



Week 63, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Brethren, in week 63, we see further evidence of the green shoots of the beginning of our "return to normality" - but of course many obstacles may be put in our way that we still need to overcome, before we emerge, hopefully stronger, on the other side.

Just one more edition of the Square News after this one, before our final retirement edition at week 65. As we return to the Source, we are always on the lookout for articles that will allow us to celebrate with you - perhaps on your lodge return, or events that you may need to circulate wider - just send in any items or photos for review.

This week, some timely reminders of various events and activities that are around us, please support wherever possible.

As always, keep strong, keep positive, take the vaccine, and stay safe.

The Editor

## We're back !!

Lodge of Hope and Charity No.377 held their first, physical, regular meeting last week.

14 members of the lodge, plus 2 guests (brethren from a London lodge now working from home locally, both have been proposed as joining members), had an enjoyable meeting where WBro Allan Bretherton was proclaimed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year and invested his Officers. Everyone adjourned to the Club Bar for drinks, and cheese and ham cobs. We were joined by our two candidates for initiation.



We now look forward to a full summer of Freemasonry at Hope and Charity - Covid restrictions allowing!

*Ed - please send in any reports and photos of your first meeting back, so we can feature either here or in the new monthly Source.*

## Ducks wanting a quacking sponsorship!

There is still time to get your sponsorship in, for the duck race on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July, at the Worcester Rowing Club - with the potential to win a first prize of £250!

Go quackers and get an entry form here:



And a reminder to get your tickets in advance, at the cheaper price than on the day at the gate, for the **Masonic Vehicle display** at Worcester Masonic Hall on the same day.

Ride on down here for full information:



Great to announce that the following Charity Grants have been approved in our Province. These are for **local charities** serving **local people**.

# Leukaemia Care

YOUR Blood Cancer Charity

*Leukaemia care have received £10,000 to help fund the welfare and advocacy support service which provides emotional and psychological support after receiving a diagnosis of a blood cancer. The team also provides their befriending scheme for older blood cancer patients and their families, which aims to reduce feelings of loneliness or social isolation for blood cancer patients in later life.*



*Mentor Link in Stourport, have received £5,000 to support children and young people in primary and secondary schools, who are experiencing difficulties and would benefit from an adult role model. The charity provides one to one mentoring from trained volunteer mentors to children and young people referred by schools or parents.*

The MCF support for you as Freemasons and your families, may be more varied than you think. Discover how they can help you through life's challenges.

- Changed income
- Childcare help
- Counselling help
- Bereavement help
- Understanding state support



[www.mcf.org.uk/get-support](http://www.mcf.org.uk/get-support)



## A View from the East....



This week, Ed Kimpton chats with WBro John Yeates, a retired Pharmacist. John became WM of Custos Lodge No. 9320 in 2009, continuing into 2010 when he was also installed as WM of Stability No. 564, for the second time. In 2019, John became WM of Worcestershire Installed Masters Lodge No. 6889, making him one of the most experienced WM's in The Province.

By coincidence, John was first installed as WM of Stability Lodge 564 in 1986, 100 years after his Grandfather opened his first pharmacy.

### What are the memories of your first installation?

It was 35 years ago, and I was very excited. WBro Henry King was the Presiding Officer and it snowed during the installation and was 'white-over' as I walked home - but it didn't matter as I was a foot above the ground. As a matter of interest, The Apollo Mission was going on at the same time (USA).

That evening, I was carried by the brethren onto the shoulders of many eminent predecessors.

### Has Freemasonry been valuable in your professional life?

In Freemasonry, and in my professional working life, I have *needed* to pay careful attention to my fellow human beings - because people don't always say what they want to in words. Freemasonry helps because it is utterly different, giving you an abiding respect for other people and their feelings.

### What makes Freemasonry unique to you?

I've always loved the sense of recreation, and liken walking into the lodge to walking through the looking glass into a parallel world.

### Have you held any events during the pandemic?

6889 hosted a Zoom memorial meeting with over 70 in attendance. (*Ed - featured in edition 61 of Square News*). I also made sure I maintained contact with the brethren of 6889 during these difficult times and have written over half a dozen letters during the pandemic.

### What advice would you give to brethren taking the chair?

- A WM must take responsibility to arrange and attend meetings, to select and cooperate with his officers, and using the experience of PMs to assist in the prediction of the program. It's better to negotiate rather than dictate.
- Learn ritual years (not months) before, practice everywhere and anywhere you can.
- There is a key difference in being relaxed and being confident, the latter is more effective.
- Know what your brethren expect and try not to let them down, they won't let you down.
- Try to involve family and friends where you can.
- Delegate when you can, actively encourage others to take part.
- Maintain dignity, but enjoy transient humour, remember that mishaps add to the enjoyment. Revel in the bloopers - being confident means you can handle things more easily, particularly when they go wrong.

### Any final thoughts in closing?

I have been lucky to see brilliant masters in action - don't just enjoy them, learn from them; without ever forgetting that you are unique and will therefore be a unique master, even if you emulate other eminent past masters. Your ambition should be to make other masons want to emulate you in some manner, whilst also adding their own stamp.

Preparation brings ample reward; to be effective one has to gain perspective, pass onto others what you have seen. Know what your brethren expect and try not to let them down, they won't let you down.

## Solomon Live # 3



Click on the image to book for "Mysteries of the Royal Arch", an interview with the Third Grand Principal Most Excellent Companion Gareth Jones, OBE, **at 19.30 this Tuesday 8th June.**

These stimulating webinars are hosted by our very own PCO WBro Brody Swain, and are designed to give us our "Daily Advancement", lasting approximately 45 minutes. We will cover popular masonic topics and offer the opportunity to ask questions.

## A Daily Advancement...



When is a secret, not a secret?...

This Solomon nugget, "keeping our secrets", deconstructs two phrases much used in our ceremonies, 'Cowans and intruders' and 'Hele and conceal', returning them in their original time and context to explain their meaning. Click below to read.



## Worcestershire Masonic Library and Museum

Have you visited yet? Our own Library and Museum possesses the finest collection of Masonic items in the English constitution, other than that belonging to the United Grand Lodge of England itself, which is housed at the Library and Museum of Freemasonry, Freemasons Hall, London.

The Museum is open every Tuesday and Thursday 10.00am - 12.00pm. (please note: In order to keep visitors safe we may need to limit numbers, so please ring us first if possible).

We also have a great recycled and preloaded regalia shop, if either you are returning to meetings and require some new items, or are wanting to rehome some old regalia.

Visit our website at [www.WorcesterMasonicMuseum.co.uk](http://www.WorcesterMasonicMuseum.co.uk)

### Monthly dose of Source



We are starting to prepare for moving to the all-new, re-designed, shiny and improved, monthly Worcestershire Source, after Square News retires at edition 65. If you have any articles, or ideas that you would like to see, please let the Editor know, in plenty of time before our first edition on 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

(Ed - not wanting to name and shame, but in a recent meeting, one APGM asked.."how often is the monthly source published"....my reply..."err monthly Patrick?")



**Worcestershire 2022 Festival (E2022) donation**

<https://gtap.uk/e2022>

Queries on using the QR Code? see our [Digital Donations video guides](#)

