

On The Palace Square

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Il grande padrone dell'Italia sarà in città

This is likely to be a unique occasion and an opportunity to support our Great Great Grand Mother Lodge.

On October 1st Old England Lodge will be holding their Installation Meeting as well as a Twinning Ceremony at Croydon Masonic Hall at 3.30pm. The Provincial Grand Master will be in attendance, along with a number of the Provincial Executive and Stewards. The Grand Master of Italy Dr Fabio Venzie is also attending. Additionally there will be Grand Officers from both England and Italy supporting Old England. Michael Baigeant the editor of Freemasonry Today has accepted his invitation. The back ground to the relationship with Bellator Loggia No42 is; Brother Alfonso Camisotti the Worshipful Master Elect who has been a member of Old England for many years. About six years ago he received information from Italy that a family friend Pasquale Lisi was to be initiated into Bellator Loggia No 42. This Lodge is under the jurisdiction of The Grand Lodge of Italy. Alfonso decided to go, and the members of Bellator invited other brethren of Old England to travel to Frosinone where Bellator meet about 1 hour south of Rome. In all ten members of Old England travelled to Italy to see Pasquale initiated. The reception by the Italian brothers was superb. You can imagine the quality of the food they were given, and the reception we received. Since that date we have had reciprocal yearly visits.



Our Italian brethren have also travelled to Eastbourne to attend our last two Master's Ladies Weekends

Brother Alfonso never progressed towards the chair, until an opportunity came up for Alfonso to go into the Senior Wardens chair. He agreed after much arm twisting. At a committee meeting it was suggested that Old England should consider Twinning with Bellator. The negotiations were assisted by Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Rome. This brings us to the meeting in October when Brother Alfonso will be installed as our Master. They will also conduct a ceremony twinning our Lodges.

The Old England secretary has extended an invitation to Old Palace being their daughter Lodge.

Early booking is essential and the meal will be Smoked Venison and Melon. Lime and Lemon Sorbet. Saddle of English Lamb and accompanying vegetables. Eton Mess. Continental cheeseboard. Coffee and Mints. Cost will be £25 including wine. W Bro Bryan Taylor has agreed to co-ordinate the arrangements but you need to contact him now to avoid disappointment

DETAILS OF OUR NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is on October 14th We will be starting at 5.00 pm and we will be doing a Passing ceremony. 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 & Pasta Gateaux

Main Course

Chicken, Ham & Mushroom Pie, served with new parsley potatoes, baton carrots & and fresh broccoli

Dessert Strawberry

Pannecotta with Vanilla & Staranise

Vegetarian Option Goats cheese and caramelised onion tart



New Arrangements

If you wish to dine you will need to let W Bro Nick Barnes know by Saturday 10th October and please let him know by this date also how many guests you will be bringing.

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

STEWARDS ENQUIRY AT DAYTONA AS IAN GETS BLACK FLAG

This year the Old Palace Flyers



dusted off their helmets, undertook a strict training regime and took part in the Daytona Go-Kart endurance race at Sandown and once again did themselves proud. Our team consisted of

Ian 'Marathon Man' Fernandez
Peter 'Parky' Ashton
Andy 'White Van Man' Barker
Brendan 'Schumacher' Glynn

We qualified in 4th place on the grid thanks to a blistering qualifying lap from Ian who got us off to a fantastic start with some nifty overtaking off the line to get us up to 2nd place by the end of the first lap. Ian had the fastest lap of Old Palace but also had the distinction of being the only driver on the day to be black flagged and sin binned. To receive a lecture for what he still claims was a racing incident during a particularly aggressive overtaking manoeuvre. However the other driver who ended up on the grass and more importantly the stewards did not agree!
Ian rejoined the race, suitably chastised but still full of racing, down in 11th place and managed to get us up to 5th place before handing over to Peter.

Despite a couple of detours around the track to check the flowers and mow the grass Peter managed to get us up to 1st place possibly due to all the Sunday drivers being out during his stint and handed over to Andy.

Andy 'white van man' found the going tough without the benefit of rear view mirrors, cup holder, heated cab and a copy of the Sun newspaper! However he started in 3rd place after the change-over and managed to keep us in that position until he handed over to Brendan.

Much was expected of Brendan after he turned up with his own gloves and helmet, (we think that was because none of the tracks helmets were big enough to fit him!). After the change-over Brendan found himself in 4th place and managed to improve that to 3rd so that we were on for a place on the podium. However he was being hotly pursued by 'The Stigs' who, unfortunately, with just 6 laps to go managed to get past him to relegate us to 4th place which is where we finished.

All in all it was a glorious day and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves in what was an entertaining but very competitive day and we will definitely be entering again next year. If anyone is interested in joining us please contact Peter or Brendan.

Ten charities share in £550,000 for work

A group of ten charities had reason to celebrate in June when they attended a special event where they were presented with grants from The Freemasons' Grand Charity totalling £550,000. The grants were given in commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the installation of His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, KG, as Grand Master of United Grand Lodge of England and Grand President of the central Masonic Charities (The Freemasons' Grand Charity, The Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys, The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and The Masonic Samaritan Fund).
In front of an audience of hundreds of Masons and their guests, The Duke personally presented the cheques to representatives of the charities. All of the organisations supported are charities for which His Royal Highness has a particular concern and meet The Freemasons' Grand Charity's objective of supporting people in need.

Summary of Commemorative Grants

Continued in next column



Pat and Mary presenting a cheque of £1000.00 from Old Palace to St Catherine's Hospice. The Hospice will also publish this in their monthly newsletter. They were absolutely delighted with the donation which will go a long way towards the running of the centre which relies almost entirely on donations - they need £4.2m per year of their own money as the NHS only provide a very small portion of funds - I think it's something like 4%.

We were extremely impressed with the centre. Wonderful facilities and dedicated staff - again many who are volunteers. It's clearly a very well run and an organised charity totally worthy of our donation. Many thanks from both Mary

Continued from previous column

- Save Canterbury Cathedral £100,000
- Combat Stress £50,000
- The Colonel's Fund Grenadier Guards £50,000
- King Edward VII's Hospital Sister Agnes £50,000
- Leukaemia Research £50,000
- Royal Air Force Charitable Trust £50,000
- Restore - Burn and Wound Research £50,000
- Royal Hospital Chelsea Appeal £50,000
- The Colonel's Fund Scots Guards £50,000
- The Stroke Association £50,000 and I.

THE MARATHON MAN IAN LASTS A GOOD, LONG TIME

Well it seems such a long time ago now but I just wanted to let you all know how I got on in my first ever Marathon.

I awoke on the Sunday morning a little nervous and a bit apprehensive of the task that was ahead of me, but having done over 500 miles of training runs I was fairly confident that I was as prepared as I could be. The only thing that would have me doubting myself would be the weather (I don't run well in the heat).

So, you can imagine my delight as I pulled back the curtains to reveal a gloriously bright start to the day with not a cloud in sight and the sun beaming down for all its worth! (Typical, the weather forecast all week had predicted a grey overcast day with possible showers, perfect weather for running)

Having enjoyed my chauffeur driven passage to Blackheath I arrived at the start nice and relaxed with time to read a few of the good luck texts I had received. I then encountered my first real moment of stress about the day. I could not get my GPS timing watch to start! Now this may not sound like much but to a runner this is a key piece of equipment and for me it is my bible for managing my pace and tracking how I am performing against my plan. After frantic attempts to kick-start it into life I was resigned to the fact that it was a lost cause so I thought about plan B (but there was no plan B!). I retrieved my mobile phone and after a fraught call to my trusty training partner I had arranged to get a replacement watch handed to me at mile 7 of the course. I could then use my phone as a makeshift stopwatch until then.

I was now in with the masses at the start, still pushing every conceivable permutation of buttons to get my watch going. (So much for the careful stretching routine I had planned in my mind). Then before I knew it the gun had gone off, the race had started.

As I walked with the throng of the crowd towards the Blue start line it happened, my watch made some rather odd noises and a screen I did not even know existed appeared but it had come on. The running gods were smiling on me after all! .

The only problem now was to get a satellite fix before I made it to the line. The sea of people had now entered into a brisk walk as more and more people had crossed the start line and with 100 mt's to go to the start satellites had been acquired and I was in business. Now all I had to worry about was the next 26.2 miles PHEW!

Then I was off running, taking care not to set off too fast and weaving my way through the masses. I have never been in such a congested race and it was really difficult to get into my normal stride/running pattern but the atmosphere was electric.

Before I knew it I had reached my support crew at mile 7, I grabbed my new drink, some more jelly beans then remembered to lob my phone back to them as I headed off towards Tower Bridge (1 less thing to carry). The sun continued to beat down and I knew that it was going to be a tough day. By mile 10 I was already feeling the effects of the conditions. I now know that not being able to run in a reasonably straight line and having to constantly check your stride has a completely different impact on your muscles!

As I passed the half way marker I checked my progress, to my surprise I was still on schedule for my heat adjusted time goal for the day and I was also looking forward to the next pre-planned meet at 14 miles with my support team knowing their much needed encouragement would give me a boost.

I was now in the rather narrow crowded streets of docklands but despite of this problem I was glad of the respite that the shade of the office blocks afforded me from the un-relentless rays of the sun! Before I knew it I was upon my next planned meeting point with my friends at the 19 mile marker, how glad I was to hear their support and encouragement as I was not to happy about the first twinges of cramp I could feel in my calf' muscles.

I continued on and it was not until mile 20 that I had my first mishap of the run. Just as I passed under the 20 mile banner my left hamstring decided that it needed to be about 3 inches smaller than I required. The instant pain and lack of ability to use this leg meant I pulled up pretty sharply. I attempted to walk it off but found this was not going to be an easy task as I could only manage a rather pathetic hobble. My immediate thoughts were of how this will take then hop it I would! me ages to hop the remaining 6 miles but if that's the way it was going to be My immediate thoughts were of how this will take me ages to hop the remaining 6 miles but if that's the way it was going to be then hop I would!

Luckily for me I was only a few yards away from the trusty St John's ambulance helpers and after I stumbled somewhat painfully into their midst it was not long before a very nice lady was applying some baby oil and gentle massage to the offending area.

However, as difficult as it was to tear myself away from such relief, I still had the little matter of a further 6.2 miles with my name on it, so having expressed my gratitude I gingerly set off again on my way. My pace was now obviously subdued but my determination had grown to compensate and my body held on for another 2 miles before the twinges of cramp I felt in my calf's at 19 miles came back with vengeance! Another pit stop with the St Johns Ladies again and then I was into the last 4.2 miles.

The sun was still doing its best to turn me into a frazzle as I passed a team of supporters from my running club cheering me on at about mile 23. It is hard to describe but you really do get a boost to your spirits and resolve when you hear their support.

I was now past Blackfriars, heading along the Embankment less than 2 miles to go :-). At the 25 mile marker I saw my mum & sister (actually lets be honest, I heard my sister well before I actually saw her!) and again it gave me a huge lift just when I needed it.

The sun was still doing its best to shine I had now turned the corner at Westminster, passed Big Ben and headed down Bird Cage walk. 800 mt's to go. The crowds were cheering as I was summoning on what little energy I had left. 600 mts to go not long now... 400 mts... just as I was about to turn towards Buckingham Palace disaster struck again! Yep, my left hamstring had ordered immediate cessation of all movement and again I came to an abrupt halt. The spectators were amazing they were all telling me I could make it, giving me plenty of encouragement and helping me to stretch it out properly before I tried to start again.

Having stretched it as much as I could I set off again, round the bend pass the fountain, a quick nod of the head to her Majesty as I passed Buckingham Palace and I was in the finishing straight. Instantly my head rose, all the pain seemed to melt away as I focussed on the line, my pace quickened, stride lengthened, as my ultimate goal was getting closer and closer.

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With every last ounce of effort & energy I could muster I ran as fast as I could & threw my arms into the air in triumph as I crossed the line.

It might not have gone according to my plan.

It might not have been the time I was hoping for.

But it had been a truly amazing day and most of all

I HAD DONE IT!



4hrs 47mins 43seconds

And most importantly thanks to all of you together we have raised £1600 for 'Help for Heroes)

Freemasons' Grand Charity to give £2 million to national charities

National charities, across England and Wales, will benefit from generous grants totalling nearly £2 million approved at the Annual General Meeting of The Freemasons' Grand Charity. The grants have been awarded to worthwhile causes in the areas of medical research, youth opportunities and vulnerable people. The sum includes £500,000 for adult and children's hospice services and £192,000 for air ambulance charities which will be distributed during the current year.

AND FINALLY

An accountant is having a hard time sleeping and goes to see his doctor. "Doctor, I just can't get to sleep at night." "Have you tried counting sheep?" "That's the problem - I make a mistake and then spend three hours trying to find it.

FROM THE PGS's DESK

As you will be aware we have a new Provincial Grand Secretary and here are some of his updates.

I have been asked so many times these past few weeks if I am enjoying my new job. There can only be one answer – YES! Much of the enjoyment comes from the contact I have already had with many of my Brother Secretaries – much of it over the telephone or by email, but I do hope that I shall be able to meet you all over the next few months. The settling in process is about over, and I do thank all the Brethren who have been so generous in their good wishes and support.

SECRETARIES' WORKSHOP

The first opportunity I shall have to meet with many of you is at the Secretaries' Workshop which will be at Nutfield Masonic Centre on Tuesday 27th October 2009, starting at 18.00 hrs and followed by an informal buffet dinner. You should all have received an invitation by now.

I really would urge you to come along and bring your Assistant Secretaries (if you have one). The emphasis at this event is on Communication, how we, as a Province, can better develop our methods of information delivery and how we can better provide the support services that the Secretaries of our 300 plus Lodges need. I look forward to seeing you there.

PGM's RECEPTION

Many thanks to all of you who have chased up your respective Masters to attend the Provincial Grand Master's Reception on 10th and 17th September at the House of Lords. We have had a really good response but still have a few places left for these special evenings. So if any of your Masters, or Past Masters who have not previously attended, have not yet accepted, please send them a reminder.

CATHEDRAL SERVICE

Once a year the Province comes together to give thanks for our Order. The annual service this year is on Sunday 18th October at Guildford Cathedral, starting at 3.00pm. This really is one of the most spectacular events in the Province's calendar.

Attended by the Provincial Grand Master and his Executive, it is the only event at which Surrey Masons wear their full regalia in public. It is also attended by civic leaders from across the county as well as family and friends. If you have not been before I would really recommend it. Please encourage your members to go along.

PRESTONIAN LECTURE

United Grand Lodge 2008 Prestonian Lecturer W.Bro Bob Sillett presents a lecture called "The Language of the Ritual" which has been presented to a limited number of Lodges in the Province. This year's Prestonian Lecturer is W.Bro John Wade, and his lecture is about Masonic Processions.

W.Bro Wade, who lives in Sheffield, is in the south in early November, and on the 10th of the month has a free evening where he has offered to present his lecture to a Lodge in this Province. This is the only opportunity for Surrey Masons to hear the lecture during Brother John's year.

The search is on for a Surrey Lodge which would like to host a presentation of this lecture, in aid of charity. A minimum of 60 attending Brethren is required. If your Lodge feels it could organise such an evening, then please get in touch with W.Bro Ian M. Pass PPGStdB, who is Assistant Secretary of Oxshott Lodge 7622, and who is acting as liaison for W.Bro Wade. He can be contacted via email at:

ian@pass.biz

Supporting smaller charities

The latest beneficiaries of The Freemasons' Grand Charity's [minor grants](#) scheme have been announced. In total 14 charities will benefit from the grants of up to £5,000 which focus on smaller charities active in the areas of youth opportunities, vulnerable people and medical research.

