

A Resurgent Research Association Holds an Interesting Paper's Day

A resurgent meeting of the Buckinghamshire Association for Masonic Research (BAMR) was held at the Masonic Hall, Ripon Street, Aylesbury, on Saturday morning, 1st June. After the customary Annual General Meeting the Programme Secretary, WBro Brian Baker introduced each speaker commencing with WBro John Belton whose paper the "United Grand Lodge of England - The Story of the Moderns and Antients" that told the story of how the two rival Grand Lodges in England finally came together in 1813 after more than 60 years of animosity between the two. John was able to dispel many myths surrounding the unification which supported his fine book published earlier this year to coincide and commemorate the event.

Next up was Diane Clements, the Director of The Library and Museum of Freemasonry, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street in London who gave an illuminating presentation on how the Library and Museum can help with masonic research and family history. Remarkable to learn of the 60,000 books and 30,000 artefacts held within its fine repository, more information on which can be found at www.freemasonry.london.museum.

The final speaker was WBro Bill Dwyer who gave a thought-provoking presentation on the Side Degrees which covered 29 actively working degrees operating beyond the Craft.

Concluding with a lunch free of charge to attendees the meeting was regarded as highly successful ahead of the next Paper's Day which is to be held on Saturday, 12th October starting at 10.00 at the Masonic Centre, Queensway, Bletchley where some very entertaining and knowledgeable brethren will be presenting.

First will be WBro Brian Hilton on "Prince Hall Masonry – The Rise of Afro-American Masonry". This will be followed by a paper from WBro Dr. John Wade, a full member of Quatour Coronati Lodge No. 2078, the premier lodge of masonic research in the world who will speak on "Early Masonic Processions in England 18th to the 20th Centuries"

The final speaker is to be WBro Yasha Beresiner, a legendary presenter and masonic historian who will deliver his paper "200 years of the Holy Royal Arch" that supports his new publication and book due to be published in October 2013.

Membership of the BAMR is currently free, as is attendance at the meeting, which will have free refreshments, to confirming attendance ahead of the meeting. Most BAMR meetings are open to wives, partners and non-masons. Further details can be found on the BAMR web site, www.bamr.co.uk.

