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FREEMASONS VICTORIA NEWSLETTER



Grand Craft & Royal Arch Chapter | 2018

Grand Installation

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

Message from MWBro. Don Reynolds Grand Master

Dear Brethren

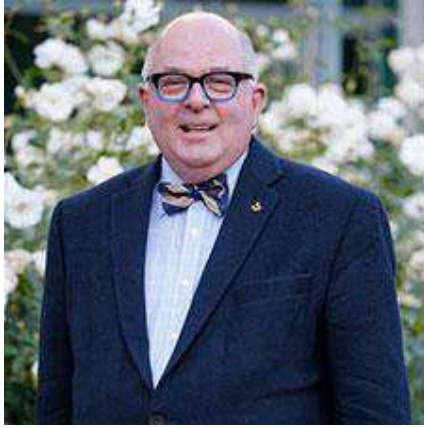
Grand Master's Movements

On Wednesday, Mya and I were in the company of the Leaders of Mark and Chapter, their wives and members of each of the respective ceremonial teams and their partners, at the Combined Teams Dinner at the Savoy in Brighton. It was great to continue this long held tradition and further cement working towards the closeness of all the Orders in our Constitution.



Today, Mya and I are flying to the Hunter Valley, NSW, to be in the company of Most Excellent Companion Robert Peattie and his wife, Janelle, for the re-installation ceremony as First Grand Principal of the United Supreme Grand Chapter of NSW and his proclamation into the other Orders under his jurisdiction. Read on [HERE](#).

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



Message from RWBro. Richard L. Elkington

President of the Board of General Purposes

Dear Brethren

Lodge Self Determination Roadshow

We are well advanced in our Roadshows, hope you have participated or you plan to do so, see the schedule [HERE](#).

Member Ready Lodges

How great to see the growing progress with so many Lodges now member ready. We now have 59 Lodges who are compliant and ready to receive new members and 76 Lodges with appointed Engagement Officers in place. You can see the updated list of all Lodges and status [HERE](#).

Lodge Flyer

Make sure you produce your own promotional flyer for your Lodge! See [HERE](#).

Lodge Plan

I trust you are engaging with the Roadshows and progressing on developing your Lodge Plan for the year ahead – see the template [HERE](#) or you may prefer this template [HERE](#). Please send your completed Lodge Plan to [HERE](#) to enable sharing with others.

Lodge Audits

Recent discussions around Lodges being Member Ready have, among other things, highlighted the Constitutional requirement for Lodge annual financial statements to be audited. Making audit mandatory benefits members and supports good governance across our organisation. The attached guide 'Audit of Lodge Accounts' provides assistance highlighting both the purpose of audit and required audit approach. I encourage all members to recognise the importance of this issue, and to seek any further assistance through the office of the Grand Secretary. See the guide [HERE](#).

Message from RWBro. Bruce Cowie

Grand Secretary

Brethren

Deputy Grand Master Selection Panel

On Wednesday 30 August 2017, the Deputy Grand Master Selection Panel will formally meet to select the next Deputy Grand Master.

The Chair of the panel, RWBro Bill Hayes, PDGM will convene the meeting and in attendance will be the representative of each District. Only the District Representative will have the power to vote on this important matter. In attendance also will be WBro Craig Head, PGSwdB, Vice President of the Board of General Purposes and RWBro Bill Kee, PSGW Grand Registrar. Neither will have a vote.

The Board has also appointed Mr Dana Bentley from our auditors KPMG who will also be in attendance as an independent observer and scrutineer to ensure the correctness of the vote.

Following the meeting, a special Newsletter will be issued that night, announcing the name of the successful candidate.

Quarterly Communication in Morwell on 20 September 2017

The forthcoming September Quarterly Communication will be held in Morwell on Wednesday 20



September commencing at 7.30pm. As previously advised, this will be a busy Quarterly with the launch of the annual report, a presentation by the Grand Treasurer, voting on important Constitutional amendments and an address by the Deputy Grand Master in addition to an address by the Grand Master.

A number of questions have been raised regarding the voting for the Constitutional Amendments. It was decided that to ensure more discussion to break the amendments into four parts that could then be voted on in a logical group:

Vote 1. Standards

Rule 2 – Correction to the name of the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch
Rule 11 - Grand Almoner
Rule 11 and 14 - Grand Chaplain
Rule 115 - Company Secretary
Rule 178 – Brother to Office of Organist or Choirmaster
Rule 391 – Jewel of the Order for Mark and Chapter

Vote 2. Protocol - Five year rule to Mastership

Rule 167 – Five Year rule for qualifying to be a Master.

Vote 3. Protocol – Dress Code

Rule 387 – Attire in Lodge

Vote 4. Membership

Rules 217, 219, 225, 242, 247 – Streamline of the Membership process and introduction of Police Checks.

Each vote would cover all the changes proposed in that section. I have attached [HERE](#) the explanatory document that outlines in some detail the changes and their rationale.

Bookings are essential for the Quarterly Communication [HERE](#) and the Forum [HERE](#).

Grand Installation Partnership Opportunities

As many of you are aware, next year will mark a major milestone in Freemasons Victoria's history with the Grand Installation of our next Grand Master Keith Murray. The Grand Installation and Grand Banquet is the largest event on the Freemasons Victoria annual calendar. As previous years, spanning four days and nights with around 800 guests expected, the event brings together the organisation's most influential decision makers in a trusted environment of ceremony, celebration and collaboration. We invite you to collaborate in a variety of sponsorship opportunities in 2018. Please contact Christina Chia, Head of Marketing [HERE](#) to express interest.



**Message from Bro. Andrew Power
Head of Membership**

Dear Brethren

With our CEO on Annual Leave, I am pleased to bring you news for the next three weeks.

Education Program

We have had a great response from the membership with the new Freemasons Victoria Online Education Portal now featuring MAP 0 (Introduction to Freemasonry) and MAP 1. Proposed candidates (and the general public) can access MAP 0 immediately [HERE](#), and all others can request access for MAP 1 [HERE!](#)

Freemasons Victoria App

After intensive development, I am proud to announce the members-only release of the FMV App. First of its kind in the world, this Mobile Application (for Apple and Android) provides a Smart Lodge Finder, Events system and the latest news, all at your fingertips. Best of all, it is free for FMV members. The App, while in Beta-testing, will be made available to those members who have contacted me [HERE](#), and shortly after to all other members via the Apple App Store and Google Play Store (yes, FMV are official app developers now).

Royal Freemasons Homes Open Day in Sale

A great day was enjoyed for the new Royal Freemasons Homes facilities in Sale on Sunday 20 August 2017 in readiness for the facility opening on Friday 1 September 2017.

Freemasons Victoria August Member Benefits

Discounted Movie Vouchers!

Enjoy movies at a discounted rate. Treat yourself or your family and friends.



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

- **The Lodge of the Golden Fleece Installation** – 3:00pm Saturday 9 September 2017. Don't miss out on FMV's Premiere Dining Lodge as they bring entertainment and excellence to their upcoming Installation to be held at The Athenaeum Club. Bookings numbers are limited so don't miss out - Bookings [HERE](#).
 - **Bellarine Otway District Freemasons & Hope Bereavement Care** are presenting a Charity Lunch for Support After Suicide Geelong - 12.00 noon Tuesday 12 September 2017 at The Dome, Geelong Library and Heritage Centre, 51 Little Malop Street, Geelong. View [HERE](#) for further information. Bookings [HERE](#).
 - **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](#).
 - **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.
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Media Highlights

The King David Lodge Manningham

9 August 2017 [Melbourne Observer page 11](#) "Joel recognised for 40 years service"

Royal Freemasons Homes Open Day at Sale

18 August 2017 [Gippsland Times & Maffra Spectator](#) "New aged care facility officially opens Sunday"

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THROUGH A JOURNEY OF GROWTH**

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