

BP 488 Newsletter



BADEN POWELL LODGE NO 488

Volume 1, Issue 11

September 2011

From our Worshipful Master



Craig Shankland
Our retiring Master ...
for the second time.

A year is a long time but it passes so quickly as Worshipful Master. My year has been an exciting and busy one but now it is time to reflect on the past 12 months and acknowledge those who assisted in making my year so enjoyable. The year has included a diverse Masonic programme and very interesting social functions. My first thank you is to my lovely Lesya; the year as Master with Lesya has been a fantastic difference to 5 years ago. Unfortunately she has not been able to participate in all the Lodge events due to our busy times with Alice and Alexander. The year commenced with the night of Installation, a grand way to start the year with an Installation Team of PMs of Baden Powell Lodge and WBro Peter Treney as Installing Master; what a special night for the Lodge and me. The year progressed with diversity in each meeting's programme, each being briefly detailed in the August Newsletter. It was a great honour to do the 3rd degree for Bro Chris Parr and also the 2nd Degree for both Bro Benjamin Casey and Bro Simon Morris from United Service Lodge. Both these degree ceremonies were conducted extremely

well by all the members involved. At the Annual Uniform Night we welcomed the Victorian Branch Chief Commissioner Bob Taylor and we presented the Branch Rover Council with the "Baden Powell Lodge Rover Service Award" for their services to the many needy communities following the Black Saturday bush fires. The April meeting was another highlight as we were forced to break away from the normal meeting routine due to the Easter break. The meeting was held on rehearsal night in the rehearsal room with a fascinating presentation, "A Pathologist's Perspective of Ecclesiastes" by RWBro John Maynard, PDGM. We then crossed the road to Shanika's Restaurant for a delightful supper. Masonic education continued to be a major component of the year with lectures by Lodge members and invited guests. Each meeting we have had one or more Masonic Moments delivered by our Lodge members. At our October meeting we were given some insight into the ways of Freemasonry in other constitutions: Irish, English and Dutch. During the Annual Uniform Night RWBro John Glover delivered a

presentation on the similarities between Scouting and Freemasonry. In June we welcomed RWBro Merv Hallam, PDGM to present his "Walk through the 1st Degree". Thank you to those who have presented the lectures and Masonic Moments during the year and special thanks to RWBro John Glover, WBro David Stewart and WBro Rob Kamer in the sourcing or preparation of the lectures and organising the members to deliver each lecture. The social calendar for the past year has been a joy to construct and thank you for the great work by Bro Adrian Kamer for his work as Social Secretary. All those who took part have enjoyed each event as fortunately all were held in great weather: the breakfast in St Kilda, Christmas at Emerald Lake with some members riding Puffing Billy, the day discovering the wineries of the "Boronia Wine District" at Old Orchard Winery, a social / working bee at Gilwell Park and then the Ladies' Luncheon to close the social year. Thank you to everyone who assisted in making each of these events so enjoyable for all those who attended. Unfortunately we have not been able to introduce any

new candidates to the Lodge; however we did welcome a new joining member: Bro David Dolling. Over the past 12 months we have had the unfortunate passing to the Grand Lodge Above of WBro Bob Collins, WBro Tom Kilburn, RWBro Stan Barton, WBro Bob Youl and Bro John Currie, all of whom now can rest in peace. It is always sad to see a member pass away, but even more unfortunate to say good bye to all these dedicated members. The year has had some difficult moments, and putting together a team of officers who are able to progress proved to be a starting hurdle; this I do hope will improve in the Lodge's future. We all must work together to introduce new members to secure the Lodge's continued existence. RWBro John Glover has taken on the duties of Secretary in his first year with grand enthusiasm and John's work to reintroduce the newsletter has become a colourful and informative addition. Thank you, John, for your assistance over the year. WBro Rob Kamer DC and WBro Jon Franklin ADC have both been of great assistance to me and all the other officers in the team, thank you for their

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From our Worshipful Master (cont)

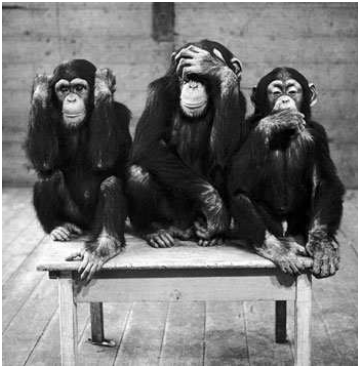
dedication at rehearsal and in the Lodge room. Thank you to those members who took office in the team and also thank you for the members who have offered their assistance to fill in vacancies during the year. My home responsibilities have not allowed me much time to visit other Lodges, however I did visit each

Lodge of the Family: North Melbourne Lodge, United Service Lodge and Lodge of Evolution which had been a personal goal. We also continued the tradition of stewarding at the Installation at The Lodge of Rapport—10 members, a fantastic turnout. All of these vis-

its have been great nights. I had from the start asked myself if it was a great idea to become WM with the responsibilities of a new father and I believe we made the right choice; now that my time as Master is concluding I will have more time with my family, especially Alexander as he is growing up.

I have totally enjoyed my year as Master and thank everyone who has assisted and continued to show their passion for Baden Powell Lodge and its traditions. Best wishes to Bro David Kamer M-E for his Installation and year as Worshipful Master of this fantastic Lodge.
Craig Shankland

A Past Master's Prayer



Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end. Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains, but help me to endure them with patience. I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint—some of them are so hard to live with—but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the Devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so. Amen

New Car Parking Arrangements at Masonic Centre, East Melbourne

BIG CHANGES: **TAKE NOTE**

The Epworth - Freemasons Hospital has installed new parking arrangements at the Hospital Car Park which will impact on our current and future parking arrangements.

Essentially you drive in to an unmanned entry and take a ticket from the boom gate machine and proceed to park your car. Once parked proceed to

the Security Guard's office (which has a blue door and a white sign marked "car park office") and is situated on the top level of the car park around 10 metres from the gate to the Dallas Brooks Centre. You need to ask for the Masonic Discount Card, which you use as you prepare to leave the car park. Note: The Security Guard Office is staffed until 10.00 pm so you should ensure you collect your ticket on arrival.

When leaving locate the pay machine just near the

lifts on B1 & B2. Insert the first ticket **that you obtained from the boom gate machine** and it will show the full parking cost. Then insert your Masonic Discount Card (obtained as above) and the cost will reduce to \$3-00. Insert your \$3-00 and you will get your original ticket back to place in the exit boom gate. (Remember that if you have not obtained your Masonic Discount Card on arrival and leave after 10.00 pm when their office is closed you WILL have a problem).

Please note that **without the Discount Card you will have to pay the full amount to get out of the car park** so make sure you have your Discount Card each time you go and also have your \$3-00 ready.

If you have any difficulties see the Dallas Brooks Centre Security guard.

**BE
WARNED!**

I am Freemasonry

I was born in antiquity, in the days when men first dreamed of God. I have been tried through the ages, and found true. The crossroads of the world bear the imprint of my feet, and the cathedrals of all nations mark the skill of my hands. I strive for beauty and for symmetry. In my heart is wisdom and strength and courage for all those who ask. Upon my Altars is the book of Holy Writ, and my prayers are to the One Omnipotent God, my sons work and pray together, without rank or discord, in the public mart and in the inner chamber. By signs

and symbols I teach the lessons of life and of death, and the relationship of man with God, and of man with man. My arms are widespread to receive those of lawful age and good report who seek me of their own free will. I accept them and teach them to use my tools in the building of men, and there -after, find direction in their own quest for perfection, so much desired and so difficult to attain. I lift up the fallen and shelter the sick. I hark to the orphans' cry, the widows' tears, the pain of the old and destitute. I am not church, nor party, nor school, yet my

sons bear a full share of responsibility to God, to neighbour and to themselves. They are freemen, tenacious of their liberties and alert to lurking danger. At the end I commit them as each one undertakes the journey beyond the vale, into the glory of everlasting life. I ponder the sand within the glass, and think how small is a single life in the eternal universe. Always have I taught immortality, and even as I raise men from darkness into light, I am a way of life. I am Freemasonry.

Ray Denslow, GM Missouri, 1931-2

FREEMASONRY IS MORE THAN RITUAL AND CEREMONIAL. IT IS A WAY OF LIFE SERVICE, COMPASSION, DUTY, AID TO OTHERS ... WE LEARN IN LODGE, WE DO IN THE COMMUNITY. IT NEVER WAS ONE NIGHT MONTHLY.

The New Joining Member

No more will our friend take his place in the Lodge,
No more will he sit in the choir,
No more in the South will he honour The Queen,
Or join in a rousing Scotch fire.

No more will he visit his friends in the Craft
Or talk of the days that are past.
He has drunk of that toast which the Tyler has called
The toast that must be the last!

But somewhere above in a heavenly Lodge
With The Great Architect in the Chair,
A celestial Tyler will knock on the door
To announce that a Brother is there.

And this new joining member will be warmly received;
The Most High will rise up from His seat.
"I know", He will say, "it was sorry to part,
But now it is happy to meet!"

Our Absent Brethren Toast

Reintroduction of the Absent Brethren Toast at every meeting at 10.15 pm without fail has been very successful. Members have commented that they feel we are acting in the spirit of Freemasonry by doing so and others have sug-

gested that we are embracing true Freemasonry. Can we do more? When a brother returns after an absence does anyone go out of their way to enquire if everything is OK, if patients have regained their health, if there is anything else that



might need doing for them? Does he sit alone? How many of us bother to contact those whom we haven't seen for a while? This responsibility doesn't belong to the Almoner alone; it's ours together.

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This could be YOU or ME. Do unto others as we would have them do to us



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**

Thanks

As we near the end of another successful Masonic year we traditionally give thanks to our Worshipful Master who has led us along the Masonic trail. We also thank those of his Team who helped make his year memorable. Have we thanked enough people? Who have you thanked? It is too easy to forget our families at home who sacrifice a lot to enable us to discharge our Masonic obligations. It is even easier to overlook our work colleagues who have manipulated rosters or done the extra work to facilitate our early departure on Lodge nights. Baden-Powell said "Leave nothing behind except your footprints and your thanks." You have left your footprints behind. What happened to your thanks?



New Victorian Branch Appointment

The Chief Commissioner has recently appointed John Glover to the new role of Assistant Branch Commissioner (Health). He joins Barb Brook (BC-Health) to help administer the new Counselling policy and develop the Mental Health First Aid series of programmes within Scouting. Both these new programmes are designed to produce more resilient youth members and Leaders in a community reflecting stress caused by numerous and diverse factors.

Victorian Rover Dinner



Saturday, 22 October.
Our Lodge has booked a table at the Rover Dinner. Tickets are only \$46 per head. No need to wear Scout uniform or dinner suit— a lounge suit will suffice. We will be presenting the perpetual Rover Service Award to the BRC at the Dinner. A good attendance will be a good recruiting tool. Come along, have fun ... and be amazed. Former Rovers and partners especially welcome.

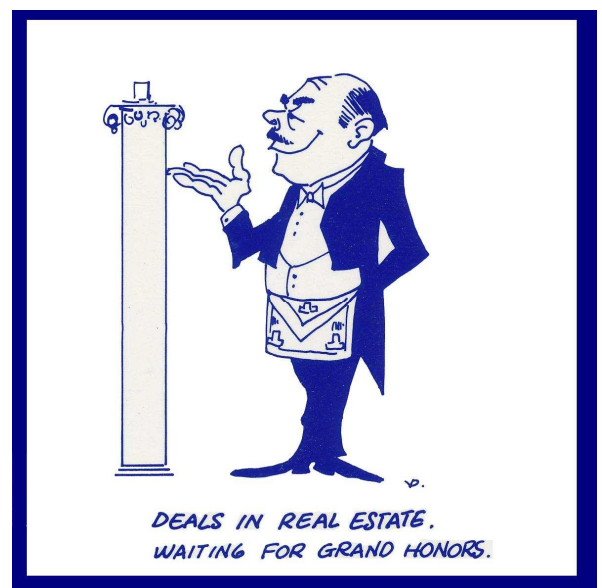
Victorian Branch Annual Meeting



The Annual Meeting of the Victorian Branch Council will be held at Monash University, Clayton, South 1 Lecture Theatre, Building 64 on Friday, 18th November commencing at 8.00 pm. This will be followed by the Annual Reports and Presentation Meeting. The evening will conclude with a generous supper. The Lodge needs to be represented by more than our Master.

Rehearsals On-Line

Can't make Rehearsals conducted by the DC? Don't worry about it .. he worries enough for everyone. Try our hints below:



When delivering ritual, plan to create an image. Think about the image you want to portray as you rehearse the ritual. Not concerned about image? Don't rehearse ... the image will be self-evident. Further invitations to work in Lodge may be slow to arrive but don't blame the mails.