



This Christmas will be different in so many ways for all of us. The Politicians and Scientists are telling us 'There is light at the end of the tunnel' we must all keep positive and look to the future. We are a brotherhood who cares, so please keep in touch with each other during the festive period as no one should feel isolated, a phone call makes all the difference. Take Care and Keep Safe.

We are here for each other and remember to use the links to follow us on our social media pages to keep in touch and up to date.

-The Deputy Editor WBro. Chris Phillips

Week 39, Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020



Congratulations to this month's winners and to all the players who support the Charities both locally and Nationally through the 2022 Appeal. Since last month's draw the lottery has been delighted to be able to donate a further £1500 to Acorns Children's Hospice and £1500 to the Air Ambulance Service in the area. Keep up the good work and if you know a Brother, relation, or friend that would like to take part in the lottery and support these worthy causes please contact the Lottery Committee at [wmcolot@hotmail.com](mailto:wmcolot@hotmail.com) for an entry form.

MTSFC



The Masonic Fishing Charity

## The Masonic Fishing Charity

The Masonic Fishing Charity's aim is to bring an "interactive fishing and countryside experience to people with special needs".

It achieves this by running fishing events, both coarse and fly, at various fisheries and inviting

participants from special needs schools and centres and people who have suffered trauma to come and join in.

This is far more than just a days fishing though! It enables mentally disabled people to gain in confidence, meet new challenges and achieve tangible results to take away; it helps disadvantaged people and those from harsh backgrounds to renew their confidence in meeting people and interacting with adults from outside their spheres; it also aides physically disabled people (including war heroes and stroke victims) to participate and experience something that may otherwise be unavailable to them and it enables our volunteers to give back to the community and have some fun along the way.

The charity is completely run by volunteers and is a non profit making enterprise.

Should you wish to get involved please check out our website.

[Click Here](#)

## A View from the East

With thanks to WBro. Vern Littlely PPrGSwdB. WM of both Dormer Lodge 7294 and Maguncor Lodge 3806 (London). A retired Royal Artillery Warrant Officer (Class 2) and a Management Trainer at Veolia, Wolverhampton

What is the lasting memory of your time as WM?

In 2001 I was installed by my Father WBro. Bruce Littlely PPrJGW. It was a bit of a blur, I was "top-of the tree" in Dormer, but bottom of the tree in the Army, a newly promoted sergeant, the "New Kid on the Block".

It was nice to be in charge, to have the trust and reassurance of the brethren. There were points in the ceremony where I wondered what was going on. At the Festive Board, the-then PGM RW Bro' Barrie Cooper, said I was "firing too fast". Once a gunner, always a gunner.

What changed in your subsequent chairs?

I do things differently. I share work, encourage junior brethren to have a go and arrange regular lectures, building masonic knowledge.

I was diagnosed with PTSD in 2014, it was a very difficult time. I found that my Masonic activity supported me throughout and has aided my recovery. My job, freemasonry and research activities all compliment each other.

What advice would you give to brethren approaching the chair?

Don't get anxious, just do it, if you're not perfect it's fine, play to your strengths and get others involved, break things into manageable sections. Your skills don't all come from freemasonry, your professional life brings its own perspective, use it.

Often your first office is Inner Guard, if you can do that you can handle the chair. It's a great indicator and perfect preparation, because you must carefully observe the whole ceremony.

Any final words of wisdom?

It's not a race, take your time. If you want to stay in an office for a few years, that's fine.

## News from the Provincial Treasurer

Great News from the Provincial treasurer who has announced that next years Provincial Dues are being reduced by 18%. This is due to savings made this year with the unfortunate cancellation of Provincial Grand Lodge, Cathedral service and the Carol service. Follow the link to read the full treasurers letter.

[Click Here](#)

### All dressed up....



I was asked the question what does it feel like to be a provincial grand steward? To be totally honest, I don't know.

Due to this current pandemic I have never had the opportunity to wear my red apron and collar yet, but I can tell you the moment the letter from Provincial Grand office drops through your letter box it is a wonderful and very pleasant surprise.

My first thoughts on seeing the provincial post mark was what have I done now....

However, once opened and you start to read down the letter a great pride takes over and as a broad smile crossed my face my first thought was, why me? But that very same day after numerous phone calls received from well-wishers, all explaining how well deserved it was, it put me at ease.

Now to answer the original question, it will take time as we all know Provincial Grand Lodge was cancelled this year and I was unable, like the rest of my fellow stewards, to officially receive our appointments. We did however receive through the post a very nice certificate from Province confirming our appointments and I did receive a personal phone call congratulating me from our Provincial Grand Master.

I am now looking forward to when I can finally resume my masonry and put on my new apron and collar and get back to the hobby and life style I enjoy; To take up my duties as a steward at the Cathedral Service and Provincial Grand Lodge and all the other ceremonies where Provincial Grand Stewards are needed to assist and help out.

It's now November, and my briefcase is still firmly in the bottom of my wardrobe, come next year I hope to be able to tell you what it truly feels like to be a Provincial Steward in this wonderful Province of Worcestershire.

WBro Philip Abram ProvGStwd



## Presentation of 50 years Certificate to W.Bro. Robert L Nash TD PPSGW



Bordesley Abbey Lodge 4495 held a virtual meeting on the 26th November 2020 to celebrate WBro Robert Nash TD PPSGW 50 years in Freemasonry.

Our Provincial Grand Master R.W Robert Christopher Vaughan along with masons from Warwickshire and WBro John Robinson who lives in France attended the meeting which commenced at the actual date

and time +50 years that Robert was initiated.

Robert was born in Redditch and spent his early years in Cheltenham and London eventually returning to Redditch to the family business. He has been a past member of Redditch Round Table, played hockey, has a passion for horse riding and is an experienced sailor and yachtsman.

He joined the Territorial Army in the Royal Artillery and was commissioned in 1962, rising to the rank of Captain; at the age of 34 being awarded the Territorial Decoration.

His Honorary Colonel was instrumental in him joining Bordesley Abbey Lodge 4495 on the 26th November 1970; he was installed into the Chair in 1982 and again in 2008.

A framed certificate was delivered to his home during the preceding day and at a given signal was delivered to W.Bro. Nash by his wife, the virtual presentation being made by the RW Provincial Grand Master. The meeting culminating in a hearty toast to W.Bro Nash.

### Christmas Tree Festival



There are many long standing traditions in Freemasonry and they all start somewhere.

For those who are unaware, the Province of Worcestershire have been gifting a Christmas tree to be shown at the Christmas Tree Festival in Worcester Cathedral since 2014 and this year is no exception. I am fully aware of the magic of Christmas and I only need to see my daughters and the elf on the shelf to witness this first

hand. However, no elf was involved in the setting up of the tree. The task was carried out by our Provincial Grand Secretary, Iain Sharratt and Provincial Grand Charity Steward, David Dey. Iain and his wife, Julie have personalised the baubles with the Square and Compass and also organised clear baubles containing charity logos. David and his wife, Sylvia updated the logos to reflect those charities who have received support this year from the Province. Sylvia worked on the tree and helped install it in the Cloisters at the Cathedral. I am sure you will join me in thanking them for their efforts this year.

I highly recommend a visit to the Cathedral to see the glittering festive display of trees supplied by local charities, schools, businesses and organisations. The festival runs until Sunday 3rd January (excluding Christmas day). Booking online is essential at [www.worcestercathedral.co.uk/christmas](http://www.worcestercathedral.co.uk/christmas)

Here's wishing you and your loved ones a very merry Christmas.