

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

Issue No. 58, February 2011

## Family Matters in the Wolds!

The Wolds Province tried very hard to evade the Skeggies' visit by moving their Lodge room, but to no avail - we found it and were pleased to delay our customary mayhem long enough to witness and assist in a special occasion, a double initiation, one of a son by his father, a rare occurrence and nice to see.

Bro. Ernie Thompson K.O.M. was the W.S.P., with Bro. Tony Cooke R.O.H., Vice Grand President, assisting as City Marshal. Bro. E.G.Oxby R.O.H. retired to introduce the candidates and we were surprised to find ourselves looking up to one of them with awe. Now Brother Ernie is a big lad, but son Matthew topped him easily and made me feel very vertically challenged at a mere six foot three.....Both initiates acquitted themselves well and the ceremony went smoothly and happily to its conclusion.

What the two new brothers made of the aftermath I would not like to guess.... the charges were noisy and ridiculous and the p's seemed to be flowing in. There was lots of laughter and the beer was good until it ran out.

The Lodge closed with a link of twelve good and true Brethren, and then followed a photo shoot.

I must say that the new Lodge premises at the Queens Hall, Binbrook, are very pleasant, with plenty of capacity in the Hall below for any Ceremony that may be forthcoming.

All said, a jolly good visit and lots of fun. Thank you Wolds - and well done !

Bro. Geoff.



*Bro. Ernie Thompson K.O.M. with son Matthew (left) and Michael Bustin (right).  
Below - The Wolds and Skegness visitors together after the Initiation Ceremony*



# Skegness Province



Grand Primo, Bro. Steve Booth K.O.M. works his considerable charm on the Mayor of Skegness, Councillor Sue Binch, to get her to present the Grand Primo's Appeal cheque "I'm shy" he whispered in her ear.....



....so Sue, being the kind person she is, agreed, and presented a cheque for £600.00p on behalf of the Skegness Grand Primo's Appeal for 2010 to Ms Tina Mellors, representing the Alive and Kicking Charity.

We had arranged the presentation for Wednesday, the 9th February 2011, in the Craigsid Hotel. The proprietor of that establishment, having been dragged kicking and screaming into the Buffs a couple of months earlier, nonetheless made us most welcome and together with his wife laid on a splendid buffet. There were



around thirty people present - the Lodge members and their wives, and many of the members of the Alive and Kicking Charity. We welcomed the Mayor too, and also the photographer from the local paper who found himself having to master the operation of digital cameras of all sorts and sizes on behalf of all the people who were on the photos but wanted photos. It was hilarious and confusing and some of us would like to know who left the radiator on full tilt behind the back row where we were standing.....

## Spain celebrates again !

Brother Eric Reeve celebrated his 80th birthday on 16th January 2011 along with 9 Brothers and their Buffesses from The Patience Lodge No.2177, at the prestigious PORTICO MAR Restaurant, Guardamar. As always the ambience and decor helped to make this a memorable occasion for Brother Eric, helped along with Cava provided by the establishment. As can be seen by the photo, a good time was had by all .

For those who don't know him, Eric is the third one along, trying to impersonate a canary.

*Bro Jim*



# A message from the Grand Knight Commander

*Good news indeed Bro. John. I am sure we all wish you all the very best for your continued improvement in health.*

*Ed.*



## Bristol Province

On Thursday the 9th of December, the Grand Primo of the Bristol Province, the Rt. Hon. A. P. Taylor and his Grand Lodge Officers, paid a visit to the Unity Lodge No 1341. As far as the Lodge Secretary was concerned (Bro. R.P.Wyatt R.O.H.) it was just another visit from Grand Lodge.

A couple of R.O.H. collars were consecrated for Brothers that had purchased them and were duly presented. A bemused Bro. Richard was then asked to be introduced to the Grand Primo, at this point a third collar was produced and consecrated and presented to Bro. Richard on behalf of the Brothers of the Bristol Province for his outstanding contributions to the Province. Brother Richard had taken on the duties of Grand Secretary, Knight of Records and Primo Lodge Secretary from the hands of the late Bro. Mervyn Ashton R.O.H., whom had joined the Great Link above on the 4th of December 1992.

On accepting the collar Bro. Richard said he was somewhat “gobsmacked” as he had no idea that a collar had been ordered for him, and that he would wear it with pride.

Thank you Bro. Richard for all your hard work and endeavours on behalf of the Province. Also thanks to the General Secretary for his help, otherwise it would not have been a surprise.

*Bro. Bob Bees R.O.H.*

Dear Sir and Bro. Geoff.

Could I please ask you to include the following (or a similarly worded) message of thanks in the next issue of Newsround. I am never sure just how much detail is necessary or appropriate in these matters so I will leave the final wording to your editorial judgement.

“I would like to thank all of the Brethren, both individuals and Lodges, who have sent me so many kind comments and good wishes for my speedy return to good health over the past 18 months or so.

I am happy to report that my treatment finished in late October and I have been slowly recovering ever since. At the end of December I was given the happy news that I am, once again, in remission.

I have started to attend my Lodge again sporadically and with luck I should be strong enough to attend Grand Knights’ Chapter in March; this is a goal that I look forward to attaining.”

*Bro. John Henderson R.O.H.*  
Grand Knight Commander.



*Bro. R.P.Wyatt R.O.H. (left) receiving his R.O.H. collar from the hands of the Grand Primo, Bro. A.P.Taylor R.O.H.*

# Grand President's column



Dear Sir and Brothers,

With regard to Brother J.A.Marshall K.O.M., firstly I want to thank each Lodge for their generous donations, also the expediency to assist Brother Jim's widow Nicky at a time of great sadness.

The funeral service at the Grimsby Crematorium was completely packed, over 200 were present, obviously the families, but so many friends

along with members of the Order, each celebrating Jim's life ! There was a Buff funeral, a Guard of Honour, the Buffs carried the coffin and all went well, Nicky commented, "it was just what he would have wanted ", I'm sure it was of great comfort to her and the family.

The Wake was held at the Plough Pub, where the Lodge meets, it was packed, the weather was bad (around minus ten), but they still made the effort. The locals put on a fine buffet and plenty ! Nicky was very busy mixing and chatting, we spoke to her and she was far more relaxed, with the problems of the post-mortem it had dragged on, now it was all over.

Two days later, the Wednesday evening, we went back to deliver a Christmas Hamper to Nicky, there were four of us from Lincoln, we were joined by their Lodge members and close friends. There were 14 cardboard trays of food, everything imaginable that you would expect to buy for Christmas, she was overcome, what a picture to see her face ! She was given a potted orchid and card from Derek and Zella, also another card that the Ladies presented, this included a message inviting her to a holiday in Spain, including her flights and accommodation, we would also go with her, once again she was overcome !

We all sat and had a cup of tea while she and her daughter Paige did their best to find enough space to put all the food away. Brother Dave Harrison had prepared a CD of the many photographs taken of Jim in recent years, these included those taken on his two visits to Spain, and various Buff occasions, many with his friends and the Brothers. Dave included background music, it lasted 17 minutes, poor Nicky had to wipe the tears from her eyes, but she was over the moon as they gave her lasting memories.

For me and all the members who share the loss of Brother Jim it is a very sad occasion, but it is also gratifying to witness the tremendous support from the Order to assist Nicky, which I am certain will be of great comfort.

# Grimsby Province

It is with great sadness and sorrow I let you know of the passing of Brother Geoffrey Marcus Swanney R.O.H., who passed away at the age of 65 years,, suddenly but peacefully on the 16th December 2010 at the Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital in the Grimsby and District Province.

This good Brother came to Grimsby in the late 1960's and was a lecturer in the Grimsby Institute of Further & Higher Education. He was initiated into the Sir John Farrant Lodge No. 282 on the 16th November 1977, was raised to the Second Degree on the 31st January 1980, then to the rank of K.O.M. on the 25th May, 1985, finally attaining the Roll of Honour on the 15th September 1990. He then affiliated and transferred his standing from the Sir John Farrant Lodge to the Mariner Lodge 1825 on the 5th January 2003. He had occupied most of the Grand Lodge Offices and that of Grand Lodge Treasurer was his last in Grand Lodge. He also attended the St.Sampsons Knights Chapter.

This good Brother will surely be missed by his widow, Rosemary and all his relatives, as well as by his colleagues and friends alike. And, as we stand once again with heads bowed in remembrance of Brother Geoff, I would would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Brethren assembled and the Grand President, Bro. R.R.Routledge R.O.H. who managed to make it to the Grimsby Crematorium.

Once again, thank you all for your support.

Yours sincerely & fraternally,

Bro. Terry Hannaford R.O.H.,  
Grand Lodge Secretary.

## 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)

# Signs of the Times ?

## Did I read that sign right?

In an office:

TOILET OUT OF ORDER..... PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW

In a Laundramat:

AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT

In a London department store:

BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS

In an office:

WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN

In an office:

AFTER TEA BREAK STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD

Outside a secondhand shop:

WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES, ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

Notice in health food shop window:

CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS

Spotted in a safari park:

ELEPHANTS PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAR

Seen during a conference:

FOR ANYONE WHO HAS CHILDREN AND DOESN'T KNOW IT, THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE 1ST FLOOR

Notice in a farmer's field:

THE FARMER ALLOWS WALKERS TO CROSS THE FIELD FOR FREE, BUT THE BULL CHARGES.

On a repair shop door:

WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING. (PLEASE KNOCK HARD ON THE DOOR - THE BELL DOESN'T WORK)

*Thanks to Bro. Richard Hardy for this one !*

# My Spellchecker

Eye have a spell in checker,  
It came with my pea sea,  
It plainly marques for my revue,  
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.

As soon as a mist ache is maid,  
It nose bee four two long,  
And eye kin put the error rite,  
It's rare lea ever wrong.

Eye strike a quay and type a word,  
And weight four it two say,  
Weather I am wrong or rite,  
It shows me strait a weigh.

Eye have run this poem threw it,  
Eye am shore your pleased too no,  
It's letter perfect awl the weigh,  
My chequer told me sew.

*And to Bro. Ted King for this one !*

# And now for a real groaner !!

A bloke starts his new job at the zoo and is given three tasks. First is to clear the exotic fish pool of weeds. As he does this a huge fish jumps out and bites him. To show who is boss, he beats it to death with a spade. Realizing his employer won't be best pleased, he disposes of the fish by feeding it to the lions, as lions will eat anything.

Moving on to the second job of clearing out the Chimp house, he is attacked by the chimps who pelt him with coconuts. He swipes at two chimps with a spade killing them both. What can he do? Feed them to the lions, he says to himself, because lions eat anything.. He hurls the corpses into the lion enclosure.

He moves on to the last job which is to collect honey from the South American Bees. As soon as he starts he is attacked by the bees. He grabs the spade and smashes the bees to a pulp. By now he knows what to do and shovels them into the lions cage because lions eat anything.

Later that day a new lion arrives at the zoo. He wanders up to the other lions and says "What's the food like here?" The lions say: "Absolutely brilliant, today we had Fish and Chimps with Mushy Bees.

*Well - I did warn you !*

# Obituaries

We mourn the passing of these following Brothers;

## Avon & Stour Province

**Bro. R. J. Treviss R.O.H.**

Bro. Rod was initiated into our Order on the 1st February, 1972, became a Primo on the 15th May, 1973, a K.O.M. on the 21st of February 1978 and attained the Roll of Honour on the 13th November 1982. He was a member of both the Izaak Walton 1830 and the Northbourne 1623 Lodges and was Grand Lodge Secretary of the Avon & Stour Province for many years until his death on the 15th November 2010, aged 81 years.

## Grimsby Province

**Bro. G. M. Swanney R.O.H.**

The details of Brother Geoff's progression through the ranks of the Order are well set out in the earlier article by Bro. Terry Hannaford R.O.H. He was a member of the Mariner Lodge 1825, and passed away on the 16th December, 2010, aged 65 years.

## Newark Province

**Bro. S. Hickling C.P.**

Bro. Shaun was initiated into our Order on the 12th June 2006, and became a Primo on the 21st June 2010. He was a member of the Sir Robert Lodge No 1816, and died on the 12th January 2011 aged 30 years.

## Nottingham Province

**Bro. C.O'Neil R.O.H.**

Bro. Charlie was initiated into the Order on the 3rd December 1950, raised to Primo on the 28th September 1952, to K.O.M. on the 6th May 1962 and attained the Roll of Honour on the 13th January 1972. He was a member of the St. Albans and J.B. Lodge No. 2114, and passed away on Christmas Day 2010, aged 85 years.

ABSENT BRETHREN.

# 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. The venue is The Atlas, 253 Old Shoreham Road, Hove, BN3 7EB. Lodge opens 6.30pm, Regalia visits up to 7pm, Ceremony starts 7.30pm, Installing Officer, the Grand President, Bro. R.R.Routledge R.O.H.

**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.

**14th May, 2011**

## Cambridgeshire Province

The Exaltation to the Roll of Honour of Bros. B.Smith and M.Stevens K.O.M. by the Alexander Lodge 1699.

**25th June 2011**

## Snodland Province

The Elevation to Knight, Order of Merit, of Bro. T.Botley C.P. by the Nevill Lodge 2054

**23rd July 2011**

## Cambridgeshire Province

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

**10th September, 2011**

## Gillingham Province

The Exaltation to the Roll of Honour of Bro. R. Hamson K.O.M. by the Apollo, Lord Beresford Lodge, No. 2101.

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