

# BAMR Transactions Contents Summary

Details of the contents of most of the following volumes can be found below:

Vol 1	1991	printed 1991
Vol 2	1992	printed 1992
Vol 3	1993	printed 1994
Vol 4	1994	printed 1996
Vol 5	1995-6	printed 2001
Vol 6	1997-8	printed 2003
Vol 7	1999	printed 2000
Vol 8	2000	printed 2002
Vol 9	2001	printed 2004
Vol 10	2006	printed 2007
Vol 11	2007	printed 2008
Vol 12	2008	Planned for Oct 09 (details awaited)

(Volumes for 2002-5 are being issued progressively)

## Notes:

1. The Masonic ranks recorded below are usually those at the time a paper was presented.
2. Full copies of the Transactions and / or some of the papers can be requested via the BAMR Secretary.

Updated – 14 Sept 2009

## Volume 1

### **A Type of Masonic Enactment**

*Original script by W.Bro. Peter W. Racey, P.J.G.D.*

#### *Introduction*

*An Interviewer interviews Masonic Characters who were very influential during the years 1750 to 1813. These were the years of the Great Schism in Freemasonry when England had two Grand Lodges, the Antients and the Moderns. The former were known as the 'Atholl Masons' and it is their members who are to be interviewed.*

#### ***Dramatis Personae***

*Mr James Hagarty.*

*Bro. Laurence Dermott.*

*Bro. William Dickey.*

*His Grace the Fourth Duke of Atholl.*

*Bro. Thomas Harper.*

*Bro. Robert Leslie.*

*This enactment is based on modern TV. Techniques, a paper or lecture presented in a theatrical manner.*

### **The Grand Lodge Library and Archives**

*This paper was presented by John Hamill at a meeting of the BAMR at the Aylesbury Masonic Centre on 5 March 1991*

*John Hamill was Initiated Into the Tuscan Lodge, Wallsend in 1970. A native of Northumberland, he studied History and Fine Arts gaining his BA. from Oxford. After a short spell at the Gateshead Public Library, he entered service as an Assistant Librarian at Grand Lodge In 1971 and took over the Grand Lodge Library In 1983, succeeding W. Bro. Terry Haunch.*

*In 1986, in what was Its Centenary Year, he became the youngest ever Worshipful Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, the Premier Lodge of Masonic Research.*

*His book 'The Craft' which gives an account of the history of our order was published in 1985 and is available to the public.*

*Alter presenting his paper, John Hamill spent a considerable time answering questions from the floor, on an extensive range of Masonic subjects, which further demonstrated his considerable depth of Masonic knowledge. The brethren of the Association expressed their appreciation for all his time and trouble/n attending, as a guest speaker.*

### **The Masonic Half Penny Token**

*by The Young Craftsman.*

There was no review for this piece.

### **The Master Mason At Arms**

*by W. Bro. Frederick Smyth PPJGW (Devonshire), LGA.*

*Past Master Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076*

*This paper was the Prestonian Lecture for 1990 and was presented by Freddie Smyth at a meeting of the BAMR sponsored by Marlow Lodge No. 2752 on 19th September 1990.*

*Freddie Smyth's Masonic career spans nearly 50 years. He was initiated Into the Lodge Devon No. 1999 at Jullundur, India, (English Constitution) In 1943. This lodge was formed in 1883 by masons serving In the Devonshire regiment. Since then he has been Worshipful Master of the Hazara Lodge No. 4 159 (ex-India), the Connaught Army & Navy Lodge No. 4323 arid the Old Extonian Lodge No. 4500. He is a Past Provincial J.G.W. and holds London Grand Rank.*

*Additionally he has Past Honours in Scotland and Germany but it is in the field of Masonic literary work that he has gained an international reputation. He was instrumental in revising two excellent reference books by Fred Pick and Norman Knight; "The Pocket History of Freemasonry" and "The Freemason's Pocket Reference Book".*

*He was elected a Full Member of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, the Premier Lodge of Masonic Research in the world and became its Master/n 1979. He is also a Member and Fellow of the American Lodge of Research in New York.*

### **The Origins And History Of The Lodge Summons**

*This paper pre-dates the establishment of the Association, but is fundamental to its existence and well-being. For it arises from a natural curiosity in a mason to enquire further about the order which he has Joined. A simple question leading to a wealth of interest and information.*

*Brian Baker lives in Buckingham and belongs to Manor of Swanburn Lodge, meeting at Bletchley in the north of the Province. He has an enthusiasm for masonry, and the happy talent of communicating that to others. When the Association was formally constituted he was a natural choice to be Programme and Research Secretary. He has developed a varied programme of meetings, and supported those conducting their own researches.*

*In this he is undoubtedly qualified, as the winner of the prestigious Norman B. Spencer Award for 1989. This is an open competition organised by the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, and setting very high standards.*

*We were all delighted when Brian was recently invested as Provincial Grand Steward at the Bucks Provincial Meeting.*

**Tim Hancock**

**William Preston and the Prestonian Lecture**

*by Bro. Brian Baker*

There was no review for this piece.

## Volume 2

### **John Studholme Brownrigg**

by W. Bro. Bob Dunbabin

*This lecture, about one of the most remarkable Buckinghamshire Masons, was first given to the Buckinghamshire Masters Lodge No. 3305. It was on a steamy July afternoon at Slough when the thermometer was rocketing upwards. Despite the unpleasant heat, Bro. Bob Dunbabin's delivery was such that he held the attention of every brother present.*

*Bro. Bob had collected together an interesting array of artefacts connected with Rev. Brownrigg's life. These were displayed, and explained, in the ante-room, forming a most interesting exhibition.*

*Bob Dunbabin had been initiated in St. Peter and St. Paul's Lodge No. 1410, at Wolverton, in 1955. He was a leading light at the Wolverton centre, and involved with the museum there. He was the author of the recent centenary history of the Royal Arch in Buckinghamshire, and a former Provincial Second Principal.*

*Bob was a founding member of the Research Association and provided much help and encouragement to the younger brethren. In April, despite the poor state of his health, he went to Grand Lodge to be invested as Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. It was with much sadness that we learnt of his death a few weeks later.*

*Bob will be a great loss to the Association, and to Masonry in Wolverton and Buckinghamshire. It is to be hoped that his memory will live on through his work, and the printed words on these next pages.*

### **The Two Brotherhoods**

By W. Bro. Brian Hilton

*On November 5th 1991 the Association presented the first evening of papers by its own members. Brian Hilton commenced proceedings with his talk on Masonry and Scouting. It was interesting to note that all but one of those present had, at one time, been a member of the Scout movement.*

*Brian enlivened his presentation by wearing the uniform of a Scout Commissioner. His khaki uniform was topped off with an imposing hat. The beads round his neck included one given by Baden-Powell to Chief Dinulzulu in 1888.*

*Brian has been a member of the Scout Movement since 1939. In those 53 years he has held many appointments, and been a member of the General Purposes Committee at Scout Headquarters.*

*Masonically, he acts as secretary to the Provincial Executive meetings. He was initiated in Burke Lodge No. 6154, meeting in Marlow, in 1966. Despite his mere 27 years as a freemason we are delighted to record that he was appointed Past Assistant Grand Superintendent of Vforks at Grand Lodge this April.*

### **Early Masonry in Aylesbury**

by W. Bro. Tim Hancock

*This talk was first given at the Members' Papers Evening in November 1991. It was delivered, appropriately, at the Masonic Hall, Ripon St., Aylesbury; the first self-contained Masonic hall in the Province. The hall itself was part of the story of the development of Masonry in Aylesbury.*

*The lecture has now been given three times. Firstly, on November 5th, when there were fireworks. Secondly, to the Buckinghamshire Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge, on which occasion there was a torrential downpour of rain. Thirdly, to the Bucks Masters Lodge in July, when, according to the Master, W Bro. Joe Small, there was "much hot air".*

*Despite these elemental hazards, it is hoped that the lecture will cast some light. It concerns the development of Masonry in Aylesbury in particular, and in Buckinghamshire, in general.*

### **The Beaconsfield Centre Master's Chair**

By W. Bro. Malcom Bird

*Brethren may be interested in the history of the elaborately carved Master's Chair in use at the Beaconsfield Centre. Whilst not an 'ancient' artefact, it may one day offer up some interesting (perhaps surprising) information.*

*The Chair was presented, in 1940, to the late Worshipful Brother H.S. Groom, PAGDC, PPGW on his attainment of the First Principal's Chair in the Misbourne Chapter No. 3375. The Chair was used by the Chapter at the Gerrards Cross Centre until it became dilapidated, scuffed, scratched and with a collapsing seat it was relegated to an ante room, where it continued to deteriorate. Successive Tylers used it until by 1975 it rested in a dusty corner under a pile of old bits and pieces of Lodge furniture and regalia. In that year someone, clearing out the junk, drew attention to the chair, now lacking a seat, and suggested throwing it out. Fortunately an alternative was offered by the late Worshipful Brother R.H. Archer, PPAGDC who offered to repair it.*

*Worshipful Brother Archer had recently retired after a lifetime in the furniture business and had lost none of his skills as a craftsman. I helped him move the Chair to his home, where he had a small workshop, and Worshipful Brother Archer rolled up his sleeves. In September 1975 the chair, now expertly refurbished, was restored to the Misbourne Centre and placed in position for the Master of the Misbourne Lodge to use at any Installation Meeting.*

*It was on that evening that Worshipful Brother Groom told me of the first years of the Chair's life and Worshipful Brother Archer added some information of his own. Apparently, when making a new seat, he had enclosed within it some contemporary items. One, he told me, was a summons for my Installation Meeting. He did not disclose the nature of the other items, so we must wait until a new seat is once more again needed before Worshipful Brother Archer's secrets come to light.*

## **Freemasons at War**

*by W. Bro. Keith Flynn O.B.E.*

### **Introduction**

*It is nearly fifty years since the echo of the last gun faded from the battlefields of the Second World War. And today talk of blitzes, rationing, flying bombs and blackout finds no relevance, they are things long passed.*

*War memorials, once focal points of high emotion are now but linked to a landmark on the calendar, while today's imagination fails completely to comprehend the depredation of the terrors, tears and tribulations which at once polluted yet glorified the Forties.*

*Only those who were there will remember the sound of a falling bomb; the death groans of a sinking ship; the desolation of life in a prison camp; the sudden rending loss of loved ones, or, on the other side of the coin, the abundant daily evidence of outstanding courage, self sacrifice and determination.*

*It was everybody's war. Unlike its predecessor, whose obscenities were borne largely by a generation of innocent young men in the mud of Flanders, this war came into the home. No man, woman or child was unaffected.*

*It was a time of testing of fortitude and character and it was a time of examination of faith and dedication. It was too a time of great camaraderie and an acute awareness of brotherhood; it was a time of great eventfulness, now all but forgotten.*

*Very soon the events of those dark days will have outstripped living memory and if posterity is to be aware of the great contribution made by Freemasonry to the fight for freedom then of necessity its record must be pinned in time, so that those who have yet to come may follow an indelible trace that the unfolding years may illuminate.*

*And though the record is not complete there is however enough material available to present a collage of events, accounts and attitudes of the day, to enable us to glimpse a view of the whole, to feel the pulse of the time.*

*This then is the story of the men, who despite immense difficulties and dangers kept the Lodges open and active during the six long years of war. It is the story of the men of the Craft who fought the enemy in distant places and it is the story of those who never returned.*

*It is something we should never forget.*

### **Giving and Getting Masonic Knowledge**

*by W. Bro. Harry Mendoza*

*This talk was given at the June meeting of the Association in 1991. A large number of brethren came to the Masonic Centre at Bletchley to hear Bro. Harry Mendoza deliver his paper.*

*This was an updated version of the original paper, which was the Prestonian Lecture for 1984. An unofficial reading had been given in the Province on April 3rd 1984, under the auspices of the Fairway Lodge of Instruction No. 8614.*

*Harry Mendoza is a past master of Quatuor Coronati No. 2076, the premier Lodge of research. He has been a member of the editorial team for AQC, and a regular contributor. For many years he has been a member of the General Purposes Committee of Supreme Grand Chapter.*

*Although not a Buckinghamshire Mason, Harry lives within the Province, at Amersham. We trust that, despite his busy schedule, he will be able to attend some of our meetings.*

# Volume 3

## **The Role of Bibliography in Masonic Research**

*By Bro. Bob Gilbert*

*On June 2nd 1992 the Association held a meeting at Aylesbury at which we were pleased to welcome Bro. Bob Gilbert. He is a member of the prestigious Quatuor Coronati Lodge, and a well-known masonic researcher and speaker. He and John Hamill, Grand Lodge Librarian, have recently collaborated on the magnificent book "Freemasonry - A Celebration of the Craft". Bro. Bob was able to give us a pre-publication insight into this book and the problems and successes of its production.*

*Bob Gilbert studied philosophy and psychology at Bristol University in the 1960's. He went on to run an antiquarian book business in the city.*

*He was interested in freemasonry from an early stage, and researched into the Craft for some time before becoming a member. He was initiated into a West Country lodge, and has since joined a number of other masonic degrees and orders. At the BAMR meeting Bro. Gilbert talked to the title of "Bibliography in Masonic Research". I say "talked to the title", because the evening was not merely a repeat delivery of Bro. Bob's paper of the same name (AQC vol. 103). Rather it was a fascinating discourse on the topic by an expert in his field. With little recourse to his notes he covered a wide historical span, speaking with conviction and knowledge. The presentation was enlivened with frequent anecdotes, interspersed with Bro. Bob's own strongly held beliefs. The starting point of the lecture was that bibliography is far more than a mere cataloguing of books. The contents of a book are, of course, important to the reader and especially the researcher. However, so much of additional value can be learned from the nature of the book itself. The production of any book depends upon its publisher. Its contents and appearance will be dictated by him, his attitudes, and the audience which he intends to reach. Bro. Bob discussed the publication of Stephen Knight's hostile book "The Brotherhood".*

## **Freemasonry in Malta**

**by W. Bro. D J Peck Prov.G.Stwd. (Buckinghamshire)**

### **Foreword**

*As with most other aspects of life on the Maltese Islands, the subject of the birth there of Freemasonry, its development over more than three centuries and its status today, affords a fascinating field for the enquiring mind.*

*This paper attempts to draw together the more important events that have shaped Freemasonry in Malta and to provide the basis for further study. This review concentrates on English Freemasonry, although it should be noted that both Scottish and Irish Constitution Freemasonry now exist in the Islands.*

*The Author has been a regular visitor to the Islands since 1972 and whilst he has visited the Masonic Hall, in Valletta, on many occasions, he has only been able to attend one actual Lodge meeting. This was the consecration of the Count Roger of Normandy Lodge, the circumstances of which will be dealt with later in this paper.*

*This paper has been in preparation for some years and a very much shorter version was presented in the Haddenham Lodge, in Buckinghamshire, in 1988. The current version of the paper is derived from an illustrated lecture, given in two parts to the Buckinghamshire Association for Masonic Research in 1992, which was supported by 100 slides and view foils plus extracts from some audio tapes. Space is not available here to include all these illustrations, hence only the more significant are included.*

*The author has, over the last few years, been given invaluable help by a Maltese Mason. Unfortunately due to the difficulties being experienced by Freemasons in Malta, the author feels it is not advisable to use his name in this document, but rather to refer to him as "My Maltese Associate", MMA for short. MMA has prepared a paper entitled 'The Genesis of Freemasonry in Malta 1730 - 1843'. MMA reads Latin and Italian and has had access to many of the Maltese document archives, hence he has been able to provide a new insight into the origins of Freemasonry in Malta.*

*The paper by MMA is still unpublished: the author of this paper is assisting MMA with its publication and it is hoped that it will be published shortly. Access to MMA's paper and the very willing and helpful assistance provided to the author by MMA, during visits to Malta, in July of 1991 and 1992, has greatly speeded the completion of this paper. Much of the new material, to which this paper refers, is based on sources very willingly identified to the author by MMA; for this help the author is extremely grateful.*

### **A Short History of Freemasons**

compiled by W.Bro. Bill Dwyer

*This paper is a resume of the address given by W. Bro. Rev. John R. Bennion at the Province of Buckinghamshire's 275th Thanksgiving Service on 28th June 1992 and is based on the notes he left.*

*I have endeavoured to maintain the sequence, style and content of the original address wherever possible.*

*W.Bro. Rev. John Bennion was a minister of the Church for 53 years and a Freemason for 41 years. He stated, at the Thanksgiving service:-*

*"Never have I found any contradiction between the two, but rather accord and agreement. For all those reason I have outlined this afternoon, there is no need for Freemasons to make excuses for themselves, because they belong to a fine and worthy society. With its origins, its history, its developments, its aims, its practical achievements and so on, Freemasonry is surely the best possible ally and handmaid that the Church could have in its work of proclaiming the Gospel, and fighting against sin in the world and the Devil".*

*W.Bro. Rev. John Bennion died suddenly on 29th July 1992, and it is to his memory, and the contribution he gave to Freemasonry in Buckinghamshire, that this paper is dedicated.*

### **A Demonstration of a Lodge Meeting Including the Making of a Mason in Costume of the Period 1790.**

*A Resume by Bro. Bernard Frow.*

*The BAMR's first open meeting of 1993 was held at the Masonic Hall Aylesbury on the 2nd of March. A large number of Brethren came to see "The Making of a Mason" by the William Cobbett Demonstration Team circa 1790 in period dress. It was hosted by Buckingham Lodge No. 591 L.O.I. The William Cobbett team was introduced by W.Bro J. Small, P.J.G.D. The team's Worshipful Master for the evening was W.Bro. Noel Thorne. The performance was of par excellence and would have given credit to a professional group of Thespian players. It was very obvious that the subject had been well researched by all. The team portrayed a lodge meeting in a room above an Inn, at the end of the 18th Century. To make the evening as near to realistic as possible all lights were extinguished save those candles lit by the team. It will be appreciated that electric lighting had not been invented in those days. A ceremony of initiation was to be enacted. This was unlike our present day ceremony, as it was conducted round the festive board, which was laid out in an L shape. The evening commenced with the entrance of the Tyler, who was responsible for setting out the lodge and notifying the brethren of the meeting, by delivering their summons. Being somewhat weary from carrying the evenings beverages, the Tyler promptly sampled them, to ensure they had not suffered from travelling. The food comprising of cheese and cake. It became very apparent, as the evening proceeded, that Mason's in those days lived up to the saying "and a good time was had by all". They most certainly would not have passed the current drink/drive laws. The rest of the lodge members duly arrived, opening the lodge was not as is today but more by the Worshipful Masters command. When the candidate is reported present, the Master calls his Wardens together and they "draw the Lodge". That is they delineated certain symbols on a blank tracing board. The brethren are then called to form themselves and the lodge is ready. The merits of the candidate were discussed by the proposer and other members of the lodge, being judged as worthy he was admitted, hooded by a blanket. The ceremony continued the initiate suffering much abuse from the members as he was pushed and shoved round the room. However if the brethren stepped to far out of line fines were imposed by the Worshipful Master. The team were thanked at the end of the demonstration as were the Buckingham LOI for hosting the evening. The charity box was circulated which raised the sum of almost £300.00. Since the team had been formed it had enacted a great number of demonstrations and drunk quite a lot of well watered wine along with cheese and cakes. Over this period the team has helped to raised over £100,000*



*for charity. The host lodge is asked to designate charities of its choice. This evening the recipients were The New Masonic Samaritans Fund and The Buckinghamshire Provincial Centenary Fund. The members of the team changed from time to time as it is a tiring process keeping up the work. The wives of the team also play a vital role in helping with costumes. For those brethren who have not seen such a demonstration I must commend them to do so at the first opportunity, it is a splendid evenings entertainment at the same time being very instructive.*

### **Prestonian Lecture 1992 - Masonry Pure and Applied**

*The BAMR was indeed honoured by Grand Lodge (with, we suspect, a little help from a senior Mason in the Province) in being assigned one of only three official presentations of the 1992 Prestonian Lecture. We are also indebted to the Buckinghamshire Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge No. 9222 for sponsoring the meeting and to their team for organising the event and the many detailed arrangements necessary for the smooth running of the whole evening. The lecture was given on Monday, 7th September 1992 at Hazells Hall, Aylesbury, Bucks at an extraordinary meeting of the Buckinghamshire Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge. The lecture was entitled "Masonry Pure and Applied" and presented by V. W. Bro., The Rev. Dr. Michael Morgan, PGChap. The meeting was very well attended by nearly 200 members and guests, it was followed by a Festival Board also held at Hazells Hall. All present were fascinated by the ancient and modern themes expressed in the lecture and appreciated the excellent way in which it was delivered.*

*V.W. Bro. Michael Morgan was initiated into the 'Semper Frat Res' Lodge in 1963 and subsequently joined 'Domus Dei Lodge' Portsmouth in 1970, becoming Master of the Lodge in 1976, he was promoted to Provincial Senior Grand Warden of Hants and Isle of Wight and then Assistant Provincial Grand Master of the Province. He was appointed Grand Chaplain in 1984/1985. V.W. Bro. Michael is the Grand Superintendent of Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Provincial Grand Mark Master, Provincial Prior for KT and Grand Prior Supreme Council 33rd Degree. An impressive record of commitment to Freemasonry.*

*In his professional life, Michael became a lay reader in 1963 and was ordained into the ministry in 1974. He was currently Head of Mathematics and Science Department at Portsmouth College and is currently a tutor of Mathematics, Theoretical Physics and Astronomy at the Open University.*

*V.W. Bro. Michael's presentation was very well received by all who attended the meeting and although it is reproduced here, in part, for your reading pleasure, unfortunately, we cannot reproduce the masterly way it was presented.*

*Space within the Transaction limits our ability to reproduced the full presentation. However, V.W.Bro. Michael has consented to the BAMR reproducing the first part of his lecture within these Transactions, for which the Association is very grateful.*

*In addition to the discussion of Pure Masonry, contained in the first part of V.W. Bro. Michael's paper, in his full lecture, under the heading of Applied Masonry, he presents a fascinating account of his 20 day and over 1700 mile bicycle ride around more than 60 English Cathedral.*

*His full lecture has been printed in a most interesting booklet, proceeds from the sale of which will benefit the RMBI.*

# Volume 4

## **History of the Three Degrees of Ritual**

by W. Bro. Neville A. Joseph, PAGDC

*Following on from the BAMR AGM, held at the Aylesbury Masonic Hall on Saturday 15th January 1994, W. Bro. Neville A. Joseph delivered a fascinating lecture in which he examined the history and origins for the three degrees in English Craft Masonry*

## **The Rise and Development of the London Grand Rank Association**

By W. Bro. Glen Howells

*W. Bro. Glen Howells' very informative paper was delivered at a BAMR meeting held at Bletchley on Tuesday, 21 June 1994. The LGR Association and W. Bro. Howells have granted the BAMR approval to reproduce part of a LGRA publication (LGRA 105 Revised January 1994) in this issue of the Transactions. This summary provides an overview of W. Bro. Howells' presentation and further expands on the work of the LGRA.*

## **Freemasonry in Malta - Part 2**

by W. Bro. David J Peck, PPGStwd

*Part 1 of this paper, which covered the development of Masonry in Malta up to 1815, was published in Volume 3 of the BAMR Transactions. The complete paper has been published as a separate document, which can be obtained from the author. Any profit from the sale of this publication will be given to the Buckinghamshire 1999 Grand Charity Festival.*

*Since the original publication of the full paper and of Volume 3 of the Transactions a most interesting booklet entitled "The Genesis of Freemasonry in Malta (1730 - 1843) by A.J. Agius has been published in Malta. The BAMR Editorial Team provided some assistance to Dr Agius in the production of this booklet.*

## **Report on Members' Papers Evening**

*held at Aylesbury Masonic Hall on 18th October 1994.*

by W. Bro. David J Peck & W. Bro. John Zammit

*The two papers presented during the evening had been respectively researched and prepared by Bro. Nigel Beaven whose paper was entitled "The Lodge" and Bro. Colin Hancock whose paper was entitled "A brief history on the Developments of Rituals in English Freemasonry". Both papers are here summarised by W. Bro John Zammit.*

# Volume 5

## **Concept to Consecration**

by W.Bro. Ken Lyster, PPSGW, SLGR

*In the beginning, curiosity. This led over a number of years to attendance at many Lodge meetings and Degree Ceremonies worked in a variety of Rituals, mostly performed to an excellent standard. However many of those meetings lacked what may be described as an important, if not vital, element. Whilst each Candidate is told of many things that are important to all Freemasons, he is seldom if indeed ever, given anything but a very brief explanation of the many and varied facets of Masonic Ritual. The symbolism and the historical significance of the ceremonies are not often explained either, so that as the newly made Mason takes each step to the Master Masons Degree he does not, unfortunately, become more knowledgeable about the Craft and the Institution of which he is now a member. Indeed he may possibly be more confused unless his Lodge has a senior Brother who is able to answer questions, thus avoiding the new made Mason remaining in a state of ignorance and error for many years.*

*So the decision was made to take whatever opportunity occurred to research and present in a lucid form short papers. These could be based on the practical aspects of Masonic Ritual and go some way to redressing that imbalance; together with those Masonic matters which would be of general interest to members of the Craft and The Royal Arch.*

*In Buckinghamshire the opportunity did occur, and after some years of quiet “back-room” work on the structure of an embryo organisation, a number of like minded Brethren were recruited. Many of those Brethren are Founders of the Lodge today.*

*A meeting was convened at Aylesbury on the 22nd April 1989 by the Provincial Grand Secretary which was chaired by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, V.W.Bro. Eric J. Deung. The Buckinghamshire Association for Masonic Research was officially formed and received the blessing of our then Provincial Grand Master, the late Lord Burnham, who became the first Patron of the Association.*

*Great enthusiasm and hard work by many willing Brethren during the subsequent six years, has led to the ceremony that you witness today. We would like to think that we have, at least in part, lived up to the motto we adopted on our incorporation: “To Inform & Educate”. Papers have been presented both at our meetings and to several Lodges in the Province, and in 1992 the Association was granted one of the official Prestonian Lectures.*

*Most of all our thanks go to the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Eric J. Deung, and the Provincial Executive for the approval to found this Lodge, and with whose support we can perhaps, truly say that we have “come of age” in travelling the road from “Concept to Consecration”.*

## **Consecration of the BLMR No. 9585**

by W.Bro. Nigel Beaven, ProvSGD

*In the average dictionary, the word research is defined by words along the lines:*

*A systematic investigation to establish and discover facts and / or principles.*

*A Thesaurus gives the following:*

*To analyse, to delve, to find facts, to investigate, to study, to inquire and finally to explore.*

*The Provincial Grand Secretary convened a meeting at Aylesbury on the 22nd April 1989. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, V.W.Bro Eric J. Deung chaired that meeting. The ‘Buckinghamshire Association for Masonic Research’ was officially formed and received the blessing of our then Provincial Grand Master, the late Lord Burnham, who became the first Patron of the Association.*

*From an initial membership of approx. 20 the membership had grown to approximately 60 by early 1991. The end of 1991 had seen a Library established in the Aylesbury Centre. By now we were being involved in Open Days and being featured in the Provincial Newsletter on a fairly regular basis. In 1992 the Association was granted one of the official Prestonian Lectures. In 1993 a member of the Association gave a Lecture to the Bucks Genealogical Society. The District Grand Master of Germany made contact*

*with the Association in the same year following a member 's paper on Malta.*

*The Association, which led to the founding of the Lodge, had grown to approx. 150 by the time of the consecration.*

*Great enthusiasm and hard work by many willing Brethren during the subsequent six years, has led to the ceremony that was witnessed at Sindlesham. The attendance was near 200 Masons from all over the World.*

*The largest distance travelled to attend our Consecration was in fact an American Brother who has many contacts in Buckinghamshire due to the last World War. W.Bro. Jim Joplin travelled from the West Coast of the USA to present the Master's Gavel to W.Bro. Ken Lyster. So started a contact with the Lodge (as opposed to the Association) which Jim keeps to this day! Even though his health is not as good as it was he still keeps in touch with many members of the Lodge. We are told that he fondly remembers that day at Sindlesham he was presented to our Consecrating Officer R.W.Bro. Eric Deung who spent a long time talking to Bro. Jim.*

*One of the highlights of the day was V.W. Bro. Roy Fender's explanation of the "Working Tools of the Three Degrees", this is followed to this day faithfully in the same style at every Installation.*

*Looking back now when writing this we had a great day, seems a long time ago now but, we were well and truly wrought!*

### ***Freemasonry Why? When? Where?***

*by W.Bro. Ken Lyster, PPGSW, SLGR*

*Ken Lyster is the eminence grise of the BAMR and the founding Master of the Buckinghamshire Lodge for Masonic Research No. 9585. It was Ken's inspiration and dedication which lead to the formation of the Association in 1989. As its President he worked tirelessly to advance the Association's motto "To Inform and Educate".*

*When the decision was made to form a Lodge Ken was the clear choice to be the first Master. He worked with customary diligence to ensure that the BLMR had the smoothest of starts, and under him it rapidly established an enviable reputation.*

*It was Ken's idea that each Master of the Lodge should present a paper on the night of his Installation. In fact, the Consecration day was too long to allow this in April 1995, so the inaugural paper was delivered at the next meeting of the Lodge on 17th June 1995. It sets out a number of important questions and points the reader towards some answers, whilst encouraging him to think through the issues for himself.*

*Ken was a London Mason but lived locally at Marlow. In 1981 he joined the Province of Buckinghamshire when he became a founder of Marlow Valley Lodge No. 8974. He served as Master in 1983, and in 1989 was appointed Provincial Grand Registrar. In 1996 he was promoted to PPSGW and the following year became one of a very few distinguished brethren to be awarded the Provincial Grand Master's Certificate of Service to Freemasonry in Buckinghamshire.*

*Having retired and moved to France, Ken has now stepped down from office. We thank him for his unstinting efforts and sterling service. To mark its gratitude the BAMR elected him an Honorary Life President at the AGM in 2000.*

### ***Brother Elizabeth (The Honourable Elizabeth Aldworth)***

*by W.Bro. John Zammit, PPJGD, LGR*

*John Zammit was one of the first Joining Members of the BLMR in June 1995. He was in action at the next meeting, on 18th November 1995, delivering his interesting paper on Elizabeth St. Ledger, the lady freemason.*

*John was Initiated into Wanderers Lodge No. 1604, meeting at Great Queen Street, in 1967. He served as Master in 1984 and 1999 and has been honoured with London Grand Rank. In Buckinghamshire, he was the founding Charity Steward of Frederick Lawson Lodge No. 9185 (named after the father of our current*

PGM) in 1986. He has also served as Treasurer, and is currently Lodge Secretary. He was appointed PPGStB in 1994 and promoted to PPJGD in 1999.

John's professional skills as an accountant have been put to good use. He has served as Treasurer for both the Lodge and Association, and has ensured that our finances are on a good footing. Indeed, the Editor is grateful that he has no need to worry about finding funds to pay for the printing of the Transactions.

John expresses his thanks to the Board of General Purposes, the Library staff at Freemasons' Hall and Quator Coronati Lodge No. 2076 for permission to quote in his lecture from their documents and publications. He is also grateful to his wife Phyllis for assistance with the poems. Furthermore, it is John's enthusiasm for Phyllis to join in his research activities which has encouraged both the BAMR and BLMR to invite ladies, where appropriate, to lectures and Festive Boards.

### **Mediaeval Masons**

by W.Bro. Vivian Brewer, PPGSwdB, PPJGW(Herts)

This paper was delivered at the BAMR AGM in January 1996. This was the last occasion on which the AGM was held as a separate meeting. Subsequently, the AGM has taken place on the date of a Lodge meeting, with the Lodge called off and the Association President (or Chairman) invited to conduct the AGM.

Viv Brewer was educated at Sir William Borlase School, Marlow. Following the end of the Second World War and the return of many Old Boys from active service, the Headmaster decided to found a Lodge as a sign of hope for his former pupils. Hence, the Borlase Lodge No. 6216 was consecrated in March 1946. Viv was Initiated in 1957, and served as Master in 1973. He was a long standing organist for the Lodge, and a familiar and cheery figure in the organ loft.

Viv was the founding First Principal of Thames Schools' Chapter No. 6216 in 1983. The Chapter was set up to serve the members of the Old Boys' Lodges in the area; namely, Borlase, Old Wycombiensian (Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe) and Norman Arches (Hampden Grammar School, High Wycombe).

Viv was also active in Hertfordshire Masonry, notably in the Royal Arch. He was First Principal of Kingswood Chapter No. 2278, meeting at Hertingfordbury, in 1976 and 1989. He had served Hertfordshire as Provincial Grand Organist, Provincial Grand 3rd Principal and Provincial Grand 2nd Principal. Sadly, he passed away before he could be installed as Deputy Grand Superintendent for Hertfordshire.

His untimely death is a sad loss for Buckinghamshire and for the Association. He will be much missed.

### **“Good Brethren”, Our Purpose is to Tell**

by W.Bro. Tony Batters, PPGReg

This paper was delivered to the Lodge on 16th March 1996 at the Bletchley Centre. A wide range of material was covered and, to set the right mood, Tony Batters was dressed as a monk for the presentation.

**Good Brethren** is actually the title of a Roadshow, a lecture on Masonic history, given by Tony Batters and Dan Bryant under the aliases of brothers Blackadder and Baldrick. If these names sound familiar, Tony confesses to being an expert plagiarist and reaper of other people's efforts. He modestly admits to never having made any original discovery himself, and claims:-

“if we have anything to bring members of this Association, it can only be the manner of our presentation. We hope to show a flavour of it to you today, not to educate, but to demonstrate. Although we are both proud to be members of the B.A.M.R., you may afterwards think that in our case, B.A.R.M.Y. would be more appropriate!”

*He continued "The aims of our Roadshow are to teach Brethren about Masonic history, to raise money for Masonic charity, and to make it fun." The full material is available in a booklet which can be purchased from Tony Batters.*

*Tony joined Denham Lodge in 1978, in the days when it met at the Masonic Hall, Gerrards Cross. He served as Master in 1988, by which time the Lodge had found a new home at the Licensed Victuallers National Homes in Denham. He took office as ADC, and in 1994 was appointed PPGSuptWks. Tony then moved to DC and in 1999 was promoted to PPGReg. He has recently become Lodge Secretary for Denham, and they have moved their meeting place yet again to the Buckinghamshire Golf Club at Denham.*

*Despite his modest statements above, Tony continues to be very interested and active in matters Masonic. In January 1998 he gave a very interesting and stimulating talk to the BAMR on the topic of "The Dead Sea Scrolls and Earliest Freemasons".*

### **A Short History of Freemasonry in Marlow**

*by W.Bro. Tom Butler, PAGDC, PPSGW*

*On the 15th June 1996 the BLMR held its first Installation Meeting when Ken Lyster, the Founding Master, Installed Tom Butler in the Chair of King Solomon. As is now customary Tom delivered his lecture on the day of his Installation. His topic was the development of the Marlow Centre from the early days of Masonry in the town in 1899.*

*Tom had been Secretary, and Membership Secretary, of the Association and had worked hard to give the BAMR a good start. When the Lodge was formed he was an obvious choice to be Senior Warden. The merits of continuity from Senior Warden to Master have since been re-discovered and, although not a progressive Lodge, future Masters will previously serve as Senior Warden.*

*Tom Butler was Initiated by his father-in-law in Marlow Lodge No. 2752 on 13th March 1953. He served as Master in 1968 and afterwards supported the Lodge in a variety of ways, including holding office as Secretary Director of Ceremonies and Chaplain*

*In 1981 Tom was the Founding Master of Marlow Valley Lodge No. 8974. He also belongs to Marlow Chapter No. 2752 and Bourne End Chapter NO. 7943. In addition, Tom has been Secretary of the Marlow Centre at various times between 1974 and 1998. His service to freemasonry in Marlow has been outstanding and his knowledge has been put to good use in this paper.*

*In 1993 Tom was appointed PAGDC in recognition of many years of dedication to Freemasonry in Marlow and Buckinghamshire. We now look forward to celebrating his 50 years in Masonry in 2003.*

### **Brethren and Comrades United - The Initiation of an Airline Pilot**

*by W.Bro Alan Watkins, ProvSGW*

*This talk was given at the BAMR Papers Meeting on 18th January 1997. It is a fascinating insight into a Past Masters' meeting in Haddenham Lodge No. 8944. The author has chosen to preserve the anonymity of those taking part. However, as a regular visitor to Haddenham Lodge in those days, the Editor recognises most of the guilty parties! He is amazed and impressed by the fascinating background and history of those taking part in the ceremony. What a wealth of experience and talent was brought together for this Initiation.*

*Alan Watkins was a serving Royal Air Force Officer from 1955 to 1987, and was a serving Wing Commander at the time of his own Initiation in 1984. He has subsequently worked in the aerospace industry, and has now retired from paid employment. He has edited a magazine for former RAF Aircrew comrades, and has been in the forefront of moves to persuade the Ministry of Defence that Masonry and Service life are not incompatible.*

*Alan took ten years to reach the Chair in Haddenham Lodge, serving as Master in 1994. Following a year as Assistant Secretary, he has been Lodge Secretary since 1997. In October 2000 he was appointed Provincial Senior Grand Warden and is an active representative at Installation Meetings in the Province.*

*At the Consecration of BLMR Alan combined the roles of Secretary of the BAMR with that of Assistant Secretary of the Lodge. His administrative skills were put to good use as the Association showed steady increases in membership. He is currently Senior Warden of BLMR and we look forward to his Installation, and further research, in June 2001.*

### **A brief history and explanation on the different rituals and workings in Craft Freemasonry** by W.Bro Colin Hancock

*Colin Hancock was an early supporter of BAMR and served as Secretary soon after its formation. He was a founding member of the Lodge and has taken office as Steward on a number of occasions. Perhaps an appropriate office for one with Colin's many skills - including catering and bar work!*

*The topic which he has set himself here is fascinating and wide-ranging. Many a Mason has pondered on the differences in workings when visiting other Lodges. Few will have realised quite the variety which exists or the way in which they have developed. A potentially vast topic is here clearly outlined and well explained. Colin expresses thanks to Ken Lyster, our Life President, and the earlier work of a Brother, with the initials JCK, of Pharos Lodge No. 5594.*

*This lecture is an important element of Volume 5 of the Transactions. It was first delivered to a BAMR meeting at Aylesbury on 18th October 1994. It points backwards to Volume 4, which contained a brief report of the occasion. In mentioning the development of the ritual it also points forwards to items on the Pillars and Lesser Lights which follow.*

*Colin Hancock comes from a local Aylesbury family but was Initiated in Radiant Star Lodge No. 8967 in Dartford, Kent where he served as Master in 1996. He joined Hampden Lodge No. 6483, Aylesbury, in 1991 and his blood brother Les was Initiated into Hampden in 1992. His other brother Stephen was subsequently Initiated into Cheiron Lodge No. 7775. Colin has to spend much of his time disowning Bro. Tim Hancock who, although frequently taken as a third brother, is in fact not a relative!*

*As if knowledge of an array of Craft rituals was not enough, Colin has joined a number of degrees and orders beyond the Craft. In two of these he is a Past Master; and in a number of others he has the opportunity to study the rituals whilst acting as Tyler or equivalent.*

### **Two Pillars of Wisdom?**

By W.Bro. Tim Hancock, PPGSuptWks

*This talk was given at the BAMR Papers Meeting in January 1997. Thanks were given to David Peck, for the loan of American currency, and Howard Knight for the inspiration. Readers who have come across the author's Installation Lecture in Volume 5 will recognise the genesis of thoughts and issues which were further developed in his June 1999 lecture.*

*Tim Hancock remains fascinated by numbers, although is less of an authority on wisdom. Nonetheless, he continues the struggle to push back the frontiers of ignorance in his job as a teacher of mathematics. Despite being able to follow the intricacies of multi-dimensional geometry he finds it impossible to navigate through Milton Keynes.*

*Tim currently holds no office in any of his Craft Lodges; although he is IPM, by right, in BLMR. He is looking forward to being part of the banner escort for the dedication of the new banner in the District Grand Council of the East Midlands in the Order of Royal and Select Masters.*

### **The Three Lesser Lights**

W.Bro. Ray Cochrane, PPSGW

*This lecture was given to the BAMR in 1994 and is here re-printed in part. The full text is available as a booklet from Ray Cochrane, and includes footnotes, bibliography and illustrations. It derives from a simple question, which maybe would not occur to us all. Indeed, for most it would be an idle question soon to be discarded. Ray, however, has shown great diligence in pursuing the question and researching the origins of the Three Lesser Lights.*

*Ray was educated in Aylesbury (an alumnus of the Editor's place of work) and then trained as a civil engineer. He has worked in a variety of places including West Africa and Hong Kong. Ray is currently a Funeral Director in the family firm, and has recently appeared on the BBC's 'Top Gear' programme with his Austin Princess hearse. It has four in-built jacks to allow for a dignified wheel change in the event of a puncture.*

*He was Initiated in Buckingham Lodge No. 591 in 1968, his father Bill was in the Chair and his brother Stan, DC of BLMR, had preceded him in 1967. He was Master of Buckingham in 1981 and is their long-standing Treasurer. In 1997 he was promoted to PPSGW in recognition of his services.*

*Ray has been a founder of two Lodges and one chapter. The Lodges being Fairway No. 8614 in 1975 and BLMR in 1995. He has attended Lodges across the world, and was in West Africa at the time of Fairway's consecration.*



## Volume 6

### **The Five Noble Orders of Architecture**

by *W.Bro. Tony Burrage*

*This paper was given at the BLMR meeting on 15th March 1997 at the St. Giles Parish Rooms in Stony Stratford. This was the final meeting of the Lodge's second year, under the Mastership of W.Bro. Tom Butler.*

*The speaker was Bro. Tony Burrage who has some professional qualifications to speak on the subject of pillars as he practised as an architect in Stony Stratford. His specialism, however, is the motor retail industry, and he says that garages tend to have steel rather than classical columns! Tony is a knowledgeable speaker and enjoys putting together talks for lodges. One of his other topics is an explanation of the lodge banner.*

*Tony was Initiated in Watling Street Lodge No. 1639, meeting at Stony Stratford, in 1988. He was a Founder of Roman Way, also meeting at the St. Giles Parish Rooms, in May 1994, taking the office of Steward. At the time of his BLMR lecture he was Junior Deacon of Roman Way. He progressed to Worshipful Master in October 1999, having been invested as Tyler of Watling Street five days earlier.*

*He is currently the Charity Steward of Roman Way Lodge and ADC in Watling Street Lodge. By coincidence, the Charity Steward of Watling Street is also a Bro. Burrage, and not even a relation.*

*Tony plans to move to New Zealand for at least a year, to join his son and grandchildren. He hopes to enjoy the space of a country which has 27 million sheep but only 3 million people. He looks forward to making contact with the Craft in New Zealand and visiting a number of lodges. Perhaps we can invite him back one day to speak on Freemasonry in the Antipodes. We wish him well.*

### **Grand Secretaries of the Province of Buckinghamshire**

by *W.Bro. Brian Hilton, PJGD, PPGW, PProvGSec*

*This paper was delivered at the BLMR Installation Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1997 when Brian Hilton was Installed in the Chair of the Lodge by Tom Butler. Brian chose to research the history of those brethren who had served the Province as Provincial Grand Secretary. This was peculiarly appropriate to him as he held that particular duty at the time.*

*Brian was Initiated in 1965 into Saxony Lodge No. 842 GC (Province of British Freemasons in Germany) whilst a serving officer in the Army. On his return to Blighty he joined Burke Lodge No. 6154 in 1966 and was Master in 1975. In 1984 he was the founding WM of Chenies Lodge No. 9127 meeting at Beaconsfield. In 1986 he was appointed Provincial Grand Senior Warden, his first appointment having been Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.*

*He was appointed Assistant PGSec in 1988, receiving the Provincial Grand Master's Certificate of Service to Freemasonry in 1991. He then became Provincial Grand Secretary in 1993 in succession to Dr. Roy Fender, which position he held at the time this lecture was delivered. After six years of distinguished service he stood down in 1999. In Grand Lodge Brian was appointed PAGSuptWks in 1992 and served as Junior Grand Deacon in 2000-2001.*

*Brian was the founding Junior Warden of BLMR and its third Master in 1997. However, since the Lodge is not progressive he was not Senior Warden in the intervening year, but acted as Chaplain. This is an office which he also held in 2000, it having agreed that this office should be held in succession by Past Masters of the Lodge.*

*Brian is very active in BAMR and frequently gives lectures at lodges in and beyond the Province. We are pleased to see that he has made a good recovery from recent ill health. Indeed his masonic activities continue to flourish, as in 2001 he was the founding Recorder of Buckinghamshire Conclave No. 469 in the order of Red Cross of Constantine, and last year he was the founding Sovereign of Merlaue Chapter No. 1145 in the Ancient and Accepted Rite. His knowledge and enthusiasm are of great value to the endeavours of the Research Lodge.*

## **The Lodge**

*by W.Bro. Nigel Beaven, PPGD*

*Nigel Beaven has been very involved in masonic education and this paper arose from his strong belief that we should put, in the words of the closing quote, "more masonry into men." Nigel spoke at the BAMR Papers Day in January 1998 and the talk has gradually evolved from that occasion and the work that he had been doing in his mother lodge, de Bohun No. 8175, meeting at Aylesbury.*

*Nigel was brought up in Aylesbury and was Initiated into de Bohun in 1981, following in the footsteps of his father. Despite moving to Hampshire with his job he was able to maintain his involvement with the lodge and progressed through the offices. His firm then moved him to Milton Keynes and, fortunately for BAMR, he engaged ever more strongly with Buckinghamshire masonry.*

*Nigel served as Worshipful Master of de Bohun Lodge in 1994 and is currently the lodge Secretary. He joined Bucks Masters in 1995, and has recently delivered a paper to that lodge entitled "Is Freemasonry Relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?" In 2000 he was appointed Provincial Senior Grand Deacon. He was Exalted into Oliver Chapter No. 2812 in 1996 and has now reached the office of Steward.*

*Nigel took an interest in BAMR in its early days becoming Secretary in 1993. He then successfully undertook the onerous task of being founding Secretary of BLMR for the Consecration in 1995. Having acted as Secretary for 4 years he then moved to be ADC, and is currently the Lodge Director of Ceremonies. He is one of only two brethren to have held continuous office in BLMR.*

*He has worked tirelessly in BAMR to promote the Association's motto of "To Inform and Educate." Having previously been Programme Secretary, a role which encompassed many important tasks, he is now the inaugural Training Officer. In this capacity he is involved in a wide range of activities, including giving lectures and conducting forums. Recently, he has been working with the Provincial Training and Development Adviser to provide BAMR assistance with training for new Master Masons in the Province.*

## **The Philosophy of Freemasonry**

*By W.Bro. The Revd. Ernest Smart, PAGChap, ProvGChap*

*This paper was delivered at the BLMR Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> March 1998 at the Yeomanry Hall, Buckingham. It was the first visit to Buckingham by BLMR (returning 5 years later in March 2003.) It is a magnificent setting, but possibly incongruous as the Provincial Chaplain spoke on the Philosophy of Freemasonry with various weapons of war bristling above his head.*

*For those who have not read Ernest's previous talks let me recommend Volume 7 of the Transactions which record his papers *What are we About?* and *A Masonic Pilgrim's Progress*, as well as his address at the Consecration of the Slough Daylight Lodge No. 9699. For those who are familiar with Ernest's previous papers you will not be disappointed. He addresses important issues with a clarity and directness which are his trademarks. As before, he challenges our thinking and guides us to an understanding of what we might gain from, and contribute to, Freemasonry.*

*Ernest continues to make important contributions to masonry in Buckinghamshire. He was Worshipful Master of Golden Fleece Lodge No. 4739 in 2001, and in Magiovinivm Lodge No. 8091 he acts as Almoner. In the Mark Degree he is WM of St. Peter and St. Paul Lodge No. 163 meeting at Wolverton. In both Craft and Mark he serves with distinction as Provincial Grand Chaplain.*

*For those who wish to read more, Volume 9 of the Transactions will contain further examples of Ernest's orations. In a world that is losing touch with its spiritual side Freemasonry has much to offer. The wise words of Bro. Ernest will help to remind us of our opportunities and our responsibilities.*

## **The Dead Sea Scrolls and Earliest Freemasons**

*By W.Bro. Tony Batters, PPGReg*

*This paper was delivered at the BAMR Papers Day in January 1998 at Ripon Street, Aylesbury. Those who are familiar with Tony Batters' delivery will appreciate that he held the audience enthralled whilst he gave his lecture, accompanied by illustrations of the chapel at Rosslyn. Afterwards there was considerable discussion which spilt over into the bar after the meeting.*

*There is a wide range of material here and Tony has delved deeply into a number of fascinating areas, all of which he weaves together in a most intriguing fashion. He produces much food for thought and those interested in the background of our ancient Craft will find much to interest them.*

*The starting point for his lecture is the Dead Sea Scrolls. The first 2 scrolls were discovered in 1947 at Qumran on the edge of the Dead Sea about 10 miles east of Jerusalem. Eventually hundreds more were found, written in Greek, Aramaic and Hebrew on papyrus or leather, whilst two were engraved on copper. The dry climate had preserved them for centuries. Some sources have claimed that the translations were suppressed because of the extraordinary revelations in the documents.*

*Through his work Tony has been involved with researchers, theologians, translators and authors connected with the Dead Sea Scrolls, since the company for which he worked assisted in enhancing the legibility of the documents with digital photography. Tony assures us that, although the translations were not published until 1991, there has been no conspiracy to suppress them.*

*There is much further material of interest to the masonic historian. In particular, those who would like to know more about the Sinclair family and Roslin Chapel should refer to Doug Sinclair's paper in Transactions Volume 8.*

*Tony has recently retired from his job and we wish him well. The task of auditing the BAMR books should be straightforward after his professional travails. For us, there is the prospect of more enthusiastic enlightenment, and I can promise that he will reappear in Transactions Volume 11 for 2003. For himself, Tony modestly states that "The more one learns, the less one seems to know!" Perhaps this is the fate of all those interested in the workings of Freemasonry.*

# Volume 7

## **What Are We About?**

by W.Bro. Ernest Smart, ProvGChaplain

*This paper was delivered at the B.A.M.R. Members' Papers Meeting at the Masonic Hall, Aylesbury on 16th January 1999. It was the lead lecture at the meeting, and is peculiarly appropriate as the first item in this volume of Transactions. It challenges us to consider the fundamental values of our Order and their relevance to our modern lifestyle. Of particular relevance to members of B.A.M.R. is the question of how an understanding of the principles and teachings of Freemasonry should be communicated to our brethren.*

*This lecture may not be an easy read. We do not relish having our complacency challenged. Nonetheless, the matters touched upon here are at the very heart of our membership of Freemasonry.*

*Ernest Smart has a long record of service to others. His first career was in the police force where he reached the rank of Inspector. Thereafter he trained for the ministry and was ordained in 1974 as a minister in the United Reformed Church.*

*Upon moving to Buckinghamshire he became a Joining Member of Magiovinivm Lodge No. 8091 in 1991 and served as Master in 1997. In 1995 he joined Golden Fleece Lodge No. 4739, which had moved out of London to Wolverton, and is progressing through the various offices. In 1995 he was Exalted into Longueville Chapter No. 9322 where he is currently Third Principal.*

*In 1995 Ernest was appointed Provincial Grand Chaplain and has been involved with the Consecration of seven Lodges in the Province. He has been a stalwart supporter of B.A.M.R. and became an Honorary Member of B.L.M.R. in 1997. The following year he was on hand to assist at the dedication of the B.L.M.R. Lodge banner.*

## **The 47th Proposition**

by W.Bro. Bernard Frow

*This paper was delivered at the B.A.M.R. Members' Papers Meeting at the Masonic Hall, Aylesbury on 16th January 1999. It is a continuation of work begun by Bernard Frow the previous year when he spoke to the 1998 gathering on the topic of the Past Master's Jewel.*

*The diagram of the 47th Proposition will be familiar to generations of schoolchildren. It represents the proof of one of the most famous geometric theorems of all time; namely Pythagoras' Theorem. It is a jewel which many of us possess, or aspire to. But how many have studied the jewel or understand its significance?*

*Bernard Frow worked for 32 years in the Health Service, latterly as a Nurse Manager at Manor House Hospital in Aylesbury. During this time he studied for an Open University Degree in Social and Personnel Management, graduating in 1991. He has recently retired and enjoys pursuing his interests in horology and Freemasonry. In 1998 he became a Member of the British Horological Institute.*

*He was Initiated into Icknield Way Lodge No. 8292 at Thame, Oxfordshire in 1987. He served as Master in 1995 and is currently the Lodge Secretary. He became a member of the Province of Buckinghamshire in 1990 when he was Exalted into Princes Risborough Chapter No. 5203. At present he is the Second Principal. His ties with Buckinghamshire were strengthened upon becoming a Founder of B.L.M.R. in 1995, and Joining Buckingham Lodge No. 591 in 1997.*

*He belongs to a number of other Masonic orders and takes a keen interest in matters Masonic. To add to his many commitments, Bernard has recently taken over as Secretary of B.A.M.R.*

*At the end of his lecture he comments that the explanation of the Past Master's Jewel is seldom heard in Lodges today. However, this omission was put right at the B.L.M.R. Installation in June 1999 when Arthur Oughton was invested as I.P.M.*

## **Our Brave New World - Computers and the Internet**

by W.Bro. John Winter

*The Internet first intruded into the deliberations of the B.A.M.R. in January 1997 when David Peck arrived at Ripon Street, Aylesbury complete with high technology and a cats cradle of cabling. We returned to the topic at the Members' Papers Meeting on 16th January 1999 when John Winter gave a talk originally entitled "Computers, Cables and Connections - the Working Tools of the Nth Degree". He states that as it is a piece of work 'under construction' he has expanded his notes and now prefers it to be entitled as above.*

*There is a tremendous potential in the use of modern technology and John's talk guided us gently through some of the topics and issues. It is interesting to note that the Provincial Yearbook for 1999 gives E-mail addresses for the Provincial Office and certain officers. Indeed the next step is to be to create a website for the Province of Buckinghamshire.*

*John Winter was born and bred in the North-East and learnt his first trade as an electrician down the pit. He then went to Birmingham University as a mature student, graduating in English Literature. He has recently retired after many years teaching in Wendover, but still keeps going back to help out with the school library.*

*John was Initiated into the Fairway Lodge No. 8614, meeting in Aylesbury, in 1986. He served as Master in 1996 and is currently Secretary. He is the founding editor of the Lodge Newsletter "News and Views" which is a valuable source of information and opinion for members, and helps to keep in touch with those brethren who are unable to attend frequently.*

*He was a founding member of B.L.M.R. in 1995 and his talents have been put to good use by both the Lodge and Association. In particular, he has been active in the production of the Transactions and is the production editor for the relaunched B.A.M.R. newsletter.*

### **A Dissertation on the Lodge Banner**

by W.Bro. Arthur Oughton, PPSGW., PresBGP(Pakistan), PDSGW(Pakistan).

*On 20th June 1998, at Aylesbury, Arthur Oughton was Installed as Master of B.L.M.R. by Brian Hilton. At the same meeting the Lodge Banner was dedicated by Dr. Roy Fender, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master in Charge, assisted by Rev. Ernest Smart. The Banner had been produced by Mrs. Lynda Winter, and her husband John, newly invested as Senior Warden, acted as Banner Bearer for the Dedication.*

*Arthur's choice of paper could not have been more appropriate. He decided to speak upon the subject of Lodge banners. He gave grateful acknowledgement to Will Read, a Past Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076 from whose work he had drawn.*

*Arthur was trained as a wireless operator and started work at Hanslope Park, Buckinghamshire during WWII. After the war he joined the Government Communications Service and travelled widely across the globe, based in British Embassies as far spread as Jerusalem, New Delhi, Madrid and Nairobi (amongst others).*

*It was whilst based in Singapore that he was Initiated in the Lodge of St. George No. 1152 in November 1960. Two postings later he was in Karachi and joined Union Lodge No. 767 in 1963. This year also saw his connection with Buckinghamshire established when he joined St. Martins Lodge No. 2812, meeting at Bletchley.*

*In 1980 Arthur was back in Pakistan, this time in Islamabad, and on his first day in post he was invited to join Quetta Lodge No. 2333. He became Master the following year in 1981 and two years later was back at Hanslope Park as Signals Officer. At this time the Pakistan Government was in the process of closing down all Masonic activity and Arthur made arrangements for Quetta and the District of Pakistan to transfer to London, where he acted as Master for the very first meeting in exile.*

*Space does not allow to record all of Arthur's Masonic activity and honours. Suffice it to say that he is PPSGW in Bucks and PDSGW for Pakistan. Currently he is President of the District Board of General Purposes (Pakistan) and IPM of B.L.M.R.*

## **Pulling The Threads Together**

*Compiled by W.Bro. Tim Hancock*

*On Saturday 20th March 1999 the Lodge held its regular meeting at Bletchley. Business matters were dealt with and the Lodge was closed according to the usual customs. However, the brethren did not leave the temple in procession but remained in their seats wearing full regalia. The doors of the Lodge were opened and ladies and other guests were invited into the Lodge room and welcomed by Arthur Oughton, the Worshipful Master.*

*The IPM, Brian Hilton, then gave a brief explanation of the Lodge room introducing the officers and their various duties. With the assistance of a number of brethren he indicated items of regalia explaining their significance. He noted that it was many years since most of the masons present had been required to roll up their trouser legs! Brian then undertook to answer a number of questions from the ladies on Masonic matters.*

*The Worshipful Master introduced the speaker for the occasion, Mrs. Lynda Winter. Her topic "Pulling the Threads Together" concerned the design and making of Lodge Banners. Four of Lynda's banners were on display, along with a variety of other work. These were our own banner for the Buckinghamshire Lodge for Masonic Research No. 9585, and those of Vale Lodge No. 6632, de Bohun Lodge No. 8175 and Fairway Lodge No. 8614. They were displayed in the West alongside her husband John Winter who was the Senior Warden.*

## **Does It All Add Up.**

*by W.Bro. Tim Hancock, PPGSuptWks*

*At the Lodge Installation on 19th June 1999, held at Aylesbury, Tim Hancock was Installed in the Chair of King Solomon by his predecessor Arthur Oughton. The Lodge was called off to allow the new WM to deliver his paper concerning the symbolism of numbers in Freemasonry.*

*Amongst those present was W.Bro. Ken Hancock, the WM's father. He is the one to blame for this state of affairs, for he had Initiated his son in the Yar Valley Lodge No. 8367 in January 1978. Bro. Ken was the founding Junior Warden of Yar Valley which meets at Sandown on the Isle of Wight.*

*Tim Hancock gained his early knowledge of Pythagoras and matters mathematical at schools on the Isle of Wight and in Hampshire. He then spent 3 years attempting to get to grips with University maths (where his greatest claim to fame is in being a contemporary of Griff Rhys-Jones). Since then he has been passing on the fruits of his scholarship to reluctant pupils in Aylesbury.*

*In 1980 he became a joining member of Fairway Lodge No. 8614, meeting at Aylesbury. He served as Master in 1990 and subsequently held office as Secretary and Assistant Secretary. He is currently Master Elect in a Council of the Cryptic Degrees. This would appear to be highly appropriate for the Master of B.L.M.R. and the newly-elected Editor of the Association Transactions.*

## **Oration delivered at the Consecration of the Slough Daylight Lodge**

*by W.Bro. Ernest Smart, ProvGChaplain*

*The Slough Daylight Lodge No. 9699 was Consecrated on 4th September 1999 at the Slough Masonic Centre. The name arises because the Lodge intends to meet on a Saturday morning, to be followed by a lunch, and the brethren will be on their way home long before sunset. It is hoped that this will provide an appropriate meeting for brethren who are unable to attend on a weekday or an evening.*

*The Founding Master of the Lodge is Joe Small, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who was the founding IPM of B.L.M.R.. In addition, the Lodge logo was designed by John Winter, also a founder of B.L.M.R.*

*We wish them every success and hope that the format will attract members who otherwise would be unable to practise masonry elsewhere. The B.L.M.R., of course, also meets on a Saturday morning and has found this to be a convenient forum. Hopefully their Masters will avoid the confusion in the closing which refers to the labours of the evening being ended!*

*At the Consecration a thoughtful and inspiring Oration was delivered by Ernest Smart, the Provincial Grand Chaplain and an Honorary Member of B.L.M.R.. He has given permission for it to be reproduced here in full.*

### **Ritual Variations - Western Australia**

*by W.Bro. Des Austin, PAGDC (GL of W. Australia)*

*On 20th November 1999 the Lodge met at Marlow and was pleased to welcome Des Austin to talk on the topic of the Ritual in Western Australia. In fact, talk was only part of the presentation since the Lodge officers found themselves pressed into service in demonstrating opening the Lodge West Australian style. We did our best; fortunately Australian accents were not required!*

*Des is extremely knowledgeable on the subject being a member of two Lodges, and a Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, in the Grand Lodge of Western Australia. He is also a member of at least 12 other Masonic orders; at least one of which is not found in England. Despite the welter of honours he concludes "but you can call me Des!"*

*Des Austin has been resident in the UK since 1990 when he came over with his English born wife to take care of her elderly parents. He soon put his skills as a journalist to good use and has, amongst other jobs, worked for Wycombe radio and Classic FM. In the former capacity he interviewed Brian Hilton about the recent Hall Barn Fete.*

*Des held the meeting fascinated by his account of the workings of the Ceremony of Initiation in Western Australia. He clearly has a deep understanding and appreciation of the ritual. Indeed, Des has himself written the section in the book entitled 'Variations in Ritual and Ceremonial for a Blind Candidate.' After the talk he answered a host of questions from the brethren in attendance. He also explained the emblems on the apron which he is proud to wear. Notably these feature the plants Boronia and the Kangaroo Paw, so named because of its shape.*

*The Alms collection at the meeting was offered to a charity of Des' choice. He decided to present it to the Scan Appeal at Wycombe Hospital, which is aiming to raise £300,000 towards the cost of a Spiral CT scanner.*

### **A Masonic Pilgrim's Progress**

*by W. Bro. Ernest Smart, ProvGChaplain*

*This volume of Transactions concludes as it began; with a thoughtful paper by Rev. Ernest Smart, the Provincial Chaplain. Here we are enjoined to look back to the ceremonies through which we have passed; for some readers this may be some time ago. Ernest shows us that each stage is akin to a pilgrimage and points out the meaning of the progress that has been made.*

*The task for us is to make sense of that pilgrimage in the context of our own lives and Masonic activities. One thing is certain, we cannot rest on our laurels, the pilgrimage continues.*

*Ernest's own early life was spent in his native South Wales. When he was in his twenties he moved to London to join the Metropolitan Police. In 1963 he was Initiated in the London Welsh Lodge No. 2867. In 1971, having reached the rank of Police Inspector, a new phase of his journey began when he was accepted for ordination training by the United Reformed Church. At this point he resigned from his various Lodges.*

*He worked in churches in the East End of London and Milton Keynes. His first post being with the Woughton Ecumenical Church, later moving to Wolverton United Reformed Church. In 1991 Ernest renewed his Masonic journey as a joining member of Magiovinivm Lodge No. 8091.*

*Ernest has recently been offered, and accepted, the office of Assistant Grand Chaplain. We are pleased to give him our congratulations pn his forthcoming appointment*

*Those who have studied his talk What Are We About? will have been struck by the final observation: "So, what are we about? If we know the answer to that question, what are we going to do about it?"*

*Indeed brethren, what are we going to do about it?*

# Volume 8

## **Rosslyn and the Sinclair Family**

*By W.Bro. Doug Sinclair*

*At the Lodge Installation on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2000, held at Aylesbury, Doug Sinclair was Installed in the Chair of King Solomon by his predecessor Tim Hancock. The Lodge was called off to allow the new Worshipful Master to deliver his paper concerning the Rosslyn Chapel.*

*The chapel is a most interesting and extraordinary building near to Edinburgh. Doug's researches are particularly apt since the family which built and own Rosslyn are his own clan, the Sinclairs. The family originally hailed from France and came to Britain at the beginning of the previous millennium. One branch settled in Worcestershire and supported Cromwell during the Civil War. Their cousins north of the border thrived and became part of the Scottish aristocracy. It was a Sinclair piper who composed "The Campbells are Coming"; uncannily appropriate since the Campbells took over the Sinclair castle!*

*Doug's father was Scottish, but Doug himself was born in Holloway, north London. The young bairn was born with a cowl attached; believed by sailors to be a lucky token and sufficient to prevent him from drowning. He spent his early years in London before moving out to Colney Heath, Hertfordshire. During World War II a landmine was dropped into a field adjacent to the Sinclair house. All was well for there was no explosion, until nine o'clock the next night when it suddenly went off.*

*His father initiated Doug into the East Hertfordshire Lodge No. 3748 in 1971. During his Passing his father got one of the questions wrong, but the standard answer came back nonetheless. He progressed through the lodge serving as Master in 1981 and then acting as Chaplain for five years. In 1988 he was appointed Provincial Grand Steward in Hertfordshire, and promoted to Past Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works in 1990.*

*Having trained as an engineer with de Havilland Doug had a number of jobs in the aerospace industry. He then moved to the Aylesbury area working in the field of industrial ventilation. This led to him forming his own company, Sinclair Engineering, which traded until March 2000.*

*The Secretary of East Herts. Lodge arranged for Doug to attend a LOI in Aylesbury with Ferdinand de Rothschild Lodge No. 2420. Doug joined in 1979 and progressed to the Chair in 1987. He has subsequently served as ADC, DC and Charity Steward and in 1998 was promoted to Past Provincial Grand Registrar.*

*In the BLMR Doug was our founding Director of Ceremonies in 1995. It was his responsibility to draw up the workings for this new and unusual lodge and set the tone of friendly but dignified work. He presided over proceedings with effective good humour despite many of the members considering themselves experts!*

*In 1999 he moved to Senior Warden, as is now the custom for Masters Designate, and took the Chair in 2000. Doug has now retired to the Lincolnshire coast and we wish him a long and happy retirement, and look forward to the possibility of a daughter lodge on the east coast.*

## **The Lodge Number**

*By W.Bro. Bill Dwyer, PPrAGSuptWks(Middx)*

*This paper was delivered at the Lodge Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2000 which was held at the Gables Hall, Linslade. We were honoured by the presence of the Provincial Grand Master, and were also pleased to welcome many founders of our proposed sister Lodge in Bedfordshire. Bill Dwyer was the Junior Warden of the Lodge and delivered the paper from his pedestal.*

*The topic of the numbering of Lodges may at first sight seem rather dry and abstruse. However, Bill held the attention of all the brethren with the quality of his material and the easy manner of his delivery. It rapidly became obvious that this was a fascinating topic and that the task of enumerating the lodges on the roll was incredibly complex.*



*The depth of Bill's research was apparent and prompted a number of interesting questions. In addition, Lord Burnham asked why, in Emulation ritual, the Junior Warden's column is lowered when opening the Lodge and raised when closing. Bill had adhered to this working but fortunately didn't have to justify his actions because the Programme Secretary, Nigel Beaven, had researched and prepared an answer.*

*Bill has now retired from his working life with British Airways at Heathrow. He was Initiated into Lodge of Reflection No. 7553, meeting at Twickenham, in 1985. He served as Master in 1992 and is currently the Lodge Secretary. He was appointed Past Provincial Assistant Grand Superintendent of Works in Middlesex in 1997.*

*Having lived for many years in Haddenham he joined the Province of Buckinghamshire in 1988 becoming a member of Haddenham Lodge No. 8944. Bill was their Master in 1996 and is currently Assistant Secretary. He was the founding Tyler of BLMR and has since taken office as Inner Guard and Junior Warden. At the Installation in June 2001 he was invested as Senior Warden. This has been a busy time for Bill who has recently served as Commander Noah and as Master in three Mark Lodges.*

*In particular he is the hard-working and long-suffering production manager for the Transactions. If these words have reached you it is due to his efforts. The Editor is most grateful.*

### **Not Just a Load Of Old Books - the Library and Museum of Freemasonry and Masonic Research** by Diane Clements, Director of the Library and Museum, Freemasons' Hall

*This paper was delivered at the Lodge Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2000 at Thame Masonic Centre. Although, an Oxfordshire centre it does host two Buckinghamshire Craft Lodges, Princes Risborough Lodge No. 5203 and Haddenham Lodge No. 8944. In addition, a Bucks Chapter and Mark also meet at Thame. This was the first visit by BLMR to Thame and it proved a great success.*

*We were delighted to receive as a speaker Diane Clements, the recently appointed Director of the Library and Museum at Freemasons' Hall. Her paper covered the history and development of the Library and Museum and outlined the way forward. She gave useful advice on how to conduct a piece of Masonic research, and the way in which the facilities at Great Queen Street could be of assistance.*

*On this occasion the Lodge business was held first and the Lodge then closed. There then followed the A.G.M. of the Bucks Association for Masonic Research. Thereafter, Diane and her husband Andrew took their places in the Temple, on the North side of the Worshipful Master. Ladies were invited to join their husbands who remained at their places in regalia.*

*The paper was extremely well received and prompted a wide variety of questions which Diane answered in an entertaining and knowledgeable fashion. The questions came not only from the brethren, but also from the ladies, who enjoyed the meeting and the Festive Board afterwards.*

*Diane's background is as a graduate in Modern History and in her working life has been involved with the museum service. She had no previous connections with Freemasonry, and her husband Andrew is not on the Square. However, she is very impressed by the quality of historical information and artefacts held at Great Queen Street. The collection is of world-class value and, of course, the greatest treasure trove for students of Masonic history.*

*She has set about her new post with great enthusiasm and in a thoroughly professional manner. BAMR thanks her for taking the time and trouble to attend our meeting and deliver such an interesting and stimulating paper. We wish her a happy and constructive time at Freemasons' Hall and look forward to further co-operation.*

*As a postscript, the Association Library is indebted to Diane for the donation of a substantial number of books for the BAMR library held at Ripon Street.*

### **Dutch Demonstration**

#### **A Report by W.Bros. Alan Watkins, Brian Hilton and Nigel Beaven**

*The demonstration, at Ripon Street on Saturday 30 September 2000 by the Sheerness United Masonic Club Demonstration Group, of the Dutch Working of an Initiation was a delightful experience. All*

*members of the Group played their roles to perfection, both during the work in the Lodge Room and afterwards at the integral "Table Lodge". From the very first introductory remarks by the Team's Secretary/Leader it was clear that the afternoon would be both informative and enjoyable and so it proved.*

*With so much going on it was impossible to take notes; but perhaps the main impression left on us was that the Dutch Working featured the symbolism of Masonry much more strongly than the Emulation Ritual used by so many of our Bucks Lodges. And since we state that Freemasonry is "A peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols," perhaps we too should pay more attention to that facet.*

*Fancy the expression "Stumbling Block" having Masonic connotations, there is a revelation. Definitely an afternoon and evening to remember for extending our Masonic education so painlessly and providing much food for thought.*

*Overall it was a very well executed Demonstration, the Table Lodge created great hilarity and raised a considerable sum for charitable purposes. And if you should see the odd mason with a napkin over his shoulder and his glass, when not being used, sat on a yellow line, wonder not. He is trying to avoid being fined for some very obscure piece of non-Masonic ritual. You will know that he has seen the excellent Dutch Demonstration Team from the province of East Kent carrying out a First Degree Ceremony.*

*It was a splendid occasion - and we hope that we can have the Sheerness Group back again to demonstrate the Second and Third Degree Dutch Workings!*

## Volume 9

### **Getting and Giving Masonic knowledge in the Province of Buckinghamshire in 2000**

by W.Bro. Alan Watkins, PPGSW

*Alan Watkins was Installed as Worshipful Master of the Bucks Lodge for Masonic Research on Saturday 16th June 2001 by his predecessor Doug Sinclair. As is the custom in the Lodge each new WM delivers a paper on the day of his Installation. Alan took as his inspiration Harry Mendoza's 1984 Prestonian Lecture 'Getting and Giving Masonic Knowledge.'*

*Alan wrote to all 120 Lodges in the Province and received replies from 65 who had completed his questionnaire. After careful analysis of the responses he presents his findings and gives some conclusions and hints at his own opinions.*

*As can be seen from Alan's researches this topic is no less relevant today than it was 20 years ago. Indeed with candidates for Freemasonry becoming increasingly scarce it is ever more important to consider the manner in which we encourage and develop new members of the Craft. There is a lot of food for thought here for all Masons, especially for those who are privileged to act as sponsors to an Initiate or are involved in the running of a Lodge.*

*In October 2000 Alan had been invested as Senior Warden of the Province of Buckinghamshire by Lord Burnham. In that capacity he represented the Province at a number of Lodges from North to South. In particular, he was on duty at the Consecration of Saxon Lodge No. 9735, a daylight Lodge meeting at Winslow. The Founding Master was none other than BLMR's Charity Steward Roy Serle. In addition, Alan was much impressed by the Consecration Oration delivered by Ernest Smart which is also printed in this volume of the Transactions.*

*We congratulate Alan upon his appointment as Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in 2004. He added to the heavyweight nature of the BLMR Steward's bench at the Olney meeting in March 2004, which comprised Roy Serle, PJGD, Tom Butler, PAGDC, and Alan himself.*

### **Masonic Weekend - Ibiza Style**

by W.Bro. Bill Dwyer, PPSGD, PPDepGReg (Middx)

*Bill Dwyer gave this talk at the BAMR Papers Day on the morning of 20th January 2001. A cold day in Aylesbury made us all keen to experience, if vicariously, the warmth of Bill's Masonic experiences during a hot April weekend in Ibiza. Interestingly, there are a number of Masonic connections between Buckinghamshire and Ibiza with a number of brethren being founding or joining members of Lodges on the Island. It is good to see that Masonry is re-establishing itself in Spain after the suppression of the Franco period.*

*Bill was Initiated into Lodge of Reflection No. 7553 in Middlesex and in 1988 joined Haddenham Lodge No. 8944. Bill was their Master in 1996 and is currently Secretary. He has recently masterminded their Installation Meeting, which was conducted by the Assistant Grand Master, R.W.Bro. David Kenneth Williamson.*

*In June 2002 Bill was Installed as Master of BLMR by Alan Watkins. In October he was appointed Provincial Senior Grand Deacon in recognition of his work in the Province. In 2003 he was appointed the founding Burnham Lecturer for the Province of Buckinghamshire. The Burnham Lectureship will be held for 2 years and the lecturer will give 3 official readings of his paper, one to Bucks Masters and 2 others spread geographically across the Province. Bill's topic is the ancient manuscripts of our operative forebears.*

*Bill is a frequent lecturer on behalf of the Association and is always commended for his content and delivery. His background as a retired Training Officer for British Airways enables him to fly the BAMR flag with distinction. In particular he is the hard-working and long-suffering production manager for the Transactions.*

*If these words have reached you, it is due to his efforts. The Editor is most grateful.*

## **Oration delivered at the Centenary of the Beaconsfield Lodge No. 2849**

*And*

## **Oration delivered at the Banner Dedication of the Beaconsfield Lodge No. 2849**

*by W.Bro. Ernest Smart, PAGChap, ProvGChap*

*W.Bro. Ernest Smart is a remarkably active Provincial Grand Chaplain. The Editor is pleased to be able to publish three of Ernest's orations, two of which were delivered on the same day at Beaconsfield Lodge No. 2849. Ernest says that he always writes his orations to be delivered verbally, and they are much appreciated by those who have the pleasure of listening. However, they are also well constructed for the written word and will be of great interest to the Masonic reader.*

*Ernest includes a great deal of fascinating information and always sets out to make his listeners think and question their Masonic goals and purposes. There are indeed few better occasions for such contemplation as a Lodge Consecration or Centenary.*

*2001 was an important year for Ernest also, since in November he became Worshipful Master of Golden Fleece Lodge No. 4739 meeting at Wolverton. He joined in 1995 to support the Lodge, which had moved out to the Province from the metropolis and was in need of new members.*

*Ernest is, of course, a strong supporter of BLMR of which he is an Honorary Member. He works hard for BAMR and is a frequent and knowledgeable speaker at many of our meetings. The Editor often receives requests for copies of Ernest's papers and is pleased to be able to publish these three in the Transactions.*

## **Women and Freemasonry**

*by W.Bro. Bernard Frow, PPSGD (Oxon)*

*This paper was delivered at the BAMR Papers Day on 20th January 2001 at Aylesbury. The audience included a number of ladies, some of whom were lady Masons, including Bernard's wife Ann. For the men present it was certainly an eye-opener and included much information that is not often found in Masonic publications.*

*Bernard is a native of Lincolnshire where he trained for the nursing profession. He has given many years to the service of others through the NHS. His career brought him to Buckinghamshire and he now lives in Aylesbury. He was Initiated into an Oxfordshire Lodge, where he is currently Secretary. He joined the Buckinghamshire Province in 1990 when he was Exalted into Princes Risborough Chapter No. 5203, albeit that it meets in Thame.*

*In BAMR Bernard fulfils the vital role of Secretary and ensures that the Association business runs smoothly. He is a frequent and knowledgeable lecturer who has travelled widely to deliver a variety of interesting and stimulating lectures.*

*Bernard was a Founder of BLMR in 1995 and has been a long-term supporter of the motto "to inform and educate." He is currently the Lodge Senior Warden, having held a variety of other offices, and we look forward to his Installation as Master in 2005.*

## **The Ladies' Perspective**

*by Mrs. Dorothy Hilton*

*Dorothy Hilton presented this paper to the BLMR on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November at Slough. After the Lodge meeting was closed and the BAMR AGM had been conducted, the ladies and non-masons were invited into the Lodge room to hear Dorothy present her paper. There was considerable interest and much fascinating discussion was prompted. Interesting views were expressed by the ladies present, some of whom were lady Masons and viewed the issue from both sides of the fence!*

*Dorothy is, of course, the wife of Brian Hilton, a Past Master of BLMR and much else besides. They were married in 1956 whilst Brian was serving as a Lieutenant in the Army. They have subsequently lived in a variety of venues, including Gravesend, Chatham and Ghana. Many will spot the connection with the name of their current house, Sakyikrom, in Great Missenden.*

*Following spells in Colchester and Germany, where Brian became a Freemason, Brian was posted to Beaconsfield and they settled in Buckinghamshire. Dorothy had studied mathematics and trained as a teacher. Following a successful career in a variety of schools she was appointed Headteacher of an independent Girls' Day School in Watford.*

*Dorothy has been very active in the scout movement in Buckinghamshire and has been the County Commissioner for Cub Scouts. With the benefit of her teaching background she has also been involved in training other scout leaders. She is currently a case worker for SSAFA (Forces Help) and a Church Warden at Little Missenden.*

*When Brian became Assistant Secretary of the Province Dorothy became the Assistant's Assistant. As time went by she became the Provincial Secretary's Assistant and ever more knowledgeable of the organizations and structure of freemasonry. Many a hard-pressed Lodge Secretary has been the beneficiary of Dorothy's expertise.*

*She has now undertaken the research leading to this interesting paper. Since its first delivery at BLMR Dorothy has been invited to a number of other Lodges where she has also presented the paper. There is food for thought here for all who are interested in the wider Lodge community.*

### **The Masonic Passport or The Masonic Distress Card**

*By W. Bro. Nigel Beaven, PPGD*

*This short talk was given by Nigel Beaven at the BAMR Papers Day in Aylesbury on 20th January 2001. It had been first presented to the Martin Foss Lodge of Research No. 9722, our sister Lodge in Bedfordshire. One of Nigel's purposes was to demonstrate that worthwhile and interesting research can stem from everyday events and need not be an immense labour.*

*He states that "The average person, and for that matter the average Mason, seems to shy away when the dreaded word Research is mentioned. This small piece of research has been hampered by the fact that that no records or historical notes appear to exist for the Masonic passport. But, what does exist took less than an hour to obtain in Freemasons' Hall, a small amount of time for such an interesting piece of our Masonic History."*

*He also comments that "It is interesting to note where small side tracks may take you" when delving into the history of the Aldershot Army & Navy Lodge No. 1971 and its Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Major Sir Algernon T. Tudor-Craig, KBE, FSA. (Additional information obtained from the Masonic Year Book Historical Supplement.)*

*Nigel is a stalwart of the BAMR and the Research Lodge and is at the forefront of delivering lectures, in and beyond Buckinghamshire, on behalf of the Association. In this way he has raised considerable sums for the Centenary Fund, the Bucks Masonic Benevolent Fund and the BAMR Library Fund - quite apart from spreading considerable Masonic light!*

*In the Lodge he continues to act as Director of Ceremonies, applying a light but firm touch to recalcitrant officers. For the Association he has resumed the mantle of Programme Secretary and is busy planning interesting meetings for our enjoyment. We owe him a debt of gratitude for successfully masterminding the BAMR contribution to Freemasonry in the Community in 2002. Since then he has been active developing a programme of training for new Master Masons, which BAMR undertakes on behalf of the Province.*

### **Beneath the Stone**

*by C. Bruce Hunter - The Story of Masonic Secrecy*

*And*

### **Blood on the Mountain**

*by Richard Andrews*

*Review by Bro. David Canover, PPGPurs*

*David Canover has for some years been turning the BAMR Library in Ripon Street, Aylesbury into a valuable research tool. He has developed an impressive range of titles, being books, magazines, pamphlets, etc., all efficiently detailed and catalogued.*

*Despite the title above sounding like a B-rated horror movie it represented a significant step in raising the profile of the BAMR Library. At the BAMR Papers Day on 20th January 2001 David gave a brief review of each of two books: **Beneath the Stone by Conrad Bruce Hunter and Blood on the Mountain by Richard Andrews**. These books were two of the then recent additions to the Library and, in common with hundreds of others, are available for loan by members of the Association.*

*David trained as an accountant and retired in May 2000 after having spent the last 22 years running his own accountancy practice. He was very much involved with the Institute of Financial Accountants serving for 17 years as a member of their council and 9 years as a Trustee of the Institute's Benevolent Fund.*

*He has had a great deal of civic involvement in both Princes Risborough (where he formally lived) and Aylesbury. To mention but a few of his activities, he served on Princes Risborough Parish Council for 10 years, acted as Treasurer of Risborough Community Association for 14 years and was Treasurer of Aylesbury Chamber of Commerce for 16 years.*

*Cymbeline Lodge No. 9004, meeting at the Stewart Hall Great Kimble, Initiated David in 1988. He has served the lodge in a variety of offices, receiving the rank of Past Provincial Grand Pursuivant in 2001 for his important contributions as Charity Steward and Treasurer.*

*David belongs to a number of other lodges and orders. It is no surprise that in a number of them he acts as Treasurer. He has been Librarian for BAMR since 1998 and joined BLMR in 2000. Having been Senior Deacon in 2003 he has taken over as Almoner in June 2004.*

## Volume 10

### **Freemasonry and the Origins of Jazz**

by W.Bro. Ted Griffin, PPGSwdB, PPAGDC(Middx)

*This paper was given at the BAMR Papers Day in Aylesbury on Saturday 4th February 2006 (what a splendid way to celebrate my birthday – Ed.) by Ted Griffin. Ted began by playing Dr Jazz by Jelly Roll Morton and His Red Hot Peppers. He also enjoined those present to ask one of the young ladies to dance. Whilst this invitation was overlooked there was an unusual amount of foot-tapping for a BAMR talk.*

*Ted's talk was further enlivened by a number of other Jazz extracts including King Porter Stomp, Kid Ory's Creole Song, High Society and Potato Head Blues. BAMR does have plans to issue future Transactions on CD, and maybe the next version of this talk will include the music.*

*At the conclusion of Ted's talk there was much discussion with an interesting question and answer session.*

*Ted is a journalist by profession and writes for a number of newspapers and magazines, including the music press. Ted belongs to a very old Buckinghamshire family and has organised several family gatherings of Griffins. Relatives have attended from all parts of the world.*

*Ted himself was educated in Middlesex and was Initiated into a Middlesex Lodge. He became a Buckinghamshire mason in 1992, joining both Claydon Lodge No. 9178, meeting at Winslow, and St. Barnabas Mark Lodge No. 97 in Aylesbury. He has served both these Lodges in a number of important offices, including Worshipful Master.*

*Setting up a new Lodge is very hard work but Ted has done it twice. In 1996 he was the Founding Secretary of Nightingale Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 1768 meeting at Winslow. Nightingale is now well-established and attracting many new Mark Masons from the Winslow and Buckingham areas. After two spells as Secretary Ted is now the ADC.*

*In 2001 Ted was the Founding Secretary of Saxon Lodge No. 9735. This is a daylight Lodge and meets at Winslow on a Tuesday morning followed by lunch. This has proved a great success with many Joining Members and a number of Initiates.*

*In 2006 Ted joined BLMR.. 2007 is another busy year and in May he was Installed as Worshipful Master of Saxon Lodge. In June Ted will receive Grand Rank in the Mark Degree.*

### **Freemasonry and the Comacine Masters**

by W.Bro. Raymond J Hollins, PAGDC

Presented by W.Bro. Bill Stammers, PPSGW(Warks)

*This paper was delivered by W Bro. Bill Stammers at the BLMR meeting at Wolverton on Saturday 18th March 2006. This was a very interesting meeting and not only from the point of view of the lecture. For some members it was their first visit to the Wolverton centre, a tardis-like building, which takes some finding, in the Square. Although being re-developed at the time there was also an opportunity to visit the fascinating museum on the top floor.*

*Bill is a member of the Lodge of Academe No. 9377 meeting at Guy's Cliffe in Warwick. This is one of four Research Lodges in Warwickshire. They must be a remarkably well-informed Province. Bill was delivering the paper on behalf of its author, Ray Hollins, and apologised for the standard of his Italian. He needn't have worried; the paper was clearly delivered, well received and prompted a number of questions and some interesting discussion.*

*Raymond J Hollins is a member of the Lodge of Academe, has celebrated 50 years in the Craft and holds the rank of Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies of the United Grand Lodge of England. He is the author of the "Short Talk Booklets", which have been compiled and specifically produced for members of the Craft within the English Constitution.*

*This is a series of five fascinating booklets, each with 10 short talks on a variety of Masonic subjects, each lasting about ten minutes. Ray Hollins has made an excellent job of ensuring the talks are short and to the point, and came out of an initiative by Worcestershire Masonic Province to improve the education*

*of its members. The set of five are an ideal addition to a Lodge library, as anyone can give the talks, and will make for much more interesting meetings. The booklets cover a whole range of subjects about which Masons are always asking questions. Volume I, for example, includes talks on The Regius Manuscript, the Ancients and Moderns Grand Lodges and Numerology of Freemasonry.*

*Ray and Tony Ingram, from the Lodge of Academe, are now working on a new set of lectures focussed on the First, Second and Third degree ceremonies in Craft Freemasonry. The First Degree book will be entitled "The Tongue of Good Report" the Second Degree book will be entitled "The Middle Chamber Lectures", as yet they have not decided on the Third Degree book title. Research so far has covered four thousand years.*

*BAMR would like to thank Ray for permission to print an edited version of the talk. More information can be found at:-*

*[www.masonicshorttalks.com](http://www.masonicshorttalks.com).*

**Oration Delivered at the 50th Jubilee Meeting of Stokenchurch Lodge No. 7438**  
*by W.Bro. Ernest Smart, PAGChap, PPGChap*

*This Oration was delivered at the 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Meeting of Stokenchurch Lodge No. 7438 on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2006 by Ernest Smart, then the Provincial Grand Chaplain.*

*Stokenchurch Lodge was Consecrated on 30th April 1956, at the Marlow Masonic Hall, by RW Bro. Major General Lord Burnham, the Provincial Grand Master. The lodge had come into being as the result of a club of instruction held locally by W Bro. Bond for members of London lodges who lived in the Stokenchurch area. They met firstly at the King's Arms Hotel in Stokenchurch, and then at the Peacock at Boulter's End. Bro. Bond was the Founding Master and W.Bro. Perry, licensee of the Peacock, was his Senior Warden.*

*The lodge banner depicts a wheelback chair beneath a beech tree. Such chairs were produced at four local factories from locally grown beechwood. Doubtless the craftsmen involved were masters of their trade and expert in the use of their particular working tools. The use of such tools, for the speculative mason, is an essential part of Ernest's oration.*

*Ernest Smart has been a remarkably active Provincial Grand Chaplain and has given distinguished service to the Province. In October 2006 he retired from this position prior to his move to Essex. However, he remains a very active and committed member of the Province. In 2006 he was Most Wise Sovereign of the Robert de Turnham Chapter No. 917 at Bletchley. He was also Organist of Magiovinivm Lodge No. 8091 and Almoner of Longueville Chapter No. 9322. In addition Ernest continues as Provincial Grad Chaplain for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Buckinghamshire. Furthermore, he is the current Worshipful Master of Bucks Masters Lodge No. 3305; a well-deserved honour and an indication of the hard work which Ernest has done, and continues to do, for Buckinghamshire Freemasonry.*

*Ernest is, of course, a strong supporter of BLMR of which he is an Honorary Member. We wish him well in his new home in Essex, and look forward to seeing him on many occasions in the future.*

**The Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry**

*A Report by W.Bro. Nigel Beaven, PPGSwdB*

*The BLMR maintains close contacts with many other research Lodges and groups around the UK and a few overseas. During some recent trips into northern climes contact was made with John Acaster of the Manchester Research Lodge who suggested that the Bucks Research Lodge might wish to be involved in the UK tour of W. Bro. S. Brent Morris PGDC of Grand Lodge of Maryland, who is the author of a book entitled *The Complete Idiots Guide to Freemasonry*.*

*After a small hiccup over venues to hold such a meeting, we met at the Beaconsfield Masonic Centre on Saturday 18th November 2006. The Bucks Lodge for Masonic Research held a normal business meeting and when the Lodge was closed our guests, our Ladies and non-masons came into the Lodge room to listen to an inspired speaker.*



*S. Brent Morris, Ph.D., 33°, is managing editor of the largest-circulation Masonic magazine in the world, the Scottish Rite Journal of the Supreme Council, 33°, Southern Jurisdiction in America. During the 1999 Biennial Session, Ill. Bro. Morris received the Scottish Rite's highest honour, the Grand Cross.*

*He is a former mathematician with the Federal Government, and has been invited to lecture at over 100 universities, has taught at Duke and Johns Hopkins Universities, and is currently on the graduate faculty at George Washington University. (Editor's note – sadly there were no copies of his popular maths text Magic Tricks, Card Shuffling and Dynamic Computer Memories nor of the intriguing cryptanalysis The Folger Manuscript.)*

*He is a Past Master of Patmos Lodge No. 70, Ellicott City, Maryland; a Fellow of the Philalethes Society; Editor for the Scottish Rite Research Society and the Grand Lodge of Maryland's Freestate Freemason; former Book Review Editor of the Scottish Rite Journal; and author of many scholarly articles on the Craft and such well-known popular books on Freemasonry as Cornerstones of Freedom: A Masonic Tradition and Masonic Philanthropies, A Tradition of Caring (a second edition, updated and expanded in 1997.) Also, Brent Morris co-authored Is It True What They Say About Freemasonry? with Art de Hoyos, Grand Archivist and Grand Historian of the Supreme Council, 33°.*

*In Britain, Brent Morris is the only American who is a full member of the world's premier Masonic Research Lodge, Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, founded in London in 1886. He was a joining member in 1991 and was Junior Warden in 2005-06.*

*At the BLMR meeting Brent Morris unfortunately had a bad right foot, having fallen off a ladder, and remained seated through most of the proceedings. Fortunately, this did not detract from his delivery or the interest of his material. He spoke not only of the book he was in the UK to promote, but also led a long and interesting question and answer session about Freemasonry on both sides of the "Great Pond."*

*Brent covered a number of questions most often asked by the American press and gave information on the order of the Eastern Star and the Shriners. Questions were asked about the American dollar bill, Washington DC, the Ancient and Accepted Rite and Freemasonry and the Armed Services. All this, and much more, is contained in The Complete Idiots Guide to Freemasonry. Copies were available for sale, and were signed by the author.*

### **The Unanimous Resolution which was 'heaved over.....'**

*By V.W. Bro. Jack L.C. Dribbell PGMO,*

*Presented by W.Bro. Bill Dwyer, PPSGD*

*This paper was originally delivered by VW Bro. Jack Dribbell, Past Grand Master Overseer, to the London Mark Provincial Grand Officers' Mess on 14th November 2005. The BAMR Papers Day in February 2006 was pleased to receive, at very short notice, a version of it given by W.Bro. Bill Dwyer.*

*A certain amount of swift footwork was required from Bill since the BAMR audience included many Brethren, and indeed ladies, who were not Mark Masons. Bill glided skilfully past those passages of the talk which referred to the working of the Mark Degree whilst maintaining the sense and momentum of his narrative.*

*Bill was a Founder of BLMR and served as WM in 2002-03. He was at the same time the initial Burnham Lecturer in the Province. By an arcane custom of BLMR, Past Masters serve as Chaplain 4 years after their Installation. Hence, Bill holds the office of Chaplain for 2006-07.*

*Bill has recently retired after long stints as Secretary of Haddenham Lodge No. 8944 and Scribe of St. Barnabas Royal Ark Mariner Lodge No. 97. He has also moved from the North to the East in his Mother Lodge, Lodge of Reflection No. 7553 in Middlesex, where he has put down the Secretary's pen to take up the duties of Worshipful Master.*

*Bill is well qualified to speak to BAMR of matters concerning the Mark Degree. He is a member of three Provinces, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and London. He holds high rank in all three Provinces and was a Grand Steward in 2005. We congratulate Bill upon his appointment to Past Provincial Grand Senior Warden in the Mark Province of Buckinghamshire this summer.*

*The Editor wishes to express his thanks to Bill as the long-suffering Production Manager for the Transactions. It is through Bill's hard work that you receive these words.*

### **Did the threat of a German Invasion, in World War II, pose a risk to British Freemasons?**

*by W. Bro. David J Peck, PPGSuptWks*

*David Peck was Installed as Worshipful Master of the Bucks Lodge for Masonic Research on Saturday 17th June 2006 by his predecessor Bernard Frow. As is the custom in the Lodge each new WM delivers a paper on the day of his Installation.*

*Those who have read Fatherland by Robert Harris will know that it is a thriller based on the premise that the Axis powers won the Second World War and Germany is the central power in post-war Europe. David Peck also considers what might have happened had the events of the 1940's taken a different turn.*

*In his own words he says, "You may ask why I have chosen this topic for my paper? Well let me explain how I eventually, via a very tortuous route, gravitated to it. Firstly, there were a couple of vaguely related topics I had been researching over the years, including why do English Freemasons appear so secretive and is this a new phenomenon? In addition I was interested in the persecution and prosecution of Freemasons worldwide.*

*Secondly, I wanted a topic on a relatively recent subject, certainly less than 100 years old. One which could be researched from readily available Masonic and Non-Masonic contemporary sources, by non-academic masons, and at least in part without visiting dusty research libraries; for instance by using the internet. Also a topic which had not been exhaustively examined and already fully documented. Hence, there might be added value, to Freemasonry in general, by this new research.*

*Thirdly, I was looking for a topic, which itself would generate interesting, finite, sub-topics for future research. Finally, I wanted a topic that would be seen as interesting and may be even useful to Freemasonry in general."*

*The paper was very well received and prompted considerable interest and comment. As David indicated in his summing up there is a lot of further potential in this topic. He would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to pursue further areas of this topic to add to the total research.*

*BLMR welcomes our Worshipful Master back from a tour of the Caribbean where he has been on active duty in the District Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of South and East Caribbean. The purpose of the trip was to consecrate three new Lodges and to deliver a Prestonian Lecture. David is now an Honorary Member of several Lodges and was Perfected into the Ancient and Accepted Rite in Union Chapter No. 55 in Georgetown Guyana. We also congratulate him upon his forthcoming appointment as a Grand Officer in the Mark Degree.*

## **Volume 11**

### **Editorial**

*by W. Bro. Tim Hancock, PPGSuptWks*

*I write this Editorial in the warm afterglow of the Centenary Celebrations of the Buckinghamshire Masters Lodge No. 3305. The day was certainly warm since the elements smiled on the Masons of Bucks who wound their way towards the Great Wen. There was, of course, a sting in the tail, that since it was so pleasant upon my departure I omitted to take a coat or umbrella with me.*

*During the brief Calling Off between the Installation of our Provincial Grand Master as Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and the Banner Dedication and Centenary Celebrations I nipped out of Freemasons' Hall in a vain attempt to find a letterbox. It was at this point that the heavens opened and I returned, soggy letter in hand, somewhat wet. Those who observed a pillar of cloud in the North need not be alarmed. It was only me steaming away behind the Secretary's desk.*

*We were fortunate to be addressed on three separate occasions. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VW Bro. Nelson Hall, addressed the Lodge on the subject of the Consecration and the social and*

historical perspective as at 1908. The Junior Grand Warden spoke on the Lodge's first 100 years. The Provincial Grand Chaplain, W Bro. David Sawyer, gave an oration on the Lodge's splendid new banner and the symbolical import of the banner and its design.

At the Festive Board afterwards we received a firing glass and a copy of the Lodge history. This latter is a most interesting document skilfully written by W.Bro. Roger Perry. It includes such gems from the (1906, I hasten to add) Provincial Grand Secretary as: "many of our brethren live in the inaccessible and only partly discovered regions of North Bucks ... and the aborigines who succeed to offices in the Lodges of these unexplored parts of the Province are necessarily somewhat original in their conception of Masonic signs, words and tokens."

The day was most delightful and enjoyable and congratulations are due to those responsible for organising the day's events. It was a weary but content contingent of brethren who rolled off the train at Aylesbury upon return.

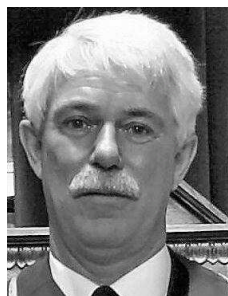
The Chairman of the BAMR did not respond well to my suggestion that we might also write up our affairs on a hundred year basis. So once again I have the pleasure to put before you the events of the Lodge and Association over the past 12 months. We hope also that we dispel some clouds and give light on some aspects of Freemasonry. Whatever point of the compass you hail from we hope that you will find something original in this year's papers.

I should like to thank both the contributors and the hard-working Transactions Team for their endeavours. I trust that you also enjoy them.

### **What's in a Word? Some Miscellaneous Thoughts on the 2nd Degree Tracing Board**

by W.Bro. Geoff Bakewell, PPAGStB

At the close of the BLMR meeting on 17th March the Lodge, delivered a very informative paper, tribes of Israel circa 1200BC and the various eventually lead to the Ammonitish Wars. He defeat of the Ephraimites by the Gileadites, the the crossings of the river Jordan. They then used difference in dialect between the tribes, and to identify and slay any escaping Ephraimites. actual pronunciation of this word used at the time of the Ammonitish Wars, which would have been different to that used in our rituals today.



2007, Geoff Bakewell, a visitor to which discussed the origins of the differences between them, which explained that following the Gileadites subsequently blocked a 'test word', which exploited a allowed the victorious Gileadites Geoff informed us of the likely

The 'test word' is denoted as "sh\_\_\_\_\_th" in the printed version of the paper, but is well known to all Fellowcraft Freemasons.

The paper was very well received and prompted considerable interest, questions and comment. A vote of thanks was given to W.Bro. Geoff for a very interesting paper.

Geoff's background is in the RAF where he was on the engineering side. He was Initiated in 1994 into Zetland Lodge No. 525, E.C. in Hong Kong. He also speaks Malay/Indonesian.

In the same year he Joined Pegasus Lodge No 5637 in Aylesbury, where he was Passed and Raised. He was their WM in 1999/2000 and subsequently held various offices and is now their Secretary. In 1996 he joined the Royal Air Force Lodge No. 7335 in London, becoming WM on 2001/2.

He was the Craft Provincial Acting Prov Asst Std B (Bucks) in 2005 and Royal Arch Provincial Acting Prov Stwd (Bucks) in 2006. Having completed two successful years as Worshipful Commander of St. Barnabas Royal Ark Mariner Lodge in Aylesbury, he is now Worshipful Master of the St. Barnabas Mark Lodge. He is also in Knights Templar and Rose Croix.

### **Early Masonic Jewels.**

A Report by W.Bro. Kevin Corcoran

WBro Elias Kupfermann, who is the third Burnham Lecturer, gave a preview of his paper at the Buckinghamshire Association for Masonic Research's Annual Members' Papers Day held at the Aylesbury Masonic Centre Ripon Street on Saturday 3rd February 2007.

### ***The History and Development of the English Masonic Jewel (1724-1824)***

***Elias Kupfermann***

*Elias's paper looked at the development of the early English Masonic jewel from its earliest known inception until a decade after the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1813. The jewels in question are associated with three of the main orders in British Freemasonry namely Craft, Chapter or Holy Royal Arch and the Mark Degree.*

*The paper examined briefly the techniques used in producing these jewels and looked at the morphology of these jewels. The final section of this paper demonstrated what can be learnt about the iconography, personal and public identity of the English Masonic jewel and, more importantly how the material culture of the jewel can add to the definition of Freemasonry. The paper demonstrated how during the ritual of the Second Degree we are given a broad definition of Freemasonry as 'a peculiar system of morality, veiled in Allegory and illustrated by symbols,' and when examining the Masonic jewel all these elements can be found in its iconography and can be seen as enforcing the 'morality plays' re-enacted in the Masonic temple.*

*Elias's Lecture is based on a series of slides following the development of the Jewel through the period from shortly after the formation of the United Grand Lodge in 1724 up to the 19th century. His paper was informative and well researched.*

*Elias's paper outlined the various types of jewels that had been worn during this period, describing their development and styles; some of the most fascinating were those made by individuals for their own use, not something we would be allowed to do today. The lecture described the use of various types of style or materials in the jewels to highlight either Masonic symbols, to 'show off the jewel' or the use of the jewel to demonstrate the wearer's rank in Masonry or status in society. To prepare the lecture Elias had spent a long period researching in the Library and Museum of Freemasonry at Great Queen Street where he was working on the preparation of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Mark Degree. His lecture slides illustrated many rare jewels held by the museum.*

*Elias had not presented a paper to any Masonic gathering before and given this lack of experience he presented his paper in a professional manner reflecting his background in research and his knowledge of his subject matter. The question and answer session after showed the interest this paper had stimulated.*

*Since taking on his tenure as Burnham Lecturer, Elias has presented the Lecture to the Bucks Masters and Nestor Lodges.*

#### ***HISTORY of the BURNHAM LECTURE***

*In October 2002 the then Provincial Grand Master the Right Hon the Lord Burnham announced the introduction of an annual Lecture within the Province to be entitled the Burnham Lecture. It is promoted by the Bucks Association of Masonic Research (BAMR) and the Buckinghamshire Lodge of Masonic Research (BLMR). This innovation within the Province reflects the unique historical link of members of the Burnham family to Buckinghamshire Freemasonry, three of whom served as Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, and their continuing encouragement and sponsoring of Masonic Research in the Province.*

#### ***DESCRIPTION***

*The lecture is intended to encourage the presentation of papers and new research by Freemasons who may not have previously published any research or articles on Freemasonry in general and in the Province of Buckinghamshire in particular. These may include any aspect of the history, symbolism and philosophy of Freemasonry that promote the aim of the BAMR which is "To Inform and educate." Applications are welcome, however, from any Mason in the Province.*

#### ***BIOGRAPHY***

*Elias Kupfermann works as a heritage consultant both for the private and public sector. He holds a BA in Archaeology and History from the University of Wales and a MA in Museum Studies from the University of Leicester. He is and has worked on excavations across the researching and mounting exhibitions for celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Mark*



*of Wales and a MA in Museum also a professional archaeologist world. He specialises in museums the last one being to Grand Lodge.*

### **Craft**

- 1999      *Initiated Chalfont St Peter Lodge 9656*  
*Passed 28th October*
- 2000      *Raised 26th October*
- 2001      *Joined Bulwer Lodge of Cairo (Currently Junior Deacon)*
- 2004      *Joined Buckinghamshire Lodge of Masonic Research*  
*(Currently Steward)*  
*Master - Chalfont St Peter Lodge No 9656*
- 2007      *Joined Euclid Lodge of Installed Masters*

### **Whence come you and whither directing your course?**

*by W.Bro. Nigel Beaven, PPGSwdB*

*On Saturday 16th June 2007 Nigel Beaven was the Buckinghamshire Lodge for Masonic Research Peck. As his Master's Paper Nigel had chosen the whither directing your course?" This was very which he put before the meeting.*



*Installed as Worshipful Master of No. 9585 by his predecessor David title "Whence come you and appropriate for the subject matter,*

*Nigel outlined the likely course and development of by which we have arrived at today's fraternal organisation. He then challenged us to think how we should develop our Masonic life, and those of newly Initiated brethren joining the Craft. The Paper was well received and prompted a number of comments and questions from those present.*

*Nigel is a Founder Member of BLMR having been the first and Founding Secretary. Since then he has taken the important offices of ADC, DC and Senior Warden. In addition, he has for many years been the Programme Secretary for the Lodge and has developed an interesting and stimulating mix of papers and demonstrations for the Lodge and the Association.*

*On behalf of the BAMR Nigel has spoken to a large number of Lodges, Lodges of Instruction and North East Corner Clubs. Many of these have been in Buckinghamshire, but also further afield including Scotland and the Research Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Italy. In 2005/06 Nigel was the second brother to be appointed Burnham Lecturer in the Province of Buckinghamshire.*

*Nigel was brought up in Aylesbury and now lives in Milton Keynes. He works in the forklift truck industry and does a great deal of training as part of his job. We are fortunate to have the benefit of these skills in the BAMR and BLMR. Transport is clearly in the Beaven blood. His son David works in the aero-engineering industry, currently in Canada. Nigel and his wife Kathy have recently purchased a part share in a narrow boat and can be found traversing the waterways of England on several weeks of the year.*

*Nigel's mother Lodge is de Bohun Lodge No. 8175 in Aylesbury, where his father was a member. He was Initiated in 1981 and was Master in 1994. Nigel is currently the Lodge Secretary. He holds the rank of Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearer in the Province of Buckinghamshire.*

*Nigel was Exalted into Oliver Chapter No. 2812 in 1996. He is an enthusiastic supporter and was much involved in producing the Centenary History of the Chapter in 2007. He has also been Advanced into Bletchley Lodge of Mark Master Masons*

*Our Worshipful Master works indefatigably for the benefit of the Lodge and Association. We hope that he has enjoyed his year of office and look forward to his continued contributions over many years.*

## **Women and Freemasonry.**

*Report by W.Bro. Tim Hancock*

*On Saturday 17th November 2007 at Beaconsfield the BLMR meeting welcomed W.Bro. Gordon Davie, the Prestonian Lecturer for 2005. At one point in the meeting our Tyler, Alan Watkins, knocked on the door to announce that a car was blocking the access for the caterer and needed to be moved. A shame-faced Inner Guard (name withheld) asked to be excused and W.Bro. Gordon temporarily took over the Inner Guard's duties while the important matter of ensuring that lunch was on time was attended to.*

*After the Lodge was closed, wives, families and friends were invited into the Lodge room and W.Bro. Gordon delivered his paper entitled Women and Freemasonry. Gordon confessed that the twin topics of the title were his favourite subjects, and we eagerly awaited the fruits of his research.*

*Bro. Gordon explained that in the early days it was impossible for women to become Freemasons because they held no right of property in England. This automatically excluded them from access to Freemasonry, because they failed the requirement to be 'free and of good report' by definition. He did, however, report on a number of well-documented cases where ladies had been initiated into Lodges. These included the marvellous story of Elizabeth St. Leger, who unwittingly observing a Lodge meeting in her father's library was immediately Initiated in order to preserve the secrets she had witnessed.*

*As time passed, women became more involved with Masonic activities, especially in America and on the continent. In 1902 Co-masonry, admitting both men and women, came to England from France. In 1908 the Grand Lodge of the Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Masonry was founded. Although the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary were male the order gradually became exclusively female and, by 1935, there were no men left. It might be added that relations between the founding (male) brethren and United Grand Lodge of England were somewhat strained.*

*Gordon charted the development of both co-masonry and ladies masonry in England. There are now two Grand Lodges in both cases. Although there is no official recognition, and certainly no intervisiting with UGLE, relations are now much more cordial. Indeed some Masonic centres in Buckinghamshire provide venues for ladies Lodges to meet.*

*Gordon's paper was very well received and prompted a number of questions and comments from those present, which he answered knowledgeably and directly. Gordon's presentation was most engaging and the delivery was interlaced with wry observations and dashes of humour.*

*W.Bro. Gordon is a pharmacist by profession. He practices in Bromley and is involved with career training for Pharmacists, including the delivery of lectures on various professional courses for the Medway School of Pharmacy. He is a Past Senior Grand Deacon in UGLE and was previously Assistant Grand Master for West Kent. In this capacity he was Committee Chairman for the 2003 West Kent Festival for the RMBI.*

*Well known and appreciated as a Masons speaker in Kent and London, Gordon was appointed the Prestonian Lecturer for 2005. The official presentations of the paper were given in London, West Kent and West Lancashire. However, may unofficial presentations have been given, including a number of venues in New Zealand and the Antipodes.*

*As a footnote I record that in 1958 the Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Masonry was renamed the Order of Women Freemasons. The Centenary celebrations of the Order are being held at the Royal Albert Hall in the summer of 1908. Our own W.Bro. Bernard Frow will be attending as a visitor and we look forward to his report.*