

Engage!



A word from the Grand Master

Dear Brethren All,

I must say how delighted I was with what I can only describe as an absolutely marvellous turn out at the Quarterly Communication in Bendigo on the 30 September last month. To look out from the stage, on what appeared to me to be a full house, was truly wonderful. I am reliably informed that after adding those on the stage to those seated in the auditorium the total attendance was over 500.

Thank you most sincerely to all of you who attended the evening. It was your attendance that made this event an outstanding success. I would also like to acknowledge the Grand Secretary and his team for their efforts in making this event happen.

Yours Fraternally,
Vaughan Werner
Grand Master

All in tune for Freemasonry

Members of the Sturt Buninyong United Lodge WBros. Bernie Ebbs, Alby Peart and Lyle Fletcher were recently on hand at the Freemasons Festival of Bands to help promote Freemasonry.

Freemasons Task Force members along with Ballarat and District

Freemasons volunteered during the week to promote Freemasonry by handing out brochures and talking to families about the Craft, regalia and membership details of past family members.

Stewards Collars worn by the Freemasons attracted the attention of band members and families and provided the "ice breaker" for further discussion.





Alexandra Art Show

The first Alexandra Freemasons Art Show held in the Alexandra Masonic Centre was deemed a great success. Over 100 people attended the opening night and more than 300 attended the exhibition over a weekend. The event served the dual purpose of raising the profile of ten of the Shire's artists as well as the Alexandra Lodge and Freemasonry. Organisers of the show, watercolour artist Noel Stevenson and WorBro. Brian Stevenson, Worshipful Master of the Albert Edward Lodge, hope to do it again next year.

Tough Kid

Author and Freemason David Kay is kindly donating all proceeds from his book *Tough Kid* to the Freemasons Victoria Benevolent Fund. David Kay was only five years old when the Red Army entered Belarus and his father was jailed as a bourgeois, an enemy of Communism. David, his mother Genia and older brother Sam were deported to Siberia. Faced with starvation and appalling living conditions, Genia forged a better life for her family with cunning, intelligence and courage. By necessity, David became the street-wise kid of the title and together they managed to survive Siberia in style. In Australia David never lost his love of life or the sense of adventure. In this honest and lively account, the words leap off the pages. The book is available for purchase from the Grand Lodge at \$15.

A little *Way* of sunshine

Freemasons Victoria would like to congratulate Lena and Ben Way on their new arrival. Illiana Grace Way was proudly welcomed into the world on 11.9.11 at 2:15pm.

She weighed 7.1oz or 3.6kg and was 51cm. She is a thriving, beautiful little girl and a true bundle of joy.

Member Cards

All members will be issued with these individual member cards with their membership number. These will be sent out on the 2nd November 2011 by mail. Please take note that you will need your membership number to login to the new Intranet section which will go live in mid-November. Details about logging into this new section of the Intranet will be sent out together with your membership cards.



Freemasons in the CBD Quarterly Luncheon Christmas Special

Freemasons and their guests are cordially invited to the next CBD luncheon on Tuesday 13 December 2011 (12:00pm – 2:00pm) at Morgan's 401 – Collins Street. This event will have a Christmas flavour in keeping with this festive time of the year.

We are currently finalising arrangements with our Special Guest Speaker and will furnish details in the next issue of engage.

Tickets are \$55 and include a 2 course lunch and beverages.

Bookings are open now and can be made with:

Donna De La Rue 9411 0103 or delarue@freemasonsvic.net.au

2012 Installation of Grand Master Elect

Make sure you have your calendar marked for the 2012 installation of RWBro. Bob Jones, Grand Master Elect.

Key dates:

Quarterly Communication –
Wednesday 21/03/12

Guests Reception –
Thursday 22/03/12, 6:30pm

Grand Installation –
Friday 23/03/12, 7:30pm

Ladies Brunch –
Saturday 24/03/12, 10:00am

Grand Banquet –
Saturday 24/03/12 6:30pm

Church Service –
Sunday 25/03/12 11:00am

Farewell Luncheon –
Sunday 25/03/12 12:30pm

Calendar of events

For an up to date calendar of events please visit www.freemasonsvic.net.au and click 'calendar of events' link in the bottom right corner of the homepage.





Young member interview

Engage! caught up with 18 year old Peter Murdoch prior to his upcoming Installation. Peter is going to be initiated by his father at the newly refurbished Williamstown Masonic Centre on its first working night.

What are you studying?

I am studying a Bachelor of Arts at Monash University, Clayton with the view of becoming a Psychologist after post-graduate studies. Alongside Psychology, I'm also looking to major in Philosophy.

How are you finding living away from home?

In some ways it's a double edged sword. I love the independence, freedom and liberty it gives you but then there's nothing like a home cooked meal and having someone make a fuss over you.

What do you enjoy doing outside of studying?

I'm an Officer Cadet in the Army Reserve and that takes up a fair amount of my spare time, however, I also enjoy mixing music, going out with mates, reading and keeping fit.

When did you first come to learn about Freemasonry?

Dad has been a Freemason for over 22 years and he and I have talked about it for as long as I can remember. It's really been just a "normal" part of everyday life for me. In fact, when he was Master of his Lodge, I used to go and help him set up and when he was Grand Sword Bearer, I used to follow him around the lounge and copy him while he practiced how to walk move like a Grand Lodge Officer. Since telling Dad that I want to join, we've had some more detailed discussions about Freemasonry so that I am clear about what it is I am joining.

Why do you want to become a Freemason?

It's something I've always wanted to do and it's something special I think I might be able to share with my Dad. I've met many Freemasons over the years and they have all be good men of high moral standing and principles. That's something I would like to emulate and look forward to being a part of it. I also think it would be a fantastic way to get involved with my local and broader community, especially since my old high school has a connection to Freemasonry.

How does your family feel about you becoming a Freemason?

Both Mum and Dad are really pleased. Dad of course is already in Lodge but my Grandfather (Mum's Dad) was in Lodge in Western Australia as well. So they are both really pleased that the Masonic tradition in our family will be continued. I know Dad is as excited as anything too. I understand that when a Lewis (that's what I believe the son of a Mason is called) is initiated, it's a very special event.

While you wait for your Initiation, what are you thinking about, in terms of entering the Craft?

I'm primarily thinking about what the Masonic experience is going to entail. I'm curious to explore and immerse myself in the customs and traditions that many honourable men before me have.

■ Raise money for your Lodge with a group booking to Cruden Farm

The CRUDEN FARM FAMILY FUN DAY, is an annual event at Dame Elisabeth Murdoch's Cruden Farm, Langwarrin. This year it is being held on Sunday 20th November between 11am and 4pm.

This is a joint venture of three registered charities: the Mental Health Foundation of Australia, The Royal Society of Victoria and the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller – Australasia

The Family Fun Day, held in the magnificent garden and grounds of Cruden Farm includes activities as varied as:

- Children's Animal Farm with Dr Hugh Wirth AM President RSPCA Victoria
- Australian Carriage Driving Society demonstration
- Circus Workshop
- Devonshire Teas
- Fair Ground games
- Barbeque/ Sausage Sizzle
- Music, including Brass Bands
- Sweets Stall
- Classic Car Display
- Wine and drink sales
- plus the rare enjoyment of Dame Elisabeth's wonderful garden

For Group bookings, a commission can be received on GROUP BOOKINGS OF TEN PERSONS OR MORE PRE-SOLD BY 1st November. General admission is \$25.00; your organisation may retain a \$5.00 commission per person. Concession admission is \$15.00: you may retain a \$2.00 commission per person.

Take this opportunity for your group to enjoy the unique experience of Cruden Farm while your booking provides fund raising for your cause. Bus parking is available on the grounds.

Contact Megan McQueenie on 9427 0407 or 9826 142
email: executivedirector@mhfa.org.au

Melton's anniversary gift



Melton Lodge recently produced a new banner to commemorate the 85th anniversary of the Lodge. Friend of the lodge, Trish Skute researched Masonic banner designs for several months before deciding on the Blazing Star as the centerpiece for the banner. The design was hand sewn, then machined

using carefully selected materials and colours to represent the Craft. The Star, together with the words, numerals and the Square and Compasses, are enduring symbols of the Melton Lodge consecrated in 1924.

United for the cause



The Worshipful Master, Bill Lowen of the Lodge of Unity recently presented a cheque for \$500 to Mrs Karen Dinsdale, President of the Bright and District Charitable Foundation. The cheque was a portion of the donations received at the Masonic Charitable Ball held in September. Looking on are the three Year 12 boys who are

prospective recipients of the Lodge of Unity Annual Scholarship which will be awarded at their Graduation Ceremony in December. The scholarship which currently stands at \$500 is to be used towards further studies or to assist with entry into the workplace. This is the second year the Lodge have assisted with the College awards.

Evolution's excursion



On a rainy Grand Final Saturday, the brethren of the Lodge of Evolution braved the cold and mud to visit Sovereign Hill. This was to celebrate WBro. Stuart MacArthur's last night as Master and to meet at the historic Lodge room in the tourist park.

After an educational and fun meeting in the Sovereign Hill

Lodge room the members retired to the dining room of the United States Hotel for a fine dinner with partners and friends. Many visitors from Ballarat and around Victoria joined the young men of Evolution for a great evening. After dinner, the group took in the excitement of the Blood on the Southern Cross sound and light show.

Charity Challenge

Come along to the 'Charity Challenge' in support of local charities and community groups.

A total of eight District Lodges will present their case to a panel of Board of Benevolence adjudicators, competing for the funds made available for the Challenge by the Board. As well as the eight presentations there will be a catered dinner, drinks and entertainment.

Seating will be at tables of 8 – 10. Reservations are essential. Tickets at \$25 each (including the raffle). Dress – shirt and tie and equivalent. Non-Masonic visitors are very welcome.

Mark it in your diary and spend a very pleasant evening enjoying some great company, food and interesting presentations while at the same time supporting the participating Lodges and their charity objectives!

When: Saturday 5th November

Where: Brunswick North Masonic Centre, Davies Street

Time: 7:30pm

Contact: Nick LeRay-Meyer
Email: nicklm2@bigpond.com
Phone: 0408 383 182
or Alan Richmond 94397079

Movember

Have you registered your team yet for Movember?

Each year during the month of November, men all across Australia and the world grow weird and wonderful moustaches to raise money for men's health charities. It is fun, a great cause and can involve men of all ages. We are asking lodges to set up teams, grow some mo's, then charge their family, work colleagues and friends a fee to laugh at their appearance and discomfort! For a chance to appear in the next freemasonry magazine, send in your before and after moe shots and experiences to editor@freemasons.net.au

Register at: <http://au.movember.com/>



FREEMASONS
Victoria



Royal Freemasons annual open day

Royal Freemasons \$29M state-of-the-art, four storey multi-purpose residential age care facility – The Coppin Centre, will be the centerpiece at the Royal Freemasons Annual Open Day on 6 November 2011.

The family Open Day will showcase the fundamental ethos of Royal Freemasons, proudly established in 1867, of quality care, compassion and respect residents and their families have embraced for over 140 years. For You For Life is Royal Freemasons commitment, a statement that reflects our founding and on-going strength of providing innovation and excellence in care for older persons within our community.

Royal Freemasons' Homes of Victoria, Trustees and the Royal Freemasons Board of Directors will welcome the Honorary President and the Grand Master, MWBro. Vaughan Werner and members of the Grand Team to officiate the laying and unveiling of the Foundation Stone at an official ceremony prior to the commencement of the Open Day festivities. The Formal Ceremony will also include the Chairman's Address and presentation of the '2011 Lorna Chapman Award' followed by guided tours of the Coppin Centre and Multi Media Presentation.

The Open Day will also include a mini Royal Freemasons Expo, live music and entertainment, a free buffet style luncheon, stalls and will feature Freemasons Victoria's historic and on-going connection to the site by showcasing the Mobile Lodge in the Coppin Hall.

When: Sunday 6th November 2011
Commencing 10:30am
Concluding at approximately 2:30pm

Where: Royal Freemasons Coppin Centre
45 Moubay Street, Prahran
(Enter via Punt Road)
Parking will be available at Wesley College via Punt Road entrance

We have extended an invitation to all Lodges to nominate representatives to bring their Lodge banner to join in this historic occasion.

Please note limited seating will be available. Kindly RSVP by Friday 28 October 2011 to Linda Franssen by email: lfranssen@royalfreemasons.org.au or phone 9452 2250 during business hours.

Magazine Correction

We have had several enquiries regarding brethren whose names were omitted from the list of service jewel recipients. The magazine incorrectly stated that the listing was for jewels received between February and August 2011. The period covered was, and should have been listed as, between February and April 2011.

Lodge of Research centenary dinner

The Victorian Lodge of Research whose motto translates to, "Follow the light to learning" is celebrating with a Centenary Dinner 100 years of dedicated service to freemasonry by providing a platform for brethren to enlighten and enrich their understanding of the deeper meanings underlying our symbols, rituals and ceremonials

WBro the Very Reverend Frederick Shade PJGD K.L. invites you to join him in celebrating the first 100 years of the Lodge at a Centenary Meeting

When: October 28th 2011

Time: 7:30PM

Where: The Ivalda Masonic Centre
42 Salisbury Avenue
Ivanhoe

Guest Speaker at the meeting will be:

Bro. Dr. James speaking on "Fraternities and Mateship in Australia"
Guest Speaker at Supper will be:
RWBro. Jim Spreadborough OS PJGW - Grand Librarian speaking on "The Hidden Mysteries and Treasures of the Library and Museum."

Supper Cost: \$15.00 per person

RSVP by 23rd September 2011

Bookings Essential To the Lodge

Secretary: VWBro. Alan Jennings
PGIWkgs.

Phone: 9459 9610

Email: ayjay@alphalink.com.au

Dress Code: Ladies After Five
Dinner or Lounge Suite No Regalia

Laptop Promotion

Freemasons Victoria has been offered a discount on laptop purchases in the month of October. Any members who purchase a laptop through this offer will receive a discount of 10% and plus a possible 5% bulk discount if there are orders for 10 or more. If you would like to purchase one for your lodge or for yourself, please let us know ASAP by emailing support@freemasonsvic.net.au with your name, lodge name and no. Please note that offer is limited whilst stock last!

Pink Breakfast 2011

The Dallas Brooks Centre turned pink last Saturday morning as Freemasons Victoria showed its support for the National Cancer Foundation. The breakfast was hosted by our Grand Master's wife, Beverly Werner, and proved a fantastic success as the morning raised \$11,000. through raffles and silent auctions. VWBro. Frank Fordyce, President of the Board of Benevolence, capped the day off by announcing that the Board of Benevolence would be contributing a further \$15,001. This was \$1 dollar more than that contributed by the Board at the same event in 2010.

Our Grand Master was 'tickled pink' with the support shown by Freemasons Victoria getting behind this worthy cause.

In what can only be described as an inspirational address to a spell bound audience, cancer survivor Ann Mayor related her story, describing the impact the illness had not only on her but also the devastating affect it has on those nearest and dearest to her. Not one to sit and feel sorry for herself, Ann's story is one which embraces strength of conviction and determination to get through this ordeal and convincing herself that she would survive. Her focus on being positive was a continual thread running through her presentation. Ann illustrated this positive approach by sharing with us the four special gifts she said she was blessed with during this very challenging period in her life:

1. The day of her appointment with her Doctor to get her test results was a bright sunny day with a beautiful blue sky and made her feel really good and tranquil.
2. She was given first class return plane tickets to England to enable her to attend her Mum's funeral. Ann said that she had never travelled in such luxury before and probably never will in the future.
3. When her Chemo ravaged hair finally grew back it was curly. She was born with straight hair and had all her life wished for curly hair. Ann also mentioned that not all of her hair fell out, two grey hairs actually survived and these were joined by several others when her hair grew back.
4. Ann left what she referred to as the greatest gift for last, the gift of life which she attributed to the enormous advances in treatment as the result of research. Ann acknowledged that support for this research by events such as the Pink Breakfast would, she had no doubt, ensure progress in the development of even more effective treatment for this terrible affliction.



Register4, Ann said is an initiative of the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF). It is an online community that brings people in touch with breast cancer researchers for the joint purpose of finding answers faster. She urged all in attendance to visit the website www.register4.org.au and consider signing on.

Funding for research is a necessary element, for without funding the research just simply cannot happen. Ann expressed her sincere appreciation once again to Freemasons Victoria for its commitment to supporting the research into breast cancer and thanked everyone who attended the 2011 Pink Breakfast.



Epworth Freemasons Discount Parking Procedures

The Epworth Freemasons Hospital has introduced new car parking arrangements at the Victoria Parade car park. The key element is that there will no longer be a parking attendant on duty. To preserve the discount available to Freemasons, a new discount ticket has been introduced which, when used in conjunction with the normal parking ticket obtained from the ticket dispenser at the entry boom gate, will reduce the normal cost of parking to the agreed discount rate which is currently \$3.00



STEP 1

Take a ticket from the ticket machine at the entry boom gate. The boom gate will open - proceed to park your car.

It is important that you retain your ticket with you.

STEP 2

Once you have parked proceed to the Masonic Centre, 300 Albert St, East Melbourne. Approach the front desk and speak to the duty officer in charge or venue security and request a Masonic Discount Ticket. The ticket will look similar to the one dispensed by the machine. Check that it is labelled "Dallas Brooks Masonic Lodge"



STEP 3

When you leave at the end of your visit and go to collect your car you must validate both tickets – Ticket validating machines can be found on Levels B1 & B2 near the elevators of the car park. **Place the original Ticket From the Boom Gate Ticket Machine into the machine first**, the parking cost will be shown on the ticket machine, once price appears place the Masonic Discount Ticket into machine – if you have followed the instructions the cost will be reduced to \$3.00.

STEP 4

Insert your **validated Ticket into the Boom Gate Ticket Machine** at exit boom gate when you leave. The boom gate will rise to allow you to exit the building



Remember:

- To exit car park you must validate your ticket.
- If you have not obtained a Masonic Discount Ticket on arrival you will need to pay full price on departure.

Calendar of events

OCTOBER

Saturday 29 October, 2:00PM Lodge of the Great Ocean Road Open Invest

Public viewing of investiture
T.I.A building
12 Price Street, Torquay
Contact: John Parsons 5263 1164

Saturday 29 October, 4:00PM Keysborough Lodge Open Invest

Public viewing of investiture
South Eastern Masonic Centre
270 Hutton Road, Keysborough
Contact: Ian McKenzie 0437 084 234

Saturday 29 October, 2:00PM Gippsland Lake Open Invest

Public viewing of investiture
Lakes Entrance Masonic Centre
8 Rowe Street, Lakes Entrance
Contact: Darrell Traplin 0418 177 196

NOVEMBER

Saturday 12 November, 6:30PM Mansfield Lodge Open Invest

Mansfield Masonic Centre
Highett Street, Mansfield
Contact: Neil Moehr 0432 325 860

Saturday 19 November Warrnambool Dedication

Warrnambool Masonic Centre
Kepler Street, Warrnambool
Contact: Graeme Taylor 5561 5102

Wednesday 23 November Williamstown Open Night

Williamstown Masonic Centre
21-25 Electra Street,
Williamstown
Contact: Peter Plytus 0402 060 895

if you would like your event to appear in *engage!* please email your event to editor@freemasons.net.au