

BP 488 Newsletter



BADEN POWELL LODGE NO 488

Volume 1, Issue 5

April 2011

From our Worshipful Master



Craig Shankland
Our new Master ...
and a new father.



Last meeting we all saw Bro Chris Parr being Raised to the 3rd Degree, the night was a great success. Congratulations to Chris.

Our Master-Elect is preparing the team for his year and at our last meeting the members of Baden Powell Lodge were reminded to consider their desire to take office; we all need to take an active participation to ensure the strength of the Lodge continues.

Grand Lodge have just announced the 2011 Edu-

cational Scholarships and I am proud to note that my step daughter Alice has received a scholarship for her year 11 & 12 studies.

The next Lodge meeting is on the Monday 18th April and we will go to Shanika's for dinner instead of the usual Festive Board.

The next social event on Sunday 17th April is taking shape, the winery tour and lunch will be a magical day. Please contact our Social Secretary for details. The profits from

this event will be going to the Royal Childrens Hospital's Good Friday Appeal.

On Monday 2nd of May there is a big family reunion. Baden Powell Lodge is making an official visit to North Melbourne Lodge our Grand Mother Lodge. Also the W.M's of our Mother and Daughter Lodges will be there. Can all members please attend?

Regards,
Craig Shankland

Are You Ready for Accreditation Review?

Lodge accreditation is a dynamic process; there are regular reviews after accreditation has been received. Our Lodge is now entering that phase. All subcommittees are required to have substantial reports submitted to the CGP prior to the next meeting on 31 May. All members are encouraged to provide feedback to their CGP representatives. This means that every member can participate in the accreditation process. Are you up to the challenge?

Our Masonic Family — What Does it Mean?

Our Lodge maintains regular contact with several special Lodges, either those that form part of our Victorian family group of Lodges or our sister Baden Powell Lodges in Australasia. We also have links with the Kindred Lodges in the UK. Our Summons and Newsletter go to them all.

We were blessed to see several members from BP Lodge WA at our Uniform Night and Charles Reich, WM of BP Lodge Qld, a regular visitor, was at our March meeting. Our familial links in Victoria are special, few other Lodges maintain such close ties with grandmother, mother and daughter Lodges. These

ties make our presence at these other Lodges special. Every member should grasp any opportunity to visit these Lodges, not only the formal visits, because visiting reaffirms the bonds, helps us to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge and creates a vitality that only visitations to Lodges can produce.

Special points of interest:

- OUR MASONIC FAMILY IS SPECIAL
- BADEN POWELL LODGE ACTIVE AT GILWELL PARK
- LEARN ABOUT MARK MASONRY
- QUEENSLAND RECOVERING FROM THE FLOODS
- A NEW BP LODGE IN NSW
- EMAILS ARE MASONIC TRAPS

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Baden Powell Lodge & Friends of Gilwell



Part of OUR heritage

It is now nearly 12 months since the Friends of Gilwell Committee was asked to take charge of the restoration of the Russell Troop Room. The building is in desperate need of repair. It is the oldest building in the park, was built by Freemasons and has a great history, particularly with Leader Training. The Park, including the Russell Troop Hall, has a Heritage Overlay. WBro Tony Eijgendaal (Master of the Lodge at the time) was invited to join the Committee. He in turn asked VWBro Nick

Rinkel to join him. The Committee is now made up of representatives of Gilwell Reunion, Scout Fellowship and Baden Powell Lodge. The Committee meets monthly. Bros Tony and Nick have taken on the Finance portfolio. They have just lodged an application for a Heritage Grant from the Cardinia Shire. Should this grant be successful, an immediate start can be made. As the Shire application is based on a dollar for dollar basis, and the Committee has

very little funds at this stage, the application is largely based on "Value of in-kind support". Friends of Gilwell, through Tony and Nick, may need to call on our membership, as well as The Reunion's and Fellowship's members for physical assistance. As soon as news comes to hand our members will be kept up to date regarding this very worthwhile project.

"... ALL MEMBERS HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO HONOUR THE COMMITMENTS VOLUNTARILY MADE BY THEM AT THEIR INITIATION ..."

Our Masonic Obligations

Close examination of the Lodge finances reveals that too many members are behind in their financial obligations to the Lodge. Some members are several years in arrears without explanation or an undertaking to resolve the problem within a reasonable time.

Personal difficulties do arise in every household

and no member will ever be forced to resign from the Lodge because of this. The flip side of this is that all members have an obligation to honour the commitments made voluntarily by them at their initiation.

Twice a year the Lodge pays dues to Grand Lodge on behalf of members, dues which are collected in advance from the mem-

bers. We pay your debt if you are in arrears.

Should you find yourself in this difficult situation speak confidentially with the Secretary or Treasurer. Arrangements can be made so that small part-payments can ease your burden. Don't carry the burden alone.

Let us help you.

Are You a Mark Man?

Rule 86 of the Book of Constitutions describes the five degrees of Freemasonry in Victoria as being the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master Mason and Royal Arch Freemason. This makes Victorian Freemasonry relatively unique. The Mark Degree is the only degree in which the

candidate actually works in the quarries, an unusual feature given that we all portray stonemasons in the degree ceremonies. The Mark Man Ceremony is a genuine extract from the Advancement Ceremony used for entry into the Mark Degree. For those who are interested in learning about the Mark Degree it is an appealing and informative experience.

Prospect Hill Mark Lodge is hosting this Ceremony at Camberwell Masonic Centre, Prospect Hill Rd, Camberwell on Thursday, 19th May at 8.00 pm. Those interested in attending are invited to contact their Secretary, WBro Sid Smidt, our Assistant Secretary, to help the Lodge's planning. Master Masons planning to attend should wear their Craft regalia.



Past Masters' Meeting

A reminder to all Past Masters that a Past Masters' meeting will be held at the home of our Worshipful Master, Boronia on

Tuesday 9 May at 7.30 pm. Please notify him if you are intending to attend. Principal business is the Master-Elect's pro-

posed team for 2011-12. Come along or you may find yourself allotted to a task.

Monster Scout Raffle

Despite tickets being in short supply, our Lodge has obtained many raffle books to enable our members to participate in the Annual Monster Scout

Raffle. (Remember the Monster Scouts in your Troop?) All monies derived from the sale of the tickets can be retained by the selling group for the

purposes of local Scouting. This gives us an opportunity to raise significant funds for donation to a useful Scout project. Contact Tony Eijendaal for tickets.

News from Baden Powell Lodge, Queensland

For those not up with the weather antics in Queensland, the lower portion of the State is drying out slowly. The northern areas are still getting their almost daily dose of rain. At least it is mostly falling at a relatively steady pace and being accompanied by strong winds only. Not those cyclonic ones we had earlier in the year. According to the Insurance Council, the insured cost of the weather events so far this year is \$A3 billion, and that is only the known claims.

In the south of the State those who are able to wash out their homes and businesses and get going again are mostly organ-

ised. For those who suffered extensive damage or total loss the process will be a lot longer. While we are not hearing of any substantial additional damage in the North their recovery process will be prolonged due to the continuing heavy rain fall. In Queensland our usual weather is to have short periods of heavy rain followed by extended periods of dry or drying weather.

While the Grand Lodge of Queensland is assisting Brethren who have suffered loss during the flooding and cyclonic events, there is also an effort to assist in rebuilding / replacing the various

local amenities that go to make up a community. Things like restoring local playing field and club houses, not forgetting Scouting facilities are being assisted where possible.

We are continuing to try to make a stronger bond between The Craft and Scouting. At our February meeting the Grand Master made his Scout promise before the Queensland Chief Scout and was presented with a Queensland scarf. The GM promptly gave himself dispensation to wear the scarf with his Grand Lodge regalia for the rest of the evening.

David Taylor, Sec

Consecration of Baden Powell Lodge, UGL NSW & ACT

We now know that Baden Powell Lodge No 1908, NSW Constitution will be consecrated at Hurlstone Park Masonic Centre on Saturday, 9 July at 3.00 pm. The Lodge will tyle at 4.30 pm and the Festive Board at 7.00 pm. Costs are \$40 per person, ladies

will be entertained. Plans are afoot to investigate the feasibility of a formal delegation from this Lodge attending. Accommodation will probably be at motels in Ashfield. If anyone is interested, please advise our Secretary to facilitate planning.

The new Lodge number was chosen because there is little likelihood of any Lodge having a greater number but what a coincidence considering the year 1908 in the history of Scouting.

“UNLESS COMMITMENT IS MADE, THERE ARE ONLY PROMISES AND HOPES; BUT NO PLANS.”

“LET OUR ADVANCE WORRYING BECOME ADVANCE THINKING AND PLANNING.”





Uniting Masonic Principles and the Scout Law in thought, word and deed.

BADEN POWELL LODGE NO 488

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**Have you checked out the Freemasons Victoria website recently?
It's worth a look. Go to www.freemasonsvic.net.au
Don't neglect our Lodge website at badenpowelllodge.com.**

Electronic Communication amongst Members

A disturbing trend has been noticed of recent times: too many members are emailing messages via the *allmembers* email address when it is inappropriate to do so. This address should really be restricted to business that involves all members. Please restrict your email messages to those who must know. Some recent email messages highlight the fact that the pen is mightier than the sword and that when emotions run high the time-honoured Masonic edict "to observe

that excellent Masonic virtue – silence" rather than to speak ill of a brother becomes forgotten. Masonic ideology does not limit free speech but it does encourage dignity, restraint, respect and subservience to authority when dealing with brother Masons. Failure to observe these teachings causes offence, something that is hard to retract once the damage is done. Please take care to observe the four cardinal virtues when sending emails: prudence, temperance, justice, fortitude. If

in doubt, don't send the email. Be aware that emails circulate faster than imagined when things go wrong, some people have no need to know certain information and no-one outside of this Lodge needs know anything about the internal issues of our Lodge. Remember: judge with candour, admonish with friendship and reprehend with mercy. If all else fails, exercise that excellent Masonic virtue – silence.

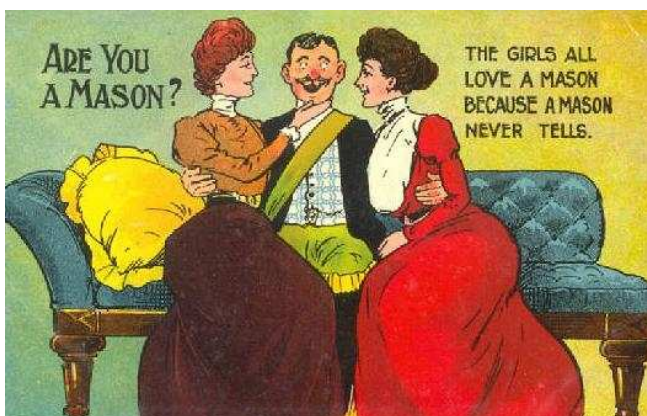


**Baden Powell Lodge
2011 Badges**
Limited previous years available
\$6 ea or 6 for \$35 (post free)
Bulk discounts available
(no limit to numbers)

"You might be the Master but someone still has to put out the garbage ..."

A Mason who had just been installed as Master of his Lodge and was duly attending all the functions he could was having a hard time with his wife who said... "All those Masters-in-office have to do is click their fingers and you would be there wouldn't you?.....I wish I were a Master!"

After due thought, he said, "So do I dear..... we swap them for a new one every year!"



When visiting other Lodges it's interesting to see slight variations of the ritual.