



June 2018

Wiltshire Masonic News

The newsletter for Wiltshire Freemasons

June 'sera monath' or the dry month



Well that's what the Anglo Saxons called it, it's also 'National Smile Month' - and I knew neither of those 'useful' facts until I sat at my desk penning a few words for this edition of the popular monthly newsletter. However, I am sure we have all heard the term 'flaming June' which leads me to hope that the sun might yet shine and provide us with a glorious summer enabling us to enjoy one of the most enduring traditions of our beautiful country, the annual Wimbledon tennis championship. A fortnight when aficionados of the game will be glued to their television screens cheering their favourite player and willing them to victory as he or she plays every stroke.

On Monday 21st May, the Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation No.355 welcomed Past Assistant Grand Master RW Bro George Francis to their Bi-Centenary meeting, which was held in the Swindon Marriott Hotel, Pipers Way, Swindon. The Lodge has enjoyed a 200 year continuous presence in the town and I was delighted to lead a strong Provincial team together with Grand Officers and join them for what was a superb day of joyous celebration. You can view some of the images of the day (taken by Simon Grove) on the Provincial website www.pglwilts.org.uk



of

Young Masons will be given a warm welcome by members of the Sarsen Club who are holding a 'Cheers & Beers' evening at The Hop Inn, Devizes Road, Swindon on Friday 29th June at 7.30pm. (See notice on page 3)



I was delighted to read how twelve pupils from Uplands School in Swindon visited Walter's Lake at South Cerney to enjoy a day's fishing under the expert eye of Ian Lever and his team. Each of the young people attending have severe learning or physical disabilities, and yet with patience and care they fulfil their dream of catching a fish - or in the case of some, quite a few fish. The champion catch was a four pound Carp and if a picture can speak a thousand words, these 'say it all'. My thanks to Ian and his wife Elaine for organising the day and to everyone who took the opportunity to spend a little time with the young people. I know they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. If you would like to help and support the fishing team at their next event on Wednesday 19th September please contact Ian by email on ian@premiersm.co.uk





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Charitable giving at its very best



Swindon Freemasons from Gooch Lodge No.1295 which meets at The Masonic Centre in Swindon's Old Town recently hosted a charity evening where Tessa Watson a representative of Macmillan Nurses received a bumper cheque for £1,000, as did Ged Montgomery on behalf of Devizes based Julia's House.

Local Freemasons are keen supporters of Macmillan Nurses and Julia's House and Past Master Bruce Broughton-Johnson (*shown presenting the cheque to Macmillan's Tessa Wilson*) said "We are so pleased to be able to support such wonderful charities. Macmillan nurses are a lifeline to cancer sufferers and their families, and together with the team at Julia's House are a real inspiration to us all"

Philip Bullock PrGM said "I really am greatly impressed by the generosity of Gooch Lodge members who once again prove that 'Charity is in a Freemason's DNA'

Brethren from the Lodge of Innocence and Morality No.9587 which meets in the beautiful village of East Knoyle were welcome visitors to The Wilton Group Riding for the Disabled Association; when Bob Betchley (*pictured right*) presented a cheque for £1,000 which was raised at his Ladies Festival.

The Wilton Branch of the RDA have the use of 18 horses and ponies, and over 225 riders a year are on their books. The RDA team offers a riding experience to young people from the six local schools which cater for both physically and mentally disabled people, and they also are delighted to welcome a number of adults to their classes. Unlike any other large RDA centre in the country the Wilton Branch provides this facility at no charge to the riders and operates with a team of highly trained and enthusiastic volunteers with three part time paid employees, one of whom is a qualified instructor. Riding sessions are held in school term times from Wednesday to Saturday. It takes a lot of fund raising to cover the £85,000 a year it takes to run the centre - so the cheque presented by East Knoyle Freemasons was very much appreciated.



Seb is sky walking on a wing and a prayer.....

Sebastian Salt a member of City Lodge No.5955 which meets at Crane Street, Salisbury will be risking life and limb when he makes his first sponsored Wing Walk on a bi-plane on Sunday 10th June (weather and Charlotte permitting). Seb's aircraft will take off from, and hopefully land at Compton Abbas airfield near Salisbury on Sunday 10th June at 13:30hrs. This year Sebastian has chosen Cancer Research UK as his nominated charity and he invites you to sponsor him in this intrepid adventure. You can contact Seb at sebattheforge@live.com



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THE SARSEN CLUB QUARTERLY

cheers & beers

THE HOP INN, SWINDON

29TH JUNE, 2018 • 730 PM

7 DEVIZES ROAD, OLD TOWN, SWINDON SN1 4BJ

All club members, friends & those curious
about Freemasonry are welcome!



How are we doing?.....

The Provincial Grand Master recently reported on the success of the Province and the good news is that year on year membership is increasing with greater numbers applying to become Wiltshire Freemasons. At the same time we are reducing 'controllable' losses. However, we mustn't be complacent and should continue to make every effort to ensure that good men wanting to become Freemasons are given every assistance to fulfil their ambition. Further information will appear in the Summer edition of *Across the Plain*.

	End of April 2018	April 2017	December 2017
Initiates	43	33	91
Joining	33	21	42
Resignation	8	9	79
Died	6	12	27
Honorary	1	0	9
Excluded	1	1	8
Total Subscribing	2,308	2,273	2,246





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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	

Diary Date

The Provincial Grand Master will be delighted to welcome as many Brethren who are qualified and who wish to attend the Quarterly Communication meeting of Grand Lodge which is being held on Wednesday 13th June at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London.

For those who have never been to a Quarterly Communication meeting, it really is a great experience and one which should be undertaken by every Brother at least once in their Masonic life.



**TEDDIES FOR LOVING CARE
CAN YOUR LODGE
DONATE JUST
£300
SPEAK TO YOUR LODGE
CHARITY STEWARD**

Lodge Installation meetings and special meetings in June, July and August 2018

Saturday	June 2	Forget me Not	9035	Ludgershall
Monday	June 16	Rectitude	335	Corsham
Friday	July 6	Summer Lodge	9548	T.B.A.
Friday	Aug 31	Masters	6731	T.B.A.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Myth, misunderstanding, ignorance or prejudice, whatever it is Freemasons must speak up and say

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Fake news, plain untruths or just lazy exaggeration, whatever it is Freemasons must speak up and say

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

False reports, absurd claims of Masonic influence whatever it is Freemasons must speak up and say

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Are you ready to complete your journey in pure Antient Masonry ?

