



# FREEMASONS

New Zealand

## The Whitestone Newsletter April 2017

Newsletter for North Otago and Waitaki Area Lodges

### MEETINGS - At a Glance

- ST. AUGUSTINE 99** (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday) Wed. 12<sup>th</sup> April **Tyling 7.00pm, Visitors 7.30pm**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Working -Bro Aldwin Bulosan
- NGAPARA 68** (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday) Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April Tyling 7.30pm, Visitors 8pm  
1st degree for Mr Leliseo Alag Data
- Oamaru Kilwinning 82** (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday) Wed. 19<sup>th</sup> April Tyling 7.30pm, Visitors 8pm  
The Empty Chair Ceremony
- PALMERSTON 26** (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) Thur. 20<sup>th</sup> April **Departure 7pm Sharp**  
**Visit to Lodge Celtic Dunedin**
- KUROW 164** (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday) Thursdays 27<sup>th</sup> April Tyling 7.30pm, Visitors 8pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> degree Tracing Board & Officers Positions Discussion

### Upcoming District Installations

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 – The Mt Ida Lodge, Ranfurly      19<sup>th</sup> April 2017 - Lodge Manuherikia Kilwinning, Alexandra

### News



#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Workings and New Fellowcrafts

Bro. Nick Elibare, Bro. Tony De Bono and Bro. Rickardo Lafranco line up for a photograph, following Brother Rick's ceremony of passing to the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree at Lodge Kurow, with workings by the Brethren of Lodge Oamaru Kilwinning No. 82. Bro. Nick was passed the week before at the Oamaru meeting, with Bro. Tony, being passed the same week, but at Lodge Manuherikia Kilwinning's meeting during Lodge Kurow's 63<sup>rd</sup> Fraternal Visit with the Lodge. We congratulate all three Brethren and wish them a very happy time in the Masonic Careers.

#### Southern Division Conference

Around 90 members and delegates attended the

Southern Division Conference in a drizzly Methven - however, the atmosphere inside was very dynamic. Some excellent speakers punctuated the well conducted business sessions, with informative and inspiring presentations. The most exciting thing for me however, was learning that the Southern Division was the only division to be showing a (very slight!) increase in membership for the past 12 months - great work people and keep it up! The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and President of the Board of General Purposes were all in attendance and after listening to their respective presentations, it is great to know the welfare and future of Freemasonry is in the hands of excellent lateral thinkers and drivers of a better Organisation in New Zealand. While we can sit and moan about Grand Lodge, I can tell you, everyone at Grand Lodge is working hard to make Freemasonry the best it can be in this country and it is up to us as individual members to ensure that we are striving just as hard to do so as well.

### **Southern Division Website**

Recently launched, the Southern Division website is now fully functional. A huge amount of effort and time has been put into making this website an informative and very useful site (particularly for Lodge Secretaries!). Together with district information for each district, visitors can get a listing of which lodges are meeting where in a district at any time, submit articles, submit meeting report and even access dispensations for activities being carried out, without having to fill in reams of paperwork and scan or mail them away. What a relief! However, such a website cannot be useful fully to our brethren, and the webmaster is always looking for content and short news articles. Feel free to submit photographs and newsy items through the website as often as possible, as this will make for interesting reading for all and will help us to "Speak Out for Freemasonry!"

So where can you access it? Right here! Click and ye shall find!!!

<http://www.themasons.org.nz/sdiv/>



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