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FREEMASONS VICTORIA NEWSLETTER



Grand Craft & Royal Arch Chapter | 2018.

Grand Installation

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Message from MWBro. Don Reynolds Grand Master

Dear Brethren

September Quarterly Communication

Thank you all for your attendance at the [Quarterly Communication](#) whether it was in person in Morwell or from one of the 18 streaming centres across our State. It is always wonderful to see democracy in action and I commend you for engaging in the extensive consultation process that we undertook across Victoria and for participating so enthusiastically in casting your vote. It was great to know that over 780 members took the time to attend for this all-important vote and to see democracy in action. It is a pity that it takes controversy to see the coming together of brethren and that this attendance is not the norm. Perhaps we can work on our attendance and take an active interest in the organisation.



Particularly I extend my appreciation for our very first published Annual Report and I encourage you to enjoy the document [HERE](#)! It was most gratifying to participate in the Forum focussing on Compassion and to hear about so much valuable philanthropic and community work that is underway by Freemasons. Particularly we were inspired by the incredible work being undertaken in both Portland and Macedon Ranges Lodges and we look forward to hearing more about this in the near future. We truly are an inspirational community making such a difference in so many significant ways!

Member Survey

Brethren, I seek your help with completing an important anonymous and confidential survey to help us to further identify the values and attributes that best reflect the true Freemason. With your collective values and attributes identified we will be exploring new membership into our organisation to reflect the good men, who support each other, their families and the community already amongst us. This information will assist with attracting the interest of suitable prospects to join us. Consistent with our Strategic Plan, an online new membership campaign will be commencing in the coming weeks to assist us with attracting new members. Please take 5 minutes to complete the survey [HERE](#).

Grand Master's Movements

Last Tuesday I attended Henty Lodge where I installed WBro David Pearce. It was great to be back in a Lodge which I was a member of in the 90s and to see it in such good shape.

Last night, I was advanced as a Master of my Mark Lodge. I wish to thank the members of Public Schools Mark and the Grand Team for a most enjoyable evening. Read on [HERE](#).

The September Installation planner is available [HERE](#) and the October planner [HERE](#).



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

Dear Brethren

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The essence of leadership is bringing the membership on the journey. This week in the wisdom of the Board, with its predominance of elected members, several proposals were put forward to simplify some of our processes and have decisions made at the local level.

The membership have clearly demonstrated, in an excellent turnout on Wednesday night, concern about this direction. We now have the opportunity to reflect on next steps with a view to considering the valuable lessons of Wednesday night's outcomes.

The Board understood the concerns of the membership and were aware that the outcome achieved was a real possibility but believed that debate and discussion and member expression were fundamental and therefore decided to proceed as occurred.

We firmly believe that we will be a stronger organisation as a consequence of this process.

Your Board commits to openness and the future to which we can all aspire.

Annual Report

Our very first published Annual Report has been released and presented at our Quarterly Communication this week. You can find the report [HERE](#) and the Media Release [HERE](#).

Member Ready Lodges

Terrific progress continues with Member Ready Lodges with now 74 Lodges compliant and ready to receive new members and 93 Lodges with Engagement Officers in place. 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

Quarterly Communication

On Wednesday, at the Quarterly Communication held at Morwell, four votes were held for Constitutional change. The Motion for the change was proposed by the Grand Registrar and then seconded by the President of the Board of General Purposes. Brethren were invited to speak to the motion at Morwell. WBro Brad Brander, a member of the Clifton Hill Lodge No.90 then spoke against the motion.



The motion was put to the membership in four parts and the individual results, broken down by Masonic Centres for all votes are [HERE](#), along with the results of the election of Grand Treasurer.

It was pleasing that we had over 780 people exercising their right to vote on these matters.

You can see the Deputy Grand Master's address [HERE](#) and the CEO's address [HERE](#).

Prestonian Lecture

On 22 November, at the Inner East Masonic Centre at Box Hill,, 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 an event not to be missed. See [HERE](#) for further details.



Message from Jane Sydenham-Clarke

Chief Executive Officer

Hello Members

Member Survey

As the Grand Master requests above, please support us by completing the short survey [HERE](#). This will assist engaging with potential candidates who have the right profile to join our organisation. Work is underway in Attracting New Members as specified in our Strategic Plan. You can read more about the approach to Membership Acquisition in this particular campaign [HERE](#).



Morwell Media Briefing

Grand Master of Freemasons Victoria, Don Reynolds and Richard Elkington, President of the Board of General Purposes, Freemasons Victoria during filming on Wednesday at Morwell. View the WIN TV Gippsland News story [HERE](#) and the Latrobe Valley Express article [HERE](#) - "Masons choose Elkington."

Freemasons Victoria Mobile App

We are still receiving many members enquiries to trail 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](#).

Education Program

The new Freemasons Victoria Online Education Portal is attracting much attention featuring MAP 0 and MAP 1. Does your Lodge have propositions? You can share the MAP 0 (Introduction to Freemasonry) with them (and the general public) immediately [HERE](#), and all others can request access for MAP 1 [HERE!](#)

Freemasons Victoria September Member Benefits

Get Discounts

for the Good Guys

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MORE INFORMATION](#)

Weber Family Q BBQ LPG

\$599.00

Plus Delivery



Click the banner above to gain access to The Good Guys Commercial offers that have been made available via **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

- **Masonic Mysticism and Symbolism and Memoirs of a Grand Master** – 2.00pm Saturday 23 September 2017 - Ballarat Library. See [HERE](#). To secure your booking click [HERE](#).
- **Bayside Church Service** – 10.00am Sunday 1 October 2017 – Join the Grand Master at this special service to be held at St Peter's Anglican Church, 77 Were Street, Brighton.
- **Guiding Star Lodge 57th Emergency Services Lodge meeting** - 7.00pm Wednesday 4 October 2017 at the Ballarat Masonic Centre, 616 Barkly Street, Ballarat. All Emergency Services members are invited to attend. Uniforms and medals are encouraged. RSVP to VWBro Ron Fleming PGIW [HERE](#) by 29 September.
- **Northern Health and Freemasons Victoria** - On Saturday 7 October 2017 a Fundraising Dinner at Melrose Reception Tullamarine. In partnership with Northern Health, please join Freemasons Victoria at a Fundraising Dinner to support critical community work. See [HERE](#).
- **Motorcyclists United Lodge to the Blessing of the Bikes** event to be held on Saturday 14 October from 9.00am – 3.00pm at San Remo, Phillip Island. Expressions of interest to Engagement Officer for the Motorcyclists United Lodge No 939, David Cash [HERE](#).
- **Grand Mark Festival at Traralgon** - Friday 20 October to Sunday 22 October 2017. Join the United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Victoria for a weekend of fun and festivities. See [HERE](#) for further information.
- **Defence Seminar** - 11.00am Saturday 21 October 2017 - The Auditorium, Shrine of Remembrance. View [HERE](#).
- **Navy Defence Ball** - 7.00pm Saturday 21 October 2017 - Melbourne Town Hall. Further details [HERE](#).
- **Lodge of St. Mark No. 591 Halloween Fundraiser** - 6.00pm Saturday 21 October 2017. Raising funds for Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation. To be held at Grand Star Receptions, 499 Grieve Parade, Altona North. See [HERE](#) for Bookings.
- **Seafarers Church Service** at 10.30am Sunday 22 October at St Paul's Cathedral, Cnr Flinders and Swanston Street, Melbourne.
- **Royal Freemasons 38th Annual Masonic Charity Golf Day** - Monday 23 October 2017 at Huntingdale Gold Club. See [HERE](#) for further information.
- **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) and Preparation for Masters Course** – Saturday 18 November 2017 – Hamilton Masonic Centre. For more information please contact Peter Barrand [HERE](#).

Media Highlights

Media Releases

Morwell Media Briefing

Media Release 21 September 2017

Gippsland Identity to Head Freemasons in Victoria - View [HERE](#)

Media Release 21 September 2017

Freemasons Victoria Release First Annual Report In 127 Years - View [HERE](#)

Ballarat

Media Release 21 September 2017

The Memoirs of a Grand Master - View [HERE](#)

Media Highlights

20 September 2017 **WIN TV Gippsland News**

Grand Master Don Reynolds and Richard Elkington interviewed - **Download** [HERE](#)

21 September 2017 **Latrobe Valley Express** "Masons choose Elkington"

21 September 2017 **ABC Radio Statewide program**

Richard Elkington interviewed - **Download** [HERE](#)

21 September 2017 ABC Radio News Grab - **Download** [HERE](#)

Richard Elkington interviewed

Stawell Masonic Lodge

15 September 2017 **Stawell Times News** "Anger over petty crime"

15 September 2017 **Ararat Advertiser** "Anger over petty crime"

16 September 2017 **Ballarat Courier** "Anger over petty crime in Stawell"

Heathcote Masonic Lodge

20 September 2017 **Mclvor Times, Heathcote** "Rare peek behind the Masonic Lodge's door"

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THROUGH A JOURNEY OF GROWTH**

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