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FREEMASONS VICTORIA NEWSLETTER



JOIN US ON THE HISTORIC JOURNEY

SYMBOLISM & HISTORY of a FREEMASONS' LODGE ROOM

THE ENTERED APPRENTICE & HIS WORKING TOOLS

29 JULY 2017, 10AM
GOPPIN HALL, 45 MOUBRAY STREET

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Message from MWBro. Don Reynolds Grand Master

Dear Brethren

First Victorian The Most Powerful Sovereign Grand Commander

It is incredible that in June one of our Past Masters became the Australian Head of the world's second largest Masonic Orders after the Craft.

Prof. Em. William (Bill) Thompson became the Most Powerful Sovereign Grand Commander for all Australia of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. See more about this great achievement [HERE!](#)



Grand Master's Movements

On Tuesday I attended the annual Blue Ribbon Foundation breakfast. As I noted last Friday this was a great opportunity to catch up with our partners and to be briefed on what is taking place within their Foundation. To my great surprise, I was honoured on behalf of FMV to receive a most prestigious award, for which we should all feel extremely proud. Please see [HERE](#) for details! Also please see below if you are in the northern district how you can become involved with Blue Ribbon.

My attendance at the initiation of David Reynolds, the son of the Worshipful Master of Lodge Cornucopia, WBro Simon Reynolds was a great family affair. Unfortunately, Joshua Reynolds (Simon's other son who was also to be initiated) was unwell and could not make his initiation, but we look forward to Joshua being initiated later in the year. We welcome David into the organisation and trust he will enjoy his journey.

My reason for advising my attendance at Lord Somers Chapter on Wednesday was to reinforce the commitment that the Craft has to ensure the continuing relationship with the other Orders noted in our Constitution. The family theme continued and I congratulate Matt Donato and his son Domenic installed as Principals of the Order. I continued the involvement with Mark and Chapter and the other Masonic Rites with my Deputy on Thursday at a Heads of Other Orders meeting at Box Hill and then attended the Craft monthly Board meeting at Coppin Hall.

This morning Mya and I head to Echuca for a social weekend with the members of the current 2016-17 Grand Lodge Ceremonial Team, which will include the country members who left us in March.

Back to Melbourne for an installation at Lodge of Good Companions on Monday night at Oakleigh Masonic Centre where Bro Tony Chiodo will be installed. Tuesday Mya and I will attend a cocktail function at Raheen in support of The Victorian Police Blue Ribbon Foundation, Blue Ribbon Day for 2017. On Wednesday the Ceremonial Team will attend the Annual Hand of Friendship Lodge at Coppin Hall where I will present WBro John Bunclie with his 60 year jewel. Immediately after the Hand of Friendship it is off to Preston to attend the Quarterly Convocation of Grand Chapter. On Saturday 22 July I will attend with the team, Past Grand Master Benedykt and ladies the Annual Shabbat Service at Temple Beth Israel in Alma Road, St Kilda commencing at 10.00am.

The July Installations planner is available [HERE](#) and the August planner [HERE](#).



Message from Craig Head Vice President of the Board of General Purposes

Dear Brethren

Board of General Purposes

Your Board met last night and a report will be provided next week as usual.

Member Ready Lodges

It is terrific to see so many Lodges focussing on becoming member ready. We now have 26 Lodges who are compliant and ready to receive new members with Engagement Officers in place. You can see the updated list of all Lodges and status [HERE](#).

Lodge Flyer

You can find a ready to use promotional flyer for your Lodge [HERE](#).

Lodge Plan

The template can be found [HERE](#).

Message from RWBro. Bruce Cowie Grand Secretary

Brethren

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

We continue our communication this week further to the June Quarterly Communication where a Notice of Motion was given for a number of changes to the Book of Constitutions.

This week the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master are in conversation with the President of the Board discussing the need for a Grand Almoner to provide leadership and guidance on the important need for care and compassion for our membership. To listen click [HERE](#).



They also discuss the role of a Grand Chaplain and that this role does not need to be given to a Past Master but rather a suitably qualified Brother who may be just as capable. To listen click [HERE](#).

Further information is planned on all the proposed amendments to ensure all Brethren fully understand the nature of the changes.

2018 Grand Lodge Ceremonial Team

Applications for the 2018 Grand Lodge Ceremonial Team are now open and RWBro Keith Murray, Deputy Grand Master encourages you and your partner to attend an information evening. See [HERE](#) for details.

Temple Beth Israel 87th Anniversary

One of the largest synagogues in Melbourne, with a membership of 130 families, Temple Beth Israel describes itself as the flagship synagogue for Progressive Jews in Australia and New Zealand, and this year celebrates its 87th Anniversary. On Saturday 22 July 2017, it will open its doors to all Victorian Freemasons and partners. See [HERE](#) for further details.



Message from Jane Sydenham-Clarke

Chief Executive Officer

Hello Members

Royal Freemasons Homes Open Day in Sale, Latrobe Valley

The Open Day for the new Royal Freemasons Homes facilities in Sale in the Latrobe Valley is scheduled for Sunday 20 August 2017. Please join us to view the new facilities which will open for operations on Friday 1 September 2017.

Bayside Masonic Centre

Check the terrific progress with Gardenvale Masonic Centre [HERE!](#)

District Coordinators

This week the District Coordinators met with some attending by webinar and others at Box Hill Masonic Centre. Fruitful discussion ensued around the proposed Constitutional Changes along with District and Lodge planning with two Districts (Monash and Gippsland West) participating in a trial to explore some different approaches. Our focus is on supporting all Lodges with appointing an Engagement Officer and with ensuring Lodge plans.

Opportunity for Engagement with Blue Ribbon Foundation in the Northern Region

Expressions of interest are encouraged from members in Lodges in the northern suburbs to be a part of the local Blue Ribbon Committee and to liaise with their own Lodge and others in the northern suburbs in supporting a Blue Ribbon Foundation "Remembers Lives by Saving Others" project. The Northern Metro Branch of Blue Ribbon intends to remember Constable Neil Clinch who was based at Broadmeadows Police Station and at the age of 22, died in the line of duty on 5 April 1987.

Preliminary discussions have been held with The Northern Hospital in Epping in identifying a suitable project to receive funds raised. Meetings as a whole committee will occur five times per year at Matthews Steer offices 2/7 English Street, Essendon Fields with other contact as required for specific activities. The first meeting is planned for Wednesday 9 August at 6.30pm. Express your interest to Christina Chia, Head of Marketing [HERE](#).

Freemasons Helpdesk

When you email [membership](#) for any membership enquiries, or [marketing](#) for any media and marketing enquiries, your email will be handled by our Helpdesk system which means you will receive notification as we work to deliver swift responses. Alternatively, you can visit [support](#) and submit your enquiries via our Helpdesk system directly.

Upcoming Events

- **Bellarine Masonic Centre Spit Roast** - On Sunday 23 July 12.00 noon - 3.00pm at Queenscliff. Family and friends are invited to attend.
- **Symbolism & History of a Freemasons' Lodge Room** – 10.00am Saturday 29 July 2017 at Coppin Hall. Find out more information [HERE](#).
- **Bayside Masonic Masquerade Ball** – On Friday 11 August 2017 at 6:30pm at Milanos Tavern, Brighton. The night will include a special guest speaker and many worthwhile events. Find out more [HERE](#).

Media Highlights

Nhill Early Years Centre

12 July 2017 [Wimmera Mail Times](#) 'Mayoral Matters'

Yarrowonga Lodge of St David

12 July 2017 [yarrowongachronicle.com.au](#) "Masonic Musings"

12 July 2017 [Shepparton News Online](#) "Masonic Musings"

12 July 2017 [Riverine Herald](#) "Masonic Musings"

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