

OFFICERS OF THE LODGE, 1998-1999

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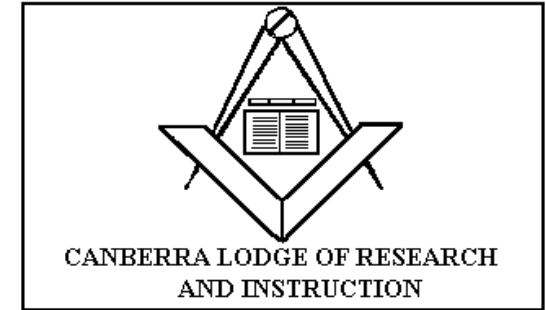
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INVITATION

The Preceptor has directed that I invite you to attend the next meeting of the Canberra Lodge of Research and Instruction which will be held at the Canberra Masonic Centre on Wednesday 15 October 1999, commencing at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 Election of Officers for 1999-2000
- 4 Report on Demonstration Team visit
- 5 Activities for next year
- 6 *Masonic research resources in Canberra - a survey of materials*
- 7 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse
Secretary
September 1999

WORK OF THE EVENING

Tonight I will present a summary of Masonic research resources available in Canberra. Some material shows up in the darndest places, and there is a story in every one! I hope that as a result from contributions from those present we can assemble a list of materials so that brethren can use the database as a starting point for both their own studies and also for preparation of papers to this Lodge.

DEMONSTRATION TEAM VISIT

The day was adjudged a success by those who count, i.e. the brethren in attendance. We had more than the 50 required and were pleased to see the PGM, MWBro. Noel Dunn OAM, and his team go through the three degrees. It was unfortunate that the day clashed with the Grand Chapter Proclamation, but it was heartening that several brethren took in the morning session and then slipped away to Sydney. My personal thanks to those who added their support by their attendance and assistance, through their efforts the Lodge is more widely known in the region.

CHAPTER OF RESEARCH?

The opportunity exists for the former NSW Chapter of Research to be reopened to Canberra. A flyer announcing a meeting of interested Companions will appear shortly. This will give an added outlet to those

members of the Royal Arch who wish to direct their research efforts in that direction - whilst not neglecting this Lodge of course!

A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...

Freemasonry and the Leaders of Victorian England, a paper by Bro. George Yeates, is enclosed as the *ADA* for this month. Please remember that these papers do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Lodge, but are provided as 'food for thought'.

ACTIVITIES FOR 2000

At the October meeting it is usual for us to consider our activities for the next year. So far, with only one exception, we have kept to the plan set last year. I would ask that all brethren consider what they can contribute, even if it is a five minute paper. In addition it would help if brethren can suggest topics which we could discuss - each doing a little study to further our knowledge as a group. I hope that we can have one night allotted to a presentation by one of the 'additional' Orders, as we did with the successful night when we learnt about the Knight Templar Priests.

LIBRARY NOTES

I have put a proposal to the "Third Floor Committee" of the CMC that we shift the bookcases to the area near the 'Museum' cases so that they are more accessible to the brethren. Should this be agreed to, I would like some support in making the shift.

At the same time I am contemplating a systematic reordering of the collection so that the books are in subject groupings, rather than the present arrangement. I would appreciate any thoughts you may have on such a reorganisation. It seems to me that the present division into Gordon Marshall, E A Reynolds and general collections is not assisting brethren in searching out materials of interest.

YARKER'S *ARCANE SCHOOLS* ON DISC

Any reader wishing to have a disc copy of this 800- page book should contact me. You should be aware that John Hamill, in his *A History of English Freemasonry*, labeled this work 'a monument to misapplied scholarship!' Nevertheless it is an interesting read and not easily found these days. I will email a copy to those who contact me at masonic@bigfoot.com

A FULL SET OF *AQC* AND OTHER MASONIC BOOK BARGAINS!

Somewhere in Australia is a bookseller who has advised the Quatuor Coronati Correspondence Circle (QCCC) that they have for sale a full set of *AQC* for only £1800 (A\$4500 or so). This is a very low price - a set was last seen offered here for A\$5000 some five years ago. Unfortunately our Lodge funds do not stretch to this sort of money so we will have to pass up the offer. If you have the

desire to acquire a full set easily (and the money), please contact me for details.

QCCC are also having a special offer on selected back numbers of *AQC*. Volumes 98 - 109 are available at a postage paid rate of £12 (US\$20) for cloth bound and £10 (US\$17) for limp bound copies.

Also available at special prices are *Serendipity* by Harry Mendoza, *Priest and Freemason* by Sandbach and the recently released *Freemasonry Universal Vol. 1 - The Americas* by Australia's own Tony Pope and Kent Henderson (£10, £6 and £14 respectively). See me for details.

By the way, if you are not a member of QCCC, and wish to be, please contact me as I am the Local Secretary for country NSW and the ACT.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

This will take place at this months' meeting as the whole of the last meeting was taken up with arrangements for the Demonstration Team visit.

NEW CRYER BOOK

Just in time for inclusion on your Christmas 'wants' list, is the new book by Bro. Neville Barker Cryer entitled *I Just Didn't Know That*. The blurb says "Presented as a series of talks, and written by one of freemasonry's leading authors, this invaluable new title enables

members to deliver informative talks at their lodge without a visiting lecturer, as well as being fascinating reading for every mason and non-mason alike. It covers many of the basics of freemasonry that are often overlooked, or asked about, and will leave people saying 'I Just Didn't Know That'."

The ISBN is 0853182192 and the cost is £9.99. I have ordered a copy for the CMC Library - even though it seeks to replace GL Official Lecturers!

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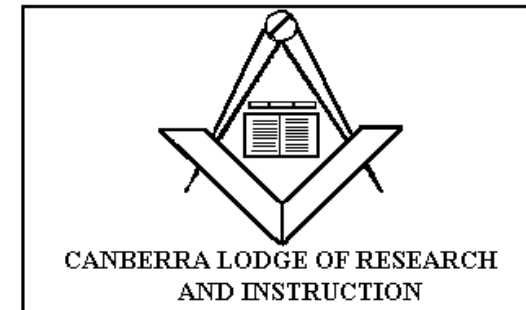
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INVITATION

The Preceptor has directed that I invite you to attend the next meeting of the Canberra Lodge of Research and Instruction which will be held at the Canberra Masonic Centre on Wednesday 10 November 1999, commencing at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 Confirmation of office bearers
- 4 *Freemasonry - From darkness to light*
- 5 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse
Secretary
October 1999

The Lodge meets on the second Wednesday of February, April, May, July, August, October and November. Pre-meeting nibbles start at 7.00pm. All local and visiting Masons are welcome; no dinner

jacket is necessary; jacket and tie only - bring your apron.

WORK OF THE EVENING

As usual for our pre-Christmas meeting, we tend towards the lighter things, along with the cake and port. An anti-masonic video will be shown!

OUR LAST MEETING

We have the start of a list of Masonic materials in public hands in Canberra, this includes the database of the National Archives under the keywords 'Masonic' and 'Freemasonry'. At the same time it is surprising to come across a Craft and Mark apron on display at the Australian Federal Police Museum at Weston - a relic of a former Superintendent in the Federal Capital days! Maybe we should prepare a guided driving tour of Canberra Masonic points of interest.

A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...

As a leadup to the visit to Canberra by Bro. Beresiner, I have included a paper he delivered to a lodge in Italy in 1997. I also have his inaugural paper as the Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge entitled *Aspects of Masonic ephemera before 1813*, copies of which are available on request.

FREEMASONRY ON ABC TV

The ABC's *Compass* will be screening a programme on the Craft entitled "The Freemasons Today" This is scheduled for 10.30pm on Sunday 7 November. Set your VCR!

ACTIVITIES FOR 2000

A work plan for the coming year has been sketched out - but there are some holes in it. It is hoped that brethren will come forward with proposals for activities. In addition I will be approaching local Lodges for suggestions (as well as a membership drive) so that we are responsive to the wishes of the brethren we are here to support. If the response is as usual, then, as is also usual, I shall work up a topic for discussion.

February	Vacant
April	Deacons - role and
May	Vacant
July	The Other Orders - Rose Croix
August	International Lecturer
October	Vacant
November	Christmas meeting

LIBRARY NOTES

The new book by Bro. Neville Barker Cryer , / *Just Didn't Know That*, mentioned last month, has arrived and been placed in the Library. The short talks included are:

- ◆ The origin of our meeting place
- ◆ A walk around your Lodge room

- ◆ Where did we get our clothing?
- ◆ Why do we say that?
- ◆ Neglected aspects as the three Degrees
- ◆ The puzzle of the Third Degree
- ◆ Unknown parts of the Tracing Boards
- ◆ Was there ever such a change?
- ◆ What is the point of other than Craft Degrees?
- ◆ Adventures of a Masonic author

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Subject to confirmation at the November meeting, the Lodge officers will maintain 'their respective stations' for a further twelve months.

VICTORIAN LODGE OF RESEARCH 218VC

On Friday 23 October I attended the installation of VWBro. Neville Anderson as the Master of 218. I passed on the fraternal greetings of this Lodge to the new Master.

Bro. Graeme Love was awarded the Frank Oldfield Memorial Prize for the best lecture given in the Lodge for 1998-99. Graeme has been a friend and supporter of Canberra R&I for many years and it is pleasing for a prophet to have honour *within* his own country.

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER

Bro Yasha Bereniser was Master of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge in 1997-98 and is a

distinguished Masonic researcher and speaker who splits his time between Israel and the UK.

Under the auspices of ANZMRC, Bro. Beresiner will be touring Australia/New Zealand, via South Africa, in July-September 2000 and the draft programme has him visit Canberra for a function on Wednesday 9 August. Bro Beresiner will be accompanied by his wife, Zmira.

They are in our care from the 7th (when they arrives by aircraft from Melbourne) until I hand them over to the NSW Lodge of Research at or near Berrima on the 10th.

We will be given a list of papers to chose from in March 2000 and I will consult on which paper would be of interest to R&I and local brethren.

I hope we can arrange a District meeting on that night and am looking for ideas (and volunteers) for this undertaking. I hope we can repeat the success we had with the McLeod visit.

As is usual with these lecture tours, a volume of the papers will be available for sale.

WHO IS YASHA BERESINER?

The following information was gleaned from a quick 'surf' around the Internet.

Amongst other things, Bro. Beresiner is a dealer in maps, coins and paper

money, operating a gallery in London. He founded the International Map Collectors' Society in 1980 and has 'starred' in two videos produced by the American Numismatic Association. He speaks French, Italian, Spanish, Hebrew and Turkish.

In 1990 he sold a playing card dated 1717 to a Swedish collector, for the highest price ever paid for a single card (US\$7450).

Doubtless, between the Mint, the NLA's map collection and R&I, we will be able to keep him occupied in Canberra. I wonder what Mrs Beresiner is interested in?