

Otago Lakes District 30

Newsletter 2018/4

This coming weekend heralds the start of Spring 2018 and with it the excitement of potentially positive growth in the gardens and trees, new arrivals in the form of lambs and calves, and generally the prospect of warm weather. It may also lead to a continuation of the growth of new members throughout our Lodges as we hope to

reap the benefit of the seeds sown under the *“Speak Up for Freemasonry”* campaign. At the end of the day though, we tend to *“reap what we sow”*, so let’s hope that we have sowing many seeds of and for Freemasonry!!!

August marked the “restart” of the Installations in the Otago Lakes District after the hiatus of winter; most of us seem to have wintered well but there were *“one or two cobwebs”* in our ritual, as we tried to get back into the swing of things.

On 1 August 2018, V W Bro Gordon Girvan P Dist GM was the Installing Officer at Lodge Wanaka’s meeting, when W Bro Bob McLeary was installed as Master, following the two year stint of W Bro Jim Reveley as the Master of Lodge Wanaka 277. I presented W Bro Jim with his Past Master’s Certificate (as I had done so 12 months earlier) whilst W Bro Doug Wilson PM of Lodge Wanaka 277 presented W Bro Jim with the bar to his Past Master’s Jewel.



W Bro Jim Reveley, V W Bro Pat Cooney



W Bro Jim Reveley, W Bro Doug Wilson

A week later, we travelled to Waimate (Midland District) where the Otago Lakes District's Grand Lodge Officers carried out the installation and investiture of officers at Lodge St Augustine 99, as part of our inter-District arrangement with our neighbouring Districts. W Bro Robin Gourdie was installed as Master, and the evening was embellished by the formal attendance of our sister Constitutions, when R W Bro Richard Taylor (District Grand Master, District of South Island New Zealand, United Grand Lodge of England), R W Bro Mel Darling (Provincial Assistant Grand Master, Province of New Zealand, Grand Lodge of Ireland), and Bro Merv Gilkinson (R W District Grand Master, District Grand Lodge of New Zealand South, Grand Lodge of Scotland) were received by V W Bro Peter Smith Dist GM (Midland).



V W Bro Pat Cooney Dist GM, W Bro Will Spry Dist GDC, W Bro Robin Gourdie

V W Bro Peter Smith Dist GM (Midland), W Bro Robin Gourdie

Our third Installation in August 2018 was at Lodge Palmerston 26 when I had the pleasure of installing Bro Louis Smith as Master of the Lodge. The Lodge installation was on Saturday 18th, which resulted in limited support from "sitting" Masters [only W Bro Rory Butler – Lodge Dunstan 103 – being in attendance, apart from two Grand Lodge Officers who are also Masters of their respective Lodges – W Bro Will Spry Dist GDC (Kurow 164) and W Bro Bruce Daniell GS (Oamaru Kilwinning 82)]. W Bro Graham Robson was presented with his Past Master's Certificate whilst W Bro Stuart Johnston presented W Bro Aaron Johnston with his Past Master's Jewel [a father to son presentation between Brothers – confused?]. W Bro Jim Ironside was also presented with his 25 year badge (19 years late!)



Past Master's Certificate to W Bro Graham Robson

25 Year Badge to W Bro Jim Ironside (*better late than never!!*)

At its August 2018 meeting, Lodge Dunstan 103 initiated Mr Tama Rangiaho into Freemasonry, and it was great to see Bro Tama a couple of weeks later at Lodge Manuherikia Kilwinning's initiation ceremony.

The Cromwell Kilwinning Lodge 98 deferred its August 2018 meeting so as to avoid a clash with the Lodge St Augustine 99 installation (on the normal meeting night for the Cromwell Kilwinning Lodge) – Bro Noel Macalintal was passed to the Fellowcraft degree at the Cromwell meeting and later in the meeting, Bro Martin Charleson was presented with his Master Mason's Certificate.

Master Masons Certificates -



Bro Martin Charleson (Cromwell Kilwinning 98)



Bro William Kraakman (Manuherikia Kilwinning 109)

The August 2018 meeting of Lodge St Bathans 126 involved the presentation to the Lodge of the framed Certificate of Service which the late R W Bro Jim Clouston P Dep GM had received the previous year to acknowledge his 50 years of Grand Lodge service – R W Bro Clouston's family wished the Lodge to retain the Certificate as part of its memorabilia, to ensure that the Certificate was displayed appropriately.

At its meeting on 15 August 2018, Lodge Manuherikia Kilwinning 109 initiated Mr Rhys Tait into Freemasonry – what was of special significance at the meeting was the attendance of a trio of Entered Apprentices – Bro Chris Fisher and Bro Rhys Tait of Lodge Manuherikia Kilwinning 109 and Bro Tama Rangiaho of Lodge Dunstan 103. Bro William Kraakman of Lodge Manuherikia Kilwinning 109 was also presented with his Master Mason's Certificate.



Bro Rhys Tait EA, Bro Tama Rangiaho EA, Bro Chris Fisher EA



W Bro Aaron Dyson, Bro Rhys Tait EA, Tama Rangiaho EA, Bro Chris Fisher EA

Lodge Oamaru Kilwinning 82 also met on 15 August 2018, at which meeting Bro Jacque (Jess) Smit was passed to the Fellowcraft Degree.

Last week, Lake Lodge of Ophir 85 raised Bro Stephen Rooney to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

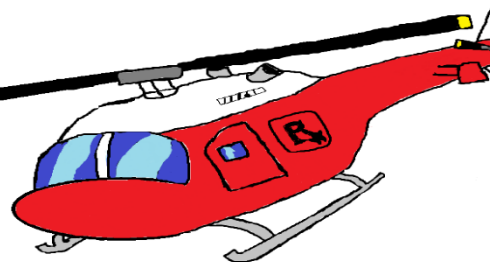


W Bro Bruce Daniell GS [Master], Bro Jess Smit FC



W Bro Russell McGrouther P GS, Bro Stephen Rooney MM, W Bro Gordon Ballantyne P S Std B

Fundraising Appeal



You will be aware that in the term of office of V W Bro Gordon Girvan P Dist GM, the Otago Lakes District was able to present the Otago Rescue Helicopter Trust a cheque for \$54,000. In our current term, we are raising funds for St John First Response Kits. In our last fundraiser as well as in our present fundraiser, we have been repeatedly told of the need for our generosity because we never know when we might need assistance from either or both of the Rescue Helicopter service and of St John – this has become quite personal for me as a result of an accident of one of my children, who early this month had a fall of around 10 meters. Whilst lucky to survive the fall, my son suffered debilitating injuries (“broken” back, “smashed” heel, cracked sternum, broken ribs, fractured clavicle, and internal bleeding) but thanks to the St John service (twice called out to assist) and to

the Rescue Helicopter to transfer him from Alexandra to Dunedin, he made it to Dunedin Hospital to allow spinal surgery to be carried out the following day.

The purpose of raising this here is not to elicit sympathy for my son nor for our family but rather **to highlight the fact that we never know when/if we are ever going to require the emergency services which our District has decided to support as fundraising opportunities.** You may be lucky (and believe me, I hope that you and your family are) – you may never have a need to call on these services but my plea is to encourage all our Lodges and Brethren to give the St John First Response Kits project your fullest support so that we can make a meaningful contribution to the emergency services which can never have too much money presented to them.

Funds for the St John First Response Kits should be deposited in the following **ANZ** bank account:
010867-0067996-46

Please ensure that your Lodge name is included as a reference. Together we can make this work – thank you.

Incidentally, my son continues to make a positive recovery, and we are hopeful that there will be no long-term adverse implications consequent upon his accident.

Forthcoming Installations:

September –

Wednesday 12th - Cromwell Kilwinning 98

Thursday 27th - Kurow 164

October –

Thursday 4th - Teviot 148

Monday 8th - Ngapara 68

Wednesday 17th - Oamaru Kilwinning 82

DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

As you may have guessed from the “*Fundraising Appeal*” item above, I have been a little distracted with “*family first*” matters this month but I am still hoping to get around Lodges (or groups of Lodges) over the next month to six weeks, to canvass the pros and cons of the mooted merger of the Otago Lakes District and the Wickliffe District. We will be formally discussing the matter at our District meeting in November 2018 but I hope to get

your Lodge’s views on the matter well before then.

I have previously suggested that the proposal should have little to no impact on our District’s Lodges as the important issue is not which District our Lodge is in but rather we want to ensure that our Lodges receive the support they require from the District Grand Master and from the District’s Grand Lodge Officers.

Pat Cooney
DISTRICT GRAND MASTER, OTAGO LAKES 30

28 August 2018