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FREEMASONS VICTORIA NEWSLETTER



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Suicide Prevention Campaign

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Message from MWBro. Don Reynolds Grand Master

Dear Brethren

\$51,000 grant from Victorian Freemasons to Swifts Creek Bush Nursing Centre

It is always great to see Victorian Freemasons contributing to their local community. A successful grant application made by the Star of The East Lodge and supported by Freemasons Foundation, has helped contribute towards the Swifts Creek Bush Nursing Centre. View [HERE](#).



Grand Master's Movements

On Friday last week the Grand Director of Ceremonies and I attended the funeral of RWBro Alan Somerville in Bairnsdale, the father of Trevor Somerville our JGW. A fitting tribute to a man much loved.

It was opportune while in Bairnsdale to present a cheque on behalf of the Freemasons Foundation and Freemasons Victoria.

Last Saturday Mya and I together with the Grand Team travelled to Bright where the Lodge of Unity held an Open Re-Consecration to celebrate their 150th anniversary. A most enjoyable weekend was had by all who took part. On Sunday, along with the WM of the lodge, W.Bro. George Barber, a tree was planted to commemorate the milestone and the future of Freemasonry in the area.

On Tuesday morning I attended at the construction site of Eastbourne (Dallas Brooks Centre) to view the

progress. Whilst it is hard to get excited over a hole in the ground it did demonstrate that Eastbourne and our new home was very much underway. Check out the progress [HERE](#).

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday evening at Box Hill in what was a unique event being a business meeting with no ceremonial. A most enjoyable evening and an event which I am sure will be repeated in the future. Thursday I travelled to Bendigo to install Bro Travis Moore into the Chair at Sir John Quick Lodge and I would like to thank RWBro Bob Layton PDGM in assisting me and the team.

Tomorrow Mya and I will attend Peace and Loyalty Lodge for an Open Investiture where I will install Bro John Millar into the Chair in what I believe will have a large attendance.

Next Tuesday I will meet with the Heads of other Orders (Mark and Chapter) for our regular get together. Given that the report of the Joint Orders Working Party has been delivered to all the governing bodies of the Orders, I imagine this will be top of the agenda for discussion.

The team will then have a well-earned break before our next Open Investiture at Williamstown Lodge on Saturday 1 July where WBro Graeme Oldfield will be installed.

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

Ancient and Accepted Rite for Australia

I congratulate Most Powerful Brother Bill Thompson on having achieved the significant honour of Most Powerful Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for Australia. Bill, who lives in Bairnsdale, is the first Victorian to have ascended to leadership of the A&AR for Australia. It is also noted that V. Illus Bro Garry Mauger, also from Gippsland, has taken over the role of Regional Commander and member of Supreme Council.



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

My Fellow Brethren

Quarterly Communication

Thank you for participating in Wednesday's Quarterly Communication. You can see the presentation from the Chief Executive Officer and I [HERE](#) along with an extract of the address from the CEO.

District and Lodge Planning

Are you attending the Lodge planning forums which can be seen [HERE](#).

Member Ready Lodges

The up-to-date Member Ready Lodge register is [HERE](#). Do you have your Engagement Officer in place?

The Wisdom of our PGMs

We continue our discussion with MWBro Neville Smith [HERE](#).

Message from RWBro. Bruce Cowie Grand Secretary

Brethren

Quarterly Communication

At the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on Wednesday 21 June, I announced the following Brethren had nominated for the position of Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing two years:

RWBro Peter Henshall, PDGM
RWBro Richard Elkington, PJGW, PBGP
VWBro Chris Andrews, PGIWkgs
VWBro Peter Clark, PGDC



Should any member have any concerns about the suitability of any of these nominations, it is their responsibility to communicate with the Grand Secretary within 14 days. All correspondence will be treated in strict confidence.

Quarterly Communication Papers

The Quarterly papers for the Quarterly Communication and also distributed to all the District Coordinators on Tuesday are available for download from the website [HERE](#).



Message from Jane Sydenham-Clarke

Chief Executive Officer

Hello Members

Regional Men's Health Bus Coming To Your Lodge - Book Now!

Have you expressed interest in having the Australian Prostate Cancer Research (APCR) Bus come to visit your rural community?

Thanks to the Freemasons Foundation we will be able to bring a health information APCR bus to regional Victoria from August 2017 to February 2018 to support the messages about health. Expressions of interest from Districts and Lodges who would like to host the bus during its visit to rural Victoria should be sent to [Neil Cripps](#).

Men's Health Week

So much great activity occurred for Men's Health Week. See [HERE](#). Have you read the **Mirvac Men's Health Journal Winter 2017**? See [HERE](#)!

Lodges Taking Action on Suicide Prevention

Members and Lodges are taking action in the Freemasons Victoria Suicide Prevention campaign. Get involved. You can **Start the Conversation** by sharing either: with **Facebook** [HERE](#) or with the **YouTube** video [HERE](#) and using the hashtag **#startingtheconversation**

APCR offering Services for Men's Health

Please see [HERE](#) from our friends at the APCR for details of a Mindfulness Course for Men's Cancer and Pelvic Pain starting 20 July 2017.

Open Nights and Open Installation:

New Member Engagement - Ambassador Program

Thank you for your interest in building a refreshed Ambassadors' Program to enable speakers to engage potential new members at Open Nights and Open Installations. Please see [HERE](#) for how you can access

these speakers for your upcoming open event.

FMV Brand

To ensure consistency in building our brand and meeting strategic and cultural needs of FMV, the use of our corporate logo or brand name in any marketing collateral, for eg. business cards, flyers, email signatures, etc. must comply directly with the guidelines provided [HERE](#). For any variation please refer to Head of Marketing, Christina Chia [HERE](#) as your first point of contact on these matters. Thank you for helping us on our journey towards a fresh and relevant Freemasonry.

Your Lodge Marketing and Opportunities

If you wish our assistance to promote and/or further support your Lodge marketing, events, promotions and the like or if you would like suggestions / ideas to enhance your Lodge marketing or to instigate an event, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Head of Marketing, Christina Chia [HERE](#) to discuss and explore opportunities.

FMV Staffing

It is with sadness that I advise that Roger Schie's employment has concluded at Freemasons Victoria. Please join me in thanking Roger for his good work and contribution over close to five years.

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

- **Opera Gala Night** – On Saturday 24 June 2017, St Marks Lodge will be holding an Opera Gala Night at the Williamstown Town Hall in an effort to raise funds and awareness towards Alzheimer's Australia and the Dementia Research Foundation. The evening will feature five renowned artists who will each be dedicating their talents and time towards this important cause. Artists include Kathryn Radcliffe, soprano; Roger Howell, baritone; Liane Keegan, contralto; James Egglestone, tenor and Bro. David Barnard, piano. See [HERE](#) for details and make your booking NOW!
- **Monash District - Monster Gala Charity Night** - On Saturday 24 June 2017 a Monster Gala Charity Night will be held at the Waverley Golf Club. The evening will include a Banquet and giant auction to raise funds for two local Monash Gully charities - Interchange Outer East Sibling Program and the Waverley Benevolent Society. See further details [HERE](#).
- **Lodge Secretary Conference** – 10am Saturday 1 July 2017 - Box Hill Masonic Centre - All Lodge Secretaries are welcome to attend where sessions for Lodge Strategic Planning, Ritual & Ceremonial and Building Updates, Secretary Tools and more will be shared. Find out more information [HERE](#). To register, please contact WBro [Ben Quick](#) - or on (03) 9411-0111.
- **A Night for the Craft** - On Monday 3 July 2017, Brethren of the Commonwealth Lodge will be holding a social night where those new to Freemasonry are encouraged to attend. Learn more [HERE](#).

Media Highlights

All Nations Masonic Lodge Clunes

15 June 2017 [Golden Plains Miner](#) "24/7 Defibrillator for Clunes Installed"

16 June 2017 [Maryborough Advertiser](#) "New Defibrillator finds home in Clunes CBD"

Bright Lodge of Unity
21 June 2017 [Myrtleford Times](#) "Freemasons 150th"

BUILDING A PERSONAL LEGACY THROUGH A JOURNEY OF GROWTH

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