



# Progress Report

Newsletter from the Lodge of Progress

April 2010

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Another Full House at Progress!
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... this month.
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Lodge Social, RMBI Dinner date and more.
- **... and Finally**

For one night only

## The Magic of Music and Dance

in aid of the

### RMBI 2010 Festival Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April at the Customs House, South Shields - 7.30pm

The show is the idea of Mark Smith, of Nautilus Lodge and his wife Karen, to help raise money towards the Provincial 2010 RMBI Festival.

**A mixture of song and dance by performers from across the North East region.**

**Featuring:**

The Karen Shiel School of Dance, Stephanie Peacock, 'The Mackem Mover' Fiktion, and many more.

Visit website for more details:

[www.2010show.webs.com](http://www.2010show.webs.com)

or Phone: 0191 454 1234

## Full house again - What an Installation !

Lodge of Progress installation meeting was yet again a full house. Every seat both upstairs and down was occupied to see Owen Craggs installed into the Chair of King Solomon. I even have it on good authority that the bar ran out of ale!

Kenneth Howe wrote after the meeting "It was a splendid night - it does not get much better than that!" also congratulating the Lodge on achieving its 2010 Festival target. The usual teamwork within our lodge ensured that new members as well as the 'Old Guard' old joined forces to ensure a first class ceremony of which we should justly be proud.

*Phil Rann* (Secretary)



## View from the Chair – the 'New Kid on the Block' !

I was overwhelmed and excited to see so many brethren present at my Installation it was quite a shock and, in a way, very humbling that so many of you had turned out for me. Can I just say a very big THANK YOU to you all for your support.

I was honoured to have Craig Pattinson sing the Master's song at the festive board. It was important to me as his dad, Walter, sang the entered apprentice song to me at my initiation.

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking the brethren who help during the day to set up the tables, without them we would have struggled to get everything done in time and also my thanks go to Carol and the kitchen staff together with the Stewards from Earl of Durham Lodge, who attended on us throughout the night, for their support and contribution to a very special and enjoyable night which I will remember forever.

A special 'thank you' also to Brethren who undertook work in the Temple, especially W. Bro. Tom Sawyer, the Installing Master, for all the effort and hard work he has contributed not only on my Installation but throughout his year of Office.

I am sure my newly installed team of Officers are looking forward to having a busy and fulfilling year ahead with the announcement of 5 new Candidates to initiate and 2 joining members to welcome to our lodge. Jonathan our DC is certainly going to have his work cut out during the coming year.

Finishing on a note for your diary we will be performing a 3rd Degree ceremony for my first meeting on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April. I'm sure this may be different and I would welcome your support.

I am looking forward to my year ahead in Office which I am sure will be very memorable.

*Owen Craggs* (Master)

**Congratulations to John Rutherford**, our Charity Steward, who, has heard that at the Annual Promotions meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> June, he will be promoted to the rank of Past Provincial Assistant Grand Registrar. Well done John – a great honour for you. I hope to be there to see you receive your honour. *Owen*



## Lodge RMBI 2010 Festival Target Achieved!

One of the first tasks of our new Worshipful Master was to hand the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W. Bro Kenneth Howe, (who is also Chairman of the 2010 RMBI Festival) a cheque for £1,000 at our installation which puts the Lodge of Progress at over 100% of its original RMBI target set by the late Derek Richmond.

This is a great achievement and, as Vice Chairman of the RMBI 2010 Festival for our Province, can I on this occasion also add my thanks to those of the Chairman for a job well done. This does not mean that we are stopping at a mere 100% Most of you have your Smarties 'Hexatubes' which, I trust, are now being filled with bright shiny 20p pieces. Please bring these with you to our April meeting or, at the request of John Rutherford, a cheque for the amount of the contents payable to "DURHAM BENEVOLENCE LIMITED". My own tube is now full and a quick count reveals the sum of £12.40, as predicted, which, after I have filled in my gift aid form will result in £15.87 being added to our Festival Achievement. So come on – you have enjoyed the Smarties (thanks again Sid) – so let's now see your donations in April. For those of you who have STILL not made a donation to the festival – you still have time. Speak to me or John Rutherford who will help you.



Phil.

### THE MONTH AHEAD — APRIL 2010

The following is due to take place this coming month according to information that I have received. All 6.45 start unless stated.

| April 2010     | Lodge             | Planned Business                       |
|----------------|-------------------|--|
| Wednesday 7th  | Earl of Durham    | First Degree                           |
| Friday 9th     | Eardulph          | Second Degree                          |
| Wednesday 14th | Finchale Priory   | Double First Degree                    |
| Friday 16th    | Lodge of Progress | Third Degree                           |
| Wednesday 21st | Lumley            | Second Degree – Past Masters           |
| Wednesday 28th | Cestria           | 1 <sup>st</sup> Degree Demo or Lecture |

#### MORE CONGRATULATIONS:

We have already mentioned John Rutherford's promotion – Congrat's are also in order to the following Chester-le-Street brethren who, I am advised, are also to receive Provincial Honours in June: **Lumley**, John Marshall PAGDC, **Eardulph**, Don Patrickson PPrSGD, **Finchale Priory**, Eddie Eastwood – PAGDC and **Cestria**, David Stableforth, PPrAGDC. Finally Darren Gowan (**Finchale Priory**) has been selected for the Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge which means every Lodge in Chester-le-Street now has a member in that lodge. Well done Darren – and welcome aboard!

Phil.

Lodge of Progress Presents:  
An Evening with

**Stephen Lee Garden**

At Chester-le-Street Masonic Hall

Saturday 24th April, 2010.

7.00 for 7.30

Tickets £10

to include buffet

available from

Phil Rann on 0191 389 0009

Email: [progress8259@gmail.com](mailto:progress8259@gmail.com)

LIMITED AVAILABILITY



And Finally.....

#### Dates for your Diaries.

Make sure these dates are in your 2010 diary:

#### ♦ Lodge Social – An Audience with Stephen Lee Garden

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April at Chester-le-Street. Tickets £10 (to include buffet) available only from Phil Rann on 0191 389 0009.

#### ♦ Annual Promotions Meeting

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Hartlepool and Seaton Carew.

#### ♦ RMBI Festival Dinner 2010 – Thursday, 23rd Sept. (Please note date has been changed)

Make a note in your diary now if you would like to attend this Gala Dinner. Bring your partners and let's celebrate our achievements. Even if we do not get to our target, we will have done very well in these difficult times.

#### ♦ Christmas Social

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2010

Our new Master has already planned a Christmas Social. A band have been booked and a good night should be had by all.  
- Details later in the year but mark your diaries now.

The answer to March's anagram: Which Masonic Hall was "Dunbar Door"? The answer was Burdon Road, spotted by John Parker – Provincial Grand Orator - who will now have an excuse to visit us again to claim his free drink! John was the only person to email in his answer.

Another Masonic Hall looms this month - and this one sounds as if it could be close to a quarry. It has only TWO lodges that meet there so where is "Limestone Inlet Added" found?

Please e-mail or post the answer to me and all the correct answers will be entered into a draw to be made at our next festive board for a liquid prize.

As you well know by now, our DC, Jonathan, is always looking for volunteers to either take on a piece of work, or to share a piece with another brother. Please come along to our next practice and offer your services. All officers are expected to attend Lodge Practices meetings.

Our installation proved that our youngest members are keen to have a shot at work on the floor so please have a go yourself. Don't be shy!

Finally, I have just a few tickets remaining for our April social. Nearly 70 have now gone. Contact me NOW if you want to go.

Phil Rann

W.Bro. Phil Rann - Secretary

### VISIT THE PROVINCIAL WEBSITE

Provincial News is updated as it happens on our great Provincial Website. Bookmark it and make it a regular read for news and events.

[www.durhamfreemasons.org](http://www.durhamfreemasons.org)

Please keep your secretary informed of changes of address (including e-mail) and phone number.

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