

ALMONER'S CORNER

As most lodges are in recess at this time of the year, not much news of the Brethren and their families have been received. I hope and trust that this generally indicates good health and well being over this festive season.

On behalf of the District Almoners, we wish you all swift and speedy recovery if applicable and a very prosperous and wonderful 2010 for everyone and their families.

Brethren and Families

Our thoughts and prayers go to:

Bro Georg Lilleike, from Lodge Kempton is still in the ICU at the Linksfield Clinic and is making a slow progress. Please contact Bro Werner – cell no: 083 626 7515 for updates on his condition. Our thoughts and best wishes go to his wife and family.

Bro Mike Herbert from Lodge Far East Scots, has recently been discharged from hospital, where he was treated for pneumonia.

Bro Pierre Raison, also from Lodge Far East Scots, has been ill for some time. Any Brother wishing to contact him may do so at: 083 491 2577.

Bro Bill Lewis' wife is very ill and we wish her a speedy recovery. Bro Bill is a member of Lodge Roodepoort Caledonian. Bro Bill can be contacted at: 082 442 9078.

Bro Bob Wray, Past Master of Golden Thistle Lodge has just been discharged from hospital. He was admitted for a kidney complaint, which was resolved and in addition, had a malignant cancerous growth removed for his head. Bro Bob can be contacted at 011882 8846. He would appreciate a call.

Bro Herbie Smith has been undergoing treatment for a blood clot in his lungs.

Brethren, a 'phone call or any form of support to Brethren that are in distress or have suffered trauma, will, I'm sure be greatly appreciated.

The Last Summons

Our condolences go to the family, friends and Brethren of those mentioned below:

Bro Stephen Seymour's father passed away on the 6th December. Bro Stephen may be contacted for support or condolences at: 083 533 7859.

Bro Arthur Duncan of Lodge Peglaræ passed away as a result of a motor accident on the 1st January. Bro Arthur was a dedicated Mason for nearly 50 years.

Bro Steve Samuelson's wife, Bobi, passed away.

Bro Robert Aitken Syme – fondly known as Jock by all that knew him, passed away 1st November in George. Bro Jock was a Past Master of Lodge Sound Memory.

And so it has come to pass, a loved one, having completed all the design's laid down on the Trestleboard of Life, has answered the summons of the G.A.O.T.U. and has entered into the Grand Lodge above. They shall be missed.

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Almoner's Call Centre

When personal tragedy strikes, as it has done for many Brethren over the years, please call the Almoner's Call Centre at the District Grand Office, and one of the below mentioned Almoners will either contact you directly or ensure that someone with knowledge of that particular tragedy or trauma will contact the Brother concerned.

I AM VERY HAPPY TO REPORT THAT THE ALMONER'S CALL CENTRE SEEMS TO BE WORKING WELL, ALBEIT, SLOWLY. HOWEVER, THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN CONTACTED, HAVE FELT THE STRONG BOND OF BROTHERHOOD, WHICH EXTENDS FROM EACH OF US.

Brethren, although the above is a step in the right direction, it is incumbent on everyone to send by email, 'phone or any other means any news, good or not so good to the District Grand Almoners, so that we may offer our congratulations for good news or support and help for those who are in distress. All contact details are below.

District Grand Lodge's Contact details are below.

It is entirely contrary to a Freemasons creed that a fellow Brother or their connections must suffer in isolation. To this end we ask that you contact the District Grand Lodge and volunteer your assistance, or if you know of a Brother who may benefit from a kind word and support.

In conclusion, please submit your message, whatever it is, to the District Grand Lodge to the contact numbers / address mentioned below:

Email: john.f@districtgrandlodge.co.za

Tel: 011 683 8314

Fax: 011 683 3072

District Grand Almoners in your area:

Bro Roger Edmed	082 760 1513 Gauteng
Bro Mike Ioannou	082 466 6035 Gauteng
Bro Ruben Sosa	082 549 3554 Gauteng
Bro Vic Allen	084 890 4555 Free State
Bro Eduard Mellaart	083 560 6033 Mpumalanga