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FREEMASONS VICTORIA NEWSLETTER

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Grand Craft & Royal Arch Chapter | 2018

Grand Installation

Don't miss out on our Early Bird discount!
Book before 30 November to take advantage.

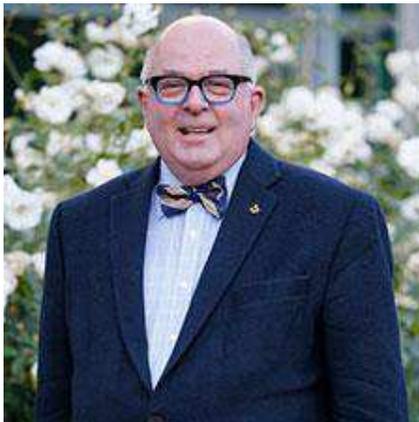
Click [HERE](#) for all event information and to
access Early Bird registration discount.



Message from MWBro. Don Reynolds Grand Master

The Grand Master has just returned from his travels and we look forward to hearing his news in the coming week.

The Installation planner is available [HERE](#).



Message from RWBro. Richard L. Elkington President of the Board of General Purposes

Dear Brethren

Board of General Purposes Meeting

Your Board met on 9 November 2017. Read about the outcomes of this busy meeting [HERE](#).

Education Program

The Board received an inspiring presentation at its recent meeting and I wholeheartedly encourage you to engage with our new Online Education Portal. You can share the Introduction to Freemasonry with your prospects immediately [HERE](#), and MAP 1 is available [HERE](#) with MAP 2 coming soon.

Member Ready Lodges

Keep up the good work on Member Ready Lodges and Engagement Officers. Check your Lodge's progress [HERE](#).

Lodge Flyer

Don't forget your own promotional flyer for your Lodge. See [HERE](#).

Lodge Plan

Remember the Lodge Plan template can be found [HERE](#) or alternatively [HERE](#). Please send your completed Lodge Plan to [HERE](#) so others can learn.

Message from RWBro. Bruce Cowie Grand Secretary

Brethren

Recently, I was made aware of an article by WBro Edward Lord, OBE the outgoing Chair of Universities Scheme for the United Grand Lodge of England.

This article is relevant to Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction. I would urge all to read the article and consider what it is saying. The core tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth or as he says more fashionably, integrity, kindness, honesty, fairness and tolerance are still central for men to learn how to treat their fellow men. He then outlines that it is necessary to ensure we are relevant to men today, and to support, encourage and value the contributions of our younger and newer members. Read further [HERE](#).



Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge - Wednesday 13 December 2017

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge will be held on Wednesday 13 December 2017 at the Sandringham Masonic Centre, as a farewell to this Grand Old Lady who has served our Craft for many years. The members of the Sandringham Centre as well as the Brighton and Moorabbin Centres will transfer into the new Bayside Masonic Centre in the New Year. The event will be by booking only and is limited to 200. At this stage the limited spaces are filling up very quickly. As usual the Quarterly will be streamed live to the internet and you can attend one of the designated Masonic Centres to enjoy the event and the fellowship.

A light supper will be held after. Ample parking will be available on the Shorefront with buses to transfer the Brethren to the Centre. Brethren can book via try booking [HERE](#)

Grand Secretary's Bulletin – No 144

The next edition of the Grand Secretary's Bulletin is now available [HERE](#).

Information on Lodge Workings

The 2017 print of the Book of Lodge Workings is available in soft copy. If you would like a copy emailed to you please email [HERE](#). Hard copies have now been received by FMV. Please call Jillian on 9411 0111 (option 1) to obtain your copy. I have also attached [HERE](#) a list of the amendments between the 2014 and 2017 editions. This will assist in understanding the amendments.

Book of Constitutions

A copy of the recent amendments to the Book of Constitutions is available [HERE](#) and may be downloaded and included with your current copies of the 40th Edition. The pdf copy on the website, has now been amended with these changes - edition 40A. For ease of use the recent changes are in red. The new edition incorporating all the changes approved by Grand Lodge during 2017 will be released in hard copy format early 2018.



Message from Jane Sydenham-Clarke

Chief Executive Officer

Dear Members

Women In Freemasonry

The role of women in our community is an issue that I find myself regularly discussing and one I think I am starting to better understand. My observation is that women are influential in our community on several levels. For example, as many women are frequently the decision makers on discretionary time and money within households, support and encouragement of their partner, father, son or grandson, to join and stay in Freemasonry, is key to both member attraction and retention.

Many members have explained that their partner's support is pivotal to their success in Freemasonry. I have seen the power of women's advocacy in endorsing membership – it is very strong when a woman explains the positive impact of Freemasonry on men in her life. We see every day the important work of women in Lodges working behind the scenes, problem-solving, building culture, administering, creating social opportunities and furthering philanthropic outcomes. Today we celebrate the role of women in our community, encourage greater involvement, and showcase just some [HERE!](#) Please encourage more of our great women to tell us their stories [HERE!](#) Are you maximising engagement with women in your Lodge community?

District Coordinators

Our District Coordinators met earlier this week, with some attending via videoconferencing saving them the long journey. It is great to hear of the significant progress underway across the State with 104 Member Ready Lodges and 124 Lodges with Engagement Officers and to understand the current focus on Lodge Plans. Please continue to work with your District Coordinator as your local leader and support as you produce your Lodge Plan.

Lodge Engagement Officers Conference

Tomorrow (10am-2:30pm 18 November) we are holding the first Engagement Conference at the Box Hill Masonic Centre where your Lodge Engagement Officer can learn and share ways to improve the engagement levels both in your Lodge, and within your Community. Make sure they don't miss out and [book today](#) before it is too late!

Bayside Masonic Centre

Progress continues at our monumental new Bayside Centre in readiness for Lodges in coming weeks. See [HERE](#) for hot off the press images!

Traralgon Masonic Centre

So close to completion in readiness for dedication 10 February 2018! See [HERE](#) for progress!

Masonic Events

Before setting a date for your Masonic event please contact Natasha [HERE](#) to ensure clashes are avoided and members are able to attend all our wonderful events.

Strategic Planning in West Gippsland

It's great to see West Gippsland Freemasons planning for their future – see [HERE](#) for the approach adopted!

Lodge of St Mark

See [HERE](#) for another wonderful event planned by the Lodge of St Mark.

Freemasons Victoria Mobile App

Thanks to all those testing the FMV Mobile Phone Application which enables you to see what Lodges are meeting, upcoming events, and this weekly e-newsletter and more. Get involved [HERE](#).

Holiday Packages

[CLICK HERE FOR
MORE INFORMATION](#)



Click the banner above to gain access to various Holiday Packages via the **Freemasons Victoria's Member Benefits Program**.

Freemasons Members Helpdesk

Following the tremendous support and feedback received by our Lodge Secretaries and as part of our ongoing responsiveness, we have upgraded our FMV Helpdesk system to now handle all areas of membership enquiries and needs. The FMV Members Helpdesk System will receive your emails and provide you immediate notifications as we work to deliver swift responses. Please note the changes to the following email addresses and update your contacts accordingly:

Department

Grand Secretary
Membership
Marketing
Corporate
Property and Maintenance
Library and Museum

Email

grandsec@fmv.org.au
membership@fmv.org.au
marketing@fmv.org.au
corporate@fmv.org.au
property@fmv.org.au
library@fmv.org.au

Alternatively, you can visit [support](#) and submit your enquiries via our Helpdesk system directly.

Upcoming Events

- **Lodge Fraternal 603 Ladies in The South Dinner Dance** - 7.00pm Saturday 18 November 2017 to be held at Milanos Tavern, Brighton. Celebrating Lodge Fraternal's 70th Year. Bookings Essential. More details [HERE](#).
- **FMV Lodge Engagement Conference** – 10.30am Saturday 18 November 2017 – Open to all Lodge Engagement Officers, this is the perfect event to share and seed ideas, as well as pick up valuable skills at improving the level of engagement within your Lodge. You can reserve your place at the Conference [HERE](#)!
- **RIMS (Recently Installed Masters) Course** – Saturday 18 November 2017 – Hamilton Masonic Centre. For more information please contact Peter Barrand [HERE](#).
- **Preparation for Masters Course** – Saturday 18 November 2017 – Hamilton Masonic Centre. For more information please contact Peter Barrand [HERE](#).
- **Prestonian Lecture** - 6.30pm Wednesday 22 November 2017. Freemasons Victoria in conjunction with Combemere Lodge No.752 E.C. are hosting a talk by Dr Richard Berman, the 2016 Prestonian Lecturer from the United Grand Lodge of England. This will be held at the Inner Eastern Masonic Centre Box Hill. See [HERE](#) for details.
- **Lodge Fraternal is hosting a meeting of the Combined Brighton Lodges** on Wednesday 22 November 2017 at 7.30pm. It will be celebrating "THE LAST HOORAY" of our stay in residence at the Brighton Masonic Hall. A number of Lodges that meet there will be hosting with us this event.

See [HERE](#) for further details.

- **Macedon Ranges Lodge No. 97** presents the First Annual Picnic at the Lancefield Showgrounds 12.00 noon Sunday 26 November 2017. See [HERE](#) for further information.
 - **Freemasons Foundation Victoria Annual General Meeting** - 5.00pm Wednesday 29 November 2017 at Inner East Masonic Centre, 1013 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill. Please RSVP by Wednesday 15 November 2017 on (03) 9411 0124 or email Neil Cripps [HERE](#).
 - **Sunshine Wisdom Lodge 2017 Christmas Party** - 6.00pm Friday 1 December 2017 at Williamstown Town Hall. Bookings essential. See [HERE](#) for more details.
 - **Lodge of St Mark No 591 - Moonlight Movie** - 7.00pm Saturday 20 January 2018 - Western Masonic Centre, 121 Callaway Boulevard, Sunshine West. See [HERE](#) for details.
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