

Make sure you check Freemasons Victoria's new website at [freemasonsvic.net.au](http://freemasonsvic.net.au)  
and **Engage 136**

FREEMASONS VICTORIA NEWSLETTER



Join us for the Grand  
Installation and the  
Grand Banquet on  
Friday 10 March 2017.

Book Now



## Message from MWBro. Don Reynolds Grand Master

Dear Brethren

### Grand Installation

**Book now** to avoid disappointment! My promise to you is a great occasion and showcase of Freemasonry where you will meet your fellow Brethren and their partners. Bring your friends and family and reserve a table now! Mya and I personally invite you to join us at this beautiful venue on this very special day. Stay tuned for details on convenient parking arrangements.

### Grand Secretary

Back in February 2016 we wrote to you advising of our current Grand Secretary's plans for retirement and our plans to recruit an Assistant Grand Secretary who could, subject to satisfactory performance, be endorsed for the position of Grand Secretary. I am now very pleased to advise you further to this process, of the appointment of Bruce Cowie as our incoming Grand Secretary of Freemasons Victoria. Join me in both congratulating Bruce on his successful appointment and in celebrating his investiture at our upcoming Grand Installation on 10 March 2017 in Geelong. Enjoy this opportunity to get to know our incoming **Grand Secretary**.

### State Wide Webinar

Don't forget 15 February at 7.30pm for the State wide Lodge meeting where I am looking forward to discussing the Strategic Plan with all members. See [here](#).

### International Widows' Day

Did you know that 23 June 2017 is International Widows' Day? This would be a good date to plan an event embracing those who have lost their partners in your Lodge!

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

My Esteemed Brethren

#### Strategic Plan

Finally we need you to provide us with feedback on how to 'Strengthen the Organisation to Enable the Change Process' so that we are capable of supporting our efforts to Strengthen and Grow Freemasonry in Victoria. Please refer to page 13 of the [Strategic Plan](#).

#### Join the Forum Prior to the Grand Installation

Register for Friday 10 March at 12 noon for the Strategic Plan Forum with the myself and our CEO at the National Wool Museum at Geelong.

Arrive a little early for the Grand Installation and join us to discuss our plans for the future. Register [here](#).

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### Message from Jane Sydenham-Clarke Chief Executive Officer

#### Ionic Coaching

Expressions of interest are invited from members wishing to participate in the management of the Ionic Coaching Classes at Box Hill Masonic Centre on Saturday mornings. [Ionic](#), managed by volunteer Freemasons, has been enabling student tuition for 66 years. Your help is now needed to ensure continuity of the program, please email [Bruce Jeffrey](#). Thanks to the great work of the Blue Lounge in facilitating engagement from our younger members and congratulations Darren Poinen for stepping forward to offer assistance!

#### Engagement Officers

It is great to see Lodges continue to take ownership of the Strategic Plan and congratulations Goulburn Valley St George Lodge and our latest Engagement Officer, Moose Jokielehto! Has your Lodge appointed your own Engagement Officer? Do let us know!

#### Shining Light

The success of our Lodges rests in a large part on the effectiveness of our Secretaries. Today we celebrate one of our leading light secretaries in the Craft - Ray Sutton from Jonadab Lodge in Maroondah.

In the words of a member: *"The Secretary of Jonadab (W.Bro Ray Sutton) is the most organised and professional Secretary that I have seen during my visits in Freemasonry. He is outstanding in everything he does and is one of the only people that I talk to that "gets it".*



In true style Ray has kindly agreed to make accessible his valuable secretarial resources designed to improve Lodge operations and our member experience. If you would like to liaise with Ray please click [here](#).

### Happy New Year!

Happy Chinese New Year, we welcome the year of the Rooster!



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## Media Highlights

### Freemasons Scholarships

27 January 2017 Portland Observer "[Scholarships on offer](#)"

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## Engage Newsletter

This week's Engage Newsletter 136 contains a number of interesting stories including: the new Dining Lodge for the South East; Freemasons Cycling Club 2017 Ride for headspace; A Shining Light for Tende Beck Scout Group and Student's Masonic Essay in 6th Year. Also included is the Zetland Lodge School Bursary Program at Kyneton, news about the Freemasons Victoria Grand Installation at Geelong and the Monash District Outreach Forum.

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