

## OFFICERS OF THE LODGE, 1999-2000

Preceptor VWBro Ian Sykes  
68 Hawker Street  
TORRENS ACT  
☎ 6286 8894

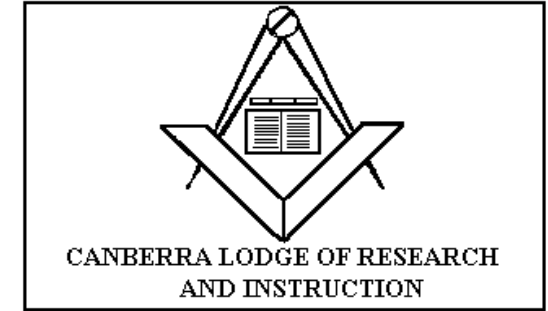
Deputy  
Preceptors WBro Tom Long  
32 Blackbutt Street  
LYNEHAM ACT  
☎ 6248 9819

WBro Frank Hull  
PO Box 3161  
WESTON CREEK ACT  
☎ 6288 7377

Assistant  
Preceptors VWBro Hugh Davies  
DGIW - District 102  
4 Stromlo Place  
JERRABOMBERRA NSW  
☎ 6299 8824

VWBro Jerry Cole  
DGIW - District 102A  
25 Kitchener Street  
HUGHES ACT  
☎ 6281 0776

Secretary Bro Neil Morse  
PO Box 26  
CIVIC SQUARE ACT  
☎ 6286 3482  
<masonic@bigfoot.com>



## 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 9 February 2000, commencing at 7.30pm.

### AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 Confirmation of office bearers
- 4 *Mentoring for Masons.*
- 5 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse  
Secretary  
January 2000

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**

Bro. David Phillips has been working on the development of a Mentoring Manual for some years and now will present it at our meeting and seek comments on the concept and the Manual itself.

### **OUR LAST MEETING**

Although few in number, we had a very enjoyable evening, with much interest in the anti-Masonic video. The usual Christmas fare was also appreciated.

### ***A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...***

In line with the theme, the *ADA* is a paper by Bro. Jim Hoppitt which puts forward one

means of stimulating interest by new candidates for Freemasonry.

### **LIBRARY NOTES**

Through the continuing generosity of Bro. Dennis Turner, the Library now has a second copy of *A Celebration of the Craft*. This is a great source of material for short talks and also of illustrations. Many thanks Dennis.

### **INTERNATIONAL LECTURER**

The Bereniser visit in August has been confirmed.

#### ***FREEMASONRY UNIVERSAL - Vol 2***

Enclosed is a flyer for the second volume of the Henderson/Pope guide to the Craft around the World. I have not seen the second volume, but if it is as good as the first, then it will be essential reading for 'armchair' as well as real travellers. I will

arrange for copies to be purchased for the Library.

### **CHAPTER OF RESEARCH**

The opportunity to establish a Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Research in the local area will be discussed at a meeting to be held at 7.30pm on 7 February at the CMC. This meeting will be chaired by VExComp. John Short, the DGIW of that Order. This will be an opportunity to both show the level of enthusiasm for this proposal and to learn what is involved.

### **P.M.'s SIGN & WORD**

Bro. Ray Daniels of Canada recently advised: "We often joke about the Word and Sign of a Past Master; the Word is **BUT**, and the Sign is given by pointing with the right index finger extended toward the chest of the incumbent Master." Isn't the Password of a PM "In my year ..."?

## RESEARCH LODGE OF NSW INSTALLATION

This is on 7 March in Sydney, see me for details.

Should we visit *en masse* to impress the GM?

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"If you want square work, don't cut corners."

## TEXAS CREATES LODGE ON MOON!

The GL of Texas has now laid claim to the moon as coming within its jurisdiction in the following terms (edited for space):

On July 20, 1969, two American astronauts landed on the moon of the planet Earth, in an area known as Mare Tranquillitatis, or "Sea of Tranquillity." One of those men was Brother Edwin Eugene (Buzz) Aldrin, Jr., a member of Clear Lake Lodge No. 1417,

AF&AM, Seabrook, Texas. Brother Aldrin carried with him SPECIAL DEPUTATION of then Grand Master J. Guy Smith, constituting and appointing Brother Aldrin as Special Deputy of the Grand Master, granting unto him full power to represent the Grand Master as such and authorize him to claim Masonic Territorial Jurisdiction for The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, on the Moon, and directed that he make due return of his acts. Brother Aldrin certified that the SPECIAL DEPUTATION was carried by him to the Moon on July 20, 1969.

To commemorate this historic event, and to further solidify and establish Texas Freemasonry on the Moon, it is proposed that a charter be issued to a new Lodge, to be known as Tranquility Lodge No. 2000.

### ***Extracts from GL of Texas Constitution:***

Tranquility Lodge No. 2000, whose see is in the Sea of Tranquillity on the Moon of the planet Earth, now setting in Waco, Texas, is hereby established for the purpose of

promoting, encouraging, conducting and fostering the principles of Freemasonry, and to assist in promoting the health, welfare, education and patriotism of children, subject to the following regulations and restrictions.

Any Master Mason who is a member in good standing in any regular Lodge in this jurisdiction, or in any jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge, may become a member of Tranquility Lodge No. 2000, by payment of a one time fee of \$100.00, and such annual dues as adopted by the Lodge. Membership shall continue only so long as such member is in good standing in a regular Lodge in this Jurisdiction, or one in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge.

Membership cards, upon forms prescribed by the Grand Secretary, may be issued by Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 to its members, but such cards shall not serve as an avouchment of good standing for the purposes of visitation or membership in a regular Lodge.

Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 shall operate under the provisions of this Article until such time as it can relocate to its rightful place in or near the Sea of Tranquility, on the Moon of the planet Earth; and upon relocation, it shall apply to Grand Lodge for charter as a Regular Lodge, and when such charter is granted, this Article shall become null and void.”

The web site of this Lodge is at:

<http://www.tranquilitylodge2000.org/>

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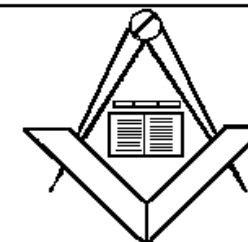
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CANBERRA LODGE OF RESEARCH  
AND INSTRUCTION

## 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 12 April 2000, commencing at 7.30pm.

### AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 *Deacons*
- 4 Overseas visit arrangements
- 5 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse  
Secretary  
March 2000

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

### **WORK OF THE EVENING**

Prior to the unification of Grand Lodges in 1813 there were no deacons in general masonic practice in the UK; the work mainly being undertaken by the wardens and an officer called the Conductor. We will explore the change and discuss the history and operation of these important officers of the Lodge.

### **OUR LAST MEETING**

Following on from the presentation by Bro. David Phillips, a small group has been formed to husband the development and introduction of a mentoring mechanism for the lodges in the area. This is proof positive of the outcomes we all can share when a

selfless Mason undertakes work for the good of the Craft.

### **OUR NEXT MEETINGS**

Due to the changes in GL Communications dates, we will have no May meeting. Instead we will meet in June when Bro. Ian Main will present a paper on the history of the Craft in Russia. In July Bro. David Slater will present a paper on the esotericism of Freemasonry.

### **CHAPTER OF RESEARCH**

This will be subject of an information paper to be distributed to Companions shortly. The issue will be considered at a further meeting in July.

#### ***A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...***

The *ADA* comes from the *Journal of the Australian Catholic Historical Society*, No. 20 of 1999. It is reprinted, with the specific

permission of the author, **solely** as an attempt to broaden scholarly debate.

**Corresponding Lodges: Please DO NOT reprint this paper without reference to me - NWM**

### **INTERNATIONAL LECTURER**

As previously advised, the Bereniser visit in August has been confirmed. I would be pleased to hear from brethren who can assist in planning and logistics for both the meeting at which Bro. Bereniser will speak and his visit generally.

### **HOW LONG IN AN OFFICE?**

#### **- THE IRISH VIEW**

GL of Ireland: Ten Year Rule - Resolution of Grand Lodge - March 1989.

"It is hereby resolved that, as and from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1991, unless in exceptional circumstances and then subject to

dispensation only by the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master, (or by the Provincial Grand Master within a Province) no Masonic Office or Appointment shall be held or be extended beyond a period of ten years from date of Installation or Appointment.

A Brother shall not be eligible to serve a second term in an Office or Appointment that he has already held for a period of ten years, even after an interval of time shall have elapsed. This Resolution shall not however encompass the paid Officers of the Grand Lodge, or of a Provincial Grand Lodge, whose terms and conditions of employment shall remain as heretofore; nor shall it apply to Actual or Honorary Past Grand Officers or Past Provincial Grand Officers, or Elected Members of The Grand Lodge of Instruction."

**VALE LEINSTER MARINE No. 2?**

**(taken from the on-line notice posted by  
Bro. Ron Atkinson, Secretary)**

"It is with great sadness I write to let all know that the current notice paper from Australia's 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest Lodge, Leinster Marine Lodge of Australia, No. 2 UGL of NSW&ACT has a notice of motion appearing stating that the lodge to hand in its Charter. It is such a shame to see a Lodge that was formed on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1824, making it 176 years old next February, and also being a Lodge which contributed so much to the formation of not only our own Grand Lodge, but that of Freemasonry in Australia, finally close its Lodge VSL (the original one) for the very last time. To the 2100 men whose names and details are printed in our History book (all men since the foundation) we feel that we have let you down by not being in a position to make the lodge continue into this millennium. Should some miracle occur and give the lodge mouth to mouth resuscitation, I will let you know with pleasure. To anybody who has had contact with the Lodge, thank you, and good bye."

The Leinster Marine story is told in their 1939 history (Philips and Fleming - in the Library), the more recent one (on order), or Cramp and Mackaness's History of UGL of NSW vols 1 & 2.

### **QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

A sign of a failing organization is the interpersonal dynamic known as "group think". When groups have little or no internal conflict, when keeping the peace is valued more than progress, and when persons who question time-honoured practices are labelled as trouble-makers, that organization has fallen prey to "group think" and will probably soon die for lack of rejuvenation.

Dr. John C. Parmer, 32<sup>o</sup> - to an online forum.

### **DEACONS - SOME EARLY BACKGROUND**

(Taken from Carr's *The Freemason at Work*)

The principal duty associated with the office of Deacon nowadays, i.e. the conducting of candidates during the ceremonies, was originally discharged by the Wardens of the Lodge. In the first well-detailed description of the ceremonies, Prichard's *Masonry Dissected*, 1730, it is evident that the JW received the candidate (as does the IG today) and, after some form of perambulation, the cand. Was handed over to the SW who 'presented' him and showed him how to advance towards the Master by three steps.

As Prichard's work was an exposure; there is no proof that what it describes was correct, but support is found in the French exposures *Le Secrets* (1742) and *Trahi* (1745).



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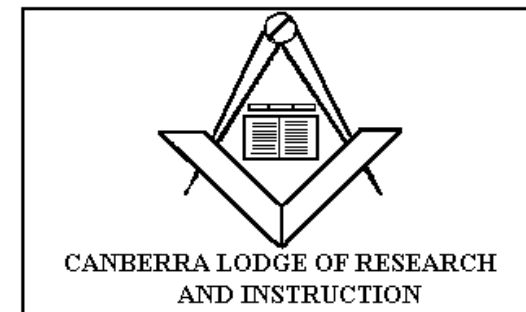
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## INVITATION

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 14 June 2000, commencing at 7.30pm.

### AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 *The Craft in Russia*
- 4 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse  
Secretary  
April 2000

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

### **WORK OF THE EVENING**

Bro. Ian Main has been researching the Craft in Russia and will present his findings. Whilst having a long and honourable past, Russian Freemasonry is just emerging from a period of darkness. This should be a most interesting night.

### **OUR NEXT MEETING**

Bro. David Slater has been investigating a lesser considered element of the Craft - that of the esoteric. Through his researches on WWW (not the web, but Waite, Ward, Wilmschurst!), he will bring a fascinating topic to our notice.

***A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...***

The *ADA* is a short introduction to tonight's topic. It comes from notes prepared for the working of a 'Russian' first degree developed by Bro Bob Linford and first presented here in 1993.

### **URGENT - NEED FOR YOUR INPUT**

As will be seen from the enclosed material regarding the ANZMRC conference and Beresiner tour, this Lodge needs to choose a lecture for delivery in Canberra. I ask that you advise me URGENTLY of your choice. I'll try to get the lecture that interests the majority.

On the conference, please seriously consider attending this major Masonic event; as this jurisdiction's Lecturer, I seek your support.

### **QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

"Russians joined the order for the same reasons their European brothers did. Freemasonry provided a place to socialize

with likeminded men, to cultivate patrons, and to enjoy a meal and a drink (or two) free from the burdens of work and family. It was a place to imbibe more intoxicating spirits, be they of the Enlightenment, Christianity, or even the occult."

Douglas Smith: *Working the Rough Stone: freemasonry and society in eighteenth-century Russia*. Northern Illinois University Press. 1999.

### **AQC REFERENCES TO RUSSIA**

- Russia, '*Prosveshchenie*' (century of 'Enlightenment') 109:1
- Russia, (Ivanoff, Boris) Cagliostro in Eastern Europe 40:45-80
- Russia, (Speth, G.W.) A Russian Masonic anecdote 10:72-3
- Russia, (Speth, G.W.) A Relic of Russian Freemasonry 8:231-2
- Russia, (Telepneff, Boris) A few pages from the history of Swedish Freemasonry in Russia 39:174-196
- Russia, (Telepneff, Boris) Some aspects of Russian Freemasonry during the reign of the Emperor Alexander I (1801-1825) 38:6-66
- Russia, (Telepneff, Boris) Freemasonry in Russia 35:261-292; Peter the Great (1672-1725), Czar Peter I (1689-1725) 261; Bibliography (books on Russian Freemasonry) 287-8; Yelguin's Lodges joined Reichel's system (Zinnendorf), forming the 'National Grand Lodge of Russia' (1776) 272; Russian Rosicrucians 276-7; the split into two Russian Grand Lodges (1815), the 'Astrea' (Craft)

and the Swedish 'Provincial Grand Lodge of Russia' 280; list of lodges 282-5  
 Russia, (Yarker, John) Patent of a Russian Grand Lodge (Grand Lodge 'Astree') 16:160-1  
 Russia, Catherine II, Empress of (1762-1796), Count de Stroganoff as Privy Councillor for (1778) 108:29  
 Russia, Freemasonry in 93:211-13  
 Russia, Freemasonry in (1740-94), Provincial Grand Lodge 84:239-58; Grand National Lodge of (1779) 242, 248, 249; *See also*: Freemasonry in Russia (Telepneff) (in *AQC* vol.35:261-92)  
 Russia, Freemasonry in 83:263-4; National Grand Lodge of (1776) 263; Czar Paul of (*d.*1801), as GM of the St. John Knights of Malta (Hospitaliers) 87  
 Russia, Freemasonry outlawed (1822), by Alexander I, Czar of Russia (1801-25) 85:365  
 Russia, Grand Lodge Astrea, St. Petersburg (1815-18), list of lodges 38:50-4; certificates from 4-5; Some aspects of Russian Freemasonry during the reign of the Emperor Alexander I (Telepneff, Boris) 6-66 *bis*  
 Russia, St. Petersburg Lodge (1760) 109:29; Russian 'Magnus Sacerdos' and Starch 31; Schwartz and von Marschall representing, at Wilhelmsbad (1782) 41  
 Russia, the '*Prosveshchenie*' (century of 'Enlightenment') 109:1  
 Russian Initiation ceremony, (Leo Tolstoi; *War & Peace*) (1865-72) 93:5, 155, 164; (*AQC* vol.87:229-35)  
 Russian Initiation Ceremony, A (Chamberlain) 87:229-35  
 Russian Revolution (1917), said to have begun with the Freemasons; in the *Japanese Chronicle* (1938) (Kono) 107:91  
 Russian ritual (contemporary), (1° prayer) q. 89:269  
 Russian Third International, connected with the headquarters of the Freemasons, Moscow; in the *Japanese Chronicle* (1938) (Kono) 107:91

**Brethren wanting a copy of a full Index to AQC, vols 1-109, on floppy disc should contact me.**

**FALSE FLOOR FOR HIRE!  
(advertisement)**

Are you having trouble finding an 'under-floor' tomb for your 18<sup>th</sup> century demonstration? Contact the Secretary of Canberra R&I for your next 'entombment'!

**RUSSIAN MASONRY ON THE WEB**

The Maine Lodge of Research (USA) has a paper entitled 'Russian Freemasonry: A New Dawn' at <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Academy/6384/russia.html>

It is with considerable regret that I record the passing within the veil, on 16 April 2000, of the esteemed scholar, teacher, mentor and friend, Bro. M H (Harry) Kellerman.

In both his capacity as Grand Librarian and as a founding member of the NSW Lodge of Research, Harry was a long-time friend of this Lodge, assisting Masonic education in this area by his ongoing interest in, and support of, our activities. His life and achievements will always be remembered and commemorated in the biennial lecture series conducted under the auspices of the ANZMRC. In Canberra he will also be remembered as a teacher at Telopea in the early 1930s.

Treasure your memories of him, as we are unlikely to see his like again.

**SMIB**

**Bro. M H KELLERMAN  
1902-2000**

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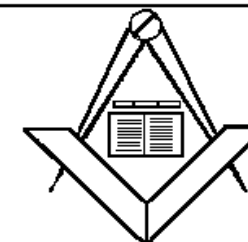
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CANBERRA LODGE OF RESEARCH  
AND INSTRUCTION

## 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 12 July 2000, commencing at 7.30pm.

### AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 *To seek for that which was lost*
- 4 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse  
Secretary  
June 2000

The Lodge usually 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 suit is necessary; jacket and tie only - bring your apron.

## WORK OF THE EVENING

Bro. David Slater will present a paper entitled "To seek for that which was lost?: A journey into esoteric craft masonry, with particular emphasis on some early 20<sup>th</sup> century writings." This promises to be very thought-provoking.

### *A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...*

The *ADA* is a Dormer Masonic Study Circle paper appropriate to this evening's topic. I have many other Dormer papers available, just ask!

## OUR NEXT MEETING

The **BIG** one - Bro. Yasha Beresiner will be in Canberra from Monday 7 August until Thursday 10 August and will deliver a set of lectures entitled 'Masonic Curiosities'.

## LEINSTER MARINE 'SAVED'

Further to the previously reported situation, Lodge Leinster Marine has been 'saved' from closure by an alliance with The Sydney Lodge. This has raised the broader question "Should we let moribund Lodges go, or maintain them at all costs?" Maybe a topic for debate in a Lodge, with R&I furnishing two speakers, one for and one against, and the brethren continuing the discussion. What part should GL have in the process of revitalisation or closure? How strong are combined Lodges? Should we keep Nos. 1 to 20 going at all costs, or only Nos. 1 to 10? What has the local experience been?

## AN INTERPRETATION

"Freemasonry can be defined as an organized system of morality, derived by divine wisdom and age-long experience, which, for preservation from outer assault and inner decay, is veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbol. The influence of divine inspiration is with it throughout.

Sir Alfred Robbins  
*English-Speaking Freemasonry*

## DON FALCONER'S PAPERS

You may have been lucky to hear Bro. Don speak at a meeting, may have read some of his papers on the *Pietre Stones* site on the Web or seen the review in the *NSW Freemason* (when **WILL** they change the name?). Now you can read his consolidated (and revised) thoughts as I have placed a copy in the CMC Library. I have secured the LAST copy of this book - it will be a prize in the R&I monster competition -see later item).

## FROM CHURCH TO LIBRARY!

The Library has been pleased to accept as donation of a run of the *Masonic Square* magazine over a five year span in the 1980s. These are full of interesting short pieces and are a source of much material for five minute talks in Lodge. For this resource we have to thank Bro. John Church, WM of Lodge Woden Valley - hence the headline!

## MATTERS FINANCIAL

Members of Canberra R&I are notified that subscriptions for 2000-2001 of \$10 are now due.

## MASONRY - A MYSTIC TEACHING SOME QUOTATIONS TO PONDER

"Although the origin of the Masonic movement is modern, we hold that it had its source in true Mysticism, and is one of the channels of the Mystic teaching. ... let us note some of the connecting links between the esoteric schools of the early Christian centuries and the later Masonic movement."

Rev. Charles Vail, 32°  
*The Ancient Mysteries and Modern Masonry*  
(1909)

"Our Brotherhood, i.e. the so-called Speculative Masons, originated with the old Stellar Cult Her-Seshta priests, who instituted the seven primary Egyptian Mysteries - called the Lesser Mysteries\_ and these were founded on their astro-mythology, the original mould being supplied by the Totemic Mysteries of the more primitive man, the Hero-Cult Totemic people."

Albert Churchward  
*The Origin and Evolution of Freemasonry*  
(1920)

"ESOTERIC MASONRY - There can be little doubt that in the days of Elias Ashmole and his immediate successors, many doctrines were taught in the Lodges which have now disappeared. ... At the present day there are

many secrets not usually given, and indeed the condition of Masonic education, except among a certain class, is very low. There are many good Masons well acquainted with the ritual, and even the lectures, but they fail from want of taste and opportunity to grasp the subtler philosophy of Freemasonry That this class may be roused from apathy is the earnest wish of the author of this book.”

Kenneth R H Mackenzie IX°  
*The Royal Masonic Cyclopaedia*

### **R&I FUNDRAISER**

Participating in the biennial ANZMRC international lecturer circuit is the major call on R&I's funds. To partially offset this expenditure I will be conducting a 'guessing competition'. Prizes will include an autographed copy of Don Falconer's book, a Masonic belt buckle, a copy of Fox's recent history of the Scottish Rite(SJ) in the US, and a Masonic clock. See me for tickets!

### **THE ESOTERIC THEORY OF ORIGIN**

“Those who follow the esoteric path take the principles, rituals, forms, symbols of Freemasonry, trace similarities in other groups (ignoring the fact that the principles and many of the symbols are universal and not peculiar to Freemasonry), and assume that these similarities are not fortuitous but deliberate and are therefore evidence of a linked tradition. They place great emphasis on the additional degrees, investing them with a spurious antiquity, and read a great deal more into their

esoteric content and symbolism than was ever intended.

John Yarker is probably the major figure of this school. His *magnum opus*, *The Arcane Schools* (Belfast, 1909), is a monument to misapplied scholarship. It reveals not only the breadth of his reading but also his inability to digest, or in some cases understand, what he had read.”

John Hamill  
*The History of English Freemasonry* (1994)

I have an electronic copy of *The Arcane Schools* which I will send to those who want to read it (after Bro. Hamill's glowing review above!)

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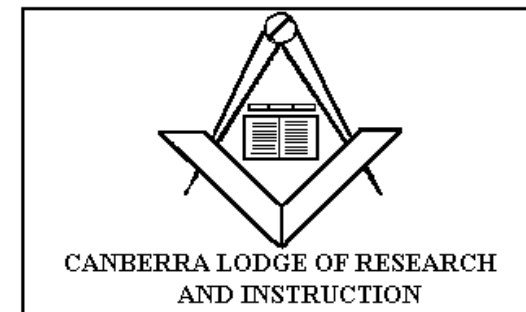
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### AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 *Masonic Curiosities* - a tripartite lecture by WBro. Yasha Beresiner
- 4 Election of Officers for 2000-2001
- 5 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse  
Secretary  
July 2000

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

### **WORK OF THE EVENING**

We are privileged tonight to participate in Bro. Yasha Beresiner's international tour (south Africa, Australia and New Zealand), His lecture, *Masonic Curiosities*, contains three segments, *Hudibras and the Knights Templar*, *What induced Desaguliers*, and *The Mark Degree ... but by the grace of Henderson*. Questions will be called for, and responded to, after each segment.

### **OUR NEXT MEETING**

A report on the biennial Australian and New Zealand Masonic Research Council's meeting at Brisbane will be given by the Secretary. More information will be in the next summons.

### **OUR LAST MEETING**

Bro. David Slater presented a paper on the esoteric in Masonry. I believe that this is one of the best papers on this topic that I have heard and I hope that it can reach a wider audience, perhaps through another Lodge of Research. This is a very neglected topic and I hope that David can present a follow-up paper soon.

Arising from the meeting, thought is being given to the production of a volume of transactions of the Lodge, incorporating papers both old and new, which will both act as a record of the Lodge's activities and be an educational aid for brethren.

### ***A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...***

Usually the *ADA* provides a short introduction to the night's topic. As there are three separate issues under discussion, I have decided that as a further 'teaser' for tonight's lecture to include a paper delivered

by our lecturer at the Montefiore Lodge of Installed Masters in Israel in 1997. I hope that it whets your appetite for more.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Our bylaws require that an election of officers be undertaken at the August meeting. The elected officers are Preceptor, Secretary, and two Deputy Preceptors.

### **BOOK OF LECTURES**

Unfortunately production of the book of WBro. Beresiner's lectures, normally be available on the night, has been delayed. However I will be taking orders for copies (@ \$30 each) and will ask our guest lecturer to autograph 'sticky labels' so that you can personalise your copy. This is the best I can do in the circumstances.

### **THANKS FOR ASSISTANCE**



Due to the nature of this night, we will tyle and open in the First Degree. I wish to record the appreciation of the Lodge to Bro. Michael Kelly and his band of brethren for their assistance in many ways in the preparation for, and running of, tonight's meeting and Festive Board.

### **GUESSING COMPETITION**

You will have noticed that there have been several additions to the prize pool for this competition. The draw will be conducted at the Festive Board, so there will be plenty of opportunity to participate on the evening of our meeting, if not beforehand. The new additions are a 'Masonic' clock and a copy of the coffee-table book *A Celebration of the Craft*.

### **USER PAYS PRINCIPLE ...**

In order to assist in defraying costs, the Lodge will levy a charge of \$15 on visitors,

and \$10 on members, for the Festive Board. As ever though, all brethren are welcome to attend. Membership of the Lodge is only \$10 per annum and those brethren wishing to join can be readily and speedily accommodated! There has been **NO** change with the introduction of the GST.

### **NEW BOOKS**

Jim Marrs's *rule by SECRECY* is subtitled 'the hidden history that connects the Trilateral Commission, the Freemasons and the Great Pyramid'. This should start warning bells ringing straight away. Add to this the back flap bio that "Jim Marrs is a celebrated journalist and author of *Alien Agenda...*" and I think you will get a feel for the contents.

If not the following extract may be illuminating:

*The secrets of Freemasonry must be most profound and compelling to have caused members over the centuries to persevere in*

*their effort to protect and propagate their knowledge against official and clerical censure and oppression. It is abundantly clear that this knowledge, passed down through ritual allegory and symbols, predates the ancient Egyptians.*

This book is a wonderful collection of conspiracy theories, composed mainly of quotes from other sources of similar veracity, but it would be a waste of your money to buy it and a waste of your time to read it. My copy (*why* did I buy it?) is available for loan. Another sad waste of trees.

Alexander Piatigorsky's *Who's Afraid of Freemasons?* has been successful enough to be issued in paperback as *The Freemasons* (about \$30). This is a heavy, but fascinating, read although I query the blurb when it says "This is an important, partial study of freemasonry and a valuable addition to the history of comment on this strange and anachronistic institution". 'Strange and anachronistic' indeed!

### **A 'PRACTICAL MASON' (c. 1765)**

All brethren wear tunics of sky blue to the knees, sleeves narrowing to the wrists. Over this they have an apron of white leather folded and edged with sky blue. Their gloves are of sky blue taffeta, trimmed around with gold, as are their tunics and ribbons, which are also of sky blue. Their shoes are made of sky blue material, the tops embroidered in gold and with a cockade of burgundy ribbon, the ends trimmed with gold lace or fringe, the gloves and the collar of the Master, who must have a golden belt. He has a hat in the style of Louis XIV on his head and his tunic is adorned with stars embroidered in gold.

## OFFICERS OF THE LODGE, 2000-2001

Preceptor VWBro Jerry Cole  
25 Kitchener Street  
HUGHES ACT  
☎ 6281 0776

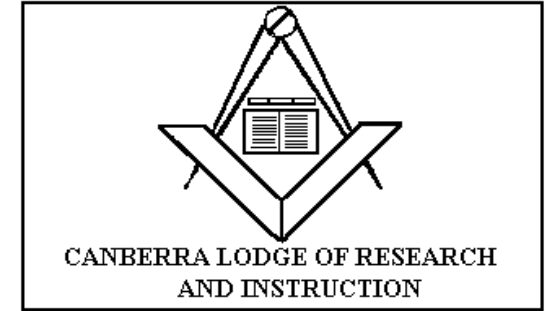
Deputy  
Preceptors WBro Tom Long  
32 Blackbutt Street  
LYNEHAM ACT  
☎ 6248 9819

WBro Frank Hull  
PO Box 3161  
WESTON CREEK ACT  
☎ 6288 7377

Assistant  
Preceptors VWBro Derek Robson  
DGIW - District 103  
70 Moynihan Street  
EVATT ACT  
☎ 6258 0074

VWBro Bob Nairn  
DGIW - District 104  
13 Tanumbirini Street  
HAWKER ACT  
☎ 6254 2782

Secretary Bro Neil Morse, KL  
PO Box 26  
CIVIC SQUARE ACT  
☎ 6286 3482  
<masonic@bigfoot.com>



## 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 13 September 2000, commencing at 7.00pm.

### AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 *The Kellerman Lectures - A review*
- 4 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse  
Secretary  
August 2000

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

### **WORK OF THE EVENING**

We will undertake a review of the papers presented at the biennial ANZMRC conference held in Brisbane on 18-20 August. The Secretary will also report on the meeting. The Preceptor wishes to discuss the future operations of the Lodge with brethren - particularly how we tackle the Instruction side of things.

### **OUR LAST MEETING**

How can I describe Bro. Yasha's presentations, both in the Lodge and at the Festive Board. He said later "It was great to have 24 brethren there who were interested and asked good questions, rather than have 70 who were scared to say anything." He assured me in Brisbane that he had enjoyed

his time in Canberra and hopes to return in a private capacity at some stage and just enjoy the place.

### **COMPETITION RESULTS**

The following brethren were winners:

Bro. Jerry Cole (major prizes)  
Bro. David Slater  
Bro. Lloyd Hall  
Bro. Neil Dwyer  
Bro. Egils Sekavs  
Bro. Dick Bensley

The winning tickets were drawn by Bro. Yasha so it was well and truly above board! Thanks to all who entered - it helped a great deal.

### ***A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...***

I have included the paper *Anti-Masonry from 1698 to 2000* as delivered by Bro. Yasha Beresiner in Brisbane. As he did in Canberra, Yasha delivered the paper without notes and

was most impressive. In addition I have included a copy of the three papers that he delivered in Canberra.

### **ANZMRC CONFERENCE**

As was expected, the Brisbane Conference was a great forum to discuss issues of mutual interest, to hear some excellent lectures and to fraternize and 'network'. The NSW/ACT contribution was very well received and, as it took the form of a degree 'working', broke the mould of all previous Lectures. I was honoured to represent both the Lodge and the jurisdiction. Now two of the five Lecturers who have represented this jurisdiction have been Canberra brethren - a great reflection on this Lodge and also on Bro. Bob Linford, KL.

The next conference will be hosted by the SA Lodge of Research and may be in McLaren Vale, rather than in Adelaide. Then, in 2004, it is off to New Zealand. I have tentatively put forward Canberra as a venue

when NSW/ACT hosts the conference in 2008 (Victoria is the host in 2006).

### ***MASONIC CURIOSITIES***

Some copies of the book of Yasha's papers were available in Brisbane, but not in bulk. I have been promised a supply in the near future, so please be patient. Yasha signed a number of 'sticky labels' for me before he left and these will be affixed when I get the copies. Cost is \$30 per copy.

### **THANKS**

I wish to personally thank all those who assisted in the preparations for Yasha's visit to the Lodge. Bro. Michael Kelly and the members of Lodge Capitol, the fraternal from Lodge Woden Valley and, particularly, Bro. Jerry Cole, our new Preceptor, all added so much to the evening and I thank you for the support, attendance and assistance.

We must build on this level of support to get the Lodge into a position where all its activities (not just the 'specials') will be eagerly awaited by the local brethren (end of sermon!)

### ***VESTED IN GLORY***

This is the title of the 'bonus' book received by members of the Scottish Rite Research Society. It contains a painting of the regalia (aprons, cordons, collars, caps and jewels) of each of the 33 degrees in the Scottish Rite (SJ) in the US, together with an essay on each. The symbolism and scope of each of the degrees is explained. The volume also contains as an appendix a most interesting essay on early regalia of the Rite and provides a dictionary of symbols and an explanation of the various crosses used in the degrees. This is a well produced and most useful book for those interested in Freemasonry, not just members of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. Copies can be

ordered from the Society and I have application forms for membership.

### **THE CORNERSTONE SOCIETY**

It is apposite that following Bro. David Slater thought provoking paper in July, we should learn of a Masonic body recently formed to 'expand the masonic dimension in our lives, by providing support for those wishing to explore its deeper meaning and purpose, and through that helping us to value our Freemasonry more'. The Cornerstone Society meets in London but information can be found at [www.workingtools.co.uk](http://www.workingtools.co.uk).

### **FREEMASONRY IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND - A definitive Statement**

All Grand Masters in Australia and New Zealand have authorised the publication of the above book as 'a true and correct statement of what Freemasonry is and does'. They say: 'Let those who read this book know that Freemasonry is an honourable organisation for good, that we believe in the

God who is the Architect, Creator and Ruler of the Universe, the Father of humankind, and we will not accept any false interpretation of what we are.'

The volume contains sections entitled:

Origins of Freemasonry

What is Freemasonry?

How Freemasonry is organised

What Freemasonry does

Freemasonry - A way of Life

A copy is in the CMC Library. I believe that a copy should be given to all candidates for the Craft. Tell me what you think. Perhaps we could persuade CREMA to fund a bulk purchase!

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CANBERRA LODGE OF RESEARCH  
AND INSTRUCTION

**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 11 October 2000, commencing at 7.30pm.

**AGENDA**

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 *The Masonic Approach to Self Development*
- 4 Research, Education and/or Instruction?
- 5 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse  
Secretary  
September 2000

The Lodge meets on the **second Wednesday** of February, April, May, July, August, October and November. Fellowship

starts at 7.00pm. All local and visiting Masons are welcome; dress: coat and tie.

## WORK OF THE EVENING

In line with our 'all-inclusive' approach, we will discuss a paper and then continue consideration of the role of the Lodge in the education/instruction of the local brethren.

## OUR LAST MEETING

I doubt that there has been so much Canberra 'firepower' considering Masonic education and instruction in one room for ages. This was a very valuable first step in re-aligning R&I to more fully meet the needs of the local Masonic community.

## A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...

It is appropriate to our discussions that we have a paper on self-development as the *ADA*. This was presented at the ANZMRC Conference by Bro. Phillip Hellier of the Victorian Constitution and certainly needs consideration, particularly

as regards the Craft's view of itself in the wider community.

I have also included one of the references he used, as I feel this topic has connections with Bro. Slater's paper of earlier this year and could be considered a problem with our relationship with the broader society.

## REMEMBER THIS DATE...

It will be a full moon on Friday 13 October, 693 years after that fateful day for the Knights Templar. Whether or not we agree with the Templar theory of Masonic origin, they do play an important part in today's Freemasonry.

## A NEW MASONIC ORDER (an extract from a Dutch web site)

The Order of St. Thomas of Acon

"This is one of the youngest masonic orders at this moment. It was instituted in 1974 in England and has at the moment eight local groups (Chapels) in England, one in Canada and two in

the United States. The establishment of a Chapel in Belgium, one in Wales and another four in England are planned before the end of 2000 or in the first half of 2001. The Order has a little more than 300 members. The Order has only one degree which is worked.

The Order is totally restricted to freemasons who are members of the Order of the Temple and St John in Jerusalem. The theme of the Order is the story of Thomas à Becket and the Chapel which was built in his memory in Acon in the Holy Land."

The site URL from which this was taken is:

<http://www.stelling.nl/vrijmetselarij/ritualen.html>

The inclusion of this URL should not be considered as this Lodge endorsing or condoning of the placement of large slabs of ritual into the public domain. I have no means of telling whether the rituals contained on the site are accurate or current. *Caveat emptor.*



## EARLY DAYS IN YASS FREEMASONRY

This year marks the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Yass Lodge of Concord. Included in the minutes for the first regular meeting (18 July 1860) was a report of the preliminary meeting which led to the formation of the Lodge:

“At a meeting of Free and Accepted Masons, held at the Commercial Hotel, Yass, on the evening of Monday, the 28<sup>th</sup> May, 1860 -

Present:- Brothers Myers, Taylor, Godfrey, Patison, Brown, Turner, and visiting Brother Franklin (843 E.C.)  
Brother Brown was called to the chair.

Having been duly obligated, it was unanimously decided that a petition should be prepared & forwarded to the Provincial Grand Lodge for a dispensation to enable the Brethren to open a regularly constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the town of Yass, under the denomination of “The Yass Lodge of Concord”

The preliminary meeting was called by means of a public notice in the *Yass*

*Courier* of 9 May 1860 under the heading ‘MASONIC’:

A meeting of FREEMASONS resident in and near Yass, will be held at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Yass, THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING. at Eight o'clock, on business of importance. All Members of the Fraternity are respectfully requested to attend.

The notice was surmounted by illustrations of a square and compasses, trowel, plumb and square, chisel and maul. I will show interested brethren the original notice at the next meeting.

In the next issue of the *Yass Courier* (16 May 1860) there is a report of the meeting, stating that a warrant to form the Lodge would be sought. It reads, in part, ‘There was a good attendance and the utmost harmony prevailed. ... Mr Jacob Myers consented to find accommodation in the Cricketers’ Arms Inn for the meetings of the brethren.’

## TRANSACTION OF THIS LODGE

Action is currently under way to review the papers presented in this Lodge to see if there is sufficient material of quality for inclusion in a ‘best of’ type booklet. Particular emphasis will be given to material presented in the 1960s and 1970s. All interested brethren are invited to be involved in this exercise and should contact the Secretary for further details.

## MASONIC WORDSEARCH

T R D W I S D O M H T S I G N S D  
O D E A C O N S R F E R A U Q S A  
K E S R I G H T A N G L E Y O Y V  
E G S D T A R R I E R L P L U M B  
N R A E T V C E S T I T O O L B P  
S E P N E E U N E G N M A N E O I  
P E T S R L T G H B O A Z A R L L  
E S M O R A L T S N B S U C A I L  
A C A C I A A H S I E T H F C S A  
S S L H K I S T F B Y E C E R M R  
H P L I S F E F I L E R A L E A S  
L R F S S M G Y E D O M B L C R E  
A I I E P E A R R O G A L O N I M  
R G V L E G A O T U R S E W A H B  
T E E O A D W G R E I O T C C N L  
N C E W S O L E U W P N O R P A E  
P O R I T L I L E V E L W A E W M  
D R H N T S O L H R E C I F F O R  
E N T E R E D A P P R E N T I C E

ACACIA AGE ALLEGORY APRON  
ASHLAR BEAUTY BOAZ CABLE TOW  
CANCER CAR CHISEL CORN COWAN  
CRAFT DEACONS DEGREES EAST

EMBLEM ENTERED APPRENTICE EYE  
FELLOW CRAFT FIVE GAOTU GAVEL  
GRIP HIRAM ABIFF LEWIS LEVEL  
LIGHT LODGE LOST WORD MAN  
MASTER MASON MORAL NPD OFFICER  
OIL PASSED PILLARS PLUMB PORCH  
RAISE RIGHT ANGLE SALT SEVEN  
SKIRRET SIGNS SOLOMONS TEMPLE  
SPRIG SQUARE STEP STRENGTH  
SYMBOLISM THREE TOKENS TOOL  
TRUE TYLER VOSL WARDENS WINE  
WISDOM

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HUGHES ACT  
☎ 6281 0776

Deputy  
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CANBERRA LODGE OF RESEARCH  
AND INSTRUCTION

**INVITATION**

On behalf of the Preceptor, I invite you to attend the next meeting of the Canberra Lodge of Research and Instruction to be held at the Canberra Masonic Centre on Wednesday 8 November 2000, commencing at 7.00pm.

**AGENDA**

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Secretary's report
- 3 Preceptor's comments
- 4 *Education and Instruction - the difference.*
- 5 The Way Forward - plans for 2001
- 6 *The Case of the Missing* - an 'instructive' video
- 7 Other business

Neil Wynes Morse  
Secretary  
October 2000

The Lodge meets on the **second Wednesday** of February, April, May, July, August, October and November. All Masons are welcome; dress: coat and tie.

## WORK OF THE EVENING

As an adjunct to planning the Lodge activities for the coming year we will look at the definitions of 'education' and 'instruction'. We have sought the views of District Lodges and hope to have their responses to assist in our planning. In accordance with our Festive Season tradition, we also have a lighter item to go with the cake and port.

## OUR LAST MEETING

A most useful discussion on the Hellier paper sugued into a further consideration of the means available to provide research/instruction/education to the brethren. Having the interest and support of the DGIsW, both current and immediate past, is of great benefit.

*A DAILY ADVANCEMENT...*

Lodge years are usually marked from the Installation of a new Master and the his officers, but it could also be considered that the calendar year, with what is often a big break over the Festive Season, could be also considered appropriate. In this spirit the *ADA* is the ceremony of 'Opening the Lodge Work Year' as used in Netherlandic Constitution lodges. Permission to reproduce this has been given by WBro. Sandy Kahn, President of the Kring Nieuw Holland Masonic Study Circle of Melbourne, for which we are most thankful.

**The Preceptor sends his fraternal greetings to all readers at this festive time.**

### **BRO. SANDY STONE - A BRIEF MASONIC BIOGRAPHY**

I'm a Mason. As a matter of fact my friends, little Wayne and Marilyn Nettleton, are always at me to teach them the secret Masonic handshake, but naturally I would not divulge. But the

Lodge intrigues kiddies: kiddies are intrigued by the Lodge. It stands to reason - a hundred and fifty men locked in one room with nothing but a trowel and a goat. That *would* seem peculiar, I suppose, to a kiddie. Being a Mason, I always carry a sprig of acacia in my pocket in case of a funeral: I can divulge that. That many funerals in my book these days, I just about denuded the bush - I'll be sneaking into the Botanicals at night next! We carry a sprig of acacia and we drop it in the graveside, or on the casket if the festivities are up at the Springvale cremmie.

*The Life and Death of Sandy Stone* (p87), 1990.

Bro. Stone's Lodge met on a Thursday (see *Days of the Week*). Inquiries of UGLV have found no record of a Bro. Stone who fits the few biographical details available in the printed record. We know that he lived at Humoureske Street, Hartwell; Mont Albert; and *Kia Ora*, 36 Gallipoli Crescent, Glen Iris.

Alexander Horace (Sandy) Stone died on 7 April 1971 at his home in Glen Iris. He was not afforded a Masonic funeral. His regalia was kept on the top of the wardrobe in the main bedroom.

It is possible that Bro. Stone was a member of the Lodge of Hartwell No. 597, which met at the Canterbury Temple. It was formed in 1946 and returned its warrant in 1993. Other Lodges which met at Canterbury on a Thursday night were St Oswald 442, Ashburton 563, and Sir Francis Drake 770. The last is also a possibility as Bro. Stone was a bowler. Perhaps he was initiated in Lodge of Hartwell and later affiliated with Sir Francis Drake. None of these Lodges is still in existence, although St Oswald 442 is now The Ashwald Lodge, having consolidated with Ashburton 563, and kept the lowest number.

### **NOT TRUE STORIES**

Stop me if you've heard these, but they may be useful at a Christmas Festive Board ...

Two experienced Master Masons were enjoying a flight in a hot air balloon when suddenly a thick cloud formed between them and the ground. Being without instruments, after half an hour they realized that they were well and truly lost. A short time later they came across a large hole in the cloud and espied a gentleman below walking his dog across a field. They had time to exchange pleasantries and found that he too was a member of the Craft. The chaps in the balloon inquired of him as to their location and received the reply, "About 200 feet up in a balloon." Just then the cloud closed the hole and they were alone again. One turned to the other and said, "I bet he's the Secretary of his Lodge!" "Why do you say that?", the other asked. "Well what he has told us is absolutely true - but in our present predicament is totally useless!"

A new initiate returned home to his wife who is naturally curious to know what went on. The conversation went something like this:

She) Well, how'd it go?

He) Very well - most interesting.

She) What did go on?

He) I'm not really sure if I can tell you about it.

She) Well, is there anything you *can* tell me?

He) Well, it seems there are three classes of men in the Lodge - Walkers, Talkers and Holy men.

She) What do they do - if you can tell me?

He) The walkers walked me around the Lodge. The Talkers talked to me and to the Walkers as I was led around.

She) And the Holy men? What of them?

He) They seem to be a special class of men - all in dark blue and gold aprons and gauntlets. They just sit on the benches around the Lodge with their heads in their hands chanting repeatedly - "Oh My God! Oh My God!"

A man is walking through the recreation ground of his local park when he notices a huge fight in full fury on the football pitch. "What's going on?" he asks a spectator watching from the sidelines. The other replies "It's a match between the Masons and the Knights of the Southern Cross."

“What’s the score?” asks the first man.  
“I can’t tell you, it’s a secret.”

It seems that another Mason, Master of his Lodge, went to Heaven and met with St. Peter. He identified himself as a member of the Craft and St. Peter asked, “What Lodge?” Proudly the Master replied, “Lodge Federal Capital.” St. Peter immediately took him to the Masonic Clock Room. The Master, in puzzlement, looked around the room which was filled with clocks. Each clock had a Lodge’s name on a brass plate and, strangely enough, each clock was at a different time. He asked why and St. Peter informed him that the hands only moved when someone in that Lodge made a mistake in the Ritual. The Master then asked where his Lodge’s clock was as he couldn’t see it. St. Peter replied, “Why, it’s in the kitchen, of course.” “The kitchen,” said the Master? “Yes, you see, we needed a new fan.”