave men of WWI

Colin White, Master of Bulwer Lodge of Cairo, and his partner Helen, had the privilege of being one of sixty-four masters attending the unveiling of the Victoria Cross Memorial at Freemasons' Hall by HRH The Duke of Kent on 25<sup>th</sup> April. He also attended a reception hosted by the Grand Master after the event.

The memorial commemorates the sixty-four freemasons who won the VC in the First World War.



Hugo Vivian Hope Throssell was initiated into Bulwer Lodge of Cairo on 15<sup>th</sup> June 1916, one of four holders of the VC to become members of the lodge.

Australian born, Throssell received the decoration for his services during the WWI fight for Hill 60, south of Ypres on the Western Front, which led to the British and Empire troops gaining possession of this important battlefield. The other VCs who were members of Bulwer were:

William Thomas Marshall (Initiated on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1885), awarded the medal in May 1884 for his conspicuous bravery during the cavalry charge at El Teb in bringing out of action the severely wounded Lieutenant-Colonel Barrow, of the 19<sup>th</sup> Hussars, who would otherwise have been killed.

Tasmanian-born John Hutton Bisdee (Initiated on 6<sup>th</sup> January 1917) was awarded the VC on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1900, the first

'colonial' to receive it. His advance scouting patrol was ambushed in a narrow gorge near the town of Warm Baths, north of Pretoria. Despite continuous heavy fire from the Boers, Bisdee rescued a badly wounded officer.

Charles George Baker was a British Merchant Navy officer, a Bengal Army officer, a Turkish Army officer and head of the Egyptian Police. He joined Bulwer Lodge of Cairo on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1888. While serving as Second Officer aboard the Douro, a passenger vessel of the P&O Steam Navigation Company, Baker was instrumental in rescuing the passengers and crew of the Douro which was wrecked on the north shoal, following a nerve-racking journey totalling over 500 miles.



■ Left: Colin White and Helen pictured outside Freemasons' Hall in front of one of the canon displayed on this day to commemorate the masonic VCs of World War I

■ Right: one of the paving stones installed at Great Queen Street in memory of the VCs





## ROYAL ARCH

### Bowen chapter becomes a patron

A piece of history was made at the Bowen Chapter convocation held on 1<sup>st</sup> June, when EComp Derek Watts, Provincial Grand Charity Steward, announced that this was the first meeting in his career that he would be leaving with more money than he came with!

The occasion was the Exaltation of Stephen Cleary but Derek had been invited along to accept a £1,000 cheque from the Charity Steward, EComp Denver Lynn, as a Bowen Chapter contribution to the 2021 Festival.

The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, John Keeble, is very keen that Buckinghamshire Chapters support the Festival, and this donation from Bowen Chapter now makes them a Patron.

Along with Derek was a Provincial team comprising EComps Graham McGowan-Smyth, Richard Lewis, Bryan Harfield and Nigel Bowater, who came to welcome Stephen Cleary to the Royal Arch.

It was a great ceremony followed by an excellent, fun packed Festive Board.



### Talking Concord



The Province is considering the introduction of a talking version of Concord to assist those of us whose eyesight is not what it used to be.

This would of course mean the purchase of equipment and the assistance of a number of willing readers to make this possible, so before a decision is made we would like to know how many of our members would benefit by this introduction.

If you feel a talking version of Concord would be useful to you, would you please drop a short e-mail to Derek Watts on [derek.watts11@btinternet.com](mailto:derek.watts11@btinternet.com) showing your interest.

All that is needed is a message reading "Yes I am interested" and if you have a preference: would you rather have this on a returnable USB stick or a dial up version on our website.

■ Left: receiving the generous cheque for the 2021 Festival (l-r): EComps Derek Watts, Provincial Grand Charity Steward, Peter Dyer, MEZ and Denver Lynn, Charity Steward

### Food for thought: Are you an active member or do you just belong?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed...

Or are you just content that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the crowd?

Or would you rather stay at home and complain both long and loud?

Do you give a little time and help to make things tick?

Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the 'clique'?

There's quite a programme scheduled that means success if done, and it can be accomplished with the help of everyone.

So come to all the meetings and help with hand and heart,

Don't be just another member but take an active part.

Think it over member— are you right or wrong?

Are **YOU** and ACTIVE MEMBER or do you just BELONG?

Thanks to Doug Bull, Secretary, Fenny Stratford Lodge, for this call to arms!

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## ROSE CROIX CORNER

### Installation of new Inspector General

**Very Illustrious Brother Peter Harborne 33° was installed as the new Inspector General for the eleven Chapters Rose Croix in the District of Buckinghamshire on 19<sup>th</sup> April by a team from Supreme Council.**

The installation took place at Beaconsfield during the regular meeting of Via Phari Chapter. There were 85 members present to see Peter escorted in to the Chapter for the ceremony and 78 lunched afterwards at the Centre.



■ Peter Harborne (to the rear) with his five man escort team just before the rehearsals (l-r): Mike Jolley 32°, Brian Frow 32°, John Keeble 30° (and Royal Arch Grand Superintendent), Peter Corbett 31° and Barry Sparks 31°. The Acting Director of Ceremonies for Supreme Council was another Bucks mason, Graham McGowan-Smyth 32°, Prelate of Sunnymeads Chapter at Slough, Craft Asst ProvGSec and Provincial Sub-Prior of Oxon, Berks and Bucks Province of Knights Templar



After his Installation, the Inspector General gave a short address, highlighting members' responsibility to their fellow freemasons to encourage those who are qualified to join the Order "and enjoy with us the warmth and companionship of dwelling together in unity. In pursuit of that aim, I would ask each of you to identify your two best masonic friends who are not yet in the Order and, if qualified and thought suitable, to offer them the opportunity to be perfected into the Rose Croix."

## Mentoring 'ready to go'

**It has taken over two years to produce the Provincial Mentoring programme, but now it's ready to go.**

Firstly, mentoring workshops took place to find out what support lodge mentors wanted. Next, breakfast white table presentations were held to find out what support new members would like when they joined freemasonry and what questions their wives had. Discussions were then held with many personal mentors to get an understanding of how they wanted to support the Initiates. Presentations were given around the Province to lodges, the Provincial Grand Officers club, the Secretary's Lodge and at all centres. Finally, during that time two mentoring seminars were run which were open to all members.

In February this year, a series of five seminars was organised to roll out the full mentoring programme. This supports and supplies documents for lodge mentors, new members and personal mentors. These documents are available on the Provincial website bookcase: <http://www.buckspgl.org/bucks-information/bookcase>.

All lodge mentors have been sent information and links to these documents so they can now fully support all members and candidates.

This year saw something completely new for mentoring education, the first Mentoring Webinar (online seminar). It was organised as a question and answer session with members from the Winslow centre who are doing some amazing mentoring and retention work. The event looked at their work with regard to mentoring and best practice.

From feedback received, this was a great success so will be used again. If you would like your lodge to be interviewed about your mentoring work, please contact Eugene Matthias, Provincial Grand Mentor at: [mentor@buckspgl.org](mailto:mentor@buckspgl.org).

Retention is something that all Provinces are having to look at. To support this, the mentoring team has recruited Ashley Dart,



■ The first Mentoring session held at Beaconsfield centre in March 2015

Mentoring Training Officer, who will be arranging a series of five ongoing mentoring workshops which will be available to all members. These will be held at Slough, Marlow, Beaconsfield, Aylesbury and Bletchley, starting in November 2017 and running through to April 2018.

Eugene, Simon Corb and the Provincial Mentoring team would like to thank all the lodge mentors for the support they have given to them and for supporting the members in their lodges.





**Freemasonry has had its ups and downs and the last few years have been a challenge.**

There have been retirements, resignations and valued members moving to the Grand Lodge above.

At Thames Mariner Lodge 2014/15 was particularly bad, with the Secretary, Treasurer and Mentor all being diagnosed with prostate cancer within three months of each other and, sadly, two brothers died within twelve months.

Morale within the lodge was low; however, some of the old boys came off the back seats, younger members stepped up, parties were held and fund raising began in earnest, with the aim of this year's April Installation being the recovery keystone. The last two Masters had paved the way. It was

# Thames Mariner fights back

now the turn of the new Master, Andrew Gibson, to direct the fight back.

The Installation gave the lodge an opportunity to demonstrate the members' resolve to work together and provide for those less fortunate. Charity Steward, Alan Skudder, produced a list of donations made by the lodge in 2016. A cheque for £3,000 for the Bucks 2021 Festival, from a total of £8,000 for other good causes, was presented to the APGM, Graham Dearing, by outgoing Master, Keith Ward.

The last two meetings provided an Initiate and a joining member and the first meeting of the new season brings another joiner.

Morale is now high, a fabulous Ladies Night has been held recently – Thames Mariner is fighting back!



■ APGM Graham Dearing (left) receiving a handsome cheque from incoming Thames Mariner Master Andrew Gibson and Keith Ward (outgoing Master)

## ..and New Urban grows A message from Peter Marks PPJGD

**As a London lodge consecrated in 1947 which was struggling and on the verge of handing in its warrant, there were desperate times for New Urban Lodge.**

Talks took place for the lodge to move to the Province of Buckinghamshire: we arrived in 2013 an acorn and slowly became an oak tree!

Apart from the determination of the past masters and brethren in promoting the lodge to ensure it succeeded, there were many contributing factors. We are very passionate and proud of our history.

Since our arrival in the Province we have had four joining members and an initiation, with a further two prospective candidates awaiting initiation.

The success of the lodge would not have been possible if it weren't for the Provincial team and executive with its tremendous support and guidance.

Furthermore, our fellow lodges at the Eliot Hall at Winslow have contributed to our continued success, along with brethren from other lodges and provinces.

Historically, New Urban has always had a special bond with de Bohun Lodge (based in Aylesbury). We have recently formed a link between our lodges with our Masters being honoured guests at each other's lodge.

Finally, and by no means least, we are extremely grateful to Mike Clanfield and his

team from the Bucks Masonic Wanderers (BMW – see page 21 of the Spring edition of Concord) who are regulars at our meetings. We would advise any struggling lodge to invite the lads from BMW: it has certainly worked for us.

At our recent installation meeting in May, George Meredith was installed into the chair of King Solomon at the grand age of 93 and, according to UGLE, is the oldest master in the province (see next page). Fifty brethren attended the meeting: what a great night for a lodge that was on the verge of handing in its warrant.

The newly installed master presented a cheque for £2,000 to the Province for the 2021 festival – an amazing achievement. New Urban Lodge is now Grand Patron of four Grand Lodge charities, received the silver award for the RMBI in the London Appeal and is a Patron Lodge of the MMC.

My advice to other lodges in the province which are going through bleak times is, "Don't abandon your warrant: there are supportive brethren who will assist in rebuilding and your lodge will flourish once again".

New Urban Lodge has a brighter, more positive masonic future than when it first arrived in the Province of Buckinghamshire. Once again thank you to every freemason who has supported us: you are invited to come along and join in our ceremonies.

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## St George's day lunch

The bunting was out at the Slough Masonic Centre on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April to celebrate St George's Day.

It was a great afternoon celebrating the many traditions associated with England's Patron Saint. Red and white bunting, flags and serviettes decorated the room, and a traditional English Sirloin of Beef was served, which received its own salutation celebrating the legend behind how a certain joint of beef was 'knighted' in 1617 by King James I.

Guests enjoyed a feast fit for a king after which a short tribute to St George led into the highpoint of the event – a medley of



■ The dining room at Slough masonic centre was suitably decorated to celebrate St George's Day

patriotic songs ranging from *There'll always be an England* to the football favourite *Three Lions*.

## Young members lead the way

**Scientific Lodge of Instruction, together with St Georges Lodge, commemorated its 135<sup>th</sup> Demonstration on 24<sup>th</sup> April.**

The ceremony is carried out each year by the younger brethren from both lodges, with one lucky younger member taking the role of master of the lodge for that evening and others taking remaining offices to deliver a first degree ceremony.

This helps younger brethren learn the ritual while masters and guests from other lodges watch the great work they have done over the year in preparing for the evening.

Master for the evening was Tony Higgins from Scientific Lodge; Junior Warden was Lee Dobbs and Inner Guard Greg Brown, both of St Georges Lodge; Junior Deacon was Steve Brown and the candidate was Graham Davidson, both of Scientific Lodge; and the North East Corner was carried out by Steven Eyres. The honoured guest was Luke Stacey, PJGW.

A transaction from the first minutes of Scientific Lodge of Instruction was read out on the evening to give the brethren a taste of 1882.



■ Members of Scientific Lol and St Georges Lodge at their 135<sup>th</sup> demonstration held in April

## 93 not out!



■ Barry Sparks, Provincial Senior Grand Warden, receiving a cheque for £2,000 from George Meredith towards the Bucks 2021 Festival

**George Edward Meredith, PPGSwdB, turns 94 in June and at the age of 93 has taken the Masters' Chair for the fifth time.**

George has been master of Saxon Lodge once, master of his mother lodge, de Bohun, twice and now, for the second time, master of New Urban Lodge.

New Urban came to Bucks from London in December 2013. Since they have been in Bucks they have been strongly supported by senior members of the Province at every meeting.

They have attracted numerous 'PIGS' or 'Friends of New Urban' as their Secretary, Dave Heasman, likes to call them. His idea of 'Friends' has been so successful that, at the recent Installation, there were fifty at dinner after the meeting.

Recently, they also attracted two new Joiners and three Initiates.



## New golf season begins

On 10<sup>th</sup> April thirty-four masonic golfers descended on Three Locks Golf Course in Great Brickhill, Milton Keynes for the first golf day of the year.

The Winter Trophy was at stake and was keenly contested with Mick Hull finally the winner with a very respectable 39 points; of course his handicap will be reduced.

Wycombe Heights was the next meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> May for the Inter Lodge Shield. This was won again by David Hawkins and Tony Martin of Wolverton Trinity Lodge. A great day was had by all, helped by the fabulous weather, the fine wines and gourmet food.

Unfortunately the Bucks golfers were beaten by the Province of Bedfordshire by the smallest of margins, with an average score of each player 29.35 to Bucks and 30.27 to Beds, but Peter Smith of Observatory Lodge won the individual best score.

It was a mixed start to the year but it was great to be back on the course again and looking forward to the next game.

Remaining fixtures and contact details:

Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	
Founders Trophy	Weston Turville
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	
Bucks Open	Harleyford
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	
Grenville Trophy	Abbey Hill
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	
Autumn meeting & AGM	Chartridge Park
(Ferdinand de Rothschild Trophy and Scratch Trophy)	

For further information please contact:  
Rob Knock, 16 Stewart Close, Fifield, Berks.,  
SL6 2PD, tel: 01628 673852 / 07733 460550,  
email: [robinknock2@gmail.co.uk](mailto:robinknock2@gmail.co.uk).



■ Paul Savage (centre) presents trophies to David Hawkins (left) and Tony Martin of Wolverton Trinity Lodge, winners of the Inter Lodge competition



■ Above(top): golfing stalwarts (l-r) Brian Reffaelli, Brent Levitt, Roy More and Stan Green

■ Paul Savage, Bucks captain, hands over the trophy to Beds captain, Chris Webb

## Golf contest helps polio research



Mick Hull (Roman Way Lodge), David Hawkins (Wolverton Trinity Lodge) and Chris Knight (Lactadorom Lodge of Northants), all members of BMGS, entered a *Three Clubs and a Putter* competition at Aspley Guise and Woburn Sands Golf Club, in support of a fund-raising event for Polio Research.

The dynamic trio with the team name *Brothers Three* won the event and were presented with a trophy to commemorate their victory.

## Fly fishing casts off

A Tercentenary Inter-Provincial Fly Fishing competition took place on 29<sup>th</sup> April in the picturesque Rib Valley.

Twenty three anglers took part, representing Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Middlesex.

The match saw 47 fish landed weighing over 101 pounds and was won by Buckinghamshire.



■ The winning Buckinghamshire team with over 31 pounds (l-r): Dean Read, Dave Hollis (Captain), Andrew Hodgson, Gerry Cook, James Dykes and Jim Webster



# Bucks wins Tercentenary Inter Province tournament

On Thursday 8th June, in an alternative to the General Election, more than sixty golfers arrived at Lambourne Golf Club in Burnham to do battle.

Hosted by the Province of Berkshire, sixteen teams from Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire, Middlesex and Berkshire competed in teams of four for the Tercentenary Golf Championship.

With three scores in each team to count, the competition was hard fought but the Bucks I team, consisting of the Bucks' Masonic Golf Society Captain Paul Savage, Dave Hawkins, Andrew Sweeney and Steve Smirthwaite, came top, beating the Oxfordshire team – which included their Provincial Grand Master, James Hilditch – by one point, 107-106.

The trophy was presented by the Berks DPGM, Anthony Charles Howlett-Bolton. There were two other Buckinghamshire winners on the day: Stan Green, who won nearest the pin, and Peter Harborne, who scooped the ball sweep cash.

"In their annual Provincial matches, played as part of the day, Bucks beat Middlesex but sadly lost to Berkshire, for the second year running, by two points."

The suggestion that it would be 300 years until the trophy had to be defended was met with much laughter but everyone looked forward to the usual Provincial matches in the coming seasons.



■ The Bucks winning team (l-r): Steve Smirthwaite, Dave Hawkins, Dave Talbot, Paul Savage (Captain), Fred Ashmore, Peter Harborne, Tony Martin (MK), Tony Martin (HW), Stan Green and Mike Powell. Andrew Sweeney and Brent Levitt were also in the team but were not available for the photo



■ Three of the winning team receiving the trophy from the Berkshire DPGM Anthony Charles Howlett-Bolton (l-r): Dave Hawkins, Captain Paul Savage and Steve Smirthwaite

## St Georges Lodge 5598



### Inaugural Autumn Charity Golf Tournament

28<sup>th</sup> September 2017

An open tournament for Masons and Non-Masons, teams of two

In aid of the 2021 Festival for:



**Masonic**  
Charitable Foundation

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Wavendon Golf Centre

£40 per person

includes:

Tea, Coffee and Bacon Rolls on arrival.

One 18 hole game of golf

Two Carvery dinner

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W/Bro Dave Dachtler

07522 430746

[dj.dachtler@talk21.com](mailto:dj.dachtler@talk21.com)

Location:  
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Lower End Road, Phone:  
**Milton Keynes**  
MK17 8DA



## LADIES CLUBS

### Beaconsfield

The Beaconsfield Ladies Club started the new year with their AGM in February which was followed by another very interesting talk by Tony Eaton, this time on the disappearances of Amy Johnson and Lesley Howard.

The talk in March on *101 things you didn't know about birds* by Chris Ward was very popular. The ladies learned that there are some very 'naughty' birds around – in fact some of our most loved birds are prone to infidelities and mischievous acts!

The quiz/interactive evening in April was a lively affair with much competition to produce the best Easter-themed plasticine model. The best ones were truly marvels of the art of this soft clay product (see right).

The May speaker, Richard Selby, a Registrar, gave a talk entitled *All the women I have married*. He gave an insight into his job as well as the history of how the Registrar post came into being.

Various events will be taking place during the summer and there will be a coach trip leaving Beaconsfield Centre at 9.30am on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September for Bourton-on-the-Water, returning from there at approx. 4.00 pm. The cost of the coach for non-members is £22.00 each. We would be delighted should you wish to join us on this day out; if so, please contact Magda Smart – details below.

If you think you might like to join the Club but are unsure of what it entails, please email or pick up the phone and call one of us. We will be happy to talk to you!

Yvonne Cawte, Secretary, 01494 562638, [yvonnecawte@btinternet.com](mailto:yvonnecawte@btinternet.com) or Magda Smart, Programmes, 01895 254415, [magda@magdalene.free-online.co.uk](mailto:magda@magdalene.free-online.co.uk).



■ The winning entry (above) in the Beaconsfield Ladies Easter crafts contest, a beautiful Easter bonnet, and below the runner up, a miscellany of Easter delights, all made out of plasticine



■ Highclere Castle, venue for the Bletchley Ladies visit in July



### Bletchley

Ladies of the Bletchley Ladies Luncheon Club have gathered together to enjoy socialising and listening to some very interesting speakers during the months of March to May.

Their team won the Longueville Lodge Ladies Shield again at the quiz held by the lodge in February.

In March, Alan Haines gave a very entertaining presentation, called *A kick up the 60s* with nostalgic tales, film footage and music of the 1960s, interspersed with some magic tricks which amazed the ladies. This brought back happy memories, many smiles and even some singing.

Following their luncheon in April, the ladies enjoyed a social afternoon with a quiz and a poem competition. After much chatting and fun, some prizes were awarded.

A comedienne visited in May. Her hilarious recitation entitled *Simply Rhona*, brought much laughter and applause. She cleverly took ladies into the world of each poem which she acted with great expression and verve.

Ladies and guests are looking forward to their trip in July to Highclere Castle and gardens, the film location for the renowned television drama *Downton Abbey*.

A very varied programme of speakers is arranged through to the end of 2018. After the summer break, in September there will be a talk on first aid and how to administer resuscitation techniques.

The ladies supported the local Food Cupboard at their May meeting and the proceeds from the regular book sales go towards another charity.

New members are always welcome: please contact the Membership Secretary, Dorothy Runacres, on 01908 510830.



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## Marlow

**Marlow ladies began their Spring programme with a talk by Alastair Lack entitled *Travels with Aunty*, entertaining the ladies with tales of working for the BBC Home Service and anecdotes relating to various famous people.**

In March the ladies were taken on a tour of a lesser known part of London around Petticoat Lane. The tour was entitled *Barrow boys and bankers* and finished with a trip to the Bank of England Museum where they were able to see a gold bar (albeit behind glass) and to try lifting it interactively. This proved harder than it looked as the bar weighed around 28lbs! Afterwards some ladies were able to be the first to possess the new £1 coin by making a small purchase from the gift shop and receiving it in their change.

In April members enjoyed a trip to Arundel Castle. Although the weather was changeable it did not stop the ladies and their guests from enjoying the magnificent display of tulips in the grounds and the history of the castle. For those adventurous enough there was a marvellous view of the surrounding scenery from the Castle Keep.

Malcolm Nelson was the guest speaker in May. He spent his life working for Customs and Excise and regaled members with his, at times, hilarious stories of working at Heathrow Airport in a talk entitled *Forty years of catching smugglers*. This was probably one of the most popular speakers in recent times and the ladies are quite keen for him to return for another installment.

The ladies are now looking forward to their charity lunch to be held at Taplow House Hotel in June.

If you are interested in joining the Marlow Ladies Club please contact either Cynthia Wharton on 01844 347913 or Christine Dyckes on 01494 814991.



■ Enjoying the April sunshine at Arundel Castle (l-r): Eveline Martin, Robert Wharton, Marie Moody, Tony Martin and Marie's daughter Gillian



■ A display at the Bank of England, featuring Robert Peel under whose government the Bank Charter Act 1844 (sometimes referred to as the Peel Banking Act) was passed, restricting the powers of British banks and giving exclusive note-issuing powers to the central Bank of England

### Foreword continued from page 3

I am pleased to announce that, at the Provincial Meeting on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017, I will appoint Stuart McCurry from the Chilterns Lodge as our new Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works. This office will now become a long term appointment and Stuart's task will be to help and support those involved with managing and maintaining our masonic centres. Our meeting places should be centres of excellence and it is an important part of our future that they become and remain so. Stuart has the qualifications and the ability to help where necessary and it will be a great advantage to have his knowledge and experience available to those who may need it. He is not waiting until his official appointment and has already begun his work. If you require his assistance, the Provincial Office will provide details.

Please enjoy the rest of Concord: in my opinion it is another excellent edition. I must take this opportunity to thank Sue Dorman, Stephen Smirthwaite, Peter Moody, Cliff Drake, Tim Arnold and John Poulter, all of whom at some point during my time in office have been involved in the progress of this magazine. May I also thank those who have provided articles and pictures over the years, as well as our advertisers, and congratulate those who put in the effort which in turn leads to an excellent publication.

I will miss you all.

*Gordon*



**5.30 p.m. Saturday  
7<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
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**To Book your table, please contact  
W.Bro Vincent Leiu  
Email : [vincent\\_leiu@hotmail.com](mailto:vincent_leiu@hotmail.com)**

**Non Masons Welcome**



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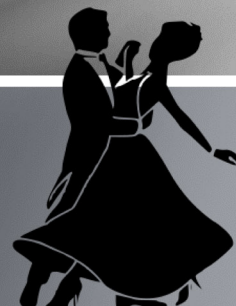
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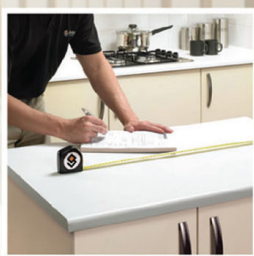


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