



The District Wire



The Newsletter of the District Grand Lodge of Cyprus

Issue No. 12

“Keeping Members in Touch”

Spring 2013

Othello Lodge Banner Dedication



On the 6th February 2013, the District Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Theodosios Theodossiou, with the Deputy, V.W. Bro. Eric Williams and the Assistant W.Bro. Andrew Theocharous, together with their ladies and accompanied by 15 District Officers with a sprinkling of their ladies, met in Larnaca.

Whilst the ladies were looked after at a wine and canapé reception at the Postcards Restaurant, on McKenzie Seafront, these distinguished Masons joined the Brethren and Guests of Othello Lodge No. 5670 at a Temple created at the San Remo Hotel, for a Banner Dedication Ceremony. It was deliberately timed to coincide with Othello Lodge's 75th Anniversary and was made possible by a generous donation from W.Bro. Pamos Georgiades. He sponsored the Banner which was designed, gratis, by Bro. Bob King. Further donations from the Worshipful Master W.Bro. Kyriacos Andreou Bros. Polys Kyriacou and Savvas Tantis resulted in a booklet "The History of Othello Lodge" describing the



first 75 years. This was given to each of the Brethren attending. This History was researched and written by W.Bro. Duncan John Moore, who sadly passed to the Grand Lodge Above on the 10th February 2013. Further copies are available from the Lodge Secretary at €10 a copy.

At the conclusion of the Ceremony, the Brethren adjourned to the Postcards Restaurant to join the Ladies. The menu for the Festive Board duplicated that of the Banquet served

at the Consecration of Othello Lodge in 1938. Unusually at the banquet gifts were given to the Brethren and not the ladies and comprised of a framed 1946 Peace Stamp. These were minted 8 years after the consecration of Othello Lodge. Along with the stamp was an explanation of its symbolical Masonic meaning, produced for the occasion by Othello's Lodge Secretary.

Strength to Strength

In the Spring Issue of "Freemasonry Today", Pro Grand Master Peter Lowndes reflected upon the need to recruit new members and explained why Freemasonry should remember its history while keeping an eye firmly on the future. It may be accessed via www.freemasonrytoday.com

Othello Chapter Banner Dedication



On Friday the 15th February 2013 the Deputy Grand Superintendent E.Comp. Eric Williams with the 2nd District Grand Principal E.Comp. Gerry Goldsack and the 3rd District Grand Principal E.Comp. Andrew Theocharous together with 11 District Grand Chapter Officers, travelled to Larnaca to conduct a Banner Dedication Ceremony for Othello Chapter No. 5670.

The Consecrating Team presented a superb and well-prepared Banner Dedication at the Masonic Temple in the San Remo Hotel. After the Dedication all the Companions retired to the Postcards Restaurant on McKenzie beach for a well-deserved Festive Board.



Grand Charity Concert

The Grand Charity Concert by the Royal Air Force Regiment Band, Cranwell, will be held on Thursday 6th June 2013 @ 7.00 pm in the Castle Square, Paphos Harbour, in aid of The Paphos Municipal Social Store ((Δημοτικό Κοινωνικό Παντοπωλείο Πάφου) & other Charities in Cyprus. Further details on attached poster

Riding for the Disabled Receives Boost from Masonic Charity

On 11th April, W.Bro. Brian Brown, President of the District Board of Benevolence, presented a cheque for €1000 to the Riding for the Disabled Association (Episkopi). This followed an appeal for assistance towards the cost of arranging weekly rides for disabled children as well as for the upkeep of the horses.



The cheque was received by Frank Windle, Chairman of the Association.

Craft Installations



On 18th February, Bro. Mike Johnson was Installed as W.M. of Peace & Harmony Lodge No. 9852 (left).

The 21st February saw Bro. Achilleas Tsangaris Installed as W.M. of Zenon 18 Lodge No.9818 (right).



On 11th April, W.Bro. Chris Jeary, PDJGD, (left) was Installed as W.M. of Dionysos Lodge No. 9716 (left).

Friends for Life Benefit from Masonic Charity

On 15th April, W.Bro. Brian Brown, President of the Board of Benevolence, presented a cheque for €700 to Friends for Life Cancer Care. This followed an appeal for assistance in paying the first 2 months rental on a new Charity Shop in Limassol. The cheque was received by Ann Gifford, Shop Manager, Assistant Irene Sarris and Chairman of the Executive Committee of Friends for Life, Mike Nanson.



Departed Brethren

As brethren should be aware, following the approval of the District Grand Master, the District Webmaster has devised a page for the District Grand Lodge of Cyprus website – www.cyprus-freemasons.org.cy. The new page is represented by the "Forget Me Not" on the home page and allows you to read about those within the District who have recently passed to the Grand Lodge Above. The initial entries record the Passing of our Past



District Grand Master, R.W. Bro Simon Waley and W. Bro. Duncan Moore and they allow us to reflect upon the details of their lives and their personal achievements – Masonic and non-Masonic.

Our District Webmaster has prepared guidance notes for the benefit of those thought best-suited to prepare such a celebration of the lives of those who are no longer with us, namely the Lodge/Chapter Almoner and Lodge Secretary/Chapter Scribe E. This will enable details to be submitted for the benefit of all, present and future, who wish to learn about those whom we have lost from our fraternal association. The initial plan is for full details to be accessible in this manner for a period of six months and for the details to then be entered in a District Archive which will continue to be freely available to all brethren. Details of the suggested format for submissions have been made available to assist those who wish to bring to the attention of our community the passing of a Brother and Companion. In this way we will be able to record and celebrate those whose fellowship we are no longer able to enjoy, yet whose lives we wish to honour.

Lord Kitchener Lodge's Cheer for Needy Children

For many years, Lord Kitchener Lodge No. 3402 has held a fund raising Carol Service at the beginning of December to collect donations of pre-wrapped toys for distribution as Christmas presents to needy children in the local area. In conjunction with the local Social Services, the Master decides on where the toys are to be distributed, so each year a different group of the disadvantaged benefits. The Master, W.Bro. Richard Phillips seen here with Maria Panayi (Social Worker) and the I.P.M. W.Bro. Shaun O'Connell, decided this year to help the children and teenagers of those families officially listed as living in conditions of extreme poverty within the Larnaca area. After consultation with Social Services it was discovered that there were 106 children on the official list. The appeal was so successful, that not only did The Lodge manage to provide a suitable Christmas present for each child and teenager on the list, there was some money left over. It was therefore decided to use this money and to launch another appeal at Easter aimed at providing an Easter egg for every child on the list. After further consultation with Social Services, the Lodge was aghast to discover that the number of children on this list had doubled to 212 in only 3 months. Thanks to the generosity of the Brethren and friends of Lord Kitchener Lodge, the appeal was again very successful and every one of the 212 children and teenagers were given an Easter egg this Orthodox Easter. Special mention must go to two donations we received, firstly to the Master and all the Brethren of Lakeside Lodge No. 9869 for their very generous cheque and secondly to all the staff and members of the Dhekelia Scouts for their donation of





nearly 50 individual Easter eggs. The adjacent picture shows W.Bro. Richard Phillips with his lady, Caroline Phillips and W.Bro. Shaun O'Connell and the eggs that were donated.

Please send your articles and pictures (small jpeg please) of charity events, special occasions or of general interest for inclusion in The District Wire to the Editor, W.Bro. Peter Baldwin - thedistrictwire@gmail.com

Editing Team:

DepDistGM & PresDistBBen

From our own DGDC

At a recent Installation Meeting I was asked the following question: "Why did a District Grand Officer retire with all those below the rank of Installed Master?" This is an interesting question and involves the interpretation of both Aprons and Collar Jewels. In fact during the retirement of all those below the rank of Installed Master there could be four types of Brother retiring to whom this is relevant.

The First Brother: The District Grand Master in accordance with Rule 69(b) of the Book of Constitutions may appoint, by dispensation from the Grand Master to **Past** District Rank only (normally to Past District Grand Standard Bearer), a Brother (normally a Master Mason) who has rendered meritorious service to the Craft and has become a subscribing member of a Lodge in his District. The Brother so appointed would normally wear a District Apron and Collar, so a quick glance would identify him as a District Grand Officer, but looking carefully at his Apron, in the place where an Installed Master would have three sets of perpendicular lines upon horizontal lines (this is the correct description in accordance with the Book of Constitutions which does not use the word Levels!), he would have three dark blue Rosettes, thus identifying him as a Master Mason. The Apron Badge is the same for both the Past and the Acting District Grand Officer and in the case of the aforementioned it will be the badge of a District Grand Standard Bearer. This is in the form of a double circle (four inch diameter) and within the centre two Standards in Saltire; the Dexter (left) bearing the Arms of Grand Lodge and the Sinister (right) bearing the Arms of the current Grand Master and over the top would be embroidered the name of his District. The only identification of a Past or Acting District Grand Officer is via the Collar Jewel, the Past District Grand Officer will wear a blue enameled oval jewel with the Grand Standard Bearer emblem engraved within it and over the centre, the name of the District. The Acting District

Grand Officer's Collar Jewel is a three inch diameter (brass / bronze) circular open Jewel with the emblem appropriate to rank and the name of the District engraved over the top. In Cyprus we currently have one Master Mason who is a Past District Grand Standard Bearer.

The Second Brother: Would be dressed the same as the above mentioned Brother and would be a Past Provincial Grand Officer and the only difference would be that his Apron Badge would show which one of the 47 Provinces he belonged to. I know of two, regular Master Mason visitors to Cyprus, who are Past Provincial Grand Standard Bearers.

The Third Brother: This Brother belongs to the Metropolitan Grand Lodge of London (established in 2003). All Lodges within 5 miles radius of Freemasons Hall (it used to be 10miles) are London Lodges and currently comprise of some 1500 Lodges. The history of the Honours system within the London Lodges is too long to explain in this short article, suffice it to say that the Metropolitan Honours system is now a three grade system and in descending order; Senior Metropolitan (London) Grand Rank, Metropolitan (London) Grand Rank and Metropolitan (London) Rank. The Metropolitan Grand Master may confer the rank of London Rank on Master Masons in Lodges in his Metropolitan Area who have, like their counterparts within the District and Provincial Grand Lodges, rendered long and meritorious service to the Craft in their Metropolitan Area. The holders of Metropolitan (London) Rank take precedence immediately after holders of London Grand Rank and if later they pass through the Chair they automatically become holders of Metropolitan (London) Grand Rank. A Holder of London Rank will be dressed in a similar fashion to Past District and Past Provincial Grand Officers except for the Apron Badge and the Collar Jewel. The Apron Badge will be similar in size and shape as the Past District and Past Provincial Grand Officers but without any emblem in the centre and with the name of the Metropolitan Area (currently only London!) embroidered over the centre. The Collar Jewel is again much the same but without any emblem in the centre and with the name of the Metropolitan Area etched over the centre.

The Fourth Brother: Would be dressed much the same as the Holder of Metropolitan (London) Rank, except that the Apron Badge, albeit the same shape and size as the Holder of London Rank will have the word **OVERSEAS** embroidered over the centre and likewise the Collar Jewel will have the word **OVERSEAS** etched over the centre. Overseas Areas are small Groups of Lodges too small to become Districts and are under Grand Inspectors. There are currently Four Groups, Malta (2 Lodges), Montreal and Halifax (3 Lodges), Portugal (4 Lodges) and South West Pacific which comprise Suva, Fiji Islands (3 Lodges). Overseas Groups have a three grade Honours system which consists in descending order,

Senior Overseas Grand Rank, Overseas Grand Rank and Overseas Rank.

A few interesting facts: you will notice that at an Installation Meeting the four mentioned Brothers are also honoured with three Salutes and at Festive Boards they are honoured by the Toast from the Junior Warden. The entitlement, by dispensation, for the District / Provincial Grand Master to appoint Past District / Provincial Rank to Master Masons has been with us circa 60 years. London Rank was introduced by His Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught in 1907 and abolished in 1939 in favour of London Grand Rank (at the time all Holders of London Rank automatically became Holders of London Grand Rank). Senior London Grand Rank was instituted in 1979. London Rank, for Master Masons, was reintroduced in 1998. All Holders of Metropolitan (London Rank) who later become Past Masters automatically become Holders of Metropolitan (London) Grand Rank. All Master Masons who are Past District or Past Provincial Grand Officers have no guaranteed promotion if they later become Past Masters.

Wedding Celebration in the U.K.



On the 8th February, W.Bro. Steve Goddard, the IPM of Agapinor Lodge No. 8905, married Tracy. The accompanying picture shows the happy couple looking absolutely splendid on their special day. We

wish them all the very best for their future together.

Visit to Great Queen Street



This year, Bro Garry Bartlam visited Freemasons' Hall in Great Queen Street and because there was a fashion show taking place, there were no tours. Undeterred, he visited the museum and saw an item from Othello Lodge No. 5670. He therefore enquired about items associated with Lord Kitchener Lodge No. 3402. Within minutes the Curator returned from the store with Lord Kitchener's apron and jewel, pictures of which are shown here.



More from our own DGDC

Breast Jewels – the Holy Royal Arch Part 2

In the last edition of the 'Wire' I explained what I believed was the most important inscription on the obverse or front side of the Royal Arch Jewel and I suspect (or hope) that by now you will all have your name engraved in the appropriate space provided.

We now come to the inscription engraved within the circle on the obverse side of the Jewel – "*Si Talis Jungere Possis Sit Tibe Scire Satis*". A literal translation is "*If you were able to join such things, it would be enough for you to know*". In this context *Jungere* (to join) probably means to make a mental connection or to understand in which case the inscription reads; "*If you were able (could) to understand (join) such things, it would be enough for you to know*". In other words, once we have understood the true meaning of the Holy Royal Arch we have gained all the Masonic knowledge we require for us to hope to ascend to those celestial mansions of the Grand Lodge Above. This inscription is telling us that the Holy Royal Arch is the final step in "Pure Ancient Freemasonry". "If you could understand these things, you would know enough" – our search for Masonic Knowledge is now fully satisfied. Remember the inscription reads if you could understand these things. At the bottom of the circle are spaces for the date of your Exaltation to be recorded in both AL and AD format, so more engraving before your Jewel is complete. More in the next edition of the District Wire.

Homework – Look at the Book of Constitutions (2012 edition) page 182 Plate 47 and page 2 Rule 5 and 6 – do you notice something not quite right? As the prize has not been claimed, I will leave the answer until the next edition.

More from the U.K.

We are grateful to W.Bro. Redvers Webber, PAGDC, who has sent us a copy of an interesting print from Jacques Chailley's 'The Magic Flute' which is now out of print.



District Regalia Officer

The Cyprus District Regalia Officer is W.Bro. George Convey. He is responsible for ordering regalia for Brethren in Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Master Mason Lodges, Royal Ark Mariner Lodges and any other Regalia or Lodge Banners. If you have a requirement, please contact W.Bro. Convey in good time at regalia@cyprus-freemasons.org.cy



GRAND CHARITY MILITARY BAND CONCERT by the ROYAL AIR FORCE REGIMENT BAND, CRANWELL



SUPPORTED CHARITY 2013

The Paphos Municipal
Social Store
(Δημοτικό Κοινωνικό
Παντοπωλείο Πάφου)
And other Charities in Cyprus

BAR AVAILABLE

Beer/Wine/Soft Drinks
On sale before the Concert
and during the Interval



TICKETS 10 Euros available from:

Hearn's Book Shop, Coral Bay
Fitzgerald Estate Agents,
Paphos
Chilly's Shops
Chris Jeary 991 99581
30th April to 6th June

TICKET SALES KIOSK

Paphos Harbour
Daily 10.30 – 14.00
18.00 – 20.30
29th May – 6th June

**THURSDAY JUNE 6, 2013 at 7.00 p.m.
Castle Square, Paphos Harbour**

Sincere thanks go to the MUNICIPALITY OF PAPHOS
and the ANTIQUITIES DEPARTMENT, NICOSIA
for very generously providing the venue



Sponsored by the
DISTRICT GRAND LODGE of CYPRUS



The Band appears by kind permission of the
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