



1521 NEWSVIEW

A MONTHLY JOURNAL OF EVENTS IN
WELLINGTON LODGE
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TWO + TWO = FIVE

COVID-19 created great upheaval in an otherwise serene Masonic environment. At the beginning of the year we planned an emergency meeting to initiate Aidan Anthony Doyle, but it was not to be. We continued to give him first place in our calendar, but the postponements just continued, although we did slip into the schedule the proclamation of the Worshipful Master in July. September seemed to offer brighter prospects, but it was not to be, and Wellington stayed in Level 2 which although it brought a resumption of meetings by GLNZ Lodges, was not part of the EC strategy. So, our regular third Wednesday also slipped into the delete folder. We had four candidates waiting to join but with all the Lodges in catch-up mode, finding gaps in the calendar at the Wellesley proved challenging. Finally, we managed to secure Friday 25 September and Monday 28 September with a rehearsal on Wednesday 23 September. W Br Rolfe Everson had undertaken to give the Worshipful Master a break and took the Chair for two Double Initiations! The Junior Deacon was visibly shaken by the prospect. More on that, later! The first ceremony on 25 September placed an extra burden on the timekeeping of brethren as metered parking extend until 8.00pm on Fridays, but there were no requests to withdraw during the ceremony! Monday the 28th brought its own challenges, with brethren being called back to work and the prospect of very severe weather developing, did impact on the list of apologies. Even W Br Dieckermann felt that winds of 140km/hr accompanied by snow on the Rimutuka Hill Road, was reason enough not to venture out of the Wairarapa! Two meetings in four days is slightly uncommon even in Wellington Lodge but it did enable us to bring in the four candidates who had been waiting

patiently for the opportunity to join us. So, what do we know of our new brethren?

AIDAN DOYLE

Gained a scholarship in English at Trident High School and from the local Masonic Lodge in Whakatane in 2012 and thereafter studied Political Science and Psychology at Massey University graduating Bachelor of Arts in 2016. He then went on to Victoria University in Wellington and graduated Bachelor of Arts with First Class Honours in Political Science in 2017. After two short periods working at Parliament, he spent a year with New Zealand Customs Service then a short period in the office of the Minister of Internal Affairs. During 2018 and 2019 he worked as a Media Manager and Research and Communications Advisor at Parliament but at the beginning of this year joined the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade as a Public Affairs Manager.

GREGORY MAIN

Greg has been involved in investing and financial markets for over 25 years in New Zealand and the UK. Most of this time was spent as a sell side analyst, reviewing and writing about companies for investors. Prior to this Greg was fund manager with BNZ and more recently he has returned to helping people grow and protect their wealth by moving from being an analyst to being a wealth adviser with Jardens. Greg has a Bachelor of Commercial Administration Degree (Hons) from Victoria University of Wellington). He is a CFA® Charter holder, a

FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2020

Chartered Accountant and an Authorised Financial Adviser. He is a past Chair of Silverstream School Board of Trustees and a former coach for Upper Hutt City Football. When he's not busy with his four children's sporting activities, he enjoys golf, skiing, keeping fit, reading, walking his dog and spending time with his wife and children.

BENJAMIN DOBBIE

Comes from the deep south – Invercargill and after attending James Hargest High School attended the University of Otago where he graduated Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Information Science in 2018. He undertook post-graduate study in information technology and geographic information systems the following year, working as an Application Developer in Dunedin before moving to Wellington to join the New Zealand Defence Force as an Audit Intelligence Analyst. He is a member of the New Zealand Army Reserve. A keen sportsman, who also enjoys travel, art and live concerts.

DANIEL WASS

Daniel comes from Stanmore Bay Beach (not literally) in Auckland – born and bred, but at the age of eighteen joined the New Zealand Army, specifically as a soldier in 2/1 Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry, based at Burnham in Canterbury. His overseas deployments included the Solomon Islands and Afghanistan. Two weeks after leaving the military he joined a Carnival Lines New Year's cruise from Brisbane and finished up working for them for four and a half years travelling around the Asia Pacific region. In 2010 Daniel moved back to Auckland to study Information Technology followed by his first employment in that industry. In March 2018 he moved to Wellington as a Senior Systems Engineer. He is married to Nisha who comes from North India. Daniel has travelled extensively in India, a country of which he is very fond. In his spare-time he enjoys building gaming PCs, hiking and, of course, Freemasonry in general and Wellington Lodge in particular.

On Friday 25th September 2020, twenty-five of our brethren assembled to welcome Aidan Doyle and Greg Main into the Lodge. It was the first of the double initiation ceremonies that engaged the skills of both the Junior and Senior Deacons. W Br Rolfe Everson had been coerced into taking the chair which he of course did with great pleasure and elan. For Br Cameron Macfarlane is was a serious task to manage two candidates at once but he did so with considerable ability. An earlier suggestion that we have a triple ceremony did not find favour with Br Macfarlane, but the double was well within his skill set and the ceremony went smoothly. The Senior Deacon, as it happens was W Br John Rapanut who having given up the chair for the evening was well and truly involved in the ceremony. The Worshipful Master was not the only stand-in officer. W Br Satish Chandra was Junior Warden, and W Br Tony Cross acted as Director of Ceremonies. The charges were given by the following brethren:

Greater Lights	W Br A S Cross
Lesser Lights	Br S Bolivar
Signs	W Br G N Paver
Observation	Br D R W Pavis-Hall
Charity	W Br R R Everson
Working Tools	W Br S Chandra
Final Charge	Br S Williamson

Both Brs Williamson and Pavis-Hall delivered some fine ritual, and the brethren appreciated the effort that had obviously gone into the preparation. The usual presentations were made to the candidates who went off home with their party bags full of goodies! Refectory was held in the Club Lounge on the third floor of the Wellesley, the Grand Dining Room having been captured for a function for Empire Fergusson Lodge. After the formal toasts, the Worshipful Master proposed the toast to our Sister Lodge Aorangi and W Br Steven Elliott replied, taking time to congratulate and welcome the candidates. Br Daire Queenan proposed the toast to Br Aidan Doyle welcoming him after such a long wait. W Br Steve Haultain followed with the toast to Greg Main in which he predicted that he would have

many questions and would receive many answers as his Masonic career progressed. He assured him that his journey would be as enjoyable as it had for many so members, present and past. Both Aidan and Greg gave appropriate responses to the toasts, noting that they had enjoyed the ceremonial and looked forward to their time in the Lodge. As always, the last word was left to the Tyler Br Jonathan Shepherd. As an aside to that, we were delighted to receive from W Br Crump a small tin of No 1 Top Mill Snuff to go with the Snuff Horn that is always greatly admired on the dining table, but it is as likely to be sampled as the vintage tin of cigarettes from a time when it was not out of the ordinary for gentlemen smoke after dinner!

MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2020

All the complacent Masons thought that Round 2 would be a breeze, but that was what put a bit of a spanner in the works with wind and rain and snow (or the threat thereof) not to mention the car accident (which hurt the pride of the owner as well as the vehicle) necessitating some last minute changes to the team. W Br Hume stood in as Director of Ceremonies and Br Queenan as Senior Deacon, both delivering the polished performances you would expect. W Br McKillop gave the observations after investiture and W Br Crump presented the Charter, Book of Constitutions and By-laws. Brs Williamson and Macfarlane were just as good, if not better, than they were on Friday. In refectory, which was back in the Grand Dining Room we had a banquet layout with black tablecloths which set off the silverware very nicely. Happily, back in Alert Level 1 there were no masks and no rubber gloves for the stewards. The toasts to the candidates were in the hands of W Br Steve Haultain and again he reminded that the ceremonial of the evening was much the same as it had been for the past three hundred years. So, they joined the ranks of many famous and distinguished men who had been members of the Craft. You will see from the photographs which follow, (taken by Br Cameron Macfarlane), that five Entered Apprentices in a row looks impressive and bodes well for the future of the Lodge. The candidates replied very suitably and expressed their thanks to the brethren who had clearly put so much work into their welcome.

COVID-19

We should acknowledge that the collective efforts of the team of five million appears to have, meantime, removed the Corona virus from the community and at the time of preparing the papers for our October meeting, Auckland will return to Alert Level One. However, we are well aware that this “tricky little virus” may well return, and we should note and apply the advice given by the Ministry of Health which is:

If you feel unwell, stay at home and follow the rules regarding contacting your GP or Healthline and if you have the symptoms that suggest you may have the virus, **GET A TEST**

Use the app that keeps track of where you have been or if you do not use a smart phone, keep a record of where you have been and when.

Wash your hands.

DIARY

WBH=Wellesley Boutique Hotel, JMC=Johnsonville Masonic Centre

Monday 12 October 2020 at 5,30pm

Wellington Lodge rehearsal WBH

Wednesday 14 October 2020 at 6.00pm

Aorangi Lodge Second Degree Br Hamish Murphy

Monday 19 October 2020 at 5.30pm

Wellington Lodge Rehearsal WBH

Wednesday 21 October 2020

Two hundred and fifteenth anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar

Wednesday 21 October 2020 at 5.15pm

Wellington Lodge Committee Meeting WBH

Wednesday 21 October 2020 at 6.30pm

Wellington Lodge Third Degree, Br Lloyd Perez

Monday 26 October 2020 Labour Day Holiday

Tuesday 3 November 2020 at 6.30pm

Aorangi Royal Arch Chapter Installation Convocation, JMC

Monday 9 November 2020 at 5,30pm

Wellington Lodge Rehearsal WBH

Saturday 14 November 2020 at 2.00pm

Aorangi Lodge Installation (Proclamation) Meeting JMC

Monday 16 November 2020 at 5.30pm

Wellington Lodge rehearsal WBH

Wednesday 18 November 2020 at 5.15pm

Wellington Lodge Committee meeting WBH

Wednesday 18 November 2020 at 6.30pm

Wellington Lodge Second Degree Br Kyle Sia

Friday 20 to Sunday 22 November 2020

Installation of W Br W E Weir as District

Grand Master

OTHER ORDERS IN FREEMASONRY

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAD AND WALES AND ITS DISTRICTS AND LODGES OVERSEAS

Stonemasonry is about the building of complex structures. It has been an important feature of almost every civilisation including those in Egypt, the Bible Lands, Mesopotamia, Central and South America; the Mediterranean empires of Greece and Rome as well as the more recent. European dynasties. Masonry was not however just the preparation and placing of stone blocks but was equally about the architectural and engineering expertise that facilitated the building of these most elaborate and technically demanding structures. From the perspective of speculative masonry, building became an allegorical vehicle for the teaching of a "peculiar system of morality" which in modern parlance might be referred to as life skills. English Craft Masonry has specifically used the building of the first temple at Jerusalem as the basis upon which the peculiar system of morality is taught. The Royal Arch uses the building of the second temple at Jerusalem to further develop the moral teachings of Masonry. Because of that, the ritual is very closely linked to the Old Testament record of the period dating from about 1000BC. There are references in the ritual to the chronology of the underlying history of the Old Testament. Bishop James Ussher (1581-1656), who graduated from Trinity College in Dublin and became Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, wrote three treatises between 1648 and 1650 in which he calculated from the Old Testament that the day of creation was 22 October 4004BC. He was not the only one to have arrived at roughly the same conclusion nor did he rely solely on scripture for his calculation. Persian, Greek and Roman history together with his expertise in the Bible, biblical

languages, astronomy and ancient calendars, all contributed to his chronology of what was known history in 1650. Since it was also calculated that the first temple was built about 1000BC it followed that Hiram Abif died 3000 years after the creation of the world (assuming that had puzzled you at the time!). From the Masonic perspective, Bishop Ussher's calculation is the basis of the Year of Light or Anno Lucius. To put that in perspective the following are the key dates in the Masonic calendar. They are extracted from a timeline included in David Mitchell's book "The Mark Degree"

964BC King Solomon started the construction of the first temple at Jerusalem

956BC The approximate time of the death of Hiram Abif.

957BC King Solomon completed the first temple at Jerusalem

587BC The destruction of the first temple by Nebuzzaradan under Nebuchadnezzar and the deportation of as many as 1,000,000 Jews to Babylon

539BC Release of Jews by Cyrus, King of Persia with only about 50,000 returning to rebuild the temple under the leadership of Zerubbabel.

169BC The destruction of the second temple by Antiochus Epiphanes the brother of the King of Syria

20AD King Herod (the Great) undertakes the reconstruction & refurbishment of the second temple usually referred to as the third temple.

70AD The destruction of the third temple by the Romans under Titus

800AD The beginning of a seven-year period during which Free and Operative Societies of Architects, known as Freemasons emanating from the Collegia Artificium came into existence as Freemasons in England, Steinmetzen in Germany and Compagnonnage in France. These societies were secret and operative and engaged in building ecclesiastical and other buildings. They are perhaps the origin of modern Freemasonry

1717AD Formation of the Grand Lodge known subsequently as the "Moderns".

1723AD First Book of Constitutions published by Dr Anderson

1751AD Formation of the Grand Lodge of All England known subsequently as the

Antients claiming their origins dating back to 926AD.

1813AD Formation of the United Grand Lodge of England which excluded the degree of Mark Man and Mark Master.

1856AD Formation of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons.

THE ORIGINS OF MARK MASONRY

As you might expect, nobody is exactly sure when speculative Mark Masonry was first practiced. It was certainly in existence in the eighteenth century and Bernard Jones points out that it existed in Fellow Craft Lodges before there are any minuted records of it being practiced. Mackie notes that Masonic tradition has it that Mark Men were the Wardens and the Mark Master the Master of Fellowcraft Lodges at the building of the (first) temple. They distributed the marks to the workmen and undertook the first inspection of the work before it went to the Overseers. The degree of Mark Man is not worked separately in English or American Freemasonry, but it is incorporated into the Mark Degree in Mark Lodges meeting under the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand. In English Freemasonry it is part of the Mark Degree and is associated with the degree of a Fellowcraft. Notwithstanding the evolution of English Freemasonry which accommodates the Mark Man and Mark Master in various ways, as a separate degree, it was first worked in Bon Accord Lodge of Mark Master Masons in London in 1851 and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was formed in 1856. In English Mark ritual, the candidate after demonstrating that he is qualified in all three Craft Degrees, is awarded his Mark and designated a Mark Man, without obligation, before being examined and presented by the Senior Warden. Thereafter the ceremony is entirely about the candidate becoming a Mark Master Mason. Further elaboration would spoil the ceremony, but it is quite lengthy, animated, solemn, disappointing, surprising, and rewarding. It has its lighter moments, but they should not detract from the beauty or significance of the ritual.

MORE HARD EVIDENCE

The Mark degree however had been practiced in various ways before 1851 and there is some

hard evidence to support that. The Schaw Statutes of 1598 records that no Master or Fellow Craft shall be received or admitted unless the date, his name and his mark are recorded in the Lodge book. The key point is the registration of his mark. Similarly, the Lodge of Aitchison's Haven as well as others in Edinburgh and Aberdeen recorded not only the marks of operative masons, but of gentlemen masons. In 1600 the Laird of Auchinleck confirmed the minutes of a meeting with just his mark! Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 in Port Glasgow unambiguously noted in its minutes in 1758 that fees would be received for admission as a Mark Master. In 1769 Thomas Dunckerley noted the making of Mark Masons and Mark Masters in a Royal Arch meeting in the George Tavern in Portsmouth. Here was evidence of two degrees in Mark Masonry and while that continues in some constitutions, they are more or less combined in English Mark Masonry. Thereafter, there are records of the Mark degree being worked in both craft Lodges and Royal Arch chapters to the extent that by 1813, it was well established. Despite that fact, it was excluded from the articles of union in 1813 which admitted just three degrees and the Royal Arch, it never-the-less continued to be worked and in 1856 a joint committee from the Craft and Arch successfully recommended it as an extension of the Fellowcraft degree, only to have that overturned by the Grand Lodge later that same year. In July 1856, the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was formed with four participating Lodges. By about 1858 there were fifty Mark Lodges in existence, operating independently or under another governing body.

The Degree is separately administered under the Grand Master, HRH Prince Michael of Kent by The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas. The District Grand Lodge of New Zealand is headed by a District Grand Master who leads ten Mark Lodges located between Whangarei and Christchurch. In October 2020, RW Br Farouk Ali Khan will be installed as District Grand Master, succeeding RW Br Jeremy Eggleton.

References: The Mark Degree by David Mitchell, The Freemason's Guide and Compendium by Bernard Jones and The Encyclopedia of Freemasonry by Albert Mackie.

Want to know more? – **JOIN!**



Br Aidan Doyle, W Br Rolfe Everson and Br Greg Main



Br Daniel Wass, W Br Rolfe Everson and Br Ben Dobbie



Br Greg Main, Br Daniel Wass, W Br Rolfe Everson, Br Ben Dobbie, Br Aidan Doyle and Br Kyle Sia
Photos: Br Cameron Macfarlane

Spot the deliberate mistake? Answer in the next issue!

INSTALLATION OF FAROUK ALI KHAN



On Saturday 10 October 2020, a large number of Freemasons assembled in Auckland for the installation of W Br Farouk Ali Khan as District Grand Master of the District of New Zealand under the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and

Lodges Overseas. They were from the 10 Lodges of Mark Master Masons and the 7 Royal Ark Mariner Lodges in the District. Almost every order in Freemasonry was represented; in many cases by the head of the order, which in addition to the great honour, provided great colour from the regalia of the various orders. Farouk Khan comes from the United Kingdom where he served in the Royal Air Force, reaching the rank of Squadron

Leader. He is a graduate in engineering from both Surrey and Loughborough Universities specialising in aeronautical engineering. RW Br Khan has been a prominent member of a number of Masonic orders. He has recently completed a term as Deputy District Grand Master in the District Grand Lodge of North Island New Zealand, of which Wellington Lodges is a part. The ceremony was held in the Lodge Room of the Ara Lodge No 348 Irish Constitution in central Auckland. It is a quite magnificent lodge room with a large dining room on the lower floor. After the impressive installation ceremony, the brethren retired to the dining room for an hour of catch-up and problem solving (for which Freemasons are noted) before sitting down to a superb buffet dinner to celebrate this important event. RW Br Khan is supported by W Br Tony Mansfield as Deputy District Grand Master and W Br Julian (Taz) Webster as Assistant District Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge of New Zealand.