

Brethren All,

It is indeed my pleasure to present you with Issue 19 of *Engage!* E-News. I wish to take this opportunity to encourage all members, their families and friends to support our Brethren and communities that were affected and still recovering from the damage caused to properties by the floods earlier this year.

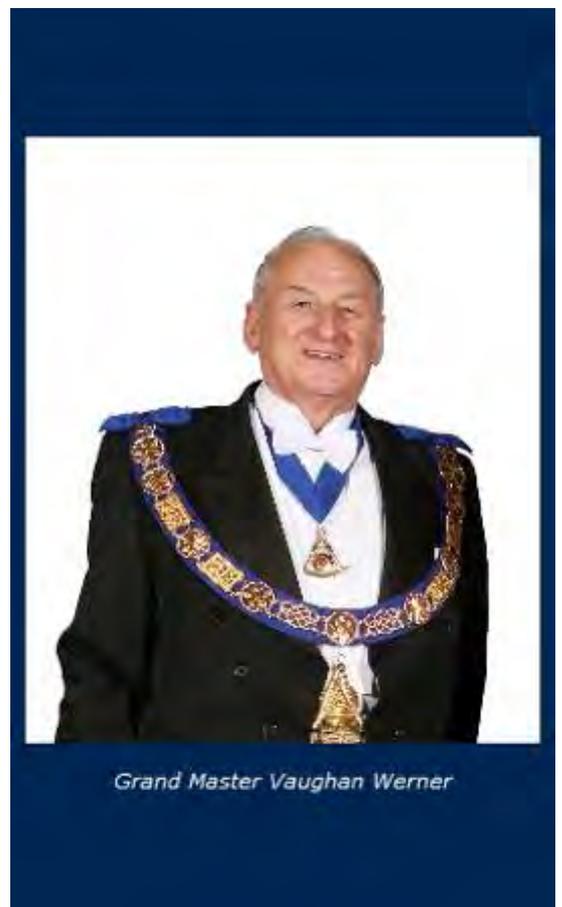
On Sunday 12 June, I was interviewed on the Ian 'Macca' McNamara 'Australia All-Over' national radio program to further promote Freemasons Victoria's forthcoming 'Victorian Flood Relief Appeal' variety concert that will assist with the raising additional funds before the appeal will officially close on 30 June, 2011.

'Macca' and his popular Gumboot Band will headline the concert. Performances will also be featured by Freemasons Victoria's partners Melbourne Youth Music, and opera singers from the Acclaim Awards. Other performances will include the Australian Youth Choir, 'Macca's' special guest Digger Revell and Matt Tennant.

This concert will develop positive publicity for Freemasons Victoria in the media, reinforcing our good work and fundamental principles in the community.

We are aiming to raise around \$30,000 from the proceeds generated from ticket sales. More information can be obtained via www.freemasonsvic.net.au or by calling the Dallas Brooks Centre's Event Manager, Amy Harvey on (03) 9411 0102. Email amy@dallasbrooks.com.au. Tickets are also available from Ticketek on 13 28 49 or online www.ticketek.com.au. Let's join together and do our all Victorians and our Fraternity proud.

Yours in Freemasonry,
Vaughan Werner
Grand Master



Freemasons Victoria's 'Victorian Flood Relief Appeal' Concert



Ian 'Macca' McNamara set to perform at the Dallas Brooks Centre

Where: The Dallas Brooks Centre
300 Albert Street, East Melbourne

When: Friday 24 June 2011

Time: 6:30pm

Tickets: Adults \$50. Concession/Children \$45. On sale now

TICKETEK.com.au or 13 28 49

New Announcement: Darryl Cotton will host the event. Special appearance by the Premier of Victoria

Patrons are encouraged to wear their gumboots for Macca's 'hoedown'. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative and colourful gumboots worn on the evening!

The show will featuring Ian 'Macca' McNamara (host of ABC radio 'Australia All Over') & The Gumboot Band Australian Youth Choir • Melbourne Youth Music • Acclaim Awards • Matt Tennant • Digger Revell.



All profits and proceeds will be donated to the Freemasons Victoria's 'Victorian Flood Relief Appeal'.

For further information visit www.freemasonsvic.net.au or during office hours (03) 9411 0111.

Tickets are available from Ticketek by visiting www.ticketek.com.au or during office hours 13 28 49.

Donations can be made online by visiting www.freemasonsvic.net.au or by calling Freemasons Victoria during office hours on (03) 9411 0111

New Member Profile - Bro. Brett Chase, Albert Edward Lodge No. 59



Bro. Brett Chase at the 'New Initiates' Cocktail Function in May and competing in the Victorian Downhill Series at Mt Bulla. Photo courtesy of www.mtbpicsonline.com.

Twenty-two year old Bro. Brett Chase from Alexandra is passionate about Freemasonry. A general floor coverer by day and active sportsman on weekends, *Engage!* recently caught up with Bro. Brett in Lilydale McDonalds Family Restaurant following a club Football match to learn whether he keeps his eyes on his fries but more importantly, why he loves attending Lodge each month.

Bro Brett, did the Alexandra Rebels have a win today?

No we got thumped. We were doing so well in the first half of the match and then somehow we managed to lose it. It was a good game though.

What position do you play?

I generally play on the wing or in the centre. This is actually my first season back after taking a five year break, so I am still finding my feet again. I really am enjoying being back on the team. It keeps me fit.

You are also an elite 'Downhill Mountain Bike' competitor, how did you become involved in that sport?

At first, I became involved purely for the social aspect that it offers. It's mainly young guys that travel around the state and ride their bikes. Although we may be competing, we have become a close-knit group of friends. I now enjoy other benefits such as increasing my fitness level that I am still building for football. Overall though, I have a really expensive 'Mountain Bike' and it's become a great excuse to see more of Victoria.

Where do you compete?

Anywhere that has a steep hill. Once a month we compete in events in places such as Mt Bulla, the You Yangs, Mt Beauty and Yakandandah, that is near Beechworth.

You also became a Freemason in April, what inspired you to join?

Alexandra is a small town and everyone knows what other people get up to. The young members in 'Alex' around my age are proud members and share Freemasonry with everyone, even at the pub on a Friday night. I was really impressed with what they told me, I had no hesitation and I joined.

What did your family say when you told them you were joining?

My mother is extremely proud I became a member. After I joined we discovered that my great uncle was also a Freemason, so that made her even happier with my decision.

What do your friends who are not members think of you becoming a Freemason?

My friends are quite curious about Freemasonry now and ask heaps of questions. Like I said, we live in a small town and now the word is out, people are approaching me and the other young members with questions when we're out socially together. We have developed a great Freemason social group.

What is the fishing and recreation club in Alex we've heard about in the Grand Lodge?

Well I am not driving that initiative, that's more to do with Bro. Karl Davenport. From what I understand though, they have started a club for members who enjoy fishing and they get together on the river and fish and invite other young non-Freemason members in the community to enjoy fishing and learn about Freemasonry. It's really working.

What do you hope Freemasonry offers you?

I really want to become a better person with other good men. I know that might sound like an advertisement, but the other guys are great to be around and I have a lot of respect for them. I love the social aspect of Freemasonry that it offers, and I really enjoyed attending the 'New Initiates Cocktail Function' a few weeks ago. I had a great night and met so many new members from Melbourne and other Districts. There were so many young guys like me that had a similar outlook.

What was the one thing you will walk away with after attending the function at the Grand Lodge?

Well apart from the party 'vibe', I was amazed by how many people took a genuine interest in my downhill racing. I had my iPhone with me and was able to show them my race photos. A few members from Melbourne suggested we start up a Freemasons Victoria 'Mountain Bike' riding club and meet up at various locations every month or so. I would love to hear from any members who would be interested in starting a bike club with me. Email Bro. Brett Chase: bisk1t@hotmail.com

A dash of Pink for a worthy cause



Director of the Think Pink Foundation Bro. David Hendel (Middle Park Lodge No. 206), the Grand Master MWBro. Vaughan Werner, Beverley Werner and Chair of the Think Pink Foundation, Irene Hendel at the 2011 Think Pink Masquerade Ball.

This year's 14th annual Think Pink Masquerade Ball was a wonderful success enjoyed by all four hundred guests who attended.

Guests included the Acting Lord Mayor Susan Riley and noted dignitaries from the Think Pink's major sponsors including Onkaparinga, Mutual Cleaning & Maintenance, MDA National, Kmart, Mirvac, Crown and Freemasons Victoria. The Grand Master MWBro. Vaughan Werner and wife Beverley donned their masks and represented Freemasons Victoria at the event.

In addition to a magnificent offering of both live and silent auction items, the night was packed with great entertainment presented by 80 dancers from Patrick Studios Australia, a reminiscent musical review of the 60's from Wendy Stapleton and lively dance music from one of Australia's premier bands Déjà vu.

The funds raised will directly support to breast cancer patients through The Foundation's Living Centre on St Kilda Road which is celebrating its first anniversary of full operation on 1 July.

During the course of the evening, the segment of Channel Ten's award winning program – 'The Circle' that featured the Grand Master presenting \$225,000 to the Think Pink Foundation to fund the centre's full-time Breast Care Nurse, was played on the giant screen.

The 'Pink Bug' that was recently donated to the centre by Pink Hygiene Solutions and supported by Freemasons Victoria, displaying the Masonic 'Square and Compasses' was showcased in the foyer of Crown Entertainment Complex for the evening.

Lodge Liberation No. 674 – The Maurice Feitel Scholarship



Lodge Liberation that was Consecrated on 14 November 1949 has established a student educational Scholarship program as a result of a generous bequest from Maurice Feitel, MBE, who was an eminent Freemason, a soldier with an outstanding record, a leading businessman and a highly valued community leader.

Maurice Feitel was born in 1910 and grew up in Port Melbourne. After completing his education at Scotch College he joined his father's business as a furrier. Maurice developed "Feitel Furs" as a leading retailer of fine apparel. In 1952 he became the president of the Furriers Association.

In 1936 Maurice married Edith Lillian Stevenson who lived nearby in Port Melbourne. At the beginning of World War 2 he enlisted in the 2/12 Field Regiment with the rank of Captain and, for "his courageous example, energy and determination," at Tobruk, he was awarded an MBE, the regiment's highest award in the campaign. He also served in Syria, El Alamein and New Guinea.

After the war he operated his business until the 1970's, and then devoted his time to community service as a Melbourne City Councillor, foundation member of Latrobe Probus and President of the South Yarra Residential Group.

Maurice became a Freemason in 1928. He joined Lodge Luxor and was Master (1947-48). Lodge Luxor's members had all been Prisoners of war. Lodge Luxor then sponsored the newly formed Lodge Liberation, and Maurice soon joined. Maurice devoted over 70 years of service to Freemasonry until passing in December 2000.

Following Consecration, Lodge Liberation No. 674 met a Prahran until moving to the Waverly Masonic Centre in 1995. For more information: www.lodgeliberation.org

Freemasons Victoria's May 2011 Membership Overview

The following is a summary of our membership statistics for the month of May.

- 70 enquiries for month of May were generated from Freemasons Victoria's website.
- 29 new members Initiated across the state with a further 28 propositions received.
- Grand Lodge generated and received 20 applications and referred 14 candidates to suitable Lodges.
- The average age for new Initiates for May was 40-years-of-age.
- Middle Park Lodge and Lodge of Evolution are leading the way with each recruiting 6 new Initiates from Jan – May 2011.
- Freemasons Victoria have initiated 158 members YTD across the state.
- Number of affiliated members is 13,001.
- 47 resignations were received in April and 49 received in May.

WBro. Phillip Bencraft PJGD Lights Up Lodge of Welcome (Daylight) No.510



During April, members of the Lodge of Welcome No. 510, along with their partners and visitors welcomed guest speaker, WBro. Phillip Bencraft to make a special presentation.

WBro. Phil recounted his twenty-one year service stationed at various metropolitan fire stations as having "the best job in the world." He provided a detailed insight to his family's long involvement with the brigade, highlighting historical accounts of the Melbourne Fire Brigade that formed on 1 March 1891. The first recorded fire in Melbourne occurred on 28 April, 1838.

Referring to a passage from the book 'Life under the Bell' which describes the early fire fighting events, fire brigades were initially owned by Insurance Companies and some larger companies, who relied upon volunteers and employees to operate the equipment. Rivalry rose between these brigades, with violent altercations occurring when deciding which brigade was to extinguish the fires. In the 1880's houses were marked with a 'firemark'. If a burning house displayed a 'firemark' that was not associated with the attending brigade, the house was left to burn. Properties with a 'firemark' were up for grabs.

WBro. Phil also explained how firefighting technology has advanced over the past twenty years, with brigades now operating as a business with two separate responsibilities. Firstly firefighting and 'first responder' with medical support until an ambulance arrives, and secondly; fire prevention and education, that includes dealing with dangerous goods and safety in homes.

WBro. Phil had arranged historical firefighter's clothing and passed around heavy weight jackets, boots and protective clothing weighing up to 20kg which was incredibly hot to wear.

A presentation of tanker vehicles, pumper trucks and support vehicles were well received and members enjoyed aspects hearing about the employment and selection process firefighters endured with a detailed explanation of their training, fitness and wellbeing requirements.

Everyone present at the Lodge was captivated with WBro. Phil's extraordinary presentation that incorporated humour, interest and fire safety advice.

Lodge of Welcome No. 510 meets on the second Wednesday at 10:00am at the Gardenvale Temple. For more information please contact the Secretary RWBro. Robert Jones, PJGW on (03) 95461911.

Have you discovered Freemasons Victoria on Facebook yet?



Bro. Alun Matthews (Duke of Clarence Lodge No.172) and Bro. Karl Davenport of (Albert Edward Lodge No.59 and Duke of Clarence Lodge No.172) join Freemasons Victoria on Facebook.

Freemasons Victoria has officially reached over 3,900 Facebook friends. Facebook is a great way to stay connected with member and Lodge news, information, events and pictorials from all 17 Districts. If you have news and information you would like posted on Freemasons Victoria's official Facebook site, please email a brief description along with an image to richardson@freemasonsvic.net.au with 'Facebook Posting' in the subject line.

A touch of Victorian Freemasonry in Canada

By WBro. Mike Montague

The Derrimut Daylight Lode No. 905



Prominently in a showcase in the ante room in the Masonic Hall in Kamloops, British Columbia, are mementoes of local Victorian Freemasonry plus, most significantly, a large boomerang bearing a brass square and compasses attached, which I presented to Kamloops Lodge No. 10 in 2009.

During a tour in 1993 I “discovered” the Kamloops Masonic complex, and began a long and valuable friendship with Jim Baker, the Secretary of Kamloops Lodge when I contacted him for information regarding the complex. Over the years we have become very close friends and I was regarded as a close friend of the Lodge due to all the Victorian and Australian Masonic reading matter I had forwarded, and I became keen to visit the Lodge.

During my second tour of Canada in 2009, I was able to make the presentation to the Lodge of the boomerang as a memento of my visit.

It was a most memorable occasion being able to meet Jim Baker, and I also had the honour of meeting and chatting with one Past Grand Master and the Grand Master-Elect , two of the five Grand Masters of British Columbia who have come from Kamloops Lodge.



Christmas in July

The following Lodges are holding our annual combined luncheon:

The Lodge of Cordiality
The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Lodge
United Press Lodge
Centenary Chapter

Location:-

*Aero Bar & Bistro, Royal Victorian Aero Club
Cnr First Avenue & Bundora Pde
Moorabbin Airport*

(Go along Bundora Pde following the sign to the "King Island Terminal")

Date:-

24th July 2011

Time:-

12.00 noon for 12.30PM start

Meal:-

Soup

Roast Turkey, Ham and roast vegetables

Christmas pudding

Cost:-

\$40.00 pp (\$5.00 of this amount is going to a charity) drinks at bar prices.

All are welcome "Non Freemasons and Ladies"

RSVP 7 July on 9580 2739 or 9553 4694