



# Vivary News

No 14

July 2019

VIVARY LODGE No. 8654

Province of Somerset English Constitution

## Our 43<sup>rd</sup> Worshipful Master

Vivary Lodge was Consecrated on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 1975 and our 44<sup>th</sup> installation meeting will be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of that month this year. An occasion attended by W Bro Redvers Webber who, due to Government duties, was unable to attend the pre Consecration meetings and therefore, unfortunately, was not classified as a Founder Member.

Our Master Elect, W Bro John Rudge, is due to be installed as our 43<sup>rd</sup> Master – W Bro Adrian Halliwell being the only Master to have served two terms of office.

John is well known to members having served as the Lodge Secretary for the first 18 years of this Millenium and as Assistant Secretary for 6 years of the previous. He will have the pleasure of having his son, Bro Ian Rudge, as the Senior Warden for this year and, 'probably', the honour of installing him in due course.

John had been through the chair of his mother Lodge in Staffordshire before moving to Taunton so he will be 'well skilled' as a WM.

## Charities get "Crawley's Cash"

During the year that W Bro Mark Crawley was in the chair of Vivary, 2017-2018, the lodge raised £1,125, and this was shared with £375 each going to three deserving charities, and cheques have been duly presented.

Mark selected the Royal Marines Charity having worked with his Company to assist with the rehabilitation of an extremely disabled ex-Marine and his family. The presentation was made to Marine and fellow Freemason, Bro Rob Barnett at the March meeting of the Lodge.



*Mark with Bro Rob Barnett*

The cheque for Teddies for Loving Care was made to Vivary member, W Bro Adrian Halliwell at the same Lodge meeting. Adrian is the local coordinator for the scheme and personally delivers the Teddies to Musgrove Park Hospital.



*Mark with W Bro Adrian*

Mark took a trip to Burnham to present a cheque, for the local RNLi to the Lifeboat Station Operations Manager, Matt Davies. He was rewarded by a tour of the station where he met the volunteers, and saw the two boats stationed there, the D Class and Atlantic 85, being launched and the first phase of the ‘sea manoeuvres’ that evening.



*Mark with the Bunham-on-sea RNLi*

The RNLi Press Officer, Ann, expressed appreciation for the donation with a report and copy of the presentation photo on the RNLi Facebook page and their Twitter Feed.

The conclusion of a good year’s work.

## **Mince pies in the Springtime \***

Vivary Lodge recently sponsored a fun Quiz Night at the Masonic Hall and raised £750 for Christmas Sparkle. The Christmas Sparkle group give presents to those children, within the Taunton Deane area, who, due to various circumstances, may otherwise not get any gift at Christmas. Gill Harrison, the founder of Christmas Sparkle, gave a brief talk on Sparkle before the off. The evening was organised by Anne and Adrian Halliwell, who reminded those present of the cause, by decorating the tables with Christmas hats, crackers and providing Mince Pies with nibbles. They also donated the quiz prizes.

There were 88 players in 14 teams competing for a prize each round. The overall winners, won by just one point, was the team captained by Mike Marshall. To continue the Christmas theme everyone joined in with singing the Twelve days of Christmas at the interval.



*Anne and Adrian suitably attired*

There was also a huge raffle with over 100 prizes. In addition to the £750 raised for Christmas Sparkles a bonus 'Heads and Tails' took place at the interval. This raised £82.00 for the Wellington Stroke Club, and brought the total evening proceeds to £832 for the two charities.

*\*This copy of this report appeared in the Somerset Gazette*

## **Vivary Members Make Merry for St George**

This year's St George's Day celebrations at Taunton Masonic Hall were opened in style with the Prosecco reception being followed by a wonderful display of drumming and marching given by the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service Corps of Drums in the Temple.

The 64 diners then sat down to enjoy a lunch that included English roast beef and Yorkshire pudding and apple pie topped with Somerset cream followed by Port.

Bro Mike Marshall proposed the toast to St George giving details of St George's background and how he came to be the National Saint of England. He was ably assisted with readings by W Bro. Adrian Halliwell and Bro Ed Richings.



The Lunch, organised by Taunton Hall Liaison Group, concluded with W Bro Jack Leeming on the piano leading the singing of traditional songs.

## **Gentlemen Welcomed**

A very successful Gentlemen's Evening was held as the Lodge Meeting in April when, in the spirit of openness which now prevails, we invited non masons and sixteen accepted.

They were welcomed informally by the Master and hosting brethren. While most of the members went into the formal meeting the guest were given information on the History of Freemasonry in Taunton and the Taunton Masonic Hall by W Bros Peter Light and Charlie Barker respectively.



*W Bro Charlie addressing the guests*



*The informal Festive Board*

All then went into the ‘Temple’ and the WM, W Bro Peter Ball, introduced W Bro Richard Parrish the Provincial Grand Mentor. He gave a presentation on the history of the organisation, the principles and practices undertaken by masons in a very friendly and informal way. Attention was drawn to the sources of information available to anyone wishing to know more about the fraternity.

It is thought possible that our current policy of such open discussion on our organisation may have led to a chorus of “Tutt, Tutt” in the Grand Lodge Above.

Members and guests then retired to the dining room to enjoy refreshments and the Festive Board. The Loyal Toast was followed by one to our Visitors proposed by W Bro John Rudge. W Bro Charlie Barker, who had brought a member and a guest on behalf of Richard Huish Lodge, responded on their behalf.

At all time the visitors were told the objective of the evening was to inform and dispel myths concerning Freemasonry and membership should be freely entered and not due to persuasion. It would appear though that the benefits of the Organisation appealed to four or five who have expressed an interest and may become members.

## **Luncheon at Pickeridge Golf Club**



*W Bro John Rudge welcomes members, their partners and guests to a Sunday Luncheon in February*

Contributions for future editions will be welcome by the Lodge Information Officer - [peter.light@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:peter.light@yahoo.co.uk)  
Back numbers of Vivary News can be viewed on Vivary Lodge web page on the Provincial web site [www.somersetfreemasons.org](http://www.somersetfreemasons.org). If any recipient does not wish to be included in the (e)mailing list for Vivary News then please contact the LIO.