

# From Under the Eastern Star

## Mount Pleasant Lodge Newsletter

April 2013



Welcome,

Hello everyone, I hope you are all well. It has been a busy month with the lead up to ANZAC Day commemorations. There have been a large number of Vacant Chair ceremonies around the tracks including ours on 23 April. Well done to all involved you did an excellent job.

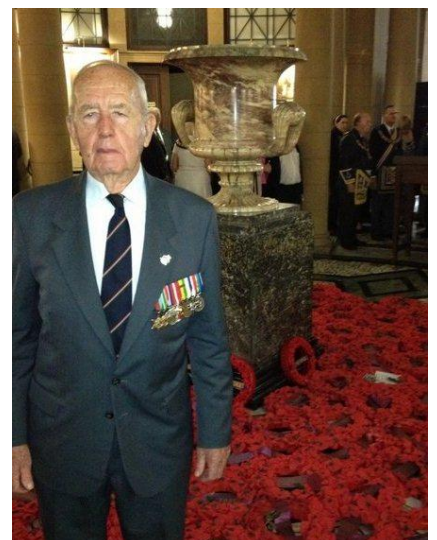
We also paid a moments silence to the memory of Bro Merv Forrest who passed away the week before in his nursing home on the Gold Coast after a fall and broken hip. Bro Merv was 90 years of age. Also Bro Ben Su'a lost his younger brother Shane through a known heart ailment – our condolences to the family and friends of those who have passed to the other shore.

Our new addition, Bro Stephen Jones, has already reported to me his enjoyment of the evening of his Initiation and we have had him out visiting to see another 1<sup>st</sup> Degree at City of Logan on 17 April where they did an excellent emulation. He learnt a great deal from seeing the degree once again especially by not being the candidate.



*(left) Lucky Mt Pleasant swindle prize winners - VWBro Ramon Hutchinson, left, of Mt Pleasant Lodge, and WBro Tom Stevenson from Theodore Unmack Lodge.*

*(right) Bro Bill Moffatt laid the wreath on behalf of the lodge at the ANZAC Day ceremony held at the Ann St Masonic Memorial Centre.*



## Out and About/Visitations



City of Logan Lodge  
emulation 1st degree.

United Service Lodge



Sunnybank lodge ANZAC Day  
ceremony and youth night

RWBro David Carter joined me for a visit to United Service Lodge on Saturday 6 April where we assisted the members (many old DeMolay friends) to conduct a DeMolay Degree ceremony similar to that which we did at Mt Pleasant in May 2012. I think RWBro David and I both agree that if we get any more requests to present this ceremony we may see if RWBro Harold Littler can get us a contract to enable us to make some money out of it!

As I stated earlier I was able to get our new Entered Apprentice, Brother Stephen, to join us for a visit to City of Logan Lodge on Wednesday 17 April where he was able to witness a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree emulation. There was a big storm that night but very little thunder and a little bit of rain were all we got at Beenleigh.

On Saturday, 20 April, I attended Sunnybank Lodge for their ANZAC night at which they conducted a Vacant Chair ceremony. They were joined by members of the youth orders as well, who presented their own ANZAC ceremonies. While the girls organisations were represented (Job's Daughters and Rainbows), unfortunately due to low numbers the DeMolay's were unable to make a presentation this year.

As always it is the Worshipful Master's prerogative to lay the wreath on behalf of the Lodge at the Masonic ANZAC Day ceremony at the Ann St Masonic Memorial Centre on ANZAC Day morning. While I was already going to attend anyway, I happened to be speaking with Bro Bill Moffatt who offered to lay the wreath if no-one else was interested. I was most pleased to offer Bro Bill the honour of laying the wreath on behalf of Mt Pleasant Lodge and it was a job well done.

As I have done now for the past 4 or 5 years I joined a number of other volunteers to assist the members of AIF Memorial Lodge to conduct their annual public ANZAC Ceremony on the evening of 25 April. I was somewhat surprised to see Grand Hall nearly filled to capacity again this year and it was very impressive. I recommend this annual event to anyone who would like to bring their family and friends to witness a public Masonic ANZAC Day ceremony.

## Social Activities



Our latest function was a Breakfast in the Park at the Northshore Riverside Park, MacArthur Avenue at Hamilton. It is near the Royal Queensland Golf Club and is right on the river with a most enjoyable walkway which, from all reports (no I didn't go



for a walk) was most pleasant, especially in the late autumn morning. We had fewer than our normal contingent but the 20 who did turn up had a good time and a wonderful breakfast. Thanks again to our wonderful cooks. Erin (Bro Lindsay & Helen's daughter) makes magnificent low sugar muffins and a wonderful cinnamon scroll which is to die for, especially if you're a diabetic. Thanks very much, Erin. ☺



## Upcoming Events & Visitations

Our next social function is a game of pitch and putt at the Oxley Pitch 'n' Putt Park, Clivedon Ave, Oxley. For a cost of \$20 you will get a BBQ lunch and enjoy 18 holes of Par 3 golf and maybe win a prize. If you have clubs that's great but your fees will cover the hire of clubs if needed. You only need a pitching wedge and a putter (you can bring a sand wedge as well if you know how to use it!!). There will be teams for various levels of skill and prizes for each group. Bring your friends and family for a fun afternoon of golf.

May sees the beginning of the Installation cycle and we are down to attend at least 2 Installations during May. Unfortunately on both days we have a double booking so I am seeking your help:

- Sat May 18 – we are going to Woodford for their Installation of VW Bro Norm Wesner, an old Mt Pleasant favourite, but we also have the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Tracing Board for Bro Stephen Jones at Sunnybank Lodge that night. I am asking for 2 teams – one for Woodford and one for Sunnybank. I will leave Woodford Lodge following the Installation, leaving our IPM in charge, and travel back for the Sunnybank meeting so to have some of you attend that is also important.
- Sat May 25 – I am taking a team to Theodore Unmack Lodge Installation which starts at 4:00pm at Stones Corner but on that same day our new Entered Apprentice, Bro Stephen Jones, will be attending the Installation and Coronation of Honoured Lady Heather Jones (yes, Bro Stephen's wife and mother of our Inner Guard Bro Stuart Watson) and the Grand Court of the Order of the Amaranth at 2pm at Shangri-La Gardens, 1969 Wynnum Rd, Wynnum West. As before I would like to get two teams so we can be represented at both events.

If you can assist with either of these and have not spoken to me please let me know so we can make the necessary arrangements. Thank you in advance Brethren.

Again thank you to the brethren who have been out and about joining me on the visits this month. Please let me know if you are going somewhere for a visit, if I can make it I will happily join you although I will say that May is looking to be very busy with my involvement in other Masonic orders.

Remember to let the Almoner know if you are unwell so we can all be alert to your circumstances.

Fraternal regards,

WBro Andrew Childs, PGSwdB, Worshipful Master

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## Almoner's Report

Our sick list is slowly getting smaller but I hope those of you who are unwell recover very soon. (WM)

**WBro Greg Gabb** is getting over a heart attack and is feeling better. He is having regular check-ups.

**WBro Cedric Murray** has torn some muscles lifting a boat trailer which prevented him from attending the last meeting.

**Bro Mike Mifsud** is continuing to have post-operative problems with his hip replacement. Despite having further operations to address infections he is still in hospital.

## Obituary – Brother Mervyn James Forrest (08.07.1922 to 16.04.2013)

One of our longest serving current members, Bro Merv Forrest, recently passed to the Grand Lodge above, aged 90 years. Bro Merv was born on 08 July 1922 and joined Mt Pleasant Lodge on 13 November, 1958 being passed and raised the following year. He was a member for 54 years and was presented with his 50 year Jewel and pin in 2008. Bro Merv was an engineer and his work took him away from Brisbane which is probably why he did not go through the chair. Despite this he always maintained his lodge membership. Three weeks prior to his death, Bro Merv fell and broke his hip and although it was pinned it all proved too much for him and he passed to the Grand Lodge above on Tuesday, 16 April in the Southport Nursing Home. His life was celebrated at a private family funeral. He is survived by his three daughters, Carol, Lyn and Julie. The photo was taken in December 2011 when he was visited by WBro Lindsay David.



(The following additional information was provided by his daughter, Carol Gourlay.) “He was a wonderful father of 4 daughters. Unfortunately the youngest died at 17 years of age in 1970. Dad commenced his working career at age 15 as an apprenticed fitter and turner. This engineering background led to Works Manager at Horn Engineering P/L, Brisbane, a marine and general engineering company. In 1959 Dad joined Roy Burton & Co, an industrial laundry machinery operation, as Queensland Manager. He went on to be NSW State Manager and then National Sales Manager, Laundry Products, in 1975 based in Melbourne. In 1977 Roy Burton & Company was bought by Horscroft P/L (now called Hardie Trading) and Dad finished his working career as their Contracts and Sales Engineer, retiring in 1985. He retired to Bateman’s Bay on the NSW South Coast but after a few years moved back to his home State of Queensland to be near his beloved daughters and their families. Of special importance and so worthy of mention is the following. In 1957 Dad lodged a patent for “A Machine for Lifting Bricks” from one level to heights at which they were required for use. It has been very interesting for us to see the specification and plans prepared by Dad, not having seen them before. He was a very clever man. Our family home at Holland Park was built by Dad and his father and it still stands today.”

How proud we are to have had him as our member.

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.

## Events and Visitations List

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

Tues 07 May - 7.30pm	Mt Pleasant Lodge Management Committee meeting	WM’s residence: (27 Dalmeny St, Algester.)
Sat 11 May – 6:00pm	Sunnybank Job’s Daughters Installation. (Dress requirements to be confirmed.)	Beenleigh Masonic Centre
Thur 16 May - 7.30pm	Mt Pleasant Lodge – practice (2nd degree walk-through)	Stones Corner Masonic Centre
Sat 18 May – 3:30pm	Woodford Lodge – Installation (Refer to note below.)	Woodford Masonic Centre, Woodford
Sat 18 May – 7:00pm	Sunnybank Lodge – 1st Degree Tracing Board on our new Entered Apprentice, Bro Stephen Jones. ( <b>Note:</b> The WM will be attending both functions on 18 May, however he does not expect others to do the same.)	Stones Corner Masonic Centre
Thur 23 May - 7.30pm	Mt Pleasant Lodge – Open night & wine tasting.	Stones Corner Masonic Centre
Sat 25 May – 2:00pm	Installation and Coronation of Honoured Lady Heather Jones and the Grand Court of the Order of the Amaranth. (Heather is the wife of our new Entered Apprentice, Bro Stephen Jones, and mother of our Inner Guard, Bro Stuart Watson.)	Shangri-La Gardens, 1969 Wynnum Rd, Wynnum West.
Sat 25 May – 4:00pm	Theodore Unmack Lodge – Installation of Bro Apel.	Stones Corner Masonic Centre