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£3,002, 839.98
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Chester-le-Street Masonic Hall Events

Please don't restrict your visits to our Masonic Hall to your Lodge nights.

The Lounge Bar is open every night from 7.00 pm to members and their guests to enjoy a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Most weekends you will find some form of event happening so watch the notice board and book your places.

Progress Report

Newsletter from the Lodge of Progress

October 2010

Back with a Bang !

You could be forgiven for wondering what our attendance figures would have been for our first meeting after the recess.

Our Worshipful Master was concerned that we may have over estimated at 70 and that maybe we should cut back on the food order. What a good job we decided not to do that! A full house upstairs and down with no less than EIGHTY diners had a fantastic night.

Lumley Lodge's first night back also celebrated a first with a lecture from W. Bro. Mrs Joy Eve (yes that is right) a Lady Freemason who gave a very interesting account of her time in the Royal Masonic School for Girls. With our next festival being aimed at the R.M.T.G.B. is was very appropriate and enlightening to receive such a wonderful insight into the fine work that these Masonic Institutions undertake.

Phil Rann. (Secretary)

Festival Result Announced

At a fantastic Celebratory Dinner ... held at the Rainton Meadows Arena on the 23rd September, the Provincial Grand Master, W. Bro Norman Eric Heaviside, announced the final result of the 2010 RMBI Festival. Full details are now on the Provincial Website (follow the link from our Lodge website).



The PGM and President of the RMBI, Willie Shackell, CBE, expressed their grateful thanks to Brethren of the Province who had achieved such a great result during a difficult financial time.

< (Pictured Willie Shackell)

Over four hundred of our brethren and guests joined principal guest Jonathan Spence at the dinner which was hailed as a great success.

View from the Chair – Round Two Begins !

It was very pleasant to welcome so many brethren back to the lodge for our first meeting after the recess, the evening got off to a rather shaky and impromptu start. Phil Heaviside came to the rescue and did a first class job as DC - ably assisted by Bob English as ADC.

Paul Black, Bryan Kennedy and Ken Tinkler all 'mucked in' to get the job done at very short notice and I send my thanks to you all.

As you may have spotted, I made a couple of 'deliberate mistakes' during the evening but these were spotted by the team and we back on track.

I'm sure that both Trevor Woodhead & Will Stephenson will reflect on our performance with a bit of humour after they have a chance to see other second degree ceremonies, however, I do trust and hope they enjoyed the experience.

The festive board meal was enjoyed by all, Carol's mince and dumplings and rice pudding were real winners - judging by the empty plates that were returned !

I am looking forward to our next meeting in October which is going to be a Past Masters evening whereby I get the chance to hand over the chair to Keith Moffat. Keith will have the rare pleasure of initiating his son, Peter, into our Lodge, with many of Peter's friends in key positions to assist with the ceremony. I am sure we will all enjoy the night, a momentous occasion for Keith and the Lodge.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who attended our Fraternal Visit to Eardulph Lodge on 10th Sept. We had a great evening and I was humbled by the support. I hope that you will be able to join next month's fraternal visit.



Owen Cross
(Master)

HELP FOR HEROS

At our September meeting it was nice to see David Davies with us – especially so that he was able to give us an update on the Headley Court Development. Neil Marshall visited the complex during the summer and submitted the following report for your information.

"The Lodges at Chester-le-Street have supported *Help for Heroes* for some time and I thought it might be nice to see the outcome of our efforts.

The charity was originally set up to provide a therapy swimming pool at Headley Court, the military recuperation centre for injured personnel. Headley Court is a large country house and gardens, in the South of England, that was donated to the military after WW1, and whilst the house had been updated the patients had to use the local public swimming baths for therapy.

Without going into detail this was not satisfactory so the project to build a swimming pool was started.

..... continued



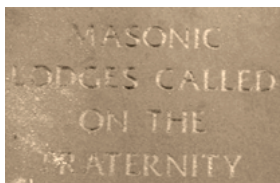
HELP for HEROES

Support for our Wounded

My son-in-law, Bro. Dave Davies (Lodge of Progress) was the electrical project manager and through him we had a sneak preview a week before completion. Some of my photographs give you a better insight.

Neil Marshall

(continued from front page)



Pictured Far Left:

The commemorative stone - laid by a local Freemason - to mark the contributions our organisation have made to the centre.

Pictured Right:

Prince William at the water therapy unit after officiating at the formal opening of the new Rehabilitation Complex, on the 4th June 2010.



THE MONTH AHEAD — OCTOBER 2010

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

| October 2010 | Lodge | Planned Business |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Wednesday 6th | Earl of Durham | Third Degree |
| Friday 8th | Eardulph | Third Degree and Elections |
| Wednesday 13th | Finchale Priory | Double Second |
| Friday 15th | Lodge of Progress | First Degree – Past Masters |
| Wednesday 20th | Lumley | Installation – 5.45 start |
| Wednesday 27th | Cestria | Third |
| | Millennium L of Research | No Meeting this month |

Congratulations to Bryan Kennedy

We send our very best wishes to Bryan and his good lady Barbara who, at last, 'tied the knot' after eloping to Gretna Green on 25th September.



And Finally.....

The answer to September's anagram: Which town or city in the Province with a Masonic Hall was... **"Inland Grot"** ? The answer was **DARLINGTON** – and well done to David Johnson who was the first name out of the hat. David – you left early so will have you claim your prize in October !

For the next round of brain teasers I have turned to the name of a north-east town or city where you may find a Masonic hall. Where then would **"needles melt addition"** to be 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 October festive board for a liquid prize – but you will have to be at our meeting to get it !

As you well know by now, we are 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 practices and offer your services. All officers are expected to attend Lodge Practices meetings.

And Finally ... Remember, 'Progress Report' is now only available on-line though our lodge website. If anyone has problems accessing or reading and of the newsletters please let me know.

Dates for your Diaries.

Please make sure these dates are in your diary:

♦ Fraternal Visit to Earl of Durham and Ernest Dixon Lodges

Ernest Dixon - Monday 25th October at Burdon Road, Sunderland. – Please support our Master on his fraternal visit. Ernest Dixon are also visiting us this month.

♦ Christmas Social – Feed the Bear – Rock Group (not for the faint hearted !)

Saturday 11th December, 2010

Tickets are £10 to include our Christmas Carol's Festive Buffet ! A good night out will be had by all.

Our WM is now taking names for this social – book now to avoid disappointment. Numbers will be limited.

♦ Lodge of Progress Ladies Night - Saturday 12th March, 2011.

At Chester-le-Street Masonic Hall. Details to follow.

♦ 2011 Installation Meeting - Friday 18th March, 2011.

It is never too early to start thinking about our installation. One member, who has migrated to a warmer climate for the winter (we are not at all jealous Ken !) has already booked his place.

LODGE WEBSITE

Our new Lodge Website is now up and running and, judging by the number of 'hits' it gets, is being viewed by many each month. From here you can download the latest editions of 'Progress Report', seek further information about Freemasonry in the Region, and find the Provincial Newsfeed updated daily and links to many other interesting Masonic Websites.

Take a look at : www.progress8259.wordpress.com

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

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