

Update 12 June

- **What's been happening**

Installations, District Meetings, Long Service badges, Commemorating ANZAC, Central Division Conference, Charity, Initiations and Raisings

- **Dist GM's Diary**

17 June	Lodge Haeata Investment seminar	Jervois Street, Hastings
15 June	3 rd Degree	Scinde No 5
16 June	Talk to Duart House History Group	10 am, Havelock North
21 June	1 st Degree	Waikaremoana No 158
26 June	Divisional Charity Seminar	Jervois Street, Hastings
28 June	3 rd Degree	Lodge Haeata No 272
29 June	3 rd Degree	Lodge Gisborne No 233
3 July	Installation	Coromandel No 17 installation
13 July	Installation	The Heretaunga Lodge No 73,
22nd July	50-year badge	The Day Time Lodge of Hawkes Bay No 453
31st July	Installation	Scinde Lodge No 5
2nd August	Installation	Hawkes Bay Research Lodge No 305

- **Interesting Links**

Dear Brethren all,

What's been happening.

I know that the Lodges have been remarkably busy as Freemasonry in the District has forged full steam ahead with social, ceremonial, and charitable activities. It has been a pleasure to attend the events that I have managed to fit in to my schedule. There has been too much to write a full report but here are some highlights. I have been experimenting by pasting this update directly into the body of the email so that those with smartphones can read it directly, but have attached a document for others.

Installations



Lion Lodge No 224

Installation took place on 10 April. WBro Peter Jackson was installed and WBro Barry Severinsen was relieved!



Lodge Gisborne No 233

Installation took place on 17th April where WBro Ralph Scott was Installed. Unfortunately, I have no photograph but the view from my motel room was stunning.



The Rawhiti Lodge No 66, Installation of WBro Mark Holdaway took place on 22nd May and was attended by a contingent from the Taranaki District led by VW Bro Roly Blake Dist GM Taranaki District.



The Research Lodge of the Taranaki No 232 Province Installation and 75 Year Jubilee 28th May. VW Bro Colin Heyward, PGL was installed for a second term as Master of this Lodge. Colin (supported so well by Jan) has been a champion for Masonic Research in the District, Division and Australasia. The Grand Master was in attendance.

District Meetings re Champions

Following the District Roadshow, and prior to the Conference, I arranged two meetings for anyone interested in the Lodge Champion Idea to come forward. In the event they were not well attended in number, but some very keen members expressed interest and saw merit in the concept. All Lodges had the opportunity to attend. Some Lodges in the District informed me that they have, at least in the interim, appointed enthusiastic PMs as Lodge Champions. The Champion idea is one that will continue over a number of years. We are eagerly awaiting the publication of guidelines following consultation with the other Divisions. Watch this space.

Long Service Badges



60 year Bar to Brother Doug Richardson

VW Bro Ken Edney and WBro Lester Reese PGStdB enjoyed a pleasant time at Doug's home where shared stories about his life and the ships he served on. Doug was initiated in 1961 in Lodge Roslyn 250. He has been a member of The United Lodge of Napier 21, New Plymouth 338, The Ngamotu-New Plymouth Lodge 48, Scinde Lodge 5, and The Hawkes Bay Daytime Lodge 453



50 Year Badge to WBrother Don Plested.

It was good to have Don's family present the presentation. At the Hawkes Bay Daytime Lodge Regular meeting. Don was initiated in 1971 in Lodge Napier 268 where he was Master in 1982 and 1987. He was Master of the United Lodge of Napier 21 in 2009. He was also a member of Scinde Lodge 5, and now The Hawkes Bay Daytime Lodge 453.



Unfortunately, I was unable to attend The Empty Chair ceremony hosted by Turanganui Lodge 1480 EC on the 19th April but know that the Gisborne Lodges attended along with their wives/partners, representatives from the three services, other dignitaries, and members of the public.

I was able to attend the ANZAC commemoration service hosted by The Heretaunga Lodge No 73 on Tuesday 20th April and listened with great interest at address given by the President of the East Coast RSA ,W Brother Paddy Driver, Dist GDC. The theme of this year’s address was powerfully presented and focussed on the role of women and families during times of war, citing specific examples.

The picture shows the refectory layout including the symbolically dressed table and empty chair, eloquently explained by WBro Paul Hawkes PGD.

The Divisional Charity Dinner and Divisional Conference were upbeat and successful.



Tania, Barbara, Friend, Carolyn and Eve at the Charity Dinner that raised \$40,000 for Freemasons NZ Special Olympics project. This was achieved with the help of contributions from Lodges and support from the Freemasons Charity. Several people commented that this was Freemasonry at its best. If you missed out, you will have to wait another three years. I was pleased to see the number of Fellow Crafts that attended the Conference from our District. Pictured on right is Wor Bro Christopher Douglas-Huriwai, IPM of Lodge Gisborne, holding the floor as the third of three speakers, relatively new freemasons, advising of their early experiences of entering Freemasonry.

Charity

Freemasons NZ and the Freemasons Charity are pledging \$100,000 to supporting the Special Olympics event to be held in Hamilton at the end of the year. This is separate to the \$40,000 raised by the Division and any other Lodge projects. The Hastings Masonic Trust has donated \$10,000 for transport and lodging for local athletes. A Special Olympics representative will be attending the Divisional Charity Seminar on 26 June.

Lodge Haeata put on a fundraising Movie Night to raise funds for SPCA. \$700 was raised and several baskets of “toys” were collected. I know that several Lodges have projects organised and I wish them well in their efforts.



District 17 Lodges support of the Young Musician of the Year continues this year. Your support last year ensured sufficient funds for us to support the \$1,500 main prize again this year and next.

Scholarships



RW Bro John Peryer, Barbara and I were pleased to attend the presentation 32 University Scholarship Presentation at the Legislature Council Chamber at Parliament on 6th May.

This is the 38th Year of these awards. It was remarkably interesting, if humbling, to talk with the students and their families. Our presence, with representatives from the other Districts and Divisions, helped put human faces to Freemasonry.

Initiations and Raisings

There seems to be a renewed interest in Joining Freemasonry. Some approaches have been made through Lodge contacts and some through our increased Web Presence. There have been eight initiations in recent times and, by the end of this month six raisings. Two more prospects are being considered by Hastings Lodges.

Lodge Haeata welcoming EAFs Richard, Dominik and Daniel and FCF Glenn



Lodge Omarunui's Master and Junior Warden accompanying newly raised Brother Peter on a visit to Scinde Lodge



(Left) VWor Brother Paul Brittin's Last Night in the Chair having initiated Brother Godofredo who joins Brother Donald on the EAF's bench

To expand on some upcoming events in my diary

- 17 June Lodge Haeata - Investment Seminar.
7pm Open to all Brethren, Partners and Friends. Gold Coin donation.

- 16 June Talk to Duart House History Group. - 10 am, Havelock North. I was asked to make a short presentation to this group last year but it was cancelled at the last minute. Luckily I have kept and improved on the presentation.
- 21 June 1st Degree - Waikaremoana No 158. 7pm start. Seats available with me if you would like to go. This is their 2nd initiation in two months. Photos next week.
- 26 June Divisional Charity Seminar Jervois Street, Hastings, 9.30 Start, Lunch provided. Over 20 people have registered for this event - so it is a goer. If you missed the deadline, it is still OK to register as we have the numbers. Registration means there will be a Lunch for you. **I would particularly encourage Lodge Charity Officers and New masons to attend.** To ensure we get the catering right please register ASAP by clicking [here](#).
- 29 June 3rd Degree - Lodge Gisborne No 233. I will be travelling back that night and there are seats in my car if you wish to accompany me. This will be the second raising this year for Lodge Gisborne, and there is another one scheduled.
- 13 July Installation - The Heretaunga Lodge No 73, WBro Roger Sinclair, RH is being installed.
- 31st July Installation - Scinde Lodge No 5, Brother Steve Murray is being installed. The GM will be present, as with the Dep GM, two PDep GMs, Div GM and visitors from Wellington.
- 2nd August - Installation Hawkes Bay Research Lodge No 305, WBro John Miller will be installed

Links

These links have been included for people who have not yet discovered the rich source of information on the Freemasons Website, and the Central District Website

- [Freemasons New Zealand Special Olympics Media Launch](#)
- [Freemasons 2021 University Scholarship Presentations](#)
- [Virtual Reading Rooms](#)
- [Freemasons.org](#)
- [CentralDistrict website My Comments Page](#)