



# Progress Report

Newsletter from the Lodge of Progress

May 2010

## Featured this month:

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Another Full House at Progress!
- **The Joys of Visiting**  
It's good to get out.
- **View From the Chair**  
Now we're motoring.
- **Smarties Appeal**  
Last appeal for donations.

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Includes transport arrangements
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Now being launched. Let us know what you think.
- **What's On**  
... this month.
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RMBI Dinner date and more.
- **... and Finally**  
Our Anagram Competition and

### **Chester-le-Street MBA** **Help Your Masonic Hall** **See AGM notice (page 2)**

If any member would like to find out more about being a trustee and what it involves they can contact their secretary for a copy of the Trustees Introduction leaflet or speak with Ian Heaviside for additional information. If they decide to stand for election they should either complete the form on the main notice board in the Masonic Hall lobby or contact Ian directly by phone / email 07982 718086 [ianheaviside@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ianheaviside@tiscali.co.uk)

## Lodge Social a Great Success

A packed hall enjoyed a fantastic night of music and dance from Stephen-Lee-Garden at our Social Gathering on 24<sup>th</sup> April. Thanks to our brilliant cook we weren't left hungry for food either. Stephen performed several new numbers on this occasion and there were a number of guests visiting us for the first time who have said they DEFINATELY want tickets for our next 'do.'

## The Joys of Visiting

One of the joys of Freemasonry to me is the ability to visit other lodges. Not only does it give me a chance to have a 'night off' from my duties in my own lodge, but it gives me a chance to see how other lodges do things. Queen Street Sunderland, for example, is possibly the oldest purpose built Masonic hall in the world. Durham's, with its magnificent stained glass window, is one of the most striking.

If your Masonic activities thus far have been restricted to your own lodge well that's fine – if it's what you want – but believe me you are missing out. Having said that, other Chester-le-Street lodges occasionally dish up something you are not expecting.

Such was the case at Lumley's April meeting when Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Kenneth Howe, on an official visit with his ADC, was transformed into the candidate for the second degree ceremony performed by Past Masters of the lodge. Not content with that, when we got to the Festive Board, the said APGM was also revealed as the Harmony for the evening. Kenneth demonstrated his expertise both on keyboard and drums before leading a good old 'sing-along' with the assembled company.

*Phil Rann* (Secretary)

## View from the Chair – One down – nine to go !

The challenge of undertaking a third degree on my first working meeting following my installation was rather daunting but I am proud, and very pleased to say, that our newly appointed officers, together with our candidate, Bro. Chris Bainbridge, handled the situation very well.

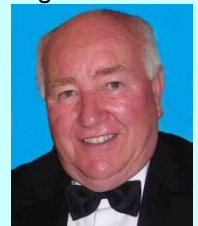
Two hours before the meeting started, yes, I was very nervous and uptight - thinking I would not be able to cope - but I soon overcame my fears when we got started, opening in all the degrees, which seemed to go like clockwork.

The supporting work covered by W.Bro. Gordon Graves, W.Bro. Bryan Kennedy & W.Bro Mark Gilpin was most professionally undertaken and was very much appreciated. I also appreciate and thank our D.C. Jonathan for his support and all the background work he carried out during the ceremony.

Our first Social Event, during my Master-ship, kindly organised by Phil Rann and his wife Dawn, was a really good night and enjoyed by all, being a total success for the Lodge of Progress.

I have heard that Phil was seen at the weekend, wandering around the Durham County Cricket Club's ground, still wearing the feather boa he won in the raffle, donated by the lovely dancer Wendy! Just a reminder Phil, it is not the dress code for our next meeting!

On the subject of our next meeting, on Friday 21st May 2010, this will see the first two of our five candidates for the year taking their first step in Freemasonry. I am sure we will have another good attendance and, with your support, am confident that I will thoroughly enjoy the rest of my year in the chair. I hope you all enjoy it too.



*Owen Craigs* (Master)

## Message from John Rutherford,

**Thanks to everyone who returned their Smarties tubes in April,** suitably filled. Can those of you who are still to return yours please do so – with whatever you have collected - at our May meeting. If you are not able to get to the meeting can you send me a cheque, c/o the secretary, so that we can include your contributions in our final payment to the Festival which I will make on your behalf in June.

This is the last opportunity for those of you who have STILL not made any donation to do something about it. As Graham Stephinson reminded us all last month, we all agreed when we joined this organisation to give freely within our means. So let's all practice that promise.

*John*



## Progress Report Continued - from the Lodge of Progress

### Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the Borough Hall, Hartlepool, on Saturday, 26th June 2010 at 10.30 am. Provincial Grand Lodge Officers and other Members of Provincial Grand Lodge are summoned to attend. If present Officers are unable to do so, they should write to the Provincial Grand Secretary to that effect. (or email [pgl@pgldurham.org](mailto:pgl@pgldurham.org)) All Master Masons are invited to attend. Brethren must be seated in their places by 10.15am. Brethren will be directed to areas set apart for clothing. Every Brother must sign a Signature Sheet before entering Provincial Grand Lodge.

**Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened at 10.30 am punctually. Dress - Dark Clothing. Full Dress Craft Regalia and White Gloves.**

Private Lodge Masters and Wardens should wear the collar and jewel of their rank. It is hoped that all Durham brethren will wear the Durham Provincial tie. It is strongly requested this is worn by all appointees and those officiating. Provincial Ties are available to purchase at Provincial Office and at the venue on the day. Tea will be available on the premises from 9.30 am.

A luncheon will be held in Mayfair, Seaton Carew, at 2.00 pm. Applications for tickets for the luncheon, together with remittance of £20.00 each. (Cheques should be made payable to "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham") and S.A.E. should be sent to:

**W. Bro D Bambrough, 5 Dudley Avenue, Fulwell, Sunderland, SR6 8HD, to arrive no later than 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010.**

**Alternatively, Alan Oliver (Finchale Priory) is arranging bus transport to and from the event and will try to ensure we all sit together. To do this he needs your firm booking NO LATER than Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Please contact him direct if you want to join the Chester-le-Street Party by phoning 0191-3887928 or Email [finprisc@googlemail.com](mailto:finprisc@googlemail.com)**

All members of Masonic Lodges in Durham Province are encouraged to attend this meeting. There is no cost and no requirement to stay for lunch. Lodge of Progress brethren are encouraged to attend to support John Rutherford who will receive his honours from the PGM at this meeting.

### THE MONTH AHEAD — MAY 2010

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

May 2010	Lodge	Planned Business
Wednesday 5th	Earl of Durham	First Degree and 50th Year Certificate presentation.
Wednesday 12th	Finchale Priory	First Degree
Friday 14th	Eardulph	Second Degree Ceremony
Wednesday 19th	Lumley	Third
Friday 21st	Lodge of Progress	Double First Degree
Wednesday 26th	Cestria	First

### CHESTER-LE-STREET MBA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY 24TH JUNE 2010 @ 7.00 PM.

All members of all Lodges meeting in the Chester-le-Street Masonic Hall are also members of the Charity and as such are entitled to stand for election as trustees. Should the total number of nominations exceed seven an election will take place at the AGM - **Ian Heaviside** (MBA Secretary)

### And Finally.....

The answer to April's anagram: Which Masonic Hall was "**Limestone Inlet Added**" ? The answer was Middleton in Teesdale, spotted by Bernard Hope – our Visiting GLO who also pointed out it could read "Old Demented Alienist"

Another Masonic Hall looms this month - and I have made it easy. One of our own Brethren is Secretary for a lodge that meets here. So where is "**Sin Hold**" 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 – but you have to be at our meeting to get it!

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.

**And Finally ... this is a call to all past masters. If you have any interesting stories in your heads relating to our lodge in days gone by, please send them to me and, if suitable, I will publish them in the Lodge Website, subject to editorial adjustments.**

*Phil Rann*

W.Bro. Phil Rann - Secretary

### Dates for your Diaries.

Make sure these dates are in your 2010 diary:

#### ♦ Annual Promotions Meeting

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Hartlepool and Seaton Carew. (see above)

#### ♦ RMBI Festival Dinner 2010 – Thursday, 23rd Sept.

**(LIMITED AVAILABILITY) at Rainton Meadows Arena,**

This is likely to be a sell out with only a few tickets being made available to each lodge. If you would like to attend this Gala Dinner with Bring your partner and celebrate our achievements then your application needs to be sent to the organisers **NOW**. Ticket Price: £48.00 which includes a reception drink, canapés, 5 course meal, wine and entertainment.

**Contact your secretary or see the Provincial Website for more details.**

#### ♦ Christmas Social

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

Our new Master has already planned a Christmas Social. A band has been booked and a good night should be had by all.

**- Details later in the year but mark your diaries now.**

### NEW LODGE WEBSITE

**Our new Lodge Website is now up and running.** From here you will be able to download the latest editions of 'Progress Report' and seek further information about Freemasonry in the Region. You will also find the Provincial Newsfeed updated daily and links to many other interesting Masonic Websites.

Take a look at : [www.progress8259.wordpress.com](http://www.progress8259.wordpress.com)

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

**Lodge of Progress (8259) Secretary - Tel: 0191 389 0009 - e-mail: [progress8259@gmail.com](mailto:progress8259@gmail.com)**