

engage! Newsletter No. 124

Headlines

Your headline stories for this issue! Other news items are featured in 'ALL NEWS' and can be accessed from the top of the HOME page.

The Dedication of a Police Memorial



A plaque dedicated to the memory of three policemen who lost their lives in 1878 has been unveiled at the Epworth Hospital in Richmond this week.

The ceremony, hosted by the Blue Ribbon Foundation, Epworth Medical Foundation and Freemasons Victoria, dedicated the Emergency Resuscitation Area in the newly constructed Emergency Department at the Epworth Hospital, Richmond in memory of Victoria Police members, Sergeant Michael Kennedy, Constable Thomas Lonigan and Constable Michael Scanlan who were murdered while attempting to track and arrest Ned Kelly and a gang of dangerous criminals at Stringybark Creek in the Wombat Ranges near Mansfield on 26 October, 1878.

The plaque is unveiled at the ceremony to dedicate the Emergency Resuscitation Area at the Epworth Hospital to the three policemen involved in the arrest of the Kelly Gang.

CEO Victoria Police Blue Ribbon Foundation Neil Soullier was joined by the Chair of the Victoria Police Blue Ribbon Foundation Bill Noonan, OAM, as well as Lonigan and Kennedy family Members for the event.

Representing Freemasons Victoria were Grand Master MWBro. Don Reynolds, Grand Secretary RWBro. Peter Henshall and Directors of the Freemasons Foundation Ted Finch, Frank Fordyce, Barry Minster, Myles King and Jane Hill.

Shortly after the curtains were drawn revealing the plaques, guests were offered a tour of the new emergency facility and shown where the plaques will be erected.

This is a great example of three very strong partnerships combining to deliver valuable outcomes for the wider community.

'A True Narrative of the Kelly Gang' by T.N. McIntyre, sole survivor of the attack has been forwarded to the Freemasons Victoria Library and Museum.

A Night in Chicago



Pin-stripe suits, shiny white shoes and gangster hats were back in style for Freemasons Victoria's *Chicago Night* last week, which saw more than 150 guests, partners and sponsors attend the Melrose Function Centre in Tullamarine.

The event, hosted by Garibaldi Lodge, The Lodge of the Golden Fleece and Melbourne St. Claire Reunion Lodge, was coordinated to raise funds for the Northern Health Foundation, and included a fantastic international Italian band *The Gentleman's Swing Band* lead by Robert Severini, a live and silent auction, raffle, dancing and a wonderful five

course dinner.

Among the auction items was a dinner voucher to any of famous chef George Colombaris' restaurants to the value of \$250 plus a signed copy of his latest cook-book and dinner for ten with Sardinian chef Stefano Rassu.

Also up for grabs were a signed Melbourne Victory Soccer Ball, Swarovski jewellery and a number of specialty wine packs totalling \$2350.

Many were eyeing off the raffle prizes – a Samsung 50" television worth \$1800, a La Notte Event spokesperson and member of Garibaldi Lodge WBro. Matt Donato said he was thrilled with the evening, and very proud to announce the final fundraising figure. Voucher valued at \$500 and other great prizes totaling more than \$700.

"Tonight, we have raised \$80,580!" he announced. "This is a fantastic effort and will help the Northern Health Foundation to continue providing quality health services to the northern community now and into the future", he said.

Other supporters and sponsors for the event included North Link, Bully Zero Foundation, Turi Foods, Northern Centre for Health Education and Research, Gymboree, Revlon, Scoози Restaurant and Puffing Billy to name a few.

Mid-year Christmas Helpers for 3BA Appeal



These shelves at Uniting Care were near-empty about three weeks ago. It was a similar scene for welfare organisations across the city.

Sturt-Buninyong United Lodge No. 23 members were able to see what a lot of sausage sizzles and fresh fruit sales in the summer could achieve via the 3BA Christmas in July Appeal.

"This makes it all worthwhile, when you see all the food this could buy. They then make parcels for those in need," Bro. Ken Jenkin said. "It helps hundreds of people."

The Freemason Foundation made a \$2 match for every dollar the Lodge raised for the appeal. Christmas in July Appeal Director Peter Caligari said it was a welcome boost when needed most. "There is an escalating demand from less-fortunate families for assistance and support in Ballarat's cold winter months," Mr Caligari said.

The appeal supports the city's leading welfare organisations Uniting Care, Anglicare, the Salvation Army and St Vincent de Paul.

Uniting Care crisis support coordinator Naomi Bailey said the mid-year appeal helped provide supper for those in need until Christmas. Without the appeal, Ms Bailey said Uniting Care would have to channel funds from other programs to help ensure they did not have to turn people away.

This is the 16th year of the 3BA Christmas in July appeal. The Christmas Appeal, at the year's end, is approaching its 37th year of helping brighten-up the festive season.

C/- The Courier
Wednesday 6 July

James Jamieson Awarded Queens Birthday Honours OAM



Freemasons Victoria would like to congratulate all of the members that received an Order of Australia in this year's Queens Birthday Honours list.

One such recipient was WBro. James Jamieson of Maroondah Daylight Lodge No. 607 who said that it was a 'big surprise' to learn that he had been awarded an Order of Australia Medal in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours.

"About two years ago a very old friend of mine asked me to give him the names of five people that I'd worked with over the years. I didn't know why he was asking?!"

WBro. James said that it felt great to be acknowledged and he was very proud.

"There seem to be a lot of old friends that are now coming out of the wood work since my award was announced", he said.

Working tirelessly since 2001 for the *Eastern Emergency Relief Network* in Blackburn, and the *Lions Club* Blackburn North at which he has been a member since 1976, WBro. James has just been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the community through a range of roles.

He has also been Vice-President for *Enjoying Planned Retirement Inc.* since 2013 and President from 2009-2012 as well as President of the Blackburn North Football Club from 1975-1995.

WBro. James has been a Service Member of the Mitcham Sub-branch (now Box Hill Sub-branch) for the Returned Services League of Australia for fifty years and has already been awarded three prestigious awards; the Deakin Community Australia Day Award in 2004, the City of Whitehorse Appreciation Award in 2002 for more than 20 years of voluntary service, and the Award of Merit

from the Southern Football League in 1994.

When I asked WBro. James what his role at the *Eastern Emergency Relief Network* entailed, he said that his time has been spent managing requests for support from the needy in the community.

“As Chairman of the Board, I receive a lot of requests from people who have goods to give. We now have two warehouses full of all sorts of useful household items, with a 7-day turn-over of stock. The Network has more than 130 agencies across Melbourne that contact us for goods such as electrical, soft furnishings, beds and mattresses as well as food parcels”.

WBro. James said that he began volunteering at the *Eastern Emergency Relief Network* in 1995 when a neighbour asked him for help driving a truck.

“My neighbour needed a driver to drive the truck, sort the goods and works with the volunteers, and now I’m a Life Member!”, he said.

A national serviceman, having served with the RAAF in 1955, WBro. James has also been a member of the Returned Services League for the last twenty years, regularly attending legacy days, ANZAC parades and charity initiatives along with his fellow national servicemen.

WBro. James has contributed greatly to the community of Blackburn North but says his greatest life achievement has been surviving cancer.

“I was diagnosed with Prostate Cancer in 2015 and since that time I’ve had 42 treatments. I am now in remission and I’m keener than ever to continue my service to the community”.

“There is nothing more rewarding than seeing the looks on the people’s faces when they receive goods from the Network”, WBro. James said.

WBro. James was also presented with an Australia Day award by the Mayor, Ms Natalie Thomas of the Maroondah City Council this year.

Other stories from this issue include: -

Stories in this issue include: -

- A little pink for a little bundle of joy
- Blast to the Past
- Bro. Farinha passed to the second degree as FellowCraft
- Annual Masonic Synagogue Service
- Swan Hill welcomes community advocate
- Melbourne Rare Book Week – for the love of books!
- New Online Grand Application system
- Royal Freemasons Appointed Premier Partner: 2016 Victorian Seniors Festival
- Volunteer at the Royal Freemasons
- Piper, Veteran and Survivor
- Renovation Works in Bairnsdale

Please visit the ‘ALL NEWS’ section of *engage!* Newsletter online to access all of these news items.