



# Wiltshire Masonic News

The newsletter for Wiltshire Freemasons

June 2017

Wiltshire Freemasonry

## Inside the Freemasons - the box set (just in time for Christmas)

To mark the United Grand Lodge of England's Tercentenary, a Sky television crew were given unique and unprecedented access to discover what it means to be a modern-day Freemason.

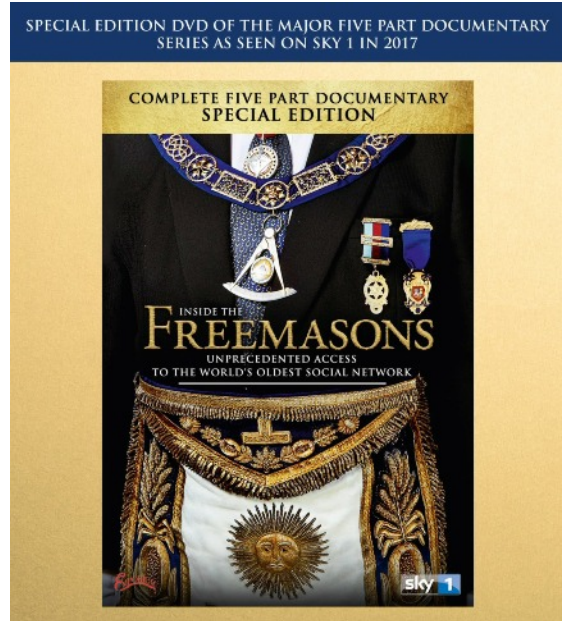
The team behind the five part documentary looked to go beyond the myth and legend to discover what it means to be a Freemason today and answer the questions – who are Freemasons and what do they do?

From our regalia to some lavish ceremonies, through to ancient rituals and bonds of brotherhood, many viewers will recently have had the pleasure of watching the documentary '*Inside the Freemasons*'.

There were many behind the scenes highlights to enjoy including coverage of the biggest day of the Masonic calendar, the Annual Investiture, and the official consecration of the first Masonic football lodge, as well as a feature with UGLE's newly appointed Chief Executive Officer, Dr. David Staples.

In addition there were cameo performances from Wiltshire Freemasons Philip Bullock, David Davies, John Reid and others.

Although the documentary was recently shown on Sky 1, if you missed it, fear not, as a special edition on DVD is now available to pre-order: it consists of two DVDs, featuring all five episodes and 30 minutes of exclusive extra content. To pre-order your copy of '*Inside the Freemasons*' contact Letchworths Shop at Freemasons' Hall [www.letchworthshop.co.uk](http://www.letchworthshop.co.uk) or phone 020 7395 9329.



## Golfers make plans for Provincial Open Golf Day at Wrag Barn GC.

Merv Johns, secretary of the Wiltshire Masonic Golf Society is hoping for another great turnout for the annual Open Golf Tournament being played at the delightful Wrag Barn Golf Club, Sevenhampton, Nr Highworth (that's North of Swindon) on Tuesday 15th August. The event is always well supported with visitors coming from far and wide, including our Masonic neighbours in Oxford, Somerset, Bristol and Hampshire & Isle of Wight. Whilst for some golf is a game of incredible skill for many of us it has to remain a good walk interspersed with the opportunity to bash the living daylight out of a little white ball; all told it could be classed as very therapeutic. On the serious side the Wiltshire Masonic Golf Society has been a significant



contributor to the Masonic Samaritan Fund 2017 Wiltshire Festival. To enter a team, donate a prize or to sponsor a hole contact Merv Johns by email [merv@chromaticarts.com](mailto:merv@chromaticarts.com) or phone 01793 512524



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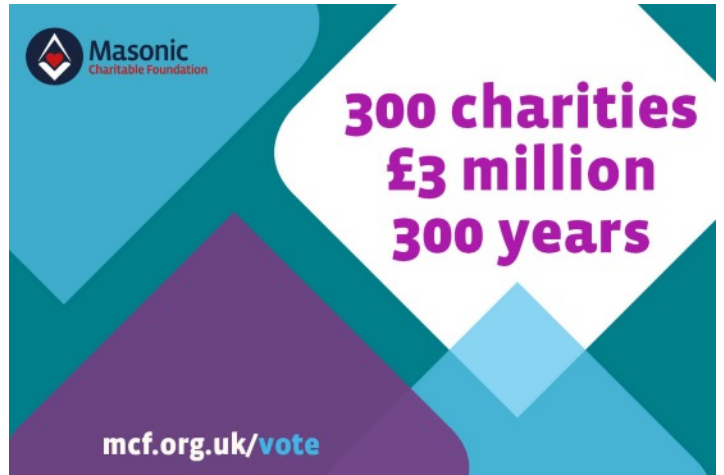
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## The election is happening this month - get ready to cast your vote.

Ian Priest reminds us that on Monday 12 June 2017 the Masonic Charitable Foundation will be opening the public vote for the MCF Community Awards Tercentenary Fund. The four charities nominated by our Province are amongst 300 to benefit from a special £3million fund that the Masonic Charitable Foundation is providing to celebrate the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Grand Lodge of England. For more detail



please contact Ian Priest or your Lodge Charity Steward; and read Ian's article in the Summer edition of Across the Plain.

## Increase in enquiries means we have to adapt.

Did you know that in the past 6 years 56 new members were welcomed into Wiltshire Freemasonry in a double initiation ceremony. Following the recent Television programme *Inside the Freemasons* we have seen an increase in enquiries from men who want to become a Freemason. To meet their expectations it is hoped Lodges will consider holding double ceremonies in order to avoid undue delay in welcoming 'good men' to a participation in our assemblies.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WILTSHIRE

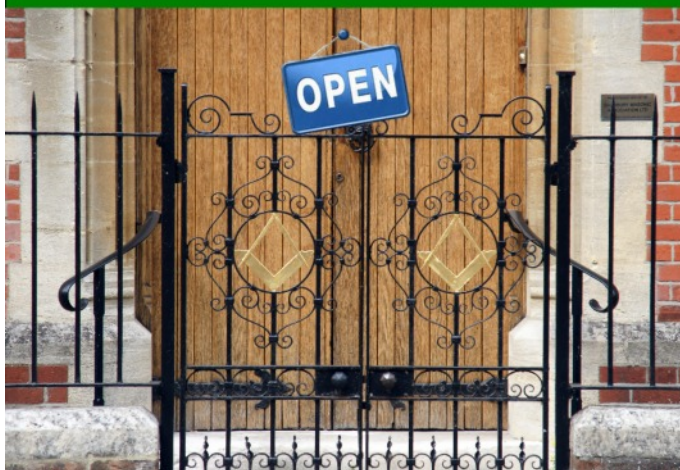


# OPEN DAY

A GUIDE TO ORGANISING A SUCCESSFUL OPEN DAY

## Open Days are a must!

Is there anything more satisfying than welcoming a visitor into the Lodge Room and hearing them say *'wow, I never expected this'*. Well that is exactly what happens when members of the public attend an Open Day and the Brethren of Clarendon Lodge No.5908 are hoping to hear lots of good comments when they hold their Open Day on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**.



The use of Open Days to promote Wiltshire Freemasonry is essential if we want to grow our membership, fill our Lodges and increase public awareness of who we are and what we do. Our Masonic Halls are buildings of interest to the public and our Lodge Rooms a positive attraction for them as they seek answers to the many questions they have on what they assume goes on 'behind closed doors'

Visit the Provincial website [www.pglwilts.org.uk](http://www.pglwilts.org.uk)



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## Lodge of Friendship and Unity No.1271 do their bit for 300 hours project.



Lodge Treasurer Alan Cole - used to counting money rather than stones.

Brethren from the Lodge have joined forces with the Canal & Rivers Trust Kennet and Avon with the aim of helping to rebuild a stone wall, which is no easy task according to Lodge Treasurer Alan Cole.

Under the guidance of chief overseer Anthony Haffenden the Masonic team have put in some back breaking work moving tonnes of stone (ask Mark Duckett) but they are enjoying erecting a structure perfect in its parts and honourable to the builder.

## Provincial Organist Mike May reminds us “Where words leave off, music begins”.



Provincial Organist Mike May is aware that many Lodges no longer have an organist to play music during a ceremony and have to rely on CDs. Mike has compiled a selection of Masonic music covering all three Degrees, the Opening and Closing Odes, the National Anthem and his very own arrangement of the Provincial Grand March. The music, which Mike will tailor to suit an individual Lodge variations is available as an MP3 file which can be recorded to

CDs and can be obtained by contacting [mikemay@talktalk.net](mailto:mikemay@talktalk.net) who asks only for a donation to Teddies for Loving Care.

## The Classic 300 Tercentenary Tour visits Wiltshire.

Showcasing 300 years of English Freemasonry The MCV is organising The Classic 300 a series of individual classic car runs taking place during 2017; and on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June the cars will come to the race track at Castle Coombe. If you're free, want to enjoy a great day out and love classic cars then Castle Coombe's the place to be.



## Consecration of Columbanus Lodge attended by Philip Bullock PrGM.

Every seat was taken in the Masonic Hall at Keynsham on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 when 34 Freemasons from across Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire came together to form a Motorcyclists Lodge. RW Bro Philip Bullock PrGM joined Brethren from Wiltshire when Columbanus Lodge No. 9941 was consecrated in a ceremony led by RWBro Stuart Hadler PrGM for Somerset.



## Bath Freemasons invite you to enjoy the 'Fringe'.

Every year the City of Bath hosts the Bath Fringe Festival and the local Masonic Hall is used as a venue for a series of events starting on the 29<sup>th</sup> May and running until 11<sup>th</sup> June. [bathboxoffice.org.uk](http://bathboxoffice.org.uk)





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## June 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### Swindon Adver interviews PrGM

Philip Bullock ProvGM features in an article by award winning local journalist Barrie Hudson for Swindons' newspaper and on the front page of the online version of Freemasonry Today. Read Philip's interview in full, simply log onto [Freemasonrytoday.com](http://Freemasonrytoday.com)



### Lodge Installation meetings in June, July and August 2017

Saturday	June	3	Forget Me Not	90351	Ludgershall
Monday	June	19	Lodge of Rectitude	335	Corsham
Tuesday	July	7	Summer Lodge	9548	TBA
Thursday	August	31	Wiltshire Masters	6731	TBA

### Chippenham caterers to serve Festival Lunch at Trowbridge



The end of festival Lunch is being held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The three course lunch is being prepared by Leigh Catering who have recently been appointed caterer to the Chippenham Masonic Hall. Lunch will be served 1.00pm with pre-lunch drinks available from 12 noon. We have been advised that RW Bro Jonathan Spence DGM will be our special guest at this event. You can book for this event online via the front page of the Provincial website or by contacting Bro. Ian Dunbar by email [pewsham1@sky.com](mailto:pewsham1@sky.com)

### Have you booked your tickets for the Teddy Bears Picnic?

Philip and Sally Bullock invite you to join them for a Teddy Bears picnic on Sunday 16th July. The event promises to be a highlight of the summer.

Join in the great 'teddy bear hunt' and 'duck race' or just put your feet up and relax in the beautiful grounds of The Grange.

The Grange offers plentiful free parking and onsite facilities. Gates will open at 1.30pm To discover more about this event contact Phil Still 01722 337880 or [phil.still@btinternet.com](mailto:phil.still@btinternet.com)

This event is raising funds on behalf of our own Teddies for Loving Care and The Supported Living Bungalow Alderbury.

## Family Garden Party & Teddy Bear's Picnic

In aid of  
Teddies for Loving Care & The Supported Living Bungalow Alderbury

Bring a Bear and get in FREE

The Grange  
Gaters Lane  
Winterbourne Dauntsey  
SP4 6ER

Sunday 16 July 2017

1.30pm to 5.30pm

Admission Adults £3.00 Children £2.00

Boys and Girls who bring their favourite bear get in FREE

For further details contact Phil Still on 01722 337880