



**Grand Lodge of  
Ancient Free & Accepted  
Masons of Ireland**

**Annual Report 2019**

*Published with the Authority of Grand Lodge*



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# Grand Master's Report 2019

*M.W.Bro. Douglas T. Grey*

I am pleased to report that at last our refurbishment work has now substantially been completed. You may well have noticed that some extra work has gone on recently due to an exceptional fall of rain in Dublin on 30th of July when we had a serious amount of damage as a result of drains at roof level overflowing and flooding ceilings causing them to collapse.

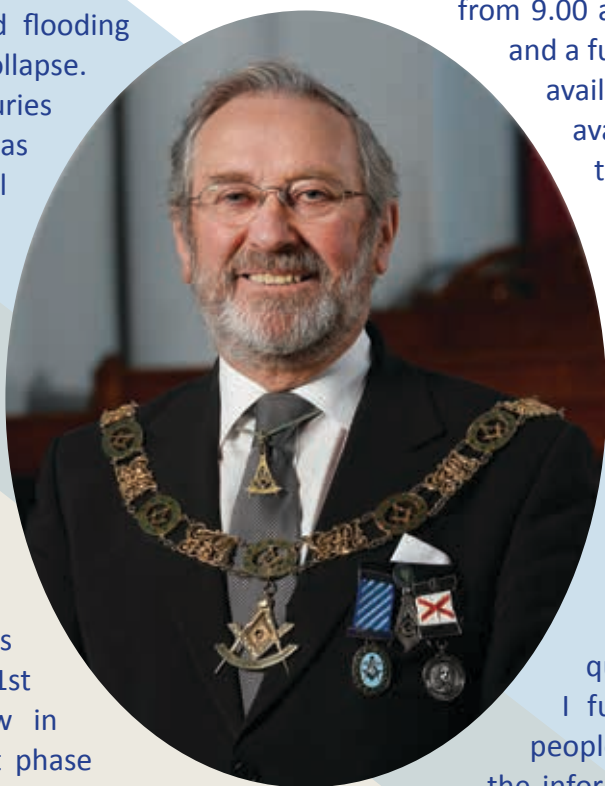
Fortunately, no injuries occurred to staff and all has been restored to normal with our insurers now dealing with the resulting costs. Fortunately, it was nothing like the trauma our Brethren in Barbados suffered, and we wish them well in their efforts to get back to normal.

Over the last two years we have restructured our management processes to bring them into the 21st century and we are now in position to go to the next phase by updating our database, to make it more user friendly and over the next twelve months we will be improving our Web Site so that all accurate information about Irish Freemasonry can be obtained through that site, "freemason.ie". Indeed, during the year we held a seminar for Provincial Grand Secretaries and District Grand Registrars to appraise them of the use and future developments which will greatly assist them in their task for keeping our Brethren informed and up to date on all matters relating to Grand Lodge and their relative Province. This Web Site will ultimately be the way for most of the information of Irish Freemasonry to

be accurately obtained. A new catering company has been appointed at Molesworth Street and I think that you will agree with me that we have put in place a higher standard and quality of catering to match up with the excellent standard of facilities all round. Number 17 Cafe will be open from 9.00 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. every day and a full range of services are now available at cheaper prices than available at facilities within the area. Over the last few years we have demanded better such facilities, so it is now up to us to support these fully.

Relative to our new database, we have been writing to all Secretaries of Lodges to update their membership lists and the level of response in some cases has not quite come up to scratch!

I fully understand that some people are wary of "change" but the information is only for our own exclusive information. This includes dates of birth and I know that some Brethren have been reluctant to furnish this information. Again, I stress this is only for our own use and is for identification purposes so that we can exclude double counting of Brethren who may be members of one or more Lodges. I can further assure you that we have installed the highest level of security on all our systems and I know for certain that it is very much higher than the domestic security and antivirus programmes on the home PCs of most Secretaries. Further, nowadays, when you contact any utility company one of the first things that they will ask



you for is your address and date of birth and when you visit a hotel on holiday abroad the first thing you are asked for is your passport. Need I say more? I make no apology for stressing this point for it is for our Members security and will not be disclosed to any other outside the organisation. So, I would request your full cooperation in this matter. Finally, we are bound by new and very tight regulation particularly in this area and if in any doubt read our leaflet on GDPR! or see on the Web Site.!

By popular demand, we again held an Act of Remembrance in the Grand Lodge Room in Dublin in cooperation with the Royal British Legion on 13th November. The event was open to non-masons and included the opportunity for wreaths to be laid.

Our Education Committee has been meeting during this year and will shortly be ready to report back to Grand Lodge on their intention to enhance the education of all Brethren. R.W.Bro. Noel Drain has indicated that due to pressures on his time he felt unable to attend to the duties of Chairman fully and requested to stand down, but another excellent Brother has agreed to take over - R.W.Bro. Roger Matthews - and we wish him well. They have set up working groups to examine various subjects and will report shortly.

In October we heard reports from our main Charity Committees, and I would like on your behalf thank them most sincerely for their work and commitment to their various tasks. Charity, as you know, is one of the main activities of our great Order and as we are now approaching the new year, Vision 2020, already up and running, will really come into operation. As I have said before, this is a vital cog in the work of us all and I would ask you to give it your full support during the coming year. I know that most of you will have made big efforts to celebrate the various 150th year anniversaries so having now had a short "rest" please get behind Vision 2020. In that context we already have over €50,000 in the bank with about the same promised. Indeed, our Provincial Grand Master in North Munster R.W.Bro. Tom Peirce did the Camino Walk in Spain during the summer and raised through sponsorship €17,885 - a great effort - I am expecting his Province to run past him! If we all support

such efforts, we will definitely make a big impact. Recently I received a cheque for £2,000 as a result of a recent auction on the Freemasons of Ireland Facebook page. Remember, a Grand Master's Festival is our way of getting across to the general public that Freemasonry is an Organisation which is PART of society and not APART from society. On the 25th of September together with R.W.Bro. Ian Kirkpatrick we had a meeting with representatives of all the Charities which we have promised to support, and each have agreed to use their funds to erect and complete a project that will demonstrate a lasting reminder of the Grand Lodge of Ireland's support of their work. With Medicines Sans Frontiers, it is a little more difficult, but they have agreed to use their funds to initiate, for example, an agreed inoculation programme for children or homeless/refugees as seen fit nearer the time of distribution. I wish to express my thanks to R.W.Bro. Ian Kirkpatrick, Chairman for his contribution today and over the last year and coming year together with R.W.Bro's. David Young and Brian Gardiner and their respective committees. Please give them your support.

Teddies for Loving Care, "TLC", has continued to provide a wonderful method of reaching out to the community.

Hospitals throughout the whole country are now distributing the wonderful little Teddies on our behalf. Great credit is due to all concerned.

TLC Calendars are for sale and I urge you to buy these and to continue supporting this great project.

As we go forward with our new management structure, refurbished premises, and new support systems I am convinced that there is a very bright future for Freemasonry in this country. Society is changing, and we only have to look at our politicians and religious leaders and how they have not covered themselves in glory over the last few years and how most people spend huge amounts of their time on their phones, iPad or whatever electronic device is currently in vogue; the Grand Lodge of Ireland has to be prepared to cope with societal changes but not to forsake it's basic principles of Peace, Love and Harmony. Indeed, we might all be guided by these principles and look to and recall the obligations we all took in each of our Degrees, to live our lives on a high







plane of morality, particularly in how we deal with each other and to show a good example of how a Freemason gives to society in general.

I wish to place on record Grand Lodges' thanks to our staff, particularly to our Grand Secretary for

their complete support and dedication and to all those who assist in any way to enhancing this our Great Order.

May the Great Architect bless you all and your loved ones.



# Grand Officers 2019

Douglas T. Grey	M.W. Grand Master
Rodney L. McCurley	R.W. Deputy Grand Master
Leslie J. Nixon	R.W. Assistant Grand Master
Richard H. Gray	R.W. Senior Grand Warden
Leslie G. Evans	R.W. Junior Grand Warden
Richard S.G. Ensor	R.W. Grand Treasurer
N. John Hunter	R.W. Grand Registrar
Philip A.J. Daley	R.W. Grand Secretary
Cecil Wellwood	R.W. Grand Director of Ceremonies
Rev. Canon T. Henry Trimble	R.W. Senior Grand Chaplain
Rev. Richard W. Moore	R.W. Junior Grand Chaplain
Rev. Edwin W. Hunter	R.W. Junior Grand Chaplain
Brian W. Gardner	V.W. Senior Grand Deacon
David L. Blair	V.W. Junior Grand Deacon
David T. Young	V.W. Grand Superintendent of Works
Philip Thompson	V.W. Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
Desmond M. McCormick	V.W. Grand Steward
Derek W.M. Nixon	V.W. Grand Sword Bearer
Malachy Ross	V.W. Grand Steward of Charities
Harold C. McKee	V.W. Grand Steward of Charities
David Cleland	V.W. Grand Steward of Charities
Barnett R. Brewster	V.W. Grand Almoner
Arthur W. Graham	V.W. Grand Almoner
John N. Rowden	V.W. Grand Organist
Philip Payne	V.W. Grand Lodge Standard Bearer
John R. McCullagh	V.W. Grand Master's Standard Bearer
John C. Crawford	V.W. Grand Inner Guard
James Gilchrist	V.W. Grand Secretary for Instruction
Gordon Allen	V.W. Assistant Grand Secretary for Instruction
William A. Kirkpatrick	V.W. Assistant Grand Secretary for Instruction

**Grand Secretary's Office, Freemasons' Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin D02 HK50.**

**Telephone: +353 1 676 1337 E-mail: [Office@freemason.ie](mailto:Office@freemason.ie)**

## Stated Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge

The June 6th and December 27th Communications of Grand Lodge were held in Freemasons' Hall, Dublin. The March 7th Communication was hosted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Connaught and held at Lough Rynn Castle, Mohill, Co. Leitrim. The October 5th Communication was hosted by the Provincial Grand Lodges of Antrim and Down and held at The Mourne Country Hotel, Newry.

Grand Lodge was happy to welcome many distinguished visitors to its meetings, particularly in June.





## Provincial Grand Masters 2019

Province	Provincial Grand Master
Antrim	John S. McLernon
Armagh	Gilbert T. Irvine
North Connaught	Norman T. Reid
South Connaught	Nigel J.C. Foley-Fisher
Down	John C. Clarke
Londonderry and Donegal	W. Raymond Robinson
Meath	Russell R.M. Waller
Midland Counties	Cecil Wellwood
Munster	Leslie Deane
North Munster	Thomas H. Peirce
South Eastern	John N. Fryday
Tyrone and Fermanagh	Jonathan W. Woods
Wicklow and Wexford	W. David Valentine
Metropolitan Area	Derek A. Brennan
New Zealand	Andrew G. McGregor
South Africa, Northern	Nicolas M.A.S. Benson
Southern Cape	Anton H.G. Alsemgeest
Natal	David G. Patton
Ireland in India	Ardeshir S. Aga
Zambia	Dilip T. Desai
Bermuda	Allen D. Richardson
Far East	Tommy K.W. Cheng
Jamaica and the Bahamas	Peter H.G. Stuart
Sri Lanka	Chandranath Mohan Wanigatunga
South East Asia	Vijayakrishnan Nambiar

## Grand Inspectors 2019

Sierra Leone	Hussein Fawaz
Gibraltar	John Bugeja
Botswana	Michael Campbell
Zimbabwe	Marc R. de Villiers



# *Honorary Membership of the Grand Lodge of Ireland*

The Grand Master conferred the unique honour of Honorary Membership of the Grand Lodge of Ireland on M.W.Bro. Peter G. Lowndes, Pro Grand Master at the United Grand Lodge of England and R.W.Bro. Charles Ian Robert Wolridge Gordon of Esslemont, Past Grand Master Mason at the Grand Lodge of Scotland in recognition of the commitment and dedication they have demonstrated to Freemasonry, and their wisdom, foresight and commitment to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, along with their fraternal friendship to the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

## *Honorary Past Grand Rank*

The Grand Master, with the concurrence of Grand Lodge, conferred the following Honorary Ranks:

### *Past Grand Deacon*

V.W.Bro. Percival J. McDermott	on promotion from Honorary Past Grand Steward
V.W.Bro. Andre F.F.G. de Roubaix	on promotion from Honorary Past Grand Superintendent of Works

### *Past Grand Steward*

W.Bro. Llewellyn A.J. Trott	Past Master of Hannibal Lodge No. 224, St. George's, Bermuda
W.Bro. esmond B. De Shield	Past Master of Abercorn Lodge No. 123, Hamilton, Bermuda
V.W.Bro. Edward J. Ives	Past Master of Leinster Lodge No. 743, South Africa Northern
V.W.Bro. Gerhard van Staden	Past Master of Leinster Lodge No. 265, South Africa Northern
R.W.Bro. Garth R. Liddell	Past Master of Ara Lodge No. 348, Auckland, New Zealand, on promotion from Past Grand Steward

### *Past Grand Sword Bearer*

R.W.Bro. Abuthahir Abdul Gafoor	Past Master of St. Patrick Lodge No. 765, Singapore
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### *Past Grand Steward of Charities*

V.W.Bro. Viraf N. Gazdar	Past Master of Nowroze Wadie Lodge No. 804, Mumbai, India
V.W.Bro. Madathil S. Duleep	Past Master of Saxena Lodge No. 815, Calicut, India
V.W.Bro. Robert Henderson	Past Master of Lodge No. 834, Crawfordsburn in recognition of achieving his 100th birthday.

### *Past Grand Almoner*

V.W.Bro. Ravi M. Gaikwad	Past Master of St. Patrick's Lodge No. 319, Mumbai. India
V.W.Bro. Mervin Aston	Past Master of Hely Hutchinson Lodge No. 465, Poona, India

### *Past Grand Inner Guard*

W.Bro. Vidal C. Spaine	Past Master of Donoughmore Lodge No. 920, Sierra Leone
R.W.Bro. Etienne H. Bester	Past Master of Milnerton Lodge No. 610, Southern Cape, South Africa
W.Bro. Antony P. Barragry	Past Master of Emerald in the East Lodge No. 830, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## ***Overseas District Grand Rank***

W.Bro. Tunku Motsumi	Past Master of Kgale Lodge No. 918, Botswana
W.Bro. Raymond M. Roberts	Past Master of Donoughmore Lodge No. 920, Sierra Leone
W.Bro. Jonathan A. Thomas	Past Master of Trinity Lodge No. 848, Sierra Leone.
W.Bro. Albert O. Collier	Past Master of Donoughmore Lodge No. 920, Sierra Leone
W.Bro. Philip E.B. Wellington	Past Master of Trinity Lodge No. 848, Sierra Leone
W.Bro. Dr. Samura M.W. Kamara	Past Master of Trinity Lodge No. 848, Sierra Leone

## ***Honorary Past Master of the Irish Constitution***

W.Bro. Paul Spencer	Member of Lennox Lodge No. 123, UGLE
W.Bro. James T. Gardiner	Member of Lodge Barns O'Clyde No. 1018, S.C.
W.Bro. Alastair G.K. Scott	Member of Lodge Barns O'Clyde No. 1018, S.C.

## ***Warrants***

### ***Warrants returned to Grand Lodge:***

Lodge No. 161, Newtownabbey	Lodge No. 636, Newtownabbey
Lodge No. 294, Belfast	Lodge No. 670, Rosetta
Lodge No. 371, Rosetta	Lodge No. 734, The Mount
Lodge No. 524, Hollywood	

### ***New Warrants issued by Grand Lodge:***

Verdant Isle Lodge No. 942, Grand Cayman	May Park Lodge No. 952, Freetown, Sierra Leone
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## ***New Grand Representatives***

### ***From the following Grand Lodges:-***

Bosnia & Herzegovina	R.W.Bro. George R. Baker, Past Master of Lodge No. 280, Moyarget
Luxembourg	R.W.Bro. Robert W.J. Wallace, Past Master of Lodge No. 366, Limavady
Moldova	R.W.Bro. Ciaran M.J. McAteer, Past Master of Lodge No. 760, Rosetta
Romania	R.W.Bro. James B. McBain, Past Master of Lodge No. 332, Omagh
Russia	R.W.Bro. Trevor J. Taylor, Past Master of Lodge No. 52, Londonderry
Georgia	R.W.Bro. Andrew Cole, Past Master of Lodge No. 778, Donemana
Massachusetts	R.W.Bro. Frederick Dixon, Past Master of Lodge No. 716, Coleraine
Ohio	R.W.Bro. Frederick I. McDonald, Past Master of Lodge No. 596, Newtownards
Oklahoma	R.W. Bro. William T. Scott, Past Master of Lodge No. 260, Ballycarry



Oregon	R.W. Bro. J. Russell Millar, Past Master of Lodge No. 514, Larne
Utah	R.W. Bro. Edward T. Woods, Past Master of Lodge No. 620, Dublin
Vermont	R.W. Bro. John R. Adair, Past Master of Lodge No. 512, Newtownabbey
Wisconsin	R.W. Bro. Martin F. Lenihan, Past Master of Lodge No. 730, Dublin
Costa Rica	R.W. Bro. Raymond Eakin, Past Master of Lodge No. 404, Portstewart
Mali	R.W. Bro. Jeremiah O'Connor, Past Master of Lodge No. 748, Wicklow

***The Grand Lodge of Ireland granted recognition to the following Grand Lodges:***

Grand Lodge of Minas Gerais	Grand Lodge of the State of Bahia
Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland	Grand Lodge of the Republic of Liberia
Grand Lodge of the State of Rio de Janeiro	Grand Lodge of Ukraine
Grand Lodge of Parana	

## *Grand Representatives*

Grand Lodge	Representative here	Representative there
England		
Scotland	D. Barry Lyons	C.M. McGibbon
<b>Canada</b>		
Alberta	D. John Cairns	D.A. Kenny
British Columbia	Joseph C. Byrne	D.W. Hargrove
Canada (in Ontario)	E. John Keeley	D.H. Mumby
Manitoba	Keith E. Wray	N.A. Pow
New Brunswick	Ian W. Kelly	C.M. Townes
Newfoundland & Lab.		J.H. Cameron
Nova Scotia	Thomas R.F. Payne	J.J. Kinley
Prince Edward Island	Bryan S. Flewett	A. Coles
Quebec	J. Leslie Sibbald	DC. Ross
Saskatchewan	Ian R. McCullagh	D. Finan
<b>Australia and New Zealand</b>		
New Zealand	Roland H. Browne	
South Australia	Michael M. Costello	E.J. Neal
Tasmania		A.B. Swinton
United New South Wales	Robin E.W. Newenham	R.E. Peattie
United Queensland		R.L. Grimshaw
Victoria	Clifford Miller	J.R. Evans
Western Australia	Alan F. Harrison	B.R. Crisp
<b>Europe</b>		
Andorra	Samuel G. Plews	A. Bassou
Austria	Arnold Imrie	P. Hoffer
Belgium, Regular	James F. McDowell	L. De Bouvère





Bosnia & Herzegovnia	George R. Baker	
Bulgaria		
Croatia	Thomas M. Yarr	Z. Delic
Cyprus	Randal W.J. Robertson	C.L. Agrotis
Czech Republic	Robert T.A. Abernethy	J. Huyghebaert
Denmark, National	Robert B. Carson	J.E. Lassen
Estonia	William Kirk	P. Himma
Finland	Joseph J. McCullough	J. Viinainen
France	Gilbert T. Irvine	G. Bruandet
Germany, United Grand Lodges	Charles E. Ruttle	Dr. P. Gobel
Greece, National	William G. Shaw	A. Spyropoulos
Hungary	Robert Black	R. Schiller
Iceland, National	Neil A. Coey	T. Oskarsson
Italy, Regular	Andrew Lyall	F. Venzi
Latvia	Leslie A. Shiels	V. Pirāgs
Lithuania	Paul C. Stewart	L. Didrikas
Luxembourg	Robert W.J. Wallace	G. Bemelmans
Macedonia		
Malta		J. Cordina
Moldova	Ciaran M.J. McAteer	
Monaco		R. Schultink
Montenegro		B. Bakken
Netherlands	George Dunlop	R. Schultink
Norway	G. Arthur Woolsey	B. Bakken
Poland, National	Wilfred F. Baker	
Portugal, Regular	Robert Spiers	A.F. Garcia
Romania	James B. McBain	
Russia	Trevor J. Taylor	A. Bogdanov
Serbia	John A.G. James	
Slovakia	Melville C.D. Goodchild	W. McGolpin
Slovenia	George Finnigan	
Spain	Kenneth H. Ramsey	W. McGolpin
Sweden	Eric N. Waller	A. Stromberg
Switzerland (Alpina)	Brian C. Johnson	J.-P. Dousset
Turkey	Francis P. Beckett	F. Han
Ukraine		
<b>United States</b>		
Alabama	Do not exchange Representatives	
Alaska	David J.L. McNeill	J. K. Bishop
Arizona	Henry J. Irvine	M.B. Manning



Arkansas	James H. Furphy	R.E. Browning
California	Do not exchange Representatives	
Colorado	Hugh J. Selby	C.B. Kennedy
Columbia, District of	John A.W. Campbell	R.E. Johnson
Connecticut	William R. Prescott	R.R. Stimpson, Jr.
Delaware	James H. Blackburn	P.J. Burke
Florida	A. Kenneth Broughall	F.H. Stoltzfus
Georgia	Andrew Cole	F.E. Metzler
Hawaii	James Gilchrist	H.G. Gardiner
Idaho	Neale L. Woods	E.B. Casady
Illinois	Charles D. Humes	G.W. Wilcox
Indiana	Philip Thompson	M.D. Brumback
Iowa	Do not exchange Representatives	
Kansas		D.F. Davidson
Kentucky	David T. Young	W.K. Wilder
Louisiana	David E. St. C. Herman	T.J. Riley, Jr.
Maine	Robert S. Hackett	B.D. Blake
Maryland	Robert H.A. Wilson	J.H. Poston, Jr.
Massachusetts	Frederick Dixon	A.E. Johnson
Michigan	Eric Mackarel	R.V. Wilson II
Minnesota	David Penpraze	T.G. McCarthy
Mississippi	William R.J. Dickson	R.W. Glover
Missouri	Thomas A. Wilson	R.P. Krueger
Montana	William A. Kirkpatrick	R.B. McGinnis
Nebraska	Kenneth W. Ruddock	R.E. Comer
Nevada	Derek R. Poyntz	E.B. Sullivan
New Hampshire	Brian E. Simpson	P.M. Leary
New Jersey	T. Eric Henry	R.H. Williamson
New Mexico	Do not exchange Representatives	
New York	Brian Ruttle	C.J. Smith
North Carolina	David Henderson	W.P. Keller
North Dakota		F.S. Sharkey
Ohio	Frederick I. McDonald	H.C. Powers
Oklahoma	William T. Scott	E.H. Billings
Oregon	J. Russell Millar	V.R. Garvin
Pennsylvania	Do not exchange Representatives	
Rhode Island	Norman Carmichael	C.E. Bradley
South Carolina	Thomas Fitzpatrick	G.L. Carver
South Dakota	David W. Douglas	L.M. Spies
Tennessee		R.W. Waldron
Texas	Henry D. Friar	M.L. Higgins



Utah	Edward T. Woods	J.A. McIntire
Vermont	John R. Adair	W.E. McEnaney
Virginia	James McGookin	D.L. McAndrews
Washington	Ramon H. Gillis	C.B. Smith
<b>Prince Hall Grand Lodges</b>		
Alaska & Jurisdiction	Trevor G. McCaughey	
Bahamas		
California	VACANT	H. Price Jr
Caribbean	Norman T. Reid	L. Greenidge
Colorado	Noel Simpson	W.K. Wooden
District of Columbia		W.R. Whitley
Connecticut	Gordon A. Chestnutt	R.E. Williamson
Hawaii		
Illinois		
Iowa		
Massachusetts	John Moody	
North Carolina	R. Noel Magown	
Ohio	Robert Smyth	
Ontario & Jurisdiction	John W. Hewitson	
Oregon	No exchange	
Pennsylvania	VACANT	
Texas	John S. Haynes	W.M. Curtis
Virginia	M. Ronald Phillips	
Washington	VACANT	
<b>Central America</b>		
Costa Rica	Raymond Eakin	P. Filloy-Alvarez
Cuscatlan, El Salvador	John Strong	A.S. Melendez
Guatemala		
Liberia		
Mexico, York	T. Neil Ritchie	T. O'Rourke, Jr.
Panama		
<b>South America</b>		
Argentina	Robert J.M. McKee	G.W.C. Pravaz-Leslie
Bolivia	VACANT	
Brazil G.O.	Raymond E.A. Rea	O. Mathieux
Brazil, Mato Grosso	Robert S. Agnew	J. Budib
Brazil, Mato Grosso Do Sul	Diarmuid McNulty	
Brazil, Minas Gerais		I. Chami Zugman
Brazil, Paraná		O.P. Henriquez
Brazil, São Paulo	Samuel Snodden	I. Chami Zugman



Brazil, State of Bahia		E. Woolfson
Brazil, State of Espírito Santo		M.A. Garces
Brazil, State of Rio de Janeiro		
Chile	James S. Patterson	O.P. Henriquez
Colombia (Cartagena)	John Matchett	A.E. Schotborgh
Ecuador	William T.I. McElpatrick	E. Woolfson
Peru	Archibald D. Wilmont	M.A. Garcés
Uruguay		
Venezuela	Joseph J. Murdock	S. Goss
<b>Africa</b>		
Benin		
Burkina Faso	Ian A. Kirkpatrick	A.R. Coéfé
Cameroon		
Congo		
Gabon	Philip M. Dowzell	
Ghana		O.O. Nyampong VI
Guinea	Robert S. Moore	M. Challoub
Ivory Coast	Thomas A. Armstrong	E. Djakoure
Madagascar	Jon McA. Pollock	J-P Sanchis
Mali	Jeremiah M. O'Connor	B. Jacquin
Nigeria		J-P. Sanchis
Senegal	James A. Hughes	A. Agbogba
South Africa	William D. Clements	J.E.H. Smith
Togo		E.K. Nathaniels
South Africa	William D. Clements	J.E.H. Smith
Togo (National)		E.K. Nathaniels
<b>Asia</b>		
China	John W. Patching	T.F.H. Weng
India		G. Shastri
Iran	In Abeyance	
Japan	W. James Lynch	F.R. Collins
Mauritius	Gordon A. Robinson	Dr Y. Khadaroo
The Philippines	Samuel Brennan	N.C. Baybay
<b>Middle East</b>		
State of Israel	Norman J.E. Close	A.V. Baranes
<b>West Indies</b>		
Cuba	Kenneth W. Davis	J.A.R. Perez
Dominican Republic	George M.J. Stewart	J.E. Garcia-Mella G.
Puerto Rico		L.A. Otero-Gonzalez





# Obituaries



M.W. Bro. Michael W. Walker	Honorary Past Grand Master, Past Grand Secretary, Past Grand Deacon and Foreign Grand Lodge Representative Malta
R.W. Bro. John Dunlop	Past Provincial Grand Master, Antrim and Past Grand Deacon
R.W. Bro. J. Kenneth Dunne	Past Provincial Grand Master, Midland Counties and Past Grand Senior Warden
R.W. Bro. David H. Weir	Past Provincial Grand Master, Tyrone & Fermanagh, Past Grand Deacon and Past Foreign Grand Lodge Representative
R.W. Bro. Peter A Birkett	Past Provincial Grand Master, Zimbabwe and Honorary Past Grand Deacon
R.W. Bro. Joseph Cordina	Past Grand Inspector of Malta (until the Grand Lodge of Malta was formed in 2004 and he became the first Grand Master) and Honorary Past Grand Deacon
R.W. Bro. Allen G. Megarry	Past Grand Director of Ceremonies and Past Foreign Grand Lodge Representative
R.W. Bro. Rev. Philip J. Knowles	Past Junior Grand Chaplain
R.W. Bro. Rt. Rev. Alfred F.C. Reid	Past Junior Grand Chaplain
V.W. Bro. Robert J. Robinson	Past Grand Deacon
V.W. Bro. Donald C. Wilson	Honorary Past Grand Deacon, Lodge No. 295
V.W. Bro. Isak Delport	Honorary Past Grand Deacon, South Africa Northern
V.W. Bro. Brian T. Trotter	Honorary Past Grand Deacon, South Africa Northern
V.W. Bro. William S. Rowe	Honorary Past Grand Deacon, South Africa Northern
R.W. Bro. Brian J. Bull	Honorary Past Grand Deacon, South Africa Northern
V.W. Bro. Donald H. Lambert	Honorary Past Grand Deacon, Southern Cape
V.W. Bro. Malcolm Wright	Honorary Past Grand Deacon and Provincial Grand Secretary, Natal
V.W. Bro. Nandkumar N. Naik	Honorary Past Grand Deacon, India
R.W. Bro. James Holt	Honorary Past Grand Deacon, Zambia
V.W. Bro. Trevor F. Ottey	Honorary Past Grand Deacon, Jamaica



V.W. Bro. Andrew E. Kennedy	Honorary Past Grand Superintendent of Works, South Africa, Northern
V.W. Bro. Godwin A.R. Perumal	Honorary Past Grand Superintendent of Works, Sri Lanka
V.W. Bro. Anthony J. Hammill	Honorary Past Grand Steward, South Africa, Northern
V.W. Bro. Hendrik A. Erasmus	Honorary Past Grand Steward, South Africa Northern
V.W. Bro. Frans P. Massyn	Honorary Past Grand Steward, South Africa Northern
V.W. Bro. Jamshed M. Darbari	Honorary Past Grand Steward, Ireland in India
V.W. Bro. Hoshang Mobedji	Honorary Past Grand Steward, Ireland in India
V.W. Bro. Charles D. Hill	Honorary Past Grand Steward, Zambia
V.W. Bro. Frederick C. Bean	Honorary Past Grand Steward, Bermuda
V.W. Bro. Waduge M. Weerasooriya	Honorary Past Grand Steward, Sri Lanka
V.W. Bro. Percival J. McDermott	Honorary Past Grand Steward, South Australia (Adelaide)
V.W. Bro. Emmanuel S. Fofanah	Honorary Past Grand Inner Guard, Sierra Leone
R.W. Bro. Alfred L.J. Reed	Foreign Grand Lodge Representative, Newfoundland & Labrador
R.W. Bro. Samuel J.P. Holt	Foreign Grand Lodge Representative, Tasmania
R.W. Bro. Samuel V. Wallace	Foreign Grand Lodge Representative, Luxembourg
R.W. Bro. J. Alan Hanna	Foreign Grand Lodge Representative, Moldova
R.W. Bro. John Graham Brown	Foreign Grand Lodge Representative, Tennessee
R.W. Bro. William G. Cairns	Past Foreign Grand Lodge Representative
R.W. Bro. Thomas H. Beattie	Past Foreign Grand Lodge Representative
R.W. Bro. William McLain	Past Foreign Grand Lodge Representative
R.W. Bro. Thomas S. Redpath	Past Foreign Grand Lodge Representative
R.W. Bro. David R.R. Galbraith	Past Foreign Grand Lodge Representative
R.W. Bro. Joseph E. McKernan	Past Foreign Grand Lodge Representative
V.W. Bro. John Heery	Member of the Grand Lodge of Instruction



## CHARITY REPORTS

### *Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund*

*V.W.Bro. David Cleland, Deputy Chairman, Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund*

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Provincial Grand Masters from all the Provinces and the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board for their support in the appointments of their nominees to the Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund Board. I would also especially like to sincerely thank all the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Ireland who have contributed in the past and present so generously to the support of all our annuitants. I would also like to thank the excellent work of the different Charity Committees in the North of Ireland who distributed the funds to the main Masonic Charity funds.

Now that we have fully implemented the 5% increase and the doubling of nursing home annuities. The Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund Board has now fully embraced all the modern tech regarding good governance, data protection and most of all transparency under Charity Regulation rules, and procedures.

The Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund Sub-committee has continued to meet with some new ideas being proposed to be brought forward to a full.

At present we have around 300 annuitants which tend to fluctuate by 3% - 5% upwards. We are now getting more Brethren looking for assistance in recent times and younger widows.

Our Subscriptions are down however our finance department assure the Board we are still on a good financial footing with a steady rental

income strengthening our financial position. Thanks to the Masonic Trust Company for their forward thinking.

But we still need the support of our Brethren and Charity Committees to continue our work of supporting our widows and Brethren. That is why I have visited some Charity Committees and Provincial Grand Lodges to give them an insight into the workings of the Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund and thank them for their support and without their support and contributions we would not be able to support our annuitants, Widows and Brethren.

I wish to thank the Assistant Grand Master R.W.Bro. Leslie J. Nixon for all his guiding and good council to the Board. Also, a sincere thanks to Cristina our administrator who has carried out her duties in a very professional manner. I wish to thank our Finance Department for all their work and help by keeping our finance on a strong footing.

May I conclude my report by thanking the Victoria Jubilee Benevolent Fund Board for all their work and assistance to me as Deputy Chairman of the Board. On behalf of the Board and myself would like to thank the Grand Master M.W.Bro. Douglas. T. Grey his Deputy R.W. Bro. Rodney McCurley the Assistant Grand Master R.W.Bro. Leslie. J. Nixon and the Grand Secretary R.W.Bro. Philip Daley for all their support.

Our Motto being **“Always Caring Always Sharing”**

### *The Masonic Girls Benefit Fund and The Masonic Boys Benefit Fund*

*W.Bro. Norman Stewart, Deputy Chairman, Masonic Girls Fund*

In 2019 the Girls and Boys Funds had another successful year with a total of over 400 applications to the funds giving rise to the distribution of

€1,306,281. In a majority of cases a single application from the son and daughter of living or deceased masons is to assist them



with the education or welfare of their children and this can be for a single child or a number of dependent children.

The Masonic Trust Company who manage investments on behalf of the two funds have been very diligent and have generated income on behalf of the funds in excess of our day to day needs including cost of administration. This has resulted in reinvestment in the scheme funds thus providing future proofing of the funds.

The schemes under which our two funds work, approved by High Court provide not only for the education of, but for the maintenance, advancement and benefit (including medical care) of sons and daughters, including legally adopted sons and daughters of both Freemasons and former Freemasons. In keeping with the changing social structure, the Committees are having to cases presented arising from separation and divorce.

The Committees have again carried out a review of our grants scheme to ensure that the scheme meets the potential scrutiny of the Charity Regulator Ireland and the Charities Commission for Northern Ireland. In order to deal with potential audits by the Charity Regulator both Funds agreed to contribute to an external review of our governance and processes. I am happy to report to date the feedback we are receiving is positive.

We have received clarity as the role and status of the Members of both Committees following Registration with the Charity Regulator.

Again, I have to report on the uncertainty over the potential implications of Brexit and our ability to react quickly to the outcomes of Government decisions. There is still uncertainty over third level grants and fees for those from the North studying in the South and vice versa, and those students

from the Island of Ireland wishing to study in the British Isles

In addition to changes in the scheme the Committees and the Grand Secretary has considered the implications of the General Data Protection Regulations and the detailed and personal information given to Committee Members in order for them to come to decisions. We are committed to ensuring that all personal information is properly safeguarded.

I take this opportunity to say a sincere thanks to our Grand Master, his Deputy and the Assistant Grand Master who despite all the pressures of their work have come and assisted the Committee in their deliberations.

On behalf of the Masonic Boys Benefit Fund I wish to thank John McKinstry and Brian Mooney, who have now stood down from the Boys Committee, for their devoted service and welcome Grahame Todd and Harold Bennett to the Boys Committee and Eric Henry stood down from the Girls Fund.

I thank wish to express both Committees sincere thanks to our Administration Staff Alison and Cristina for their unwavering support and meticulous record keeping.

I also say a special thank you to our Visitors, Jane, Nancy and Rosemary for their diligence, their hard work and their support to our Committees.

Our Committee members attend the meetings and exercise their diligence on every case presented, which number about 60 on average per meeting. There is a lot of pressure to ensure that we exercise our judgement wisely and fairly and I thank each of them personally for their expertise and their support.

This completes my report on behalf of the Masonic Girls Benefit Fund and the Masonic Boys Benefit Fund.

## *The Masonic Welfare Fund*

*R.W.Bro. Barry Brewster, Deputy Chairman, Masonic Welfare Fund*



Since last year the Committee has been busy on several fronts.

We have seen an increase in emergency

cases, and some have been harrowing. This year so far, we have dealt with 23 applications and monies paid out in the form of grants comes to approximately £52,258 and €25,246.



We have also been looking at the ongoing issues with applications received to date. The lack of correct information slows down the process resulting in some applications being returned to Lodges for further clarification. It is very important that the Almoner includes all financial information requested, along with a detailed Visiting Brother's report to describe what the grant will be used for and the amount requested. I would stress that the forms must be completed by the applicant in conjunction with the visiting Brother, not by the visiting Brother alone.

We are still looking at the Fund's constitution to bring more clarity to its guidelines, including how we meet public benefit and if it applies

to our Fund. Ongoing meetings are in motion regarding this issue.

On behalf of this Fund, may I state that we always strive to look at all cases on their own merit, in a clear and open way. The committee do their best to come to a fair decision on the information provided.

We appreciate the ongoing support from our Brethren in the form of donations given and hope they continue to do so.

I would like to thank Alison, our administrator, for her professional and personal support, and this equally applies to our Finance Department which the committee reply on to make the Welfare Fund run smoothly and professionally.

## *Masonic Havens*

*R.W.Bro. John S. Haynes, Chairman, Board of Governors*

I am very happy to report that all activities of Masonic Havens have been running smoothly over the past year and that is thanks to the dedication and professionalism of a lot of people. Not least of these are those employed by us to ensure that the day by day needs of our Residents are catered for. At Carrick Manor I specifically mention Geraldine Mulligan and her daughter Emma together with Kay Tyrell and Lynne Sweeney who are totally dedicated to ensuring the wellbeing of our 20 or so Residents, 10 of whom are now over 90 years of age. At St. John's in Virginia we have Tony Brady, our resident and ever vigilant Warden, who ensures that the Operations Committee in Virginia know everything that is going on.

St. John's Committee comes under the control of R.W.Bro. David Douglas and he, too, ensures that all requirements there are under control. Our latest up-grade need at St. John's - to keep Cavan County Council happy - is to have the sewerage treatment plant fully replaced. This is work in progress and is going to be a very costly but necessary exercise. We hope to have this completed during 2020. St. John's is almost always fully occupied and, when a bungalow does become available, it is usually filled very quickly.

W.Bro. Philip Middleton has, since taking over as Chair of the Carrick Manor Operations Committee, become more and more involved with the day to day management of the complex. As reported last year, the new two bedroomed bungalow was completed just after Christmas last and, within a few weeks, was let out to a retired couple who are absolutely delighted to have made the decision to sell their private house and become residents at Carrick Manor. Earlier this year we lost one of our residents, Charles Jacob who sadly died after a long illness. Another resident, Winifred Meehan had to move into a Nursing Home during the year. Their departures allowed us to combine two studio ground floor apartments into a new one bedroomed apartment and this, too, has recently become occupied with another happy resident. Some of our more elderly residents are requiring much more daily assistance and help than we can legally give them. This means we have to call on their close relatives to provide some services which we cannot undertake. It is probably only a matter of months before several residents will need to be taken into full time Nursing Home care due to the continuing advancement of some of their various ailments.



Over the next few months, we are going to be reviewing our “charges” at both St. John’s and Carrick Manor with a view to a small increase being introduced during 2020. We are also reviewing our Application Forms to consider the need for “next of kin” to be aware that we cannot take responsibility for Residents who become mentally and or physically incapacitated. By law, we are not permitted to monitor medication nor can we be responsible for the safety of Residents away from our property. Residents are expected to be fully active and personally responsible for their state of health. Next of kin will have to accept that Carrick Manor cannot always be their nearest and dearest’s final residence and, when full time nursing care home becomes

necessary, be prepared to have their relative make the necessary move to full time care.

During 2019 we have welcomed to our Board of Governors W.Bro’s Brian Hamilton Rogers, Paul Hughes, Philip Middleton and Mark Cockrill and are happy that their talents are quickly being put to use for the good of Masonic Havens. Apart from thanking them for their commitment, I also pay much thanks to our other Board members and particularly W.Bro. Crawford Tipping who has assumed the job of Treasurer. Also, all our activities could not happen without the constant and vigilant oversight of our Board Secretary, Bro. Richard Graves to whom, as always, I extend our deep appreciation for his commitment and hard work on behalf of all of us.

## *Freemasons of Ireland Medical Research Fund*

*W.Bro. Prof. Patrick K. Plunkett, Board Member, Freemasons of Ireland Medical Research Fund*

The Medical Research Fund supports high quality research endeavours aimed at improving the situation of mankind in general, rather than Freemasons alone.

Those of you who read V.W.Bro. Dr. Michael Costello’s report in the Annual Report of Grand Lodge for 2018 will already have been apprised of the project we are currently supporting. There is little else for me to add, other than a short progress report.

However, I thought it might be of value for brethren to understand the problem of Multiple Sclerosis in non-medical language.

The brain and spinal cord is like the wiring loom one sees in a modern car – many copper wires running alongside one another, but insulated from each other, usually by a colour coded outer layer of plastic. Imagine, if you can, that the plastic covering melts – allowing the inner copper wires to contact one another. Short circuits occur and the purpose for which the original wiring was designed is interfered with.

Thus, it is with Multiple Sclerosis, with the insulating layer between nerve bundles being destroyed. It is the resultant short-circuits which lead to difficulty walking, talking, holding things, and even control

of one’s autonomic (or automatic) functions, like continence, or balance.

The current state of play is that there is no cure for this melting and short-circuit in human terms. We can merely attempt to alleviate the symptoms. A long-held tenet of medicine is that there is no real repair, or replacement, facility within the brain and spinal nerves. To overturn this tenet and seek to introduce good repair mechanisms is the aim of much current research.

The research we are funding has already identified that the damage can be reduced by the presence of certain molecules, known as interleukins, but only in the presence of another different interleukin which, in itself, has no role to play in reducing the damage. It is an extremely complex interaction. There is even the possibility, in such circumstances, that the insulating layer might be repaired.

From a progress point of view, the researcher, Mr Daniel Crooks, has already shown this to be feasible and has taught others the new experimental techniques needed to follow this trail.

He has broadcast this knowledge to others by presenting at international conferences – these



are a “Force-multiplier” for medical research, stimulating others to pursue or build upon the new research pathways. The source of his funding, the Freemasons of Ireland, has been acknowledged at all of these presentations.

To achieve a Ph.D. usually takes about 5 years – our previous grantee needed that time, but had a successful outcome, with a significant increase in knowledge about the Clostridium Difficile (C Diff) bacterium, which causes enormous grief for those who develop it. She was under the supervision of a Dublin-based clinician, who is herself the daughter of one of our past Right Worshipful Brethren.

Our current grantee, based in Queen’s University, is progressing more rapidly, and received a very positive Annual Review Report in May 2019, but he will require support for some time yet. The last report from his Supervisor, Dr Yvonne Dombrowski, Number 4 in a bi-annual series, indicates her satisfaction also. Mr Crooks is about to start Year Three, aiming to commence his PhD

thesis write-up from March 2020 onwards.

Medical research will not “save lives”, as we all must travel a finite journey, but it certainly has the potential to improve the lives of sufferers from Multiple Sclerosis, and other diseases. That is where the Medical Research Fund of the Freemasons of Ireland can have a hugely positive impact on the lives of others.

Our outgoings, to pay for university fees, research material and a (small) living stipend for the grantee cost about £50,000 per annum.

Whilst it would be remiss of me to interfere in any way with the Grand Master’s Festival and with Vision 2020, I would urge my Brother Freemasons to remember that effective medical research requires a long-term engagement.

At some stage in the future, I would hope that individual lodges and Provinces might consider making specific provision for increasing this fund which, despite a wise investment policy, is slowly depleting its assets.

## *The Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year*

*W.Bro. Shane Cusack, Administrator, Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year*

October 10th to 12th 2019 saw Freemasons’ Hall in Dublin again host the Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year. This was the tenth anniversary of this prestigious Competition, which has now become known throughout the world as far afield as the United States, Canada, Australia and the Far East. Winning it was described in the Sunday Business Post as “the highest accolade available to young musicians in Ireland today”.

In his address at the Final, the Grand Master referred to the fact that in these ten years, 172 highly proficient semi-finalists have been entered by their colleges, and these have been reduced by our Jury to ten ‘Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year’ all of whom are now pursuing highly successful professional careers. He congratulated the 6-member Jury on the very difficult task they had before them every year. In all 32 professional musicians of great international repute, from Europe and the

United States, have served on the Juries so far.

The five music Conservatoire on the island of Ireland who offer degrees in Music Performance select the semi-finalists themselves from their current students. This year 12 were put forward to play at Freemasons Hall, for the Jury to select the four finalists. They were from all over Ireland. Tralee, Ardee, Dublin, Cork, Dunshaughlin, Ballymena, Glenties, Belfast and Killarney. It was quite a selection of instruments too! Three pianos, three violins, classical guitar, saxophone, oboe, flute, trombone and French horn.

The Jury decided on the four finalists who played on Saturday evening to a packed Freemasons’ Hall. Just after 10.00 p.m. the Chairman of the Jury, Jane Carty, announced the results:

- The first prize, and the title of Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year’, went to pianist Órán Halligan (24) from Dublin entered by the Royal Irish Academy of Music, who







*Órán Halligan (Piano), being congratulated by the Grand Master on winning the title 'Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year 2019'*

had stunned the Hall (and the Jury!) with a brilliant performance of works by Franz Liszt, and, unusually, the Finnish composer, Rautavaara. He will also be given, in addition to the cash prize, a concerto performance in 2020 at the National Concert Hall with the RTE National Symphony Orchestra, which will be broadcast live, a solo recital date at the Concert Hall, and an engagement at the 'Music in Monkstown' Festival;

- Second was a violinist, Molly O'Shea (25) from Blackrock, Cork, entered by the Cork School of Music. She also went away with the Vallery prize for 'the best performance by a string player', and the Florian Leonhard Grant, which entitled her to the loan of a fine violin for a year from Florian Leonhard

Fine Violins of London and New York.

- Ben Gannon, a young oboe player, (he was only 20), from Dublin, entered by the Royal Irish Academy of Music, came third, and also won the Conrad O'Sullivan Prize for the best performance by a wind or brass player' with a brilliant performance of the Mozart Oboe Concert in C, K314.

- Fourth was Robert Finegan (22) from Ardee, a saxophone player entered by the re-named Technological University, Dublin. Making his second appearance in the Competition, after also appearing in 2017, Robert gave a stunning performance which gained him great praise from the Jury and audience alike.

During the evening, last year's winner, flautist





Amy Gillen, gave a short recital, and Matthew Breen, studying organ at the RIAM entertained the audience before the Final started with a recital on the Hall Organ, ending with the well-known Widor 'Toccata' which raised the rafters! The final was recorded by RTÉ and broadcast in November, over 4 days, on RTÉ Lyric fm.

This competition, which grows in stature every year, brings a great deal of very positive publicity. Apart from our ten winners, who always mention

it in the programmes of any concerts they do , over the years there have been 174 articles in newspapers or magazines, and 122 interviews on radio or television about the IFYM, all positive to the Order. The IFYM website has received hits from 70 countries from all over the world.

The dates agreed for the 2020 Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year Competition are Thursday October 8th for the Semi-Finals, and Saturday, October 10th for the Final.

## *The Grand Lodge of Instruction*

*R.W.Bro. James Gilchrist, Grand Secretary for Instruction*

Another successful year of labour at the Open Communications of the Grand Lodge of Instruction. Some changes have taken place namely myself being elected as Grand Secretary for Instruction and R.W.Bro. William Kirkpatrick being elected as Assistant Grand Secretary for Instruction for the Northern Provinces. I am very pleased to report that R.W.Bro. Gordon Allen remains as Assistant Grand Secretary for Instruction for the Southern Provinces, and informs me, he has had a successful and informative year. A brief word on the Past Grand Secretary for Instruction R.W.Bro. James McFarland who, with his vast knowledge of craft ritual has not only been of great help to myself but to many others who sought his advice. I am pleased to say he remains an active member of the Very Worshipful The Grand Lodge of Instruction.

R.W.Bro. William Kirkpatrick Assistant Grand Secretary was elected to the Grand Lodge of Instruction in 1995 and was one of the leaders in the Bangor Class of Instruction for many years.

During the year two of our Elected Members passed to the Grand Lodge above. V.W.Bro. Robert J.F. Thompson elected 2003, and V.W.Bro. John Heery elected 2015. V.W.Bro. Robert Thompson's dedication and leadership in the Arthur Square Class of instruction was unprecedented both in the ritual and the social side of the class. I was contacted by V.W.Bro. John Heery not too long before he passed away and was pleased to deal

with a couple of queries he had for which he was grateful. The final salute was accorded to our dear departed brethren, following which the brethren stood in reverend silence.

The classes of instruction throughout the Provinces continue to maintain and improve the ritual in the subordinate lodges. Quite a variance in attendance exists at the classes throughout the Provinces and I would appeal to all brethren to support the classes and in turn help to promote and protect our ritual. I would also appeal to all Lodges and Classes to consider exemplifying at the Very Worshipful The Grand Lodge of Instruction. I can assure you of a very warm welcome and you will be given any help or advice you may require.

I would like to thank the Elected Members Representatives and Instructors for their continued support and encouragement throughout my time as Assistant Grand Secretary and now as Grand Secretary for Instruction.

Finally I would like to extend my grateful thanks to R.W.Bro. Philip Daley for his support and assistance throughout the past year. To all the staff in Molesworth Street for their help and assistance throughout the year which is very much appreciated. To the Assistant Grand Secretaries for Instruction R.W.Bro. Gordon Allen in Dublin and R.W.Bro. William Kirkpatrick in Belfast my sincere thanks for their help and support.



## Open Communications in the Southern Provinces

*R.W.Bro. Gordon Allen, Assistant Grand Secretary for Instruction*

Thursday 14th February 2019 was a Questions and Answers meeting that covered questions ranging from the reading of the Declaration of Fundamental Principles of the Order, which Officers are Installed and which are Invested, the agenda for Emergency Communications of a Lodge, reception of Senior Officers entitled to occupy the Chair, multiple First Degrees on the same night and the title used for Deputy or Assistant Provincial Grand Masters in the absence of the actual Provincial Grand Master. All present found it was an informative and instructive meeting.

Thursday 14th March 2019 was a Quiz Night chaired by R.W.Bro. Leslie Evans with 20 questions on various aspects of ritual and other Masonic miscellaneous topics. No one got all 20 questions correct (the best being 17) but all said it was a most enjoyable meeting and everyone felt they learnt something new.

Thursday 14th November 2019 was another Questions and Answers meeting chaired by R.W.Bro. Harvey F. J. Heavener on matters concerning Deacons, time lapse between candidates receiving Degrees and the correct method of giving the Secret Word of a Master Mason. My thanks to V.W.Bro. Paul Brockman for acting as Secretary on this occasion due to my unavoidable absence.

Thursday 12th December 2019 was the final Questions and Answers meeting of the year

chaired by V.W.Bro. Peter W. Brown that was specifically devoted to the Installation of Lodge Officers.

At the Stated meeting of the Grand Lodge of Instruction Thursday 3rd October 2019 the passing of V.W.Bro. John Heery to the Grand Lodge above was noted. He was elected a member of the Grand Lodge of Instruction in May 2015 but owing to health conditions was not a regular attendee.

The Grand Lodge of Instruction continues to run the Metropolitan Class of Instruction. This year the classes have had an even better attendance by Metropolitan Lodges and those who have attended have found the classes most informative on questions of ritual and other general discussions on all matters Masonic. I am most grateful to V.W.Bro. Paul Brockman and W.Bro. Daniel Stanford and W.Bro. Jeremy Smyth for running these classes which meet on the first, second and third Mondays of the months of October, November, December, January and February at 7 p.m. in Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth Street. The classes are run on an informal basis and are not restricted to Metropolitan Masons.

Finally I would like to thank all the staff in Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth Street but particularly Heather and Alison, for their tireless labours in sending out notices and other administrative tasks on my behalf.

## Open Communications in the Northern Provinces

*William A. Kirkpatrick, Assistant Grand Secretary for Instruction*

In 2019 we had a successful season at our five Open communications of The Very Worshipful Grand Lodge of Instruction, with two Lodges and three classes exemplify our Irish Ritual at a high standard.

We commenced on 9th February at the Mount Masonic Hall, Park Avenue,

Belfast, with the exemplification of the Entered Apprentice Degree by Iris Masonic Lodge No. 444, who did this as part of their 100th anniversary celebration.

Iris Lodge demonstrated the uniformity of our ritual practiced in all our Lodges, it was heartening to witness their exemplification.



On 9th March, at the Mount Masonic Hall, was the exemplification of the Master Mason Degree by a Composite Team of Brethren from Arthur Square, College and Crumlin Road classes .

The team were well instructed and every Brother performed their Office or role with accuracy and dignity. The work was well appreciated by a good turnout of all the Brethren present.

We returned to the Mount Masonic Hall, on 12th October, when we learned of the passing of one of our Elected Members, V.W.Bro. Robert Thompson, who was an Elected Member from 2003, the Grand Secretary for Instruction, V.W.Bro. James Gilchrist, paid a moving tribute to our late Brother, after which the final salute was accorded.

The meeting continued with the exemplification of the Entered Apprentice Degree by Gibson Masonic Lodge No. 87, once again this Lodge clearly demonstrated their knowledge of Masonic ritual in front of a large attendance of Brethren.

We travelled to Kilkeel, on 2nd November where the Mourne Class of Masonic Instruction exemplified the Fellow Craft Degree. It was refreshing to see a class with mainly young Masons perform this Degree, the Officers of the Grand Lodge of Instruction who proposed the vote of thanks were impressed by the work witnessed.

Our last meeting in the Mount Masonic Hall, was the 14th December, we were honoured by the visit of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Rodney McCurley, who occupied the Chair.

The exemplification was the Installation and Investiture of Lodge Officers by the Newtownards Masonic Class of Instruction.

The complete proceedings were carried out with dignity, accuracy and precision, and well appreciated by a large attendance of Brethren.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master in conveying the vote of thanks to the Class, added his own appreciation on the high standard of work.

In 2019 we welcomed four newly elected members, viz, R.W.Bro. J. Richardson, R.W.Bro. G. Harper, R.W.Bro. F. Williams, V.W.Bro. A. Thompson.

From Antrim four new Provincial Representatives, viz, W.Bro. J. Gibson, W.Bro. T. Dowds, W.Bro. M. Stewart, V.W.Bro. A. Little.

From Down one Provincial Representative, W.Bro. N. Farquhar.

We congratulate these Brethren on their promotions.

Our Open Communications have been well attended, with the much appreciated support of Present and Past Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge Officers, Representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges also all other Brethren.

A particular mention to R.W.Bro. Brian Gardner the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of Down and the R.W.Bro. Ivan Gillespie the R.W. Asst. Grand Master of Antrim, who have attended all our Open communication in 2019.

A special thanks to the volunteers who set the room for our meetings. Everything is in order when we arrive, they then have to clear the room again after the meeting, my grateful thanks goes to R.W.Bro. Philip Thompson and his team.

Unfortunately the Mount Masonic Hall has been sold to housing developers, I thank those on management committee of "The Mount" for their help in accommodating us for over thirty years.

In conclusion I would like to thank R.W.Bro. James McFarland and R.W.Bro. James Gilchrist for the assistance they have given me in this my new Office, not forgetting the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, R.W.Bro. Philip Daley and the staff at Molesworth Street for all their help.





# PROVINCIAL REPORTS

## Metropolitan Board of General Purposes

*R.W.Bro. Derek A. Brennan, Chairman*



It gives me great pleasure to present the Annual report from the Metropolitan Board of General Purposes outlining the activities in the Metropolitan Area. It has been a very busy and rewarding year in the Metropolitan Area with increasing membership and increased Fundraising and Social Activities in support of the Grand Master's Festival. Having carried out a strategic review of the scheduling of 'business' meetings in the Metropolitan Area, it was decided, with the assistance of the Grand Secretary, to hold both the MBGP's Monthly Meeting on the same night as the Committee of Inspection Meeting. This has worked very well to date and has freed up an extra night in the Masonic Calendar to be utilized for Seminars, Lodge



visits, etc. It is indicative of the dynamism of the Metropolitan Masons in grasping change in order to enhance the Masonic Journey for all.

Our membership continues to grow with many prospective candidates approaching Masonry through the Internet as opposed to more traditional pathways. We have entered into collegiate cooperation with Grand Lodge in facilitating this new stream of candidates. W.Bro. Alan Robinson, the MBGP Secretary and W.Bro. David Robinson Grand Lodge's Administrative and Support Manager arrange the initial contact for the new candidates and their further progress is then facilitated by the Metropolitan Lodges.

### 1. Membership During 2019

1.1 Number of Lodges. 37

1.2 Number of Members. c.1, 200

### 2. Events Held During 2019

2.1 Report of recent events. The Board organised various fund raising, Social and Masonic events during 2019. These included:

- Principal fund raising events: The Metropolitan Summer BBQ was held on June 15th. Over 140 Brethren together with their families and friends attended. The food and entertainment were first class and over €2,600 was raised for the Grand Master's Festival.
- Summer Lodge was held on July 17th. A Gala Luncheon was attended by over 60 Brethren and their guests. The meeting was well attended by approximately 120 Brethren and we were honoured by the

presence of the Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master Leslie Nixon. Also present was M.W.Bro. Eric Waller, Past Grand Master as well as many Distinguished Guests from Provincial Grand Lodges from all over Ireland. The draw for the running order of the Irish Freemasons' Young Musician of the year took place during the meeting. The Charity collection of €740 was donated to the Masonic Charities. 'The Claret Jug' was awarded to Victory Lodge No. 478 which was recognised for its good work, under a variety of different criteria. A 'monster sized' cheque for over €15,000 was presented by the Chairman of the Board to Guide Dogs for the Disabled, which was the Metropolitan





Area's 'Chosen Charity' for 2018/19.

- The MBGP facilitated the annual Fellow Craft Degree Day on April 6th when 20 Entered Apprentices received their Fellow Craft Degree.
- In July, the Green Committee organised a costumed themed night titled 'Sherlock Holmes versus Jack the Ripper' with the proceeds going to the Grand Master's Festival.
- The MBGP held an Almoners and Stewards of Charity Seminar in October with a particular emphasis on encouraging support for the Grand Master's Festival.
- The Children's 'Zombie Night' was held in Freemasons' Hall during the Halloween mid-term holiday.
- The MBGP participated in the November Wreath Laying Ceremony in Freemasons' Hall organised by the Royal British Legion.
- A 'Dickensian' Themed Night was held in Freemasons' Hall in December in aid of the

Grand Master's Festival.

2.2 Forthcoming events (2020) The MBGP will undertake the following in the coming year

- Lux Diei. Support the monthly meetings on the afternoon of the fourth Friday of each month
- Metropolitan Class of Instruction. Encourage all masons to attend these classes held on the first, second and third Monday of each month.
- January: Host a Metropolitan Masters Gala Dinner.
- March: Facilitate the conferring of Fellow Craft Degrees in support of Lodges.
- March: Seminar for Lodge Permanent Officers.
- March: A 'Fun Card Night' to raise funds.
- June: Run the Annual Metropolitan BBQ.
- July: The Metropolitan Board of General Purposes will host Summer Lodge.
- Nov: A Metropolitan Gala Ball.

### 3. *Charity Activities*

All Lodges in the Metropolitan Area were asked to give particular focus to raising funds for the Grand Master's Festival in 2019. They have engaged wholeheartedly. We will again ask for and encourage this support to continue in 2020.

To date, Lodges have indicated that they will organise a variety of events, such as, Lodge BBQs, Classic Car Rallies, Locked Room Mysteries, participation in the Dublin City Marathon, etc., in order to raise funds.

### 4. *Other Relevant Items*

- The website of the MBGP, <https://metromason.ie/>, is maintained and regularly updated. A significant redevelopment of this site and other IT infrastructure is being undertaken in line with Grand Lodge developments.
- In November of this Year the Metropolitan Board was re-elected and I was honoured to be once again elected Chairman. I will endeavour to discharge that responsibility

for the betterment of Metropolitan Masons and for the continued Honour of Grand Lodge.

- It was my great honour to represent Grand Lodge at the November Annual Remembrance Sunday Service in St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin to honour those who had made the ultimate sacrifice in the defence of our freedoms.

### *In conclusion*

I take this opportunity to welcome our new Members to the Board and say thank you to those who have stepped down. The MBGP and the Metropolitan Area has enjoyed a very successful year due to the hard work of all concerned, especially the Masters and Secretaries of our Lodges. We are also indebted to

the Grand Secretary R.W.Bro. Philip Daley and all the Administration Staff for their enormous assistance in the past year and look forward to their continued support in the future.



# Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim

*R.W.Bro. John McLernon, Provincial Grand Master*



The year 2019 was another year of significant change for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim, as the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. John Dickson announced that he and the R.W. Provincial Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. J.O. Dunlop would relinquish their posts in

early 2019. He had announced that I, (R.W.Bro. John McLernon) would be installed as his successor and that R.W.Bro. John Edens would be installed as Provincial Deputy Grand Master.



## February

Before the opening of the Communication we welcomed Mr. Gareth Kirk, the CEO of Action Cancer and presented him with a cheque for £25,400, which raised the total raised in our 150th

Anniversary year for Action Cancer to £40,340. This was our Installation Communication and there was again an excellent attendance of Brethren to support our Officers for 2019.

## April

At an Occasional Communication held on Thursday 11th April 2019, in the Tullyglass Hotel, Ballymena, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Douglas T. Grey, accompanied by R.W.Bro. Rodney L. McCurley, R.W.Bro. L.J. Nixon. R.W.Bro. Philip Daley installed me as the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim.

Many distinguished Brethren from a large number of provinces joined with us on this auspicious occasion. Following the Communication, a Celebratory Banquet

was held at which Mrs. Joan Christie CVO, OBE, "Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the County of Antrim", was the Guest Speaker. Over one hundred and eighty, Brethren, wives, partners and guests joined us in a splendid feast.

Our normal April Stated Communication was held in the Leighinmohr House Hotel, Ballymena, on Monday 29th April 2019, at which I Installed R.W.Bro. John Edens as Provincial Deputy Grand Master. The Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Rodney McCurley was in attendance.

## September

The September Communication is held in the south of the Province and was hosted by the Hall Management Committee in Belsize Road Masonic Hall in Lisburn and was another well attended Communication.

I Installed Right Worshipful Brothers George Graham and Paul Harvey as Provincial Assistant Grand Masters.

## November

The year culminated at our Stated Communication on Monday 25th November 2019, in the Royal Court Hotel, Portrush at which our Officers for 2020 were

elected. Before opening Provincial Grand Lodge, we held our Annual Remembrance Service.

## Golf Day

Our Provincial Golf Day held on 17th May 2019 is now a well- established event on our calendar and has now raised over £29,127 since

its inception in 2012. The proceeds of the 2019 Golf Day have been donated towards the Grand Master's Vision 2020 Appeal.



# Armagh

*R.W.Bro. Gilbert T. Irvine, Provincial Grand Master*



Our Installation communication was held in the Province's 151st year Portadown Masonic Hall on Thursday 17th January 2019. We had the pleasure of welcoming the Assistant Grand Master R.W.Bro. Leslie Nixon.

The new Provincial Grand Lodge Officers were Invested and Proclaimed including our newly appointed Provincial Grand Secretary V.W.Bro. James R. Blair.

The Provincial Grand Master announced his intention to step down at the April communication on 27th April when his successor would be installed.

The April communication held in the assembly hall Royal School Armagh (kindly granted) was attended by the Most Worshipful Grand Master his Deputy, Assistant and the Grand Secretary. Also in attendance were R.W.Bro. Norman Reid PGM of North Connaught, R.W.Bro. Russell Waller PGM of Meath, R.W.Bro. John C. Clarke PGM of Down, R.W.Bro. Johnny Woods PGM of Tyrone & Fermanagh, R.W.Bro. Raymond Robinson PGM of Londonderry & Donegal and R.W.Bro. John McLernon PGM of Antrim. They with a number of other distinguished guests were welcomed to lunch in the Masonic hall prior to the communication.

The Grand Master installed R.W.Bro. Gilbert T. Irvine the thirteenth Provincial Grand Master of Armagh in



Our Provincial charity golf competition was held on Friday 7th June 2019 at Portadown Golf Club was again sponsored by The Seagoe Hotel Portadown & Gilbert Law & Co. This year's chosen Non-Masonic charities were Children to Lapland and Daisy Lodge Children's' Cancer Care. Thanks go to our sponsors and R.W.Bro. John Richardson and the golf committee.

Congratulations also to W.Bro. Stanley Jelly of Union Masonic Lodge No. 105 Tandragee on winning the Grand Master's Cup at the Grand Lodge Millennium Golf competition in Killymoon Golf Club Cookstown.

The June communication hosted by Drogheda Lodge No. 411 was held in St. Peter's Parish Church of Ireland Parish Hall in Drogheda on Thursday 20th June when we congratulated the Brethren of 411 on the acquisition of their new premises.

The October communication hosted by the Lurgan Lodges was held in Brownlow House. This marked my intention to move our quarterly communications to larger more comfortable venues in the future, so that we can accommodate larger attendances.

In December we held our first Provincial Carol Service with the collection in support of Vision 2020. Our grateful thanks to Rev. Rosemary Diffin and the Select Vestry of St. Aidan's Parish Church Kilmore.

I would extend our grateful thanks to the Grand Secretary and all the staff at Freemasons' Hall for all their help and support during 2019.

Finally, I wish to express my thanks to my Senior Officers for their dedication, work behind the scenes and support to in 2019. To those Lodges who provide accommodation and refreshments for our communications and meetings, also for their warm welcome and generous hospitality to the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge during official visits, thank you.



63 Fair Street Drogheda.



## North Connaught

*R.W.Bro. Norman T. Reid, Provincial Grand Master*



The Brethren of North Connaught were delighted to host the March Communication of Grand Lodge. Lough Rynn Castle, Mohill, Co Leitrim proved an excellent venue for the Communication. The large attendance made it a very special occasion for the Province. My grateful thanks to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Officers of Grand Lodge.

The Brethren of Abbey Concord No. 242 Boyle organised a clay pigeon shoot at Lough Bo shooting range which was a great success. Well done too all concerned.

Summer BBQ's and Lodge visits were all well supported.

The June Communication of Provincial Grand Lodge hosted in the Masonic Lodge Sligo as usual well supported. We welcomed Provincial Grand Masters, Deputy's and Assistants Grand Masters from Eleven

Provinces and the Metropolitan Board. My grateful thanks to all.

2019 was not without some sad occasions and it is with regret I record the passing of:

R.W.Bro. Michael W. Walker Past Grand Secretary.

W.Bro. Ernest Ivan Price Lodge No. 495 Mohill, Co Leitrim.

W.Bro. John Harold Gardiner Lodge No. 217 Ballina, Co Mayo.

My grateful thanks to all the Brethren of the Province for their support and corporation throughout the year. To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master and staff in Grand Lodge for their guidance and encouragement in 2019.

## South Connaught

*R.W.Bro. Nigel J.C. Foley-Fisher, Provincial Grand Master*

I am pleased to report a steady year of progress in Freemasonry in the Masonic Province of South Connaught during 2019. It is pleasing that all Lodges in the Province have continued to initiate new candidates and several prospective Members of the Order are in

the offing.

Four Stated Communications of the Provincial Grand Lodge were held during 2019: the February and May Communications in Athlone, September in Galway and November in Athenry. I





was pleased to install the Provincial Grand Officers for 2019 at the February Communication in Athlone.

I would like to thank the Brethren of the Province for their continuing support and friendship during the year, which is tremendously encouraging for both the Province and myself. I would also like to express the gratitude of the Officers and Brethren of the Province for the welcome and generous hospitality extended to us by the other Masonic Provinces across the Constitution. These occasions are both enjoyable and a welcome opportunity to meet Brethren across the country.

As is customary, we were particularly pleased to welcome visitors from our neighbouring Provinces and further afield at the May Communication in Athlone. The September Communication was, as usual, held in Galway, hosted by Lodge No. 14, for the nomination of Officers for 2020. I would like to thank those Provincial Officers who are not continuing in Office for their dedicated service to the Province over the years and, in particular, V.W.Bro. Noel Huston, retiring Provincial Grand Steward of Charities and Almoner who did Trojan work over many years.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was hosted in Athenry by Lodge No. 948 in November. As I was out of the country, the Provincial Deputy Grand Master presided, and the Provincial Grand Lodge received a very warm welcome from the Athenry Brethren and the event was enjoyed by all.

A great loss during the year, both to the Province and to Freemasonry, was the sad passing of V.W.Bro. John Symes PPSGW. Little did we know that less than three months after his wedding in May, we would be attending his funeral. John moved to Ireland when he retired to enjoy fishing and gardening and, not being aware of Freemasonry in Ireland, I had the privilege of meeting John and subsequently introducing him to Shamrock Lodge No. 101 Athlone. John was a dedicated Freemason and held in high esteem by all who knew him. He served as Secretary of Lodge No. 101 and Lodge No. 948, Registrar of RAC 101

and went on to join Athlone Preceptory. He was an elected representative on the Masonic Girls Benefit Fund. John was a great traveller and enjoyed visiting Lodges near and far. It gave him much pleasure to travel back to Dorset to witness his son, David, join the order. It was a momentous occasion for another reason, being the first time John had been on a plane!

We extend our sympathy to his wife, Phil; son, David; and daughter, Bridget.



We extend our sympathy to all Brethren of the Province who have suffered family bereavements during the year. I would also like to wish those Brethren who were hospitalised during the year a speedy recovery to full health.

I would like to thank W. Bros. T. Blaney and A. Burdess for their work on the upkeep of the Hall and the assistance of the Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works, W.Bro. F. Magliocco.

I would like to thank my Deputy, R.W.Bro. James Houghton; the Provincial Grand Secretary, V.W.Bro. David Cleland; the Provincial Grand Treasurer, V.W.Bro. R Hall; and all the other Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge for their work during the year. Their help and assistance is greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank the Provincial and Lodge Almoners and Stewards of Charity for their work in the Province and those who serve on the Welfare Committees. Lodge No. 14 Galway and Lodge No. 948 Athenry continue to actively support the TLC programme.

I am very grateful to the Grand Secretary and staff in Grand Lodge for their cheerful and helpful responses and their forbearance with us when we are less than diligent!

The Province looks forward to welcoming Brethren to the Grand Lodge Communication in Galway on Thursday 6th March 2020 as the city celebrates its designation, with Rijeka in Croatia, as European Capitals of Culture, 2020.



# Down

*R.W.Bro. John C. Clarke, Provincial Grand Master*

It was perhaps somewhat naive to expect that the year 2019 would be an anticlimax after the numerous activities occurring throughout the previous year, when many Provinces celebrated their 150th anniversary.

The month of January was fully occupied in attending individual Lodge Installation Communications. I was pleased that the majority of invitations requesting a visit were fulfilled.

Sixteen new Provincial Grand Lodge Officers for the year were invested according to ancient custom, on Saturday 2nd February, when we had the pleasure of the company of R.W.Bro. Rodney McCurley, Deputy Grand Master. In addition R.W.Bro. Brian Gardner was installed as Provincial Deputy Grand Master, and R.W.Bro. Frank Williams was installed as a Provincial Assistant Grand Master.

The Down Masonic Widows Fund, held their AGM in Ballynahinch on 25th February. A full attendance of elected Representatives from each Lodge received a comprehensive and informative presentation on the administrative requirements to be adopted in order to comply with the recently introduced GDPR regulations.

In April I had the pleasure of attending my first official meeting of the Northern Provinces Committee. This provides the opportunity for the Provincial Grand Masters in the north of the country to meet informally and discuss matters of mutual importance and where considered necessary, agree on appropriate strategy.

The Spring Quarterly Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Down, was held in Newtownards on the second Saturday in May. The meeting was very well supported. In addition to routine business, I had the pleasure to invest W.Bro. Keith Young, as a Provincial Grand Inspector. Keith's very proud father, R.W.Bro. Sam Young, Past Grand Director of Ceremonies was in attendance to witness the occasion. All of the retired 2018 serving Officers were presented with a commemorative

Certificate to acknowledge their contribution to Provincial Grand Lodge in what had been our anniversary year.

On the 21st May the Province was honoured by a visit from the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Grand Secretary who travelled to Banbridge as guests of honour at a fund raising event for Vision 2020. After dinner our guests in the company of an audience of 200 were entertained by an informal face to face interview with Father Brian D'Arcy, the renowned priest, broadcaster and journalist. Coincidentally, shortly afterwards it was announced that Father D'Arcy had been awarded an OBE in her Majesty's Birthday Honours List for his contribution to building cross community relations, and then subsequently we were to learn that the interviewer that memorable evening, W.Bro. Trevor Waddell, long suffering Secretary in Iveagh Lodge No. 184, Magheralin, was to be appointed as the Grand Master's Standard Bearer, for 2020.

The following weekend, the annual Meeting of Charity Lodges, throughout the United Kingdom was hosted by Charity Lodge No. 688, in Belfast, with many visiting Brethren and their partners enjoying the hospitality and fellowship abundantly provided by their Northern Irish hosts.

There was minimal respite during the summer months with many local Charity Golf Competitions requiring the support of Senior Officers. Which I am pleased to report, was given willingly.

The Autumn Quarterly Communication, was held in Kilkeel, following the now adopted custom of bringing Provincial meetings out of Belfast and into the Province. In addition to routine business, I had the pleasure to invest W.Bro. Mark Wilson, as a Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. The three of our four Honorary Appointments for 2019 were also invested at this meeting.

Monday 30th September was to prove to have been







*The Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Down. February 2019*

a crucial date in the history of the Province. For that evening Brethren from throughout the Province of Down and further afield attended an open meeting, when the Galwally Project Team unveiled their proposals for the 'conversion' of Galwally House into an administrative headquarters for all Masonic bodies, operating within the geographical boundaries of County Down, effectively the Province of Down. The presentation and plans were exceedingly well received, and the project endorsed unanimously by all who were in attendance.

In October the Province organised two sets of Seminars. One for Stewards of Charities & Almoners and a separate programme for Lodge Mentors. I am delighted that both events were extremely well attended and received with great acclaim.

For our November Communication, Provincial returned to Downpatrick. At this Communication I had the pleasure to Install R.W.Bro. Mal Saul as our fourth Provincial Assistant Grand Master, and V.W.Bro. Ricky Totton as Provincial Grand Secretary. This now restores the Senior Officers of the Province

to their recognised complement.

October, November and December saw considerable activity within Galwally House to bring it up to a satisfactory standard for occupation by Lodges and Chapters.

At the time of writing this Report, Galwally House has become the permanent administrative home for Provincial Grand Lodge, District Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and the Provincial Priory of South Ulster. In addition 18 Lodges, 7 Royal Arch Chapters, 4 Council of Knight Masons, 2 Preceptories and 2 Prince Masons Chapters have successfully transferred their Warrants and relocated to Galwally as their new home. This figure is realistically expected to increase in the coming months.

I conclude by thanking all those who worked tirelessly and without seeking reward or recognition to transform, what initially may have been a dream, into reality. The Province owes you all a great debt of gratitude. Thank you.



## ***Londonderry and Donegal***

*R.W.Bro. Raymond Robinson, Provincial Grand Master*

It was a particularly memorable year as we were delighted to welcome the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Rodney McCurley, to our February Installation Communication when R.W.Bro. Noel A. Drain installed and invested the Provincial Grand Lodge Officers for the last time as Provincial Grand Master.

Then in March we were honoured by the presence of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, his Deputy

and Assistant; the Grand Secretary and Provincial Grand Masters and other Officers from the Provinces throughout Ireland for an Especial Communication for the installation of myself as Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Kenneth Doherty as Provincial Deputy Grand Master and R.W.Bro. Alan Maguire as Provincial



Assistant Grand Master and the investiture of V.W.Bro. Stuart McCarter as Provincial Grand Secretary. A very enjoyable Celebratory Dinner was held after the communication.

R.W.Bro. Drain's Charity Appeal for local Cancer Charities raised £28,875 which assisted 12 Cancer related charities across the Counties of Londonderry and Donegal as well as the Children's Hospice in Belfast. R.W.Bro. Drain and the Lodges in the Province are to be congratulated on such a successful outcome.

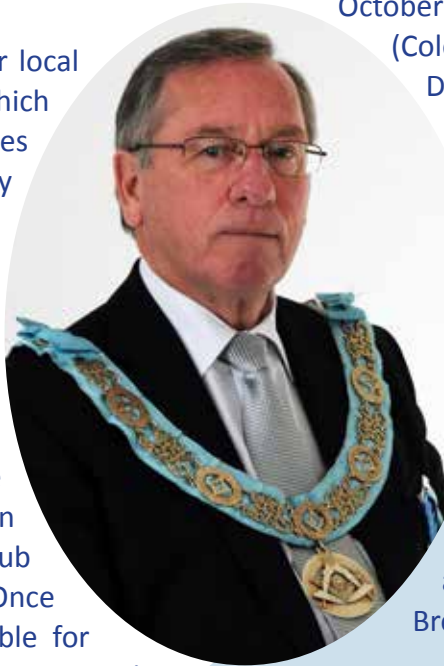
The Annual Provincial Grand Lodge Golf Tournament, Race Night and Barbeque were held in June at Radisson Roe Park Golf Club and Limavady Masonic Hall. Once again these proved to be enjoyable for all who participated and £3,000 was raised for Provincial Grand Lodge Welfare Fund. I very much appreciate the organisation and dedication of R.W.Bro. Raymond Eakin, his golf committee and the Limavady M.H. Committee, who ensured that these events were not only successful but also very enjoyable events.

Two very successful Annual Divine Services were held, the first on Sunday 7th April in Ballyscullion Parish Church, Bellaghy, hosted by South Derry Committee of Inspection, and the second in St Mary's Parish Church, Macosquin on Sunday 20th October, hosted by Coleraine Lodges, Albert Edward 235 and Royal Blue 754.

I appreciate and thank all those who contributed to their success and to R.W.Bro. George Stewart and W.Bro. Gary Tosh respectively for their contributions for their particular contribution to them.

Widows and elderly Masons were entertained, as we do annually, to Strawberry Cream Teas in the Freemasons' Hall, Bishop Street, Londonderry during the afternoon of 8th June, when entertainment was also provided.

The June Communication of Provincial Grand Lodge was held in Kilrea Presbyterian Church Hall on 20th June and at this meeting it was agreed that funds raised at the Provincial Grand Lodge Golf Tournament in 2020 be donated to Vision 2020.



The three Social Nights for widows and elderly Brethren, which have been an annual event in this Province since the year 2000, were held during October in three locations, the Lodge Hotel (Coleraine), Kee's Hotel, (Stranorlar, Co. Donegal) and The White Horse Hotel (Campsie, Londonderry). Our guests were transported to and from the hotels by the Lodge Almoners and other Brethren, who also accompanied our guests during the evening. A meal, entertainment and a gift were provided to each, and the evenings were enjoyed by all present.

It is with much sadness that I refer to the passing to the Grand Lodge above of the following distinguished Brethren:

R.W.Bro. Victor Wallace,  
Provincial Grand Steward of Charities

V.W.Bro. Robert (Bertie) Britton,  
Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden

V.W.Bro. Daniel K. (Don) Galbraith,  
Past Provincial Grand Master's Standard Bearer

W.Bro. Fred Arbuckle,  
Past Provincial Grand Lodge Steward

These Brethren served their respective Lodges and Provincial Grand Lodge with distinction over many years and to their families I convey our heartfelt sympathy.





Finally, I wish to acknowledge and thank my Deputy, Assistants, the Permanent Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge and those Officers who carry out their duties as Inspectors, Instructors, Stewards of Charities and Almoners for their contribution to Provincial Grand

Lodge. I would also like to place on record my sincere thanks to our Grand Secretary, R.W.Bro. Philip Daley and the excellent staff in Molesworth Street for their assistance throughout the year.

## Meath

*R.W.Bro. Russell Waller, Provincial Grand Master*

As we look back at the year 2019 I want to begin on a personal note by remembering the tragic events of the 25th January last when a tragic accident claimed the lives of my brother Joseph and his wife Louise. In the following days and weeks the amount of support I received from the Brethren of our order was simply astounding, from the Most Worshipful Grand Master who attended their funeral in Glasslough, Co. Monaghan, along with numerous Brethren representing the Grand Lodge of Ireland, the various Provincial Grand Lodges and local Lodges on what was a bitterly cold evening. For all the messages of sympathy whether by sympathy card, mass cards, letters, e-mail, phone calls, texts, I want to say a heartfelt thank you, your thoughts and prayers made those difficult days that much easier to come to terms with.

The Province entered 2019 in celebratory mood. W.Bro. John Robert McCullagh of Lodge No. 796 had just been installed as Grand Masters Standard bearer, and we were about to celebrate 150 years of the Province. I was delighted to accept a certificate from the Grand Master on behalf of the Brethren at the March communication of the Grand Lodge of Ireland held in Mohill.

At our March communication, I was delighted to install our Officers in particular W.Bro. Larry Halpin as our Pro. Grand Director of Ceremonies and V.W.Bro. Paul Dempsey as Provincial Grand Secretary. This Meeting was well attended and was followed by a buffet supper.

June was our Sesquicentennial Meeting when we welcomed the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand master, Right

Worshipful Assistant  
Grand Master, the  
Grand Secretary and  
representatives from  
many of the Provincial  
Grand Lodges in  
Ireland along  
with their



wives and partners. While the Brethren were at labour the ladies were entertained at a prosecco reception hosted by Mrs. Bertha Waller. The evening continued with a silver service dinner followed by music and dancing until late.

During the November communication I had requested R.W.Bro. D.G. Brabazon to conduct the ceremony of the empty chair in remembrance of the Brethren of the Province who fell during the great war. During the ceremony their names, Lodge numbers, and regiments were read by the Provincial Grand Archivist W.Bro. Markey, wreaths were laid in memory of all who fell during the Great War.

I extend my sympathy to all who were bereaved during the year. We lost some very good Brethren during the year but we also gained some very good young Members. I want to thank my Deputy and the Provincial Secretary for their support and assistance in what was a busy year in the Province. I also extend my sincere thanks to the Grand Secretary and the staff of Grand Lodge for their guidance and assistance, and I look forward to working with them all in the new year.





# The Midland Counties

*R.W.Bro. Cecil Wellwood, Provincial Grand Master*

The Province in 2019 marked the 150th anniversary of its establishment. Preceding the May stated Communication hosted by Lodge No. 402 Abbeyleix, there was a Celebratory Dinner held in the Abbeyleix Manor Hotel attended by the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, our two past Provincial Grand Masters and representatives of all the Provinces on the Island of Ireland as well as many of our own Brethren across the Province.

The Grand Master presented to me on behalf of the Province a Commemorative Citation to mark the occasion. Following the meeting refreshments were served in the Abbeyleix South National School Hall. I wish to thank all the Brethren of Lodge No. 402 and the ladies for their work in ensuring that this event was so successful, and to the Officers of Provincial

Lodge No. 163 Birr hosted the November Communication and we were delighted to welcome the Provincial Grand Masters of Antrim, Londonderry and Donegal.

I was delighted to welcome so many distinguished Brethren to our Province throughout the year, and thank them for making the effort to travel.

I visited our Lodges for their Installations and Festive Boards and met many of the Brethren across the Province as well as “dropping in” on them for less formal occasions. I am grateful to the Brethren for the welcome and hospitality extended to me on my visits.

The Charity collections taken were very impressive and ritual was well practiced.



*Visiting Dignitaries and Members of Provincial Grand Lodge at our 150th Celebrations in Lodge No. 402 Abbeyleix*

Grand Lodge for their support and the excellence of the manner they carried out their duties.

The Installation Communication was held in February hosted by Lodge No. 660 Mountmellick. The Provincial Treasurer and Steward of Charities made their respective reports showing that our finances were sound and that €30,131 was distributed to the various charities. The Board of General Purposes met preceding the September Communication hosted by Downshire Lodge No. 662.



V.W.Bro. Philip Payne stepped down as Provincial Grand Secretary after completing a prolonged stint at his post. I wish to thank him for his service to the Province and acknowledge his attention to detail and friendship. Philip is not leaving and is continuing as the TLC rep with oversight to Tullamore Hospital, as well as his duties in Grand Lodge.

R.W.Bro. Walter Craig has concluded his term as our representatives on the Girl's fund and V.W.Bro. Brendan Hughes has been ratified to take on that role.



*Most Worshipful Grand Master presenting R.W.Bro. Cecil Wellwood accompanied by R.W.Bro. John Murray a Commemorative Citation*

Lodge No. 321 Tullamore celebrated 135 years sitting in its current premises on Earl Street, having being issued with its warrant in 1759, and I was delighted to attend their mini-celebration and to present Bro. Terry Wearen with his Master Mason Certificate.

I was also present when Lodge No. 139 initiated a new candidate into Freemasonry and surprised when V.W.Bro. Edwin Robbins declared that he was initiated on exactly the same day, 52 years previously – a remarkable coincidence.

I have been actively promoting support for the Grand Master's Festival Vision 2020 to raise funds for non Masonic Charities as is our Provincial Representative V.W.Bro. Harry Nicholls of Lodge No. 398. This is a wonderful opportunity to raise the public profile of our Order. This project is on the agenda of all our Provincial meetings and the Vision 20/20 screen is also displayed. A couple of events have already taken place and I would encourage a determined effort be made by all Lodges to ensure that as large a financial support as possible is achieved.

The TLC project is achieving huge success in raising the public profile of Freemasonry in our Province through Portlaoise and Tullamore hospitals. We now regularly hear of patient's experience of this and its value in helping doctors and nurses treat children. Thanks to our reps who keep the hospitals stocked up with teddies, V.W.Bro's H. Nicholls and Philip Payne.

R.W.Bro. John Murray and I were delighted to make visits to the Provinces of Down, Londonderry and Donegal, North Munster, North Connaught, South Connaught, Meath, South Eastern and Summer Lodge. We thank them for their friendship and hospitality. Welcome to R.W.Bro. Raymond Robinson and R.W.Bro. David Valentine as they became the new Provincial Grand Masters of Londonderry and Donegal, and Wicklow and Wexford, respectively.

Many of our Lodges have had new initiates during the year but sadly also there have been bereavements leaving our membership level as before. I extend my sincere sympathy to the bereaved families of Brethren who have died during the year.

Amongst these Brethren was our Past Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. J. Kenneth Dunne, United Services Lodge No. 215 Newbridge. He was present and in good form at our 150th anniversary celebrations in May and we were shocked to hear of his terminal diagnosis later in the year. Many words have been spoken about his Masonic life, and the integrity of his person. He served the Midland Counties totally committed to the high standards he set for himself. The large attendance of Brethren at his funeral service was testimony of the high regard he was held in.

I attended the four meetings of the Grand Master's Council, also the four meetings





of Grand Lodge as Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Congratulations to R.W.Bro. Leslie Evans installed as Senior Grand Warden and V.W.Bro. Philip Payne invested as Grand Steward.

I thank my Deputy R.W.Bro. John Murray, our new Provincial Grand Secretary V.W.Bro. Raymond Sweeney and all the Officers for their support in the

management of the Province.

Also thanks to the Grand Secretary and all the staff at Molesworth Street for their friendly assistance and co-operation.

In conclusion I will continue to serve the Province to the best of my ability as your Provincial Grand Master and thank my wife Hazel for her support of me.

## Munster

### *R.W.Bro. Leslie Deane, Provincial Grand Master*

2019 was another busy year in the Province of Munster. Our four quarterly Provincial Communications were well attended starting on the 2nd of January with the installation of Provincial Officers. It was great to see the P G Lodge Room overflowing to the point where extra chairs had to be brought up from the supper room and the doors to the library opened up.

I was again honoured to have R.W.Bro. Derek Dunne as Provincial Deputy Grand Master and R.W.Bro. Ray Gordon as Provincial Assistant Grand Master.

All of our thirteen Lodges held their installation meetings in the first quarter of the year starting with the First Lodge of Ireland on Saturday the 5th of January and finally Lodge No. 130 Star of the West held their Installation Meeting and Ladies Night on the 23rd of March in Kenmare. My thanks to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Assistant Provincial Grand Master and the Provincial S.G.Warden V.W.Bro. Alec Bryan for their assistance with the Installation Meetings and Dinners.

The Munster Green Committee organised a Burns night supper on the 25th of January in Tuckey Street. This was a sell-out event and enjoyed by everyone present. It was great to see the younger Scottish Members take control of the evening. The haggis was piped into the supper room to the delight of all by Bro. Gavin Richardson Bagpiper. We were then entertained by Bro. Tom Wyper who recited "The Immortal Memory of Robert Burns"

W.Bro. Hans Bonne proposed a Toast to the Lassies and "A Man's a Man for a' That". Mrs Victoria Richardson replied on behalf of the Ladies. R.W.Bro. Alan Campbell presented Burns - A Masonic Tribute. For those that had never had eaten haggis before, this was a truly special occasion to sample Scotland's treasured cuisine.

On Saturday the 3rd of August the committee organised a teddy bears picnic in Fota Wildlife Park.

Twenty seven children attended accompanied by their parents. The Chairman W.Bro. David O'Leary reported that the day was a success despite the weather which may have prevented more from attending. Our thanks to W.Bro. Kieran Murray his wife Sarah and Bro. Alex Jackson and his wife Aoife for organising this event.

On Friday March 15th Youghal Lodge No. 68 was greatly honoured by the presence of The Most Worshipful, The Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Douglas Grey. The Grand Master was pleased to officially open the museum and ground floor supper room and associated refurbishments, the culmination of several years' work by volunteer work parties and donors.

A sherry and canapé reception was held. I was delighted to attend accompanied by Officers from the Province and to be joined by Brethren from the Province of the South Eastern Counties.

It was wonderful that some family members and local historians could also attend. That was followed by the Installation Meeting which had a capacity





*The Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross The Right Reverend Dr. Paul Colton, Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr Mick Finn, and R.W.Bro. Leslie Deane*

attendance. We witnessed W.Bro. Brendan Cronin installed as Worshipful Master, 44 Masons were in attendance and we were joined by some Non-Masonic guests at the Installation Dinner which followed at The Walter Raleigh Hotel.

The museum and rooms are now open to the public by appointment.

On the 14th May our Provincial Grand Secretary V.W.Bro. Rowland Newenham organised an information evening for all Lodge Treasurers and Stewards of Charities. This was an opportunity to engage in an informal setting and exchange information. My thanks to all for attending, especially V.W.Bro. Marcus Calvert Provincial Grand Treasurer, W.Bro. Uwe Schiller Provincial Grand Steward of Charities. Also present on the night was the Provincial Grand Lodge Representative on the Boys Fund, V.W.Bro. Malcolm Tyrrell and W.Bro. Vincent O'Donovan the PGL Representative on the Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund who gave short reports on the different aspects of work done by each charity.

I was delighted to receive an invitation from the Lord Mayor's Office to the reopening of the repaired and renewed St. Patricks Bridge in Cork City on the 16th of March. It was an honour and privilege to be invited to the ecumenical blessing and reopening of this well known bridge over the Lee in our city in the presence

of the City Council and other invited guests.

The traveling maul continues to promote visiting within the Province. Most Lodges have captured it at least once. My thanks to the Provincial Assistant Grand Master R.W.Bro. Ray Gordon for coordinating this project.

We published two editions of the Plumblin over the year. The response from those that no longer can attend their Lodge Meetings is encouraging when they receive a copy. I am grateful to R.W.Bro. Derek Dunne for progressing this project and to W.Bro. Vincent O'Donovan for continuing to act as Editor.

The McCully Cup was won by Antient Bandon Lodge No. 84. This is the fourth year the Cup has been presented to the Lodge that raises the most for charity per capita.

This year my own Provincial Grand Master's Discretionary Fund was able to donate to three charities, St. Vincent de Paul, Spunout.ie and The Schools and Health Foundation. As I write these notes it's encouraging to hear from our Provincial Grand Steward of Charities W.Bro. Ewe Schiller that a total of €22,970 has been donated by all Lodges within the Province. This has been divided between the Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund, the Masonic Welfare Fund and the Munster Masonic Benevolent Fund

W.Bro. Liam Cunningham continues to



co-ordinate Teddies for Loving Care in the Province and reports that all Lodges continue to support this worthwhile programme. The total monies Lodged to TLC is €3,985.00. The total number of teddies delivered to the five hospitals during the year was 1656.

The messages coming back from the hospitals are always encouraging especially when the recipients of the teddy bears are so young and experiencing hospital possibly for the first time. Our thanks to W.Bro. Cunningham and W.Bro. Leo Spillane for all their work making sure that there is a plentiful supply of teddies delivered to the hospitals, also the Lodge Stewards of Charities for organising different events to finance this worthy cause.

Lodge No. 8 has continued with their informal evenings of discussion and information on the second Friday of each month. This year interest was such that it continued throughout the summer months. On the 30th of April they invited Bro. Norman McEvoy on a visit from Canada to present a paper titled "What does it mean to be a Spiritual Person" in the Masonic Centre in Limerick. Limerick was chosen as the venue in recognition of the Brethren from Limerick who travel to Cork each month for the Evenings of Discussion / Education. A good contingent from Cork travelled to Limerick to join the local Brethren at the presentation. Bro. McEvoy is the owner and publisher of the "Educator" a website providing masonic education. Members of the order from all over the world subscribe to this site. W.Bro. McEvoy was initiated into Freemasonry in Belfast in 1956

Our Provincial visit on the 22nd of November was to Lodge No. 130, Star of the West, in Kenmare. It was all the more special to see V.W.Bro. George Kingston, Provincial Junior Grand Warden as Worshipful Master. I was supported by many Provincial Officers and Brethren from around the Province.

Vision 2020 was launched at our Provincial Grand Lodge Installation meeting on the 2nd of January. The introduction of the boxes to collect one euro per week from each Member got everyone thinking about the year ahead. All Lodges have been actively organising different events and more are planned for 2020.

As we start 2020 it is encouraging to report that the Province has already sent

€29,000 to the central fund. In the New Year we will again look forward to supporting the Grand Master's Festival and to enjoying the various events that have been organised. Our thanks to W.Bro. Kevin Ryan for all his work in promoting the festival throughout the Province.

On December the 14th we held the annual Christmas lunch in Tuckey Street. We had in attendance twenty of our Lodge widows. My thanks to W.Bro. Stewart Brownlow for organising this the 23rd Christmas Lunch. After lunch our widows were entertained by W.Bro. David Butler, W.Bro. Liam McCarthy and W.Bro. David Walls (Santa Clause) presented all with chocolates. My thanks to all who help each year to make this a special occasion. It was also an opportunity to distribute the December issue of the Provincial Grand Lodge newsletter "The Plumblin'" to keep our Lodge widows up to date on all the news in the Province.

Over the last twelve months the Munster Masonic Benevolent Fund was again able to provide a summer grant to the annuitants who receive grants from the Masonic Boys & Girls Funds, the Victoria Jubilee Masonic Benevolent Fund and the Masonic Welfare Fund. The fund also considered applications from Members who found themselves in financial hardship. My thanks to the board members who reacted quickly to these urgent requests.

The Friday Coffee Mornings continue under the stewardship of W.Bro. Jim Jackson at our Provincial Head Quarters in Tuckey Street. This is an opportunity for new Members and those interested in learning about the Order to engage informally with current Members.

There are many items in which the public take an interest when they visit our Hall, but one is almost always mentioned, that is the Lady Freemason. In 1914 the first edition of "The Memoir of The Honourable The Lady Freemason" was published by Bro. John Day. Over the intervening 105 years several thousand copies of this little book have been sold for the benefit of our charities. Our thanks to W.Bro. David Butler for undertaking the task of updating the Booklet and producing the fifth edition.

The Lord Mayor visited our Provincial Headquarters for the launch of Heritage Day on the 7th August & W.Bro. Butler presented him with the first copy of the





fifth edition of this booklet which he was delighted to receive.

Heritage Day and Culture Night continue to be popular as we open our doors to the Public. My thanks to W.Bro. Vincent O'Donovan for organising these open events. Over one thousand one hundred members of the public came through our doors on culture night. However Heritage Day was not as well attended as other years. My thanks to all that help with these events giving up their time to inform the public about all aspects of the Masonic Order. A virtual tour of our Headquarters can be accessed on Google Street view search, 27 Tuckey Street, Cork, Ireland.

Over the year we were saddened to hear of the passing to the Grand Lodge above of R.W.Bro. Ted Newenham who was Past Representative of the Grand

Lodge of New South Wales to the Grand Lodge of Ireland and had been a Freemason for over 70 years. We also lost V.W.Bro. Jack Crowley past Provincial Senior Grand Warden, V.W.Bro. Larry Harley past Provincial Junior Warden and V.W.Bro. Bill Cavanagh Honorary Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and all those who have suffered bereavement throughout the year.

My thanks to all the Officers who help run the Province not already mentioned above. In particular the Provincial Grand Secretary V.W.Bro. Rowland Newenham & Provincial Grand Treasurer V.W.Bro. Marcus Calvert. I must also thank all the Staff in Molesworth Street and the Grand Secretary for their support given so freely. Finally to my wife Eliz for her support and understanding throughout the year.



## North Munster

*R.W.Bro. Tom Peirce, Provincial Grand Master*

2019 has proven to be yet another most encouraging year for Freemasonry in North Munster. Our numbers continue to increase but even more encouraging is the fact that many of the new Members are showing tremendous enthusiasm. Not only have attendance at Lodges increased but furthermore some of the “younger” members are avidly researching Freemasonry and above all have actively engaged in our meetings, Degrees, etc., strengthening our fraternal friendship throughout North Munster. Indeed most Lodges will now have a Degree at Meetings.

Our Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting in May again proved to be an outstanding success. Many Provincial Grand Masters or their representatives from virtually all the provinces in Ireland attended and made it a most memorable occasion.

The second event I would like to highlight is our Saturday morning coffee mornings. This has been most successful with up to 20 participants. It takes place on the first Saturday of each month throughout the year in the Masonic Centre and proves to be not only a fertile recruiting ground but does get Brethren to know potential candidates in advance. Hence, not only are they scrutinized but they do get a good sense of the fraternity within Freemasonry and all have

spoken most encouragingly about these meetings. These were initially initiated by R.W.Bro. Pascal Sage and he has passed on the banner to

W.Bro. Tim Keehan in running these most important events. We would welcome any Freemasons who find themselves in Limerick on the first Saturday of each month to attend. You will be most welcome.

The third event is the Provincial Christmas Dinner. This again is one of our social highlights of the year. It was originally founded for the widows of the Freemasons or Brethren who find themselves alone at Christmas has now been expanded in to a more family affair. It has however been remarked that our number of widows is falling as Freemasons are living longer. One suggestion has been to shoot them i.e. Freemasons not the widows so as to increase our widows numbers. This seems a rather drastic solution and we are very happy to continue in the current trend.

The centre which always will require maintenance has been expertly managed by R.W.Bro. Pascal Sage. Not only have we now got more order in our dressing area where each Lodge has their designated





fruits of this class can be seen in the floor working of the Lodges as Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. Cyril will be replaced by V.W.Bro. Marcus Lloyd assisted by W.Bro. Tony Thuillier. A really heartfelt thank you Cyril and may you continue the work in the class of instruction for many years to come.

R.W.Bro. Hugh Milne has resigned as Provincial Grand Treasurer after several years in the job. Hugh reorganized the

wardrobes but also the candidates' porch has been revamped as has the downstairs Office. Well done Pascal.

Another important innovation has been the rail coming down the spiral staircase. We would like to encourage Brethren to use this as a form of exercise rather than the lift but with the insertion of the rail another opportunity for decreasing the number of elderly Freemasons has gone as it is considerably safer than it was in the past!

Provincial Grand Lodge will see some important changes in the coming year. After over 50 years as a Member of Provincial Grand Lodge, R.W.Bro. Cyril Foster has resigned as Provincial Grand Director of

Ceremonies. Cyril has been at the centre of Provincial Grand Lodge for over 50 years we simply can not thank him enough for the enormous amount of work he has put into this. We are delighted to know that he will continue to run the most successful class

every month throughout the Masonic year. The

finances of the Province and will be replaced by W.Bro. George Langley. Thank you very much for taking up this position George and we will look forward to you continuing the good work. Also, thank you Hugh for the work that you have done over the past years. All our charity accounts in the future will be dealt with by our Provincial Grand Steward of Charities W.Bro. Herbert Knowles.

During the course of the year we lost two Brethren to the Grand Lodge above. These were V.W.Bro. Douglas Reid and W.Bro. Richard "Dickie" Jackson. These are two Brethren who had many years service in Freemasonry in North Munster and to their families and friends we offer our sincere sympathy.







I would particularly like to thank our Assistant Provincial Grand Master R.W.Bro. Raymond Stanley for representing the province on several occasions and also to our Provincial Grand Secretary V.W.Bro. Colin Birkinshaw who keeps the show running.

Furthermore, my thanks to the change in the management team in Molesworth Street. We admire the progress that has been made and look forward to our even closer interactions with you in the future.

Our challenge for 2020 is the Grand Masters Festival and we have made a reasonable start to that. I thank the Brethren who have supported our efforts so far

and look forward to the various events the Lodges have arranged for 2020. One particular event worth mentioning is a sponsored walk on the Cliffs of Moher to take place some time in late May or early June. We would like that as many families as possible join us and we would hope to raise approximately €50 per head for what should not only be a fundraising but also a fun raising occasion. We would welcome the Freemasons from anywhere in Ireland to join us on that day.

We look forward to 2020 enthusiastically and hopefully we will continue the good health of Freemasonry in North Munster throughout the next decade.



# South Eastern

R.W.Bro. John Fryday, Provincial Grand Master

In 2019 the Province suffered the loss of R.W.Bro. Philip Knowles, Provincial Grand organist for many years. We offer his family our deepest sympathies. We will miss his musical contributions.

## Lodge No. 5

Masonic charities - €1425.30

Vision 2020 - €370.00

## Lodge No. 44

Masonic charities - €1200.00

Vision 2020 - €460.00

Non Masonic (Cuan Saor) - €100.00

Two Members were raised to the 3rd Degree.

The BBQ was held on a sunny day in June which was very successful.

## Lodge No. 642

Masonic charities - €1555.00

Vision 2020 - €1620.00

## Lodge No. 32

Masonic charities - €1721.00

Vision 2020 - €370.00

## Lodge No. 116

Masonic charities - €2000.00

Vision 2020 - €1425.00

To all that were bereaved we offer our condolences.

Thanks to my Deputy R.W.Bro. Ian Davenport for all his help during the year.

Thanks to R.W.Bro. E.V. Good for being so efficient in running the Province.

Thanks to everyone at Grand Lodge for all their help and patience during the year.



Summer BBQ Clonmel



Provincial Grand Lodge Officers





# Tyrone & Fermanagh

*R.W.Bro. Johnny Woods, Provincial Grand Master*



The year 2019 began on a very sombre note for the Brethren of the Province with the deaths of R.W.Bro. Harry Weir Provincial Grand Master 2003 to 2012 and R.W.Bro. John Hadden JP DL Provincial Deputy Grand Master 2003 to 2011. Both Brethren were held in the highest regard throughout the Irish Constitution of Irish Freemasonry and their loss has been keenly felt amongst the Brethren of the Province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge Installation of Officers was held on Wednesday 27th February in the Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh. Prior to the commencement of the meeting R.W.Bro. Maurice Lee MBE presented a cheque to Mr Rodney Connor and Miss Kerry Anderson of Northern Ireland Air Ambulance for £41,000, this was the proceeds of the Provincial Grand Masters Challenge of 2018.

The Provincial Grand Masters Challenge in 2018 was to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Province and R.W.Bro. Lee had asked that the Lodges in the Province organise an event of any description to raise funds for this worthy cause. The Lodges responded magnificently by raising £41000.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Douglas Grey, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master R.W.Bro. Rodney McCurley, Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master R.W.Bro. Leslie Nixon and Grand Secretary R.W.Bro. Philip Daley were in attendance at the Installation Communication and before a gathering of 230 Masons from the Province and beyond M.W.Bro. Grey installed V.W.Bro. Johnny Woods as Provincial Grand Master. R.W.Bro. Woods subsequently installed R.W.Bro. Jim Moore as the Provincial Deputy Grand Master and his Provincial Grand Lodge Officers for 2019.

It is also important to acknowledge the work of R.W.Bro. Maurice Lee as Provincial Grand Master and R.W.Bro. Frank Arnold as Provincial Deputy Grand Master, these Brethren have been tireless in their representation of our Province and we should be forever in their debt.

As Vision 2020, Grand Masters Festival is now in full swing a committee of co-ordinators under the guidance of V.W.Bro. Ivan

Kee has been hard at work

in organising functions, encouraging and coordinating Lodges to organise events. A Grand Country Concert was held in the Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh which raised £7,200 and a number of Lodges within the Province have contributed and the amount raised as of January 2020 is £17,605.

In April 2019 The Most Worshipful Grand Master again visited the Province, on this occasion for the unveiling and dedication of a Past Masters Board to celebrate the centenary of Lodge No.

451 in Clogher. At the same meeting M.W.Bro. Grey also presented V.W.Bro. John Rainey Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden with his 50 Year Jewel.

In June 2019 V.W.Bro. Jim McBain of Lodge No. 332 Omagh was recognised as the Foreign Representative to Romania, R.W.Bro. Jim is a Past Provincial Grand Almoner and a Past Grand Almoner and currently serves on the Education Committee.

At our September Quarterly Communication in Derryloran Parish Church Hall, Cookstown R.W.Bro. Woods installed R.W.Bro. Philip Brisbane as the new Provincial Assistant Grand Master, it was very appropriate as R.W.Bro. Brisbane is a Member of Lodge No. 470 in Cookstown who were hosting the Provincial Grand Lodge No. Communication to celebrate their 250th Anniversary. At this Communication R.W.Bro. Woods announced the launch of The Widows Bereavement Grant on behalf of the Trustees of The Tyrone and Fermanagh Local Masonic Benevolent Fund.

At the November Communication held in St Macartins Cathedral Hall in Enniskillen R.W.Bro. Woods conferred the rank of Honorary Provincial Junior Grand Warden on V.W.Bro. Bertie Espie having 2 weeks



previously presented him with his 50 Year Jewel.

The Provincial Grand Master thanked V.W.Bro. Espie for his work within his Lodge Patricks No. 122 Dungannon and his representation of the Province on the Masonic Boys Benefit Fund.

It has been a busy year within our Province and I look forward to serving the Province in the year that lies ahead.



## Wicklow & Wexford

*R.W.Bro. David Valentine, Provincial Grand Master*

For the Province it has been a year of much activity with retirements, appointments and relocations.

We welcome Alexandra Lodge No. XI back into the boundaries of the Province, the Lodge now meets in the Masonic Hall, Hillside Road, Greystones on the first Monday of the Month at 7:30 pm. We wish them well in their new location after spending so long in Dalkey since moving from Bray originally.

Our Provincial Communications were well attended and with a good mix from all the Lodges. I thank all the Lodges that hosted us for 2019. In March, Provincial Grand Lodge met in Lodge No. 228 Gorey and Officers for 2019 were installed. Lodge No. 748 were also presented with the Earl Charity Cup for 2018, the Brethren of this Lodge had succeeded in raising for the Charities an average of €148.71 per Member. The Provincial Grand Lodge met in St George's Lodge No. 270, Enniscorthy in May and R.W.Bro. John Hobson chaired his last meeting as Provincial Grand Master. On the night we were honoured with the presence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Douglas Grey and the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, Philip Daley. It was a wonderful evening and presentations were made to mark the Provincial Grand Masters service to the Province. It was also the night of his 80th Birthday, so the customary cake had to be cut!



The June Meeting of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ireland was a wonderful

event for me, being installed as Provincial Grand Master of Wicklow and Wexford. There was a large turn out from the Province at Grand Lodge and an enjoyable festive board was enjoyed by all after the meeting. Thanks to all for all the best wishes, support and encouragement.

As usual during the summer months a number of barbeques were held and of course the renowned Gorey Golf Classic Competition. All of which were most enjoyable and of much benefit to the Charities.

In September, the Provincial Grand Lodge met in Lodge No. 49, Greystones and at this meeting I had the pleasure of installing my Provincial Deputy Grand Master. I wish R.W.Bro. Eric Hendy all the best in his new position. In November, Provincial Grand Lodge met in Lodge No. 748, Wicklow and we congratulate Lodge No. 748 for winning the Eden Trophy for 2019 with a total of 12/12 attendances at Provincial Grand Lodge.

On Sunday, November 10th, in my capacity as Provincial Grand Master, I attended a special Service of Remembrance, which was held in Christ Church, Gorey. I was accompanied by the Worshipful Master of Gorey Lodge, W.Bro. Takis Apostolopolous. During the service and while wearing our collars of Office we each had the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of the Province and Lodge No. 228, Gorey. This service always attracts a large congregation, with many branches of the local community being represented.







Our annual Masonic and General Knowledge Quiz took place at the end of November, thanks again to R.W.Bro. Harvey Heavener for setting the questions and being quizmaster on the night. Lodge No. XI



took the honours in both Quiz's, congratulations to the Lodge No. XI team.

At the November Communication our new Provincial Grand Lodge Tie, Masonic Tie Pin and Jewel to celebrate our upcoming Sesquicentennial were released for sale. My thanks to the Provincial



Cabinet for designing those items and ordering same, I know it took a lot of time over the summer recess.

I thank my Deputy, R.W.Bro. Eric Hendy, my Assistant, R.W.Bro. Harvey Heavener, the Provincial Grand Secretary, V.W.Bro. Jeremiah O'Connor for their support, assistance, counsel and friendship and I thank the Officers of both the Province and the Lodges for their support to me during the year.

Looking forward to 2020, Lodge No. 222 will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary in February and of course the Provincial Grand Lodge will celebrate its 150th Anniversary in November with the



Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting and dinner in the Ashdown Park Hotel on Saturday the 7th of November.

It is also the Year for Vision 2020 and V.W.Bro. Colin Watchorn deserves our support with regard to the Vision 2020 Raffle which is the Provinces major

fundraiser. I am sure there will be many events across the country which will all be worthy of our support.

Finally, I would like to thank, most sincerely, R.W.Bro. Philip Daley and everyone at Freemason's Hall for their assistance during the year.



## New Zealand

*R.W.Bro. Andrew G. McGregor, Provincial Grand Master*

After our summer recess, once again the year commenced early for the Province: On the 2nd of February I attended the Installation of Bro. Ironside as the new Right Worshipful District Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge of New Zealand South, Grand Lodge of Scotland. It was also the pleasure of R.W.Bro. Darling, Provincial Assistant Grand Master, to give the Address to the new Right Worshipful District Grand Master, an event he will remember fondly.

On the 9th March I attended the Installation of Most Excellent Companion Reynolds as the Most Excellent First Grand Principal for the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand. 28 Heads of Orders from New Zealand and Australia attended, including Most Excellent Companion R. Whyte, Provincial Grand Superintendent.

On the 3rd August I attended the Installation of V.W.Bro. R. Biel, PPG Chaplain, as the Right Worshipful District Grand Prefect, District Grand Council of New Zealand, Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees. The occasion coincided with the Annual Communications of the District Grand Lodge of Marked Masons. I was invited to attend by R.W.Bro. J. Eggleton, District Grand Master for New Zealand and I enjoyed the company of Jeremy and his wife.

On the 31st August I attended the installation of Most Worshipful D. Craddock as the Grand Master of the United Great Priory in New Zealand. This special occasion was held in Lodge room of Ara No. 348 and was well attended by 14 Orders from New Zealand and Australia. M.E. Companion R. Whyte, represented the Supreme Grand Chapter and Most Excellent Sir Knight J. Davies represented the Grand Priory.

During the year it was also my pleasure to attend the 14th Annual Ara Arts Awards and the 3rd Annual Ara Music Awards, where I was honoured to present the

Award to the Overall Winner. Once again the artistic works and musical performances were of an extremely high standard.

On 16th November I attended the Installation of M.W.Bro. G. Wrigley as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand. The occasion was also supported by the Grand Lodges of Australia, representatives from Canada and New Caledonia, together with the New Zealand representatives of the UGLE and Grand Lodge of Scotland. It was my pleasure to convey the good wishes of the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Grand Lodge at this special occasion.

I am pleased to report the TLC Trust is going from strength to strength. As of the 31st August 2019, in excess of 21,000 bears had been distributed and in addition to the local efforts, we recognised the need to support the devastating measles epidemic in Samoa. As a consequence, over 500 teddies were sent to the Islands. As of 6 January 2020, there were 5,697 confirmed cases of measles and 83 deaths, out of a Samoan population of 200,874. Over 2% of the population has been infected.

The affairs of the Board of General Purposes, the Provincial Grand Lodge Communications and the Installation ceremonies of the Lodges in the Province were all conducted smoothly and without incident.

At our Annual Communications in September, it was my pleasure to invest R.W.Bro. J. Dormer as a new Provincial Assistant Grand Master and V.W.Bro. K. Perkinson as Provincial Grand Treasurer. R.W.Bro. M. Smith and V.W.Bro. S. Boyask both served this Province to the very best of their abilities and nothing more could have been asked of them. We are grateful for the skills and experience they brought to their important Offices over many years.





With over 50 events throughout the year, I am grateful for the tremendous support that I have received from the Provincial Deputy and the Provincial Assistant Grand Masters, as well as other senior Officers past and present. No-one is more deserving of recognition than the Prov. Grand Secretary, V.W.Bro. J. Eggleton and I am acutely aware of the demands on him with his involvement in other Orders.

I am pleased to report that the Brethren continue to

enjoy their Freemasonry and that there has been a small but steady influx of new Members. It is also my pleasure to report that we lost no distinguished Brethren of the Province to the Grand Lodge above. We are especially grateful for the support of the Grand Secretary and the team in the Office Freemasons' Hall for their friendly and prompt assistance and we pledge our continued support to the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

## *South Africa, Northern*

*R.W.Bro. Nicolas M.A.S. Benson, Provincial Grand Master*

I am exceedingly sad to report that we have lost three outstanding brethren thus far this year.

On 24th February 2019 we lost R.W.Bro. Brian Trotter, Provincial Assistant Grand Master, to leukemia. On 20th June we lost R.W.Bro. Brian Bull, Provincial Assistant Grand Master, to cancer of the stomach and on 9th July we lost V.W.Bro. Hilary Kincaid-Smith, Provincial Grand Junior Warden, to cancer of the bladder.

It has been a hard blow to lose these wonderful and active brethren from our leadership and we will always remember their wonderful contribution to our Province.

With the support of R.W.Bro. Tony Bosch as Provincial Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Bill Rice as Provincial Assistant Grand Master and the investiture of V.W.Bro. Gerhard van Staden as Provincial Assistant Grand Master, I know that we will continue to provide the support and leadership that our various Lodges require.

R.W.Bro. Bruce Davis, the Provincial Grand Secretary, with the assistance of his wife Sharnel, continue to be my absolute administrative rocks, and I cannot begin to express how much I value their solid and efficient support in the administration of our Province.



### *During the past 12 months:*

- We have printed and updated ritual book for the 1st, 2nd & 3rd degrees.
- We have revised and updated the director of ceremonies manual.
- We have printed an updated installations ritual

book, with the various workings for a Master remaining in the chair for a 2nd term, a Past Master taking the chair and a full Installation with a Master Mason being installed as Worshipful Master

- We have moved the warrant of Mac



Mac Lodge to the Johannesburg area with the intention of making it a travelling Lodge, with the installation to be based at the Kensington Masonic Hall.

- We have upgraded the regalia at all of our Lodges.
- We continue to offer support and assistance to the Lodges in our jurisdiction.
- We continue to offer support and cooperation to our Provincial Grand Masters in Natal and the Cape Province.

The following charitable donations, events and distributions were made by, or on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge, in 2019:



Transvaal Inter-constitutional Masonic Charity	R 109,142.00
Christmas gifts to the needy	R 7,000.00
PGL Luncheon for Widows & Widowers	R 18,069.00
Dance Sponsorship	R 5,000.00
Missionary Sponsorship	R 5,000.00
Oxygenator for loan	R 16,499.00
TIMC Blanket Fund	R 6,600.00
Edenvale Cancer Centre	R 5,000.00
Hospice West Rand Cancer Support	R 5,000.00
Trotter Family funeral assistance	R 6,000.00
Bull Family funeral assistance	R 6,000.00
Massyn Family funeral assistance	R 5,000.00
Strauss Family funeral assistance	R 5,000.00
Mandela Day Old Age Home	R 4,818.50
Reach for a Dream	R 10,000.00
Montgomery Haven – Christmas Lunch for residents	R 4,887.50
Jordan home for destitute adults	R 16,000.00
Nazareth House	R 10,000.00
Greek Old Age Home	R 40,000.00
Flowers for the bereaved	R 329.98
Total	R 295,345.98

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the officers of our Provincial Grand Lodge, for their dedication, commitment and ongoing support in the management of our Province. Each one of you makes a difference in your own way, whether it be at the Council of Management, or on the floor of a lodge room and I value tremendously, the time that you each invest in the affairs of our Province.



# Southern Cape

*R.W.Bro. Anton Alsemgeest, Provincial Grand Master*

Provincial Grand Lodge Installation took place on 2nd February 2019. I re-appointed R.W.Bro. Gordon Robie as the Provincial Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Etienne H Bester as Provincial Assistant Grand Master and R.W.Bro. Robert Sandalls as Provincial

Assistant Grand Master in the Eastern Cape. Provincial Grand Lodge Officers were also Installed as per our Officers list.



*Provincial Grand Lodge Southern Cape Installation February 2019*

Eight Installation meetings were carried out within the Province. The support and attendance of Provincial Grand Lodge Officers during the year was again excellent and to these Brethren a word of thanks for their contribution.

The Provincial Grand Lodge Quarterly Communications and Provincial Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes meetings were also well attended by the Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Past Masters for which I am truly thankful for their support.

Our Provincial Grand Lodge web page with the

registered domain [www.freemasonrycapetown.co.za](http://www.freemasonrycapetown.co.za) continues to be utilised. Its objective to create awareness of our activities and generate interest in membership. We are however cautious as to the content on the web page. We await Grand Lodge to appoint a “Web Master” so as to give us guidelines as to what we may display on our page.

As stated in our Financial Report, we are building a Centenary Fund for our Provincial Grand Lodge Centenary Celebrations in 2025 that also coincides with the Tercentenary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. We look forward to this Double Celebration.

## Membership

Membership of the Province has grown by 3 Members to 145 Members, made up by 12 initiations, 3 affiliations, one re-joining member but sadly, 5 resignations, 3 deaths and 5 struck-offs. These

numbers exclude the re-establishment Dunluce Lodge No. 750, that currently stands at 23 Members. These numbers will of course reflect in our next Masonic year statistics.







*(L-R) Gordon T Bergh, 2011 -2018, Past PGM, Past Grand Warden, 30<sup>o</sup> Scottish Rite; Anton HG Alsemgeest 2018 - Present, Current PGM, Past GRand Deacon; Wyndham G Morgans, 1999 - 2005, Past PGM, Past Grand Warden.*

### **Inter-Constitutional Activity**

Irish Provincial representation was present at Sister Constitution's Installations in Cape Town and surrounding areas as well as Port Elizabeth and surrounding areas.

Inter-Constitutional visitation, communication, liaison and general camaraderie is most satisfactory

and Chains meetings are regularly held yielding many positives for our Craft.

The annual Inter-Constitutional Service of "Thanksgiving" and "Carols by Candlelight" was held at Lodge De Goede Hoop on 3rd December and fully supported by all Constitutions.

### **Masonic Charities**

Our St. Patrick's Day Family event on 16th March was a most enjoyable gathering, including the profane, thereby increasing Masonic exposure and camaraderie between the Irish Lodges.

The 2019 Inter Constitutional Masonic Olympics was concluded with the Irish again being the overall winners.

Some Lodges contributed to the Masonic Education fund that is an inter-constitutional fund existing for over 100 years in the Western Cape. The fund

now stands at R11million. There are 24 recipients of the fund, of which 9 Brethren are from the Irish Constitution.

The annual Spring Ball hosted by the South African Constitution took place on 14th September. Most Irish Lodges bought tables at this event. Proceeds will go to the 5 Masonic Homes around the Cape Town area.

Our own IMBF (Irish Masonic Benevolent Fund) continues to grow from strength to strength with

*Installation at Donegal Lodge No. 873 on 31st August 2019.*







*Members of Sharman Crawford Lodge No. 608 at Lodge DE GOEDE HOOP.*

donations received from Lodges and Interest earned on Investments. We currently have 2 recipients from

the Fund. The performance of this fund is included in our financial report.

### ***Non-Masonic Charities***

Emerald Isle Lodge No. 722 donated R3,500 worth of bedding to the Institute for the Blind and beds to a destitute family.

The Brethren of Sharman Crawford Lodge No. 608 continue the monthly Soup Kitchen to the Ruiterswacht Senior Centrum and raised R32,000 for bed comforters, beanies and scarves.

Dunluce Lodge No. 750 have secured a corporate

donation of R25,000 for “The Little Angels” Home for Mentally and Physically disabled children. This donation will continue as an annual donation.

Excelsior Lodge No. 368 donated R2,000 donated to Masonic Homes, R1000 donated to Masonic Bowling Association, R2,000 donated to St. Luke’s Hospice, R1,000 donated to IMBF and R1,000 donated to Masonic Education fund.

### ***Provincial Grand Lodge Strategy Plans***

In a combined effort, Killarney Lodge No. 360 and Sharman Crawford Lodge No: 608 provided a Christmas Lunch for the homeless at “The Hope Street Feeding Project” in Green Point providing a three course meal for 100 persons.

The St. Patrick’s Lodge No. 199 “Can-a-Month” initiative, with contributions by all Lodges in our Province, continues to support the “Sandrift” homeless community.

Milnerton Lodge No. 610 distributed Christmas Gifts on Christmas day to the children at “The Maitland Cottage Home”.

From the IMIC (Irish Masonic Improvement Committee, attached), the following has been achieved this past year. In line with this Committee’s “Vision”, “Mission” and “Objectives”, the following Educational Briefs and Procedural Briefs were developed and implemented.

Educational Brief No: 1 – Entered Apprentice. Educational Brief No: 2 – Fellow Craft. Educational Brief No: 3 – Master Mason.

Masonic Education workshops were conducted for Entered Apprentice on 22nd June, Fellow Craft on 24th August and Master Mason on the 19th October.

The following “Procedural Briefs” have been written.

Procedure No: 1 – Procedure for the Request, Approval and Authorisation of a Provincial Grand Lodge Procedure or Educational Brief and the Style and Content to be used.

Procedure No: 2 – Procedure for the Reporting, Recording, Balloting and Admission Approval for New, Re-joining or Affiliating Candidates.

Procedure No: 3 – Procedure for the Election and Approval of Lodge Officers and the Holding of an Installation and Investiture Ceremony.



Procedure No: 4 - Procedure for the Preparation, Submission and Approval of Annual Lodge Returns.

Procedure No: 5 - Procedure for the Notification of Member Strike-offs and Deaths.

Procedure No: 6 - Procedure for the Initiation, Auditing and Submission of Annual Financial Returns.

Procedure No: 7 - Procedure for the Recording, Explanation, Submission and Approval of the Annual Lodge Asset Audit.

I wish to record my thanks and appreciation to the Provincial Grand Secretary, R.W.Bro. Gordon Robie who tirelessly wrote these Procedural Briefs and his excellent administration of the Province in general.

Worshipful Masters and Lodge Secretaries Procedure Briefs Workshop also held on 24th August by R.W.Bro. Gordon Robie. Meeting well attended and enjoyed by all present.

### ***Dunluce Lodge No. 750***

It gives me great pleasure to announce the re-opening of Dunluce Lodge No. 750 on 2nd March 2019. The Re-dedication, Installation of the new Master and his Officers proved to be a magnificent event with great

### ***Provincial Grand Lodge Finances***

V.W.Bro. Peter Hills was Invested as our new Provincial Grand Treasurer. He set about restructuring the Provincial Grand Lodge Finances by consolidating various bank accounts and Investment accounts down to 2 bank accounts and 2 Investment accounts, one set for Provincial Grand Lodge General Funds and the other set for the IMBF (Irish Masonic Benevolent Fund).

### ***Conclusion***

Firstly, I wish to express our gratitude and thanks to the Grand Secretary and Heather for their continuous and unwavering support during this past year.

I'm extremely satisfied with the performance of this Province and the great work and dedication shown by all our Members. To each and every Brother I say thank you and well done. Looking forward to an exciting 2020 and growth of the Irish Constitution in this Province.



We have developed a "Worshipful Master's Manual" and "Lodge Secretary Manual" that has been issued to all Lodges. These Manuals contain the above Educational and Procedural Briefs plus any other information to enhance the efficient management of the Lodges. It places as much reference information as possible in the hands of the Worshipful Master's, Lodge Treasurer's and Lodge Secretaries.

As a result of the above, I can happily report on the exemplary improvement of the standard of our ritual work. Many of the younger Brethren taking to the floor and delivering exceptional workings as a result, a better understanding and improvement of the Management of Lodges and what is expected of the individual Lodges in the Province is happening.

We have also finalised an "Irish Masonic Calendar" which has been issued to all Brethren in the Province to encourage cross visitation and awareness of Masonic Events.

support of Irish Brethren and visitors of the Sister Constitutions. The ceremony was extremely well conducted, and left a good impression of The Irish Constitution by all who attended.

Furthermore, he created a new Financial reporting Spreadsheet, which hugely simplifies the reporting of our finances at any given time and we are encouraging Lodge Treasurers to adopt the same spreadsheet for the Individual Lodge reporting.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to V.W.Bro. Peter Hills for his hard work and determination in getting our finances in order.



*'The Magnificent Irish'*

# Natal

*R.W.Bro. David Patton, Provincial Grand Master*

It is my pleasure to submit a report on the activities of the province for the year 2019.

Although we lost several Members due to emigration, I am pleased to report that our membership has increased.

It is with sadness I have to announce the calling to the Grand Lodge above of V.W.Bro. M. Wright, the Provincial Grand Secretary, Honorary Past Grand Deacon at the Grand Lodge of Ireland, W.Bro. Westbrook, Honorary Past Grand Superintendent of Work of Ireland and Bro. M. Hooper.

The last few months has been a period of transition in the administration due to the passing of the Provincial Grand Secretary and the Provincial Grand Treasurer, V.W.Bro. C. Martin, stepping down for personal reasons. The Province is very fortunate to have a solid core of dedicated Freemasons who offered their services, W.Bro. J. Krajewski has been appointed Provincial Grand Secretary and W.Bro. D. Wyatt the Provincial Grand Treasurer.

The nine Lodges had successful installations and I thank the Provincial Grand Lodge Officers for their support and the exemplary manner in which they assisted these Lodges. Two Provincial Grand Lodge communications were held, one in May and the other in October when the Officers for the forthcoming year were invested. I take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Provincial Grand Lodge Officers for the support and dedication to the province.

With the Deputy and Assistant we attended the Annual District Communications of the English Constitution and the Provincial Grand Lodge of South Africa, Eastern Division as well as the two District Communications of the Scottish Constitution. The four Constitutions still maintain a very good interaction with each other and have several "chains" meetings to discuss matters of mutual interest. An interconstitutional Church service was held on the 1st December at St. Cyprians Church which was well supported.

Having completed the renovations to our festive board area it was decided that during our recess we would concentrate on the Lodge room. This area has not had much attention for many years and as is the case with old buildings, once you start to strip panels and lift up carpets you encounter several unforeseen pitfalls which has extended our budget. The work was undertaken and supervised by the Provincial Grand Lodge Superintendent of Works V.W.Bro. J. Van Der Wall, ably assisted by Bro. S. Neveling who is a building contractor. Bro. S. Neveling and his team have worked tirelessly including weekends to complete the renovations in good time so as not to disrupt any of our regular meetings in January. Both these Brethren are to be congratulated and I personally wish to thank them for their effort and expertise for undertaking the project.

The Province supports the Masonic services which delivers food parcels to Masons and old folk in need. We have adopted the Arcadia old age home as our main beneficiary and donated Christmas hampers in December to the 100 residents. The recipients were most grateful, some with tears in their eyes, to receive these food parcels. I wish to thank the Brethren who arranged the transport and delivery, it was a very rewarding day for all concerned.

My thanks and appreciation must go to my Deputy R.W.Bro. S. Ferguson and the assistant R.W.Bro. R. Dempsey for their support and dedication to their Masonic duties.

I wish to thank W.Bro. J. Krajewski, the Provincial Grand Secretary and W.Bro. D. Wyatt, the Provincial Grand Treasurer for accepting these Offices and Ms. T. Patton the Office Administrator for ensuring that the Office continues to run smoothly.

Wishing the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Members of the Grand Lodge and the staff at Molesworth Street a prosperous 2020.





# Ireland in India

*R.W.Bro. Ardeshir S. Aga, Provincial Grand Master*

For a Province with just 10 Lodges, the year 2019 was exceptional in that three Lodges in the Province celebrated their Centenaries during the year.



*From L. to. R. R.W.Bro. Viraf N. Guzdar, R. W. Prov. Asst. G. M., R.W.Bro. Rajiv Dave, Prov. Dy. G. M., R.W.Bro. Ardeshir Aga, Prov. G.M. and R.W.Bro. K. K. Varma, Prov. Asst. G. M. following the Stated Installation Communication of the R. W. Provincial Grand Lodge of Ireland In India*

The Centenary meeting and Celebrations started in September and it was a roller-coaster ride for the next two months. Lodge No. 464 Minden, located at Kollam in the southern State of Kerala, which is



*The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master with the Brethren at the Centenary Celebrations of Lodge Hely Hutchinson No. 465, Pune*

its on 30th November where the prominence was on a Charity project. The Lodge donated Rs. 25,000 to Seva Arogya Foundation which is devoted to primary health projects in the rural area around Pune. In sum now half of the Lodges have completed century and are going strong. All the Centenary meetings were well-attended by our Brethren from all the far-flung locations.

I had the pleasure to attend the Installation Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Far East in Mid-October when R.W.Bro. Brendon Bong demitted Office and R.W.Bro. Tommy K.W. Cheng was installed at the hands of the Most Worshipful Grand Master. I must thank the Brethren of Hong Kong for the exceptional hospitality extended to me.

On the home front, apart from the Centenary celebrations, I attended the Installation Meetings



*Group Photo on occasion of the Centenary Meeting of the Donoughmore Lodge No. 458.*

the Cashew-nut capital of India, started with their celebrations with a bang on 21st September. Lodge No. 458 Donoughmore were soon after as Jaipur (known as the Pink City), with a literally colourful celebration with banquet where regional and traditional costumes representing the four corners of the country were highlighted.

Lodge No. 465 Hely Hutchinson celebrated



*R. W. the Prov. G. with the Ambassador of Ireland to India, H.E. Brendan Ward during the Ladies Night following the Centenary Meeting of Donoughmore Lodge No. 458.*







*Group Photo on the occasion of the Centenary Meeting of the Minden Lodge no. 464, Kollam at the Crowther Masonic Hall, Kollam. Group Photo on the occasion of the Centenary Meeting of the Minden Lodge No. 464, Kollam at the Crowther Masonic Hall, Kollam.*

in Mumbai, Delhi Chennai and Pune. My Deputy, R.W.Bro. Rajiv Dave represented the Province in Lodge No. 319 St. Patrick and Lodge No. 804 Nowroze Wadia where I am a subscribing Member. My assistant, R.W.Bro. Dr. K.K. Varma did the honors in the Installation Communications of Lodge No. 815 Saxena at Calicut and Lodge No. 464 Minden, Kollam.

The Province supported two Charity projects, one named Dhanwantari Medical trust, run by young doctors to aid and support juvenile cancer patients and other project run by our young Past Master, W.Bro. Niranjan Kallamundkur to provide text books, shoes and umbrellas to poor students in distant places.

I had the pleasure to invest Brother Capt. Viraf Gazdar as Right Worshipful Provincial Assistant

Grand Master in November 2019.

Our relations with our sister Constitutions are good and there is the usual inter-visitations at the Annual Meetings.

As always, the administrative side was well-managed by our Secretary, R.W.Bro. Anil Pradhan and Treasurer, V.W.Bro. Mangesh Patel. A special mention must be made of the contribution of V.W.Bro. Suresh Sitlani in the guidance and extra efforts he took in the finalization of the Accounts. V.W.Bro. Suresh is also our Auditor.

The staff at Molesworth Street have always been extremely helpful and prompt. The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary was always there to help, guide and support the Province. I will be remiss if I go not record our gratitude to all in Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.

## **Zambia**

*R.W.Bro. Dilip Desai, Provincial Grand Master*



*Installation of the Shannondale Lodge.*

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Zambia had two meetings, April in Ndola and October in Lusaka, both meetings were well attended by our own and Brethren of the Sister Constitution.

On a sad note we lost R.W.Bro. Charles D. Hill to the Grand Lodge Above on the 12th. October 2019. A Lodge of Sorrow was held in Kitwe as Emergency Communication by Failte Lodge No. 805.



### **Lodge: Downpatrick Lodge No. 785 / Cashel Lodge No. 863**

Downpatrick Lodge donated K20, 000.00 To Tweende Education Fund and K4,163.00 at installation to Charity Fund South.

Cashel Lodge donated K5,218.00 at installation to Charity Fund South.

### **Shannondale Lodge No. 816.**

The Lodge had taken up Cindi as their project; all the funds raised go to the Cindi Project.

### **Failte Masonic Lodge No. 805.**

At Failte installation a donation of K1,800.00 was made to Charity fund of Zambia North.

### **Pioneer Lodge No. 764.**

The December meeting could not be held, so the meeting is secluded for 1st. February 2020. A donation of K2, 000.00 will be made to Tiyeseko Orphanage.

All donation made by the craft Lodges in Zambia, 10% goes to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Zambia for onward transmission to the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

## **Bermuda**

### **R.W.Bro. Allen D. Richardson, Provincial Grand Master**

The last twelve months have been very busy for our Lodges and the Provincial Grand Lodge, Membership continues to increase throughout the Order.

Our four quarterly Provincial Meetings were well attended by members and local and foreign visitors



*Hannibal's newly installed officers for 2020. Included in the picture is R.W.Bro. Allen Richardson, Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Leonard Simons, Provincial Deputy Grand Master and R.W.Bro. St. Clair "Brinky" Tucker, Past Provincial Grand Master*

alike. At the November Meeting we had the privilege of hosting Grand Masters from Washington DC, Massachusetts and North Carolina, along with Grand Lodge Officers from their Prince Hall jurisdictions.

From early January the Installations and banquets commenced. The Irish Constitution is well known for their splendid Installation ceremonies and attendance, and this year did not disappoint.

Congratulations were received from the heads of the English and Scottish Constitutions who attended every Irish Installation.



The Provincial Grand Lodge held its Installation in January and four new Officers were Installed, Worshipful Brothers, Stephen Tucker, Greg Woods, John Robinson and Kevin Bailey. Worshipful Brothers Llewellyn Trott and Desmond DeShield were given Honorary Grand Lodge Honours.

Once again there was a huge turnout of brethren who supported and participated in the annual Walk for Prostate Cancer Charity. This event was the brainchild of two Irish Freemasons and has raised over \$50,000.00 since its inception. All Lodges continue to contribute a yearly donation to the Freemason Fund of Bermuda Charity and oversee their charity causes. Brethren have also established a programme with the local hospital in order to give blood at scheduled intervals.



*Bro. Jamie Pitcher giving blood during the Freemason's Blood Drive.*





*Provincial Grand Lodge of Bermuda and the Officers for 2020. Seated in front is R.W.Bro. Allen Richardson, Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Leonard Simons, Provincial Deputy Grand Master and R.W.Bro. St. Clair "Brinky" Tucker, Past Provincial Grand Master*

The Annual Friends and Family Freemason Gold Tournament held in November continues to be well supported and this event has raised over \$90,000.00 since its inception. Moneys raised in this event go towards charities and funds are set aside for any Irish Masonic Brother that may require financial assistance.

One of the highlights of the year masonic year is the Lodge's annual Christmas visitations to widows of Brethren and brothers who are currently ill. Gift baskets, food vouchers and flowers are given to visiting households and all the brethren conclude the evening by stopping at the Provincial Grand Master's residence for fellowship and the traditional singing of Christmas carols completion between Lodges.

The BI-Annual Freemasonry Banquet held in November was well attended and a huge success. We had the privilege of having the Most Worshipful Grand Master and his delegation from Washington

DC in attendance, along with the past Grand Master of Boston and brethren from North Carolina. The speaker for the evening was the Premier of Bermuda, the Hon. David Burt.



*Brethren gathering at the Provincial Grand Master's residence after a long day of Christmas visitations to widows and ill Brethren.*

I have begun talks with the District Grand Master of the English and the Grand Superintendent of the Scottish Constitutions in hopes of having a Family and Friends Fun Day during the summer months. This will allow all Freemasons and their families on the Island to come together and fellowship.

Many of our Brethren continue to visit other constitutions locally and abroad. Friendship & Harmony Lodge made a special visit to the Grand Lodge of Washington DC, Prince Hall and participated in their Masonic Day. We also continue to foster greater Masonic relations with the Brethren in the Caribbean.

In closing, I would like to report that the Province and Irish Freemasonry is well supported and flourishing on the Island of Bermuda.



*Worshipful Brothers Lew Trott and Desmond Deshield receiving Grand Lodge Honors during the Annual Provincial Grand Lodge Installation.*





# The Far East

*R.W.Bro. Brendan Bong, Provincial Grand Master*



The Province started a new page in 2019 when R.W.Bro. Tommy K.W. Cheng was installed as the fourth Provincial Grand Master in October 2019. It was a busy year for the Province amid Hong Kong social unrests in the second half.

In March 2019, the Province had its annual Masonic Ball organized by Lodge No. 929 at the Hong Kong Jockey Club. The event was attended by 200 Brethren of the Province, their ladies, Masonic guests and non-Masonic guests. Apart from lively pop songs, there was beautiful classical music performed by a renowned musician who is a Brother of this Province.

On 22 and 23 March 2019, R.W.Bro. Tommy K.W. Cheng, the then Provincial Deputy Grand Master and V.W.Bro. Frederick C.C. Leung - Provincial Grand Secretary attended the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge of Japan held in Tokyo.

A delegation of 17 Brethren, led by R.W.Bro. Brendan S.C. Bong, the then Provincial Grand Master, visited Dublin in June 2019 to attend the Grand Lodge Communication. They were accompanied by 7 of their ladies. They were very much enjoyed the tour of the Grand Lodge and Grand Lodge's Communication as well as fellowship events during their stay in Dublin.

The Province's Semi-annual Communication was held on 21 June 2019 when a list of Provincial Officers for 2020 was successfully nominated and approved.

On 13 July 2019, an Occasional Communication of the Province was held for Dedication of the Lecture Room at 6/F of the Hong Kong Scout Centennial Building in Wanchai, Hong Kong. The event was attended by 45 Brethren from the Province and representatives from the Sister Constitutions.

On 16 October 2019, a delegation led by R.W.Bro. Tommy K.W. Cheng attended the Occasional Communication of Provincial Grand Lodge of South East

Asia for installation of R.W.Bro.

Vijayakrishanan Nambiar as the new Provincial Grand Master.

As the then Provincial Deputy

Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Tommy K.W. Cheng was accompanied by R.W.Bro. Calvin Chau , R.W.Bro. Terrence G. Hicks and V.W.Bro. Frederick C.C. Leung.



The highlight of the year is the Grand Master team's visit to Hong Kong in October. The Province was greatly honoured by the visit of M.W.Bro. Douglas T. Grey - Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Philip A.J. Daley - Grand Secretary together with his partner, Ms. Imelda Morris and M.E. Companion Charles W. Olden - Assistant Grand King. During their visit, they have attended:

1. Occasional Communication of this Province for installing R.W.Bro. Tommy K.W. Cheng as Provincial Grand Master and R.W.Bro. Sandy Y.K. Tang as Provincial Deputy Grand Master, and reappointing R.W. Calvin Chau as Provincial Assistant Grand Master on 19 October 2019;
2. Occasional Communication of District Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Far East I.C. for installing the District Grand King on 21 October 2019;
3. Stated Communication of Lodge No. 897 held on 24 October 2019 at Macau, and
4. Installation Communication and Centennial Ceremony of Lodge No. 463 on 25 October 2019.

As well as the above busy schedule, the Grand Master's team also kindly attended various fellowship events during their visit.

In November, 64 participants from all 7 Irish Lodges took part in donating a total of 1,250 pandas to 8 hospitals and one disabled childrens school in Hong Kong. This is under the, "Teddies for Loving Care" project organised by W.Bro. Kenneth T.L. Wong, our Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary. This is a charity



project introduced by the Province in 2015 copying from a similar project of the Grand Lodge.

On 8 December 2019, the Province held its Annual Stated Communication in which new Provincial Grand Officers were installed. The Communication was followed by a banquet attended by more than 100 Brethren, ladies and Masonic and non Masonic guests.

Overall, the Province had gone through a great year with successful and fruitful events. A few of the Stated Communications of the Lodges in the Province had to be postponed due to the social

unrest intensified from the mid of the year. The number of the social unrests has been reducing since December 2019 but, unfortunately, the coronavirus started adversely affecting Hong Kong from January 2020. We respectfully pray to the Great Architect of the Universe for His help in Hong Kong and the rest of the world to weather this virus.

Last but not least, we would like to extend our sincere fraternally greetings and new year good wishes to the Grand Master and Members of the Grand Lodge. We also would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the Grand Secretary and all staff at the Grand Lodge for their great help and support in the past.

## *Jamaica and the Bahamas*

*R.W.Bro. Peter H.G. Stuart, Provincial Grand Master*

In 2019, the Province continued much along the same path as in recent years. Our membership edged up slightly by 3 to 419, mainly due to an increase of 5 in Lodge No. 390, the oldest of the Province. Of sad note was the passing in December of Past Junior Grand Chaplain, R.W.Bro. Alfred Reid, retired Suffragan Bishop of Montego Bay, founder Master of Lodge No. 899 and 39-year Mason.

We were able to maintain our busy visiting schedule of the previous year to Lodges of the sister Constitutions, to the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands (EC) and



to the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica (SC). There are approximately fifty Lodges in these two Districts

in Jamaica, and the appointed Provincial Grand Steward and the Provincial Junior Grand Warden have continued their good work of having a visiting Provincial Grand Lodge delegation present at almost all of these Lodges' Installations. As expected, the Province had strong representation at its Craft Lodges' Installations, including to Lodge No. 928 in The Bahamas.



### **Charity:**

The Lodges continued their support for their long standing non-Masonic charities. As was the case in 2018, the funds were raised by various methods, such as fish fries, brunches, movie nights, concert sponsorships, parties and an inter-Constitution cricket competition. The proceeds supported the wider society through cash donations, medical services, an elocution contest, fun days, Christmas treats, back-to-school preparations and entertainment.

Provincial Grand Lodge Communications:

The Provincial Grand Lodge held its Regular Communications in June and December. Both Communications were well attended. In June the Provincial Grand Inspector of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim was in attendance, and in December we welcomed the United States of America Ambassador to Jamaica, a 60-year Mason. The Provincial Grand Secretary retired after 9 years in Office and the Treasury has been bolstered by the appointment of a Provincial Assistant Grand Treasurer.





## Business:

The website is a matter of increasing importance and concern: we are attempting to improve its content and offerings in a cost-effective manner; some progress has been made in the negotiation for the construction of a Masonic hall; and the updated

membership list is expected to be ready for circulation this year, as per Grand Lodge direction and will be submitted upon completion. With confirmation that the Warrant was issued for Lodge No. 942 work has commenced for its constitution in 2020.

## Special Thanks

Provincial Grand Lodge would like to place on record its gratitude to R.W.Bro. Phillip Daley, the Grand Secretary whose Office has supported and assisted the Province in numerous ways during the past year. We also thank Rebecca Hayes and Heather Gyles for

their assistance to the Provincial Grand Secretary. As we expand in 2020 we hope that Grand Lodge's support to our Province continues in its usual forthright and efficient manner.

## Sri Lanka

*R.W.Bro. Mohan Wanigatunga, Provincial Grand Master*



## Events

- Leinster Lodge No. 115 hosted a – “Malay Food Nite” Fundraiser for Vision 2020 held on 21 September 2019 and was attended by 111 Brethren, family members and friends.
- Serendib Lodge No. 908 organized “Masons Night” on 10th February 2019 which was well attended by Masons and their guests from all three constitutions.
- Dimbula Lodge No. 298 had the Installation communication at Agras Sporting & Athletic Club, Agarapatana on Saturday 19th January 2019.
- Serendib Lodge No. 905 Installation Meeting was held on the 10th of April 2019. W.Bro. Jayantha

Perera was installed as the Master of the Lodge.



- Leinster Lodge No. 115 Installation meeting was held on 30th November 2019. W.Bro. Iviaz Samsodeen was installed as the Master of the Lodge.
- The Installation of the Officers for 2020 of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sri Lanka Was held on 6th December 2019.
- Sphinx Lodge No. 107 Installation Communication was held on 14th December 2019. V.W.Bro. Venkatachari Lakshminarayanan was installed as the Master of the Lodge.



*Installation Banquet Dimbula Lodge No. 298*





## ***Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sri Lanka***

R.W.Bro. Mohan Wanigatunga	Provincial Grand Master
R.W.Bro. J A Setukavalar	Provincial Deputy Grand Master
V.W.Bro. Keith Bernard	Provincial Grand Senior Warden
V.W.Bro. Prasanna Obeysekere	Provincial Grand Junior Warden
V.W.Bro. Anil Fernando	Provincial Grand Treasurer
V.W.Bro. Rukshan Widyalkara	Provincial Grand Registrar
V.W.Bro. Pushya Cooray	Provincial Grand Secretary.
V.W.Bro. Rajeewa Jayaweera	Provincial Grand Chaplain
V.W.Bro. Athula Bowatte	Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. S Nandakumar	Provincial Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. Nishad Wijetunga	Provincial Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. Malik Cader	Provincial Grand Inner Guard.
W.Bro. G D Chotrani	Provincial Grand Tyler

- Membership 2019 – 188 (2018- 180)
- A delegation of 13 Members led by Provincial Deputy Grand Master R.W.Bro. Jayendran

Setukavalar attended the Installation of the Provincial Grand Master of South East Asia on 16th October 2019 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



*Installation & Banquet 2019 -Sphinx Lodge No. 107*



*Serendib Lodge No. 905 Installation Banquet 2019*



*Officers and Members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sri Lanka*



## South East Asia

*R.W.Bro. Vijayakrishnan Nambiar, Provincial Grand Master*



This year was one of change and the highlight of the year was surely the visit of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Douglas T. Grey, the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, R.W.Bro. Philip A. J. Daley and Past Senior Grand Warden, R.W.Bro. Charles W. Olden in October.



*R.W.Bro. Douglas T. Grey and R.W.Bro. Vijayakrishnan Nambiar at Refreshment*

The retirement of R.W.Bro. Thong Kean Sin as Provincial Grand Master, culminated in my appointment as Provincial Grand Master. At the ceremony of installation, the Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Douglas T. Grey took the Chair, obligated me at the Altar, invested me with the Chain of Office and installed me in the Chair with dignity.

In attendance on that day were Grand Masters, Provincial Grand Masters and District Grand Master of sister constitutions with senior Brethren accompanying them. I record my sincere thanks to all who wished me well on my Installation and in particular, those who attended on that day.

My first pleasant duty was to install the Provincial Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Jayamohan Nambiar, the Provincial Assistant Grand Masters, R.W.Bro. Abuthahir Abdul Gafoor and R.W.Bro. Sri Kandan Kanagaintiram, who have been fully supportive of Freemasonry in all aspects, and I look forward to working together with them for this Province.

Following this, the other Provincial Grand Officers were either invested or proclaimed and saluted. No significant

numbers of changes were made in Offices of this Province this year.

I wish R.W.Bro. Thong Kean Sin well in his retirement and thank him for his active and admirable leadership during his term of Office.

The year 2019 was a successful year for our Province. Our numbers increased by about 8 % (with 44 new initiates spread over all the 10 Lodges). While it is all well and good to admire the success we are enjoying in seeing a noteworthy increase in the number of initiates coming into our Lodges, it is essential that they are welcomed and appreciated and that they remain as valuable Freemasons within our Fraternity.

Meetings of Provincial Grand Lodge have been well attended, the only reservation being that attendance by Masters and Wardens for the time being has been regrettable.

At our Communications, we not only receive reports from the various representatives at Provincial Grand Lodge Committees, but prior to our Communication, we also do conduct a Class of Instruction on a



*R.W.Bro. Douglas T. Grey and R.W.Bro. Vijayakrishnan Nambiar followed by R.W.Bro. Philip A.J. Daley and R.W.Bro. Charles W. Olden, walking in for Refreshment*



particular topic of interest which, more often than not, leads to questions and answers and it is a wonderful way of spreading information.

In May this year, we held a Charity drive in support of our own Charities as well as for the Grand Master's Festival – Vision 2020. I say well done to all our Lodges for their support.

Provincial Grand Lodge visited the Installation Communications of all Lodges under its jurisdiction during the year, as well as Annual Communications

of District Grand Lodges and Installation Meetings of most Lodges in sister constitutions within the Province.

I thank all those Provincial Grand Officers who have tirelessly helped to keep this relatively new Province running smoothly during the past year.

Finally, I place on record my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Grand Secretary and his staff at Molesworth Street for all the assistance, co-operation and advice given.

## BOTSWANA

*R.W.Bro. Michael A. Campbell, Grand Inspector*

Like everywhere else in the world Botswana has not escaped the curse of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are in a 28 day lockdown here at present and the atmosphere here is very depressing. Thankfully so far we have had only 1 death and are praying this does not escalate as it has in other areas throughout the world.

We have cancelled all regular Masonic Meetings for the foreseeable future until we are once again in a position to hold them. The other Constitutions in Botswana have also cancelled their Meetings.

Irish Freemasonry in Botswana is well, but still struggling a wee bit at present as it has for the past few years.

Our numbers are not very strong at present, and we have at this time a total of 16 ordinary members, 11 country members, 1 Emeritus and 1 Honorary member.

As previously reported, the poor economic conditions that prevail in Botswana have not relented and Lodges here from every Constitution are struggling with Membership and not just our own. We are actively promoting the Craft through different initiatives and are hoping that this will attract new Members to our Order. The enthusiasm and camaraderie among our Brethren is still very strong and we are hopeful attracting more new Members over the course of the next few months.

Our present Membership are now mostly in their 60's and 70's except for a few younger members so we need to attract new members.

I am again happy to report that Masonic discipline has improved somewhat after discussions with both the older and younger Members, although to get the younger Brethren at rehearsals and to practice their workings is a mission and which is an ongoing problem. However, certain younger Brethren are keen to improve and this is a positive going forward.

Our charitable work generates lots of interest and support amongst the Brethren. We are still assisting as much as we can to the old age home in Harare, Zimbabwe through our Irish Brethren in Bulawayo.

We are also taking further interest in the Hospice here in Gaborone which is run by a Catholic Order of Nuns and which has helped some of the Brethren from each Constitution in recent times. We have made 2 donations to this cause already and will continue to keep them in mind in the future.

The Gaborone Masonic Trust Golf day which was held in July 2019 was well supported by both the Brethren from all the Constitutions and local businesses. This raised in the region of €3,000.00 for various charities in and around Gaborone.

Any Irish Masons visiting Botswana will be most warmly welcomed in Kgale Lodge No. 918; we normally meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, except February and December.





# Gibraltar

*R.W.Bro. John Bugeja, Grand Inspector*



I am delighted to submit my report on the Grand Inspectorate of Gibraltar for the year 2019. We have had an exciting and effective year and Freemasonry continues to flourish in our Inspectorate.

I am pleased to report that Calpe Lodge and the Irish Masters Lodge meetings have had a good year. Attendance has been satisfactory considering membership, and the regular meetings including Installations have been very productive.

The year commenced with Calpe Lodge Installation, in which W.Bro. Willie Page installed his son W.Bro. Dylan Page in the most eloquent and impressive manner R.W.Bro. Dylan has had an excellent year having worked an initiation, a Fellow Craft and a Master Mason Degree.

The emphasis in our Masonic Calendar this year has been when a small delegation of our Inspectorate visited Rosslyn Lodge No. 1543 at the Howard Masonic Centre in Braintree last October, to attend the Installation Meeting of W.Bro. Graham Romain. and what a great night it was. The evening was made even more special by the fact that the installed Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Graham Romain is a close relative of our Assistant Grand Inspector. The ceremony was conducted in a most excellent manner and all the Officers who took part in the ceremony were commended by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Essex R.W.Bro. Rodney Bass and myself.

W.Bro. Graham really made us welcomed, with great hospitality and were all treated to a fabulous meal at the Festive Board, which was very fitting for this joyous occasion



Alex Enriles, V.W.Bro. Alfred Pozo and W.Bro. John Rodriguez conferring an excellent Entered Apprentice Degree. Our Worshipful Master had great pleasure in welcoming a large and distinguished deputation from the Province of Lancashire. It was a delight for Bro. Lee Borg to take his first steps in Freemasonry in front of such an audience, which included his father. On that same night it was indeed a very special occasion for one of our oldest Member, Bro. Ernest Hermida as the Lodge conferred him with Emeritus Membership. With the labours ended it was again satisfying to see an abundant festive board and to hear our visitors conveying their compliments to the Degree team for their high standard of ritual, and thanking the Lodge for the hospitality and harmony. In all a very memorable evening.

With regards the Irish Masters, although it has been a quiet year, W.Bro. Tony DeSoto agreed to slightly extend his reign for another few months due to the change of Installation dates allocated to the Lodge.. It has been a pleasure to have seen him accompany me in all the Installation Meetings locally including the one in Braintree.

In March with warm and heartfelt sympathy the Irish Inspectorate paid tribute to the memory of our late Honorary Member R.W.Bro. Mario Grabiell Balloqui District Grand Master of Gibraltar Scottish Constitution.

On the 11th November, Armistice Sunday myself as the Right Worshipful Grand Inspector together with the DDGM (SC) and the DDGM (EC) were once again invited to lay a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony.

In keeping with our ever objectives to maintain

Locally, when Calpe Lodge held it's Regular meeting in November where a large number of Brethren witnessed V.W.Bro.





our Irish strong bondage and links with our sister Constitutions locally I have tried to make sure that visits to the different Craft Lodges, as well as the District Grand Lodges, Installations and Masonic Festivals of the English and Scottish Districts have been well and equally represented. We have always been and will always continue to work harmoniously together. We believe that this is most important for the good of Freemasonry and for our Institution in Gibraltar.

Special appreciation must go to the Assistant Grand Inspector V.W.Bro. Joseph Cruz, and, V.W.Bro. Gerard Laguea, not only for their personal acquaintance, but for their continual efforts to accompany me to attend all important ceremonies, events and any other masonic functions. I sincerely thank you both for your commitment and support.

My personal thanks to our Almoner and Steward of Charities for their caring and support role.

V.W.Bro. Alfred Medina and V.W.Bro. Joseph Cruz have once again been appointed because of their Masonic knowledge and experience. Trust that both will continue to be pro- active.

On the entertainment side we need to thank our Entertainment Committee for organising, and the Brethren for assisting and supporting the events to maintain our Children Christmas party, the Incoming & Outgoing Master's dinner, and the St Patrick's celebrations, including the Summer BBQ. These events are always successful and well attended.

I have the privilege of leading the Grand Inspectorate of Gibraltar but I could not undertake this role without the assistance and support of the Brethren, and for that I extend my appreciation to all. I now look towards the future with the hope and aspirations that we will achieve great things together for the good of the Order.

My grateful thanks goes to R.W.Bro. Philip Daley for all his support and assistance and to Ms Heather Gyles who is always so ready to lend a hand.

Finally, on behalf of the Brethren in Gibraltar, I extend our sincere fraternal greetings and good wishes to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Members of Grand Lodge not forgetting the staff at Molesworth Street.





# Sierra Leone

Bro. Hussain Alie Fawaz, Grand Inspector

Greetings to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and all Grand Lodge Officers. Wishing you a prosperous 2020.

The latter part of the year was a very challenging year, but all is not lost as I envisage a successful 2020.

## Report on activities

- a) Trinity Lodge No. 848 had a successful Installation Meeting on the 6th September 2019
- b) Donoughmore Lodge No. 920 had a third Degree working on Bro. Jabez Williams on Friday 27th September 2019.
- c) On the 6th November at the Stated Communications of Lodge No. 848 we had a lecture on the Ancient Charges.
- d) On 11th November, Lodge No. 947 had a second Degree working on Bro. Mohamed Sowe.
- e) 15th November 2019, The District Grand Lodge of the Scottish Constitution had its Regular Communication which I attended with a delegation of 4.
- f) 22nd November a Memorial Service and laying of wreath was observed by the District Grand

Lodge of the English Constitution in memory of deceased Brethren which I also attended.

- g) 23rd November 2019 the District Grand Lodge of the English Constitution had its Half Yearly Communication and I attended with a delegation of 4.
- h) 24th November a Service of Thanksgiving was held by the District Grand Lodge of the English Constitution to which I attended with a cross-section of other Irish Masons.
- i) A joint seminar of the Three Constitutions was organized and was very successful. The theme for the seminar was "The similarities and differences on the Entered Apprentice Degree"

The football match between the three Constitutions was postponed to a later date.

## Forthcoming Events

- A) The 3rd Degree ceremony to be performed on Bro. Mohamed Sowe of Lodge No. 947 IC on 19th February 2020.
- B) The Constitution and Installation of May Park Lodge to be held on Saturday 29th February 2020 at 11:00 a.m.
- C) A joint charitable event that will be announced

later will take place in March 2020.

- D) A Database of all Brethren to be completed in April this year. Membership cards will also be issued.
- E) There will be a Thanksgiving Service of the Irish Constitution during the course of the year.

## Charities

Nothing very significant was done except that all the proceeds from the Thanksgiving Service were donated to the Church to assist the sick and the aged.

## Other Pending Events

### The Grand Master's Vision 2020 Program.

Twining one of our Irish Lodges with an Irish Lodge in Jamaica through the efforts of Bro. John S. Bassie in Jamaica.





# Zimbabwe

R.W.Bro. Marc de Villiers, Grand Inspector

## 1 Membership:

### 1.1 St. Patrick Lodge No. 517 (Harare)

Current membership - 18, One Brother was Raised to a Master Mason, a further passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft and affiliated 3 Brethren from the English Constitution; (2 of whom are from New Zealand on contract in Zimbabwe) and a brother from the Scottish Constitution.

### 1.2 Matabeleland Lodge No. 720 (Bulawayo)

Current membership – Remains at 14; with 1 Member resigning for personal reasons during the course of the year and fortunately we were able to pass our newly Initiated Brother to the Degree of Fellow Craft Freemason; finally Raising him to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason in November, 2019.

## 2 Events:

### 2.1 St. Patrick Lodge;

We, along with our 3 Sister Constitutions were able to provide our Homes residents with their annual Christmas dinner, in the forms of food stuffs and drinks, with several of our

Brethren attending the actual dinner which was thoroughly appreciated by all.

### 2.2 Matabeleland Lodge;

Nil.

## 3 Charities:

Both Lodges continue to donate their Annual Subscriptions and monthly collections to the Masonic Homes both in Bulawayo and Harare, to assist with the care and upkeep of our elderly tenants.

St. Patrick Lodge - \$2,000.00 – Masonic Homes, Harare

Matabeleland Lodge - ZW\$1,140.00 – Masonic Homes, Bulawayo

## 4 General:

Our economic challenges and difficulties continue to be a struggle, and having reported last year that we continue losing monies due to the revaluation of the Zimbabwe Bond / Currency which had been changed to an “Rtgs Bond \$” at a bank rate of 2.5 to US\$1.00 at the beginning of March this 2019. The “Black Market” rate in March, 2019 was; anything between 3.2 and 6 to US\$1.00. – The Currency

(New Bank Notes – ZW\$) have now been issued, by our Reserve Bank; however, the rate now now stands at between 22 and 25 to US\$1.00.

We in Zimbabwe sincerely apologized to our Grand Master, for the lack of assistance with his “Vision 2020” project, but will do our utmost to assist in looking after our Masonic Homes and occupants as best we can.

