



# Wiltshire Masonic News

The newsletter for Wiltshire Freemasons

It's National Smiles Month



April 2019

Wiltshire Freemasonry

## A smile is the universal welcome.....



May is designated National Smiles Month month, and I can think of no better way to greet a friend or Brother than with a welcome smile.

The yellow 'smiley' face was the creation of Harvey Ball a graphic artist who drew the first smiley face over 50 years ago as an employee moral booster. It has been copied and developed to reflect almost every emotion known to man; but the iconic smiley face remains the best known. Not only is a smile the universal sign of welcome; a smile costs nothing but gives much. It enriches those who receive without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None is so rich

or mighty that he cannot get along without it and none is so poor that he cannot be made rich by it. Yet a smile cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Of course, it is nigh impossible to be in a state of constant happiness, all too frequently events conspire to create moments of sadness when smiling is simply out of the question.

I know from deep personal experience how immensely difficult it is to imagine that 'there is sunshine after the rain' and my heart goes out to anyone who suffers from melancholia due to unforeseen circumstances which brings them to the lowest ebb of distress. Thankfully there are excellent services provided by the Masonic Charitable Foundation which are designed to help and assist those in need; and I commend them to anyone who is 'suffering in silence' for there really is no need to do so, and no shame whatsoever is seeking professional help and support. The Provincial Almoner John King is always ready to provide a listening ear and signpost the route to further help. John can be contacted on 01980 630651

I'm sure you have been following the incredible military initiative designed by Colin Cheshire, where for two weeks a different regiment or corps was featured in a Twitter post. Many of our Brethren have a personal association with the armed forces and it's been quite illuminating to hear their comments, particularly when their unit was mentioned. I am delighted to report that a number of positive enquiries from service personnel have been received and are currently being processed.

The Provincial Display Trailer will be 'flying the flag' on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May at Downton's famous Cuckoo Fair. It will be a very early start for the Brethren from Swindon as they have to be on-site at Downton by 7.30am. My thanks to everyone who is involved in this event, whether it's towing the Display Trailer, manning it on-site or simply supporting the Brethren by attending the fair.

Lodge of Rectitude No.335 which meets at Pickwick Masonic Hall host Dr David West for the annual Rectitude Essay on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May. Dr West's subject is 'Masonic Responsibility' - which sounds positively intriguing. Visitors are very welcome and can book for an Andrew Evan's supper by emailing the secretary at [335@pglwilts.org.uk](mailto:335@pglwilts.org.uk) For more information see the advertisement on page 2.

As a trustee of The Loganberry Trust I am always grateful for the donations made by our Lodges in Wiltshire. The Brethren of Lodge of Good Fellowship, Downton Lodge No.9064 and St Aldhelm Lodge No.2888 have recently made substantial awards to the Trust; as has The Lodge of Upright Intentions No.9200 (London) which recently presented a cheque for £900. Brethren, your kindness and generosity does not pass un-noticed and I assure you that your zeal for supporting good causes confirms to me that we were right to coin the phrase **Charity...it's in a freemasons DNA.**



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## If you disagree.....

Then say so .... The articles and views expressed in the Monthly Newsletter and its sister publication **Across the Plain** are always open to challenge, and your editor welcomes the opportunity to receive your comments on what is written. All correspondence will be answered and will be treated 'in confidence'. What the Communication Team wish to avoid is for readers to feel unable to engage in healthy debate -- so if you have 'something to say' email the editor [pcowiltshire@gmail.com](mailto:pcowiltshire@gmail.com)

## Prostate Cancer targeted.....

Many of our members will be aware of the work of The Loganberry Trust in raising awareness in the Masonic community of the importance of testing and treatment for Prostate Cancer. Each year over 40,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer; it is the most common form of cancer among men of all ages.

Our friends at the Masonic Charitable Foundation are working with Masonic Provinces to increase awareness and understanding about Prostate Cancer, empowering men and their families to make informed decisions about effective testing and treatment.

The Province of Wiltshire through its association with The Loganberry Trust is leading the way in raising awareness of prostate cancer, and congratulates the MCF which is providing financial grants to fund prostate cancer research. Masonic support precedes the formation of the MCF, dating back to 2004, when Freemasons awarded a substantial grant to fund a research project led by Professor Colin Cooper, Chairman of Cancer Genetics at the University of East Anglia. His research has led to the development of a new test which makes the vital distinction between aggressive and less harmful forms of prostate cancer, helping to avoid sometimes damaging and unnecessary treatment.

## Swindon Freemasons help SWA.....



Bro Peter Cowen of Harry C Preater Lodge No.8204 has long been the main driver of Masonic support for the Swindon Women's Refuge (now called Swindon Women's Aid). His much admired zeal in collecting Christmas 'goodies' which allows children associated with domestic abuse to enjoy the festive season is legendary, and he carries this enthusiasm over into Easter. As a result 95 Easter eggs were donated to the refuge for distribution to those in need. Recently Swindon Lodges in conjunction with Carol Gibbon have got together to help the SWA team to open their first charity shop in Swindon's town centre, one of the most exciting initiatives undertaken by Swindon Women's Aid.

The Annual  
**Rectitude Essay**  
Masonic  
Responsibility  
Dr David West

**Monday**  
**20<sup>th</sup>**  
**May**  
Lodge Tyles at  
**4.15pm**

**Masonic Hall**  
**Bath Road**  
**Pickwick**  
**Nr Corsham**  
**SN13 0HX**

To reserve a place  
[335@pglwilts.org.uk](mailto:335@pglwilts.org.uk)



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## Salisbury invites.....

**FREEMASONRY  
WHAT'S  
IT  
ALL  
ABOUT ?**

FREEMASONS' HALL  
CRANE STREET  
SALISBURY

THURSDAY 16TH MAY  
6.15PM

As part of the project to promote Freemasonry in the South of the Province, Brethren from each of the Lodges meeting in Salisbury will welcome visitors to Freemasons' Hall in Crane Street when they will be invited to discover what lies behind the doors and discover what Freemasonry is all about.

David Henery and the Salisbury Membership Group have put together a programme which will explain who we are and what we do; with contributions from David Davies and Derek Gibbens.

You are invited to join David and the team on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 6.15pm. The bar will be open and a light supper will be available at a cost of £10 per person.

## There's a train.....

The sun was shining and the sky was azure blue - the perfect day for the Provincial Communication Team to 'set up shop' at the Swindon and Cricklade Railway's Easter Eggspress event held over the Easter weekend.

This year the theme was Teddies for Loving Care and children attending were encouraged to colour a picture before enjoying a trip on a real steam train.

PrGM Philip Bullock was joined by Martin Gridley of Harry C Preater Lodge No.8204 on the footplate - both fulfilling a boyhood dream to be a train driver? The day was judged to be a great success with lots of people stopping to chat with Gordon Lindsay (Methuen Lodge No.8692) and Paul Sharp (Gooch Lodge No.1295).



Philip and Martin step onto the footplate

BRINGING YOUNG FREEMASONS IN WILTSHIRE TOGETHER

# THE SARSEN CLUB

SUPPORT | CONNECT | EDUCATE | EMPOWER

Contact Mitch Bryan 07540 166664



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## May 2019

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	31		

## Installation and other meetings

Tuesday	May	7	Loyalty	1533	Marlborough
Thursday	May	9	Elias de Derham	586	Salisbury
Monday	May	13	Harry C Preater	8204	Swindon
Monday	May	13	Downton	9064	Downton
Friday	May	17	Secs & DC s	Prov	Chippenham
Saturday	May	18	Wyvern	8620	Warminster
Thursday	May	23	Corsham	6616	Corsham
Tuesday	May	28	St Edmund	4714	Calne

Wiltshire Freemasonry



PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER  
OF WILTSHIRE


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# annual convocation

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Saturday 11th May 2019.

Assembly Hall,  
Melksham,  
Wiltshire.



Join us  
at  
Downton  
Saturday  
4th May

[lindsay.ge1947@gmail.com](mailto:lindsay.ge1947@gmail.com)



ACROSS THE PLAIN

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# John Hughes

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read John's story in the  
Summer 2019 edition of

Across the Plain

[www.pglwilts.org.uk](http://www.pglwilts.org.uk)



ARE YOU A  
LODGE SECRETARY  
OR  
DIRECTOR  
OF  
CEREMONIES?

ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY 17 MAY  
7.00PM  
CHIPPENHAM