

R.A.O.B. GRAND COUNCIL NEWSROUND

Issue No. 60, May/June 2011

No Blues at Cambridge - despite the serious faces !



Installing Officer, Bro. Cliff Mayes R.O.H., Grand President 2002 with the two Brothers newly Exalted to the Roll of Honour, Bro. B. Smith R.O.H. (left) and Bro. M. Stevens R.O.H. (right).

When I enlarged this photograph I couldn't believe my eyes ! I had swapped jokes with these Brothers all evening and everything was jovial and happy - and then I asked for the formal photograph for Newsround. Where did the smiles go lads ?

It was a pleasant drive down to the Hardwicke Arms at Arrington, sunny, not too much traffic, and we arrived early. The Cambridge Brethren were busily laying the Lodge out so we repaired to the bar - well, where else would we go! Soon we were joined by a couple of well known faces from Essex, shortly followed by a couple of Wasbosses fresh from their holidays.

Having e-mailed the Grand President the previous day we were expecting him there - but we were soon

informed that he had broken down en-route and had had to return back to Lincoln, together with G.C. Director of Ceremonies Bro. B. Edwards R.O.H. and some Lincoln Brothers. Bro. John Ecclestone R.O.H. and Mary arrived from Snodland and then it was time for the Ceremony to start.

Press-Ganging commenced. Of the visiting Brothers only one escaped a work-detail. But that's in the nature of things, and we were honoured to be able to help.

Bro Richard Allerton R.O.H. G.C. Trustee, myself as General Secretary and Bro. V. Burke R.O.H. as Chairman of the C. Ben Committee represented the Executive, Bros A. Castle R.O.H. and J. Ecclestone R.O.H.

represented the Grand Knights Chapter. Past Grand Presidents Bros J.English R.O.H. and C.Mayes R.O.H. were also in attendance.

The Ceremony was carried out nicely by Bro. Cliff Mayes R.O.H. as Installing Officer, very ably assisted by his Knight Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Vic Burke R.O.H. The two sponsors, Bros T.Brown C.P. and R.Bisset C.P. made short speeches of support, and the Ceremony drew to a close with a link of 22 Brethren assembled.

There was an excellent buffet, prepared I understand, by the Ladies and the music was nostalgia with a capital N. Took me right back to my blue suede shoes it did.

Well done Cambridge! Next time perhaps you could advertise the wheres and whens a bit more so that more might attend?

Bro. Geoff.

Luton Province Springs Lodge Update

It is some time since we appeared in these pages, so here is a little update on our progress. We have been in our new home in the Barton Rovers Football Club for about a year now, and it must be said that we have settled in very nicely. The President's Bar, with all its facilities and which overlooks the pitch, makes a comfortable Lodge-room. As we have all become club members we are not charged rent, which is quite a bonus these days. However, as a Lodge we reckon to pay our way, so we decided to show our appreciation to the Club by sponsoring one of their matches. Our gesture was very warmly accepted and has, I feel, served to strengthen the relationship between our two organisations. The match we sponsored took place on the 17th of April, and though the Club's team lost by the odd goal, I suspect this was probably due to so many matches having to be played at the end of the season, owing to the bad weather earlier this year. We could well sponsor a match less close to the end of the season in future !

One of the customs in the Springs is to put any loose change into a money box, fondly called the "Albert", after one of our former well-respected Brothers. This cash is collected to provide comforts for our dependents around Christmas time, and also gives us a bit of fun. Brother John Natus, who generously gives his time and effort to such matters, totals up the amount at the appropriate time and tells us two amounts, one above and one below the true figure. Brothers can, for a small fee, have three guesses as to the right sum. The money collected goes towards the next year's kitty, and the lucky Brother whose choice is closest under the total gets a prize. The top prize

this year was a bottle of whisky, no less, and was won by Brother John Parish. Sadly Brother John was on holiday, but it was very heartening that so many Brothers offered to look after it for him! A true reflection of the Buffalo spirit shared by us all!

Well - the spring seems to have run down, so until next time we find the key I'll say "Cheerio" for this episode. S.T.B.

Bro. Denis Warren R. O.H.

Wolds Province

Dear Bro. Geoff,

Our annual Easter Egg Raffle on Good Friday evening raised a nett total of £216.00 for our Charities Fund. Not bad for a "struggling" Lodge!

Bro. Graham and his wife, together with Bro. Ernie Thompson and his wife and son all played a frantic part in this effort and, when Bro. Graham won the final egg, which weighed nearly 5lb., they decided to present it to our nominated Charity - the Childrens Hospice in Grimsby and I am told that they asked if they could put it up as a Raffle Prize as it would do more good than just sharing it among the children, some of whom could not eat chocolate anyway.

This was agreed and we await the outcome just to learn how much a single egg could raise.

Brother Gordon Oxby R.O.H.
Primo Lodge Secretary.



Brother Graham Smith, K.O.M., winner of the Pride of the Wolds Lodge top Easter Egg Prize, presenting it to Fiona of the Children's Hospice in Grimsby for them to use to benefit the children.

Triple Raising in Spain !



Patience Lodge No. 2177.

On May 7th 2011 the following three Brothers, Jim Joyner, Billy Clynes and Dave Tongue from the Patience Lodge were raised to Knight Order of Merit at the Torre Hotel, Los Montesinos. The Exalting Officer was none other than our Grand President, Bro. Ray Routledge R.O.H. who conducted an excellent ceremony without any paperwork in evidence on the rostrum. We had 35 Brothers in the closing Link, being representatives of G.C. and G.L.E. from here in Spain and many once again making the pilgrimage from the U.K.

There followed a photo-call with the presentation of a cheque for 1,500 euros to our chosen charity of the year, "Cunningham Nurses", accepted on their behalf by Susan Reader.

An evening meal was laid on, with excellent entertainment provided by Keith Monk and, dare I say it, at Bro. Ray's rendition of Billy Fury, someone was heard to say "Don't give up your day job!"

The Exaltation in Knights Chapter on Sunday, 8th May at the Cavalier Bar, was also conducted by Bro. Ray in an exemplary manner, again without any sign of paperwork and with a count of 22 in the closing Link. The Patience Lodge opened at 12 noon where a good few p's were raised. But it was also an opportunity for Bro. Ray to present, on behalf of the Patience Lodge, Services Rendered jewels to Bro. Mike Sedgebeer R.O.H. and

newly raised Bro. Billy Clynes K.O.M. A richly deserved honour for their care and help in looking after Bro. Danny Williams R.O.H. in the time up to his passing. But not to end on a sad note, after Bro. Ray had once again vacated the Royal Chair, he was himself presented with a carriage clock from the Brethren of the Patience Lodge for all the help he has given us over the years. The Lodge was duly closed at 2pm, followed by a buffet lunch.

The Patience Lodge would like to thank once again, all the Brothers, especially those who were able to make the journey from the U.K., for helping to make the raising an occasion to remember. With a special thank you from the three newly raised Knights to the Grand President for consenting to, and carrying out the Raising and Exaltation.

Bro. Jim Joyner K.O.M.

Grand Lodge Secretary.

Grand President's column



“ And so my friends the final curtain ! “

Yes , not many more days to go then I will be handing over my collar to your new Grand President Brother Tony Cooke ROH and I hope he also has an enjoyable year

I am now writing the last chapter of my journey through the year - for me , special occasions each contributing to the culmination of a very

special time in my Buffaloesm!

I was invited to carry out the ‘ Double KOM Raising ‘ for Brothers Dave Odey and George Javes , all went well and I trust it was as memorable occasion for them as it was for me . May I thank the Brighton Province for this honour especially during my year in office .

The next day I visited the Nevill Lodge in Snodland , two duties , one to receive collars presented to the Order from Mrs. Connie Stevens together with her Daughter Linda each carrying out the wishes of Brother Arthur Stevens Past Grand President , for the three members of the Benevolent Committee to have their own collar besides the Chairman . The ceremony went well but was rather emotional , especially for me when they in turn presented me with Arthurs Presidents’ jewel , next I reciprocated , presenting a display box to be hung in the Lodge with all Arthurs regalia . The Lodge organised a buffet and we reflected over the good times with Arthur .

May included a trip to Spain , here I had the privilege of officiating at a Triple KOM Raising. , Brothers , Jim Joyner , Billy Clynes and Dave Tongue , besides members from Spain there were 19 visitors from the UK , we were all treated to a Lodge Dinner afterwards . The next day I Exalted the three Brothers into their Chapter , after , the Minor Lodge opened and I also presented two ‘ Service Rendered Jewels ‘ , Brothers Mike Sedgbeer and Billy Clynes , each surprised and overwhelmed ! It was now my turn for a surprise , the Lodge gave me a Carriage Clock , seated on a wooden plinth suitably engraved which now has pride of place in my home . We stayed for a week and had a wonderful time .

I want to apologise to the Alexander Lodge in Cambridge , Brian Edwards and I were on our way to their ‘ Raising ‘ , my car kept cutting out , after passing Stamford we had to turn back .

The Grand President ‘s Charity , I am now bringing it to a close , you will be aware we are supporting ‘ Help 4 Heroes ‘

and ‘ Air Ambulance ‘ , my goal in the beginning was to raise a thousand pounds for each , looking at what is coming in we look to pass this target , hope to have the total for the June Conference. May I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for your hard work and efforts I’m sure our reward will be knowing the relief it will provide in the name of the Grand Council .

I want to thank my fellow Officers for their support during the year , the hospitality received on my visits , particularly those whom have given me ‘ shelter ‘ and without this my year would not have been so fulfilling , Thank You .

My first attendance at the Annual Conference was in 1990 as a visiting Grand Primo , subsequently a Delegate , finally an Officer , quite a long journey but it was all worth while to serve as your Grand President .

For some members I will see you at the Conference

Best wishes to you all .

Brother Ray Routledge ROH ,

Grand President .

Health Warning

1. If walking/cycling is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.
2. A whale swims all day, only eats fish, drinks water and is fat.
3. A rabbit runs and hops and only lives 15 years.
4. A tortoise doesn’t run, does nothing yet lives for 450 years.

AND YOU TELL ME TO EXERCISE!

We are indebted to justwilliam cp for this thought.....

Important -

To submit articles and photographs for inclusion in an issue of Newsround please e-mail to 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

Presentations at Snodland

The Nevill Lodge 2054 had the honour of a visit from three Council Officers on the 3rd April 2011, at the presentation of three sashes for Brothers on the Benevolent Committee by the late Bro. Arthur Stevens R.O.H's Lady, Connie and daughter, Linda.

The presentation was carried out with great dignity with many an eye being wiped.

Connie and her daughter Linda were given a brief explanation on the commemoration plates that had been attached to the sashes in memory of Sir Arthur.

The sashes were then presented to the Grand President, Bro. R.R.Routledge R.O.H., who was accompanied by his Lady, Carol; the General Secretary, Bro. G.T.Gurden R.O.H. and his lady, Brenda; and the Grand Director of Ceremonies, Bro. B.Edwards R.O.H. and his Lady, Carol. Mary also attended with Linda's partner and Connie's sister.

The ceremony was quickly followed by a presentation to the Nevill Lodge of Sir Arthur's Grand President's Regalia, superbly encased by the Grand President himself. This was later hung on the wall by the three Council Officers - one to hold it straight, one to attach it to the wall and one to take charge. Who did what?

Connie then presented Sir Arthur's President's jewel to Brother Ray, to be worn after his year of Office. Much surprise was expressed.

The Ladies were then asked to retire from the Lodge to allow the Lodge to close and for sandwiches to be served and enjoyed, and for a convivial get-together and chat amongst friends.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all Brothers who sent good wishes to myself and family whilst I was in hospital - it is always good to know somebody is thinking of you.

Sorry this has taken so long but I know Brother Ray Routledge has kept many of you up to date via the Newsround.

Who did what ? Brian held it. Ray attached it. Geoff took charge....

Yours fraternally,

John Ecclestone R.O.H.

Skegness Province



In the last issue the Province were shown presenting a replacement bench at the Chequers Pub, Croft. Bro. Tony Cooke R.O.H. kindly provided me with a photo of the original installation on the 17th August 2002. None of your lazy sprawling about then! All done nice and proper like!

Anagram time

RED GIANTS.

Clue, one word, nine letters. Hard to climb.

Thanks to Buffoonery for this one. Solution in next issue.

Obituary

Bro. John F.Ruddle R.O.H.,
London S.W.

Hi Geoff.

The funeral of the late Bro. John Francis Ruddle ROH is Tuesday 7th June, 11:30am at Hastings Crematorium, The Ridge, Hastings, TN34 2AE.

Flowers to the funeral director, Hinkley Funeral Service, 50 Mount Pleasant Road, Hastings, TN34 3SH.

It is to be a Buffalo Service conducted by Bro. J. Deakins KOM.

Fraternal regards,
Bro. Ted King R.O.H.

A full tribute will follow. Bro.Geoff.

Forthcoming Raisings

25th June 2011

Snodland Province

The Elevation to Knight, Order of Merit, of Bro. T. Botley C.P. by the Nevill Lodge 2054 at the Ham Hill Workmens Club, Snodland. Lodge opens 6pm.

28th June 2011

South Staffs Province

The Raising to the Second Degree of Bro. Simon Deeming of the Woden Lodge No. 43, at the Vine Inn, Lichfield Road, Wolverhampton, WV 11 4TN. Lodge opens 7.30pm.

2nd July 2011.

Nottingham Province

The Elevation to Knight, Order of Merit of Bro. P. Attridge C.P. by the Atlas & Ivy Lodge 1609 at The Embankment, 282 Arkwright Street, Trent Bridge, Nottingham, NG2 2GR. Lodge opens 7pm.

16th July 2011.

London S.W. Province

The Elevation to Knight, Order of Merit of Bro. L. Easton C.P. by the Trafalgar Lodge 2120 at the Royal British Legion Club, 65 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London SW15 2RD. Lodge opens 7pm.

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

3rd September, 2011

Essex Province

The Raising to the Second Degree of Bros. N. Waldron, M. Wayland, C. Sharpe and G. Crockatt of the Good Hope Lodge No. 339 at the Parkeston Railway Club, Hamilton Street, Parkeston, Harwich. Lodge opens 7pm.

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. at the Kemsley Village Hall, Kemsley, Sittingbourne, Kent. Lodge opens 6.30pm.

All missing details of times and venues will follow if and when supplied.

Obituary

Bro. Ken Farmer R.O.H.,
Lancashire South Province

1st December 1946 - 22nd April 2011



The following is an extract from the Order of Service read by Past President Bro. Albie Heaver R.O.H. at Bro. Ken's Funeral.

Brother Ken was initiated into the Gorton Lodge No. 829 Stockport on 22 May 1988 and was raised to Primo on 6 August 1989, Knight Order of Merit on 21 November 1993 and then was deemed worthy to be exalted to the Roll Of Honour on 7 December 1997.

He was the secretary of his Minor Lodge for many years; sadly, one by one, the Minor Lodges closed in Stockport so Ken transferred his allegiance over to the Sir William Edmonds Lodge in Wigan on the 2nd July 2007 and even though it was a 45 mile round trip he was at the Lodge every week, except when his beloved Stockport County were playing at home on the Lodge night, or he was going to his caravan in Wales.

Bro. Ken was an Officer in the Grand Knights Chapter of St George. For many years he was a delegate to the Grand Knights Chapter Conference for the Sir Walter Raleigh Knights Chapter No.1, Stockport's Knights Chapter and his fellow delegates, who had the utmost respect for his work as a delegate, nominated him as an Officer and for the past six years he slowly rose in the ranks of the Grand Knights Chapter to become the Vice-Grand Knight Commander.

Next year, sadly, he would have been the Grand Knight Commander.