



Three Not Out:

Brethren,

As I enter my third term as RWM, it seems like only yesterday when I was first installed in 1982 and secondly in 2000, however alot has changed since then. A fall in attendances, a fall in candidates, current economic climates have all made this a very difficult time in freemasonry.

That being said, we need to look to the future with some hope and optimism. Freemasonry is not what it used to be. Things have to change and technologies are part of



this transition. The internet has blown away many of the myths and misconceptions of our great order. Many lodges now have their own websites promoting freemasonry. This can of course lead to new candidates and many new opportunities for the lodge. I encourage all brethren to promote our website (www.1186net.co.uk). Email communication is also growing very fast, allowing real time communication between, not only, the brethren, but between all of the lodges.

Please note that we must be prudent when communicating via this medium. **Remember** “*Our words and actions are recorded*”.

On a lighter note, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of the brethren who attended the lodges Annual Installation and Festival of St John. I hope you all enjoyed the festivities. Special thanks to everyone who participated in the installation ceremony.

We are very fortunate this year as we currently have candidates lined up which should last till the end of the year. We also have a new bread of office bearer coming through the ranks which should ensure the lodges future success for years to come. We have an excellent management team within the lodge which are very prudent and very motivated. With this drive and motivation of the brethren, Lodge St John Stoneyburn can only go from strength to strength.

Don't forget we are only nine years away from our centenary, which will mark a huge chapter in the history of Lodge St John, and this will only be achieved by the dedication and devotion of the brethren within the columns. I wish all my office bearers a very good year in office and to all the visiting brethren , thank you once again for your continued support to our “Wee Lodge”.

Fraternal Wishes

Ronnie

“Our words and actions are recorded”

Lodge Almondale Visitation:

A large deputation was received on the 4th February by Lodge Almondale No1658. They had been invited to confer the EA degree. Headed by their RWM Bro Jim Caven, the lodge proceeded to instruct Bro Grant Douglas (MM from Lodge Elgin and Bruce No1077) into the

mysteries and secrets of ancient freemasonry.

At the conclusion of the degree, PM Bro Billy Farquhar (Lodge St James No590), thanked the lodge on behalf of the visitors.

Lodges represented:
272, 590, 1077, 1272, 1601, 1658

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Fellowcraft Degree:

The second meeting in February (18th) saw Bro George McRae being passed to the second square or fellowcraft degree by the office bearers of the lodge. A total of 51 signed the book.

Bro McRae's Master Mason degree will be conferred by the office Bearers of the lodge on March 4th.

The lodge was also visited by brethren from the following lodges.... 272, 374, 1145, 1232, 1272, 1587, 1601, 1614 and 1658



Honorary Membership:

The lodge was extremely proud to confer honorary membership on PM Bro Tom Walker (Lodge St John Midcalder No272), and PM Bro Allan Baker (Lodge KirktonHall No1614) on

Thursday 18th February. The RWM thanked both brethren for their support and active contributions towards the lodge. Amazingly both brethren were stuck for words, but thanked the RWM and brethren of the lodge for the honour bestowed upon them.

Petitions:

The lodge has received one petition.....

Mr Andrew Hamilton, Meadowhead Avenue, Addiewell.

Proposed by PM Bro John Mushet and seconded by PM Bro John Denholm

Installation Thanks:

The RWM would like to thank all of the brethren (94) from the following lodges for their attendance at the Annual Installation and Festival of St John.

13, 17, 85, 178, 272, 374, 590, 781, 827, 877, 927, 1145, 1272, 1305, 1505, 1601, 1614 and 1658.

Haste Ye Back!

Lodge Re-Decoration:

The Lodge redecoration took place on the weekend of the 13th and 14th February. Initially the redecoration was directed at the back room but soon snowballed to part of the main hall and part of the entrance hall. Armed with pain brushes, paint pads and rollers, the brethren took to the task, aided by Anne McLachlan (Andy's wife) and PM Bro Alan Borsbey's kids.



Before

Three hours on both days saw the back room transformed from a sickly yellow storeroom to a new, clean lounge. Refreshments were provided by

PM Bro Alan Borsbey , who also cleaned out the kitchen. Thanks to all who turned out over the weekend.

After



Future Articles:

Should any brother have any articles of interest, photographs etc, trips down memory lane, then please submit them to the Bro Secretary, PM Bro Alan Borsbey at the following email address... bod101uk@yahoo.co.uk

Please note:

Only photographs sanctioned by the owner will be used.

Reminder:

Money is still being collected towards the Bochum and Salfire funds. Any donations will be gratefully received.

Mark Your Diaries:

4th Mar – MM degree by 1186

8th Mar – Visit to 1601 to confer FC Degree

18th Mar – EA degree by 1186 (Prov. Visitation)

29th Mar – Committee meeting

1st April – EA degree by 1601

13th April – Visit to 1145 to confer FC Degree

15th April – MMM Degree by 1186

16th April – Visit to 1614 to confer MMM degree

29th April – 3 Lodge tie with 409 and 636 at the Douglas Lodge