



We are over halfway through the year.....



As we enter the month of August I am reminded of the wonderful words of Helen Winslow who wrote *"The brilliant poppy flaunts her head Amidst the ripening grain, And adds her voice to sell the song That August's here again."* How simple and yet so profound, and this very morning as I looked out from my study window over the field on the other side of my garden wall her words took on a real sense of meaning, for there was a tall poppy, its blood red flower dancing in the wind - August is here again. Summer's last stand. But what a summer we have had with wall to wall sunshine and temperatures soaring into the 30's persuading even the maddest of Englishmen to avoid the midday sun.

I'm sure that like me you were spoiled for choice when it came to watching sport during July, whatever your preference there seemed to be something for everyone. The Soccer World Cup, Wimbledon, while closer to home the Barbury Horse Trials (just outside Marlborough) attracted a record attendance, and in Scotland and The Open at Carnoustie. Which leads me nicely to the subject of the Provincial Open Golf tournament which is once again being held at the Wrag Barn Golf Club, Sevenhampton (close to Highworth) on **Thursday 14th August**. Contact Merv Johns if you wish to play or enter a team for what I am sure will be a great days golf.

As you can imagine the Provincial Grand Secretary's team has been finalising the arrangements for the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge in Salisbury on **Thursday 4th October**. Please do put the date in your diary, as it really would be superb to fill the auditorium at City Hall for what I am sure you will agree is the most important meeting of the Provincial calendar. I look forward to welcoming Brethren from across the Province.

**PROVINCIAL
GRAND
LODGE**

**Thursday 4th October
City Hall Salisbury**

I do recommend the short piece on *Removing White Gloves.....the rule*. I know that for some Brethren the topics raised by the editor have caused emails to flow to and fro as various opinions have been offered, some in support and others less so. The role of the editor is not only to publish factual news and information; it is also to challenge and inform. Sometimes the challenges may be controversial and met by disagreement, and should a Brother feel the need to object to a point of view, I absolutely encourage them to respond to the editor who is more than able to defend his position. Seething quietly, and complaining in private serves no useful purpose whatsoever; but let me also ask that you maintain an open mind and be receptive to new ideas

The Sarsen Club has extended an invitation to the 'younger' Freemasons in the Province (if you are under the age of 45 that makes you a young Freemason) to join them for another '**cheers and beers**' evening at the Flying Monk Tavern, Market Place, Chippenham on **Friday 10th August** at 7.30pm. An Informal event at which friends and family can enjoy a pint and a chat. This event follows their successful visits to the Bombay Sapphire Gin Distillery and the Hop Inn in Swindon's Old Town. Our younger Brethren are the future of our Order and it really is good to see their enthusiasm for Wiltshire Freemasonry. You can follow The Sarsen Club on their Facebook site and Twitter site.

THE SARSEN CLUB QUARTERLY

cheers & beers

**FLYING MONK
TAVERN, CHIPPENHAM**

10th August 2018 • 730 PM

6 MARKET PL, CHIPPENHAM SN15 3HD

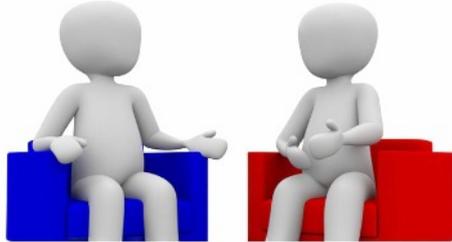
**All club members, friends & those curious
about Freemasonry are welcome!**





Just Ask campaign is up and running.....

Interested in
Wiltshire Freemasonry?



Just Ask

In July the Provincial Grand Master Philip Bullock launched the 'Just Ask' campaign and endorsed the publication of a new leaflet which seeks to answer a few of the many questions asked by men attracted to Freemasonry. The colourful leaflet is not intended to be a complete reference work on Wiltshire Freemasonry or of the Craft in general, rather its aim is to invite the inquirer to 'Just Ask' for more information. The cover design and content is deliberately neutral and does not use images of Freemasons, It is anticipated that when the 'Just Ask' leaflet is given to an interested person, a friendly local Freemason will be on hand to give a little 'sales' pitch, and engage with the person and answer their questions.

Removing White Gloves - the rule.....

On a recent Lodge visit made during the very hot weather the question was asked- could the Brethren remove their white gloves (amazingly you do feel noticeably cooler without them). Permission was granted, but the decision was greeted with some very odd looks; so what is the rule ?

Let us start with answer to the question, which is there really is no rule only guidance. The Deputy Grand Secretary Graham Redman a most reliable guide on Masonic style, writes in his book on 'Masonic Etiquette' (p.28) that *'in Grand Lodge white gloves are an essential part of a Brother's regalia and are regarded as such in the majority of private lodges - but [in the latter] gloves do not have to be worn...'* A Report by the Board of General Purposes dated 10th June 1964 sets out the Grand Lodge guidelines:

'It is left to the discretion of the Master of each Lodge to decide, after considering the interests of the members generally, whether to request that they be worn. When such a request is made it should include all present and not only the officers. If gloves are worn they should be worn at all times except:

- *By Candidates for the three Degrees - throughout the ceremony,*
- *By the Master Elect - when actually taking his Obligation on the V.S.L.*

There is no objection to Entered Apprentices and Fellowcraft wearing gloves when not actually being Passed or Raised.' Apprentices and Fellowcraft are not *obliged* to wear gloves until after they are Raised although if it is the Lodge tradition then they should always comply.

Several points arise for a Master's consideration. While the default position of Grand Lodge is *'gloves are to worn'*, as they can be optional in a Provincial lodge the onus is on the Master/Secretary out of courtesy to visitors to include this requirement on the Lodge Summons: e.g. *'Dark Suit and White Gloves.*

So back to the issue of hot hands- while some Brethren may be discombobulated by the practice of removing gloves in the Lodge room, It has often been customary on warm days for the Master to indicate that Brethren *may* remove their gloves. The advice proffered is that either all present or none should remove their gloves, with a form of phrasing which might well be: *'The Temple (Lodge Room) is very warm, Brethren, let us all remove our gloves'*. After all, we are all Brothers equally entitled to the same regard.



Welcoming new Freemason.....



Wiltshire Freemasonry



PHILIP BULLOCK
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER
INVITES YOU AND YOUR PARTNER

NEW MEMBERS' RECEPTION

CHIPPENHAM MASONIC HALL
EMERY GATE
SN15 3JP
SATURDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER
7.00 PM

How many times have you heard it said that for a lodge to grow it must be a welcoming place for the new member. Equally it could be said that for Freemasonry to continue to flourish it must offer the new member something different to what is available from other worthy organisations keen to attract his attention.

On Saturday 1st September the Provincial Grand Master is hosting a New Members Reception at Chippenham Masonic Hall and it is hoped that as many Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Masons, together with their partners will attend on the evening. The evening will be very informal with just a few short presentations including from The Sarsen Club; with an opportunity for you and your partner to ask any questions. There will be a bar and buffet available.

To book your place at this important event please contact the Assistant Provincial Grand Secretary Rob Evans robtevenspglw@gmail.com

Seeking to be different.....

The Communication Team promotes Freemasonry at all levels throughout the Province. Externally we promote the principles of Freemasonry by informing the public who we are and what we do. You may think that Freemasonry has survived 300 years without needing to be promoted. Is that the case or was it that there was no alternative to Freemasonry, no Lions, Rotary, Moose or Round Table? Internally we promote The Holy Royal Arch and other Orders beyond the Craft and this is one of the new adverts aimed at encouraging new Master Masons to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge and take the next step in Masonry.....



LIVE

breakyourownnews.com

BREAKING NEWS

ROYAL ARCH ... THE FOURTH STEP!

21:14 **COMPLETE YOUR JOURNEY IN PURE ANTIENT MASONRY**



Wiltshire Masonic News

The newsletter for Wiltshire Freemasons



August 2018

Wiltshire Freemasonry

August 2018

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		

ACTIVE PROVINCIAL OFFICERS DINNER

Saturday 15th September 2018



Where: The Bear Hotel, Devizes

Time: 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Dress: Black Tie



“ASK NOT WHAT YOUR PROVINCE CAN DO FOR YOU – ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR PROVINCE.”

With apologies to John F Kennedy

The Provincial Communication Team is looking for volunteers to help organise and man the Provincial display unit at venues throughout the county. If you can help please contact - pco@pglwilts.org.uk

Lodge Installation meetings and special meetings in August and September

Friday	Aug	31	Wilts Masters	6731	T.B.A.
Tuesday	Sept	18	St Aldhelm	2888	Malmesbury
Thursday	Sep	20	Vastern	8977	Lydiard
Wednesday	Sep	26	Moonraker	8747	Devizes
Wednesday	Sep	26	GD of Kent	8788	Swindon
Thursday	Sep	27	New Temple	8435	Swindon

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE

Date: Thursday 4th October

Time: 2.30pm (be seated by 2.15pm)

Place: City Hall, Salisbury



PSA Testing

Calne Masonic Hall

Saturday 4th August

10.30am until 1.00pm

SORRY

The Province is grateful for every pound given to support Teddies for Loving Care. A recent request for support asked Lodges to consider donating £300 per annum, whereas the figure being sought should properly have been £150.



TEDDIES FOR LOVING CARE

CAN YOUR LODGE

DONATE JUST

£150

SPEAK TO YOUR LODGE

CHARITY STEWARD