

R. A. O. B. GRAND COUNCIL  
**NEWSROUND**

Christmas Issue No. 57, December 2010



## **The Grand President's Christmas Message**

During my six months in Office I have visited many Provinces, sometimes for Raisings and Presentations and various Minor Lodges.

Having attended Raisings I want to thank the Executive Officers and Grand Chapter Officers for their support, recently at Redditch it was a privilege to witness the array of Officers from both, besides the complement of Past Grand Presidents, not forgetting the many visiting Lodges. It was a pleasure!

While attending Minor Lodges I am pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm, where they may be short in numbers they are still making an effort to progress our ideals, this is very encouraging. I think we can further our cause if we combine these efforts through our Buffaloism and fellowship.

My Christmas message to all the members and their families, Carol and I send our best wishes, may you have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

*Brother R. R. Routledge R.O.K., Grand President.*

# Worcester Province

It was the start of the Winter Proper... Folk in Northumberland and the wastelands of the North were already snowed up and iced over and the roads were becoming impassable in places. Rumour had it that it was moving down the country. Would Brother Des Adams' fan base make it to Redditch or await rescue in some frozen lay-by?

Well they made it, by and large. Some came on the Friday and met to scout out the Astwood Bank Club, indulging in the odd half as one would expect. Overnight there was a light powdering of snow and a bit of ice - nothing drastic. The poor overworked Executive met on the Saturday afternoon and on Saturday evening the stage was set for the Exaltation of Bro. Des to the Roll of Honour. The herd poured in from all points of the compass, from Lancashire and Lincolnshire to the North and from Kent and Devon in the South and with many more places in between.

All progressed more or less as planned as the ceremony unfolded. There was observed to be The Grand President and nine of his Executive in attendance, plus ten Officers of Grand Knights Chapter; one could count eight Past Grand Presidents, collectively quivering under the stern eye of their Enforcer, No 91 and it was pleasing to note the presence of Bro. Tony Allen R.O.H., G.L.E. Chamberlain 1996.

One might have reasonably expected an Installing Officer performing his first Ceremony to be a little overwhelmed by all this, but Brother Pete Smith R.O.H. took it in his stride and performed a most competent Ceremony, ably assisted by his Knight Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Roger Simons R.O.H. After his Sponsors had delivered glowing reports it could be noted that Bro. Des visibly relaxed.....

Before the Lodge was closed custody was transferred to the Grand President, who somewhat mysteriously asked that Grand President 2007. Bro. C.P. Harris R.O.H. and myself be brought forward. It appeared that Bro. Chris had recently returned from a trip to New Zealand and had been requested by their Grand Council to present me with a Secretary's Jewel on their behalf. I was, to say the least, overwhelmed!

The Lodge then closed with a link of 58 Brethren, a magnificent turnout in the prevailing conditions, and then we all repaired downstairs to where a very welcome buffet awaited us. There was, of course, a raffle. From whence your Editor came home cuddling a large Christmas pud to his manly bosom.

All in all, a splendid and enjoyable weekend. Many congratulations to Bro. Des and the Worcester Province!

*Bro. Geoff.*



*After the ceremony, left to right - Bro. Tony Allen R.O.H. (G.L.E.), Bro. R.R. Routledge R.O.H., Grand President, Bro. Roger Simons R.O.H., Kt Director of Ceremonies, newly exalted Bro. Des Adams R.O.H., and Bro. Peter Smith R.O.H., Installing Officer.*



*Left to right, Bro. Chris Harris R.O.H., Grand President 2007, the General Secretary, Bro. Geoff Gurden R.O.H. and the Grand President, Bro. R.R. Routledge R.O.H.*

Dear Bro Geoff,

On Saturday, 27th November 2010, Redditch, Worcestershire, I was given the privilege of being raised to the Roll of Honour by the Alvechurch Lodge No 622. Although the weather was somewhat inclement with snow and severe cold 58 of the most respected and decorated Brothers paid me the greatest compliment by assisting and witnessing in my Raising. I would like to thank all those who attended from as far away as Skegness, Brighton, Bristol, Devon and many other areas and sincerely hope and trust that each and everyone had a safe and untroubled journey home.

Thank you

Bro Des Adams. ROH  
KC Worcester and District Knights Chapter No 63  
Grand Lodge Secretary

# More Traveller's Tales from our Ambassador to the Antipodes

Fraternal greetings from New Zealand.

I have just returned from New Zealand and have been requested to give all members of the Order both Grand Council and Grand Lodge of England in the U.K. fraternal greetings from the distant but loyal island of New Zealand.

On my last visit to N.Z. I was escorted around the island by Bro John Grey his wife Marion and six loyal members of the Order. All took time out of their lives to support me.

One brother on that trip was Bro Lindsey Proffitt who was at that time Grand Trustee. I was so impressed by this Bro that I promised him when he achieved the position of Grand President I would try and be there to witness the moment.

In May of this year I was notified that Bro Lindsey had a good chance of becoming Grand President at conference this year. In N.Z. things are a little different than here in the U.K. regarding elections for offices. At last years conference names were taken for the top two positions. Provinces are then asked to vote with their names. Then at the following conference the votes are notified and then the executive themselves vote, both votes are then added to together to get the final result. The successful brothers are then installed.

After speaking to my buffess Janet that Lindsey may make Grand President this year, her answer was why are we not going. Within 12 hours flights were booked, accommodation booked and holidays arranged (in that order).

On Tuesday October 5th armed with a letter from Bro Ray Routledge Grand President here in the U.K. and some 75 charity badges and cuff links we departed from Heathrow for another hop across to the other side of the world. ( we must be mad another 30 hour flight but it would be worth it )

We were met at Auckland airport in New Zealand at 1am by Bro John Grey and his wife Marion We were taken to Marions sisters home Anne to have a good sleep. Thanks to Anne and Colin for their hospitality again.

Conference was to be held some 100km away in two days time.

After being wine dined and transported to Warksworth for conference it is business time.

Prior to conference starting the past Grand Primo 2007 Bro Neville Westlake R.O.H. held a welcome evening at the local hostelry. This good brother who also accommodated eight brothers at his home, to save

on accommodation expences for council for the period of conference. Bro Neville has been a staunch supporter of Grand Council for many years. So much so that a presentation was made to him of RAOB cuff links and tie pin. Part of the Grand Presidents Charity item here in the U.K

I was very warmly welcomed into conference by Bro A Stewart R.O.H. Grand President and all Officers and Visitors.

Conference here is very similar to the U.K. but still very enjoyable.

The charity badges which here in N.Z. are unique were very well received and will be worn with pride for many years. The cuff links were not sold but will be retained by the council for any special occasions, they will then be presented to suitable very lucky brothers in the future.

Warning -- Conference Registration = 20NZD (approx £10.00)

At Grand Council conferences in NZ the GLE have two observers monitoring the conference.

For the first time ever the Grand Lodge of England conference in NZ was opened by the Grand President of GC NZ sub Council Bro A Stewart R.O.H. What an honour.

In New Zealand both banners are very close.

The conference lasts two days – Saturday and Sunday.

After conference I started my holiday

I was again escorted around the island by Bro John Grey and his good Buffess Marion . Accomodation had been arranged with both his sons families David and Chris Grey and we thank them both from the bottom of our hearts.

Whilst on our holiday we visited two Grand Lodge of England Lodges. The first was in Rotarua this was the Grand Primo of NZ own lodge. As usual together with the new Grand President Bro L Proffitt , The General Secretary Bro J.Grey and numerous Executive members ,alongside senior brothers of the GLE supporting the Grand Primo Bro M Wotton. We were all very received and had a fantastic time. The second Lodge visit was in Tokoroa .This was also a GLE lodge, again supported by the Grand President and the Grand Primo and around eight other high ranking brothers of both banners we were welcomed into this fundamentally Maori lodge. The evening consisted of honouring two brothers with their 50 year Long Service Jewels . The respect the members of Lodge treated their visitors was absolutely fantastic. After the business was concluded ,the families were allowed in together with three full tables of traditional maori grazing. What a night, what a privilege for everyone. It was also my birthday and was regally honoured in true humbling style. A night I will never forget for as long as I live.

This trip again could not have been without the support and help of my Buffess Janet - Once again Thank You.

Janet would also like to say “Thanks to everyone in New Zealand for another very memorable and fantastic time “

Everthing that has happened in this second visit strengthens our belief what a fantastic Order we have here in New Zealand.

The people whatever race or creed are very sincere and genuine.

Janet and I cannot believe how lucky we are , being able to visit a place like New Zealand to meet some fantastic people all in the name of R.A.O.B

To finish I would like to mention and thank for all their help the following exceptional people

Bro John and Marion Grey

Bro Chris Grey and his wife Kerry

Bro David Grey and his wife Wendy

Bro Malcomm Wotton and his wife Shirley

Bro Lindsay Proffitt Grand President - without him this trip would not have been made

Thank you all

Bro.Chris Harris (Grand President 2007) and Janet



*Carnival at Warksworth during conference*



*Distinguished guests waiting for entry to Tokoroa Lodge*



*Grand Primo 2007 Neville Westlake ROH and his wife Katherine*



*Grand Primo Malcomm Wotton ROH and his wife Shirley with Bro. Chris and Janet.*



*Birthday presents presented at Tokoroa Lodge*



*Grand President 2010 Bro Lindsay Proffitt KOM with the Grand Primo 2010 Bro Malcolm Wotton ROH*

## Obituary

**Bro. Jim Marshall K.O.M.  
Wolds Province**

Bro. Jim Marshall, who passed away on Tuesday 30th November 2010 at the age of 45, was initiated in the Pride of Caistor Lodge 839 on 24th June 1990 and was always a great worker for the Lodge and Order. He flatly refused to consider moving to any higher Degree until he had mastered the First, but was finally persuaded by Bro. Tony Taylor (who was to become his father-in-law) to take his Primo Exam. He did, and passed with flying colours and was raised to the Second Degree on 18th March, 2000. He became one of the most industrious members and

held every office over quite a long period - even that of City Secretary - which no-one wanted to take on. He was Grand Lodge Delegate in no time at all, and by the time the Pride of Caistor had moved to Binbrook and become the Pride of the Wolds Lodge he had occupied most of the Grand Lodge Offices, including that of Grand Primo. He had married Nicky and seen Bro. Tony Taylor rise to K.O.M. and was most worried over addressing him as Brother or "Dad"!

Brother Jim travelled with us all over the country to Raisings and to Charity Nights - even doing two visits to our Brothers in Spain at great expense to himself at the time, so one can see just how much he will be missed and by how many. We, in return, will do all in our power to support those he leaves behind. A Broken Link yes, but never forgotten !

*Bro. Gordon Oxby R.O.H.*

Primo Lodge Secretary, Wolds Province



## Forthcoming Raisings

2nd April 2011

**Brighton Province**

The Elevation to Knight Order of Merit of Brothers George Javes C.P. and R.(David) Odey C.P. by The Good Companions Lodge 2097 and Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge 1909 respectively.

7th May 2011

**Sub Council of Spain**

The Elevation to Knight Order of Merit of Brothers J.Joyner C.P., W.Clynes C.P. and D.Tonge C.P.

23rd July 2011

**Cambridgeshire Province**

The Elevation to Knight Order of Merit of Brother Frank Knight C.P. by the Alec Brook Lodge No. 2154

**All missing details of times and venues to follow for all entries.**

# Luton Province



Brother Mick Burgoyne ROH and Mr Paul Buckley with one of the Christmas parcels

## SANTA IS ALIVE AND WELL IN LUTON

THE OFFICERS AND BROTHERS OF THE MOOR AND WYVERN LODGES WOULD LIKE TO SAY A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO MR PAUL BUCKLEY AND BOOKER CASH AND CARRY IN LUTON FOR THE VERY GENEROUS DONATION OF ENOUGH GROCERIES TO ENABLE 24 SENIOR CITIZENS TO HAVE A LITTLE CHRISTMAS CHEER THIS YEAR.

THE 2 LODGES NORMALLY PURCHASE 19 PARCELS BUT WITH THE FACT THAT A CASH AND CARRY ONLY DEAL IN BULK 5 EXTRA PARCELS WERE HANDED OUT ALL OF THIS AT NO COST TO THE LODGES.



HERE'S WISHING ALL OUR READERS  
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS !

# To make a Christmas Cake!

## Ingredients

2 cups flour  
1 stick butter  
1 cup water  
1 tsp baking soda  
1 cup sugar  
1 tsp salt  
1 cup brown sugar  
lemon juice  
4 large eggs  
nuts  
2 bottles wine  
2 cups dried fruit

Sample the wine to check quality. Take a large bowl, check the wine again. To be sure it is of the highest quality, pour one level cup and drink. Repeat. Turn on the electric mixer. Beat one cup of sugar in a large fluffy bowl. Add one teaspoon of sugar. Beat again. At this point it's best to make sure that the wine is still OK. Try another cup...Just in case. Turn off the mixer thingy. Break 2 eggs and add to bowl and chuck in a cup of dried fruit.

Pick the sticky fruit off the floor. Mix on the turner... If the dried fruit gets stuck in the beaters just pry loose with a screwdriver. Sample the wine to check for consistency. Next, sift 2 cups of salt. Or something. Check the wine. Now sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table. Add a spoon of sugar, or some fink. Whatever you can find. Grease the oven. Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and try not to fall over. Don't forget to beat off the turner. Finally, throw the bowl through the window. Finish the wine and wipe the counter with the cat. Go shopping and buy a cake.

## Bingle Jells!

## Important -

To submit articles and photographs for inclusion in an issue of Newsround please e-mail to [gensecraobgcuk@aol.com](mailto:gensecraobgcuk@aol.com) Under subject mark as "Newsround".

Or post to The Editor, Newsround, R.A.O.B. Grand Council, 8, Elms Court, 162 Drummond Road,, Skegness, Lincs. PE25 3BA.

To download a copy of the current Newsround go to the Grand Council Website at [www.raobgc.org.uk](http://www.raobgc.org.uk)

# Yorkshire Jokes

Yorkshire man takes his cat to the vet.

Yorkshireman: "Ayup, lad, I need to talk to thee about me cat."

Vet: "Is it a tom?"

Yorkshireman: "Nay, I've browt it wi' us."

A Yorkshireman's dog dies and as it was a favourite pet he decides to have a gold statue made by a jeweller to remember the dog by.

Yorkshireman: "Can tha mek us a gold statue of yon dog?"

Jeweller: "Do you want it 18 carat?"

Yorkshireman: "No I want it chewin' a bone, yer daft begger!"

A Yorkshireman's wife dies and the widower decides that her headstone should have the words "She were Thine" engraved on it.

He calls the stone mason, who assures him that the headstone will be ready a few days after the funeral. True to his word the stone mason calls the widower to say that the headstone is ready and would he like to come and have a look.

When the widower gets there he takes one look at the stone to see that it's been engraved "She were Thin". He explodes - good grief, man, you've left the flamin' "e" out!

The stone mason apologises and assures the poor widower that it will be rectified the following morning.

Next day comes and the widower returns to the stone mason - "There you go sir, I've put the "e" on the stone for you"..

The widower looks at the stone and then reads out aloud - "E, She were Thin".

