



# WORCESTERSHIRE SOURCE

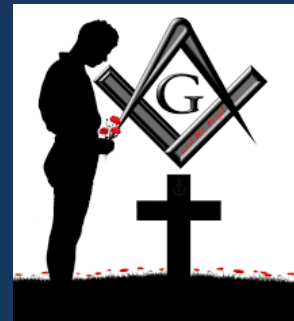
The Newsletter of Worcestershire Freemasons



## We will remember them...

You may be aware that this year's Remembrance Sunday on 11th November 2018 marked the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. Worcestershire Freemasons attended numerous Remembrance Sunday parades and laid wreaths at several towns' war memorials. We know that representatives from several of our Masonic Centres and individual Lodges are involved in their local Commemorations every year and they are to be congratulated on their engagement with our local communities.

Our Provincial Grand Master thanks all those who took part, and it is fitting that a selection of photos from a range of events is displayed in this edition.



ED

In Redditch, RW Bro Robert Vaughan, together with RW Bro David F Macey, Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire and RW Bro Eric Rymer, Provincial Grand Master of Worcestershire Mark Masons, led a parade of masons from both provinces through the town to the War Memorial. After a very moving ceremony, wreaths were laid not only by the brethren but my many other military and community organisations.



As well as Redditch, freemasons attended similar parades in Stourport-on-Severn, Kings Heath, Kidderminster, Stourbridge, Pershore, Evesham, Droitwich and Halesowen







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W Bro Peter Ricketts PPSGW CM Chaplain of the Lodge of Hope & Charity No. 377 at Kidderminster, surprised members when, instead of the usual after-dinner Grace, he recited this poem...



## At Day's End

*Is anybody happier because you passed their way?  
Does anyone remember that you spoke to them today?  
The day is almost over, and its toiling time is through  
Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?*

*Can you say tonight in parting with the day that's slipping  
fast  
That you helped a single brother of the many that you  
passed?*

*Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said?  
Does the man whose hopes were fading now with courage  
look ahead?*

*Did you waste the day or lose it?  
Was it well or truly spent?  
Did you leave a trail of kindness or a scar of discontent?  
As you close your eyes in slumber  
do you think that God will say,*

*You have earned one more tomorrow  
by the deeds you did today?*



## Worcestershire Freemasonry also represented at the Cenotaph



WBro George Brannigan, current Treasurer of Francis Burgess Lodge No: 9287, attended the Remembrance Sunday Parade at the Cenotaph in London. As a retired Police Officer and a member of the National Association of Retired Police Officers he made application to become one of the twenty four members chosen to represent the Association.

He said "I am very privileged to have been chosen to attend and to have been able to take part and by doing so representing not only the retired Police Officers but also my Brethren in Freemasonry".





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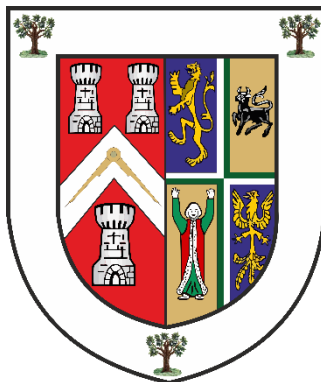
## SAVE THE DATE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2018                 | <b>PROVINCIAL CAROL SERVICE, 3PM PERSHORE</b>     |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> January 2019                  | <b>Talking Heads Presentation (Worcester)</b>     |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2019 | <b>Ladies Festival Weekend (Bournemouth)</b>      |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019                     | <b>Provincial Lecture competition (Redditch)</b>  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2019                    | <b>Provincial Lecture Competition (Stourport)</b> |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2019                      | <b>Provincial Grand Lodge CHATEAU IMPNEY</b>      |

The following Brethren have passed to the Grand Lodge above since our last newsletter.

W Bro R. E. G. Seale, Swinford Lodge (Erased), No 5729  
W Bro R. Hart, Abbott Lichfield Lodge, No. 3308  
W Bro C J Pratt, Morgan Lodge No.9816  
W Bro D J White, Old Carolian Lodge No. 7599  
W Bro K P Withnall, Royds Lodge No 1204  
W Bro R J Denham, Crystal Lodge No. 8881  
W Bro D A Walker, Royal Standard Lodge No. 498  
W Bro J F Icke, Elmley Castle Lodge no. 6247  
W Bro A R Veal, Kings Norton Lodge No. 4001  
W Bro R Clee, Kings Norton Lodge No. 4001  
W Bro C V Moule, Sebright Lodge of Old Wolvernians No. 8007  
Bro J Wilkinson, Severn Lodge No. 5583  
W Bro B Newman, Minster Lodge No. 5581

## News from Province



Last month saw the launch of our new super-duper improved Provincial web site.

Giving you easy access on a range of devices from news, information to goings on in and around the Province!

Check it out at

[www.worcspgl.org](http://www.worcspgl.org)

## Provincial Carol Service 2018



A Carol Concert will be held on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December at Pershore Abbey at 3.00pm.

All are welcome - Family (including children) and friends are encouraged to attend.

Refreshments and festive mince pies will be available after the service

## Happy Christmas!

The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master

**Robert Christopher Vaughan,**

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master

**Stephen J Wyer**

and

The Assistant Provincial Grand Masters

**Keith M Evans,**

**Michael D Cox** and

**Patrick V Firminger**

together with their Families

Send

Warm Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for a Prosperous and Healthy New Year to all Brethren and their Families







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## The Raffle King!

50 year Certificate awarded to W Bro Vic Southan.

Initiated in 1968 into the Sebright Lodge of Old Wolvernians No 8007, Vic was presented with a 50 year Certificate by the RW Robert Vaughan in the Lodge Rooms at Halesowen on 10th November in the company of his wife, Marge and over 70 family and friends. The evening was completed with a Ladies to Dine Festival Dinner.



Vic was awarded Grand Rank in 1997 and a Certificate of Merit in 2011 for his success in raising in excess of half a million pounds for various charities.

It was alleged he was born with a Raffle Ticket book in his hand!

Vic is a member of several Craft Lodges and other Orders. He has been married to Marge since 1957, they have 2 children and 7 grandchildren

## The 100th Anniversary of Lodge of the Mystic Quest No 3873.

A great evening was had by all celebrating one hundred years of the Lodge of The Mystic Quest on Tuesday 30th October 2018. Led by The Provincial Grand Master and the whole of the Provincial team supporting the Lodge and driving it forward into a bright new future and hopefully another one hundred years!



Congratulations must go of course to the other two lodges who also celebrated their centenaries recently - St Mary's Lodge No 3879 and Kings Heath Lodge No 3863.



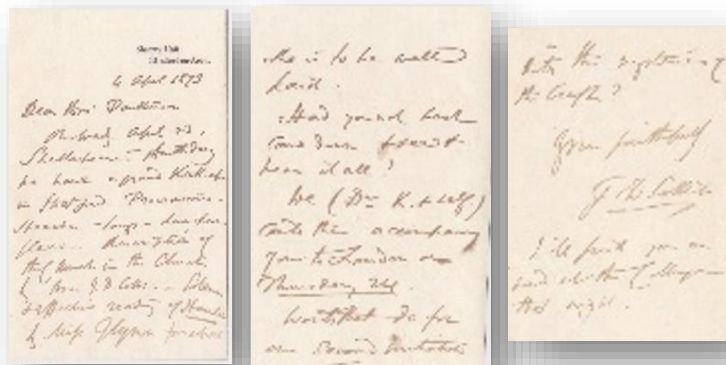
Left to right - Ms. Nikki Thorpe, Bromsgrove School Archivist, Mr. Peter Clague, Headmaster, W. Bro. Victor Matts Worshipful Master of The Old Bromsgrovian Lodge No. 5743 and Past Master W. Bro. Hugh Furber who arranged the presentation of the exhibit below.

## Internet Discovery! – The following tells the tale of a letter discovered on the internet by W. Bro. Dr. Neil Gibbs and subsequently acquired by the Old Bromsgrovian Lodge No. 5743.

A presentation of an exhibit relating to the late Dr. Collis was made to the Headmaster of Bromsgrove School on the 9 October. The pictures below are copies of the component parts of an exhibit now in retention in the Lodge's file in the Library.

This letter is from The Revd. Dr. J. D. Collis, a distinguished Headmaster of Bromsgrove School (1843-1867), to a Bro. Parkinson. At the time of writing, Dr. Collis was the Vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon. He was an active Freemason, a member of Westminster and Keystone Lodge No. 10, and was Provincial Grand Chaplain of Middlesex in 1874. During his successful tenure as Headmaster, Dr. Collis, saw pupil numbers rise from 17 in 1843 to 100 in 1865. He embarked upon a building construction and improvement programme, which included the erection of new classrooms and the building of a chapel (The Old Chapel) in 1850. It is fitting that The Old Chapel is the meeting place of the Old Bromsgrovian Lodge.

The letter was acquired by members of the Old Bromsgrovian Lodge and presented to the School in 2018. The original letter is held in the School archives. The transcript reads (SIC) **"4 April 1873. Dear Bro Parkinson, On Wednesday April 23, Shakespeare's Birthday we have a grand Kick-up in Stratford Processions – Speeches – Songs - Luncheon, Pleasant description of the Church in the Church by Bro JD Collis – a Solemn and effective reading of Hamlet by Miss Glynn for which she is to be well paid. Had you not best come down and see and hear it all? We (Dr K and self) could then accompany you to London on Thursday 24. Would that do for our Second initiations into the mysteries of the Craft? Yours faithfully J D Collis"**

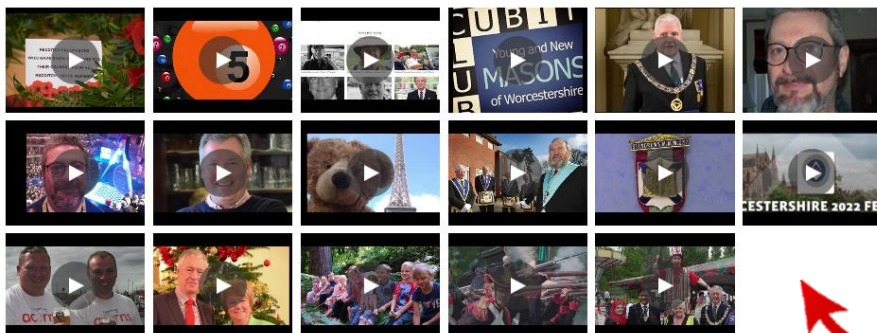




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## PODCAST



The range of Podcasts and Videos increases on the Province's YouTube Channel – to review them click on the pictures or [CLICK HERE](#) to go directly to the Province's YouTube Channel.

## Provincial Lecture Competition 2019

The 2019 series of 20-minute lectures commences on 1st April (no joking - unless you're a serious contestant!) No pre-booking is required to attend in the audience and there will be no admission charge.

All masons are welcome, as are their families and friends. The dates are as follows:

- Monday 1st April at Redditch Masonic Hall
- Thursday 11th April at Stourport Masonic Hall
- A third date will be announced shortly and will probably be held at Rainbow Hill

All these events will start at 7.30 prompt with the bar open from 7.00 pm

For further information contact W Bro Kerry Parkes Provincial Orator [kerryiparkes@gmail.com](mailto:kerryiparkes@gmail.com)



The Ladies' Festival Weekend is now fully supported by the rulers of the province; Bookings have been received from the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and all three Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, as well as other senior acting officers.

## Ladies' Festival Weekend



To be held at the Hermitage Hotel Bournemouth  
on 1st - 3rd February 2019.

The cost of the weekend will be £175.00 per person\* for two nights' accommodation and will include:

- 3-course a-la-carte dinner on Friday evening.
- Six-course Banquet with live music and dancing on Saturday evening.
- Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Non-Masonic guests will be most welcome

Make sure to reserve YOUR place [HERE](#)







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## Stories and events from around the Province...

### Lottery Donations add to total...

A grant of £4,000 from Worcestershire Freemasons was presented to the Midlands Air Ambulance Trust at Strensham by RW Bro Robert Vaughan. This amount has brought the total Masonic support given to air ambulances across the country to over £2.3 million since 2007.



In additional - A further £3,000 cheque from the Worcestershire Provincial Lottery was presented by the Chairman of the Provincial Lottery Committee WBro Derek Taylor.



Later the same day the presentation party travelled to Worcester to present a Lottery funded £3,000 cheque to Acorn Hospice in Worcester.

With the subscribing members help and support, The Provincial Lottery has been able to offer financial assistance since its inception to numerous Provincial charities, to the tune of a remarkable £165,000 – including £20,000 to the festival appeal in aid of the MCF, which rewarded the lottery with being a Patron of the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

For further details, or to join, please email the chairman [HERE](#)



Monday 14 January, Wyche Lodge No.3638 will be hosting a 'Talking Heads' presentation, the first to be staged at Rainbow Hill.

The Lodge will be opening at 6.15pm.

Please contact: W Bro Nicholls  
Lodge Information Officer  
[neilnix9@gmail.com](mailto:neilnix9@gmail.com)

### Urgent – Library & Museum

Are you a L&M rep for your Lodge, Chapter, Mark, RAM, KT or any other order?

If so, please send your details to Alan Dally on [Alan.Dally@hotmail.com](mailto:Alan.Dally@hotmail.com). We can then make sure that you are kept up to date with everything relevant to The Library & Museum



### Sponsorship Opportunity?

We would love to send the source out in hard copy occasionally to all 2700+ Brethren. But in order to do so we need to raise funds through advertising revenue. If you are interest in having a slot, please email the Provincial Communications Officer Jonathan Swift for details at [jonathanswift@btinternet.com](mailto:jonathanswift@btinternet.com)





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## On the 4<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas - A Quartet of Provincial GDC's ?

During the September meeting of The Arter Lodge No.2654, a 50 years Certificate was presented to WBro Derek E. Hopper PJGD



This photo from the Past and present shows 4 Provincial GDC's of Worcestershire: Peter Broughton PAGDC (current Prov GDC), Michael H R Cole PGSwdB, (Prov GDC 2005 and 2006), Derek Hopper PJGD (Prov GDC 1994 – 2000), and David J Bell PJGD (Prov GDC 2000 – 2005)

## Can anyone beat this??

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November Hagley & Holy Wells Lodge No 7932 balloted for two Joining Members. The first candidate being Robert Arthur Bennett a Past Master of Crossbrook Lodge No 6443 The second candidate was a Bro. Robert Frederick Lewis.

Why I hear you ask is this particularly news worthy?

Well; Bro. Robert Frederick Lewis was joining as an Entered Apprentice. Initiated into the Lodge of the Holy Wells No 6975 on 25 Nov 1976 but owing to work commitments resigned from that Lodge on 26 April 1977, in good order. Bro. Lewis now finding himself with time and the interest to devote to our Order - and having spent a significant amount of time researching the history of the Lodge of the Holy Wells - established that his Mother Lodge had amalgamated with Hagley Lodge on 13th June 2007. Bro. Lewis contacted UGLE, who supplied him with a "First Degree Certificate", and he also made direct contact with Hagley & Holy Wells Lodge.

The Ballots having proved in favour of the Candidates, Bro. Lewis then proceeded to be Passed to the Second Degree, almost exactly **Forty-Two years** to the day since he had been made an Entered Apprentice. *Is this a record?*



## On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Day....

### a trio of Priors

...and a Prior in a pear tree?

A rare treat ! - Great Priory of Malta  
At the meeting on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018 there were 3 Past Provincial Priors and the current Prior present.



## ..and the 1<sup>st</sup> day.....

A blue plaque has being unveiled in Swindon to mark 200 years since the first ever meeting of Freemasons in the town.



Read on for the Worcestershire connection!

The "Goddard Arms" pub in Old Town was the first venue of the Goddard family lodge, Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation No 355, who first met 200 years ago and is the oldest lodge in Swindon (and the second oldest in Wiltshire).



Goddard was one of the prominent families in the history of Swindon and our IP PGM Richard GW Goddard is an honorary member of the Lodge,

.....and was present at the 200<sup>th</sup> meeting and the Blue Plaque unveiling.



The meeting was as in addition to an excellent Second Degree ceremony, where two 50 year certificates were presented. One was to a PProvSGW and the other to RWBro Bryon Carron, PGM for Wiltshire from 1993 until 1999. The immediate Past PGM, RWBro Francis Wakemem QPM presented them with his usual mischievous humour.



R-L: RWBro Bryon Carron, IP PGM Richard Goddard, RWBro Francis Wakemem.







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## Friends and Family weekend.....

Following on from the great success of this year's first event, the Cubit Club have agreed to host the event in 2019.

Watch out for more information during the coming months!

## News from the Cubit Club.....



A recent visit by the Cubit Club to see the wonders of the "Bristol" workings, at a Raising at Jerusalem Lodge. A further trip is being arranged, so watch this space!

The Club has launched its own version of the Provincial Tie. Applications please while stocks last to: [secretary@cubitclub.org.uk](mailto:secretary@cubitclub.org.uk)



**Cubit Club Festival Gin** – The festival Gin goes from strength to strength (40% !?) raising a fantastic amount for the Festival 2022. Pictured is the Chairman WBro Simon Rogers presenting one of four cheques over the course of the year to our PGM – so far, the Cubit Club Festival Gin raffles have raised a staggering £6,653.80 as at the end of November – all thanks to the generosity of the brethren across the province.



Lodge secretaries have been advised that the Cubit Club is providing a bottle of Festival 2022 Gin to be raffled at every installation meeting during the 2018-2019 season. Using the same principle as the MFest whisky raffle, a bottle of Festival 2022 Gin will be brought along to each installation by the 'Provincial team'. This is then raffled on the evening and funds donated to Festival 2022. The Cubit Club encourage all lodges to support it in this endeavour and wish you the best of luck in winning one of only 114 bottles being supplied.

....And wishing you a happy Christmas and great new year from the Ed!



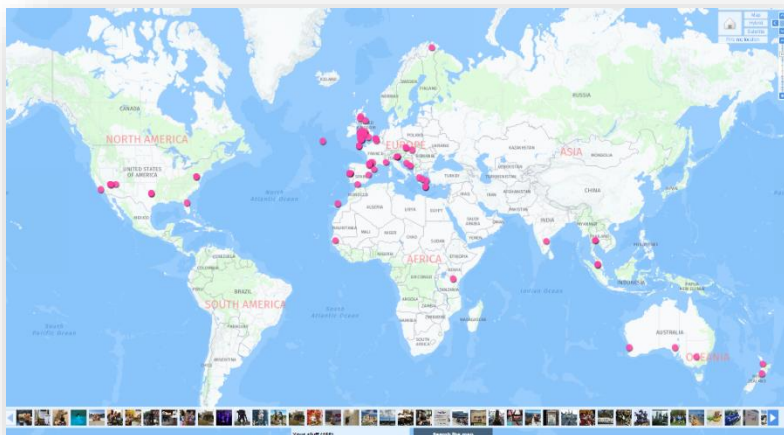




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**Festival News...** **An update on Festival Ted** - Little Teds have been spotted now right across the globe. To log your photo of your Lodge little Ted, take a picture and upload on social media with the hashtag #FestivalTed, or email to [Ted@festival2022.org.uk](mailto:Ted@festival2022.org.uk). Some of the most recent ones are show below.



To see the full pictures to-date, get all the forms you need for donations etc, and to see all upcoming events check out the festival Website at [www.Festival2022.org.uk](http://www.Festival2022.org.uk)



The current Festival 2022 total  
(as at end of November 2018) stands at

**£852,514**

## Festival Progress

42%

### Current number of honorific levels (\* end Nov 2018)

**Steward**  
(£400)



362

**Vice Patron**  
(£750)



128

**Patron**  
(£1,000)



47

**Grand Patron**  
(£1,250)



128