



DGL NEWS

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE of CENTRAL SOUTH AFRICA

Volume V Issue 06

September 2010

FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings Brethren,
Summer is here at last!
Once again, here goes and enjoy reading!

To subscribe, or to unsubscribe, just send an e-mail to [Rhoda is my sister/secretary] with your request in the subject line, and that will do the trick.]

Bro. Neville Boner PM, Lodge Sound Memory No. 1655
SC - Nevilleb@ispr.co.za

TO THE EDITOR

In response to my request for GPS info and included as an attachment.

Hi Bro. Neville

With the consent of our Provincial Grand Secretary, who put it all together, I'm pleased to send you the addresses and gps for most of the temples in the Province. It's not totally geographically complete, as it comes from the A & A S R, and, as you know, not all temples have Chapters and / or Councils meeting there. I've left it as Excel so you can edit it and make it useful for the Lodges to utilise, share, etc.

Fraternal greetings, *Bro. David S. Kirkness PM, Lodge Argyll No. 1548*

Hi Brethren,

On Saturday 11th of September in the morning Wits Lodge will be doing a Third, Second and first degree. This could give you MM's FC and EA an opportunity to see the entire gambit of English workings in one Saturday morning. We will commence with the third at 07.30h, have breakfast at 09.15, and then move onto the second from 10.00h and first from 11.15 (after a break for Tea). We will be charging R50 per head for breakfast etc. We will also confirm all times closer to the day. We would welcome your attendance as of that of you brethren.

Fraternally, *Chris Adams, WM, Wits lodge E.C.*

Aw Ra Noos Frae the Cairngorm Republic.

Hae bros we are now in september and last month was a real doozie!

Our brother Gordon Paterson went into the chair of Lodge Gordon and although we were not there in strength please know that we are exceptionally proud of you Gordon.

As to last month we had so many members sick wae ra flu and aw the rest of the bugs fleein aroon that the almoner ran oot o money fir his cell! still bro darryl is on the mend as is myself but tae the wans that still have it, get well soon! talking of the sick great tae see grant baird in full flight at century, also his sidekick john grant also now recovered may tgaotu protect us aw!!!!!!

Our young masons meeting was on sunday 29th and a really great talk from di mclymont on approved reading for young masons. it was well attended and even better we had three fellows, five lodges and two constitutions present.

We have settled on the last sunday of the month as our permanent date except december. if you have not been, come along and hear some well known masons sharing their knowledge and passing it on to the next generation. so far we have been graced with the rwdgm bro bob law, bro grant baird, bro john grant and bro di mcklymont. look to this space fir who's next.....We will be doing a first this month on the 22nd and their will be a rehearsal on tuesday 7th at orange grove 7pm. (others to follow) this is a full run through so please attend.

The spring dance is at malvern catholic church on the 5th of september 7 pm so please come and help us to help others. contact darryl if you need tickets on0747670832.

Bingo is in the air with our jnr warden goron levell (0822022929 if you need tickets or info) going all out to make this a success with prizes galore so join us at the orangegrove hall on the 2nd of october at 7pm. the big halloween dance will be on the 27th of november and we will give further details in our next letter. october and november we will be doing third degrees for brothers tony and ray so get the wee books oot an start going through yir job. Every degree should be the best we can do! nae readin!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Enough frae me the noo.

From The eejit. *Bro. Arthur Pollock PM, The Cairngorm Republic Lodge No. 1539*

Brethren all

Lodge Lurgan I.C. has been honored by having Bro Tony Jarvis host a lecture for us on MASONIC CODES AND CIPHERS THROUGHOUT THE CENTURIES. It would be greatly appreciated if you would distribute this email to all your Masonic friends in our sister constitutions. Please note however that it will only be

open to MASTER MASONS.
Yours fraternally *Bro. Mark Aspeling WM*

Bro. Neville,
On Saturday 11 September, Witwatersrand Lodge is hosting a music evening / dinner dance at the Rivonia Recreation Club. The theme is "Let the Good Times Roll" and the dress is casual. Entrance is R150 per person - which includes a 3-course buffet dinner(roast). There will also be a cash bar at club prices. Music will be provided by an extremely talented and professional live 3-piece band (KOKO) - who play predominantly 60's and 70's Rock'n Roll and Blues music. (Eric Clapton, Pink Floyd, Bob Dylan, Rodrigues, Santana, Deep Purple, Eagles, Cat Stevens, etc). I can guarantee that the music is excellent and lends itself to an evening of fun and dancing. We already have over 100 people attending so it will be a very festive event.

Please will you and your spouse / partner join us on the evening and will you also encourage your friends , the other brethren of your Lodge and their friends to do the same. For every table of 8 you reserve your Lodge will receive a donation of R400.

Kind regards, *Bro Dennis Pewsey Witwatersrand Lodge, EC*

Can Freemasons (mainly from a Christian background) learn anything from, say, Buddhism? Part 2.

If we look at the ceremony of initiation, much is made of the idea of coming of ones own free will to the Light, and of the role of the Heart in the whole process. It is here that Freemasonry enabled me to gain some insight into Buddhism.

I'm slowly digesting the book "Awakening the Buddha within". The author's original name is Jeffrey Miller – a New York Jewish former college jock. His search for inner Truth was caused by the Kent State University massacre – he knew some of the victims.

The first point he emphasizes is that Buddhism is not a religion. It was founded by a mere mortal man who never claimed divinity in any way. You can faithfully follow the principles of Buddhism, and they will lead you inexorably back to your own religious roots (I can personally testify to this).

That fact is an additional dimension to the symbolism of perambulating the Lodge: however often we arrive at the East, we always complete the journey where we started – in the West. Buddhism is a path towards enlightenment, and Buddha's final injunction to his protégés was that he had merely discovered the way (small letter): others were to follow it further, wherever it led them.

That is one reason why there are so many Schools of Buddhism: each guru teaches his own personal insights for pupils to take or leave as they wish.

So Buddhism is a spiritual path towards enlightenment; not a religion. It is a parallel to the Western spiritual tradition of which Freemasonry is an integral part. Therefore, for those of us so inclined, we

can look for useful techniques to transfer to our Western practice.

"Buddha" means one who has attained enlightenment. The path is internal – into the heart – calling to mind the climax of the Obligation of an EA. Buddhism stresses that what we are looking for lies within our reach, inside ourselves – just as Freemasonry pointedly suggests in the long 3rd degree closing.

Like Freemasonry, Buddhism is a progressive science, to be practiced both in monastery/Lodge, and out in the world of work. What we can learn from this Oriental path is the personal self-discipline which Buddhists call meditation. Whatever else it does/is, meditation enables practitioners to stay centred in the "safe and sacred repository", and to stay true to their principles – no matter what provocation or taxi-driver ambushes them.

Just as Freemasonry teaches us to perceive the Brotherhood of all Mankind under the Fatherhood of TGAOTU, Buddhism leads us, in meditation, to perceive that we are one with, and part of all Creation – not a critical bystander.

There is much more great teaching in the book for a Freemason – I even found the phrase "by precept and example – but it is taking time. The book is highly readable, with an easy style – but the content needs thoughtful consideration.

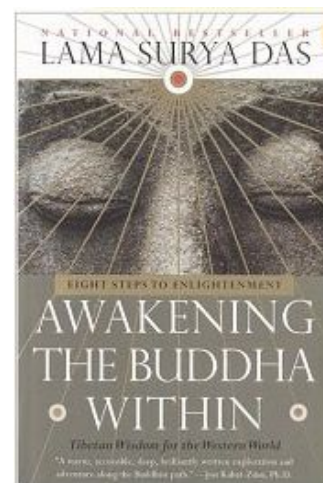
I would recommend it to any Brother wanting to enrich his life's work in the third Grand Principle – as a companion volume to his

VSL. From a Christian perspective, where the VSL teaches the What and the Who, Freemasonry, augmented by this Tibetan Buddhist manual, teaches the How-to.

Never mind that I wholeheartedly endorse the book; I urge Brethren who major on the sociable and social conscience aspects to

give some thought to the spiritual side of Freemasonry. If nothing else, my Brothers, you will learn a little patience with and acceptance of those of us who are openly Seekers.

© *By Bro.D. McClymont, WSW, Roodepoort Caledonian no. 865*



WEBSITES TO CHECK OUT:

<http://www.templarhistory.com/> -All you ever wanted to know about
<http://www.crystalinks.com/index.html> -For those who crave the esoteric
<http://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/masonic-e-cards.html> -interesting US education site
<http://www.box.net/shared/is489e03jx> -A collection of Masonic papers

POINTS TO PONDER

PATIENCE

Patience is remaining calm and relaxed in the face of delay or provocation without becoming annoyed or upset; or exhibiting forbearance when under strain, especially when faced with longer-term difficulties. That's the dictionary definition, but patience is so much more.

It is also used to refer to the character trait of being steadfast and having forbearance. What could be better than forbearance as a Masonic virtue!

Patience is often described as a core virtue in religion or spiritual practices. For example, Job is a figure that appears in the Hebrew Bible, Christian Bible and the Qur'an; his story is considered a profound religious work. We have all heard the phrase *"He has the patience of Job"*. Well this theme is about the coexistence of the devil and God. The application of patience is highlighted as the resolution of the earthly struggles caused by that coexistence. The theme of Job in these Holy books is that Job endures near-catastrophic calamities without losing his patience or reproaching the Creator. In the Qur'an, the person of Job is actually known as Ayyub, which is a name that is symbolic of the *virtue* of patience.

Patience and fortitude are prominent themes in Judaism. The Talmud extols patience as an important personal trait. The story of Micah, for example, is that he suffers many challenging conditions and yet endures, saying "I will wait for the God who saves me." Patience in God, it is said, will aid believers in finding the strength to be delivered from the evils that are inherent in the physical life. In the Hebrew Bible, Ecclesiastes, it is said: *"Better is the patient spirit than the lofty spirit. Do not in spirit become quickly discontented, for discontent lodges in the bosom of a fool."*

In the Christian religion, patience is one of the most valuable virtues of life. Increasing patience is viewed as the work of the Holy Ghost in the Christian who has accepted the gift of salvation. Patience, is one of the seven virtues, alongside chastity, temperance, charity, diligence, kindness, and humility. In Islam, patience is one of the best and most valuable virtues of life.

Through patience, a Muslim believes that an individual can grow closer to Allah and thus attain true peace. It is also stressed in Islam, that Allah is with those who are patient, more specifically during suffering. The Qur'an states that Muslims should *"Persevere in patience and constancy" and "be steadfast in patience"*. It notes that *"No one will be granted such goodness except those who exercise patience and self-restraint, none but persons of the greatest good fortune."*

Interesting, but what does this have to do with us? I'm glad you asked. One of the fundamentals of Freemasonry is patience or tolerance. The Old Testament tells us that we should conduct ourselves with all humility and gentleness, with patience showing tolerance for one another with love. Being tolerant and indulgent with those whose opinions and practices differ from ours. It also means being free from intolerance and bigotry, or severity in judging the opinions or practices of others. John F Kennedy summed it up nicely *"tolerance implies no lack of commitment to ones own beliefs, but rather it condemns oppression and persecution of others"*. Speculative Masonry, like Operative Masonry, cannot

make a Perfect Ashlar out of an imperfect specimen: Speculative Masonry admits only good men; just as the Operative Mason will work only with good stone; flawed material cannot be made perfect. 'A rough stone can be made smooth, but it must be capable of taking the polish or the work will be in vain.

Making a stone perfect, much like perfecting a man, or carving a statue, is not done by adding something; it is done by taking away: removing the superfluous, brings out what is within and thus is found what is closer to perfection; this takes time and patience. Sound familiar? As Masons we are taught the Cardinal Virtues through the respective lectures of the three degrees, and which, we are taught are the formula to govern the conduct of every Mason. Fortitude, Temperance, Prudence and Justice are impressed upon us early in Masonic learning and are an included part of the Entered Apprentice degree. Fortitude means we stay the course. It does not permit us to give up. Temperance dictates moderation in all things and therefore, the practicing Mason is not excessive in his living habits. Again, there is nothing particularly spiritual in that practice. Prudence requires that a Mason use good judgment in all that he endeavors as he goes about the business of daily living, and Justice dictates that he would practice the biblical lesson that *"he would treat others as he would be treated."* The preceding describes those attributes required for a stable, happy and productive life in the material world. They work quite well when followed and certainly have withstood the test of time as a formula for constructive-action.

Continuing the degree work we hear also of Faith, Hope and Charity and we are told that of these the greatest is Charity. Faith and Hope are clearly functions of the mind. A Mason has Faith that he will achieve a unity with Deity. In his mind he Hope(s) to fulfill his goal. Neither Faith nor Hope can occur outside of man's thought process and so must be attached to the Fellow Craft degree as that is the degree of a thinking Mason who is able to apply his gavel in the horizontal to remove rough edges and achieve an ashlar of not only horizontal dimensions, but also of true perpendiculars. Charity, being the greatest of the virtues and the third of the group presents its own special considerations because it is found in both our earthly life as well as our spiritual world. As the third of the group it creates the number three. Therefore, it is also a characteristic of the Fellow Craft degree. It is also a spiritual act insomuch as Jesus said, *"that which you do to the least of man, you do also to me."* Thus, it ties directly to the Master Mason degree since the Master Mason is supposed to be a Master in his understanding of the ways of the Craft. Finding these parallels, Charity could be said to be a giving act, prompted by thought, and that we are all part of the Divine.

These then, are the 7 Cardinal virtues that govern the conduct of every Mason and determine the traits of a Freemason, and Patience is a trait to be desired within the heart of every Mason if they will grow in Light on their Journey. What does a Mason do when he meets another with differing views? Nothing - he patiently listens.

By Worshipful Brother Allen Greene Grand Chaplain
for the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Minnesota
T.F.S. © T.F.S. © Bro. Ted Halpaus Grand L.E.O

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POEM

I CANNOT CHANGE

I cannot change the way I am,
I never really try,
God made me different and unique,
I never ask him why.

If I appear peculiar,
There's nothing I can do,
You must accept me as I am,
As I've accepted you.

God made a casting of each life,
Then threw the Mold away,
Each child is different from the rest,
Unlike as night from day.

So often we will criticize,
The things that others do,
But, do you know, they do not think,
The same as me and you.

So God in all his wisdom,
Who knows us all by name,
He didn't want us to be bored,
That's why we're not the same
~Author Unknown~

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

by Bro. Zak Theron, WSW, Lodge Unity, 1006.

"Nothing focuses the mind like the sight of a hanging"-
Samuel Johnson

However, in the case of the Knights Templar, this adage apparently did not apply. Because, even though they had undergone hideous torture, and even though they "confessed" their purported heinous crimes, it appears that these much-maligned gentlemen couldn't quite remember of what they were guilty. Stated differently, their penitent "confessions" were at times contradictory. And this is never more apparent than when they "admitted" to worshipping a demon named Baphomet.

Common sense tells us that when a whole group of people are guilty of blasphemous crimes while their

lives are at stake, then the confessions as to the nature of the offenses should more or less correspond. But for some reason, the Templars couldn't remember what the idol they worshipped looked like. Nor what, exactly, his name was, or even what he represented – or why they worshipped him at all. The whole affair becomes even more confusing when one bears in mind that the official name of the Knights Templar (Templiers) was the "Order of the Poor Knights of Christ." They were formed in Jerusalem in 1118 to protect the pilgrims visiting Palestine at the end of the First Crusade of 1096. The full, original name was "The Poor Knights of Christ and the Temple which is in Jerusalem," or, Knights Templar(s), for short. Be that as it may, one doesn't have to be a Doctor of Theology to notice that these titles do not automatically imply an inclination to devil worship

But the Templars were also called the Knights of the Red Cross, and their symbol was that of a red cross on a white field. In 1128, when the Order was confirmed by Pope Honorius II, the Knights received the white vestment as a symbol of the purity of their life. In 1146 Pope Eugenius added "the red cross with two bars," so the many illustrations we see of the double-barred cross are no doubt appropriate. Again, this is hardly indicative of a gang of goat – or cat – or cockerel – or devil worshipping charlatans. To confuse the issue even more, nobody knows for sure whence the name Baphomet derives. Here are a few theories: As has been stated before, Baphomet, as a name, has been labeled as Old French or even a mispronunciation for Mahomet (Mohammed) the Islamic prophet. It is unlikely that the Baphomet idol, if it ever existed was an idol of Mahomet. This is because the Islamic faith forbids all idols. Therefore the idea of a Mahomet idol is highly speculative at best, and, quite rightly, highly offensive to Muslims. It is believed that in those times Mahomet was a common word used by Christians to describe any idol. But that was in THOSE times. Idries Shah was Director of Studies for the Institute of Cultural Research. In his book "The Sufis," he theorised that Baphomet was really a corruption of the Arabic term "Abufihat" meaning "Father of Understanding." If this is the case, and the Templars had adopted Sufism into their rituals, then this possible etymology of Baphomet could simply imply "God."

There is the (highly unlikely) Atbash Theory. Atbash is a simple substitution cipher for the Hebrew alphabet. It consists in substituting aleph (the first letter) for tav (the last), beth (the second) for shin (one before last), and so on, reversing the alphabet. This is what Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia has to say, "An Atbash cipher for the Roman alphabet would be as follows:

Plain: abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Cipher: ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFEDCBA

An easier, simpler and faster way of doing this is:

First 13 letters: A|B|C|D|E|F|G|H|I|J|K|L|M

Last 13 Letters: Z|Y|X|W|V|U|T|S|R|Q|P|O|N

Atbash can also be used to mean the same thing in any other alphabet as well. This is a very simple

substitution cipher.

For example, in Atbash, the letters "nlmvyb" indicate the word "money."

A few English words 'Atbash' into other English words. For example, "hob"="sly," etc. The problem with this explanation, proposed by Dr. Hugh Schonfield, is that it employs the Hebrew language to demonstrate that the Atbash cipher for Baphomet (using Hebrew characters) translates into "Sophia" the Greek word for "Wisdom" – but written in Hebrew script. It is not clear why they would go to such lengths to arrive at a fairly unspectacular destination.

The list of theories goes on and on without shedding much meaningful light on the subject. But something that DOES shed considerable light on the charges levelled at the Knights is an article which appeared in Reuters, on Friday, 12 October 2000.

We give it in full:

[Knights Templar win heresy reprieve after 700 years](#)

Fri Oct 12, 2007 4:10am EDT

By Philip Pullella

VATICAN CITY (Reuters) - The Knights Templar, the medieval Christian military order accused of heresy and sexual misconduct, will soon be partly rehabilitated when the Vatican publishes trial documents it had closely guarded for 700 years.

A reproduction of the minutes of trials against the Templars, "Processus Contra Templarios -- Papal Inquiry into the Trial of the Templars" is a massive work and much more than a book -- with a 5,900 Euros (\$8,333) price tag.

"This is a milestone because it is the first time that these documents are being released by the Vatican, which gives a stamp of authority to the entire project," said Professor Barbara Frale, a medievalist at the Vatican's Secret Archives.

"Nothing before this offered scholars original documents of the trials of the Templars," she told Reuters in a telephone interview ahead of the official presentation of the work on October 25.

The epic comes in a soft leather case that includes a large-format book including scholarly commentary, reproductions of original parchments in Latin, and -- to tantalize Templar buffs -- replicas of the wax seals used by 14th-century inquisitors.

Reuters was given an advance preview of the work, of which only 799 numbered copies have been made. One parchment measuring about half a meter wide by some two meters long is so detailed that it includes reproductions of stains and imperfections seen on the originals.

Pope Benedict will be given the first set of the work, published by the Vatican Secret Archives in collaboration with Italy's Scrinium cultural foundation, which acted as curator and will have exclusive world distribution rights.

The Templars, whose full name was "Poor Fellow-Soldiers of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon", were founded in 1119 by knights sworn to protecting Christian pilgrims visiting the Holy Land after the Crusaders captured Jerusalem in 1099.

They amassed enormous wealth and helped finance wars of some European monarchs. Legends of their hidden treasures, secret rituals and power have figured over the years in films and bestsellers such as "The Da Vinci Code".

The Knights have also been portrayed as guardians of the legendary Holy Grail, the cup used by Christ at the Last Supper before his crucifixion.

The Vatican expects most copies of the work to be bought up by specialized libraries at top universities and by leading medieval scholars.

BURNED AT THE STAKE

The Templars went into decline after Muslims re-conquered the Holy Land at the end of the 13th century and were accused of heresy by King Philip IV of France, their foremost persecutor. Their alleged offences included denying Christ and secretly worshipping idols.

The most titillating part of the documents is the so-called Chinon Parchment, which contains phrases in which Pope Clement V absolves the Templars of charges of heresy, which had been the backbone of King Philip's attempts to eliminate them.

Templars were burned at the stake for heresy by King Philip's agents after they made confessions that most historians believe were given under duress.

The parchment, also known as the Chinon Chart, was "misplaced" in the Vatican archives until 2001, when Frale stumbled across it.

"The parchment was catalogued incorrectly at some point in history. At first I couldn't believe my eyes. I was incredulous," she said.

"This was the document that a lot of historians were looking for," the 37-year-old scholar said.

Philip was heavily indebted to the Templars, who had helped him finance his wars, and getting rid of them was a convenient way of cancelling his debts, some historians say.

Frale said Pope Clement was convinced that while the Templars had committed some grave sins, they were not heretics.

SPITTING ON THE CROSS

Their initiation ceremony is believed to have included spitting on the cross, but Frale said they justified this as a ritual of obedience in preparation for possible capture by Muslims. They were also said to have practiced sodomy.

"Simply put, the pope recognized that they were not heretics but guilty of many other minor crimes -- such as abuses, violence and sinful acts within the order," she said. "But that is not the same as heresy."

Despite his conviction that the Templars were not guilty of heresy, in 1312 Pope Clement ordered the Templars disbanded for what Frale called "the good of the Church" following his repeated clashes with the French king.

Frale depicted the trials against the Templars between 1307 and 1312 as a battle of political wills between Clement and Philip, and said the document means Clement's position has to be reappraised by historians. "This will allow anyone to see what is actually in documents like these and deflate legends that are in

vogue these days," she said.

Rosi Fontana, who has helped the Vatican coordinate the project, said: "The most incredible thing is that 700 years have passed and people are still fascinated by all of this."

"The precise reproduction of the parchments will allow scholars to study them, touch them, admire them as if they were dealing with the real thing," Fontana said.

"But even better, it means the originals will not deteriorate as fast as they would if they were constantly being viewed," she said.

SOURCE:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/newsOne/idUSL093422320071012?sp=true>

QUOTABLE QUOTES:

"There are only two mistakes one can make along the road to truth; not going all the way, and not starting." - -- Buddha -- [Gautama Siddharta] (563 - 483 BC), Hindu Prince

"In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit." Albert Schweitzer

"To dare is to lose one's footing momentarily. To not to dare is to lose oneself." -Soren Kierkegaard

"Better be ignorant of a matter than half know it."- Publilius Syrus (1st Century B.C.) Roman writer of mimes

UNDERSTANDING OUR LAWS AND BYE-LAWS-

Law No.85

Each Provincial or District Grand Master shall have the following powers and duties in addition to those specified elsewhere in these Laws:-

a) He shall ensure that every Daughter Lodge under his charge is visited officially each year by a Deputation from his Provincial or District Grand Lodge; enquire into the state and condition of the said Lodges; receive from them any proposals or requests they desire to be submitted to Grand Lodge and, in particular, make inquiry into the Degrees practiced therein. If not present in person he shall obtain a full report from the Office-bearer heading the Deputation.

b) He shall examine the state of Freemasonry in his Province or District, correct any faults, omissions or wrongful actings, and may pronounce any admonition which in his opinion is merited.

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FROM THE BLOGISPHERE:

Once deadly warriors, today tourist draw: Polish city trying to cash in on Teutonic Knights



Source: [CBS News](#) (8-2-10)

The Teutonic Knights have long been reviled in Poland, where the Germanic warriors swept in during the Middle Ages and converted pagans to Christianity at the point of a sword. Many here see them as an early incarnation of a Germany that has attacked Poland over the centuries, most recently in World War II. But now one Polish town is putting all grudges aside and celebrating the memory of the Teutonic Knights in an attempt to highlight the rich history of this once-German municipality and stimulate tourism in a region still catching up with Western Europe economically. In an elaborate ceremony Saturday that drew hundreds of people, Roman Catholic priests

consecrated the newly discovered remains of three of the order's 14th- and 15th-century leaders -- or "grand masters" -- with a Mass in the city's St. John the Evangelist Cathedral.

The cathedral is part of a massive red-brick fortress that was once a base for the knights' notorious raids, an imposing reminder to the town's 40,000 inhabitants of its German past.

"This history belongs to this city," said Wojciech Weryk, who leads a drive to promote Kwidzyn. "It is a very good product from the point of view of history and tourists."...

INTRODUCING.....



THE WIDOWS SONS OF SOUTH AFRICA

The logo and the concept of the Widows Sons Motorcycle Association, was conceived by Bro. Carl Davenport from Chicago, IL. in the year 2000 after several weeks where eventually his ideas coalesced into the image of a beautiful woman with a pale look on her face (below-centre) and the formation of a Motorcycle Riders Association for Master Masons. The original 'Widow Patch' is still used but there have been two other patches designed and brought into use since then. The one (below-left), which we refer to as the 'Wings Patch' and was adopted by the Widows Sons of South Africa Grand Chapter. The other 'main patch' was one that the Grand Master of the English Grand Lodge requested, and approved, (below-right) which is the patch for the Widows Sons of all of Great Britain.



While the Widows Sons of South Africa Grand Chapter has been recognised and awarded a charter from the USA we are not an international association; we are proudly and totally independent and 200% South African.

I was made an honorary member of the Widows Sons of Ontario York Chapter in October 2009, and brought back my leather waist-coat and details of this association to the Masons in South Africa. There has been an amazing and continually increasing interest, support and enthusiasm for the Widows Sons in the Johannesburg area. There also has been tremendous energy, assistance and input from Masons of all four constitutions and so far we have letters of 'acknowledgement' from three of the four constitutions. I say acknowledgement as we are not a

Masonic organisation; we are an association of motorcycle riders who are Master Masons. Our approaches to the DGL's and PGL's were purely out of courtesy and respect. The WSSA is an association with membership open to all the 'recognised constitutions' as reflected by our office-bearers and members. There are already serious and enthusiastic requests for assistance in setting up 'daughter chapters' from Cape Town, Welkom and in Natal. The reasons behind forming the Grand Chapter was to give us the freedom from international associations; which the other 'Biker Clubs' in South Africa do not allow, but also to be of assistance to the 'daughter chapters' who may wish to establish chapters in their areas; this can be done 'locally'! There was no need for them to go through the tremendous amount of work that the Grand Chapter had to go through, to get 'up-and-running'. We are also able to supply all the documentation and patches that they will require and we still maintain a South African independence. It has all been possible only with the assistance of the officers and committee of the WSSA and others who volunteered and worked tirelessly to build this association; and the enthusiasm of the WSSA members. These hard working officers are listed at the end of this introduction letter. We have not restricted the membership to MM's alone, but have also opened the association to wives and close male friends of MM's who are current members; and at present we have seven Lady members as associates and they have their own patch. The associates do not wear Masonic Symbols and cannot hold office or vote, as this is a 'Masonic Motorcycle Association' but we all love to see them there and appreciate their support!

The WSSA Grand Chapter is only about four months old but we have already had our inaugural run to Deneyville where forty-one people turned up and twenty-four bikes were counted. Now we are trying to support Masonic fund-raisers wherever we can as it will only be next year before we can start fund-raising in our own right! Our charitable donations recipients are decided by the members of our Grand Chapter but are focused on widows and orphans of Master Masons in need and other 'worthy Masonic causes'.

The Widows Sons was introduced to the President's Council of Central Johannesburg almost three months ago; again as a gesture of courtesy and also respect to the 'Biker Community' in Johannesburg; and although the acceptance for 'new clubs' had long closed the WSSA was accepted as a member of the President's Council without protest; which is indeed a great honour for us!

A member of the WSSA must firstly be a Mason in good standing with his Lodge (and prove this annually) and support his Lodge to the best of his ability. He must have a motorcycle of at least 400cc which must be 'street-legal'. Scooters and Quads are not allowed. Members have to be proposed and seconded by existing members and display all the attributes of our Masonic ideals and behaviour. Male associates are accepted if sons of Masons, or are an individual of the calibre that may one day may motivate them to

choose to become a Freemason of the constitution of their choice. Male associate members can only remain members of the WSSA for three years but can be 'promoted' to member status and remain in the WSSA if they become MM's in that time. There is a twenty-five percent of membership limit in this category relative to the current number of 'full members'. If any further information is required please contact myself, or the National Secretary, Bro. Derreck Morris contact details below.

Yours Sincerely and Fraternally,

Allan Crawley PM, SC. B.Sc. Hon. Industrial Technology & Management. National President, Widows Sons of South Africa Grand Chapter. Hon Member Ontario, York Chapter Widows Sons Canada. Masonic Motorcycle Association.
 allan.crawley@barclays.com Ph. H. 011 672 5303 Cell 084 630 0924 W. 011 772 7656

THE YOUNG MASONS CLUB

The whole idea is that we bring up topics that are not generally discussed in lodge or if they are usually in a superficial way. It is seen by us as a way of not just generating Masonic interest but Masonic friendship within the lodge and with other lodges.

We also try to get the various levels of young masons interacting as these are their contemporaries in Masonic life and by getting to know each other the circle widens.

We will be continuing with this and have decided on the last Sunday of each month as being our firm date. The address is Arthur Pollock, 34 Langermann Drive / cnr Orion St Kensington, JHB. 0726020468.

We have had such notables or luminaries as The RWDGM Bro Bob Law, bro Grant Baird, bro John Grant as guest speakers but the topic is chosen by the members of our lodge.

So this is the general layout of what it is but as a way of generating friendship and spreading knowledge we think we have a winner.

Bro Di came and gave a talk on selected reading for young masons. As it was fellow crafts and above he included the second degree charge as a method of pointing out to them their duties as fellows. His talk was erudite and he managed to answer the many questions put forward not just by the fellows but by the various masters who attended.

We had three fellows and five lodges participating along with our lodge. Also nice was that we had masons from the GLSA who joined and met with us on the level.

The young masons attending have obviously read many of the current crops of Masonic books and are very knowledgeable in their own right.

The braai part was very much enjoyed by all and bro Darryl was at his best at the fire.

We have also advertised Cenury's next meeting so we hope a great turnout.

The photo I think says it all, smoke from the fire, the cool drink on the table? And Di in full flood!

We start at three pm and finish at six so none of the wives or girlfriends gets annoyed with us and hopefully it will continue.

By Bro. Arthur Pollock, PM, The Cairngorm Republic Lodge No. 1539

PHOTOGENICS



Our Proxy DGM Bro. Jim Jack his wife Helen his newly wed daughter Emma and twin sons Stewart and Andrew. She was married recently in Scotland.



RWDGM and Past Dep. DGM being "requested" by Big Joe to enjoy themselves at the recent Potje Competition at Roslin Park"

NOTICE

Bro. Tommy Hare's famous red wines are still available
 R 30.00 per bottle
 HURRY while stocks last!!!!
 To order: Tommy 083-2323599

EVENTS!!!

Lodge Braemar SC 1469 Scottish Country & Social Dance Evening



Come enjoy with us the wonderful tradition of Scottish Country dancing.

Join in, learn a few steps and have great fun.

There will also be some social dancing
Saturday 18th September 2010, at 7:30pm,
Rewlatch Masonic Hall

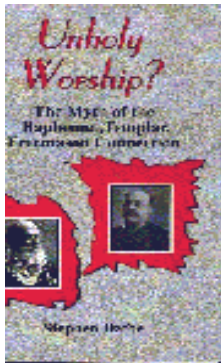
Traditional Scotch Pies & Mushy Peas +
Pudding AND Cash Bar

Cost R70 per Person. Contact Jim Hoy
0824592878

BOOK REVIEW:

UNHOLY WORSHIP - THE MYTH OF THE BAPHOMET, TEMPLAR, FREEMASON CONNECTION

by Stephen Dafoe



As his second book on Templar issues, Dafoe does a commendable job 'debunking' the foolishness of the [Baphomet myth](#). He explores in detail the trials of the Knights Templar and the charges which arose from their suppression. He then goes on to describe theories surrounding the 'head' they were supposed to worship and interweaves them with the theories and descriptions of the devil

of Christianity. Finally, he ties it all together with an excellent presentation of the Taxil hoax, showing the ludicrousness of the charges made today by certain religious intolerants. We found just one quibble: a piece of reference material used by Dafoe (a quote from the fanatical anti-Semite Nesta Webster) makes assumptions without proof - and the reference itself is hardly definitive. Notwithstanding, this small (75 page) book is one you will refer to again and again when you read yet another of the strange and contemptuous charges leveled against Freemasonry.

SEPTEMBER 2010			
1	Turffontein	1st Degree	Rewlatch
2	Balmoral	Lecture	Olifantsfontein
2	Caledonian	1st Degree	Germiston
2	Athol	1st Degree	Boksburg
2	Randfontein		Krugersdorp
3	Scotia		Orange Grove
3	The Pilgrim		Lydenburg
6	Energy		Secunda
9	Brakpan		Brakpan
9	Peglarae		Rustenburg
9	Roodepoort Caledonian		Roodepoort
9	Golden Thistle	Installation	Park Lane
10	Northern Province	Mark	Orange Grove
11	St John in South	Installation	Barberton
6	Towerby	Lecture	Rewlatch
13	Alberton		Germiston
13	Discoverers	1st Degree	Roodepoort
13	Border		Vereeniging
13	Sound Memory	3rd Degree	Orange Grove Boksburg
14	Heredom	Mark	North
14	King Solomon	2nd Degree	Germiston
8	Piet Retief	1st Degree	Vereeniging
4	Welcome-Rondezvous	Installation	Bothaville
4	Nelspruit United	Installation	Nelspruit
8	Douglas		Germiston
8	Alpha Crucis		Rewlatch Boksburg
8	Benoni Kilwinning		North
8	North West Bedford	Lecture	Orange Grove
16	Western Star		Roodepoort
15	Caxton		Orange Grove
15	Masonic Services		Park Lane
15	Bloemhof-Fontein		Klerksdorp
17	Tvl Volunteer	Lecture	Park Lane
18	Blyde	3rd Degree	Pilgrims Rest
20	Liberty	Lecture	The Willows
20	Florida	3rd Degree	Roodepoort
21	St Andrew	Installation	Kensington
16	Cairngorm Republic	1st Degree	Orange Grove
21	Nigel		Nigel
15	Gordon		Rewlatch
15	Caxton	Lecture	Orange Grove
16	Unity	Installation	Pretoria
23	Brixton	2nd Degree	Norwood Boksburg
23	East Rand Scots		North
23	Sabie		Nelspruit
23	Glen Douglas		Rewlatch
24	Robert Burns Mem	1st Degree	Germiston
28	Orpheus		The Willows
28	Middelburg United		Middleburg
22	Argyll		Roodepoort
22	Somah Herber	3rd Degree	Park Lane
22	Oranje		Bloemfontein