



Week 23, 24th August 2020

Brethren, Week 23 and the podcast in this week's issue from Simon probably rings true with us all, as I'm sure we can all remember our own personal circumstance of why we joined Freemasonry.

Obviously in today's climate we are now being challenged to perhaps revive and reflect on those reasons, ensuring we can all strive to return at some stage to pre-Covid times and meet our fellow brethren in person once again.

Some interesting feedback from last week's Organist article and we highlight some presentations from provincial office, as well as UGLE should you be able to join – please sign up!

Keep strong, keep positive and stay safe.

The Ed

Simon Rodgers
Cubit Club
Chairman



Provincial Grand Lodge Website



When was the last time you visited the PGL website and do you know what it has to offer?

The website now houses a wealth of resources, knowledge and updates about what is happening in and around the Province. You are able to download P forms, the very latest Toast Lists and see who's who in the province; Look across the galleries of photos and by subscribing (free of charge) you will be notified by email whenever a new story is updated to the website - which can be advertising the next event or championing the excellent work our local Freemasons are doing.

Visit the website by going to

www.worcspgl.org

or to register direct and subscribe to the updates click [HERE](#)

The website is there for your use and is updated regularly by the Communications Team to make sure it's new and relevant.



UGLE is delighted to announce that author John Dickie will be joining us for an exclusive webinar to discuss his new book: **'The Craft - How Freemasons Made The Modern World'**.



The webinar will take place on Monday 31st August at 7.30pm on the UGLE BrightTalk webinar system.

To book your place please click to send an email registering your interest.



From the desk of the
Provincial Grand Secretary



Inkpot Edition 3

Dear Brother Secretary & Scribe E,

I am pleased to be able to announce that the final seminar of the 5 part series of 45-60 minute online Zoom presentations will be an overview of "Project Hermes" – the forthcoming online data entry system.

We are pleased to announce that our guest presenter will be **WBro. Nigel A. Codron PSGD**, the "Hermes" Project Manager from The United Grand Lodge of England.



The presentation is open to all Secretaries, Assistants, and those who aspire to become a Lodge Secretary. **The invitation is also extended to all Scribe E's, and Assistants, and those aspiring to become a Scribe E.**

The date is MONDAY 7th September 2020 7:30pm

You can register for the ZOOM meeting NOW by clicking [HERE](#)

REGISTER NOW AS NUMBERS ARE LIMITED

Yours sincerely & fraternally
Iain T. Sharratt
Provincial Grand Secretary



The residents of Ellard Hanson Court celebrating VJ Day, courtesy of resident WBro Bill Hogg, aged 89. Picture courtesy of John Scandling resident in Flat 7.

Alan's Centenary Celebrations!

Nicky Howgate- Alan's daughter sent a few photos of the birthday boy, on his 100th birthday on the 18th August. The first couple are Alan reading the card from the Queen, I think that was when he realised what all the fuss was about!

Nicky quotes – *"It was lovely to be able to spend some time with him and help open the many cards, emails and e-cards that had been sent, as you can see, because of the COVID-19 restrictions I had to wear a mask and gloves!!"*



Alan Granville Wright, TD, JP, PAGDC, PProvGSN, PGtHer, Past Sub Prior

Freemasonry for a special interest.....

The history of Freemasonry is peppered with special interest lodges – indeed many were formed to meet very specific professional sectors.

Good examples include the school and university Lodges of which there are many, while others were constituted for the armed forces, the legal profession, banking, or for the London livery companies. In London there are others that have a university-based special interest – for example Argonauts Lodge was consecrated for university oarsmen.

Today there are specialist Lodges being formed to cater for leisure as well as professional interests throughout the UK. This can be an important way to attract new men to the fraternity. Examples include scouting, rugby, football, fishing, sailing, music, motorcycling, classic cars, motor racing – you name it!

And Worcestershire is no different, with the most recent specialist lodge to be consecrated (in 2018) being Permanent Way Lodge no. 9951 which attracts Brethren who have either a professional or leisure interest in railways, large and small.

In the Province topics catered for by special Lodges include the armed forces, air cadets, motorcyclists, Welsh and Scottish ex pats, builders, Morgan cars, history, Round Table, scouting and others.

WBro Mike Dykes, assistant PGM, comments: *"We have a rich vein of specialist Lodges in the Province. Not only do they enable those already on the square with a particular interest to meet together but also attract men with the similar interests to join the Craft."*

"They work extremely well and using social media, they can reach men who might otherwise not have considered joining Freemasonry. They also provide an opportunity to channel funds to charitable causes that reflect those specialisms that ordinarily might be overlooked by Freemasonry, and thus more widely underline the genuine benefits of Freemasonry in the eyes of the public."

In future editions of *Square News* we will take a look at some of these Lodges, why they were formed, what happens both socially and at meetings and what the future holds, and we'll start with Permanent Way Lodge. Maybe there is a special interest Lodge for you!

If you are involved in such a Lodge and would like to contribute, do please let WBro Ian Crowder know on 07775 566 555 or ian.crowder@icloud.com.

Covid 19 Trials



The government is encouraging more people to join the thousands of volunteers and sign up to the NHS COVID-19 Vaccine Research Registry to help the NHS in the fight against coronavirus and ensure potential candidates work for everyone.

Over 100,000 people, including WBro Irving Horne who reminded us of this, have signed up for future COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials through the NHS COVID-19 vaccine research registry.

Volunteers are helping speed up efforts to find a safe and effective vaccine in the fight against coronavirus.

UK researchers urge more volunteers across all groups to sign-up, especially the over 65s and those from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds.



This week listen to **WBro Simon Rodgers**, Chairman of the Cubit Club.



Hear about why he joined Freemasonry, the Cubit Club for new and young Freemasons, and his pastimes outside of masonic activities, including classic scooter restoration!



Lodge Organists look sharp



The David Lane story (Provincial King of the Keyboard) last week struck a chord with many brethren who appreciate the organ music accompanying our masonic meetings.

Such response has prompted WBro David to offer a series of workshops, an hour once a fortnight over the next few months, to encourage reluctant keyboard players to practice live music for Ceremonies and at the Festive Board.



Interested? please drop a note to: davidjlane11@gmail.com