

Engage!



A word from the Grand Master

Dear Brethren All,

Last Saturday February 11, an Open Day was held by Mount Shadwell Lodge. The Grand Master, Grand Superintendent of Membership and the Grand Director of Ceremonies attended the event, accompanied by their wives.

Mortlake is one of our smaller towns that sustain a Lodge. Mount Shadwell is a vibrant Lodge; the Masonic Centre is very well-maintained, internally and externally, and is of a standard that any Freemason would be proud to show a guest.

The local Freemasons invited a number of local identities to attend. They were all very diligent citizens whom they viewed as possibly being interested in joining Freemasonry. The high calibre of their profile was epitomised by the intent that they showed throughout the presentations.

Mount Shadwell anticipates that four - five candidates will become members as a result from the Open Day. The function was very well planned and actioned. The guests were well-educated and were clearly those who had some intent in the Craft and the potential to develop into firm Freemasons.

Mount Shadwell set a fine example for the conduct of an Open Day. The program was interesting and did not go to undue length in terms of timing. They deserve any success that is achieved from this endeavour.

Yours Fraternally,
Vaughan Werner
Grand Master

Our Day, Our March

On Australia Day, Freemasons Victoria were invited to participate in the 2012 Our Day, Our March. The focus of the 2012 Melbourne Australia Day Celebrations was on ethnic and community groups, especially organisations or community groups which trace back to the very early days of Victoria. Less than four years after

John Batman purchased the land that established Victoria, 21 Freemasons met and drew up a petition to form a Lodge. The Lodge was called the Lodge Australia Felix. With this heritage backdrop the organisers of the 2012 Melbourne Australia Day Celebrations were very keen to have Freemasonry Victoria take part in the celebration activities. Scroll down to read more about the event.



March participants outside of Melbourne Town Hall



WBro. Les Dikes (left) and WBro. Bert Gregory (right) presenting a cheque to David Hasell

A life saving donation

The Tolerance Masters' Group has raised \$2,500 for much-needed items for the Carrum Life Saving Club, including nipper boards, a training defibrillator and a shade proving marquee with an embossed Masonic emblem. Each year, the Carrum SLSC saves the lives of over 200 beach goers who find themselves in trouble. The group decided to donate to this organisation as they are self-funding and urge other groups to consider making charitable efforts to other surf life saving clubs who may also be in need of assistance.



WBro. Ian Judy (left) and WBro. Brett Edgington presenting cheques to Carita Potts, Manager of Ballarat Hospice Inc.

Breathing new life into Ballarat

The No. 23 Social Committee has donated \$2,000 to the Ballarat Hospice to assist in the purchase of three oxygen breathing concentrators for palliative care patients. The Social Committee has been in operation as apart of the Sturt-Buninyong United Lodge for many years and has donated many thousands of dollars to numerous charities and worthy causes in and around Ballarat.

Extending help overseas

Lodge Revival has made a remarkable contribution to the life of a young girl. Margaret Telford, wife of Revival's secretary Peter Telford, and her friend Janette Upton handmade a beautiful double bed quilt with a matching pillow case. The quilt was then raffled, with all proceeds going to the Moira Kelly 'Children First Foundation'. Members of the Lodge raised \$670. Lodge Revival's social club then donated a further \$330 and the Board of Benevolence generously donated a further \$2,000, bringing the total to \$3,000. This money will contribute to bring Mimoza, a thirteen-year-old girl from Albania, to Australia to have much-needed specialist surgery.



Mimoza

Freemasons in the CBD Quarterly Luncheon

Freemasons and their guests are cordially invited to the next CBD luncheon on Friday 9th March 2012 (12:30pm - 2:30pm) on the floor of Grand Lodge at 300 Albert Street, East Melbourne.

The luncheon will feature special guest speaker Dr Kathy Alexander, Chief Executive Officer, City of Melbourne.

Assoc Prof. Alexander has qualifications in psychology and public health management and has more than 20 years experience in leading service organisations. Kathy's work has been recognised with several national best practice awards and leadership positions on a number of boards.

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

Don't miss out on this event!

Bookings are open now and can be made with:

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

2012 Grand Installation and associated functions

Ensure your calendar is marked for the 2012 Grand Installation of RWBro. Bob Jones, Grand Master Elect.

Key dates:

Quarterly Communication

Wednesday 21st March, 7:30pm

Guests Reception

Thursday 22nd March, 6:30pm

Grand Installation

Friday 23rd March, 6:00pm

Ladies Brunch

Saturday 24th March, 10:00am

Grand Banquet

Saturday 24th March, 6:30pm

Church Service (FREE)

Sunday 25th March, 11:00am

Farewell Luncheon

Sunday 25th March, 12:30pm



FREEMASONS
Victoria



Vanessa Mulquiney

Introducing our new staff member

Engage! catches up with Grand Lodge's new Publicity and Communications Coordinator, Vanessa Mulquiney.

What does your role involve?

At the moment my role is to play a sponge – the amount of new information and terms I'm learning is mind boggling! Not only am I adapting to a new environment and way of working, but I feel like I've stepped off the plane and into a country with a new language to learn and new customs to understand – which is saying something considering my last position was working at a busy London newspaper office! The role of communications and publicity becomes increasingly important when an organisation experiences a period of change and growth, and Freemasons Victoria is no exception. It's always an exciting position to be in - I doubt I will ever become bored in this role! I look forward to contributing to the organisation in a positive way – bringing new ideas and ways to improve the publications, moving towards a more proactive PR program including greater social networking activities and increasing public awareness of Freemasonry in Victoria.

Have you survived your first week at Grand Lodge?

Yes, barely! Just kidding - everyone at Grand Lodge has been on their best behaviour: very supportive and welcoming. My desk is in a very social, busy part of the office - right in front of the kitchen! After one week I know what everyone has for lunch, how often they need a tea or coffee and the state - good or bad - of the fridge! Some how, I manage to get some work done...

What is your career history?

When I look back at my career, it feels like it belongs to someone else. I feel extremely lucky to have lived in some exciting places doing exactly what I love. I have a strong background in magazine publishing, starting as a journalist and then editor of many magazines. My first memory of magazines was when I was about 9 and I used to count down the days until the next issue of my favourite magazine would hit the stands. I would devour it whole and loved everything about it: the glossy, colourful pages, the fonts and colours, and the smell of the paper. I would re-read the magazine again and again until the next issue. Thankfully, all that time spent with my head in a book or magazine was not a complete waste!

What are your hobbies and interests outside of work?

I'm one of the fortunate few who can say my work is my hobby, too. I love reading and don't understand anyone who says they hate it! I unwind with a very unhealthy dose of reality TV (my guilty pleasure) and yoga. I'm also an avid theatre and cinema goer, and love dining out with friends and family. My latest obsession is selling my barely-worn clothes on eBay! My wardrobe is looking a little sad as a consequence, but I'm learning to sew, just so I can fill it up again with my own creations!

New initiates' Cocktail Function

Were you initiated after December 2009?

Freemasons Victoria's Grand Master Vaughan Werner and Bob Jones, Grand Master Elect invite you and your partner/guest to enjoy an entertaining evening to celebrate your initiation and meet other Freemasons.

When: Friday 2nd of March, 2012

Where: View Rooms, Dallas Brooks Centre
300 Albert Street, East Melbourne

Time: 7:00pm for 7:30pm start
Evening concludes at 10:00pm

Tickets: \$40.00 (includes finger food and beverages)

RSVP: 24 February 2012

Bookings essential. Contact Donna De La Rue, 9411 0103 or delarue@freemasonsvic.net.au

'In the Footsteps of Freemasonry' Tour 2012

Following the success of the 2010 Voyage of Discovery Tour, the United Grand Lodge of NSW and ACT are inviting interested members and their friends and family to the 2012 Footsteps of Freemasonry Tour.

The all inclusive tour of Israel will include Masonic guides and an optional side trip to Jordan and Eilat.

For more information, contact Joe Haffner: cosimex@bigpond.net.au

Advertising in Freemasonry Victoria

Are you a business or do you know of one that would be interested in advertising in our new look magazine? There are many benefits of advertising in this publication which is distributed to over 16,000 members and businesses.

For further information, please email: editor@freemasonsvic.net.au



FREEMASONS
Victoria

Our Day, Our March



Freemasons Victoria fielded two teams during the Australia Day Parade. The first team of 35 Freemasons took part in the march and the second team of eight set up and manned the mobile Lodge and the Freemasons Information Booth displayed in the Kings Domain Gardens.

The 77 starters assembled at Bourke Street Mall and we were placed number seven 'on the grid' behind a police escort, the Australian Army Band and two Aboriginal groups who appropriately led the parade. Our Grand Master MWBro Vaughan Werner led the way with our national flag and Grand Lodge banner held aloft by two Grand Lodge Standard Bearers. The banner of the Lodge of Australia Felix carried by the then Master Elect and now Master of the Lodge WBro John Mason, brought up the rear. The march proceeded down Swanston Street, past an array of Federal, State and local dignitaries assembled at the Melbourne Town Hall, down St Kilda Road finishing at Kings Domain.

Freemasons marching in the parade drew a great deal of interest from those watching from the side-lines with many photographs being taken by members of the public en route.

At the conclusion of the march, our Grand Master thanked those who had given up their 'day off' to take part in the parade, and commented that from the great interest shown by the public, it was a very worthwhile exercise and we should consider repeating it next year.

The mobile Lodge display at Kings Domain Gardens was ideally located next to the food stalls, adjacent to rest areas where tables and chairs had been set up, and the entertainment area. Being so well placed, we were able to enjoy the entertainment provided particularly by world renowned jazz musician James Morrison and his band.

Our mobile Lodge which included displays by the Ionic Coaching Service, Doric Coaching Service, Victoria Masonic Motorcycle Association, Freemasons Task Force, attracted a lot of serious interest and enquiries were also received from four ladies to whom contact details for the Order of the Easter Star and the Amaranth were provided.

It was a fantastic day for those who attended and visited the colourful and informative displays. Such events demonstrate the truly cosmopolitan environment which gives Melbourne and Victoria their special place in Australian society.

Calendar of Events

LODGE OPEN EVENTS

Thursday 16 February, 7:00PM

Hampden Open Night

Terang Masonic Centre
Corner Tobin Street and Warrnambool Rd, Terang
Contact: Robin Bryce, 0409 188 541

Saturday 18 February, 3:00PM

Lodge Amalthea Open Installation

Masonic Centre of Victoria
300 Albert Street, East Melbourne
Followed by dinner at the Melbourne Club
Contact: Patrick Horton, 0417 455 233

Sunday 19 February, 12:00PM

Latrobe Valley Family Open

Latrobe Valley Masonic Centre
Lodge Drive, Traralgon
Contact: Max Paulet, 5174 4796

Friday 24 February, 7:00PM

Belgrave Open Night

Belgrave Masonic Centre
33 Bayview Road, Belgrave
Contact: Roger Thompson, 9762 2688

If you would like your event to appear in *engage!* please email your details to: editor@freemasonsvic.net.au

Tough Kid

Author and Freemason David Kay is kindly donating all proceeds from his book, *Tough Kid* to the Freemasons Victoria Benevolent Fund. David was only five years old when the Red Army entered Belarus and his father was jailed as a bourgeois and declared an enemy. David, his mother Genia and older brother Sam, were deported to Siberia. Despite the hardship, David never lost his love of life or the sense of adventure that carried him through the most difficult times. In this honest and lively account of David's life, the words leap off the pages.

Tough Kid is available for purchase from the Grand Lodge for \$15.



BRWMaster, Bro Hurjit Singh, Lodge Tullibardine, Bro Dunstan Fernandez, DGM of the DGLME and RWBro Keith Thornton PJGW, Seavic Lodge pose with members

A different kind of Lodge visit

Last month, three Seavic Lodge members took a trip to Malaysia to bear witness to the third degree of Brother Girish Ramachandran, the son of resident member, Brother MR Chandran. The Lodge was warmly welcomed with magnificent hospitality by Lodge Tullibardine and the 15 Seavic members who reside in Kuala Lumpur. Five new members were listed and, to the Lodge's delight, the DGM of the English Constitution signed a membership application form.



Remebering Ruxton

The passing of former Victorian RSL President Bruce Ruxton was a sad day for all who knew him. Bro. Bruce was initiated into the Willesmere Lodge in 1953. He is pictured with MWBro. Walter Rolley, PGM and VWBro. Roy Taylor at the Night of Masonic Excellence in 1998 where he was a memorable guest speaker.

Moving forward in 2012

Geelong Lodge of Unity and Prudence recently spent an evening working on their SWOT analysis for their upcoming interim accreditation. The Lodge has successfully begun to carry out their five year strategic plan. 23 members attended the evening held in the Belmont Masonic Centre. WBro Graham Berry commended the evening saying, "it was a worth while exercise not just for the accreditation process, but for the future direction of the Lodge."



Geelong Lodge of Unity and Prudence Lodge members participating in the workshop

Baden Powell Lodge Annual Founder's night meeting

All Brethren, particularly those with a scouting background, are invited to join in this colourful, scouting-oriented meeting. Please feel free to bring your scouting friends along, whether they are Freemasons or not.

In attendance will be the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Chief Commissioner of Scouts Victoria or his representative, along with many scouting personnel, both Freemasons and non-Freemasons.

When: Monday 27th February

Time: 7.30pm

Where: Waverley Masonic Centre, Stephenson's Road, Mount Waverley

Dress: Scout uniform with decorations, evening dress or lounge suit. Masonic regalia will be worn by Freemasons.

There will be a short presentation on the scouting heritage in Victorian Freemasonry and the Lodge will make a presentation to the Scout Heritage Centre. The Baden Powell Lodge Rover Service Award will also be presented.

The formal activities will be followed by supper, for which there is a \$15 dining charge, payable on the night.

For catering purposes, please advise the Lodge Secretary, RWBro John Glover RFD, PSGW by Monday 20th February of numbers attending.

Email: jglover@bigpond.net.au

Mobile: 0416 180 820

Are you up to date?



Become our friend on Facebook: [facebook.com/freemasonsvic](https://www.facebook.com/freemasonsvic)



Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/freemasonsvic



FREEMASONS
Victoria