



Events – Summer/Autumn 2016

~~Saturday 9th July 2016~~ – CMA – “A Massive Red Hot Summer Party” Great Music, Food & Fun at the Chingford Masonic Hall - £27.00 p.p. Contact Tony Curtis 0208-524-5142 or Dave Hook 07710 117667 –

~~BOOK NOW!!! - UNFORTUNATELY CANCELLED~~

Sunday 10th July 2016 – Stisted Hall Annual Garden Party and Fete. Tickets £5 to include Cream Tea, children under 12 free (entry only)

Wednesday 26th October 2016 – Cluster meeting of Royal Arch Chapters – Hosted by Earlham Chapter No.7266

Sunday 13th November 2016 – Annual Remembrance Sunday Wreath laying at the Chingford War Memorial at 11.00 a.m.

Saturday 19th November 2016 – Annual Fundraiser “Race Night” in aid of the Broken Column Luncheon

Friday 16th December 2016 - Annual Christmas Broken Column Luncheon - Chingford Masonic Hall 12.00 - 3.00 p.m.

SUNDAY ROSE CROIX CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT



On the Fourth Sunday of each month, there is a combined Rose Croix Chapter of Improvement at the Chingford Masonic Hall. It is known as the “Richard Shone Chapter of Improvement”. If you wish to attend, why not come

along, you will be most welcome. Membership is just £10.00 per annum. The Chapter of Improvement commences at 10.30 a.m. Or contact Mike Claxton: email mikeclaxton@gmail.com for further information.

MONTHLY LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT FOR MARK MASTER MASONS



A Lodge of Instruction of the Mark Degree at the Chingford Masonic Hall is being held on the first Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m. Mark Master Masons of any Lodge meeting in the Province of Essex are welcome to attend, we would also

welcome members who are in the Mark Degree from other Provinces if they so wished to attend to rehearse the ceremony of Advancement. There may be exceptions to the proposed dates, i.e. Christmas and Bank Holidays. The LOI's are held on the first Tuesday of the Month, at 10.30 a.m. contact W Bro. John Bold on email: john.bold@btinternet.com

MONTHLY CHINGFORD HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT

There is now a monthly Chapter of Improvement at the Chingford Masonic Hall on the 4th Sunday of every month. It is a great opportunity to sharpen your Royal Arch Skills! There will be at least two preceptors present and all rituals will be welcome and they will rehearse any parts of the ceremony, as required, by the attending Companions. This Chapter of Improvement is free of charge and all Companions and E. Companions are welcome. 10 am for a 10.30 am start.

HRH Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh Celebrates his 95th Birthday

It was in 2013, HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh's celebrated sixty years as a subscribing member of the Craft. At that time, the Grand Master sent him a message of congratulations to mark the occasion and, in reply, Prince Philip asked for his thanks and best wishes to be expressed to all members. We also send our sincerest congratulations on his 95th Birthday from the brethren of the Chingford Masonic Hall. Prince Philip was initiated into Freemasonry in the Navy Lodge No 2612, London, on December 5, 1952.



Pictured above:

HM the Queen and HRH the Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, an image that has been released to commemorate the Duke's 95th Birthday, on 10th June 2016

The New Province of Essex Tie



Pictured left: The design for the new Essex tie. It is now on sale The cost of the new Provincial Tie: Silk £18 and Polyester £11. Obtainable through the Essex Mason Ltd.

Masonic Study Circles Meeting Dates 2016



Chingford Masonic Study Circle – meeting at the Chingford Masonic Hall – 7.30 p.m.

Secretary: W Bro Allan de Luca PPGSwdB
email: allandeluca@btinternet.com

Monday 7th November 2016

"Order of Women Freemasonry"

V.W.Bro. Irene Howell G.I. Essex

Wives and partners are especially invited on this occasion

Southchurch Masonic Circle – meeting at the Saxon Hall, Southend on Sea – 8.00 p.m.

3rd Thursday March, May & September,

2nd Thursday December (With Cheese and Wine Buffet)

Maplin Suite – Saxon Hall

Secretary: W. Bro. Robert Vine

Email: Robert.vine@vodafoneemail.co.uk

Telephone: 01702 202076 – mobile: 07799 643240

Mike Neville's Masonic Walks - 2016

**Mike Neville's Masonic
Walks & Talks**

Delve into the history of Freemasonry, its origins, members, successes & scandals, the myths & more..... Family & Friends welcome! £7.50 per person. Lunch can be arranged

City of London Tour - 17 Oct '16 & 9 Apr '16
• The site of the original Grand Lodge
• The Old Bailey - Masons & Murder
• Sites linked to Mark & King's Templar

Crime & The Craft Tour - 19 Dec '16 & 4 Jun '16
• Masonic links to famous cases of murder & treason
• Jack The Ripper, Jack the Mason??
• Scotland Yard & Freemasonry

The British Museum Tour - 20 Feb '16 & 3 Sept '16
• Ancient Egyptian influences on Freemasonry
• Exhibits linked to Tubalcaan, Nehemiah, Cyrus & more.
• Ancient scripts - do they prove the Chapter legend?

Charity lectures at your Lodge or Chapter
... everyone will come with renewed vigour, fully intending to make their daily advancement!

*keep the best lecture, indeed the most useful lecture I have ever heard presented in my lodge!

For further information contact - WBro Mike Neville
Author of "Sacred Secrets"
mrmikeneville@aol.com
07415 634613

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Earl Douglas Haig and Admiral Jellicoe 100 years ago - The Battle of the Somme and Naval Battle of Jutland

The Battle of the Somme, also known as the Somme Offensive, was a battle of the First World War fought by the armies of the British and French empires against the German Empire. It took place between 1st July and 18th November 1916 on both sides of the River Somme in France. It was the largest battle of World War I on the Western Front, in which more than one million men were wounded or killed, making it one of the bloodiest battles in human history. A Franco-British commitment to an offensive on the Somme had been made during Allied discussions at Chantilly, Oise, in December 1915. The Allies agreed upon a strategy of combined offensives against the Central Powers in 1916, by the French, Russian, British and Italian armies, with the Somme offensive as the Franco-British contribution. The main part of the Somme offensive was to be made by the French army, supported on the northern flank by the Fourth Army of the British Expeditionary Force. The first use of tanks on the battlefield was the use of British Mark I tanks at the Battle

of Flers-Courcelette (part of the Battle of the Somme) on 15th September 1916, with mixed results; many broke down, but nearly a third succeeded in breaking through. On the 18th November 1916, Haig called a halt to his army's offensive near the Somme River, ending the epic Battle of the Somme after more than four months of bloody conflict. The allies only being able to advance a total of only six miles in the Somme region, at the cost of 146,000 soldiers killed and over 200,000 more injured, and Haig's conduct of the battle made him one of the most controversial figures of the war.



In the war's aftermath, British Prime Minister David Lloyd George, condemned Haig's offensive, which brought about in later years the negative opinions, and Haig's final victories were forgotten and he was branded a "butcher" because of the Somme and Passchendaele, but he had been a celebrated hero both after the war and after his death, and there is no doubt that the war Memoirs written by Lloyd George sealed Haig's fate and the press that they received did little to help Haig's reputation when the media decided to highlight Haig's flaws during the Great War. When Haig died, it was not just Britain that mourned his loss, the French sent heartfelt sympathies to his family, as did the Belgians and Americans. Haig was indeed a respected man and General. This changed dramatically mainly due to the "acid pen" of Lloyd George. In the closing months of the Great War, and it was in April 1918, that Sir Douglas Haig issued the following memorable "Special Order of the Day" to all ranks of the British Army in France and Flanders. It was a message which must rank in history alongside that of Lord Nelson at the Battle of Trafalgar over a century before. *"Many of us are now tired. To those I would say that victory will belong to the side which holds out the longest. Every position must be held to the last man. There must be no retirement. With our backs to the wall, and believing in justice of our cause, each one of us must fight on to the end. The safety of our homes and the freedom of mankind depend alike upon the conduct of each one of us at this critical moment."*

In July 1917, a new offensive - the Third Battle of Ypres (also known as Passchendaele) resulted in further heavy casualties, but did succeed in weakening the German army and helped prepare the way for its defeat in 1918. Haig believed that the war could only be won on the Western Front. This caused friction with Lloyd George, secretary of state for war and prime minister from December 1916 who disagreed with this strategy. The great German attacks of the spring of 1918 almost broke the British army, but inspired the creation of a single command of allied forces on the Western Front under the French commander Ferdinand Foch, strongly supported by Haig. Between August and November 1918 the Allied forces under Haig's

command achieved a series of victories against the German army which resulted in the end of the war.

Douglas Haig was born in Edinburgh on 19 June 1861 into a wealthy family who owned a whisky business. He studied at Oxford University and in 1884 went to the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst. He then served as a cavalry officer for nine years, mainly in India. He later took part in the Sudan campaign (1897 - 1898) and the Boer War (1899 - 1902). In 1906, Haig went to the War Office as director of military training. His responsibilities included the organisation of a British Expeditionary Force (BEF) for deployment in the event of war with Germany. On the outbreak of war in 1914, Haig was commanding the BEF's 1st Army Corps, whose overall commander was Sir John French. By the end of 1915, it was clear that French was ill-suited to the role, and in December Haig was appointed commander in chief in his place. Haig served as commander in chief of British Home Forces from 1918 until his retirement in 1921. He also helped establish the Royal British Legion and worked hard to raise funds for it. He was created an earl in 1919 and died on 28 January 1928.

EARL HAIG THE FREEMASON



Douglas Haig, as the son of a Past Master in Elgin's Lodge No.91 at Leven in the Province of Fife & Kinross on the Roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Earl Haig was made an entered apprentice Freemason in 1881. [Having been born in Edinburgh on the 18th June 1861, he was probably a "Lewis."] Shortly afterwards Haig

left to pursue his military career, and he became in his own words a "Lost apprentice." It was not until 1925 that the distinguished soldier again present himself as a "humble brother seeking more instruction." He completed his second and third degrees and in 1925 was elected R.W.M. of the Lodge. In December 1927 he was presented with a Past Master's Apron and jewel by the Lodge. Haig consented to allow a newly chartered Lodge at Windygates to register the name "Earl Haig" he at the same time presented the Lodge with the sword he carried in France.¹ Haig was later appointed as a Grand Junior Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

When the work of various ex-service men's societies was co-ordinated in the British Legion, Earl Haig became its president, and for seven successive years he appealed earnestly on behalf of the "Poppy Day" Fund, which bore the alternative title of "Lord Haig's Fund." The total amount raised by the fund in its first six years was £1,749,000. For this immense result the conscientious and inspiring leadership of Earl Haig was in a great measure responsible.² The sale of poppies which annually commemorates the war-dead of the United Kingdom supported what for many years was known as the Haig Fund, with the letters 'H.F.' printed on the centre of each poppy until 1994, and were then replaced with the words "Poppy Appeal." Haig's last public appearance was at an enrolment ceremony of the 20th (Earl Haig's Own) Troop of Boy Scouts at Richmond. His last words to the Scouts were "Stand up for England when people speak disrespectfully of her. Try and realise what citizenship and public spirit really

mean." Haig died suddenly of heart failure, at 21 Prince's Gate, London, on 29 January 1928. His coffin lay in state in Westminster Abbey, where thousands gathered to pay their respects. On the journey to the abbey, Haig was escorted by the French Marshals Foch and Petain, followed by three Royals, the Prince of Wales, Prince Henry, and Prince Arthur of Connaught, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England. They marched at the head of a vast concourse of slow-marching men. His body was then taken to Edinburgh where he lay in state for three days in St. Giles, and again, thousands of people passed to pay homage to their hero. Haig was buried, at his own request, in Dryburgh Abbey, near Bemersyde, Berwickshire, on 7th February 1928. Since Haig's death the fierce controversy over his conduct of military operations, which had already surfaced during the First World War, has raged unabated.

Other notable British Masons who served during World War I was Field Marshal Sir John French (1852-1925), 1st Earl of Ypres. He commanded the British Expeditionary Force which landed in France in 1914. French became a member of the Jubilee Masters Lodge No.2712 in London in 1906. French was replaced as commander of the B.E.F. in 1915 by Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig. Another



significant battle of 1916 was a naval Battle of Jutland fought by the British Royal Navy's Grand Fleet under Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, pictured left, against the Imperial German Navy's High Seas Fleet under Vice-Admiral Reinhard Scheer. The battle was fought from 31 May to 1 June 1916 in the North Sea, near the coast of Denmark's Jutland Peninsula. It was the largest naval battle and the only full-scale

clash of battleships in the war. The Battle of Jutland was significant both for being the largest naval battle of the First World War, and for the severe number of lives lost. The Germans claimed that the battle represented a victory for them as the British had lost more ships, 14 in total and more than 6,000 sailors, makes it the Royal Navy's bloodiest ever, day. However, Admiral Jellicoe claimed the victory belonged to the British as his fleet was still a strong entity. The Germans lost nine ships and suffered more than 2,500 casualties, although the German top brass had won the battle tactically, they completely failed to overturn Britain's strategic dominance. The British Navy's blockade on food continued, and in January 1917, Germany turned to "unrestrictive submarine warfare", with the sinking of merchant vessels without warning, but to no advantage.

Vera Brittain, a nurse during WWI, and the author of the book "Testament of Youth" wrote expressively of Jutland "The one indisputable fact was that hundreds of young men, many of them midshipmen only just in their teens, had gone down without hope of rescue or understanding the issues to a cold, anonymous grave."

ADMIRABLE JELlicoe THE FREEMASON

Sir John Jellicoe, the Commander of the Grand Fleet and the victor at Jutland, did not become a Mason until he was 63 and serving as the Governor General of New Zealand. He served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand

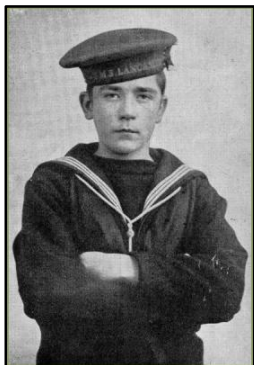
¹ The Scotsman – Tuesday 31st January 1928

² Aberdeen Journal – Tuesday 31st January 1928

from 1922 to 1924, and upon his return to England he was named a Past Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England.

JOHN "JACK" CORNWELL V.C.

One of the notable casualties of the Battle of Jutland, was that of John "Jack" Travers Cornwell, (pictured left) born 8th January 1900 in Leyton, East London. His family later moved to Manor Park, in East London. It was The Royal Navy that appealed to Jack and at the age of 15 he took references from his Headmaster and his employer along to a local recruitment office and enlisted. He was sent to Keyham Naval Barracks in Plymouth for his basic training where he earned sixpence a week as a "Boy Second Class". He passed out as Boy First Class J. T. Cornwell J/42563 and when he left Keyham, (referred to in naval terms as H.M.S. Vivid) he was posted to H.M.S. Lancaster which was moored at Chatham. Jack was later ordered to join the fleet at Rosyth in Scotland and on the 2nd of May 1916 he joined the newly commissioned H.M.S. Chester. When the Battle of Jutland began on the 31st of May 1916, the first shots being fired at 14.28. H.M.S. Chester was stationed ahead of the fleet in The North Sea. Lookouts reported distant gunfire and her Captain ordered "Action Stations" before setting off at full speed to investigate. Close ahead they encountered four German cruisers. Jack took orders via headphones from his Officer on the bridge.

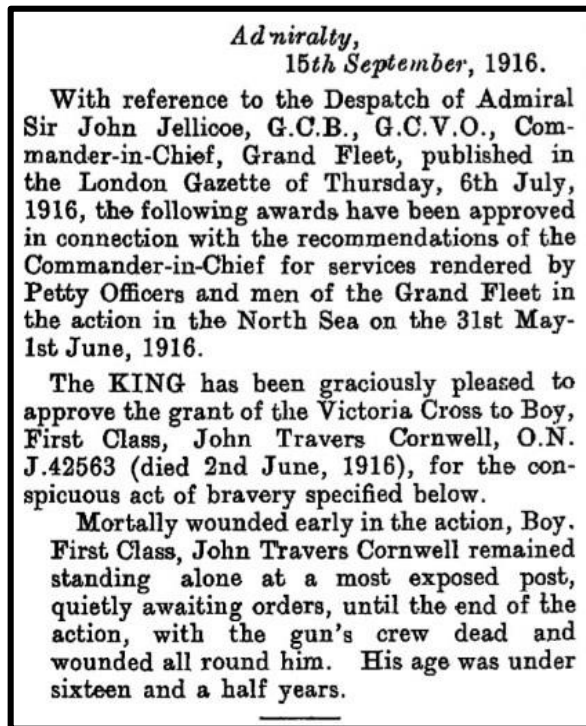


He was fully responsible for setting the gun's sights and his speed and precision would determine whether they were to hit or miss their target. The German cruisers opened fire and Jack's gun was one of the first to be hit before it could be brought into action and he suffered a serious wound to his chest. H.M.S. Chester simply could not match the firepower of the four enemy cruisers.

A report from the Commanding Officer of H.M.S. Chester: "Boy (1st Class) John Travers Cornwell of the "Chester", was mortally wounded early in the action. He nevertheless remained standing alone at a most exposed post, quietly awaiting orders till the end of the action, with the gun's crew dead and wounded all round him". H.M.S. Chester sustained severe punishment, being hit seventeen times. She was ordered back to the port of Immingham on the Humber. Jack was taken to hospital in Grimsby and attended by Dr. C. S. Stephenson, but he could not be saved and died of his wounds on June 2nd, 1916. His body was brought back to East Ham in a wooden naval coffin and his family buried him in a private ceremony at Manor Park Cemetery, in a communal grave numbered 323. However, just over a month later, the Daily Sketch newspaper led its front page with the "scandal" of how an unrecognised war hero had been buried in a common grave. The story launched a national campaign to mark Cornwell's heroism and his body was exhumed and on the 29th July 1916 was carried by a gun carriage from East Ham Town Hall to Manor Park Cemetery and he was reburied with full military honours in a new grave, now managed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. In May 2016 the grave of "Boy Hero" Jack Cornwell and other memorials to those who died at the

Battle of Jutland are being given new protected status to mark the centenary of the naval clash.

On the 15th of September 1916, the official citation appeared in The London Gazette stating that John Travers Cornwell had been posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross by King George V.

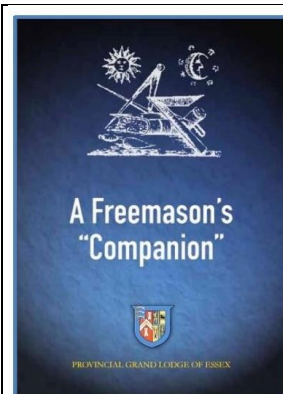


Pictured above, the citation of the award of the "Victoria Cross" to John Cornwell, from "The London Gazette" of Friday 15th September 1916.

The photograph of Jack Cornwell, is now believed to be that of his brother, who posed for the photograph after Jack had died. On 5th June 2016 a commemorative paving stone honouring Jack Cornwell was laid in the Cenotaph area of Central Park, East Ham. This will be the third in a series of five events honouring Newham's First World War VC recipients with ceremonies occurring near the time of the 100th anniversary of their acts of bravery.

Article and research – Allan de Luca

The Province of Essex – A Freemason's "Companion" is available online via the "Cube"



This is the third edition the Freemason's "Companion", and has been issued on the appointment of R.W.Bro. Rodney Lister Bass as Provincial Grand Master on 3rd September 2015. This booklet can be downloaded in "pdf format" from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex web site, follow the "Download" menu and you will be directed to the various forms that can be downloaded to include this document.



www.essexfreemasons.org
A password protected website

The Cube Social Network has been designed for Essex Masons. It promotes communications between all Lodges and Chapters in the Province of Essex. It has a social media portal which allows you to communicate with masons across the Province.



The annual Convocation of Provincial Grand Chapter of Essex Thursday, 1st September 2016 If Lodges or Chapters have a regular meeting on this day a dispensation can be applied for and will be granted free of charge.

**W. Bro. Peter Herrington
New Conservative Mayor of Waltham Forest**



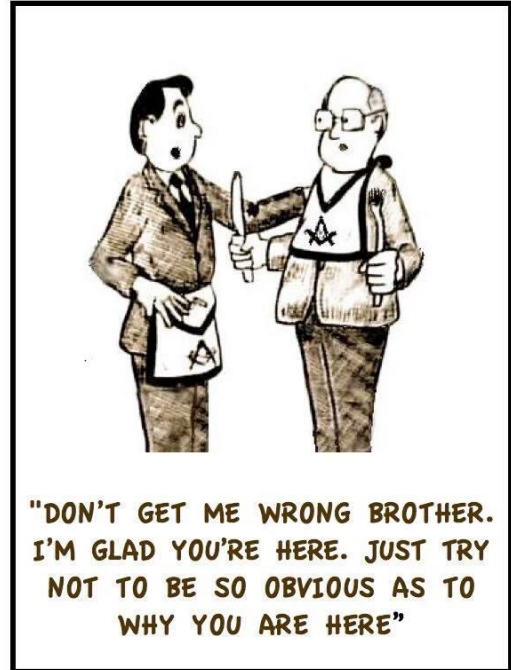
W. Bro Peter Herrington, who is a member of the Metropolitan Lodge No. 1507, and a regular visitor and supporter of the Fiducial Lodge No.8753 meeting at Chingford Masonic Hall, was elected “The Worshipful the Mayor of Waltham Forest” on the 19th May 2016 for the civic year 2016-17, with his theme of “patience, understanding and tolerance.” He announced his wife, Mrs. Susan Herrington, as his Mayoress and Canon Rodney Matthews as his spiritual adviser.

During his year as Mayor, W.Bro. Peter will be supporting the Whipps Cross Hospital, in recognition of the treatment and care he received when seriously ill two years ago with bowel cancer. He said he was “eternally grateful to the hospital and would spend his year as mayor helping to provide enhancements to benefit future patients, both young and old.” I am sure the brethren of the Chingford will wish to extend their heartiest congratulations to W.Bro. Peter. As a councillor he has represented the Endlebury Ward in Chingford for 18 years, during this time his interest has been wide ranging and he has chaired a number of the Council’s scrutiny committees, and for many years represented the Council on WF Race Equality council and London Road Safety Council, the latter has included being Chair of the Executive and Chair of the Full Council.

³ Source – Facebook

In 2013 his service was recognised when he was made Life Vice-President. W. Bro. Peter, previously as a councillor has attended the annual “Remembrance Sunday” service at the Chingford War Memorial, and has always acknowledged the brethren of the Chingford Masonic Hall, who also attend to lay a poppy wreath on behalf of the war dead. I am sure that all the brethren of the Chingford Masonic Hall, will want to wish W. Bro. Peter a very happy and enjoyable year in his high office as “The Worshipful the Mayor of Waltham Forest.”

A piece of Masonic Humour



3

As long as he is enjoying himself and getting what he needs out of Masonry.

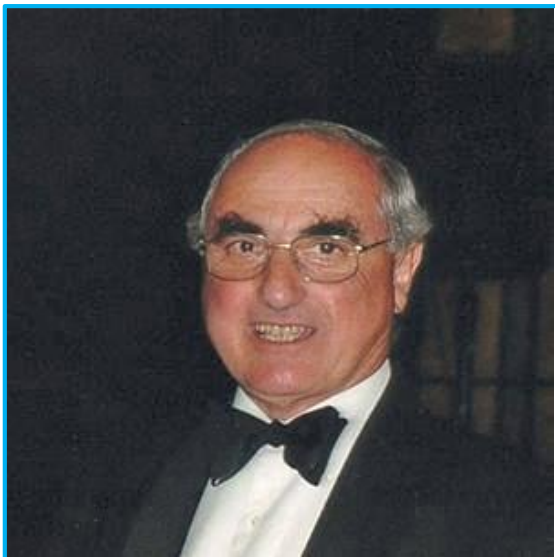
The Hainault Chapter No.4357 celebrated their 50th Anniversary at the Chingford Masonic Hall on Thursday 5th May 2016



Pictured above: The Hainault Chapter being honoured by the presence of the Deputy Grand Superintendent and Members of the Provincial Executive ⁴

⁴ Source <http://www.essexfreemasons.org> “The Cube”

New "Pro-Tem" Grand Secretary Appointed



Following the retirement of RW Bro. Nigel Brown as Grand Secretary at the end of April, the MW The Grand Master has been pleased to make an interim appointment to that office.

RW Bro. Brigadier, W.E. Shackell, *CBE*, PJGW, will take up the appointment with effect from Wednesday 8th June, and will be invested as Grand Secretary in the course of the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge on that day. The Rulers and the Board of General Purposes believe that the process of finding a long-term successor as Grand Secretary should not be hurried, and recruitment is therefore unlikely to begin for some months. In the meantime, I am sure that you would all wish to join in wishing Bro. Shackell well in his new role.

**V.W. Bro. Brian Vickers PGsuptW
Installed as W.M. of the Hyde Park Lodge No.1425
In his 60th year of becoming a Freemason**



Earlier this year, on the 15th March 2016 V.W. Bro. Brian Vickers PGsuptW received his 60th anniversary certificate in Freemasonry from the Past Metropolitan Grand Master

RW Bro. Russell John Race, and at the same time VW Bro Brian was elected to serve as the W.M. of the Hyde Park Lodge No.1425 for 2016-17. In 1977, VW Bro Brian, along with other members of the Hyde Park Lodge became Founder members of the Fiducial Lodge No.8753, which meets at the Chingford Masonic Hall and the Fiducial Lodge continues to have a very cherished relationship with the Hyde Park Lodge which was consecrated in April 1873. The installation of VW Bro Brian as the W.M. was again celebrated with an excellent five course Festive Board, followed with the singing of the usual songs and not to forget the rendition and participation of the brethren in the singing of the old Flanagan & Allen favourite of "Strolling" a strong tradition within the Hyde Park Lodge No.1425.

The Philbrick Lodge No.2255 In need of new members

Philbrick Lodge No.2255 is in need of additional members. It is the only "Daylight Lodge" meeting at the Chingford Masonic Hall, and they would like your support. The Philbrick Lodge extends invitations to you to visit the Lodge, particularly those who are able to attend as a paying guest, and is useful for "Retirees" who may wish to attend and not dine. The regular Lodge meetings are held on 1st Wednesday, February, April, October (Installation) and December. Meetings normally commence at either 10.30 am or on occasions at 11.00 am and all business including the Festive Board is completed by 3.00 pm at the latest. The Philbrick Lodge was consecrated on 23rd July 1888, and is a Hallstone Lodge, and celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2013. For further information, please contact the Secretary, W.Bro. Peter Lindell, via W.Bro. David Clarke...email davidclarke0403@btinternet.com

The Fiducial Chapter No.8753 A Look Back in Time

It is always a delight, when photographs of a Founding or Consecration of any Lodge or Chapter come to light, especially 30 years on from the date of its Consecration. W. Bro. Bill Rawlings, a Founder member of the Fiducial Chapter No.8753, and a member of the Fiducial Lodge No.8753, had such photographs, and very kindly forwarded them to me, and as a record of a Masonic moment in time, I reproduce them in this newsletter. The photographs also provide an awareness of the décor of the Chingford Masonic Hall in 1987, and of course, how young some of the members were. "No man loves life like him that's growing old"⁵ The Fiducial Chapter had sixteen Founder members, of whom, nine were members of the Hyde Park Chapter No.1425, which was Consecrated on 3rd January 1963, and is still in existence today. The Fiducial Chapter No.8753 was Consecrated on Monday 30th November 1987 at the Chingford Masonic Hall. However, the Chapter originally held its Convocations at the Loughton Masonic Hall, and it was on Thursday 20th July, 1995 that the Chapter transferred to the Chingford Masonic Hall, and then regularly held their meetings until their demise on Tuesday 17th April 2012, where a "Closing Ceremony" was conducted for the last time.

⁵ Sophocles, *Acrisius* [fragment]



Pictured above, the Founder members of the Fiducial Chapter, with some recognisable faces to include top right, E.Comp. Brian Vickers (First D.C.), and in front of Brian, E.Comp. Bill Rawlings (Steward), seated front row far right E.Comp. David Davies (Scribe N). Other Founders, included E.Comps. George Lipman (First MEZ) Ralph Allard (First H), Reg Honeyball (First J) along with Jack Bye (Scribe E), Dick Bavin (Treasurer), John Smith, Mark Vickers, Gabe Stockman, John Solomons, Reginald Milton, Kenneth Stokes, Peter Lipman and Michael Kessell, of whom, some have passed to the "Grand Lodge Above"



The Companions at the Festive Board at the Chingford Masonic Hall, and it is also interesting to have a view of the décor of the Banqueting Hall, and the of the bar in 1987, almost 30 years ago. ⁶
Article by Allan de Luca

**Col. Sir Neil Thorne OBE, TD, TL.
Past Provincial Grand Master of Essex
Celebrates his 60th Year as a Freemason**

Colonel Sir Neil Thorne, PPGM, served as the Provincial Grand Master of Essex from 1995 to 2005, and was succeeded by RW Bro. John Webb. Sir Neil was Initiated in the John Carpenter Lodge No.1997 at the age of 23, and

⁶Photographs very kindly supplied by E.Comp. Bill Rawlings, Founder member of the Fiducial Chapter No.8753

having celebrated 60 years in Freemasonry, a presentation was made at his mother lodge, meeting at Mark Masons Hall, on Friday 13th May 2016, with the presentation of his certificate being made by RW Bro David Kenneth Williamson, Past Assistant Grand Master.



Pictured above: Col. Sir Neil Thorne displaying his 60th Anniversary Certificate at the John Carpenter Lodge No.1997 on Friday 13th May 2016 at Mark Masons Hall.



Pictured above: At the Bard of Avon Lodge No.778, a Middlesex Lodge, on Monday 16th May with a presentation signed by the PGM HRH Prince Michael of Kent. The presentation made by RW David Kenneth Williamson PAGM. Also in attendance was RW Bro. John M. Webb PPGM of Essex who was celebrating his 50 years in Freemasonry



Pictured Above: Col. Sir Neil Thorne at the Mulberry Lodge No 9834, again displaying the Certificate he received from RW Bro David Kenneth Williamson PAGM. The Mulberry Lodge which is a London Lodge for staff serving in the Royal Household ⁷

⁷ Photographs very kindly supplied by Lesley, the personal secretary to Col. Sir Neil Thorne

The United Grand Lodge of England, The bicentenary and preparations of the Tercentenary celebrations

Was it our American cousins, who first gave us the idea of celebrating the bi-centenary of the United Grand Lodge in 1917? According to the magazine *"American Tyler"* they offered suggestions regarding the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the formation of the Grand Lodge of England. The Grand Master, Sumner Miller, in his annual address at the communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, in 1905 said, *"Some time since Bro. Joseph E. Morcombe, committee on correspondence of this Grand Lodge, proposed through the Masonic Press that the Craft of the entire world should take steps towards properly celebrating its bicentenary. The present Grand Lodge system had its beginning in London, 24th June 1717. It is thus proposed that the English metropolis in 1917 the Masons of the world shall gather to review the two centuries of history, to estimate present tendencies, and judge the future. It is with pleasure I endorse the suggestion, believing that as an Iowa brother has been first to propose the same, the Iowa Grand Lodge, should also be the first to accord such endorsement. It may appear that this looking far into the future, but twelve years will be necessary to properly bring out and perfect the details of such a meeting."* The committee on Grand Master's address brought in a special report on this subject, stating that they had "examined that part of the address relating to a bicentenary celebration of Masonic Grand Lodges proposed to be held in England in the year 1917. The members of the committee are in sympathy with the movement. We believe a celebration of the organisation of the Mother Grand Lodge, held at the time and place proposed, would tend to promote a general era of good fellowship throughout the Masonic world, and this bring about what spirit of fraternity between the Grand Lodges of the world found so helpful when applied to individual membership of the Craft."⁸

It was during the solemnity of the nation, as the Great War dragged on, the mood in Britain darkened and the songs, although still patriotic, were more sombre and more cynical. Songs like, *Oh, It's a Lovely War* with its sarcastic and anti-establishment words was being performed in music halls around the country. There were no more "Calls to Arms" and instead the songs remembered the dead and seemed to promote a stoic bravery. English contralto Clara Butt sang *Have You News of My Boy Jack?* the famous Rudyard Kipling poem set to music at a concert at the Albert Hall in September 1917. The poem was written in 1916 after the Battle of Jutland, but Rudyard Kipling had lost his only son Lieutenant John (Jack) Kipling, who was 18 years old, serving in the 2nd Battalion, Irish Guards, went missing in September 1915 at the Battle of Loos, making the poem especially poignant. At the end of the Battle of Loos 20,000 British soldiers were lost, and the Kipling's received the feared War Office telegram to say that their boy was wounded and missing. Rudyard had little doubt about the meaning of this, but his wife Carrie continued to hope desperately.

Kipling had gone from writing pro-war propaganda for the Government at the start of the war to progressively critical

writing about the old style Generals. After his son John's premature death, he wrote, *"If any question why we died, tell them, because our fathers lied"*. Clara Butt was greatly moved by the poem and approached composer Edward German to set it to music.

Amidst all the tragedy of the great war and on Saturday 24th June 1917 that a special Grand Lodge of Freemasons was held at the Royal Albert Hall to mark the bi-centenary of the establishment of the English Grand Lodge. The Duke of Connaught presided in his capacity as Grand Master, and there was a great gathering of Grand Officers from all parts of the United Kingdom and Ireland, with representatives from the Dominions overseas and from the United States. Although the assemblage numbered 8000 it included no representatives of the rank and file of Freemasonry, but was confined to Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Past Masters of Lodges, Reigning Masters and Officers of Lodges. It was shortly before three o'clock a procession was formed and the Deputy Grand Master, the Rt.Hon. T.F. Halsey, was escorted to the throne amid great applause. He formally opened the Lodge, and then there was another procession in which he himself took part, to the main entrance to receive the Grand Master. There was a further imposing procession, through the arena to the orchestra, and the Duke of Connaught was enthroned in due form. The Grand Master read a loyal telegram which he had sent, on behalf of the gathering to the King, George V.

His Majesty had replied: *"I have received with much satisfaction the message which you as Grand Master have conveyed to me from 8,000 Freemasons, who are today celebrating the two hundredth anniversary of British Freemasonry in England. Please thank them most cordially in my name. The traditional loyalty of British Freemasons is a force on which the Sovereign of this country has ever reckoned, and has been to me a proud memory during the anxious through which we are passing."* The Deputy Grand Master then presented an address to the Duke of Connaught, and he reminded his Royal Highness, that his illustrious ancestor, the Duke of Kent, presided over the Lodge known as "Ancient Grand Lodge" when it and this Grand Lodge were united under his brother, the Duke of Sussex. Then, there were four Lodges, all of them in



London, and now there were 3226 in active work throughout the British Empire and beyond its boundaries. Pictured Left: The Breast Jewel, issued to commemorate the Bicentenary of Grand Lodge, 1717-1917, 23rd June 1917. Left: Obverse, the head of H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught, M.W.G.M. 1917, and the reverse, the Arms of Grand Lodge. They were made of metal and metal gilt. The Grand Master, in reply, said that for more than sixteen years he had with sincere satisfaction presided over Freemasons, and imbued with the same principles, all believing the same tenets, and each determined to strive to the utmost to maintain its great principles. In a reference to the close associations of the Royal House with English Freemasonry, he recalled the fact that the late King Edward VII occupied the Grand Master's throne for over a quarter of a century (1874-1901)

⁸ *The Masonic Illustrated* – September 1905



which would ever be memorable in the annals of the Craft.⁹ For the 250th Anniversary a special round jewel was made to be worn of the collars of lodge officers and for the 275th Anniversary both a collar jewel and a medal-style jewel were manufactured. (pictured left). As the

Grand Lodge approaches its tercentenary in 2017, details of any commemorative jewel has now been announced



Pictured above;
The new Tercentenary Breast Jewel in celebration of the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1717



Pictured above:
The Breast Jewel for the 275th Anniversary of the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England Issued in 1992

Article and Research – Allan de Luca

The New Province of Essex Jewel for the Festival 2022

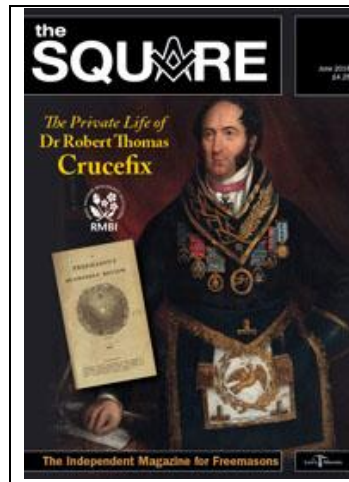


Pictured left is the new Festival 2022 Jewel which has now been approved by Grand Lodge and will be available to all Essex Masons after the Festival has been launched on 1st September. You will see that the jewel features the Stewards name at the top. This keeps us in line with other Provinces and is the official name for vice patron. There will be bars for Patron and Grand Patron. To qualify for this jewel as a personal honorific we are hoping that Essex Masons will commit to a regular payment totalling £500 by 2022. Patron level is £1,000 and Grand Patron, £1,500. Gift Aid where applicable should be added. The Province hopes that thousands of Essex Masons will wear this jewel with pride which will be available - **FREE** of charge - as soon as masons have committed to a regular payment or for those who can - have made a payment for the total amount plus Gift Aid.¹⁰

⁹ The Yorkshire Post, Monday 25th June 1917

¹⁰ Essexfreemasons.org

The latest edition of "The Square" Magazine, the Independent Magazine for Freemasons June 2016 Edition



The magazine is available at Letchworths Shop at Great Queen Street and other outlets. It is also available in a variety of electronic formats, for digital access for iPad, iPhone, Android or Computer at £2.95 per issue, or an annual subscription of £9.99. For a "Free Trial Issue" or to subscribe go to.....
<http://exacteditions.com/read/square>.

Gustavus Katterfelto c.1743- 15th November 1799 The Charlatan, who claimed he was a Brother Freemason

In the "Brewers Dictionary of Phrase and Fable" we find the word Katterfelto, as a generic name for a quack or charlatan. The word is derived from the celebrated Gustavus Katterfelto who became famous during the influenza epidemic of 1782 when he exhibited in London his solar microscope and created immense excitement by showing the infusoria¹¹ of muddy water. The "doctor" used to claim that he was the greatest philosopher since the time of Isaac Newton. He was a tall man, dressed in a long black gown and square cap, and was accompanied by a black cat. Such was his notoriety that 'Katterfelto' became a generic term for a charlatan. Born as Christian William Anthony Katterfelto, later became known as Gustavus Katterfelto, was a Prussian conjurer, scientific lecturer, magician and quack. Itinerant popular lecturer, or as one author described him as "*The Prince of Puff*"¹² and is believed to have travelled widely in Europe, and was viewed by some of his critics as someone who was fleecing the public by exploiting their gullibility. He was the son of Col. Katterfelto from the famous regiment of Death Head Hussars, belonging to the King of Prussia, and cited himself as a professor of Natural Philosophy and Mathematics, encompassing Astronomy, Geography, Fortification, Navigation and other mathematical arts. German by birth, Katterfelto is believed to have arrived in Hull in 1776 with his wife and children and excelled in publishing thrilling adverts for his "Wonders! Wonders! Wonders!" in the provincial newspapers. Most often styling himself Doctor Katterfelto, he initially leapt to fame by treating patients during the influenza epidemic in June 1782, which at that time prevailed in London and other parts of the United Kingdom, during which he used his "solar microscope" to show images of microbes he believed to be its cause, and probably was ahead of his time with this theory.

¹¹ Infusoria is a collective term for minute aquatic creatures

¹² Author - David Paton-Williams rector of St. Gregory's Bedale

These "microbes or insects" provided him with the catchphrase "Wonders! Wonders! Wonders!" which often headed his advertisements. He toured England in a rumbling coach loaded with scientific paraphernalia, a solar microscope, attended by two young 'blackamoors'¹³ and his infamous morocco black cat and her kittens, who supposedly could communicate with the departed spirits. He was an accomplished conjurer, lecturing and entertaining using magnetism, electricity and many other seemingly miraculous aspects of science. He was more noteworthy as a publicist than as a showman, although he attracted audiences to his performances. It was not difficult to find out when Katterfelto was in town. There were, as mentioned, the numerous "puffs"¹⁴ in the local paper, composed by Katterfelto himself and often in verse.



Pictured above: Portrait of Gustavus Katterfelto, held in the National Portrait Gallery, by unknown engraver, published 1783

From various newspaper reports as early as March and again in May 1780, particularly in York, he demonstrated in the presence of the Duke of Chandos, Lord Huntingdon, and Lord Petre and several other principal Ladies and Gentlemen in the city, the curiosity of his various experiments. We discover that had travelled for at least 16 years through most parts of Europe, and in his travels, he supposedly had the honour to exhibit before many different Kings, Princes and Noblemen. Katterfelto continued his exhibition in York until at least Friday 26th May 1780.

He then cast his eyes on the metropolis, the Mecca of every great quack. He hired rooms in Piccadilly and inserted the following advertisement in the *Morning Post* of July 31, 1782. "Wonders, Wonders, Wonders, Wonders! are now to be seen at No. 22 Piccadilly, by Mr. Katterfelto's newly improved and greatly admired solar microscope. Mr. Katterfelto has, by a very long and laborious study, discovered at last such a variety of wonderful experiments in natural and experimental philosophy and mathamaticks as will surprise all the world. Mr. Katterfelto will show the surprising insects on the hedge larger than ever, and those insects which caused the late influenza as large as a bird, and in a drop of water the size of a pin's head, there will be seen above 50,000 insects. N.B. After his evening lecture he

¹³A person with dark skin, especially (but not necessarily) one from northern Africa. A blackmoor is defined as slave, servant, inferior or child.

will discover all the various arts on dice, cards, billiards and O.E. tables. Admittance, front seats 3s. second seats 2s. and back seats 1s. only. Mr. Katterfelto likewise makes and sells Dr. Bato's medicines at 5s. a bottle."



Pictured above: One of the first advertisements of October 1775 that appeared in the Newspapers advertising "Katterfelto's Grand Exhibition" at the Exchange in Manchester¹⁵

On 10th June 1783 Katterfelto pleased "The Queen of France" who was highly pleased that Dr. Katterfelto had sent one of his celebrated black cat's kittens as a present to Her Majesty. The Queen of France was much surprised that the cat had no tail, but if the Doctors famous black cat has kittens again, he expects that he will send her one that has got a tail, in order to propagate the breed of this wonderful cat in France." In June 1784 Katterfelto allegedly delighted George III and other members of the Royal family, but cartoons and advertisements suggest that his appeal had already plummeted. For the next couple of years, he gave numerous informative performances to metropolitan audiences, and became a household name. Charging from 1s. to 3s. a seat, he gave different three-hour shows each night of the week.

By the time he left London in 1784 he had earned himself a reputation that was to last at least a hundred years. Katterfelto arrived at Colchester on 2nd August 1784 on his way to Norwich, where he was received at the Town Hall, "with very great applause and crowded houses."

In November 1784 he was in Norwich, where he gave lectures until January, before leaving for Cambridge. Although a caricature shows him clutching bags of gold, he spent most of the rest of his life striving to support his wife and children as an itinerant provincial entertainer. Announcing his arrival with long series of advertisements in local papers, Katterfelto travelled all over England.

One paper published an "ode" in his honour, as did the Ipswich Journal prior to his visit to Norwich. It was mentioned that he was to demonstrate his first "Philosophical" lecture in Norwich on 29th November 1784. "NOT BLIND, BUT WON'T SEE" – And after his Lecture he will shew and discover, (Gratis) several new Deceptions on Dice, Cards, Billiards, Tennis, Letters, Money, Watches,

¹⁴"puffs" or "puff piece" – a newspaper or magazine notice of something written in extravagant praise, for sales purposes,

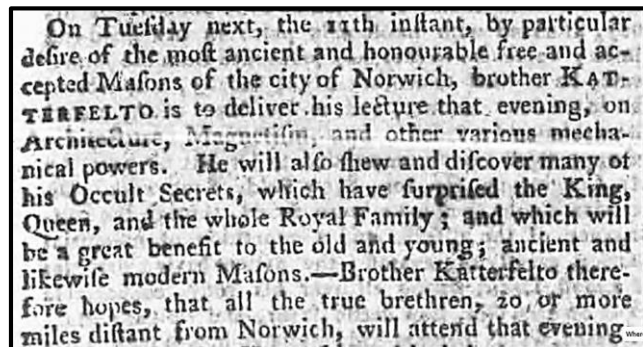
¹⁵Manchester Mercury – Tuesday 24 October 1775

Caskets, Silver and Gold, Boxes, Medals, Pyramidal Glasses and Mechanical Clocks, which is very necessary for every Person to see, as many Ladies and Gentlemen lose their fortunes by gaming, particularly in London."¹⁶

On the 18th December 1784 Katterfelto was being quite charitable, in as much the money that he took every day and night, above his day's expenses was to be given every morning to all those that are in distress. The Norfolk Chronicle¹⁷ advertised that several of the poor and distressed families returned their hearty thanks for the humane and charitable actions which he had shown "*This and last week*" and on the following week his famous morocco black cat and her kittens will be exhibited, as they give such universal satisfaction to the Ladies.

On 23rd December 1784, in Ipswich, Katterfelto was to ascend in his large Air Balloon, with his two black boys to take some astronomical observations. It was a very clear day, but rather too cold for him to continue for long in the highest part of the atmosphere, and was obliged to put off his ascending. His balloon, or "aerostatic globe" was made in London, and made of the strongest and finest taffeta, with a very large gallery round it, and 144 feet in circumference. It was in January 1785, according to the "*Norfolk Chronicle*"¹⁸ that Katterfelto had become, "*Brother Katterfelto*" and that he was actually using the Lodge in the town for his performances, and the Norfolk Chronicle, on Saturday 8th January 1785 printed a notice that on "Tuesday next, the 11th Instant, by particular desire of the most ancient and honourable free and accepted Masons of the city of Norwich, "*brother*" KATTERFELTO is to deliver his lecture that evening on Architecture, Magentism, and other various mechanical powers to Masonic brethren. He will also show and discover many of his Occult Secrets, which have surprised the King, Queen and the whole Royal Family, and which will be a great benefit to the old and young, ancient and likewise modern Masons. The notice also mentions that "*Brother Katterfelto*" hoped that all the true brethren, 20 or miles distant from Norwich, will attend that evening, and favour brother Katterfelto with their company, as well as all the brethren in the city of Norwich, as brother Katterfelto is positively sure, that if some of the ancient and modern Masons were to come 40 miles distance, or more, they will not repent their coming, as brother Katterfelto will shew and discover the same variety of Occult Secrets which he has exhibited and discovered to the grand lodges at London, Dublin, Edinburgh, Berlin, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Petersburg, Paris, Vienna, Dresden, and at several other lodges in Europe. He will also show on that evening, his various sympathetical clocks, which have surprised all the Masters of the ancient and modern lodges at those cities."

I would suggest that the knowledge that Katterfelto was imparting to the Masonic audience, nothing that was restricted to the Craft, but a variation of a theme of the same wonders of the natural world that he had been revealing in his lectures and exhibitions over the years, and undoubtedly was using Masonic Lodge venues as a stage for compensating his declining audience figures.



Foot note¹⁹

As Freemasons are aware, the knowledge and content of their meetings during the 18th century remained very much a mystery and those secrets would only be familiar to those who have been Initiated into the Order. Whatever Katterfelto had to offer with his lectures and exhibitions to his Masonic audience, was principally that of a philosopher, magician, illusionist, conjuror and quack utilizing his various inventions and the science of the day, to amaze and hold them in wonderment of his various tricks, but not of any Masonic exposures which would not have been available to Katterfelto from the various Lodges and brethren he had visited to deliver his lectures.

It is certain that Katterfelto added the word "Brother" to his name, as he has done with all his other titles. According to the Caledonian Mercury, having lectured locally in the town-hall of Berwick on his way to Edinburgh, he is advertised as "This great philosopher and astronomer is a Fellow of the Royal Society, as well as a member of the Society of the Arts and Sciences." Katterfelto was committed to the House of Correction at Kendal, Cumbria, as a rogue and vagabond, and he was also convicted of "profane cursing and swearing" (very unseemly indeed for a divine and moral philosopher) and paid the penalty inflicted by law for this offence. He was later released, on making proper submission.²⁰ He had been previously informed by the Magistrates, that he would not be permitted to perform his "jiggling tricks" in the town. But placing too strong reliance on the magic powers of his Morocco Black Cats, the Doctor disregarded the official warning, and so incurred the punishment and the disgrace." According to the "Dictionary of National Biography" Katterfelto lectured successfully at Birmingham in 1792, but was gaoled in at least two other towns as a vagrant and an impostor, and again in October 1793 he was committed to the house of correction in Shrewsbury, as a rogue and a vagabond, but was later in the month honourably liberated, and resumed his exhibitions.²¹ Katterfelto had two black servants. They were dressed in colourful liveries and went round the town blowing trumpets to attract a crowd before they handed out handbills for their master's performance. It is discovered that one of his "Black Boys" absconded in February 1786, and a reward was offered by Katterfelto for anyone to return him. The boy was aged between 17 and 18, and was apprenticed to Katterfelto, and the boys name was published as Thomas Montague. Katterfelto offered to anyone who may have seen the black boy or provide information, "*so that he may have the said apprentice again, shall be well*

¹⁶ Norfolk Chronicle – Saturday 11 December 1784

¹⁷ Norfolk Chronicle – Friday 24th December 1784

¹⁸ Norfolk Chronicle – Saturday 15th January 1785

¹⁹ Norfolk Chronicle – 8th January 1875

²⁰ Caledonian Mercury – Monday 17th May 1790

²¹ Chester Chronicle – Friday 4th October 1793 & Friday 11th October 1793

rewarded for their trouble, and all reasonable expenses paid."²²

While he was in Birmingham in 1792, Katterfelto advertised for replacement apprentices from the local community "two servant boys about fourteen to sixteen years of age, coming from honest families and have good characters." This change of moral perspective by Katterfelto may have probably came about during 1787, when there was the raising of public awareness for the abolition of the "Slave Trade" by the campaign of William Wilberforce and others, although it did not succeed in becoming law until 1807. No doubt this caused Katterfelto to reflect on the growing public reaction, and no doubt caused him to change his view to not specifically employ "black boys" for his own "extravaganzas" but just advertised for two servant boys of "good character." Katterfelto had an ingenious flair to style himself according to whatever society or other suitable title to attract his audience. As already mentioned he even styled himself as a "Fellow of the Royal Society" by adding the letters F.R.S. to his name, although he would have never have qualified for such high esteem, despite his infamy as a quack, his inventions, and his magical ingenuity. Harry Houdini later described him as "a loveable vagabond" and as "one of the most interesting characters in the history of magic." Katterfelto's skills as a magician were real and considerable and were recognized by such by many in his day and since. Katterfelto was apologetic that there were some hundreds of people in the city of Norwich will have it that he and his famous Black Cat are Devils, but that suspicion arises only from his wonderful performances.

He also sold various tinctures for toothache, also made claims of a valuable tincture of violent head-aches, sprains, bruises and rheumatic pains. He also invented a "Fire Machine" which will discover in the dark, the hour of a watch. The same will light a match or candle on land or sea, winter or summer, and never fails. When visiting Oswestry, in November 1793 among his other wondrous discoveries he prepared the model of a pair of bellows "*to blow over de gread Adlandic, and kill all de animalcules in de air at Philadelbia, dat does pring de yellow fever.*"

The "Morning Post" dated Saturday 30th November 1793 reports "*Katterfelto is now in Shrewsbury gaol, and this wonderful philosopher asserts, that his put there by some friends of the French Convention, to prevent his heading the one hundred thousand Death's Head hussars, which the King of Prussia has ordered to be raised for the purpose of putting to death every man, woman, and child in France.*"

The Freemasons Magazine of October 1793 has an entry which reads "*Dr. Katterfelto, "Natural and Moral Philosopher to his Prussian Majesty, M.D. and F.R.S." is committed to the House of Correction in Shrewsbury, as a rogue and a vagabond.*" It was mistakenly reported that Katterfelto was lost on board the Viceroy Liverpool Packet-Boat, on her passage from Liverpool to Dublin in December 1797, and that she had sunk at sea and without hopes of finding any survivors on board this ship. In February 1798 however, Katterfelto wrote a letter under his own hand, and using his own unsophisticated words "*Sur, I am heare aloive and mery vid moy famly of black cats. I was on board de Packet, but my plack cats did zave me from trowning vid their long tales and viskers – Plase to make a parecras of*

this, Yours, DR. KATTERFELTO FRS MD Filosofer"²³ this article was sandwiched between a short report of "The French attempting an invasion of this country by the means of a raft half a mile long" and "A certain cure for corns."

Katterfelto had compiled a great variety of flamboyant newspaper advertisements and wall posters, many of them incorporating long poems. Their two major themes were his fame as an international freemason with secret knowledge of occult mysteries and his expertise as a natural philosopher. Correspondingly, his two renowned props were his necromantic black cat and his solar microscope, a device which projected magnified displays onto a white surface for public viewing. By revealing thousands of 'insects' writhing in a drop of water, he persuaded Londoners terrified of catching influenza to purchase his patent medicine at 5s. a bottle. He often referred to his solar microscope as "new invented" or "new-improved", effectively implying that he had invented it. The creator of the microscope was Johannes Lieberkuhn, a German physician and anatomist, who designed it in 1739, and was later popularized by John Cuff, a maker of microscopes, spectacles and barometers in London, who constantly came up with a new and improved design that was copied for many years. So Katterfelto's "solar microscope" was nothing new, but combined its use to combine scientific instruction with commercial entertainment, and his various public experiments were Philosophical, Mathematical, Optical, Magnetical, Electrical, Physical and he also teaches Astronomy, Geography, Fortification and Navigation.

He was always demonstrating his grand Perpetual Motion and various occult secrets. He was very good at deceptions with dice, cards, and many other tricks of the trade. He gave demonstrations of animal magnetism, while suspending his black cats and five pigs in the air, by the help of his strong magnet. In February 1792 in a small town in Warwickshire, while Katterfelto was delivering a lecture on electricity, he undertook to demonstrate the power of his machine by shocking a large pig, but the ferocious animal unfortunately repelled the shock on the experimentalist, by biting off a piece of the doctor's nose.....Science hangs her head on the occasion, and the very face of philosophy was wounded. In addition, his diverse equipment included a lecturer's standard natural philosophical apparatus, some of it quite expensive, such as compasses and globes, an orrery²⁴ a telescope, an air pump, and an electrical machine.

To attract his declining audiences he proclaimed ever more exotic devices, including a perpetual-motion machine, a magnetic copying apparatus, and sympathetic clocks. One celebrated trick entailed lifting his daughter to the ceiling by using a large magnet for attracting a steel helmet on her head. Like James Graham, the Scottish promoter of electrical cures, showman, and pioneer in sex therapy, with whom he was often bracketed, Katterfelto was marginalized as a quack, and mocked for his colourful puffery. By ingeniously combining the fascination of mystery with the vogue for rational self-improvement, he competed against other travelling performers and conjurers, and also against rival lecturers on natural philosophy who similarly relied on spectacle to attract their audiences. Satirists rendered Katterfelto the epitome of charlatanry, referring particularly to his advertisements headed "Wonders! Wonders!"

²² *Stamford Mercury* – Friday 24th February 1786

²³ *Chester Chronicle* – Friday 23 February 1798

²⁴ An orrery is a mechanical model of the solar system that illustrates or predicts the relative positions and motions of the planets and moons

Wonders!" William Cowper ²⁵ described him in *The Task; The Winter Evening (Book IV - 1782)* as:

And Katterfelto, with his hair on end
At his own wonders, wond'ring for his bread,
and John Wolcot ²⁶ mentioned him several times in his Peter Pindar poems.

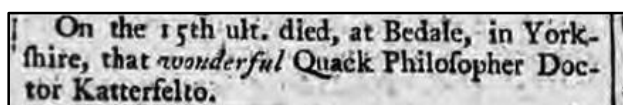
Why, viewing such a set of red-hot heads,
Our Exhibition he will liken Hell to;
The to the Monarch, who both writes and reads,
Give hand-bills of the wond'rous Katterfelto;
Swearing th' Academy was all so flat,
He'd rather see the wizard and his cat ²⁷

Katterfelto was probably the model for William Blake's Inflammable "Gass the Windfinder" in his satire *'An Island on the Moon'* (the hydrogen in balloons was called inflammable air). Although in contemporary cartoons Katterfelto was derided as a quack, because of his great notoriety he was also utilized for mocking prominent political figures. In 1875 George Whyte-Melville published a romanticized novel of Jacobite intrigue featuring Katterfelto (spelt Katterfelto) as a villainous doctor. ²⁸

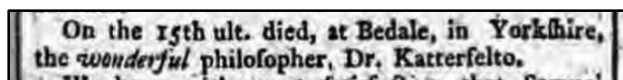
*"He chanced to hear Katterfelto spoken of
as a cunning man,
For whom there were no secrets in this world
or the next."*

His performances were acclaimed many times at Whitby, and Katterfelto probably eventually settled in Bedale, also in Yorkshire, however with dwindling audiences and probably the rising cost of equipment and supplies for his shows, there may not have been much money left to buy food or to replace worn out clothing. A decade of severe winters, poor harvests and food shortages had stretched the system of poor relief to its breaking point.

Parishes were increasingly reluctant to welcome vagrants who may become a burden on the public purse. Increasing financial hardship may have meant the servants were discharged to fend for themselves. A result of all these possibilities that made Katterfelto vulnerable to illness that sent him on his final journey, and while living in Bedale, Yorkshire he died on 15 November 1799, some newspapers have his death as the 25th November 1799, a mistake that has been frequently been repeated.



Pictured above: from the Hampshire Telegraph dated 23rd December 1799 - 15th ult.²⁹ being the 15th November 1799



Pictured above: from the Chester Courant dated 24th December 1799 - 15th ult. being the 15th November 1799

Katterfelto is buried in the church floor, in the chancel of St. Gregory's Church, Bedale, Yorkshire. Katterfelto's widow subsequently married John Carter, a Whitby publican.

²⁵ William Cowper - 26 November 1731 – 25 April 1800)^[a] was an English poet and hymnodist. One of the most popular poets of his time.

²⁶ John Wolcot (9 May 1738 – 14 January 1819) was an English satirist, who wrote under the pseudonym of "Peter Pindar".

²⁷ Ode V – From the book of Lyric Ode to the Royal Academicians 1783

²⁸ Katterfelto was the name of a famous, possibly mythical, stallion that lived on Exmoor in the early nineteenth century

Hird the shoemaker of Bedale wrote a long ode in memory of Katterfelto, in his "Hird's Annals of Bedale" poetically culminating with the last eight lines of his burial:-

*Near t'altar steps his tomb is seen,
A plain and humble stone,
Which speaks the fame of what he'd been,
His name and age thereon.
Time when he died, and epitaph,
That's writ in four lines,
Phylosopher! That is enough!
The grave! Thy all enshrines ³⁰*

There was during Katterfelto's lifetime the great "Herman Boaz" aka "*The Sieur Boaz*" (and his learned dog) who too, was always believed to be a native German, who was in reality, an Englishman whose real name was James (or Thomas) Bowes. He apparently was also a surgeon and an expert in angling. His first traces as a magician are from 1762. He travelled extensively England and Scotland rivaling with Philip Astley and Katterfelto.

Among his various feats he also performed mind reading routines. Herman Boaz was accused of cutting a Partridge Head off, and a complaint was made and he appeared before the local Magistrate in Ipswich, who then discovered that the ingenious Boaz had actually set the Partridges head on again without causing injury to the bird, and Boaz was excused a penalty and acquitted with honour.

However, Boaz was to be incarcerated into Northampton Gaol, and for what reason is unknown. Herman Boaz broke out of Northampton Gaol on Saturday 2nd October 1773 between three and four o'clock in the morning.

He was described as "*About 30 years of age, about five feet five inches high, middling in person, smooth faced, wears his own hair tied behind, curled at the sides, and a toupee before. He was dressed in a narrow gold-laced hat, a white Manchester velvet coat and waistcoat, white ticking breeches and boots, and a blue surtout [frock] coat.*

He sometimes goes in the character of a half-pay officer, and gets his living by shewing slight of hand. Whoever will secure the said Herman Boaz, and give immediate notice of the same to me, shall receive Ten Guineas reward from me. JOHN SOLE, Keeper of Northampton Gaol." ³¹

It is presumed that he had escaped abroad, until Herman Boaz is found advertising in the Derby Mercury, Friday 19th May 1780 for an exhibition at the Assembly Room, at the Old Ship on 25th May 1780, he says that "*his stay in these parts will be very short, being engaged to Foreign Court.*" So no doubt he had fled abroad, or even to Scotland until the heat for his recapture had died down since his escape from Northampton Gaol in October 1773.

However, in the early 1800's he continued to present his exhibitions throughout England and Scotland, and attracting crowded audiences and Boaz eventually died in Edinburgh, aged 84 in January 1821. ³² According to the Scots Magazine, Boaz had long worn the chief laurels of legerdemain, being at once the most expert, most various, and most graceful in the performance of his tricks.

²⁹ Ult.- (ultimo mense): "last month"

³⁰ Hird's Annal's of Bedale. Robert Hird [1768-1841] was a shoemaker in Bedale and lived there all his life. In about 1808 he began to write a history of his town in rhymed quatrains and continued until shortly before his death in 1841.

³¹ Newcastle Courant – Saturday 16th October 1773

³² Edinburgh Annual Register for 1821 – published 1823

His professional visits to Edinburgh were marked by one unvarying and honourable attribute, the profits of a night's performance were every time dedicated to charity. Prior to his death he had for nearly twelve years had been disabled by a paralytic condition. Boaz had often enlivened Masonic meetings in Edinburgh with his collection of anecdote and song, and he was attended to his grave by six of the Lodges in their regalia, and he was buried with full Masonic honours. It is gratifying to learn, that, consistently with the true principles of that order, this was done less with a view to vain and idle parade, than as a prelude to some exertions on behalf of his widow and family.³³

Article and Research – Allan de Luca

In the June edition of the “Square” magazine (see page 7) is published the following article by Allan de Luca

The Sword of UGLE

Allan DeLuca does sterling work for the Chingford Masonic research group through his online newsletter. Here is an article which presents the supposed history of the fine sword used by UGLE.



The full article originally appeared in the CMA Newsletter No.51, and it is pleasing to learn that the magazine is giving support to the Chingford Masonic Study Circle.

For details on how to purchase or subscribe to the “Square” magazine, please refer to the advertisement on page 7 of this newsletter.

Spero Lodge No.6825 hosts the Chingford Lodges Cluster Meeting and Re-Dedicate their Lodge Banner - Wednesday 15th June 2016



Pictured above: Members of Spero Lodge 6825 enjoyed a great meeting on Wednesday 15th June 2016 when they re-dedicated the Lodge Banner. Over 100 Brethren attended the ceremony at Chingford Masonic Hall, and the ceremony conducted by W.Bro Jason Rees.³⁴



³³ *The Scots Magazine – Thursday 1st February 1821*

³⁴ *Source – essexfreemasons.org*

A Masonic Poem – “Help the Lifeboat”

‘Tis said, my brother Masons,
We “say” more than we “do”
And, very much, I’m thinking,
The accusations true;
Of “Charity” much boasting,
We brothers, sometimes hear;
But far beyond our circle,
It does not go, I fear.
Of “schools” for orphan children,
Of “homes” for aged men,
Of scratching up Jerusalem,
Of banquets now and then;
Boast ye of those for ever,
Much doubting ‘twill dispel,
And many mocking cowans
Such talking will repel.
But how the Lifeboat
Which should be fit for sea
To save the shipwrecked sailors
Who else, will drown’d be!
It has not “walked the waters!”
It is not even built!
And for this great omission
We all must share the guilt.
In haste, then, brother Masons,
Your purses open wide,
That sooner may our life-ark
Upon the waters ride;
And many thankful sailors
Recovered from the wave
Will bless the Mason’s lifeboat,
Who snatched them from the grave.³⁵

It was in 1871 that members of Lodge of Faith, No. 141, London, came up with the idea of providing a lifeboat for the RNLI. They raised £260 and petitioned Grand Lodge to provide the additional funds to purchase a boat. Grand Lodge agreed and, learning that the lifeboat at North Berwick needed replacing, provided the funds for a thirty-foot, state-of-the-art vessel, together with a lifeboat carriage to get it to the water. The boat provided sterling service for sixteen years. In 1875, HRH Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, was installed as Grand Master. He was sent on an extended tour of India to represent Queen Victoria, who had become Empress of India. This was a journey not without its hazards and dangers in those days, so when Albert returned, Grand Lodge decided to mark his safe homecoming in some permanent way. The first “Masonic” lifeboat was named “The Freemason” and was donated and stationed at North Berwick.³⁶ The new boat, was launched on 16th September 1871, and it was 30ft. long, 7½ feet wide, and rowed ten oars double banked and also had a new transporting and launching carriage. It was built by Messrs. T&W Forestt of Limehouse, who built many of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution’s lifeboats in the Life-Boat building yard in the Limehouse Basin, East London between 1852 and 1890.

³⁵ *Freemasons Magazine and Mirror – 21st November 1868 – Poem by Richard Simmons*

³⁶ *Freemasonry Today – December 2014*

New Deputy Provincial Grand Charity Steward

It has been announced on the "Cube" on the 20th June 2016 by the ProvGChStwd Colin Felton that Terry Thurley is to take over as Deputy Provincial Grand Charity Steward from Chris Hicks. Terry will also continue to act as secretary to the charity committee for the time being. The change follows a decision by the Deputy PGM Paul Reeves which confirms the role that Chris has undertaken as Chairman of the Essex Tercentenary Committee and which will continue to take up a considerable amount of his time as we approach the 300 year celebrations in 2017. As the Tercentenary has coincided with the launch of a new Festival it was felt that it would be increasingly difficult to give time to two important jobs.

Festival 2022 workshops

Charity workshops will take place at five key centres following the launch of the Festival 2022 on September 1st. All are welcome, particularly charity stewards and secretaries. There will be speakers from Grand Lodge representing the Masonic Charitable Foundation and members of the Provincial Executive are also expected to attend. Please make a date in your diary. Start time is 7.30 pm in each case.

1. Upminster - Monday 26th Sept - Masonic Hall, Deyncourt Gardens, Upminster, Essex, RM14 1DF
2. Southend - Thursday 6th Oct - Southend Masonic Centre, Saxon Hall, Aviation Way, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS2 6UN
3. Chingford - Monday 10th Oct - Station Road, Chingford, London, E4 7AZ
4. Braintree - Monday 17th Oct - Howard Hall, 36 Bocking End, Braintree, Essex, CM7 9AA
5. Colchester - Tuesday 18th Oct - St. Giles Masonic Centre, 5 St John's Green, Colchester, Essex, CO2 7EZ

The PGM's Mission Statement For the Province of Essex



The Provincial Grand Master RW Bro Rodney Lister Bass announced his Mission Statement for the Province of Essex at a meeting of Essex Masters Lodge tonight Thursday June 23rd.

He said it consisted of just 10 words

1. Enjoy our Freemasonry
2. Grow our membership
3. Increase our community engagement

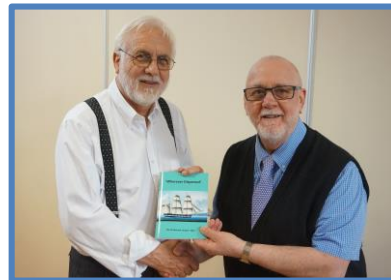
This Mission Statement will form the basis for the new five-year plan which will guide the Province to even bigger and better things. Keep up to date with events on the Provincial website "Cube" www.essexfreemasons.org



The Chingford Masonic Study Circle Meeting held at the Chingford Masonic Hall on Monday 27th June 2016

The June meeting of the CMSC held at the Chingford Masonic Hall on Monday 27th June 2016, with the invited guest speaker, the Prestonian Lecturer 2015, W.Bro. Roger Burt, presenting his talk "Wherever Dispersed" to the members of the Study Circle. W.Bro. Roger's talk was received with much interest, and Roger explained that by the second half of the 19th century, the whole of Europe and North America were on the move and among the travellers there were Freemasons. The presentation opened by looking at the mechanism for charitable assistance for the travelling Mason and their families, and moved on to explaining that Freemasonry was only one of many fraternal and benevolent societies that offered travelling assistance, and of course, some travellers were imposters in order to receive such assistance, however, the culprits were caught and courts dealt with them rather severely. In America they issued a monthly list of fraudulent claimers, with a warning issued by the American Grand Lodge to beware of such imposters. We were informed that Masonic Relief was still being claimed by Imposters into the 1960's. However, the talk covered many aspects of the "Travelling Mason" and the kept the audience engrossed. The talk was followed by several questions from the brethren to W.Bro. Roger.

A full transcript of the lecture "Wherever Dispersed" can be obtained on W.Bro. Roger Burt's website: <http://rburt7.wix.com/rogerburt>



Pictured left: W.Bro Allan de Luca, Secretary of the Chingford Masonic Study Circle, receiving a copy of "Wherever Dispersed" booklet from W.Bro. Roger Burt, Prestonian

Lecturer 2015. Following the closing of the CMSC meeting, the members enjoyed a buffet and a drink and engaged in conversation regarding the presentation.

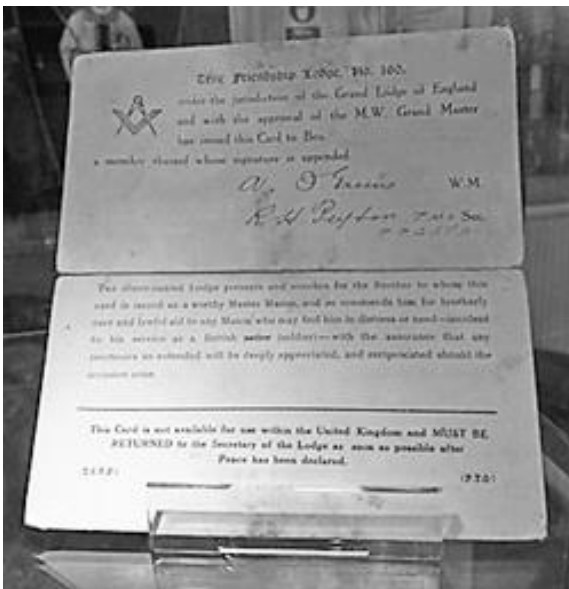


Pictured left: W.Bro. Dennis Jane presenting W.Bro. Roger Burt with a cheque payable to the T.L.C. for £100.00. At the next meeting, on Monday 7th November 2016, the guest speaker at the Chingford Masonic Study Circle will be V.W.

Bro. Irene Howell, Grand Inspector, Essex presenting her talk on "Order of Women Freemasonry", and at this CMSC meeting wives and partners of Freemasons are very welcome to attend, as this talk will be of interest to all.

Freemasonry and the commencement of World War I on the 4th August 1914

On the 1st July 2016, as the world reflects on the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. When war was declared on the 4th August 1914, Freemasonry in England found themselves in an unparalleled position. Freemasonry was then and remains today non-political, and the discussion of politics at Masonic meetings, was and still forbidden, but 100 years ago the United Grand Lodge, the governing body for freemasonry in England and Wales had to contend with the impact of global war. Currently, there are many exhibitions throughout the Provinces, which display many items relating to the Great War and Freemasonry, and taking pride of place is a Roll of Honour, of all Freemasons that gave their lives in service of their country and their respective Lodges. There will, no doubt, be many current Worshipful Masters of Lodges, who will have the privilege of wearing the Hall Stone Jewel, in memory of all those who made the supreme sacrifice 100 years ago on the 1st July 1916 and during the whole campaign, which continued until 18th November 1916.³⁷ The United Grand Lodge issued “*Clearance Certificate*” in the form of a card, which was to be carried by serving sailors and soldiers. The certificate pictured below, originates from “*True Friendship Lodge No.160*” of Rochford, Essex, constituted 4th December 1766 and named in 1786. During the First World War the Lodge was meeting at the Old Ship, Rochford, Essex. They currently meet at the “Old Court House” Rochford, and celebrated their 225th Anniversary in December 1991. During the First World War, under “*emergency privilege*” the Lodge initiated members of the Royal Flying Corps Squadron at Rochford Airfield because of their uncertain length of residence there. The “*Clearance Certificate*” was produced with the approval of the MW Grand Master, and had to be returned to the Secretary of the Lodge “as soon as possible after Peace has been declared.



The Certificate reads: “*The Friendship Lodge No.160*” – under the jurisdictions of the Grand Lodge of England and with the approval of the M.W. Grand Master has issued this

³⁷ With acknowledgements to the Province of Kent for the inspiration of their article, part of which has been reproduced in this article.

Card to Bro..... a member thereof whose signature is appended. The above stated Lodge presents and vouches for the Brother to whom this card is issued as a worthy Master Mason, and so commends him for brotherly love and lawful aid to any Mason who may find him in distress or need – incident to his service as a British sailor/soldier – with the assurance that any courtesies are extended will be deeply appreciated and reciprocated should the occasion arise. This Card is made available for use within the United Kingdom and MUST BE RETURNED to the Secretary of the Lodge as soon as possible after Peace has been declared.” On Wednesday 2nd December 1914, at the Quarterly Communication meeting of the United Grand Lodge of England, it was announced that the status of members of Lodges, who are absent in the service of the Crown and its Allies during the War. This ensures that a Brother’s financial position in his Lodge shall not be affected by his absence in the service of his country as long as the present crisis exists. Within the Peace Tower at Freemasons Hall, Great Queen St, London is the Masonic Shrine and Roll of Honour to those that fell in the Great War, and has become a touchstone, of the horror, carnage and terror that war brings.

“Aftermath” - Siegfried Sassoon³⁸

Have you forgotten yet?...

For the world's events have rumbled on since those gagged days,
Like traffic checked while at the crossing of city-ways:
And the haunted gap in your mind has filled with thoughts that flow
Like clouds in the lit heaven of life; and you're a man
rerieved to go,
Taking your peaceful share of Time, with joy to spare.
But the past is just the same--and War's a bloody game...
Have you forgotten yet?...

Look down, and swear by the slain of the War that you'll never forget.

Do you remember the dark months you held the sector at Mametz--
The nights you watched and wired and dug and piled sandbags on parapets?
Do you remember the rats; and the stench
Of corpses rotting in front of the front-line trench--
And dawn coming, dirty-white, and chill with a hopeless rain?
Do you ever stop and ask, 'Is it all going to happen again?'

Do you remember that hour of din before the attack--
And the anger, the blind compassion that seized and shook you then
As you peered at the doomed and haggard faces of your men?
Do you remember the stretcher-cases lurching back
With dying eyes and lolling heads--those ashen-grey
Masks of the lads who once were keen and kind and gay?
Have you forgotten yet?...

Look up, and swear by the green of the spring that you'll never forget.

Article and Research Allan de Luca

³⁸ Siegfried Sassoon (1886-1967) one of the leading poets of the First World War