

enewsletter No. 46

engage!

A word from the Grand Master

Channel 31 comes alive with *Freemasons: The Inside Story*.

The excitement that has been building in the lead up to the first episode of *Freemasons: The Inside Story* peaked when the show premiered on Monday night on Channel 31.

The first episode marked the beginning of a rather radical approach to our dialogue with the community. Right from the outset, presenter VWBro. Wes Turnbull turns the spotlight on many of the seldom-mentioned elements of Freemasonry and introduces the audience to the strong connection that we have always had in Australian society.

Throughout the series, this will continue as discussions about the history, charitable works, ceremonial, traditions and background of Freemasonry engage the audience. Presenting the facts and exploding the myths, each episode promises to highlight a different aspect of Freemasonry, raising our profile and providing a platform for local discussion.

Background on the development of the series itself is another great story. We have the Board Chair of Channel 31, Mike Zafiropoulos AM, JP will joining us at the CBD Luncheon on Tuesday 12 March 2013 where we can gain his perspective on the series. ([click for details](#))

Be sure to tune in next Monday night at 8:30pm for the next episode.



Lights, Camera ...

As the Grand Master mentioned, *Freemasons: The Inside Story* premiered on Monday March 4 at 8:30pm and will continue for 26 episodes.

Be sure to spread the word to anyone who has ever asked you about Freemasonry, and make sure you and your family tune in to Channel 31 on Monday nights at 8:30pm. If you don't receive Channel 31 in your area, copies of the program will be made available through the Lodge network.

The promotional material for the show is here: [YouTube channel](#)

The first episode can be found here: [Freemasons: The Inside Story](#)

Poster child for the Good Friday Appeal



This charming little lady is Isla Hallam who has spent much of her young life isolated from the outside world to protect her vulnerable immune system. At just three years old, she has already learned some of the hardships of living with debilitating illness.

Little Isla was diagnosed at 17 months of age with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, just two days before Christmas in 2010, after months of lethargy and high temperatures. The fast growing disease of the white blood cells is the most common type of childhood cancer, with about 50 children treated at the Royal Children's Hospital each year.



Isla still has two months left of a two-year daily oral chemotherapy regime, which is vital protection to ensure the cancer does not return.

Now in remission, Isla's lovely smile graces the 2013 Good Friday Appeal poster to encourage all Victorians to dig deep and donate to the 29 March Appeal. Our Taskforce will be involved once again through the Uncle Bobs Club fundraising at local 7Eleven stores on Good Friday.

RCH Good Friday Appeal fundraising has been enormously successful in the past as a result of the generous assistance provided by volunteers including the Freemasons Victoria Taskforce.

Bikies making a difference



The leather and chrome may look imposing but the Victorian Masonic Motorcycle Association once again showed its compassion by raising awareness and funds for Cystic Fibrosis Victoria. The Charity Ride

started in Nunawading and travelled to the Monster Auction at the Queenscliff Bowls Club. It is estimated that \$13,000 was raised to support families affected by Cystic Fibrosis.

Pictured here are the intrepid bikies as they embark on their fundraising journey, waved away by the Grand Master.

Umpire, Please!

The Task Force is in need of volunteers for the Special Olympics events to be held on March 24 at the Venetto Club in Bulleen. Event judges, marshalls and attendants are needed to make this a great day for everyone. If you can help to fill these roles, please make contact with the Task Force at:

taskforce@freemasonsvic.net.au

Ivalda Market

Ivalda Masonic Centre is hosting an arts and crafts market from 10am to 4pm on Sunday 17 March at 42 Salisbury Ave, Ivanhoe. Items for sale will include home wares, children's clothing, vintage stamps, jewellery, cupcakes and more. Organisers are hopeful that its success will lead to a regular event on the local calendar.

CBD Luncheon

Our first CBD Luncheon for the year is to be held on Tuesday 12 March 2013 at Morgan's 401 on Collins Street, Melbourne.

The luncheon will feature special guest speaker Mike Zafiroopoulos AM, JP, Board Chair of Channel 31.

Mike has more than 40 years involvement in community affairs in a wide range of fields, covering the arts, sport, health, welfare, media, local government and philanthropy.

Three is a magic number

150 years of service in three jewels

The February meeting of the Campaspe Valley Lodge was a very special occasion, seeing three members presented with their 50 year jewels.

The three long-standing Freemasons were WBro. Kevin Dobson who was initiated into the Mooroopna Lodge, No. 131 on the 8/1/1963, RW.Bro. John Stapleton, PJGW who was initiated into the former Echuca Lodge, No. 577 on the 9/2/1963 and his brother Bro. Ian Stapleton who was initiated on the same night. Congratulations!

From Left: John Stapleton, Ian Stapleton and Kevin Dobson.



Eastern Masonic Centre update

Heartbeat Galen Lodge will hold a special meeting on Monday, March 11 (Labour Day), which will feature a discussion on the development of the new Eastern Masonic Centre at Box Hill led by WBro Brian Christensen of the Centre's Management Committee.

Partners and other guests will be amongst the audience and they too will be invited to comment on how they see the features of the new centre fulfilling their particular needs. What a challenge!

A team drawn from the 1998 Maroondah District Panel will conduct the work for the evening. Their very first District Coordinator, Bro. Jim Mitchell will lead the team and include such district personalities as Brothers Kevin Childs, Ron Datson, Doug Gibb, Ray Kemke, Mal Kewish, Len Richardson, Colin Wolf and Noel Wright, all of whom have contributed so much to Freemasonry in that wedge of land between the Burwood and Maroondah Highways.

The Lodge tyles at 4:30pm at the Kew Centre. Brethren and Ladies will be sitting down to dinner at 6:00pm. Heartbeat Galen welcomes you on Labour Day 2013.



New Education Scholarship - \$10,000

The Education Committee has launched the Graeme Love Memorial Scholarship for research into or related to Freemasonry. The scholarship is open to tertiary students undertaking Masters or Doctoral studies where their research is significantly related to Freemasonry or Masonic activities in Victoria.

Applications are invited across a wide spectrum including benevolence, buildings, health and aged care to broader topics involved with Freemasonry.

The Directors of Research Offices in Universities around Victoria have been contacted and invited to publish the scholarship in their University. Applications have also been sought through *The Age* newspaper's education section.

Details and application forms relevant to the Graeme Love Memorial Scholarship are available from the Grand Lodge Education Office or by emailing Dr Ruary Bucknall at education-admin@freemasonsvic.net.au

Refreshment to Labour

Newly affiliated 'The Francis Ormond - University Lodge' opened its doors with a double 1st Degree for Bro. Matthew Schofield and Bro. Neville Smith (yes, we had to double check that).



L-R WBro Harry Adlerstein, Bro Alan Wazir (JD) Bro Matthew Schofield, WBro Peter Morris PGStdB WM ,Bro Neville Smith and Bro Justin Lodge.

By all reports, it was a great night and a strong effort by the ceremonial team to mark the beginning of a new Lodge and a Masonic career for these two new members.

Seventy years of faithful service

70 YEAR JEWEL PRESENTATION - CANTERBURY LODGE NO. 312

A heart-warming ceremony was conducted at Canterbury Lodge No. 312 on Tuesday 12 February 2013 to present RWBro. Colin McClaren PJGW, with a 70 year Service Jewel.

WBro. Kim Lai welcomed a total of 28 guests and 36 members



before giving an excellent summary of Bro. McClaren's personal life and business career and his journey through his life as a Freemason. Initiated in February 1943 in The City of Hawthorn Lodge No. 363, Bro. McClaren was

Installed as Worshipful Master in October 1978. He was conferred in his first Grand Lodge Office of PGStdB in 1983.

WBro. Colin joined Canterbury Lodge in March 1988 and immediately took an active interest in the Lodge, being elected as Senior Warden in November 1989 and Worshipful Master in November 1990. Serving as Almoner of the Lodge, Lodge of Instruction and Director of Ceremonies, WBro. McClaren worked to build and maintain the standard of the Lodge with his outstanding contributions.

For his services to Freemasonry he was conferred with the rank of PSGD in 1990, PGIWkgs in 1999 and PJGW in 2007.

In attendance at this presentation were Bro. Colin's three daughters, Roslyn, Gillian and Helen as well as grandson Patrick.

Task Force Volunteers

Merv Dyer and the Task Force will be calling for volunteers in the near future, to help with clean-up efforts following this summer's bush fires.

Further details will follow.

Get Involved!

The Membership Team at Freemasons Victoria are looking for volunteers with skills and experience in multimedia, television and radio production and presentation, editing and other marketing and media skills.

Send your details, along with a brief run-down of what you can help with, to the team via media@freemasonsvic.net.au

The 'FMV Press Club' will be called with interested parties soon.

Web Development Committee

The Web Development Committee at Freemasons Victoria is keen to build the capabilities of our web platform and content management system (CMS). We are keen to engage volunteers with skills and experience in SEO/SEM, market analytics, SSRS and Business Intelligence.

Send your details, along with a brief run-down of what you can help with, to the team via media@freemasonsvic.net.au

Open Events

All Open Events can be found on the Freemasons Victoria website - [Events Calendar](#). Just click the link on the homepage!

Google Analytics - Lodge Web Pages

A new feature to *Engage!* is the addition of Google Analytics reporting. In this section, the popularity of Lodge web pages on the Freemasons Victoria website based on visits and unique visitor statistics will be highlighted. This month, Berwick Balcara Lodge stands out for receiving the most page views, and The Lodge of Evolution shines for engaging visitors for the longest, with web users staying on their profile page for an average of 2 minutes.

Web users visiting Lodge Profile Pages on the FMV website expect to see great content and engaging commentary related to the character and operation of the Lodge. Perhaps next month we can expect to see your Lodge competing in these statistics?

Lodge	Page Views	Unique visitors	Average time on the page
359. Berwick Balcara Lodge	96	68	1:44
759. Melbourne High School Lodge	93	61	1:23
681. Hearts of Oak Lodge	78	44	0:46
931. The Lodge of Evolution	69	57	2:00
37. The Brighton District Lodge	53	42	0:33
389. The Spring Vale Lodge	50	36	0:40
924. Brunswick United Lodge	40	36	0:57

Action List	✓
Stay connected via social media by connecting with our pages on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facebook • Twitter • LinkedIn • Flickr • Google+ 	
Volunteer to help out on the 2013 Special Olympics at Bulleen on March 24	
Book for Grand Lodge Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Communication - Friday 22 March 2013 • Grand Installation - Friday 22 March 2013 • Grand Banquet - Saturday 23 March 2013 • Family Day - Sunday 24 March 2013 	
Contact the media department to have your Lodge web page uploaded	
Remind your friends and family to tune into <i>Freemasons: The Inside Story</i> at 8:30pm on Mondays.	

Got a Collection?

Freemasons Victoria Magazine is searching for Masons with collectable curiosities to feature in upcoming editions.

Collections don't need to have a Masonic element – the more strange, obscure, interesting and quirky the better!

Get in touch with us via editor@freemasonsvic.net.au

Submissions for Print

If you have a jewel presentation, special visitor, Open Installation or other special event in your Lodge, please remember to send us a photo (no grips in the picture, please!) and the details of your special happening.

Email your submission to media@freemasonsvic.net.au



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