



## Changing Installation Dates



A Lodge Installation ceremony is one of the Lodge's annual highlights. If changes are made to the detriment of members then perhaps other changes need to be considered to avoid future clashes.

There are discussions at the moment to consider changing the date of Installation for 2012 from September to October. Reasons advanced favouring the change cite the clash with football finals, opening dates for lawn bowls, etc., when we want to hold the function on a Saturday. Changing dates causes difficulties for many who have booked specific dates into their diaries on the basis of precedent. There are many in the Lodge for whom the fourth Monday is sacro-

sanct and they block all other competing interests on those dates. This is the way it has been since they joined our Lodge. Some members have already indicated a change from September to October this year will force them to miss the meeting because of previously booked holidays. How do we avoid these problems? One way would be to charge each new Master-Elect with specifying his Installation plans the moment he becomes Master-Elect but that would eliminate any

benefits of planning a change. Another way might be to change the Installation month from September to October permanently. We have had October Installations in 2001, 2007, 2008, 2009. Is it time to consider a permanent change? What do you think? Have your say and we might print a few pertinent replies in this Newsletter. Tell the Committee of General Purposes your feelings before this possible vote is proposed.

## Re-organisation Begins ... for the Better?

New resolutions for Governance of the Lodge are now under consideration. Many of these changes have been prompted by the new Constitution, others have been drafted to improve the functioning of the Lodge. Is the change necessary? The Lodge has journeyed well using old By-Laws and

associated Resolutions for many years but changing circumstances demand new approaches. More of our members are reaching senior age, Lodge numbers are decreasing and finances must be reviewed. Smarter operations require smarter frameworks within which to work.

No change is being made for change sake. If you have ideas about possible changes or views on proposed changes make your feelings known. Tell your representative on the CGP or write a letter. Sitting back waiting to see what others do is not particularly helpful or constructive. Let's do better than that.

## Dues in Arrears ... or Just Slow Payers?

When we applied to become a Freemason we indicated a willingness and an ability to discharge our financial commitments. Circumstances change and some members are no longer able to meet those commitments as they ought or as we might wish. This can create genuine difficulties for the Lodge unless steps are taken to restore the cash flow.

Should any member be experiencing financial difficulty and need extra time in which to meet their commitments to the Lodge then a quiet word to the Secretary can result in many different options being made available. All such discussions are strictly confidential; not even the CGP gets to know the full details. Don't be afraid to ask; trust your

brethren. Why does the Lodge become concerned when dues fall into arrears? We pay Grand Lodge dues on behalf of all members even when their payments are late. Over several years this becomes a major burden and challenge for a budget which is based on small margins. Don't delay, seek help now rather than later.

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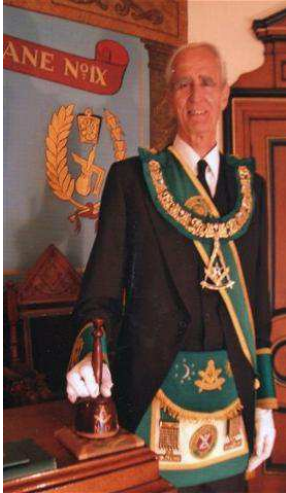
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# BP 488 Newsletter

## Lodge Dunblane, No IX Scottish Constitution



RWBro John Brockie, Provincial GM, Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire West, our honoured visitor last meeting.

The universality of Freemasonry assumed a new dimension last meeting when we were honoured with the presence of RWBro John Brockie, Prov GM of the Prov GL of Perthshire West, SC. He was visiting family in Melbourne, made contact with our Secretary and accepted the invitation to attend our meeting.

RWBro John is a Past Master of Lodge of Dunblane, No IX on the Scottish Register, dating to pre-1695. This Lodge is the only Scottish Lodge entitled to Roman numerals rather than Arabic numerals in its number. Proven records exist from 1695 but the Lodge was known to meet before then.

The Lodge was presented with a copy

of Lodge Dunblane's history, co-edited by Bro Brockie, and it makes fascinating reading. An abbreviated version may be read on the Grand Lodge of Scotland website.

<http://www.grandlodgescotland.com>  
RWBro Brockie responded to our Visitors' Toast and gave an informative outline of Freemasonry in Dunblane, Perthshire West and Scotland. He was also very gracious with his praise of the work done during Mattie McKernan's Second Degree ceremony.



RWBro John Brockie, Prov GM, WBro David Kamer, WM, WBro Lionel May, PJGD, District Co-ordinator

## Our Masonic Moments

A constant goal in Freemasonry is to strive for excellence and to make a daily advancement in knowledge. This exhortation is impressed upon us from our earliest moments yet few embrace the concept in its entirety. That is our personal loss.

Many Lodges have endeavoured to overcome this deficiency by introducing Masonic Moments into their programmes. Baden Powell Lodge is indebted to WBro David Stewart for his diligent commitment to the provision of a superb variety of wide-ranging, interesting and informative Masonic Moments. The interest has

become greater as he has involved various members in the delivery of these Moments.

It has been suggested that we ought to preserve this valuable material in a collated form for the benefit of brethren who may not have heard the entire series of presentations. Future brethren may not have the advantage of personal contact with WBro David and others who have helped him gather this enlightening material, some of it original and some of it gleaned from numerous published sources. What do you think?

If sufficient brethren express an interest in obtaining a copy of the collated Masonic Moments then it may become practicable to collect, print and distribute this valuable material in a bound format. Copyright restrictions may inhibit the sale of such a production but donations to cover the cost of reproduction would be permissible. Who is interested?

## My Eyes Are Dim, I Cannot See ...



Freemasonry means many different things to each person depending upon their experience, their faith

and their philosophies of life. It may mean one thing to a Freemason and something quite different to a non-Freemason. The best way for a non-Freemason to view Freemasonry is for them to see Freemasons living a lifestyle that reflects the teachings of Freemasonry.

As we become involved in the ways of the Lodge, the progression through office and the routine of Lodge meetings it is possible to lose sight of the ideals of Freemasonry. Stop, draw breath and commit to a renewed en-

gagement with them.

**The principal tenets:** brotherly love, relief and truth.

**The aim of Freemasonry:**

Practise universal charity

Provide opportunities for self-development

Build friendships

Foster moral standards

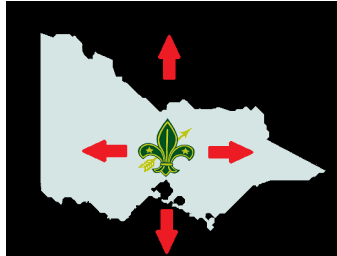
Seek excellence in all pursuits.

What do these mean to you? Can you express them in practical terms? How do they guide your life? Do these teachings affect your relationships with other members? Give them some thought.

## What Happens Next?

Plans are underway for another Installation, another new Worshipful Master and another Masonic year. Our Master-Elect is undoubtedly shaping a plan for a programme but let's ask: "What Happens Next?" We do not have a list of men waiting to join our Lodge, we see low numbers at Lodge meetings and many members feel unable to attend at night. Why don't we do something different and try moving out of our comfort zone? When WBro Dr John Dawson was our WM we

struck up a relationship with a country Lodge and some good times were enjoyed by brethren of both Lodges. Why not



again? What would happen if we invited ourselves to several country Lodges so that we could have a weekend away with our wives? If we undertook to present

the old lecture "Scouting and Freemasonry" as previously presented by the Monty Memorial Lecture Team (including several members of our Lodge) we could present a colourful night promoting Scouting in Lodges that may also be struggling for new programme ideas. Remember the old Scouting adage: the key to member retention is good programming? Unless we help ourselves no-one will help us. Don't rely upon others, let's do it ourselves. We might have fun. We might also gain members.

## "In My Dreams I'm Going Back to Gilwell ..."



WBro Nick Kinkel PGDC,  
WBro Tony Eijgendaal PGStdB,  
WBro David Kamer WM,  
Bro Bob Millen (Friends of Gilwell)

There are many in Baden Powell Lodge who have fond memories of Gilwell Park during their Scouting days. Numerous members still spend countless hours up there on training courses or working at working bees. Friends of Gilwell is a group dedicated to the preservation of the heritage of Gilwell Park so that the stuff of the dreams of many remains concrete, not abstract. They have done

much and much still remains to be done. Manpower is one key resource but funding is another. Nick Rinkel and Tony Eijgendaal are active in Friends of Gilwell and their encouragement convinced the Lodge to actively raise funds for one of the biggest Gilwell restoration projects, the preservation of the Russell Troop Hall. Most of the funds came from our sales of tickets in the Scout Raffle over sev-

eral years during which Tony and Nick led the push, having devoted hours to the sale of tickets in shopping centres. It was a proud night when our Master was able to present cheques totalling \$2900 including a donation from the Board of Benevolence to Friends of Gilwell. How wonderful that Bro Bob Millen, formerly of our Lodge and an ardent worker for Gilwell was also present. Well done.

FREEMASONRY IS  
LIKE SCOUTING ...  
POOR  
PROGRAMMING  
LOSES MEMBERS  
AND FAILS TO  
ATTRACT NEW  
MEMBERS.  
IMAGINATION IS THE  
KEY.

GILWELL PARK IS  
PRECIOUS IN THE  
DREAMS OF MANY  
FREEMASONS  
WHO ARE  
FORMER SCOUTS.  
OUR ACTIONS  
CAN PRESERVE  
THOSE DREAMS  
FOR OURSELVES  
AND CREATE  
MORE DREAMS  
FOR OTHERS.  
YOUTH WILL  
BENEFIT.



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](http://www.freemasonsvic.net.au)

## Life is to be enjoyed ...

### Mason's Road

A Mason is on a Business Trip. One day he comes to a small village, somewhere in the north of England. Our Brother is curious to know whether there is a Masonic Lodge or not, so he takes a walk through the village and after some time he finds a path called "Mason's Road". Thinking that the path might lead to the Masonic Temple, he follows it. At the end of the pathway he sees a building, which looks somewhat rotten and seems to have been out of use for quite a while. Our Brother tries to open the door and, surprisingly, it is not locked. He goes inside and finds dust and spider webs everywhere. In front of a door there sits a skeleton, wearing an apron, a collar and holding a sword in its hand.

"O my God", thinks our Brother and enters the Lodge room. In puzzlement, he sees skeletons with collars and aprons everywhere. The W.M., the Wardens, the Organist, Deacons - all skeletons. He looks around and goes to the seats of the Secretary and Treasurer.

Under the hand of the Treasurer he finds a small piece of paper, a little note, which he seems to have passed to the Secretary. So our Brother picks up the note, blows away the dust and reads: "If nobody prompts the W.M., we will sit here forever!"

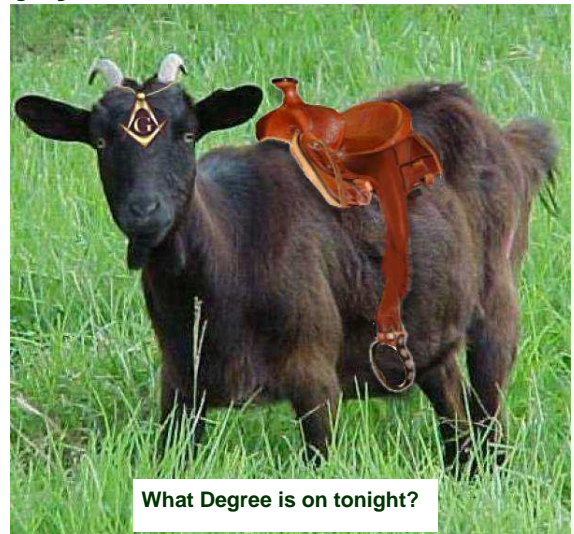
### Oh, Oh

Bro. John and Bro. Mike are getting dressed and ready for a Lodge meeting. When John takes his apron out of the case, Mike notices a pair of silk stockings unrolling and hanging out of the case. Mike asks: "I say, John, what's this with the ladies stuff?"

John gives a quick look and whispers, "You remember the installation meeting last year?"

Mike acknowledges and John goes on, "On the way home I stopped at the pub where upon I met this lovely lady. Apparently she lost her stockings in my car, and my wife found them. I told her I was passed to a higher degree, and ever since she takes 'em out of the case, washes them and puts them back in with my gloves!" **All those wearing stockings to Lodge, please indicate!**

**FOR SALE BY OWNER:**  
Complete set of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 45 volumes.  
Excellent condition, \$200 or best offer.  
No longer needed, got married, wife knows everything.



**TEACHER:** Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?  
**SIMON:** No sir, I don't have to, my Mum is a good cook.

**TEACHER:** Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's.. Did you copy his?  
**CLYDE:** No, sir. It's the same dog.

**TEACHER:** Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?  
**HAROLD:** A teacher

