

BP 488 Newsletter



BADEN POWELL LODGE NO 488

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From our Worshipful Master



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

Welcome Brethren to 2011, with the festive season well in the past we are now returning our minds back to work, school and of course Freemasonry.

The Baden Powell Lodge uniform night is the big night to start off the Lodges year and there is a bit involved in the set up. On the Sunday 27th March, the day before the uniform night, I would appreciate all Lodge members to try to assist from 3pm. Likewise the packing up at the end of the evening is just as involved and request that all Lodge members please remain to assist in the packing up.

At our March meeting we will be raising Bro Chris Parr to the 3rd degree, and he will become our new Master Mason. Enjoy you special night Chris, we are all looking forward to the night. Our first social event for 2011 is on Sunday 6th March, The details have changed from original planning. The Social event will now be at Healesville Sanctuary for a BYO lunch and a walk around the Sanctuary. Please contact our social sec. Bro Adrian Kamer JW for your bookings and details.

The Saturday 16th of April social event is a fundraiser for the Royal Children's Hospital,

being held at my home and will require some assistance from lodge members in the setting up, preparation of Roast, salads and desserts and of course the packing up. Please forward your offer of support to our social sec. Bro Adrian Kamer JW.

During my first part as Master in 2010 I have noticed a drop in support to the master on the lodge night above I have mentioned the packing up after the supper on meeting nights and I am disappointed with the lack of assistance that is offered by lodge members, the 5-6 members that do stay back till all is packed are members who have taken key parts in the ceremony on the night, 2 of which are our JW & SW who will soon be WM. It is a must that Past Masters do offer to remain to pack the South prior to heading home. Let's make this work so I and future WM's can enjoy their night including the packing up.

Let us all have a great 2011 in Baden Powell, Keep in mind that we do need members and please consider inviting any prospective members to the uniform night.

Regards

W.Bro Craig Shankland

No April Meeting — an Official Visit Instead

Advance warning is given that our regular April meeting, scheduled for Monday 25 April, will not be held.

Many are of the view that no Lodge meeting should be held on ANZAC Day, others are of the view that Lodges should not meet on public holidays because the attendance is always compromised by family obligations. ANZAC Day falls within the Easter Holiday complex in 2011 and it has been resolved not to meet in April.

Baden Powell Lodge will make an official visit to North Melbourne Lodge, meeting at the Masonic Centre, East Melbourne, on

Monday 2nd May, as an alternative to the April meeting.

Official visits help rejuvenate both Lodges involved. The best way for us to grow from the experience is to ensure good attendance. Rather than travel alone, why not make a car-load and car pool? It is cheaper, quicker and far more fun.

Some of us will meet at The Shrine on ANZAC Day at 5.30 am instead of meeting at Lodge. Feel welcome to join the group.

Remember,

"... age shall not weary them ..."

Special points of interest:

- MASONIC PRIDE IN 5 STEPS
- OFFICERS HAVE OBLIGATIONS OF OFFICE, OTHER MEMBERS NOT IN OFFICE HAVE EQUALLY IMPORTANT OBLIGATIONS
- THE ROVER AWARD IS NOT LOST
- DECEASED MEMBERS LEAVE A RICH HERITAGE
- FREEMASONRY IS ALWAYS TO BE ENJOYED

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Restoration of Masonic Pride

Our November meeting was thrown into sudden disarray when a personal crisis involving the family of Bro Chris Parr, our candidate for the night, erupted. RWBro John Glover PSGW, our Secretary, agreed to give a short talk in place of the ceremony.

Some of the points from his talk are listed below.

- Many men are proud to have their families acknowledge their Masonic membership at funerals. Why do we seem less proud when in Lodge?
- Much has been made of the address by RWBro Greg Goding, AGM from Queensland, when the recent membership initiatives were launched. Many of the same points had been made by MWBro Graeme Ewen, GM of Queensland in 2007. How quickly do we forget?
- Masonic pride covers many aspects of our personal presentation in Lodge, not only our attendance at Lodge.

- An Action Plan to restore Masonic Pride:
 - * Restore Harmony
 - * Improve the conduct of Masonic business
 - * Reject suboptimal ritual
 - * Improve the Festive Board
 - * Eliminate the “Cringe Factor”.
- Members who accept Office should accept the obligations of that Office, eg., A Deacon must expect to work at perfecting Lodge perambulations, Wardens must accept the Working Tools as one of their many obligations, the Chaplain must accept learning the passage from Ecclesiastes in the Third Degree.
- Members who choose not to accept office must accept the alternative obligation of supporting those who are in office; that means attending Lodge, encouraging Officers despite slips in ritual and applauding good efforts.

Baden Powell Lodge Rover Service Award

Members will not be surprised to know that a special working party was established to review this Award. Concerns had developed about the usefulness of the Award and its significance within the Rover Section, these concerns being heightened when Crews were winning the Award repeatedly.

Plans had been drawn to reconfigure the Award, to take it away from the Rover Section and to open it to the broader Scouting family. Discussions prior to implementation of the revised Award had been held with the Chief Commissioner of Scouts.

A recent visit to the Branch Rover Council to advise their members of the new winner and to outline the proposed amendments has resulted in a postponement of the changes.

The BRC expressed enthusiastic support for the Award and appreciated what it represented. Clearly, they were not planning on losing exclusivity of the Award.

The Working Party has now decided to review its earlier recommendations for change and to conduct further appraisals of the implementation of the Award within the Rover Section. One aspect of the review will be the determination of better ways in which the Lodge may support the Rover Section, proactive publicity for the Award and a more visible involvement by the Lodge with the Award.

Watch this space and don't throw those old green epaulets away yet.

This year's Rover Service Award is presented to the Victorian BRC for their outstanding efforts during the Victorian bushfire relief activities.

Getting to Know Our Master-Elect



David Kamer is 27 years old, living with partner Andrea (medical student / computer programmer) and her son Aidan aged 3.

David is a pharmaceuticals medical representative with Novartis and enjoys driving all round the Mornington Peninsula and Gippsland Lakes talking to Doctors every day about Diabetes and Respiratory health drugs.

David also is a Sailing Instructor / Coach and is the D in RAD Sailing (family business) with father Rob and brother Adrian.

He also loves to spend a great deal of time sailing when he can fit it into his busy schedule.

David is a keen Scout Leader at 1st Tally Ho Scout Group, in Forest Hill and a State Level 2 basketball referee.

David is looking forward to the year ahead as the Senior Warden and Master-elect of this Lodge and is busily developing ideas for his year as our Master. (A Baden Powell crew for the Sydney — Hobart yacht race??)

Know Your Members— the late Stan Barton PSGW

Last November we farewelled Stan Barton. Those who knew him well lost a friend but those who are new to our Lodge may never have met him. We are grateful to Max Martin for this glimpse into a life served faithfully and well.

Stan was born on 8th January in Richmond to Gertrude and Herbert.

Stan attended Hutton Street and Wales Street State Schools in Thornbury. Following this he studied at Collingwood Technical School. He started work at the Salvation Army Printing Works in 1928 when he was 14 years old.

Stan worked continuously with his employer (except for four years in the Royal Australian Air Force during World War 2) until his retirement at the age of 70. During this time he worked as a compositor and linotype operator and spent many years as head of the Comp room. In the last years of his employment Stan was able to adapt to new technology and transferred his skills to the new computers that were introduced to the Printing Trade.

Stan joined the RAAF in 1941 as an aircraft mechanic. Despite volunteering for overseas service his skills in the printing area were soon discovered and he was transferred to RO4 at St Kilda Barracks where he worked on codes for war time communication. He also played with the RAAF Central Band under SqnLdr Laurie Hicks, a renowned musician.

On 12 May Stan married Stella Gore. They moved into their house in Preston in December 1945. Stan was very proud and spent much time working on the garden and keeping the property looking immaculate. Their son Bruce was born in February 1951. After living in their house for 45 years Stan and Stella moved to Inala Village in 1990 and enjoyed their 20 years together in the community. Stan was very proud of his three Grand Children.

Stan joined Freemasonry in 1942, an interest that continued throughout his life. He served as Master of Crusaders Lodge in 1964. He was appointed to Grand Lodge in 1982 as Assistant Grand Herald and served in this capacity for 20 years. Stan transferred to Baden Powell Lodge after Crusaders Lodge closed. He was very proud of Baden Powell Lodge, particularly when he received his 60 year Jewel. Stan also was Grand Herald in the Scout Installation Team for many years.

Stan was an accomplished soprano cornet player and played in many Salvation Army Bands throughout his life including the Veterans Band.

His involvement in Freemasonry and his musical participation allowed him to meet many people from different walks of life and to make many lasting friendships. These friendships enriched both Stan and Stella's lives.

Know Your Members— the late Tom Kilburn MBE

Last November we also farewelled Tom Kilburn, another member who was known to many yet a stranger to some because of his illness over recent years. We are grateful to John Glover for these details of a life lived exuberantly in the service of many.

Tom progressed through all Sections in Malvern as a child but was denied the joys of Rovers in full because he enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy at age 19. He saw a lot of action in the Pacific and undertook significant antisubmarine training. One of his first ships, HMAS Deloraine, was credited with sinking the Japanese submarine in Darwin harbour some time before Tom joined the crew. Naval life meant a lot to Tom and he remained active in the Reserve until retirement in the early 1980s.

One of the best stories concerning Tom and the Navy is that he was posted to the UK as the First Lieutenant aboard a ship being delivered to Australia. He married and managed to take his new bride to England for the period of his training, travelling on a cruise ship to get there. Unfortunately the Suez Crisis broke just prior to his return home and Tom was deployed to the Suez. He was forced to watch his new bride sail through the Canal on her way home whilst he was stuck in a warship on deployment. Tom loved the outdoors, especially skiing and hiking, and joined the YHA to foster those pursuits. His commitment to YHA was absolute and he served numerous roles at executive levels over many years, becoming the longest serving office bearer in YHA history. The award of the MBE for his service to youth via the YHA was suitable recognition for years of selfless service. From Tom's perspective the best part of these endeavours was that the whole family could share with him. Numerous stories are told of the family's exploits in the snow and bush under Tom's tutelage.

Just recently, not too long before his death, Tom camped with his grandson under canvas in the back yard. Not bad for an 80 year old and an exploit that will live with his family for years to come. He was so proud of that feat.

Tom Kilburn was initiated into Malvern Grammarians Lodge No 693 in September 1958. This was the Lodge associated with Malvern Grammar School at which Tom attended as a student.

He was Installed as Master of that Lodge in 1972-3. The Lodge started to decline in the 1990s and Tom again served as Master in 1991-2. Being elected as Master of a Lodge is exciting and rewarding but assuming that office when the Lodge is in decline is a real challenge and speaks volumes for the character of the individual willing to accept that type of challenge. Tom did so with dignity, finesse and his usual boundless enthusiasm.

When Malvern Grammarians Lodge closed in 1995 Tom transferred his membership to Baden Powell Lodge, commencing at the annual Founder's Day meeting in 1996. Here he maintained a diligent, active and sustaining membership until his health prevented regular attendance. Despite his irregular attendance his interest never flagged.



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

BADEN POWELL LODGE NO 488

Secretary:
John Glover
33 Hamilton Drive
Ringwood North 3134
Phone: 03 9876 2429
Mobile: 0416 180 820
Email:
jglover@bigpond.net.au

Have you checked out the Freemasons Victoria website recently?
It's worth a look. Go to www.freemasonsvic.net.au

Better still, go to www.badenpowelllodge.com.

**Good, better, best; We will not rest
Until our good is better, And our better best!**

Freemasonry is to be enjoyed ...

No one believes seniors . . . everyone thinks they are senile.

An elderly couple was celebrating their sixtieth anniversary.

The couple had married as childhood sweethearts and had moved back to their old neighbourhood after they retired. Holding hands, they walked back to their old school.

It was not locked, so they entered, and found the old desk they'd shared, where Andy had carved "I love you, Sally .." On their way back home, a bag of money fell out of an armoured car, practically landing at their feet. Sally quickly picked it up and, not sure what to do with it, they took it home. There, she counted the money-fifty thousand dollars!

Andy said, "We've got to give it back." Sally said, "Finders keepers." She put the money back in the bag and hid it in their attic.

The next day, two police officers were canvassing the neighbourhood, and they knocked on Andy's front door. "Pardon me, did either of you find a bag that fell out of an armoured car yesterday?"

Sally said, "No". Andy said, "She's lying. She hid it up in the attic. Sally said, "Don't believe him, he's getting senile."

The officers turned to Andy and began to question him. One said: "Tell us the story from the beginning."

Andy said, "Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday"

The first police officer turned to his partner and said, "Come on, we're outta here!"



A Dose of Philosophy

- Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, Because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
- Always keep your words soft and sweet, Just in case you have to eat them.
- Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
- Drive carefully. It's not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.