

engage!



A word from the Grand Master

On Monday 14 October I attended the United Services Lodge to install WBro. Maj Bruce (Stretch) Jarvis and was delighted to be in the presence of MWBro. Dr John Connell, PGM, AO, in his own lodge. May I take this opportunity to congratulate Bro. John and tell him how proud we are of him achieving his milestone 100th Birthday. It will indeed be my honour to be present at United Service Lodge in November when we officially celebrate the 100 years of the life and times of MWBro. John. The next day was a very long day, starting with the Installation of VWBro. Ian Burgess of The Great Ocean Road Lodge in their new home in Torquay. I was most honoured to be in the presence of MWBro. Bruce Bartrop and MWBro. Norm Cooper, Past Grand Master of the Tasmanian Constitution.

We then travelled to Trentham to Install Bro Graham Cooper. The day was quite a stretch for the Ceremonial Team as we had four jobs on that day - two in the morning and two in the evening. I wish to thank the Grand Lodge Ceremonial Team for their extra-ordinary efforts and their commitment.

The following Wednesday evening I had the pleasure of delivering the 2013-16 Strategic Plan to the Quarterly Convocation of Grand Chapter and Thursday I was delighted to install an old friend WBro. Jeff Dennison as Master of Kensington Lodge.

One of the more relaxing things that I have done in recent times was to attend the Mark Festival in Geelong that weekend which included a good program of presentations, a dinner dance and enjoyable company. Three days without having to be part of any ceremony, or make a speech, was a welcomed respite to my heavy schedule and many thanks to MWBro. John Liesegang and his organising committee for a friendly and hospitable weekend.

On returning to Melbourne Sunday afternoon, it was my pleasure to reinstall WBro. David Kamer back into the Chair of Melbourne High School Lodge. A great celebration was made even more significant by the presence of three generations of Kamers; grandfather Eddie, father Robert and brother Adrian. On Tuesday I was delighted to witness Bro. Felix Pintado, CEO of Royal Freemasons, become a Master Mason at Middle Park Lodge and I was pleased to have with me MWBro. Garry Sebo, RWBro. Hillel Benedykt and RWBro. Steve Michalak, DGM of Grand Lodge of SA & NT, who flew over for the evening to surprise his long time friend Bro. Felix. A terrific reunion for both and a fantastic night was enjoyed by all. On Thursday I travelled to Geelong to Install WBro. Doug Merritt at Acacia Lodge of Geelong. Bro. Doug is a former long time Secretary of the Lodge.

Friday night was one of the highlights of the year so far – the Big Pink Cocktail Party at Royal Freemasons. A superb night of fun, friendship and FUNdraising added to our magnificent total of a little over \$55,000 with many more donations and events still to come. We are on track for beating last years total of \$80,000. Many thanks to those who attended, those who donated goods and services, the Grand Ceremonial Team ladies for their support and hosting the event. Our particular thanks must go to Donna De La Rue for her outstanding efforts in organising the night.

Amongst this fortnight was the roll out of the 2013-16 Strategic Plan. As well as Grand Chapter, we have been to Bayside and Bendigo. Please ensure you attend when the roll out of the Strategic Plan comes to your area.

Bob Jones

The History of Lodge Liberation

Lodge Amalthea No. 914 invites you and your Masonic guests to Changi – the history of Lodge Liberation No. 674. In February 1942, Singapore fell to the Japanese and overnight 55,000 Allied soldiers became Prisoners of War. For the next three and a half years men from all over the British Empire lived in Changi, passed through Changi on their way to other destinations, and many died there.

Out of this situation, Masonic brethren from around the world came together to celebrate Freemasonry and to work our ceremonies. Under darkness and extreme danger, a multinational version of Freemasonry was started.

This is the story of Freemasonry in Changi and the start of Lodge Liberation in Melbourne after the war.

Please join the members of Lodge Amalthea for this final event in 2013, dedicated to the men who went to Changi, to celebrate their resilience and their sacrifices. The aim of this event is to pass on the history of this infamous camp to another generation of Australians.

The evening is a joint event being hosted by Lodge Amalthea and presented and narrated by the team from Lodge Liberation. All brethren are invited to attend this event with a special emphasis on the members of the military themed lodges across Melbourne.

When: Tuesday 26th November 2013. Tying at 6.15pm

Where: Dallas Brooks Centre

Supper: Zio's Restaurant, 14 Lansdowne Street, East Melbourne – just around the corner from DBC. Supper is a sumptuous three-course meal with carefully selected wines and single malts - \$75 pp.

Although there is no formal RSVP system for this evening, for catering purposes please advise of any large groups / formal visits being planned by other lodges for this event. If your lodge is planning on attending a large group AND STAYING FOR SUPPER please email Michael Maher on mmaher@tggroup.com.au

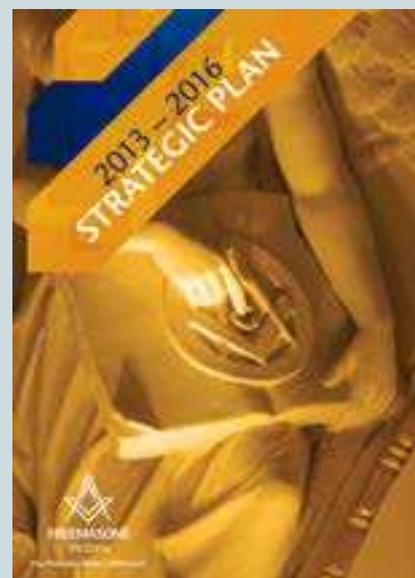


Freemasons Victoria Strategic Plan

The Freemasons Victoria Strategic Plan 2013-16 is now online and can be found along with the Report on the 2010-13 Strategic Plan, on the Member Intranet under Grand Lodge Centre. Just click on the link.

The last district meeting date to find out more about the Strategic Plan is:

Wednesday 6 November - Ballarat



Freemasons Victoria Merchandise

The Freemasons Victoria e-store can be accessed at www.freemasonsvic.net.au via the member's log-in.

If you do not have access to a computer, you can place an order over the phone: (03) 9411 0111 or email: merchandise@freemasonsvic.net.au



VMMA Members Ride the Avenue

Members from Victorian Masonic Motorcycle Association (VMMA) rode to The Avenue Uniting Church in Blackburn recently, to make a donation of \$1000 to the Ionic (Masonic) Education Coaching Service.

VMMA Members have identified the Coaching Service as an organisation worthy of their financial support for the work it does in providing extra educational support for students studying maths and English from Year 6 through to Year 12.

The Coaching Service which has been operating for 63 years under the management of volunteer Freemasons from the Monash Gully and Maroondah Districts, depends upon donations from Lodges and other Masonic supporters to enable fees to be kept below the typical market rate of \$75 per hour. Students participating in the program pay less than \$10 per hour for a course of 32 hours over 16 weeks – a considerable help to single parent families and those who have two or three students enrolled. The program is available to all students, with or without a Masonic connection.

In accepting this generous support, Ionic President Brian Annand stressed the importance of such donations in allowing the service to continue with one of its foundation principles that “no child will be denied tuition on financial grounds”, and congratulated the VMMA Members on their many philanthropic activities. In almost every year since inception, he said it had been necessary to support a parent experiencing financial difficulties. For further details visit: www.ionic.org.au and www.vmma.net.au



Point Nepean Lodge No. 371

Point Nepean Lodge No. 371 invites you and your partner to their next meeting on Thursday 7 November, which will be addressed in the Lodge by RWBro. David George.

Ladies will be entertained in the South by award winning local Artist John Bredl. John will demonstrate the rendering of a Gunnamatta low tide beach scene in his own charismatic fashion and the painting will be part of the raffle prizes.

Point Nepean will arrange transport for those unable to drive and will pick up between Dromana and Portsea, returning members after the meeting. Numbers of passengers and contact phone numbers will be required by COB Monday 4 November.

RSVP's for catering purposes including any dietary requirements must be received by the Secretary WBro. Malcolm Thompson by COB Monday 4 November.

Transport pickup starts at 6:30pm
Lodge Tyles at 7:30pm
Transport departs at 10:15pm

Contact:
WBro. Malcolm Thompson:
(03) 5982 0305 or email
Malcolm.a371@bigpond.com

Kuala Lumpur Visit

Recently WBro. Lincoln Wymer of Jonadab Lodge No. 771 visited Emerald Lodge No. 830, of the Irish Constitution, in Kuala Lumpur while away for work. It was his first Lodge visit since being installed as Worshipful Master of Jonadab No. 771 earlier this month. He said that interestingly enough, all Freemasons started in the Temple and Visiting Masters were presented to the Worshipful Master from within, with no grand entrance.

“On the night, they initiated a new Brother to the Craft, which once again was dramatically varied from the Victorian version of the event”, Lincoln said.

The weather was a humid 32°C, and as they don't wear summer attire, after leaving Melbourne on a day where it was only 13°C, WBro. Lincoln said that he was really feeling the heat. He thought it was amusing that one of the locals complained about how cold it was in the lodge room, while he was sweating profusely.

Compared to the Ringwood Masonic Centre where WBro. Lincoln's lodge meets, off a side street, this Masonic Centre in OUG, Kuala Lumpur, was enormous.

“It had three security guards on the entrance gate and the main lodge room seated 500 people. Sixteen lodges from different orders met there consistently. I was glad I'd attended and was humbled by the hospitality shown to me while I was there. Some of the members have made plans to visit Jonadab already during my year. It truly is a world-wide brotherhood”, Lincoln said.



Rear Entrance Internal- Kuala Lumpur Masonic Centre



L-R: Visiting Master, English Constitution-Kuala Lumpur; WMBro. Sivagnanam Thirugnanam, Emerald Lodge No. 830; Irish Constitution-Kuala Lumpur), WBro. Lincoln Wymer, Jonadab Lodge No. 771, Victoria; Bro. Nadesh Tharmalingam, Newly Initiated Candidate; VWBro. Vijaykrishnan Nambiar.



Calling all TV Superstars!

Are you the next Ray Martin ?
Have you always wanted to be on TV?

Do you love Freemasonry and would you like to appear in the second series of Freemasons: The Inside Story – to be aired on Channel 31 from March – August 2014?

If yes – then this could be your big chance!

Freemasons Victoria is calling for members who want to be part of the series on a volunteer basis.

We are looking for 5 fresh new faces to be hosts on the upcoming series. To be considered, you must meet the following requirements:

1. You must be an affiliated member
2. Your commitment will be varied so you must be flexible with your availability (be available during working hours and some weekends, with 2-3 weeks' notice).

The roles will be as hosts, interviewing fellow Freemasons, families and other subjects that are part of the production.

To be considered you will need to register for a casting session on SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2013, 9:30am – 1:30pm, at the Dallas Brooks Centre, 300 Albert Street, East Melbourne.

You will be required for 30 mins on the day – times to be allocated by Erin Olsen.

Please prepare a 2 minute presentation about yourself and some ideas on how you can contribute to the series, to be presented in front of camera on SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER, 2013 Contact Erin Olsen to register your interest at erin@freemasonsvic.net.au

Registrations CLOSE 15 November 2013.

All casting times will be allocated after registration closes.

Jirralingha Wildlife (and human) Sanctuary

Recently the Acacia Lodge of Geelong No. 913 made a donation from its Master's Charity Fund, to the Jirralingha Koala and Wildlife Sanctuary at Barwon Heads. This has allowed the Sanctuary to purchase garden equipment such as a new lawn mower, chain-saw, pruner, lopper, shovel, shears, rakes etc., plus a pair of 2-way radios and a GPS navigator.

Jirralingha is involved in the rehabilitation and breeding of Koalas, and cares for other animals in need, most of which are released back into the wild. The Sanctuary also offers work to people with disabilities and special needs, for whom working with animals in a supportive environment is therapeutic for them. It also provides a rescue service for injured, sick and orphaned wildlife.

The Sanctuary is located on Taits Road, Barwon Heads and is open 7 days from 9.00am to 5.00pm.

For more information call (03) 5254 2484 or visit: www.jirralingha.com.au



Pictured: Judy O'Brien and Tehree Gordon of Jirralingha, also WBro. Bob Crowther and WBro. John Fellows of the Acacia Lodge of Geelong No. 913.

All in the family

Occasions like this don't happen very often – all three Freemasons pictured are from the one family, and represent three generations of Masons.

All three are Officers of the Lodge of Orana No. 836, and were in attendance at the reconsecration and 50th Installation of the Lodge of Orana on Saturday 26 September.



From left: Bro. Maxwell (Peter) Broad, WBro. Ross Broad, WBro. Maxwell (Alexander) Broad, and MWBro. Bob Jones.

Storming Australia

Bro. Scott Loxley of Lowan Lodge No. 107 will be walking around Australia in a Storm Troopers outfit, to raise money for the Monash Children's Hospital. He will walk 15,000kms solo and the journey will take around 12-18 months to complete.

Scott, a former soldier of the Australian Defence Force, is confident that despite the costume, he will survive the country's elements.

From 2 November Scott will depart from Station Pier-Port Melbourne, where he will board the Spirit of Tasmania and head to Devonport after which he will begin his journey around Australia. He will first walk to Launceston then on to Hobart, then will return to Melbourne. He will continue his journey heading west and around the country, finishing where he started in Melbourne.

Support Scott on his epic journey by visiting:
http://give.everydayhero.com/au/scott_MCH



A busy night at Henty Lodge No. 279

The regular meeting of Henty Lodge No. 279 was held at Waverley Masonic Centre on Tuesday 15 October and started half an hour early. It was going to be a busy night ahead!

Two Jewel presentations were made that evening. VWBro. Andrew Foster, PGIWkgs., had the pleasure of presenting WBro. James Geddes with his 60 year Jewel and RWBro. Graham Flaherty PJGW had the pleasure of presenting a 50 Jewel to RWBro. George Sutherland PDGM.



RWBro. George Sutherland PDGM and WBro. James Geddes PM with their 50 and 60 year jewel.

RWBro. George Sutherland has contributed greatly to Freemasonry in Victoria. In 1975 he was Worshipful Master of Lodge of Security, which was a Lodge for the Insurance industry, and he was also President of the Board of General Purpose from 1987 to '89. In 1998 MWBro. Walter Rolley conferred the rank of Past Deputy Grand Master to George and since 1988 George has been associated with the Freemasons Public Charitable Foundation from being on the founding Committee right through to his current position as Chairman of the Foundation. Congratulations George.

Two distinguished guests present were MWBro. Vaughan Werner PGM and RWBro. John Maynard PDGM. This was the Lodge Team's first working night, and they did an amazing job!

Muddy Boots and Sandy Hands at the 2013 Mark Festival at Geelong

What better way to grab the attention of a group of (mostly) grandparents than to show them a program designed to lure "rug rats" and "ankle biters" away from television or computer screens, and into the country.



Danielle Bain and Ty Caling did just that when they spoke at the 2013 Mark Festival. Nearly 100 Mark Master Masons gathered at the Speakers' Forum to hear their

presentation. Danielle and Ty are two of the founders of a group called "Muddy Boots and Sandy Hands", a Geelong-based program which encourages young children to connect with nature. Activities are planned but not overly-structured and the children are watched but not overly-supervised. In this way, children can plan their own activities, accept responsibility for their own actions, develop their own awareness of danger and learn to cooperate with other children.

The benefits of MB&SH are so great that Danielle and Ty would like to see similar programs set up elsewhere. If you are interested in setting up a program in your area or if you are interested in finding out more information, visit www.mbs.org.au or look up MuddyBootsAndSandyHands on FaceBook. After Danielle and Ty had spoken, the UGLMMV made a donation to MB&SH to assist in continuing its good work.



Pictured: Grand Master Mark MWBro. John Liesegang, Danielle Bain, Ty Caling and RWBro. John Travers.

November

During November each year, Movember is responsible for the sprouting of millions of moustaches around the world. With their "Mo's" men raise vital funds and awareness for prostate and testicular cancer and mental health. As an independent global charity, Movember's vision is to have an everlasting impact on the face of men's health.

Freemasons Victoria will be participating in Movember again this year!

So grow your mo's for prostate cancer awareness and upload your mo photos. Visit the Freemasons Victoria Movember page at:

<http://au.movember.com/team/963693>



WBro. Ben Quick, Movember 2012

Big Pink Cocktail Party a Huge Success

It's not often you see the Grand Master Bob Jones dressed in a pink racing outfit, or the Deputy Grand Master Hillel Benedykt wearing a pink wig, but on this very special occasion, all pink attire was most accepted!

With raffles, auctions and pledges from Lodges throughout the State, the Big Pink Cocktail Party raised in excess of \$85,000 for breast cancer awareness with funds to be distributed between the Epworth Oncology Department, Think Pink Foundation and selected rural communities. Irene Hendel, Founder and Chairman for the Think Pink Foundation said that it was great to see so many people getting into the spirit of the event, and doing their best for this worthy cause. "The Think Pink Foundation is so incredibly grateful for all of the support and effort from Freemasons Victoria, and it's wonderful to see so many people here tonight all getting into the pink spirit of things", Irene said.



The evening was hosted by the ladies of the Grand Team, lead by Kerry Jones and MC for the evening Peter Julier. With more than 40 raffle items and over 55 Auction items being donated, many were fortunate not to leave empty handed. Auction items were donated by Freemasons, their family and friends and ranged from wine, art, house-hold items and vouchers, along with jewellery and AFL memorabilia. Also up for grabs was a dinner for four with the Grand Master. With over 150 people in attendance, the band, led by WBro. Jim Puohotaua, played to a sea of pink top-hats, feather boas, dresses and suits, not to mention a suspicious pink panther assisting WBro. Justin Stark with tickets at the door.

At 9:30pm the winning bids were announced, along with 'best dressed' awards - winning in the men's category was Ben Quick for his attempt at 'man in tights' and the De La Rue sisters, Jade and Holly in the ladies category for their pink kangaroo onesies.

Executive Assistant Donna De La Rue, said that over the past month some fantastic events have been coordinated by the Lodges throughout Victoria, generating great interest in the campaign. "Many Lodges took part this year by organising breakfasts, dinners, barbecues, trivia nights and raffles, to mention a few and the proceeds were personally handed to the Grand Master Bob Jones and his wife Kerry at the Big Pink Cocktail Party. Lodge events alone raised more than \$55,000", Donna said.

Freemasons Victoria set the bar high this year and challenged members and Lodges to exceed last year's target of \$80,000. With funds raised being tallied as we speak for the month of October, and with several more events still to come, we hope to announce the final figure very soon.

For further details, visit our website, Facebook page and the next issue of Freemasons Victoria Magazine.

ACTION LIST

Don't forget to order your Field of Remembrance personalised tag - call (03) 9411 0111 to place your order.

Register your participation for Movember! Visit the Freemasons Victoria Movember webpage at <http://au.movember.com/>



VWBro. Frank Fordyce & WBro. Ben Quick



Marcus Georgiades from Fuzzy TV, interviews Founder Irene Hendel about the Think Pink Foundation for an episode of Chanel 31's Freemasons: The Inside Story.



VWBro. Peter Julier and his wife Lyn.

Deadlines for content for coming issues:

Engage 61 - 12 November
Engage 62 - 26 November
Engage 63 - 10 December

Don't forget, previous issues of *engage!* Newsletter can be found using the Publications tab in the Freemasons Victoria intranet. Just log in!



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