



From Under the Eastern Star

Mount Pleasant Lodge Newsletter

November & December, 2013



Brethren,

Happy New Year brethren, to you, your family and friends. I trust you all had an enjoyable Christmas / New Year break and are now looking forward to an exciting 2014 ahead – especially masonically-speaking. This is the fourth newsletter of the term and covers our November meeting as well as some pre-Christmas events. At our November meeting we performed the Second Degree on Bro Stephen Jones and three days later, on Sunday, 01 December, we had our annual 'backyard' Christmas breakup. Over the period there were six calendared visits to lodges and a Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication. On top of this, with our Almoner, visits were made to some of our lodge widows as well as a couple of brethren who have not been able to attend recent meetings. The remaining widows will be visited in January and they will all be reported on in our January Newsletter.

As is our annual practice at the last regular meeting of the year, all brethren stood in silence as the names of our deceased brethren were read out by the chaplain, so that we could pay due observance and respect. Likewise, later in the meeting, a motion was carried to make a donation in memory

of those passed brethren. We made Bro Stephen Jones a Fellowcraft by passing him to the Second Degree. I believe Bro Jones, like many of us, took more of the Second Degree in on the night than for the First Degree. Being that, on your Second, a candidate has at least some idea of how things might go and an operational lodge room is not such a new experience. It was a well preformed ceremony and our newly passed Fellowcraft appeared to have gained much enjoyment and further Masonic knowledge from it.

Our lodge meeting was attended by brethren from 14 other lodges. If I recall correctly the number of visitors was 24. No doubt a good number were there to particularly see Bro Jones being passed to the second degree, whilst others visited to repay visits made by various brethren of Mt. Pleasant Lodge. This was followed by a festive board that seemed to be enjoyed by the many who attended; the toast to our new Fellowcraft was given by our

Inner Guard, his step-son, Bro Stuart Watson. As a special treat there were Masonic cup-cakes specially made by Veronica, daughter of WBro Victor Chandler. These were quite delicious and well appreciated by all.

We also had a couple of members attend who have not been with us in recent months, or years, due to family, work and/or study commitments – which is as it should be: family, work, Freemasonry. It was great to see them at the meeting and we look forward to seeing them in future. Brethren, a comment in regard to our Masonic dress. While Mount Pleasant Lodge wears Masonic Summer Dress all year round, only the officers of the lodge are required to wear the white mess/Eton jacket at our meetings. It is perfectly acceptable for other members not to wear a jacket over their shirts so please do not feel you need to absence yourself from the lodge because your mess/Eton, or black jacket no longer fits. Please feel free to get in contact if you have been absent from lodge because you are concerned that, for health/medical reasons, you can no longer be appropriately attired or unable to remain for an entire ceremony.

The Christmas Breakfast BBQ rounded out the calendar year for our lodge events – more about that later. In January we will have a short meeting with a lecture followed by our usual Australia Day themed festive board and in February we are doing a 3rd Degree on Bro Stephen Jones.

On the evening of Wed, 12 March I will be visiting, as Worshipful Master of Mt Pleasant, my mother lodge in Christchurch, New Zealand. All three WBro Pethigs will be present at an Installation of Conyers Lodge No 1916 EC, their Mother Lodge. Some Mount Pleasant brethren are, or are planning to, accompany me on that visit. The following day it is planned that I will be made a Companion in the English Royal Arch. However prior to that trip I will be attending Tuscan Lodge's 100th Anniversary Reconsecration meeting and banquet on Sat, 15 February and the Initiation of the step-son of the WM of Morningside lodge in the first week of March.



AT THE FESTIVE

(left to right) WBro John Browne of Redcliffe First Settlement Lodge and our WBro Victor Chandler - "swindle" prize winners; Masonic cakes; brethren line up for the festive.

Out and About/Visitations

During the month I was able to attend the following lodges, sometimes with other brethren: Ironside Lodge – 3rd Degree followed by a nice festive board; CH Harley Lodge – Installation followed by a bustling and delicious festive-board; General Glasgow Lodge – emulation 2nd Degree; Tuscan Lodge – also a 2nd Degree with two initiates in the future followed by an energetic and full festive board. (We also sighted the 'travelling screw' which is restricted to a list of Scottish lodges.); Camp Hill Lodge – Installation in which a Master Mason, Bro.

Andrew Fowle, was installed into the Chair of King Solomon, followed by an installation banquet; Camp Hill Lodge again – an emergent meeting to perform a double 2nd Degree just 10 days after the installation and executed it well, followed by a good festive board; Morningside Lodge – a quick lodge meeting followed by a Christmas festive board which raised a good amount towards the charity goal for the year - a car for a nursing organisation. (There was an extensive raffle with a 1st prize of a 32" LCD TV. All prizes were



Camp Hill Lodge



The Wor Master with the Grand Master, MWBro Gary Bacon, at the Quarterly Communication.

donated and there was a fee to cover the Christmas Dinner. Being a Scottish lodge there was, of course, a piper present.); and lastly the Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication.

In addition to the above, various officers and brethren reported that they visited the following lodges: Prince Albert Lodge (1st Degree); Thespian Lodge (1st Degree Tracing Board); Windsor Lodge; Sir Wylie Norman Lodge (2nd Degree); and City of Logan Lodge (2nd Degree). My apologies if I missed any others.

Once again thank you to the brethren who have been visiting, both in my absence and my presence. It is very much appreciated. Combined we visited 11 different lodges after our October meeting.

Social Activities

We finished our lodge events in 2013 with our traditional Christmas BBQ Breakfast on Sunday, 01 December. It was a most enjoyable morning with plenty of fun, joviality and companionship had by all. Thank you to Olga and WBro Heinz Walter for making available, for the breakfast, your poolside area at your residence. We had a number of nice prizes for the raffle. The raffle, with the addition of a 'missing hat' fine, raised \$190 for charity. Thank you to the various brethren and ladies who donated the prizes. We also had a limited number of the aforementioned Masonic cup-cakes remaining and these were distributed amongst the ladies. As is usual the children present received some confectionary goodness. Thank you also to Helen, WBro Lindsay David and daughter Erin for taking care of the food and cooking for the breakfast.



Upcoming Events

As a result of the popularity of the dinner at the Mt Gravatt TAFE training restaurant another one will be organised within the first three months of the New Year. There will also be a management committee meeting held early in the New Year, possibly in February.



(The Worshipful Master sporting his Movember moustache.)

Fraternal regards,

WBro Gareth Pethig, Worshipful Master
Email: gnpethig@internode.on.net
Phone home: 3288 1597
mob: 0434 130 394

Almoner's Report

This month our Almoner, WBro Ron Walker, advised that there was nothing to report in relation to the health of the brethren. However Joy Boys, one of our widows, was sick just prior to Christmas last year and as a result the Wor Master and Almoner had to put off their planned visit to her.

(Please let the Almoner know if you are unwell or if you know that one of our members or widows is unwell so that he can advise the lodge of either your or their circumstances. WBro Ron Walker can be contacted on the following - home: 3399 1586, mob: 0407 251 413 or email: [<ghost_magic@bigpond.com>](mailto:ghost_magic@bigpond.com).)

Events and Visitations List

(View on the website: <http://www.mpl361.org.au>)

Brethren, please refer to the website for the latest information on all upcoming events and visitations. This will be kept up-to-date with any changes, additions, etc. If you are unsure, please give me a call.

Thur 16 Jan - 7.30pm	Mt Pleasant Lodge – practice meeting (3rd Degree walkthrough)	Stones Corner Masonic Centre (Cleveland St, Stones Corner)
Thur 23 Jan - 7.30pm	Mt Pleasant Lodge – regular meeting. Lecture followed by traditional Australia Day festive.	Stones Corner Masonic Centre (Cleveland St, Stones Corner)
Sat 15 Feb - 3.30pm	Tuscan Lodge – 100th Anniversary Reconsecration	Wynnum Masonic Centre (Tingal Rd, Wynnum)
Thur 20 Feb - 7.30pm	Mt Pleasant Lodge – practice meeting 3rd Degree.	Stones Corner Masonic Centre (Cleveland St, Stones Corner)
Thur 27 Feb - 7.30pm	Mt Pleasant Lodge – 3rd Degree on Bro Stephen Jones.	Stones Corner Masonic Centre (Cleveland St, Stones Corner)
Tues 04 Mar	Morningside Lodge – 1st Degree on step-son of the WM.	Stones Corner Masonic Centre (Cleveland St, Stones Corner)

(Please let me know if you are going somewhere for a visit and if I can make it I will happily join you. - WM)