

engage!



A word from the Grand Master

Welcome to *engage!*

As we know, our members are responsible for dozens of large scale charitable projects, like the construction of the Freemasons Hospital in 1935 and a donation of \$1.2 million to the Black Saturday Bushfire Appeal. Whilst big impact contributions are important, I believe it is the many small deeds that Freemasons quietly and unassumingly perform that make a big difference to our local communities.

Our organisation has a proud history of assisting those who have fallen on hard times. In this issue of *engage!*, you will read a number of stories about Freemasons putting into action our core beliefs of community co-operation, care and benevolence. In one such example, the Traralgon Masonic Lodge donated 'trauma bags' to the Sexual Offence and Child Abuse Investigation Unit at Morwell Police Station to be used to comfort victims of child abuse and sexual assault. Then there's the Irymple Masons who raised funds to purchase equipment for the Oasis Aged Care facility, and, Guiding Star members who have helped Sebastopol primary students start the day with a healthy breakfast. And who could forget Max Reynolds, the little boy who needed overseas medical treatment? Read about his progress in this issue.

Don't forget copies of the 2012 Grand Installation DVD are still available to purchase. Call Freemasons Victoria on (03) 9411 0111 to order your copy.

Until next time, let's keep racing towards the future.

Living life to the Max

Three-year-old Max Reynolds who appeared in the last edition of *Freemasonry Victoria* magazine is doing well.

Earlier this year, Bayside District Freemasons rallied to raise funds for Max, who due to a malfunctioning lymphatic system,

was PEG fed since birth and required costly overseas treatment to cure a severe oral aversion.

Max has "overcome his fear of food," according to mum Kirstie, and "is eating just like anybody else" after a scary loss of weight at the beginning of the program.



A smiling Max Reynolds after enjoying a snack.

Masonic Masters' School



Attendees at the seminar taking a well earned break for lunch.

Some 43 Brethren attended the combined Northern and Western District 'Preparation for Master' seminar at the Western Masonic Centre in June.

Four seminar groups were formed to accommodate what was the largest attendance at one of these seminars in many years. The attendees represented nearly 30 Lodges from the two Districts.

Attendees particularly welcomed the opportunity to mix with Brethren from other Lodges and cross-pollinate their respective ideas. The excellent feedback received at the end of the seminar was extremely encouraging to the leaders for the day.

Any members interested in future courses should contact their District Education Officers for planned dates.

No more scrubbing!



L to R: RWBro. Bob Tollner, Oasis Aged Care CEO Helen Jack and authorised enrolled nurse Susan Hill. Photo courtesy of Sunraysia Daily – Mildura

Scrubbing bed pans is a thing of the past at Oasis Aged Care in Irymple thanks to Freemasons Victoria. RWBro. Bob Tollner recently presented a cheque for \$7,500 on behalf of The Freemason's Victoria Public Charitable Fund for the purchase of a macerator.

Oasis Aged Care's Chief Executive Officer Helen Jack said, "the money would go towards a unit called a macerator which disposes of human waste. It's not very sexy."

Oasis Aged Care thanked Freemasons Victoria for this generous donation which means that staff will no longer have to scrub bed pans. "My staff are rapt because it makes things easier for them. They thought it was Christmas," Ms Jack said.

Order the 2012 Grand Installation DVD

The **2012 Grand Installation DVD** of Grand Master Bob Jones can now be purchased from Grand Lodge reception.

The three-hour DVD and Blu Ray includes highlights of the Installation Week, including speeches from the Banquet, Thanksgiving Service and Farewell Luncheon. Secure your copy today.

Contact reception on **9411 0111** to order a copy.

For a preview of the DVD visit:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXOVSBriN8k>

Second hand suits

Near-new, good quality suits are now available from Posh Opp Shoppe. They have a wide range of high quality men's dinner suits, lounge suits and outfits at low prices and in many sizes.

The shop is volunteer-run with proceeds going to the integration of children with disabilities into traditional schooling.

For more information call: **9572 2248**

The POSH OPP SHOPPE is located at 1226 Glenhuntly Road (cnr Grange Road), Glenhuntly.

Two-for-one tickets

Ballarat's renowned Royal South Street Eisteddfod is offering Freemasons Victoria members and their guests two-for-one ticketing to any event held throughout the competition, commencing in July. Freemasons Victoria is in its third year of sponsorship of the Eisteddfod's Festival of Bands.

Please email media@freemasonsvic.net.au to request the two-for-one voucher.

To view the full competition program, please visit:

www.royalsouthstreet.com.au/timetable

Kick-starting kid's mornings



L to R: WBro. Chris Davis, Ryen Thoonen, Allan McKinnon of the Rotary Club of Ballarat South, Kasey Glare, Bro. Barry Parker and Vincent Steicke enjoy a proper start to the day.

Guiding Star Lodge is another Lodge that recognises breakfast as the most important meal of the day.

With the support of the Guiding Star Lodge and Rotary Club of Ballarat South, up to 30 students at Sebastopol Primary School are able to start each day with full stomachs.

School principal Helen Sordello said the program was extremely important and was made possible by the help of Rotary and the Masonic Lodge.

"We all know what it is like when we run out of bread or milk in the morning, how it starts the day off in the wrong way. Sometimes there are financial difficulties that mean the kids can't afford breakfast, so it is great to be able to help the kids out," Ms Sorcello said.

Care after trauma



Trauma Bags donated to the Traralgon Police station. The contents include story books, dolls, toy cars and activity books.

Traralgon Lodge members recently donated 'trauma bags' to the Traralgon Police Station.

Worshipful Master Bro. Terry Heskey accompanied by his wife Barbara and Treasurer WBro. Jim Hood recently presented the bags to Senior Sergeant Annie Stevens and members of Traralgon Police Station

The trauma bags will be used for children who are in the care of officers from the Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigation Team. The bags will be used to distract and comfort the children.

Traralgon Lodge is running a major fundraising effort to assist with the trauma bags. For further information or to donate please contact WBro. Jim Hood by emailing jfhoodjp@bigpond.com

Fundraising Film Night

The Masonic penguins are once again entering a team in their local Relay for Life 2013.

They are holding a Fundraising Film Night on 24 August 2012.

Where: Tatty Theatre, Seymour

Time: 7:00pm

Cost: \$5 p.p

RSVP: Monday 20 August.

Seating is limited. Please contact Allan and Clare Sewell on **5792 4156**.

Family & Friends Night

Admiral Collingwood Lodge invite all members and guests to join them from a night of entertainment.

There will be a short Masonic Meeting at 6pm during which time non-members will be entertained with live and engaging music by Allan 'Big Al' Johnson.

When: Saturday 11 August 2012

Time: 6:00pm sharp

Where: Ivalada Masonic Centre
42 Salisbury Avenue, Ivanhoe

Cost: \$15.00p.p including dinner and drinks. Children under 13 are free.

RSVP: Tuesday 24 July

Contact Graeme Webb by emailing - graeme@norwebb.com.au

CBD Luncheon

The next CBD luncheon to be held on Tuesday 11 September 2012 at Morgans @ 401 has sold out.

The luncheon will feature special guest speaker Paul Little, Chairman and Founder of Little Property and Director of Little Projects.

Attendees should show their true colours and wear their team's football jumper!

The next CBD luncheon will be held on Tuesday 11 December 2012.

Further details will follow shortly. Book early to avoid missing out.

Tullibardine Third Degree Demo



WBro. Kim Lai and RWBro. Keith Thornton stand out in regalia of the District Grand Lodge of the Middle East for a SEAVIC and Mt Franklin-St George Lodge group photograph.

Members of the SEAVIC Lodge recently performed the Tullibardine Third Degree Demonstration at the Daylesford Masonic Centre. This ritual was written in Changhi Prison during WWII by Brethren imprisoned during the occupation of Malaysia and Singapore by the Japanese Army.

The prisoners were Freemasons from Masonic Lodges across Malaysia and although all Masonic material was confiscated by the Japanese, a large number of Freemasons believed that holding Masonic ceremonies would help to keep their minds active. The ceremonies were performed from memory by the members of different Lodges and Constitutions and as a consequence the final ritual was a mixture of English, Scottish and Victorian rituals as they slowly built up a complete ceremony.

After peace was declared, members of Lodge Tullibardine decided that they would like to use this devised ritual for their regular meetings and wrote to the Grand Lodge of Scotland seeking their approval to do so. Permission was granted in 1948 and the Tullibardine Lodge continued to use this ritual and continue to do so today.

Members of the Mt Franklin-St George Lodge requested SEAVIC members perform the Tullibardine Demonstration at their meeting. The Lodge raised \$1,200 for their local charity on the evening.

Walhalla on the march



Walhalla Lodge members marching in the Grand Parade.

Hundreds of people lined Walhalla's main street for the Grand Parade that highlighted three days of "two Queens diamond jubilee celebrations" in the town. The community celebrated the 60-year reigns of Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria, re-enacting many of the celebrations that were staged in Walhalla for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897.

The Walhalla Lodge took part in the celebrations by participating in the parade and opening up their Lodge for the public to see inside.

Freemasonry on YouTube

View Freemason of 60 years VWBro. Bruce Pennicott putting a smile on the faces of children suffering with cerebral palsy.

<http://youtu.be/2u-6BuUKmFE>

Click and share this new advertisement developed by the Grand Lodge of SA & NT.

http://youtu.be/wWv_q9fTL4

New parking prices

The Epworth Freemasons Hospital has increased the discount car parking price at the Victoria Parade car park.

The discounted parking price is now **\$5.00** for those who obtain the discount ticket from the Masonic Centre reception or duty officer.

When used in conjunction with the normal parking ticket obtained from the ticket dispenser at the entry boom gate, it will reduce the cost to \$5.00.

Are you a Brass Instrumentalist?

Are you aware that Grand Lodge has a group of brass players who play the fanfares, accompany the odes at every communication and who play an item of harmony at every second communication?

Would you be interested in joining this group of Brethren to play at each of the Grand Lodge Communications?

Additional players are needed to ensure the ongoing involvement and improve the ensemble's performance. Rehearsals are once a month at the Masonic Centre in East Melbourne.

If you would like to be part of a group that enjoys a high level of camaraderie and the opportunity to play with a group of new friends, please contact RWBro. Jack Simpson by emailing jacks@alphalink.com.au or by phoning **0414 706 587**.

Bairnsdale Hospital Boost



L to R: WBro. Arch Deacon Ted Gibson, WBro. Bob Mallows, WBro. Don Jarret and Bernadette Hammond, Acting Director of Clinical (Nursing) and Corporate Services.

Following the raising of \$17,000 in the Bairnsdale Combined Freemasons Lodges Rocking Horse Raffle and the matching of that amount by Freemasons Victoria Board of Benevolence, a total of \$34,000 was presented to the Bairnsdale Hospital.

Bairnsdale Freemasons WBro. Jack Gabriel, WBro. Maurice Jones and WBro. Brian Hopkins handcrafted a beautiful Palamino Heirloom Rocking Horse which was offered as first prize in a fundraising event organised by the three Bairnsdale Freemasons Lodges in June 2011.

It took Jack six months to make the horse, while Brian made the stand and Maurie completed the finishing touch of bridle, saddle and cloth. It was the fifth horse in a series that these men have crafted over the last 15 years. Previous horses have also been raffled for the benefit of local charities.

The funds donated to the Bairnsdale Hospital will be used for purchasing six Bodymap machines, rehabilitation packages and several wheelchairs for the Oncology Unit.

Double Anniversary



Grand Treasurer VWBro. Roy Alderton presents RWBro. Charles Fisher with a letter from the Grand Master.

Members of the Deepdene-Balwyn Lodge recently celebrated the 100th birthday and 60 years of service of member RWBro. Charles Fisher.

Charles was initiated in the Lodge of Fellowship in 1952 where he was twice Master and remained a member until 2008 when the Lodge returned its warrant.

Grand Treasurer VWBro. Roy Alderton spoke about the life of Charles and presented the 60 year jewel and a letter from the Grand Master congratulating Charles on his 100th Birthday.

After the presentation Lodge members, friends and Charles' son RWBro. Bill Fisher filled the South for a slice of cake.

Library and museum opening hours

Freemasons Victoria's Library and Museum has new opening hours:

Monday - Friday 8.30am – 2.30pm and Wednesday we also open from 3.00pm – 7.00pm.

Guided tours of the Masonic Centre take place every Monday and Wednesday at 10.00am.

Group tours of the centre are also available, phone **9411 0119**.

Open Lodge happenings

**Saturday 25 August, 3:45pm
Cobram Lodge Open Installation**

*Cobram Italian Social Club
Cobram Koonoomoo Road, Cobram*

A banquet including drinks and light entertainment will be provided after the ceremony at a cost of \$33.00 p.p.

Please contact: **Ian Cuss on
0408 388 316**

*Want your event to appear in engage?
Email event details to: media@freemasonsvic.net.au*

Freemasonry Victoria magazine

We're planning the next issue of *Freemasonry Victoria* - do you have an interesting collection you'd like to see featured or have you recently read a book with a Masonic twist? We'd love to hear from you - media@freemasonsvic.net.au

Stay informed!

To stay up to date with the Freemasons Victoria news and happenings:



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