

## **ENGAGE Issue 3**

### ***Engage!***

*Welcome to Engage!*

I am pleased to report that our publicity department continues to receive editorial submissions for *Engage!* I encourage all members to keep sending in news, information and photographs for future inclusion.

As Freemasonry throughout Victoria continues to grow, it is important that our reach extends to 'younger' members of the community. As part of our ongoing commitment to youth, Freemasons Victoria recently donated \$18,000 to support the Royal South Street Society Eisteddfod over the next three years. Last week I joined Grand Secretary Barry Reaper and talented musician Bro. Denzil Glewis to wish Eltham High School's Symphonic Band members success for their participation in the Eisteddfod in September. Twelve schools will compete for the 2010 'Freemasons Victoria Festival of Bands' title.

Yours in Freemasonry

***Vaughan Werner, Grand Master***

## **The Formation of Brae Dale Lodge ...Consecrated 17 July 2010**

The prospect of surrendering a Lodge warrant is not something taken lightly, so the decision by Belgrave, Arboreal, Ranges Memorial and Devon Lodges to combine to form a new Lodge took some time, but is now a reality.

Each of the Lodges in recent years has lost members due to age. Informal discussions on each Lodge's options commenced in 2007 and the desire for Freemasonry to be retained in the 'Hills' was unanimous.

In early 2009 formal talks began and a new Lodge steering committee was formed in with representatives from Arboreal, Ranges Memorial and Devon Lodges. At this time Belgrave was still uncertain about joining.

Belgrave reconsidered and the Brae Dale Lodge began to form with a membership base of eighty. With the four Lodges now committed to a merger, committees were established for membership, finance, ceremonial, education and social aspects, working to establish a five year succession plan.

Brae Dale Lodge, meaning 'hills' and 'valleys', was decided upon after one of the younger members followed the idea of taking two letters from each Lodge name, and by using the internet sought to scramble the letters in the hope of finding a name.

Members of Brae Dale Lodge look forward to meeting in harmony, enjoying the ceremony and fellowship that Freemasonry provides, and, ensuring in the 'Hills' that 'Our Principles Make a Difference'.

To all Brethren who helped this journey come to fruition – we thank you.



## Freemason Becomes A Legend of the AFL Umpires' Hall of Fame



AFLUA President David Howlett presenting Graeme with his Legend's plaque.

Two years ago Graeme Patterson was inducted into the inaugural Hall of Fame of the AFL Umpires' Association. At an official function held on 10 August 2010, Graeme was elevated to the status of 'Legend' at the new AAMI rugby-soccer stadium.

The criterion for a member of the AFLUA Hall of Fame to be elevated to Legend Status is "to have given exemplary service to the Association over an extended period." Graeme, who has served the Association over a period of 40 years, is one of only five inaugural Legends of the AFLUA Hall of Fame.

WBro. Graeme Patterson was initiated into Lodge of Decision (the umpires' Lodge) almost 40 years ago on 23 September 1970. He was installed as Worshipful Master of Lodge of Decision in 1982 and, later, as Worshipful Master of St Kilda District Lodge in 1996. He is currently a member of the Lodge of Good Companions.

## GIRTH, Get Involved, Reach Top Health



Guests set for the GIRTH presentation at the Dallas Brooks Centre

The **GIRTH Men's Health 'Get Involved, Reach Top Health'** program has officially launched following presentations in Sandringham, Preston, Oak Park, Ferntree Gully and East Melbourne.

Around 70% of the people who have attended the GIRTH meetings heard about the program from advertising on Melbourne radio station 3AW. Merv Dyer also presented GIRTH on Radio 693FM, Night-Line (3AW), Vision Radio Australia and Southern FM – 'Best Medicine Show'. GIRTH also achieved live radio feeds and announcements on 3AW, Stereo 947 and on MACCA Australia 774 National Radio. GIRTH was also featured in 3004 News, a St Kilda Rd Magazine, and the Stonnington Leader On-Line. Rodger Marsden presented GIRTH live on 947FM - 'The Pulse' in Geelong.

Currently GIRTH has signed up over 50 Victorian men to participate in the 12-week program.

**Waist Not** the effort of those behind the GIRTH program. It's not too late to register at some of our locations. Please encourage your friends, family and work colleagues to sign up for a new lease on life! **Contact Mr Merv Dyer - Business & After Hours: 0417 344 271**  
**Email: [menshealth@freemasonsvic.net.au](mailto:menshealth@freemasonsvic.net.au)**

### Young Member Profile

...Bro. Gavin Mann, Member of Evolution



#### **What is your line of work?**

Sales Management in the printing industry

#### **How did you find out about Freemasonry?**

I first heard about Freemasonry at school; they had a Lodge that was primarily made up of ex-students. I was then reintroduced to the idea a number of years later through a colleague and decided to find out more.

**Why did you decide to join?**

I had recently returned from the UK and was looking for an interest. I liked the tradition associated with Freemasonry and wanted to be part of an organisation where people were like-minded.

**How do you introduce Freemasonry to people during conversation?**

I am open and proud to be a Freemason; it is a big part of my life and often comes up in conversation. I find people are interested and intrigued about what Freemasonry is all about. I often discover a family member who has been a part of the organisation.

**Do you find rehearsing lines for ceremonies time consuming?**

I find rehearsing lines time consuming, but also very rewarding. I enjoy the challenge of delivering high quality ritual.

**What would you like to tell other young people considering joining?**

I would definitely encourage young people to consider Freemasonry. I think the key for any young man looking to join is to understand what is involved. I joined eight years ago and have never looked back. It is an organisation where you will get out of it what you put in.

**What benefits do you derive from Freemasonry?**

I enjoy the fellowship, meeting new people and the personal development that comes with being part of Freemasonry.

**How do you feel about being 'the face' of the new promotional Freemasons Victoria banners?**

Very honoured! I am proud to represent an organisation that I believe in and that has contributed so much to the community.

**What are your major interests on a social level?**

I enjoy catching up with friends and travelling. Vicky and I recently returned from a safari in Africa which was amazing!

**As a young Freemason yourself, how do you think we can connect with potential new 'young' members?**

In terms of connecting to young members in general, I would recommend using multiple channels of communication, such as the website and social media. Young people can interact and access information about the benefits of being a Freemason, using a medium they currently use on a day-to-day basis.

## IONIC Coaching Celebrates 60 Years



Happy Birthday IONIC Education Coaching Inc! The IONIC Coaching Service, a community service dedicated to tutoring students in English and Mathematics, has just turned 60 years. The program is offered to students from Year 6 to Year 12 – regardless of background or circumstance, with classes conducted by fully qualified teachers.

Current Scoresby High School mathematics teacher and proud IONIC coach, Alison McGregor, believes the program is rewarding for both students and coaches alike, and enjoys helping children improve their learning.

“This is my third year of work as a Maths tutor at the Ionic Coaching School in Blackburn and I really enjoy it, I enjoy empowering children. During my time as a Maths tutor I have had the pleasure of enjoying my position of privilege in guiding, learning and seeing the real evidence and worthiness of putting in extra effort and time into helping others,” Alison said.

Congratulations IONIC Coaching! [www.ioniccoaching.org.au](http://www.ioniccoaching.org.au)

### Find us on Facebook

Freemasons Victoria is now on Facebook. Join us by visiting:

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Freemasons-Victoria/116970862587?ref=ts> It's another way to stay in touch.

## Freemasons Victoria band together to support young musicians



Freemasons Victoria's Grand Master Vaughan Werner, Grand Secretary Barry Reaper and talented Freemason musician Bro. Denzil Glewis were recently invited by Eltham High School Symphonic Band students for a special appreciation rehearsal to thank Freemasons Victoria for our support of the Festival of Bands at the 2010 Royal South Street Society Eisteddfod in Ballarat. Twelve schools will compete in the 'Freemasons Victoria Festival of Bands'.  
[www.royalsouthstreet.com.au](http://www.royalsouthstreet.com.au)

## Lodge Organists on Song



Grand Master Vaughan Werner and First Grand Principal, Supreme Grand Chapter Laurie Patterson, recently met to congratulate a group of Brethren at Grand Lodge who have commenced music training for Masonic Lodges. Each participant received funding from the Grand Master to pursue their training and will be examined and awarded with a 'Certificate of Proficiency' upon graduating. We encourage more Brethren to become involved. Please contact Donna De Le Rue on 9411 0103 at the Grand Secretary's Office for more information.

## **A Grand Visit**

In July Huon Daylight Lodge 874 and Lodge Belvoir 727, had the pleasure of welcoming as a visitor Brother Ramsay McGhee - Provincial Grand Master of Ross and Cromarty and the Grand Director of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Brother McGhee proved to be excellent company and expressed his delight in the warmth of the welcome he received. He extended an invitation to any Brother who may visit Scotland to make contact and share in the hospitality of the Brethren of Ross and Cromarty. [Click here](http://www.grandlodgescotland.com) to visit Grand Lodge Scotland ([www.grandlodgescotland.com](http://www.grandlodgescotland.com))

## **Fifty Two Freemasons attend Lodge of Instruction**

**“We are excited!”**

A very wet, windy and bitterly cold August evening was warmed and enthused by the attendance of more than fifty members and visitors to Ivalda Lodge of Instruction 292 for a Skills Presentation by RWBro Jim Spreadborough PJGW.

As the main feature of First Birthday Celebrations for Ivalda Lodge of Instruction 292, all Lodges in the Northern District were invited to attend.

Tying promptly at 7:00pm, members demonstrated voice exercises and voice projection lessons currently being instructed. Officers for the evening were conducted to their chairs by the DC and the Lodge opened in the first degree.

All present were enthralled for over an hour as ‘Jim’ instructed us on presentation skills and kindly conducted a critique on presentations of charges by members.

## **Smart Name Tags**

RWBro. Joel Solomon PJGW has been promoting a simple message to Brethren to help Lodges prepare for emergency situations should they arise. He is urging members to add to the **back** of their Lodge name badge the **given name** and **contact phone number** of their next of kin. This simple idea could save your life and can be achieved with a pen and box of sticky labels!

## **SCOUTS AUSTRALIA – You can make a difference**

**Malvern 10<sup>th</sup> Scouting Group is currently seeking Scout leaders and assistants. This is a great opportunity to become involved in one of the largest youth organisations in Australia.**

By becoming involved you will;

- Inspire young people
- Get involved with dynamic, amazing young people
- Meet and make new friends
- Attend exciting excursions and camps
- Learn new skills
- Attain a Certificate 4 in Leadership and Frontline Management.

**Contact Katie Heathershaw: 0412 874 994 or [katie.heathershaw@me.com](mailto:katie.heathershaw@me.com)**

## **Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Lodge Long Tan Service**



A record 130 members and friends of Freemasons Victoria recently attended the annual remembrance service of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Lodge – a service dedicated to the diggers killed during the Battle of Long Tan. The moving service took the form of a Vacant Chair ceremony and was followed by an address by guest speaker RWBro. Donald Paterson, former Company Commander D Company (7RAR) in Vietnam. Donald served two tours of duty in 1963 and 1967-68.

## Kokoda Memorial Lecture

In August, The Freemasons Public Charitable Foundation again sponsored 100 regionally based school children to be bussed to the Shrine of Remembrance For 'The Reg & Laura Gregory Memorial Lecture'. This year's speaker was the Hon. Charlie Lynn MLC who gave an address on the history of the Kokoda Track.

After the lecture, the school children led by Shrine Volunteer Guides moved to the Sanctuary for the Ray of Light Ceremony and Wreath Laying. Grand Master Vaughan Werner and Foundation Trustees Dr John Maynard and Graeme Flaherty attended the lecture and service.



From left to right: Shrine Volunteer Guide Alan Stebbing, Grand Master Vaughan Werner, The Hon. Charlie Lynn MLC the Lecturer, Shrine Guard Peter Scott, and Foundation Trustees Graeme Flaherty & Dr John Maynard.

## Variety Volunteers Required - Children's Christmas Party

Freemasons Victoria's 'Task Force' is calling for Freemason volunteers between the ages of 18 and 70 to be part of the 2010 Children's Christmas Party at the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre in December. This wonderful and inspiring event is attended by 5,000 under privileged children along with over 3,000 carers, who will again enjoy a fantastic day celebrating Christmas. For more information please **contact Merv Dyer on 0417 344 271 or email: [pickford@bigpond.net.au](mailto:pickford@bigpond.net.au)**. Working with Children ID required. (Free for Volunteers).

## Your Lodge Profile on [freemasonsvic.net.au](http://freemasonsvic.net.au)

Lodge profiles are currently being uploaded on the Freemasons Victoria website. Developing a Lodge Profile is a free opportunity for your Lodge to increase its online visibility via the Freemasons Victoria website. It gives your Lodge a significant web presence consistent with the organisation's branding and will increase your recruitment opportunities. Submit information and photos to our Publicity and Communications Co-ordinator **Mark Richardson** Email: [richardson@freemasonsvic.net.au](mailto:richardson@freemasonsvic.net.au) and improve your Lodge's online presence.

## Empowerment Packs

Your Lodge should have now received its Empowerment Pack from your District Co-ordinator. These Empowerment Packs will only be effective in recruiting additional members to your Lodge if used in the correct way.

Please ensure all Lodge members understand and use the resources provided as set out in the guidelines. If you are unsure about how to make the most of the information provided, please contact Lena Condos, Manager Membership Services, at [condos@freemasonsvic.net.au](mailto:condos@freemasonsvic.net.au) or 9411 0117.

We are keen to hear about your success stories and help you achieve your recruitment target.

### **Secretary Log-In**

If you are a Secretary and still having trouble logging-in and uploading your monthly report, please contact Lena Condos at [condos@freemasonsvic.net.au](mailto:condos@freemasonsvic.net.au) for assistance.

### **Staying Connected**

Remember to register your email address with **Tony Morris** ([morris@freemasonsvic.net.au](mailto:morris@freemasonsvic.net.au)) if you wish to be on the distribution list for Engage!

### **Freemasons Victoria Odd Spot**

Recently a 13-year-old boy accompanied by his mother visited Grand Lodge enquiring how he can become a Freemason, NOW! Jim Puohotaua met with this excitable young boy and armed his mother with Masonic research material for her son's bed time reading. We look forward to personally wishing him a happy 18<sup>th</sup> birthday before his initiation in five short years.

### ***Engage!* Editorial Submission**

*Engage!* fortnightly e-newsletter aims to keep our Masonic family informed about events and issues relating to Freemasonry in Victoria. We encourage you to share news, information, events and achievements. Please submit editorial and photographs to our Publicity & Communications Co-ordinator Mark Richardson.

Email: [richardson@freemasonsvic.net.au](mailto:richardson@freemasonsvic.net.au)

### **Looking for a seachange? [Enjoy a move to Coffs Harbour, NSW!](#)**

A [Brother Organist](#) is [needed for Lodge Fitzroy – 248](#) in Coffs Harbour. [Please contact John \(02\) 6652 5694](#) or [email Joseph – joseph@paconsulting.net.au](mailto:joseph@paconsulting.net.au) if you are interested.