

On The Palace Square

Volume 3 Issue 25 April 2010

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OUTREACH OPENS DOORS

Old Palace lodge held its Open Evening on February 27th where a staggering 15 non masons attended, eager to find out more about Freemasonry. Every member was challenged to bring one non mason guest.

Well just under four weeks after the event, we have four application forms filled in and ready to be read out at our next meeting. Likewise arrangements are being made for an extraordinary GPC meeting to interview our future Brethren.

The challenge for Old Palace now is to organise our future meetings to accommodate four initiations whilst also carrying on with business as usual. The members of the Lodge see this as "a nice problem to have" and many Past Masters have offered their services to assist in the ceremonies.

We will hold these Open Evenings on an annual basis and have taken learning's from our first, to further improve our event for next year.

So in summary we have a minimum of four new members, a joining member, a great process in place to attract new members and therefore a healthy future for our Lodge.



Editors Comments

The Open Evening was the brainchild of Brendan Glynn led by him and assisted by the younger members of the Lodge as well as the young Derek Barr a member of Old Palace. Well done all

Lodge Objectives 2010-11.

We have all got use to setting our own Objectives in business

We all have a part to play in achieving these. Here are one member's view.

Two new members (I think we are safe on this one)

Retention (Major importance on Almoner and Membership Officers as well to include getting back existing members to attend regularly)

Charity (I think we may struggle on events to support this but we have a great charity steward so need a real "drains up" rethink in this area)

Social events (As above I feel we need a "drains up" on this one)..

Will you play your part?

DETAILS OF OUR NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is on May 12th 2010. We will be honoured with the presence of the Very Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master Michael Yalden. We will be starting at 4.15 pm and we will be installing our new Master. If you are not a member of Old Palace and wish to attend either contact your normal host or give me a call. We would be pleased to see you. Eric's contact details are above

DINING FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The menu will be
Starter

Prawn and Mango cocktail with brown bread and butter.

Main Course

Roast Rib of Beef with Yorkshire Puddings, roast potatoes, fresh broccoli and roast parsnips

Dessert Hot Black Cherries served
With ice cream followed by



Cheese and Biscuits.
Coffee

Dining Arrangements
If you wish to dine you will need to let W Bro Nick Barnes know by Wednesday 5th May and please also let him know by this date how many guests you will be bringing.

Late requests will not be accepted.

Any changes after that date cannot be guaranteed. Alternative meals can be provided as well as any dietary needs.

Dining Cost £23.50

Is it Time for you to Join Holy Royal Arch?

When a Freemason has attained the rank of a Master Mason he is then entitled, after a period of one month, to be exalted into a Royal Arch Chapter in order to complete fully his Master Mason's Degree. He is then in the Royal Arch referred to as a Companion.

Royal Arch Chapters meet independently to Lodges and, in Old Palace, about one in three Masons are also Royal Arch Companions. A Chapter is normally attached to a Lodge.

The regalia is different to a Craft Lodge. It consists of an Apron with red and blue surround, a red and blue sash and a special Jewel which Royal Arch Masons should also wear in their Craft Lodges in order to show the bond that exists between Craft and Royal Arch.

The annual subscription is normally much less than in Craft. For more details contact S Surridge our Royal Arch Chapter representative.

Congratulations

The Secretary known as a scribe of Croydon Millenary Chapter, one of the Chapters we support, been made an OBE in the New Years Honours List. We all send our congratulations to Maurice Heaster,, former Mayor of Wandsworth, who has given 40 years service to local government.

Remember

Before you criticise anyone, walk a mile in their shoes – that way, when you do criticise them you will be a mile away and you will have their shoes!

Did you know?

How the Craft, Mark and Royal Arch fit together?

The Solomonic Legend

974-967 BC Preparation of materials and the start of building of the Temple - **Mark**

968 BC Death of HA-**Raising**

534 BC Recovery of the word - **Royal Arch**

YOUR SUBS ARE NOW DUE

Annual Subscription For The Year 01/04/10 to 31/03/11



TOTAL DUE: £117.00

Your earliest attention to this matter would be appreciated.

Please make cheques payable to 'Old Palace Lodge Number 7173'

and post to: Mr. M. Pool **or** Standing Order: 10 instalment @ £.11.70

Payable to: HSBC Bank PLC
Croydon Central Branch
Old Palace Lodge No: 7173
Account no: 61190644 Sort Code: 40-18-41. If paying by Standing Order last payment is January 2011.

Dining

Please note that 5 masons ended up being requested to pay for meals that they tried

Did you know ?

Keep up to date with what is happening by reading The Pro Grand Masters speeches on the UGLE web site

"You may be aware of the announcement by the Justice Secretary that judges and other members of the judicial system no longer have to declare that they are Freemasons.

There has been much work and effort leading up to this change and of the success that has been achieved in combating discrimination in the Government, Local Authorities and other parts of the public sector.

We are all pleased that at last - what we have always seen to be an injustice – is being remedied and that, hopefully, we will no longer be subjected to this unfair discrimination. However I make no apology for stressing again that this does not mean that there is no need for you to disclose that you are Freemasons. You should continue to use common sense and disclose your membership whenever it is appropriate to do so. In any cases of doubt you should err on the side of disclosure, and we should all show our pride in being a member of our Order" Pro Grand Master

to cancel too late. Requesting payment for these meals causes embarrassment to all because the meals had to be and were paid for by Old Palace.



Now that our system for dining has changed, the onus is now on you to order/cancel before the 7 day period,

The Almoner's Report March 2010

The Almoner reported that he had received cards and letters from all our ladies and they are as well as can be expected.

He had phoned them all that week spoken to them and they all their best wishes to you all.

He also reported that Greg Townsend had been admitted to St Georges Hospital and that he had popped over to see him on the day, but missed him as he was off the ward at the time.

He left a card on "Old Palace's behalf. Peter Ashton has been keeping in touch and things are getting better.

On Thursday 11th February I attended the Surrey Almoner's meeting at Oakfield Road.

It was a long day but I found it very helpful and met some very interesting people.

The Home's Representative's Report March 2009

Things are now moving on with works for the rebuild of James Terry Court which will start in June.

The next big event for James Terry Court is the Grand Summer Fete on Sunday 21st June and is being held in the grounds of the Whitgift School

The James Terry Court Hog roast will take place on Saturday 11th July.

Continued next column.

The Shannon Court Garden Party will take place on Sunday June 27th

The Christmas fair will take place on Sunday 29th November.

Congratulations

Old Palace did very well With one of long established members being promoted as:

W Bro Kurt Barnes

PDepGM(Mauritius)

Our very own Bryan Taylor who has been appointed with an active rank

W Bro Bryan Taylor

ProvGStdB

No doubt you will do your best to get along to the Province of Surrey AGM and cheer him as he gets invested.

On March 15th was appointed and invested in Sussex with an active rank.

Eric Allen ProvGStB

(Sussex)

Well done

Charity Stewards Objectives for 2010-11

Briefly my aims are to try and persuade/cajole/bully all the members to take out a regular Relief Chest payment and increase the numbers and hence the income – I am winning the battle slowly and the numbers are going up, there are still some stubborn ones though. There were 15 current at the end of March, by May this will be up to 19, possibly 22. Also to get more members involved in events and try and get some new ideas – but surely that should be the aims for all of us!



KILLING CANCER CHARITY

Peter Ashton recently presented a £475.00 cheque from Old Palace to Andrea Zealand on behalf of the Killing Cancer charity. Also in the picture is John Switters who has pancreatic cancer and has recently received the new PDT treatment as part of the trials into this new treatment for this form of cancer. As many of you who came along to Elly and Peter's Ladies Night in 2008 will remember, it was John's band that provided the entertainment and John is also Elly's brother.

John was also asked to talk to HRH, the Prince of Wales when he visited UCH in London about his treatment.

Answers to February quiz.

Won by Phillip Powell

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last? 116 years
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats? Ecuador
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut? Sheep and Horses
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? November
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of? Squirrel fur
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal? Dogs
- 7) What was King George VI's first name? Albert
- 8) What colour is a purple finch? Crimson
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from? New Zealand
- 10) What is the colour of the black box in a commercial airplane? Orange (of course)

The Review of our year

TWTYTW

That was the year that was. We always knew it was going to be a different year with Larry being our W M and he did not let us down. For the first year for a number we did not have an initiate and were sorry to see Aaron Hughes leave us, For those who like statistics the average age of our 39 members is 57 years 8 months and the spread of ages is Under 40 5 members, 41-50 10, 51-60 8, 61-70 9, 71-80 4 and over 80 we have 3 members.

We averaged 21.75 members (22) for our meetings and 9.25 (15) visitors

Generally all our Charity events were poorly supported and does not do justice to Peter's endeavours. As a consequence our charity income continues to decline.

Our alms collections were down slightly at **£586.95** before re-claimed tax of **£179.65** against last year at £756.17 before tax and the Raffle income **£975**

against lat year £1325. We received **£1670** by (£1817) way of regular gift aids (£485) plus re-claimed tax of £491 and we had **15**(16) Regular Gift Aids in operation at the year end. Last year's figures are in brackets.

We made a donation (£800) to St Christopher's Hospice from the last years Ladies night (Andy Fox) and from the Relief Chest to St Catherine's Hospice of £1000.00. We also made donations to Surrey4Surrey £200, Killing Cancer £475 and PGM's Emergency Fund Haiti £200.00. This latter sum to be funded by subsequent raffles in March and May.

Details of this years Ladies Night are not to hand.

We now look forward to our new Worshipful Master being Installed.

11 Which ex-Beatle was the first to have a Number One hit after the break-up.

12 By what name were 'Cam and the Passions' better known as ?



Earthquake hits Chile

The President of The Freemasons' Grand Charity, Grahame Elliott, has approved an emergency grant of £20,000 to the Red Cross following a large earthquake in Chile. The earthquake struck at 03.35 hours local time on 27 February 2010, measuring 8.8 on the Richter scale. It is reported to be the worst earthquake to hit the country in 25 years, and has been followed by aftershocks of up to 6.9 magnitude. 802 people are confirmed dead and over 2 million are believed to have been affected.

The Freemasons' Grand Charity to assist with their relief efforts. The Chilean Red Cross is working on the ground in partnership with the country's National Emergency Office (ONEMI), carrying out search and rescue operations, giving medical assistance where necessary as well as providing basic amenities like water, sanitation and shelter.

'I always used to put my right boot on first, and then obviously my right sock'.
Barry Venison

PETER'S QUIZ

The first all correct answer emailed to me will win a small prize at our next meeting.

In the case of any disputes or disagreements my answer is final! (even if it is not correct!)

peterashton@
phoenixelectrical.co.uk

MUSIC QUIZ

1 Which classic song was written at Widnes station

2 In 1974, ABBA won the Eurovision Song Contest with Waterloo, what was the venue that year?

3 What Connects Richard Burton and Justin Heyward?

4 What was the profession of Sting before he became a musician

5 How many times has the United Kingdom won the Eurovision Song Contest

6 In 1970 who sang about Woodstock (went to No.1 in October 1970) (Clue - in a bar)

7 What was Michael Jackson's middle name?

8 What was Glen Miller's intended destination when he disappeared while flying over the North Sea in 1944

9 How many ways did Paul Simon have of leaving his lover

10 Which collaborators wrote the music and lyrics for South Pacific

Continued in next column.