

COLUMNS

REGIONAL RAMBLINGS

*with Michael Dalton PJGW, RGC 10***Victorian Bushfires**

It seems that everyone has responded to the call for donations to assist victims of the disastrous bushfires of 7th February. It is difficult to calculate the enormous losses sustained both in property, personal possessions and in trauma.

I remember the Canberra bushfires of 2003, when I was DGIW for District 104. My mother lodge, Lodge Ionic No 65 which meets at Castlereagh St, Sydney, contacted me and asked me to present a donation to needy children in the district on their behalf. After a little investigation, I spoke to the Principal of Duffy Primary School.

I visited the school soon after, where I was warmly greeted, and was taken to see a couple of classes where the students were at their lessons. I was told that the biggest problem for the worst affected children was the complete loss of all personal possessions. The room they slept in, the bed itself, the clothes they wore, were not theirs. This leads to a sense of self loss, starting as

a dislocation, (from familiar surroundings), and a disconnection (complete cut off), which can lead to dissociation or separation from whom they were. The sense of self worth needs to be rebuilt, and this can take a long time.

We need to be cognisant that the rebuilding of the people will take the longest time, and the most care.

Letter from the Grand Master

Simon Hruza, a 20/20 mason from Lodge Capitol emailed me recently to say that he had recently written an article which he thought might be worthy of inclusion in the "Freemason" and he had forwarded it on to the Grand Secretary for consideration.

As Simon says, "After I sent it, I didn't really give it much thought. Yesterday I received a handwritten letter from the Grand Master saying the story was passed on to him and he appreciated it. I don't know if that means they are going to publish the story, but it brought home to me the fact that letter writing seems to be a lost art, I can't remember the last time I received a hand written letter. So if you happen to be in communication with our Grand Master can you pass on my thanks and mention how touched I was to receive a personal acknowledgement; the letter will become a treasured possession".

I certainly will, Simon.

Observation on Life

I remember reading somewhere about a man who had a pet rabbit. To seek work, the man and his rabbit had moved from a semi rural location to the big city, and unfortunately, the place he found to rent was on an extremely busy highway, with much traffic, cars and heavy trucks, the works, in fact.

One day, he went out to the backyard which faced onto the busy highway. As usual, the noise level was high from the constant stream of heavy traffic. The rabbit was near to the fence, probably only a couple of metres from the first lane of traffic. Idly, the man bent down and ran his hand over the grass, at some distance from the rabbit.

The rabbit at once looked up and came over to him. The man realised that the rabbit had managed to block out all the extraneous noise and only let in those sounds and sensations which had relevance to its life.

This made me think of how we are exactly the opposite. We make all the noise, all the traffic, all the emails, all the mobile phone

Freemasonry, at the heart of life

calls, all the urgent meetings, all the deadlines. Occasionally we need to be like the rabbit and switch off from all the tumult, and only listen for that which is really relevant to our lives.

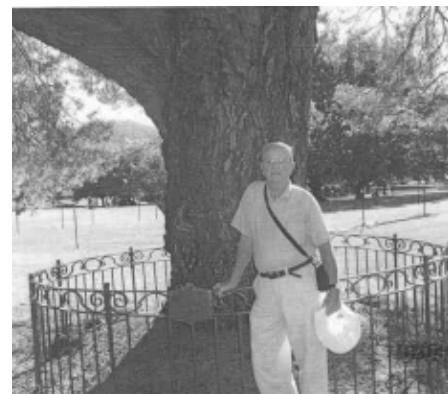
(Cont'd on Page 2)

THE PLANTING OF THE 'LONE PINE TREE'—CANBERRA WAR MEMORIAL

as told by W Bro Ray Hasler of Lodge Queanbeyan St Andrew 56

I was born in Braidwood on 22 December 1920. At the age of about twelve years I became a member of the Scout Movement. In October 1934 we were invited to attend a Royal occasion in Canberra. We travelled by bus and found ourselves at Parliament House about an hour and a half later; being a small part of a large crowd consisting of more Scouts from other areas, mounted Light Horse groups, Duntroon cadets and army personnel. After the official opening of Parliament by HRH Prince Henry, the Duke of Gloucester, all persons in uniform proceeded to walk down over Scott's Crossing towards an area near by the then proposed site for the War Memorial. Cars were not a common commodity in those days and so many civilians also walked.

All persons assembled around the spot prepared for the small pine tree. There was the Duke together with about five other important people. One had a very shiny spade and handed it to the Duke. He then took a spade full of earth from the chosen spot and proceeded to place the Lone Pine Tree therein. He stood to attention and saluted whilst the other men raised their hats. A few words were then spoken, and as I recall, it sounded like it was being blessed.



Ray Hasler by the Lone Pine Tree

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Contributions to 'Columns'

The next edition will be published in June 2009. Please send articles and photos of masonic interest to the Editor – Geoff Ludowyk (see Page 4 for contact details). Contributions are accepted subject to editing prior to inclusion.

Regional Ramblings (from Page 1)

Reverse Mentoring

Wor Bro Dr Graeme Moller of Lodge Commonwealth of Australia has come up with the concept of "reverse mentoring". Many of our older members strike problems with information technology which can be solved by the younger masons, many of whom have considerable computing and allied skills. An arrangement whereby older members – with problems or questions regarding IT requirements – could be paired with a younger mason to provide the necessary skills would be very fruitful and potentially lead to stronger bonds between members.

Region 10 Conference

The Regional Conference will be held in Goulburn on 16/17th May. The Saturday sessions will be held at the Goulburn Workers Club (236 Auburn St) followed by a dinner at the same venue. Further details are still being worked on and will be sent out soon.

There will be an opening given by the 20/20 masons of Region 10, talks by Susan Williams CEO of The Masonic Youth Welfare Fund, Peter Eden of masoniCare, Richard Dawes, Chair of Masonic Studies and a Q&A session allowing the masons of Region 10 to ask questions of the Grand Lodge team on any issue of concern (without notice).

The 20/20 masons will also have an opportunity to put on a presentation of their own choosing. Whilst there will be plenty of information sharing, there will be opportunity for all of us to socialise, and for the Grand Lodge officers, the Grand Master, Deputy, or Assistant (or a combination of some or all of them) and some of the Chairmen making up the Board of Management to talk about management issues from their point of view so we can better understand where they are coming from and perhaps present differing points of view.

These Conferences will be an annual event, so let's make the first one a big splash for Region 10. There are some time slots available if there are suggestions for presentations.

ETHOSIANS IN OUR MIDST

HOW I BECAME A MASON

from 'The Ethosian' as told by W Bro Rudi Koch of Lodge Ethos 963
Growing up in Germany one knew about masonry, but it was as unreal as Shangri la. My boss at the goldmine I worked at in Victoria was a Mason but to extract any information about the Craft was like getting blood out of a stone. My next attempt to become a mason was in Melbourne – where I had a masonic acquaintance – met with similar negative results. He belonged to two Lodges. One was a Carey College Old Boys lodge and that was obviously out of the equation. The other Lodge was an Ex Servicemen's lodge and although I was an Ex Serviceman myself, albeit marching under a different flag, I was told in very nice terms, mind you, that it would not be a very good idea to try to join that Lodge. So I lost interest.

Moving to Canberra however changed things entirely. Our GP Collin Jennings was a member of Lodge Ethos and upon enquiring was more than supportive about my request. When asked about the Principles of Masonry he said: "Our aim is to make a good man better". Well, that was good enough for me. I consequently found out that two of my immediate neighbours' were members of Lodge Ethos as well. So I had no shortage of proposers and seconders.

Due to declining membership we now deploy all sorts of magic schemes to revive interest in the Craft. In my opinion just a waste of effort. The desire to join has to originate from within a person. Masonic awareness is an admirable endeavour which has to be supported. But without the willingness of the person to become a member, it will come to naught.

(Cont'd on Page 3)

WHAT DOES MASONRY MEAN TO ME?

as told by Bro Craig Revell SD and a 20/20 Mason of Lodge Ethos 963

This is an interesting question, as it has become a part of my life, in such a way, that I find the instruction I have received from Brethren in the Lodge is now so ingrained that it has integrated into my unconscious thoughts and actions.

The lesson of the 1st Degree working tools – the transformation of the ignorant man to a civilised and enlightened being – has resonated strongly in me and from that I look to find ways to improve myself and others. I have found myself constantly reviewing my thoughts, words and actions and how they impact on me and on others. I then refer to the lessons of the Lodge and look for methods to transform myself from the rough to the smooth ashlar by observing the words and actions of others and taking on board the positive and productive ways they go about work and life.

Another thing that Masonry has further highlighted to me, again through the "fraternity of disinterested friendship," is that while our differences may be many, our similarities are greater. This then translates to when I think about worldly matters, and I use the lessons of masonry to allow myself to unquestioningly accept their view and then look at the situation from a non judgemental position and try to understand their point of view. From this I have been able to review my own views on the issues and, by taking this wider perspective, I believe I am forming a more complete opinion and allowing myself to question my own prejudices as I again try to work on the rough ashlar of my mind.

Becoming a Freemason has provided me with an avenue to offer charity to the community, through the Feeding the Needy program and by working at the Masonic Homes in Pearce. While undertaking these activities the brethren of Lodge Ethos take the time to reflect on past events in their Masonic life, and through these stories, I am able to gain further insight into the ritual and how it can be applied in daily life.

It has also served to show me that your ability to contribute to the community does not stop at the end of your working life. I have met Brethren who are actively providing support to others in their ninth decade on earth and who have no plans on stopping.

It has been said that the men returning from war missed the fraternity and camaraderie of their military units and, on their return to civilian life, turned to Freemasonry to find those same moments. Although I have no military experience, I too find that the fraternity that I have experienced has provided me with people to whom I can look for advice, support and wisdom to help me overcome any difficulty that I may face without judgement. The Brethren offer their points of view without fear, either showing my own faults or faulty reasoning of the issues. To be with people who can be honest with you and who know that their only motivation is to help you improve and become a better person, is something that cannot be underestimated in value.

If I can use one paragraph to sum up the whole it would be this:

With the fraternity of the brethren, I will become a more useful person to society, and what can be achieved with their support will never be diminished.

Every animal leaves traces of what it was; man alone leaves traces of what he created. — Jacob Bronowski

The Lone Pine Tree (from Page 1)

We then returned to Braidwood. Within a period of less than five years I voluntarily enlisted with the RAAF and served from 13 May 1940 to 11 December 1945. During this period my parents moved to Queanbeyan and that was to be my home on discharge. After discharge I attended Canberra Tech and became a Carpenter and Joiner. My entire working life was spent in Canberra in the building trade. My last twenty years was as a Building Inspector with the Building Department in Canberra, during which time I passed the "Lone Pine Tree" many, many times; and on most I gave thought to the day I saw it planted and the many horrible things and many good things that have happened since.

It tells so many stories. Our present Queen was a child of seven years and many of our politicians were not even born. History tells us that the population of Canberra in those days was approximately 10,000. Canberra was very young then, suggesting that 50% or thereabouts of the population were workmen in the building trade as carpenters, plumbers, electricians and labourers. Public Servants possibly made up 30% whilst wives and children made up the rest. Within five years after that year Australia was plunged into WWII. Children of my age at the time of the tree planting in 1934 would either volunteer for war service or be conscripted when Japan bombed Pearl Harbour. Those in the work force in their mid 20's and 30's at the tree planting in 1934 would now have all passed on, with the exception of a few very lucky ones.

This raises the question—how many people who witnessed the event can come forward in October 2009 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Planting of the Lone Pine Tree?

How I became a Mason (from Page 2)

Another topic which I often expressed in Lodge is the absence of the sons of masons, which includes my own son as well. What chance do we have with outsiders, if we are unable to convince our own flesh and blood to follow in our footsteps?

I am reading a book about Prime Minister Fisher, who fought tooth and nail to obtain for the workers the eight-hour day, plus a five day week. The Public service whittled it down to 36¾ hours. My son regularly works mostly 60 hours a week, and therein lies the answer. No time for masonry or most other social activities. From our last five Initiates, two have very demanding work commitments, which makes their regular attendance problematic.

Is there an answer to the problem? None that I can see. But miracles do happen. We have an Afro American as a President of the US. Who would have thought this possible just a couple of years back? I attended a lodge meeting in California where the Master was Afro American. A few years ago this would not have been possible. As I said, miracles do happen. So just let's hope a miracle comes our way and that we will have a surfeit of new Members. But I don't think I will hold my breath.

On a positive note, the demolition of the Masonic Centre is nearly complete and the building of a new centre should go ahead shortly. Maybe a new building will bring a change in our fortunes as well. When the now demolished building was completed, it created a new interest in Freemasonry. Hopefully the same will happen this time as well.

REGIONAL MASONICARE GRANT FOR BLIND CRICKET

Visually Impaired Sport ACT (VISACT) received a \$5,000 grant to assist with cricket for the blind. Our RGC has received a letter from Stephen Fagg, the Secretary of VISACT, outlining how the grant was used and a link to his letter can be found on the RGCs page on the Region 10 website.



The photo alongside shows Stephen opening his shoulders to caress a wayward delivery through the covers at the 29th National Blind Cricket Championships – the masonic logo is just visible on the back of his shirt, which also sports masonicCare's logo. For those interested in the technical aspect, the ball contains gizmos which jingle and jangle as it is in motion, allowing the cricketers to track its progress by sound.

Stephen extends the sincere thanks and gratitude of the members of VISACT to the Freemasons of Region 10.

THE CEREMONIAL TEAM

The Ceremonial Team is looking for new team members – particularly progressive team members – who can help to support the Grand Master or his Deputy or Assistant whenever they travel to Region 10; and also to support our regional Grand Directors. The team needs Past Masters in their 40s who love the installation ritual and helping their fellow masons and is looking for one nomination each year from Region 10. Training will be provided to successful nominees. Becoming a Grand Steward is also an avenue to higher Grand Lodge office. If you are interested, please send an expression of interest to the RGC (contact details on Page 4).

LODGE HIGHWAY 837

A number of masons, who are motorcycling enthusiasts, would like to renew the charter of this lodge to promote Freemasonry within the motorcycling community. It would meet quarterly with the election of officers held every 2 years; have a permanent address at a suitable Masonic centre within Region 1; and operate under a travelling warrant, if approved by Grand Lodge, so that meetings could be held at various centres. The next meeting to discuss the project will be held at the Hawkesbury Masonic Centre, 731 George St, South Windsor on Sunday 5 April at 11.00am. A barbeque lunch will follow the meeting. If you are interested in attending or becoming a foundation member, please contact W Bro Bojan Vizintin on 02 8082 8134 or by email to bojan.vizintin@optus.com.au.

LODGE WEBSITES

CDMA is reviewing a proposal to develop a website template for lodges; to provide lodges with a simple and low cost mechanism to create and maintain a website. The proposal for a pilot in District 103 is based on a prototype developed for Lodge Commonwealth of Australia 633 by its Senior Warden, Bro Roman Cholawinskyj. It's an exciting project for CDMA and Region 10 and one which promises to provide a number of benefits if it eventuates. Naturally, its adoption will be a decision for each lodge to make.

INTERACTION GRANT FOR HIPPO THERAPY

CDMA received a 'thank you' from Geraldine Walters of the Spastic Centre for its outstanding support in assisting children and adults with cerebral palsy. Our thanks go to Bro Iain Crawford – the Master elect of Lodge Caledonia of Canberra 938 – who was the driving force behind the fund raising efforts.



YOUR REGION 10 TEAM

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AROUND THE TRAPS...



To assist with catering, please advise the Secretary, RW Bro Tom Boom, on 02 6299 0146 or by email to tomboom1@bigpond.com. The RGC has received a suggestion for a Regional ANZAC Ceremony in 2010. More on this from him later...

Young Achiever for Region 10

Katy Tomkins received the last (and now discontinued) masoniCare Young Achiever Award for Region 10 and was thrilled with the news.

She thanked us for this 'wonderful award' and is hoping to use the money to undertake an environmental or community development project, either this winter or next summer; looking into projects with Conservation Volunteers.

The projects she is interested in include helping researchers monitor wild echidnas, goannas or Little Penguins on Kangaroo Island, working with Tasmanian native fauna in Bonorong Wildlife Park in Tasmania, or documenting the distribution of the critically endangered Pygmy Blue Tongue lizard populations in the Clare Valley in South Australia. Potential community development projects include a Scout project in Timor Leste, or contributing to an event with the local community through Scouting (her Joeys or Rover group).

Katy will advise the RGC when she has completed her project and has undertaken to make a presentation to Freemasons.

Alwyn is 100

W Bro Alwyn Drover of Lodge Queanbeyan St Andrew, celebrated his 100th birthday on 14



March. Those who were at the lodge's February meeting posed with a photo of Alwyn which was to be presented to him.

This group photo can be viewed on the District 104 page of the website. Happy birthday Alwyn from all of us in Region 10.

Alwyn also celebrated 50 years in Freemasonry last December.

The Braidwood Wood Raffle

The Lodge of Truth 26 held its annual wood raffle on Friday 20 March and raised \$2,520 in aid of the Victorian Masonic Bushfire Appeal. This was in addition to the \$1,000 raised for the Appeal from its 'honest raffle' at its lodge meeting the previous Saturday. Well done again.



RW Bro Pring Raynolds with Wendy Hart, who was invited to draw the raffle (picture from the *Braidwood Times* of 25 Feb).

Christmas in Goulburn

The masonic community of Goulburn and Taralga, including the ladies of the Eastern Star, featured in the local press last Christmas—with its donation of 31 hampers to the Salvation Army.



The *Goulburn Post* also featured an article on kindergarten carollers from St Peter and Paul's Primary

School who entertained the residents of the Goulburn Masonic Retirement Village. The photo above from the *Goulburn Post* of 17 December shows Village resident Joyce Boreham with one of the carollers.

Congratulations...

... to W Bro Norman Apps and his wife Colleen who celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary and were seen at the recent installation meeting of Lodge Young Burrangong 20.



The 'Old Man' Rule

Here's a rule worth remembering—Ed.

"There's a rule I've had since I was a teenager – I call it my old man rule. It's all about how you want to look back at your life." So said Mark Scholinz of Australia, the first man on record to have walked the entire length of the Great Wall of China in one continuous trek, when saying he had no regrets about his trek in 2007. Mark had planned to raise \$100,000 for charity. Instead, the trek raised only \$1,000 and left him \$30,000 out of pocket (as told to Megan Byrne of *The Age* – 30 July 2008).

COLUMNS

Freemasonry, at the heart of life

REGIONAL RAMBLINGS

with Michael Dalton PJGW, RGC 10

MY TERM AS YOUR REGIONAL GRAND COUNSELLOR comes to an end from the Grand Proclamation on Saturday 8th August, after which RW Bro Graham Charlton PSGW will take up the position.

Visiting Lodges is not a prerequisite of the RGCs duties, except to installations as a serving Grand Lodge officer; or to make a special presentation; or to talk on an important regional issue. The visiting is done by the District Grand Inspectors of Workings who have over a 100 year tradition of visiting their Lodges and reporting up the line on the meetings so visited.

The RGC is largely an administrator, manager, communicator, counsellor and sometimes fixer. His advice may be sought on any number of matters (not that he has all the answers). My term has brought challenges in dealing with some difficult issues, which often required much patience and persistence.

The highlights of my term would have to include the Stone Setting Ceremony for our Canberra Masonic Centre. As (my) luck would have it, I was asked to act as the Junior Grand Warden due to the unavailability of the

incumbent, and was able to take a significant part in an historic ceremony. I wonder if I will be around for the next time? If we keep to the thirty years cycle, I can just make it.

Other highlights have been representing the Grand Master at Installations and I was honoured to be asked quite a few times to perform this role. I always tried to present something interesting as a homily and, on several occasions, I was complimented on my address – what I said, not where I live.

The District 105 meetings at Candelo were always good fun and instructive. I very much enjoyed catching up with all my now good friends from the District and will continue to visit when able. Similarly, it was always good to visit the Goulburn Lodges where I was always well looked after, especially in terms of supply of refreshing beverages.

The 2020 Masons have taken off and are busy on a number of fronts, in taking Freemasonry to the community and in contributing to a better lodge experience. It has been great to be a small part of this new endeavour.

What I have left for you to work on is the Region 10 Strategic Plan which is published on our website. As I explained at the Regional Conference, this is my take on what needs to be done for the Lodges in the Region. It now needs input from each Lodge, to add to the plan and to keep it fresh and relevant. Lodges can start to put their own strategic plans together and aim at improvement in their own performance by targeting specific areas where it is evident that changes need to be made. I noted a sign at the gym the other day which said something like, *"Restlessness and discontent are often necessary precursors to change"*. So let's get restless and accept that improvements are needed.

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My Vision for Region 10

RW Bro Graham Charlton PSGW, RGC Designate

AT THE GRAND COMMUNICATION on 10 June 2009 I was appointed to the position of Regional Grand Counsellor in Region 10 for the period 2009/2011. I will be following a number of talented masons who have been Regional Grand Counsellors. They have made considerable contributions to Freemasonry in our region and I would like to place on the record my thanks to them for their efforts.

At present I am somewhat overwhelmed by the scope and responsibility associated with the position, but will do my best to handle the challenges that lie ahead in a manner that will be beneficial for Freemasonry in this region.

There are already a number of projects on the drawing board, most of which are covered by the introduction of the Grand Master's Strategic Plan and initiatives recommended by the Board of Management. Our current RGC, RW Bro Mike Dalton, has adapted the Strategic Plan for Region 10 and it will be my responsibility, together with the DGIWs, to oversee the implementation

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Grand Communication June 2009

THE GRAND MASTER made the following announcements at the Grand Communication on Wednesday 10 June:



The appointment of RW Bro Derek Robson AM, PDGM – of Lodge Canberra No. 465 – as Deputy Grand Master Designate



The appointment of RW Bro Graham Charlton PSGW – of Lodge Ethos No. 963 – as Regional Grand Counsellor Designate for Region 10



VW Bro Geoff Bunn PDGDC – of the Lodge of Truth, Braidwood No. 26 – was conferred with the Grand Rank of Past Junior Grand Warden.

Our congratulations to all three on their achievements.

From Page 1... Regional Ramblings

I also said at the Conference that each Lodge ought to build its own individual style within the operating rules so that all Lodges are not clones of each other. Nothing is more interesting than variety, so that if you can create a unique Masonic experience at your Lodge, then "they will come."

My heartiest good wishes to everyone and I look forward to visiting you all soon.

From Page 1... RGC Designate

of the same. This in turn should encourage the success and prosperity of Lodges and will also ensure the continued viability of Freemasonry in our region. You will appreciate we cannot achieve this alone and I will be calling on all Masons, throughout the region, to give that extra 10% of effort and together we will make a difference.

During the next few weeks I will be finalising the team to support me during my term as RGC covering such areas as of Masonic Education, Training and Masonic web sites, Leadership, Management skills, masoniCare Grants and Men's Health. It will also be necessary to embark on some advertising and promotional work to enhance our recruitment program, particularly as our 2020 masons have been tasked with examining this aspect.

Accordingly, my vision for Freemasonry, and that which I will be striving for, will be to see a return of the organisation that I joined in 1981 when all Lodges in our area had a greater membership base; a waiting list to occupy the Offices of the Lodge; a dedication for good ritual headed by the Worshipful Masters; and a continual flow of new candidates for Freemasonry.

"Masonry, too good to Lose"

Reception and Retirement of the DGIW

*VW Bro Kevin Mulcahy PDGDC
Preceptor—District 105 Lodge of Instruction*

EACH DISTRICT HAS A DGIW and he is probably the only active Grand Lodge Officer in his District. He is required to visit each of his Lodges once every three months and in view of his status he should be received by each Lodge in the correct manner out of respect for the office he holds. This procedure is contained in the Codification of Decisions of the Ritual Committee which is repeated here in a condensed format.

The DGIW is admitted on an alarm and he is met *at the door* by the Deacons who escort him to the Saluting Base. The Deacons do not wait at the saluting base for him. The DC should be at the saluting base to escort him to the dais. The DC does not greet him or announce him to the WM. The IG does not report to the JW after the DGIW has been admitted and the Deacons remain at the saluting base until the WM says "Be seated Brethren".

If the DGIW wants to retire before the Lodge is closed the DC announces the same. The Deacons immediately take up their positions at the JW's pedestal and the DC moves to the SE corner of the pavement. The DGIW salutes at the Altar and escorts the DGIW to the JW's pedestal where he salutes again. The Deacons then close ranks and precede him to the door. They must not let him get in front of them. This procedure also applies to the RGC whether he be on his own or with the DGIW in which case they are received and retire together.

There are two ways of performing ritual, the right way and the wrong way. It is just as easy to do it the right way and it looks so much better.

masoniCare Regional Grants

VW Bro Geoff Ludowyk mDR, PDGIW

THE MASONICARE BOARD HAS APPROVED two \$5,000 regional grants for Region 10 for the current year. The grants will be made to the following organisations:

- ACT SCOUTS—CAMP COTTERMOUTH. This application – sponsored by Lodge Commonwealth of Australia 633 – was for completing the shelter shed project at the Camp following the disastrous bushfire of 2003. Funds raised by Freemasons went to the erection of two shade/shelter sheds at the Camp.

While the sheds have been in use for a few years, only one was provided with a concrete floor owing to insufficient funds. It was always intended to complete the project by laying a 12m x 9m concrete floor for the second shed.

With an estimated cost of \$8,000 – the regional grant will enable the completion of this work, which will benefit a number of youth charities using the facilities. These include Camp Quality, the Smith Family, School of the Air, NSW Mental Health Services (for youth) and Community Services.

- HARDEN MURRUMBURRAH MEN'S SHED INC for equipment (dust collector, compressor etc.). Sponsored by Lodge Federal Burrowa 193, this Project is supported by the Harden Shire Council and gives pleasure to older men in a town with an ageing population.

The Shed is a program for unemployed, ageing and disadvantaged men to learn woodworking and other skills in a supportive environment to make articles of use for the community and to assist with local projects in schools, hospitals and the like. It gives these men a sense of worth and of community connectedness; and will be a great initiative in the Harden/Murrumburrah area which has suffered with the drought and economic downturn.

VW Bro John Arthur, our masoniCare Regional Representative, congratulated the mDRs on the high standard of the four applications received in Region 10 for the two available grants. He is looking for even more applications for the next round, closing on 30 April 2010. If your Lodge or District Association has a worthwhile project to pursue, please contact and work with your masoniCare District representative on the application.

Lodge Canberra 465 Installation

W Bro Ron James was reinstalled as Master on Saturday, 27



June at the Queanbeyan Masonic Centre. He is pictured here receiving his Reinstallation Certificate from the Representative, RW Bro Alan MacDonald PJGW.

ARE YOU A BLOOD DONOR IN CANBERRA?



If you are, then after giving blood, look for the Community Donor Register in the recovery room and register your

The 2020 Masons of Canberra

Bro Simon Hruza JD, Lodge Capitol 612

Region 10 Conference

CANBERRA'S 2020 MASONS were recently involved in organising the opening presentation at the Region 10 Conference. Following short introductory talks by Simon Hruza Bro Alex Slater (Lodge Commonwealth of Australia 633), Bro Daniel White and Bro Craig Revell of Lodge Ethos 963; the feature was a video presentation with a group of non-Masons, which explored why men aged in their 20's, 30's and 40's were not Freemasons. The video captured the interest of the audience, particularly when it became apparent that the non-Masons being interviewed had little or no knowledge of Freemasonry and were unwilling to make the time commitments without an understanding of what the benefits would be.

When do we meet?

We try to meet on the 4th Friday of each month at a centrally located restaurant to discuss what is happening in the ACT and where to next. We are also looking to see how we can bridge the tyranny of distance and bring 2020 Masons outside the ACT into this process.

Future events

Film Night

Craig Revell is planning a showing of *The Man Who Would Be King* for September at the National Film & Sound Archives. 100 tickets will be available at \$10 each and the event is open to all.

Information Booth

Simon Hruza is organising an information stall to be held monthly at the Tuggeranong Indoor Markets and the Tuggeranong Homestead Markets. This is being done with the

help of the RGC and will enable the curious to ask questions about Freemasonry and register their details if they want to be contacted for further information. When there is a quorum we will invite them to a wine and cheese night so they can have more in-depth information and view our Lodge room.

2020 committees

The Assistant Grand Master announced at the June Grand Communication that four 2020 committees had been formed. These are to help progress the craft in different areas – Marketing, Education, Membership and Information Technology. Simon Hruza and Bro Edwin Power SW (Lodge Duke of Edinburgh 76) are on the Marketing Committee.

Work Groups

Canberra's 2020s have formed four work groups to cover the O-Week Stand; flyers and other promotional material; advertising and media; and introduction procedures and events.

Conclusion

We are enthusiastic about the progress of Freemasonry into the future; and whilst members are (generally) between the ages of 20-50, 2020 Masonry will continue to evolve with some members contributing in other aspects of Freemasonry important to them and new members coming in. This is by no means a 'closed' operation in the sense that the 2020 Masons have been formed and that's it until the year 2020. This is open to all Masons in the age group who feel they want to continue to help. *And may God prosper the craft.*

A REGION 10 GRAND LODGE OFFICERS lunch is being planned for Sunday 16 August to celebrate the change of RGC. More on this will be circulated soon...

... with your Editor

Around the Traps

The Foundation Stone Ceremony

Saturday 6 June 2009 was an atypical winter's day in Canberra. Its usually glorious cloudless and windless wintry weather had been buffeted in the preceding days by southerlies with their genesis in the depths of Antarctica. Remnants of those glacial winds mocked the hardy hundreds who gathered in the Macquarie Street car park for that afternoon's ceremony, where they would – in a time honoured and traditional manner – celebrate the construction of their new Masonic home.

This unique ceremony was open to all who wished to see the setting of the foundation stone done in the Masonic way; and to hear the words of the ritual as the stone was tested in the ancient manner before being set. They came from Canberra and from Cooma, from Goulburn and from Harden; from Yass and other far flung corners of Region 10.

They also came from the East: the Grand Master – MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston and his partner Ms Judith Morrice, the Deputy Grand Master – RW Bro Barrie Wild, the Assistant Grand Master – RW Bro Paul Fletcher, the Senior Grand Warden – RW Bro Walid Mehanna, the Grand Chaplain – RW Bro Rev Dr J F Hely CBE PJGW, the Grand Director of Ceremonies – RW Bro Peter Read PJGW, the Grand Sword Bearer – W Bro P M Ratcliff, the Grand Standard Bearer – W Bro F Pamplona and two Grand Stewards – W Bros Ned Mannoun and John Begbie. The place of the Junior Grand Warden in the Ceremony was taken by the Regional Grand Counsellor for Region 10 – RW Bro Michael Dalton PJGW.

The first Masonic centre on the Barton site – a single storey

building – was consecrated in 1936. It was replaced by a four storey building in 1977 occupying half the site, with the remainder being given over to car parking. The third floor housed two lodge rooms, two banqueting rooms, a commercial kitchen and nooks and crannies given over to storage. The other three floors were let to commercial tenants. The site is in a prime location in Canberra's parliamentary triangle but the 1977 building did not meet the high standards required these days by potential tenants. After carefully weighing the options, including a complete makeover, the prudent option taken by the Canberra Masonic Centre Board was to build a new Masonic Centre.

Occupying the entire site, the new building will have six floors and two levels of basement parking – the sixth floor for Masonic activities and the rest of the building to be let.

In a media release for the occasion, the Grand Master was quoted as saying: *"The ceremony of setting the Stone and the building specifically are the strongest message by Freemasons and Freemasonry when taking a position in today's contemporary society in relation to those vital values of life. By engaging our civic tradition, Freemasonry is stating a desire to 'belong' to the community, and be a relevant social force in the 21st Century. I wish the building, and those it serves, the very best."*

The building was vacated at the end of June 2008 but the advent of the 'global financial crisis' delayed the funding

Continued... Page 4



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Around the traps... from Page 3

arrangements and a start on demolition. Prior to that though, the CMC Board had negotiated a tenancy arrangement with the Queanbeyan Masonic Centre Board and most of Canberra's Craft Lodges and other Masonic Orders now meet there. Demolition commenced in October 2008 and the ground floor slab for the new building was laid in May 2009, in time for the stone setting ceremony.

So on that wintry June afternoon, Masons, their families and friends set out in procession from the Macquarie Street car park on the 100 metres or so to the building site. For many of us this was a 'first'. The Chairman of the Canberra Masonic Centre Board – RW Bro Greg Nason PSGW – welcomed the Grand Master and the Ceremonial Team and so on with the ceremony.

Later that evening, many of us gathered at the historic Brassey of Canberra hotel for a celebratory dinner. It was a fitting end to an historic day. We all look forward to the consecration of the new Masonic Centre and to many more years of Freemasonry flourishing on this site.

Region 10 Conference

Around 50 Masons and some partners attended the Region Conference at the Queanbeyan Masonic Centre on Sunday 7 June, which was launched by the Grand Master, MW Bro Dr Greg Levenston MD, JP. Keynote speakers and their topics were:

- *State of the Region Address* by our Regional Grand Counsellor
- *How relevant is Freemasonry to younger men in the Community?* – a video presentation by Canberra's 2020 Masons, featuring interviews with a range of non Masons
- *The Masonic Youth Welfare Fund* – Ms Susan Williams, CEO
- *Women and Freemasonry* – Ms Judith Morrice, Chair of the Women's Advisory Council
- *masoniCare* – RW Bro John Le Mesurier PAGM of the masoniCare Board
- *Lodge website template* – Bro Roman Cholawinskyj SW demonstrated a prototype website developed for a CDMA project to give Lodges the opportunity for a low cost and easy

The Goulburn Lodge of Australia 558

Bro Tim Woolley was installed as Master of this Lodge on Saturday 20 June. He is pictured here receiving his Installation Certificate from the Representative, RW Bro Robert Davey PJGW and with his family by the installation cake.



to maintain web presence

- *Starting with Quality* – RW Bro Richard Dawes PJGW, Chair of the Masonic Education and Training Committee
- *Men's Health Issues for Today* – presented by W Bro Dr Graeme Moller PM.

The conference ended with an open forum of questions without notice, most were directed at the Grand Master. Your editor will be publishing a record of the conference on the Region 10 website. It's presently a slow work in progress.

Suggestions from the 'floor' Regional ANZAC Ceremony

ANZAC ceremonies are part of the Masonic calendar, both at the Lodge and District levels. The suggestion is that we should have – from time to time, say every two years – a Regional ceremony which could include a wreath laying at the ANZAC memorial. Please give it some thought and provide your feedback to the RGC.

Installation Toasts

Have you experienced an installation where the toasts and responses seem to go on forever?

A useful rule of thumb – one applied by most debating societies and one underpinned by research on attention spans – is to limit toasts and responses to a maximum of 3 minutes for each speaker. Extrapolating this to the usual list at a banquet with a *minimum of four toasts with responses*, it pans out to 24 minutes of talk time. Something to keep in mind for your next installation banquet.

Blow your own Trumpet

Would you like a to be a herald at installations? If so, and you can play the bugle, trumpet or cornet; and can travel within your District or the Region; then please advise your RGC to have your name added to a Register of Regional Heralds.



COLUMNS

REGIONAL RAMBLINGS

with Graham Charlton PSGW, RGC 10

Firstly, I would like to thank RW Bro Mike Dalton for his work during his term as Regional Grand Counsellor and for his assistance in handing over the reins to me in a very helpful manner. Mike has agreed to continue looking after the 20/20 masons for the time being (with the assistance of R W Bro Geoff Bunn from Lodge Truth of Braidwood), to enable me to bring myself up to speed.

For someone who was looking for something to do to fill in my spare time following the closure of my art gallery, I've certainly managed to do that. Since becoming involved and taking up the position of RGC, I have attended two "MasoniCare Grant" presentations, one for the ACT Scouts at the Gang Show, and the second for the "Mens Shed" at Lodge Federal Burrowa 193 at Harden; represented the GM at Yass Lodge of Concord Installation on 15th August 2009 and at Lodge Cootamundra St John 124 Installation on 19th September 2009. I have also attended the Laying of the Foundation Stone ceremony at the Canberra Masonic Centre, a District 105 meeting at Candelo, a District meeting at Lodge Cooma Monaro, witnessing a first degree; and

Lodge Commonwealth of Australia for a second degree.

With regard to the masoniCare grant I would like to mention that on 17th July, I was invited to attend the Canberra Gang Show with my wife along with V W Bro John Arthur mRR Region 10 and his wife. Also in attendance was R W Bro John LeMesurier (MasoniCare Board Member) and his wife along with RW Bro Warren Turton. During the interval we had a reception at which John Arthur presented a cheque for \$5,000 to the Chief Commissioner of ACT Scouting, Mr Neville Tomkins. There was a large number of people attending so the publicity would have been beneficial.

On Thursday evening, 13th August, I accompanied the immediate past RGC, RW Bro Michael Dalton to Lodge Federal Burrowa at Harden. We witnessed an initiation of Bro Ken Donahue before moving to the South for the presentation. The Mayor of Harden along with the Manager and several members of the Men's Shed were in attendance for the presentation of the \$5000 cheque to them by Michael. The press were also at the function. I know that they were all very impressed with Freemasonry and its generosity to the local community.

In addition to the above I have spent a considerable amount of time listening to and trying to advise brethren of those Lodges in District 103 and 105 involved in the report issued by the Building Task Force. A number of brethren in both districts have responded already and I would particularly like to thank them and the DGIW of District 105 for his continued involvement in calming the situation and working with the lodges concerned in providing information re the buildings to Grand Lodge, hopefully to achieve an acceptable outcome.

I was particularly pleased that I was able to obtain approval from Grand Lodge to use their ABN to facilitate lodge websites in this Region. My thanks go to VW Bro Geoff Ludowyk, who produced a paper explaining the situation and Bro Roman Cholawinskyj who is now running with this project. (see details on page 3).

The Men's Health initiatives are proceeding well. Dr Graeme Moller gave a health presentation to the Goulburn Lodge of Australia on 15th August. Invited guests on this occasion also included the ladies and Graeme's presentation was modified to include commentary on Women's health as well. Graeme spoke on a number of issues and, in keeping with his articles on the Regional website, addressed a number of key concerns for men. Particular emphasis was placed on the difficult issues around prostate cancer and in the case

Masonry, too good to lose!

of women's health, ovarian cancer. The six papers produced so far by Graeme are available on the Regional website. They are as follows:

- Men's Health - a medical Freemason's offering.
- What are the threats to Men's Health.
- Stroke (cerebrovascular disease).
- Prostate cancer.
- Emphysema & Lung cancer.
- Colorectal cancer (Bowel cancer).

They can be downloaded from the Region 10 website: <http://www.masonicregions.org.au/r10menshealth.aspx>

On 21st September, at 2pm on a perfect Canberra afternoon I was invited to give a welcoming talk to members of the Combined Masonic Caravan Club Rally at EPIC. It consisted of masons and their wives belonging to the Masonic Caravan Club of Victoria, the Queensland Club, the NSW Mobile Masons, the South Australian Club and members from Tasmania. The rally runs until Friday 24th September, finishing with a dinner commencing at 6.30pm. They will be having a happy hour each afternoon at 5pm in EPICs "Snowy River room" (under the Grand Stand) and they have extended an open invitation to any interested brethren to call in and join them. They are a great lot of masons and I am sure you would enjoy the occasion if you attended.

Finally, I would express my appreciation to the Worshipful Master of Lodge Capitol, W Bro Sam Gupta, for allowing the 20/20 masons to have their open night in his Lodge on Monday 21st September. The lead up work by the 20/20 masons during the previous weeks to get the project off the ground was certainly worth the effort. The 34 special guests (visitors) attending were given an interesting insight into masonry in the south by the 20/20 team and in the Lodge room by VW Bro David Knight. This was obvious by the attention they paid and the questions asked. The follow up dinner in the south was also very informative. I spoke to a few people afterwards and I'm sure that the end result of the evening will be positive.

Stop Press: If there are any of our newer members who would like to become involved with the 20/20 masons you are now invited to submit an expression of interest to the RGC.

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Contributions to 'Columns'

The next edition will be published in December 2009. Please send articles and photos of masonic interest to the Editor – Geoff Ludowyk (see Page 4 for contact details). Contributions are accepted subject to editing prior to inclusion.

The Last Young Achiever

masoniCare's 'Young Achiever' awards were discontinued following the 2008 awards and the last recipient in Region 10 was Katy Tomkins of the ACT, pictured below. Katy is currently at the Australian National University, studying for a Bachelor of Science degree.



Katy made great use of the award, putting it towards a *Conservation Volunteers Australia* project on Kangaroo Island in South Australia. Mike Dalton is also making arrangements for Katy to make a presentation on her project—more on that at sometime in the future... an edited extract from part of Katy's report follows:

What I contributed

... to the monitoring program for echidnas on Kangaroo Island, which will help us understand more about their behaviour and life cycle so that we can better protect them... to microchip a previously unsurveyed Rosenberg's goanna that will be monitored in the future and contribute more information to goanna research on the island... research important to help preserve these unique and possibly threatened species and inform actions both on the island and the mainland... to help construct an earthcrete wall that will eventually house a vegetable garden, further enhancing the sustainability of the centre... plant trees and distributed seeds that will help to reverse the salinity of the land. If this occurs, the property will be a great example of what can be done to halt and reverse salinity... to collect seed that will be dried and planted by future conservation volunteer teams.

What I learnt

Skills: I learnt many new skills on the project. These included skills in plumbing, earthcrete mortar and stone wall construction... how to track echidnas and goannas using their radio signals... how to take cuttings from saltbush... how to dig up and divide native iris to propagate them to plant in the future... how solar panels work... how to clean the solar storage battery terminals... how to make brush fences, the best place to position them and how to weave the brush through the upright poles to hold it in place.

Knowledge: ... about sustainable living and that it does not have to impact on a comfortable lifestyle... about many of the plants and animals on the island, both native and introduced... about echidnas and goannas and being inspired to continue to protect and study these species... about the impact of salinity on the land and what needs to be done to reverse its effects... about the detrimental effect of feral animals on the native animals... about the aboriginals, many of their stories and their ancestral relationship with the land.

It was an amazing project that opened my eyes to the exciting research that can be done and how little we know about many of Australia's unique species.

Dusting off the Cobwebs—The Masonic Archives

Michael Dalton PJGW

I recently joined the Discovery Lodge of Research which meets in Sydney, and at the last meeting we were shown over the Archives by RW Bro Brian French, Grand Archivist.

It was obvious from merely approaching the area and having a quick look around that space was at a premium. There are minute books, attendance books, foundation and other commemorative stone fascias, honour boards etc. taking up all available space.

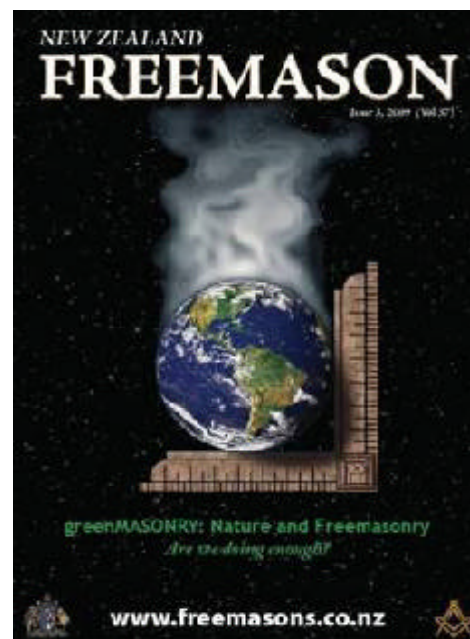
All items are recorded on cards under lodge numbers. For example all items held from Lodge Ionic are recorded under the lodge number of 65 and so on.

Items are constantly being received, and it is a battle to keep up with cataloguing and recording. It is a sad fact that the new Masonic centres being built around the jurisdiction have no space for this kind of material and much valuable pieces have had to be rescued from rubbish skips before being taken to be dumped. The modern buildings have no space for all the old honour boards dating way back and for any other similar artifacts relating to our history. The Grand Archivist is of the firm view that these historical items ought to remain in their area of origin to be enjoyed by local brethren reflecting on their local history, but this is not what is happening.

The Grand Archivist would also like to know what is being held around the jurisdiction, not with any idea of acquiring it, due to space limitations and the belief that these items should remain in situ as stated; but to have an idea of what we collectively hold. The aim is to have all items recorded digitally and to be held under the lodge number.

Brethren should start to photograph their lodge's historical holdings, such as all honour boards and send the images in to be filed and recorded. All records are being digitized to be eventually accessible by lodge number through the Grand Lodge website.

This is not all dry and dusty stuff (although much of it **is**, physically), and there are plenty of avenues of research. For example food historians would have fun with old installation menus – how did truffles get to appear on a menu in the 1890s? How did they get them? And, one would wonder, did anyone really know what they were.



Geoff Ludowyk's Kellerman Lecture to the ANZMRC Conference at Queanbeyan in 2008 was the cover story (pictured) for the September issue of the NZ Freemason.

The PDF version of the magazine can be downloaded from the NZ Masonic website. Be warned though, the file is 7MB in size.

The link to the site is: <http://www.freemasons.co.nz/cms/new-zealand-freemason-magazine/nz-freemason-2009-vol-37/>. Please cut and paste this into your browser.

The Canberra Lodge of Research & Instruction
presents

Bro Kerry Nicholls
visiting ANZMRC Lecturer for 2009

"The Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences"

with a light supper to follow the lecture

Tuesday 13 October 2009
Queanbeyan Masonic Centre
258 Crawford Street Queanbeyan NSW

Ladies and non masons are welcome to attend

There will be a cover charge of \$5 towards defraying the cost
of hosting this event

20 copies of the Tour Book

"Under the Canopy of Diversity: A Better Understanding of Freemasonry"

by Kerry Nicholls and Peter Verrall
will be available for sale at \$25 each

Reserve your copy now—email David Slater (DBSlater633@gmail.com)

In Search of the Recondite



Lodge Capitol 612 will be the gracious host to Canberra's Esoteric Discussion Group at its meeting on 19 October at the Queanbeyan

Masonic Centre.

The discussion group meets every odd month (details are published in the Craft worksheets) and this presentation will bear the fruit of its discussions over the past year. The term *esoteric* first appeared in English in the 1701 *History of Philosophy* by Thomas Stanley, in his description of the mystery-school of Pythagoras, alluded to in the opening paragraphs of the Explanation of the First Tracing Board.

The format to be followed is an introduction to esoteric freemasonry by Geoff Driscoll; two short and focused talks by David Slater and Philip Purcell; finishing with a hypotheticals session involving all—to be led by the redoubtable Mike Dalton.

Afterwards, we will all be banished to the South to enjoy Capitol's fabled hospitality. All masons are invited to attend what promises to be an informative, invigorating and interesting meeting.

In the DCs Corner

with VW Bro Kevin Mulcahy PDGDC

Recent Ritual Changes

An announcement from the Grand Secretary in July may have escaped some eyes.

1. Page 13, Line 14 of the installation booklet has been changed to read: "The WM-elect and Sponsors remain in the SE until the GDC returns. He escorts the WM-elect to the door and the Sponsors follow. The WM-elect retires and the Sponsors remain in the Lodge Room adjacent to the IG." This apparently removes any doubt caused by the previous wording where it was not clear whether the retirement was side by side or Indian file.

2. Decision 15.12 of the Codification booklet will be changed to read: "Master Masons may carry out all charges, with the exception of Obligations, S&S, Charges after Investitures, Retrospect, Raising and all addresses given at Installation Ceremonies. Any charges normally delivered from the Dais should therefore be delivered from an appropriate position on the Lodge Room floor. The Master of the Lodge should satisfy himself of the competency of the MM designated to deliver a Charge."

This decision effectively reverses the former decision for a MM to deliver the Address to the Wardens and the Address to the Master at installations. No doubt this change to the ritual will generate some debate in Lodges.

Another change which seems to be causing problems for some Lodges is the long closing in the Third Degree. This is no doubt due to the fact that it is a new experience for some Lodges. Like anything else that is new, it requires plenty of practice to get it right. The book contains a detailed description as to how it should be done and, surprisingly, this was the normal closing back in 1978 according to my old ritual book.

Roman's Web

Bro Roman Cholawinskyj's project to assist lodges in setting up their own websites is proceeding apace in District 103, with a rollout to District 104 to follow. As sites are developed, their links will be added to the Region 10 website.



The District portals have been established (pictured) and the plan is to activate the lodge links as soon as the webmasters have been appointed and trained; and when their sites have been updated.

Roman is eager to schedule a Webmaster Workshop, within a hands-on environment, to provide Lodge Webmasters with the necessary base skills to begin their work. Before that can happen, there are

some logistical issues which need to be worked through—finding a suitable venue which can accommodate webmasters with their own internet connected laptop computers. Other options which can be explored are the production of a training video or a screen-based training program.

Please note that lodge participation in the website project is voluntary. Those wishing to participate should contact Roman, who will be happy to provide your lodge with a presentation. (see Page 4 for his contact details).



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REGIONAL ROUNDUP

PerfectCare—Again

Peter Forster PM

The brethren of Lodge Perfect of Canberra 951 and masoniCare have again combined to make a significant contribution to the ACT Palliative Care Society. For the third year, masoniCare provided an interAction grant to match the personal donations of Lodge Perfect members. This was the sixth consecutive year in which Lodge Perfect has supported the Palliative Care Society.

During 2009, members of the Lodge made personal donations totalling \$4,000 to the Palliative Care Society, an increase of \$500 over the previous two years, with masoniCare matching that amount.



The masoniCare cheque was presented to the Palliative Care Society at a meeting of the Society's Council on 23 August, 2009. VW Bro Geoff Ludowyk PDGIW (above left), the ACT masoniCare District Representative made the presentation to Ms Janet Turner and Ms Megan Evans, coordinators of volunteers for the Society. Also present were VW Bro Ron Jemesen (not pictured), DGIW for District 104 and W Bros Mitch Meredith (above right), Mickey Michaelis (not pictured) and Peter Forster (second from right) of Lodge Perfect of Canberra.

The ACT Palliative Care Society is a non government funded body that trains and coordinates some 120 volunteers who support people living with a terminal illness. The volunteers are an integral part of the palliative care team at the Clare Holland House hospice and in home-based palliative care. Each year, the Society organises a retreat for its volunteers. The \$8,000 provided by Lodge Perfect members and masoniCare will go a long way towards meeting the costs of the 2009 retreat.

125 Years of Freemasonry

Lodge Richard Coley (Region 3/District 34) paid a fraternal visit to Lodge Cootamundra St John 124 for the Lodge's installation meeting and its celebrations for the 125th anniversary of Freemasonry in the township.

RW Bro Graham Charlton PSGW, RGC 10 represented at the installation.

Photos and reports of the meeting can be viewed from either the District 103 page of the Region 10 website; or from the District 34 page of the Region 3 website. Both can be accessed from the State Map at <http://www.masonicregions.org.au/default.aspx>.

If the Truth be told...

Braidwood Times 22 July 2009, Page 4

The Braidwood Masons were pleased to make presentations to both Braidwood Care and Braidwood St Vincent de Paul. Jim Warman from Braidwood Care and Barry Dowell from St Vincent de Paul accepted cheques of \$400 each from the Master of the Lodge of Truth, Geoff Bunn.



L to R: Barry Dowell, Jim Warman and Geoff Bunn

The Braidwood Masons have placed all the proceeds from the annual Wood Raffle and Auction back into our community. Along with these presentations, \$2,000 was presented to the Braidwood Preschool last week, \$500 to the Braidwood Education Foundation, \$860 towards the Defensive Driving Course for young drivers of our community, \$350 to the Braidwood MPS and \$100 to the Braidwood Community Radio.

It is the wonderful support of our community that makes the Wood Raffle and Auction such a success. The Lodge of Truth thanks you for your support and generosity by placing this money back into our community where it is needed.

Goulburn's Endeavours

The Goulburn Post of 8 July 2009 carried an article on Page 16 by Stuart Mawbey, Master Mason, on the endeavour by the District's Masons to raise funds for Endeavour Industries, so that the ageing Endeavour buildings can comply with fire regulations.

Endeavour is a not for profit organisation and a registered charity, serving disabled people by providing employment opportunities and some money for working.

The raffles run by the Masons at the Centro Mall from July 13 to 15 raised over \$500—and their target is to raise \$1,000 and attract a matching masoniCare interAction grant.

The remaining funds are being raised by the Goulburn Lodges through their raffles. As the Master of Lodge Duke of Edinburgh said, "The funds raised and the masoniCare grant will go a long way to help Endeavour comply with the regulations."