

The Latest updates from the Lodge of Brotherly Love, by Bro Audrius Venteraitis.

On 1st of March, 2022, Lodge held the meeting and performed the 3rd degree Raising ceremony led by WM G Beckinsale. During the ceremony WM G Beckinsale Raised Bro A Venteraitis to the sublime 3rd degree of Master Mason.

The ceremony was honoured by attendance of a number of Grand and Provincial officers, and a Brethren from 8 visiting Lodges. After Lodge was closed in Peace and Harmony Brethren joined the Festive Board.

As it was my Raising, it's a bit unusual for me to narrate about myself, however, I'll do my best telling short story about my journey into the Freemasonry in hope, that this will encourage candidates, especial those not having anyone in the Craft (unsupported), to join without fear or doubts and maybe give some ideas to other Lodges how to support new candidate. If you believe that this is inappropriate to publish, please feel free to edit it:

“Becoming a Freemason was a long awaited event of my lifetime that will live in my memory for life. Everyone has their own motivation for joining the Craft. My interest in Freemasonry, driven by the hunger for secret knowledge and possessing a huge curiosity, started to develop more than 20 years ago, when I was living back in Lithuania.

During those days Freemasonry in my home Country was not very popular and not knowing any Freemason in person and I have nearly lost my hope to become one. However, after life brought me to the UK and spent some years settling in, I discovered the possibility to apply for membership on-line.

After filling a short questionnaire on the Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset webpage I was contacted by Province's representative W Bro D Sinclair regarding my application. Couple phone calls, a few meetings in person and I was introduced to the membership committee members of Lodge of Brotherly Love, No.329 in Yeovil. And the rest, as it says, is history.

I'm grateful for W Bro D Sinclair for becoming my first mentor in Freemasonry, for answering all those endless questions about the Craft and joining process, and helping me to find the best suited Lodge.

Before I was initiated, Senior W Bro S Defries and W Bro J Pinder invited me to a few Lodge's social events (like “Curry Club”, “Ladies Night” etc) and introduced me to Brethren from 329, what served me as a great support getting known them and for them - getting know me.

Some Masonic gatherings involve participation of family members. I'm grateful to my wife for supporting me and standing together on my journey through Freemasonry. I did experience that Brotherly Love and Friendship last far beyond the Temple walls and there's always a Brother for me in the time of need, same as I'm there for him.

Initiation night – lifetime event.

There's many rumours about the ceremony and what's happening there. Don't get into them too much, better – experience yourself, as most of those stories are told by people from outside the Craft.

I will remember my Initiation ceremony for the rest of my days, that experience and huge effort my Brothers demonstrated for me making my Initiation special. When you're waiting to be admitted to the Lodge, just trust your Brothers to guide you and enjoy the ceremony!

My Lodge Mentor Bro J Henson and all other senior Brothers patiently and thoroughly answered all initiates questions about the Lodge and the Craft. New Brothers should remember that they can ask and they'll receive the answer in the most intelligible way.

Visiting other Lodges after initiation played a huge role helping me to understand the Craft ceremonies, meet new Brothers and learn. W Bro B Gay always showed me great support while visiting other Lodges. St Cecilia Lodge No 9341; Royal Naval Lodge No 2761; Taunton Deane Lodge No 5221; Parrett & Axe Lodge No 814; Royal Clarence Lodge No 976; Somerset Military Lodge No 10021; Lodge St. Patrick No 295 I.C., The Loyal Manor Lodge No 6445 (Province of Dorset) a few Lodges to mention, who kindly invited me to their ceremonies as a Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft. This is a great experience. Whoever recently joined the Craft and has such a possibility – go for it!

The Lodge of Science No 437 was the first Lodge that I visited after my initiation. Maybe that's symbolic, but they're the first ones to be visited after I became a Master Mason.

My journey in Freemasonry just started. There's a lot to learn in and about Freemasonry, many Brothers to meet and many Lodges to visit. I'm proud of being a member of one of the oldest social and charitable organisations, where I can not only develop myself but help the less fortunate as well.

Being entrusted with some work on the floor during the ceremonies and service as a Lodge Stuart, helps me to develop personal and interpersonal skills and build confidence in myself. Craft doesn't make me a better person than others, but it definitely makes me a better person than I was before.

I'm enjoying my journey in Freemasonry and looking for many happy and successful years in the Craft.

Whoever is thinking of becoming a Freemason living, working or studying in Somerset near Yeovil, then why not consider one of the oldest lodges in the World (with history of more than 200 years), a "full moon lodge" - Lodge of Brotherly Love No 329 in Yeovil (www.lodgeofbrotherlylove.com)."