

MAY 2023



The Plumblíne

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MUNSTER



Rt. W. Bro. Derek Dunne made a presentation to recently-retired M.W. Grand Master, Douglas T. Grey during his recent visit to Freemasons' Hall, Tuckey Street, Cork. M.W. Bro. Grey was guest of honour on the occasion of the annual luncheon hosted by R.W. Bro. Dunne on May 20th, 2023 to honour members of the Order who have served for fifty and more years. The presentation took the form of a hand-turned maul with Cork silver, bearing an appropriate inscription from the Brethren of the Province of Munster to acknowledge, in a special way, M.W. Bro. Grey's contribution to Irish Freemasonry. The uniqueness of the maul lies in the provenance of the wood from which it was made. The piece of beech originated in the grounds of Doneraile Court, the home of Lady Elizabeth Aldworth, further emphasising the unique claim which only the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster can make to "The Lady Freemason".

Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster

Freemason's Hall, 27 Tuckey Street, Cork.



*'We travel not for trafficking alone:
By hotter winds our fiery hearts are fanned:
For lust of knowing what should not be known
We make the Golden Journey to Samarkand.'*

James Elroy Flecker

Lines from Flecker's poem, 'The Golden Journey to Samarkand', came to mind recently when I heard that St. FinBarre's Lodge, No. 8, were to reintroduce their evenings of education and discussion. These monthly evenings are a wonderful way for new, and indeed not so new, Masons to come together in an informal setting to learn more about our ritual, our customs and some of our idiosyncrasies. I thank a small 'band of brothers' in Lodge 8 for keeping this flame of learning alight and commend these evenings to every member in the Province, young and old alike.

Talking of journeys I was also delighted to hear

that our merry band of motor bikers are to don their leathers once again and take to the highways and byways. If there are any budding Joey Dunlops out there I know you would be made feel most welcome. I very much look forward to hearing of their exploits over the summer months – Squeals on Wheels!

Despite some early teething problems the new Grand Lodge system for capturing data, Salesforce, appears to have bedded in. I wish to express my sincere thanks to our Provincial Grand Secretary, **V.W. Bro. Kevin Ryan**, and the Lodge Secretaries around the Province for their patience and forbearance in ensuring that we in Munster are fully compliant. I would encourage every Lodge Secretary to engage with the system on a regular basis to ensure that all the information is in real time. I for one find access to this information invaluable and am happy to report that the Province has recorded an increase in membership of 10% since June 2022.



Rt. W. Bro. Derek Dunne, PGM Munster pictured with Rt. W. Bro. Cecil Wellwood, P.G.M. Midland Counties and his P.G. Deputy - Rt. W. Bro. John Murray on the occasion of their visit to the May Provincial Grand Lodge meeting.

Lodges across the Province are to be congratulated on having initiated a record number of new Brethren in such a short period of time. As ever a cautionary word - the trick now is to retain these new Brethren and we must all look at ways in which we can make Freemasonry in Munster as welcoming, as meaningful and as relevant for all members, but especially these new men, as possible. The Provincial Grand Inspector, **W. Bro. Pat Evans**, who has responsibility for the 3 R's Initiative in the Province, will be visiting each Lodge during the year to plumb the issues and to determine what resources we need to put in place to address them. I would ask that you give him every assistance in this important work.

I wish to extend my warmest congratulations to **R.W. Bro. Charles Olden** on his elevation to M.E. Grand King of Supreme Grand Royal Arch. Charles' installation in Molesworth Street in January was a most impressive affair and it was good to see so many Companions travel from Munster lending a splash of colour to proceedings.

The Installation of the new Grand Master, **M.W. Bro. Rodney McCurley**, in Grand Lodge in April was also a spectacular and colourful event with many foreign constitutions present. It was heartening to see an impressive turnout from Munster on the day many of whom, along with wives and partners, made a night of it and enjoyed the celebratory banquet in Dublin's Mansion House that evening.

'We are the Pilgrims, master; we shall go Always a little further.'

And so, a little further **we** must go... Work continues apace on preparatory works for the new extension to our Tuckey Street premises and I am glad to report that following extensive dialogue with the Finance Committee of Grand Lodge, even welcoming the Grand Treasurer and Grand Superintendent of Works to Freemasons' Hall recently, there have been a number of developments on the financial front. This is an important acknowledgement of the significance of Tuckey Street not only to the Province of Munster but to Freemasonry in Ireland. All the more reason then, that we as a Province

acknowledge our own responsibility and accountability and not be found wanting. The Tuckey Street Development Finance Committee have also met and have drafted plans on how we in Munster will tackle our share of the fundraising effort. These plans will be shared with every member in Munster in the coming months - they are by no means exhaustive and if any Lodge or individual has any ideas or suggestions they will be gratefully received.

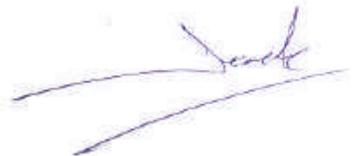
'Our memory reaches back through recorded history, the Book of Memory still lies open. And you here, now, are the hand that holds the pen.' These words of American author and columnist Seth Mandel could very easily be ascribed to us here in Munster as we undertake this, arguably, the largest Masonic building project in the Republic of Ireland in generations. I believe they have a raw potency and I hope they resonate for, when future generations of Masons look back on the history of this building, I would like to think the 'Book of Memory' will record a favourable account of our contribution.

Given that the spectre of Covid has not fully vanished it is especially heartening to look back on what has been one of the most exciting and invigorating Dinner seasons in many years. Great flair and panache were brought to bear at many of the dinners and each and every Dinner Secretary is to be congratulated on raising the bar at their respective Installation meetings - I do hope you enjoy reading about the various Lodge evenings throughout this edition.

As the deadline looms I renew the thanks of the Province to **W. Bro. Vincent O'Donovan** for the tremendous work he puts into the editing *The Plumline*, we are most fortunate and as this edition goes to print and minds invariably turn towards the recess and holidays I wish all members and their families an enjoyable Summer.

'.....but surely we are brave,
Who take the golden road to Samarkand.'

- James Elroy Flecker



The night more hot air than usual came from a Masonic meeting!



R.W.Bro. Alan Campbell writes:

In the first week of 1839 it was said that the Freemasons had brought up the devil from hell, and couldn't get him to return.

What on earth could have led to such a statement you may ask ? Well it was **Oiche na Gaoithe Móire** – the night of the big wind.

Lets have a look at what happened :

On the evening of 5th January, 1839 , unusually for Ireland, heavy snow fell throughout the island. The following morning it was completely calm and as the morning continued it became very warm for January and the snow melted fast. In the afternoon it became amazingly still

& people felt something strange was happening but no one could decide exactly what.

A deep depression was forming in the north Atlantic. As the warm front moved eastwards and rose it was replaced by a cold front which brought very heavy rain together with strong winds. At dusk these winds increased , it became much colder and by midnight it had reached hurricane force. It remained at that till about 5am

Monday, 7th January dawned on a terrible scene of devastation. Stacks of corn & hay had been blown from their barns, stone boundary walls were demolished, sheep on the mountains had been blown to their deaths. Many historic

churches were severely damaged, grave stones in the surrounding cemeteries were blown over and of course, roads were impassable because of fallen trees. Also some 42 ships were wrecked & it was said that fish were lifted from the lake at Farnham, Co. Cavan and scattered across the fields

The poor people living in little thatched cottages were badly hit. In the west, sea water was driven inland by the force of the wind causing flooding and in other places the wind came down the chimneys, scattered the embers of the fire around the cottages, in many cases causing a fire which rendered the occupants either homeless or in worst cases, dead.

It was the worst storm ever recorded to hit the country and it was considered fortunate that the death toll was "low" at 250 to 300 people.

Devout people were sure the storm was of Divine origin since it occurred on the night of the Epiphany and many believed at that time that the 7th January would be the Day of Judgement. Many now believe that that day came 111 years later on 7th January, 1950 when the writer of this little piece was born !

Well, it is said that it is an ill wind that doesn't bring someone some good luck and that is what happened in this case.

Exactly 70 years later the night of the big wind gave the older people of the country a little badly needed assistance.

In 1909 the Liberal Government of British Prime Minister, H.H. Asquith passed the Old Age Pension Act to provide all people over the age of 70 in the U.K. & Ireland with a weekly pension of five shillings (about 30cent today). This was not as altruistic as it may seem since in 1909 very few people lived beyond 70 years. A life of hard graft & poor health care saw the vast majority off well before the age of 70.

Now to be granted the pension, not alone did people have to be 70 years of age but they also had to be "of good character". This meant people who were convicted of drunkenness, certified insane or deemed guilty of "habitual failure to work" were to be disqualified.

In Ireland a problem arose as to how people would prove they were the required age since registration of births in 1839, 70 years before, were haphazard to say the least. It was decided that if a person could remember the night of the big wind then they had to be 70 years of age. It was noted how young & sprightly those coming to claim their pensions were, in fact in Waterford it was reported "far from having one foot in the grave, they were active and healthy, not to say brisk".

Now such a terrible and terrifying event would not have been forgotten in 70 years in Ireland and in fact a 25 verse poem "**Oiche na Gaoithe Móire (nó Deireadh An tSaoil)**" "**The Night of the Big Wind (or the End of the World)**" was still a well-known party piece in 1909. So why wouldn't people who were "possibly" not born by 1839 not remember all about it as if they had been there?

By the time of the 1911 census, many of our ancestors had adjusted their ages upwards to become more "pension friendly" !!

In his interesting paper on the matter Turtle Bunbury refers to one applicant for the pension, a Mr Tim Joyce of Co. Limerick who said " I always thought I was 60, but my friends came to me and told me they were certain sure I was 70 and as there were three or four of them against me, the evidence was too strong for me. I put in for the pension and got it"

Over 260,000 pensions were applied for in the first 3 months of 1909. It was a great boon to old people, and some not so very old, keeping many out of the workhouses & giving them some dignity.

So the old saying was correct after all, that it is an ill wind that doesn't bring someone good luck and by 1909 I would safely say those Masons had successfully got the devil back where he belonged, at last!!

Presentation of the McCully Cup

During last Provincial Meeting on 5th May, the Provincial Grand Master announced the Winners of the **McCully Cup** for 2023. In third place was Shamrock Lodge 27, with a per capita charity giving of €161.79. In second place was Neptune Lodge 190 with €178.67 per capita and placed first was the First Lodge of Ireland with €208.54 per capita, making them the winners. Master Masons, **Bros. Andrew Whitaker and Davide Aquaro** were asked to attend in the East on behalf of the First Lodge of Ireland, where **R.W. Bro Derek Dunne** presented them with the McCully Cup for 2023. After receiving the ambitious prize, **Bro. Aquaro** commented it was an honour for First Lodge to receive the prestigious McCully Cup and a great privilege to be present for the occasion and represent all the Brethren of the Lodge together with Bro. Whitaker; this



R.W. Bro. Derek Dunne PGM making the Presentation of the McCully Cup to Bros. Andrew Whitaker and Davide Aquaro on behalf of the First Lodge of Ireland, also included were R.W. Bro. Robin Newenham and V.W. Bro. Kevin Ryan, of the First Lodge of Ireland.



prize symbolises the endeavours of the whole Lodge towards the Masonic value of Relief, which expresses itself through the benevolent gift of Charity. Thanks to all Freemasons in Munster for continuously supporting all Masonic and non-Masonic charities, and congratulations to the Brethren of the Lodges that qualified at the top of the list.

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.” (W. Churchill)



Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland

Pictured at the Installation of Charles W. Olden as Most Excellent and Supreme Grand King of the Most Excellent and Supreme Grand Chapter of Ireland on Wednesday 25th January 2023 were Most Excellent and Supreme Grand King Charles W. Olden & Most Excellent District Grand King of Munster, Robin E.W. Newenham.

Summer Charity Walks 2023

Writes W. Walter Mahony

This summer Neptune will be hosting a series of charity walks across the province which will match the distance from Youghal to Killarney (the two furthest points within the province). All proceeds, which shall be collected through a “Go-Fund Me” page, shall be distributed equally between 3 charities – SVP, the Cork Simon Community and C  bh Hospital.

The walks range in length. Regular updates as to weather, dates, starting points and times shall be posted on event – specific Facebook and Instagram pages, each of which (as well as the Go-Fund Me) shall be shared through the Munster Events WhatsApp group.

The walks shall also help to promote the engagement of Munster Freemasons in the local community and, with luck, may draw the interest of some members of the public towards

Freemasonry in Munster whilst raising money for good local causes.

The provisional dates and lengths of the walks are as follows :

Location:	Length: (km)	Provisional Date:
Youghal	4.5	Saturday 1st July.
City	10.8	Monday 3rd July.
C��bh	7.2	Friday 7th July.
Kinsale	4.34	Sunday 9th July.
Bandon	16.73	Wednesday 12th July.
Skibbereen	8.83	Saturday 15th July.
Killarney	10	Wednesday 19th July.
Youghal	9	Friday 21st July.
City	13.2	Sunday 23rd July.
City	10	Wednesday 26th July.
Kinsale	13.21	Friday 28th July.
City	4.5	Wednesday 2nd August.
C��bh	17	Saturday 5th August.



Installation of E. Chief Vincent O' Donovan & Officers for 2003 at Cork Council of Knight Mason

A Duo of Installations

David J. Butler writes ...

History was made at Youghal on Saturday 11th March last, while also maximising the masonic experience for our brethren and companions, and maximising also the turnout at this, our first installation since exactly four years earlier – at which ceremony we were honoured with the presence of M.W. Bro. Douglas T. Grey, then Grand Master, who also opened our museum and supper room facilities.



The afternoon commenced at 4pm with the companions of Youghal Royal Arch Chapter 68, assisted by several visitors, convening for the installation of Companions Brendan D. Cronin, Peter Rhys Thomas and David A. Peters as Excellent King, High Priest and Chief Scribe respectively, a ceremony conducted in a most impressive manner by The Most Excellent Companion Edwin W. Hunter, Past District Grand King of Munster and our chapter director of ceremonies.

The companions were delighted to receive Most Excellent Companion Uwe Schiller, Deputy District Grand King as their official guest, while Most Excellent Companions Guy St Leger and Malcolm Tyrrell also kindly assisted in various

roles during this ceremony which, unique to Youghal, involves the donning of various robes and insignia of office, as well as the usual collars and jewels of the office, together with the royal arch apron and sash.

Following the conclusion of the royal arch chapter installation meeting, the craft lodge installation was embarked upon by a large and enthusiastic attendance of members and visitors, totalling 43 in all, culminating in the installation of Right Worshipful Brother Wilfred Baker in our ancient chair and his installation of his officers.

The lodge was honoured by the presence of R.W. Bro. Malcolm Tyrrell as provincial official visitor, and also present was R.W. Bro. Edwin Hunter, Junior Grand Chaplain, and provincial representatives from South Eastern Counties and Midland Counties. Most notable of all, of course, was the delegation of four brethren from the Grand Lodge of Bulgaria, as well as two brethren from the Grand Lodge of Croatia and one from the Grand Lodge of Scotland – one in each of the last two delegations now a member of our lodge and/or chapter – and whose long cable tow and effort in visiting surely deserves mention.

It is our worshipful master's third occasion in the chair of a lodge and his mother lodge (Shamrock 27, Cork) and second lodge (Shamrock 32, Waterford) were both very well represented.

This enjoyable pair of meetings was followed by an equally enjoyable installation dinner at The Walter Raleigh Hotel, Youghal.



District Grand Royal Arch Developments

David J. Butler writes ...

A number of useful projects have come to fruition at District Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Munster. The entry to our fine Chapter Room – the meeting place of the five royal arch chapters meeting in Cork city (warrant numbers 1, 3, 8, 71 and 95) as well as the quarterly meetings of their district governing body – has been tidied in anticipation of our imminent building extension works, by the wall mounting of the standards of the District Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Munster and of the District Grand King of Munster either side of his official portrait, thus eliminating the need for floor mounted standard bases which, in the context of an entry corridor or stairwell, were less than ideal.



Alongside this, is the welcome bespoke internal redesign of the venerable working tools box shared

by all five city chapters, at the expert hands the Hubert Bookbindery, on nearby Tobin Street, for their ease of use by the relevant companion royal arch officers.



Fringe Choral Concert at Freemasons' Hall

David J. Butler writes ...



This staple in both the city cultural and masonic calendars took place once again in our chapter room, on Friday 28 April last, when Freemasons' Hall

house management committee was pleased to facilitate a fringe concert of the Cork International Choral Festival.

The choirs – both of a very high standard and competing in The Fleischmann International Trophy Competition – hailed from Estonia and Slovenia respectively and, indeed our Estonian choir won the said trophy, taking first place and also the Schumann Europe trophy.



A good selection of brethren, guests and members of the general public, over sixty in number, made the arduous journey up a like number of steps (61) to the delightfully bright and airy chapter room, which the choirs far prefer as a venue, the lodge room being used for rehearsals and robing

purposes alone.

An Irishwoman's Glory

Inside the secret world of the first female Freemason

Clodagh Finn

Have your say

 After this experience

Government MSP Nicola Adair
 has written the first book on the history of Freemasonry in Ireland. The author says that many people have been reluctant to talk about the secret world of the Freemasons. She says that the book is a tribute to the women who have broken the barriers of secrecy and have become the first female Freemasons in Ireland.

Freemasonry in Ireland
 The first female Freemason in Ireland, Clodagh Finn, has written a book about the secret world of the Freemasons. The book is a tribute to the women who have broken the barriers of secrecy and have become the first female Freemasons in Ireland.

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press coverage – two samples of which are illustrated here – was an outstanding success, such that 75 attended the lecture; 53 brethren and their guests remained on to dine. The proceeds of the evening, to be divided between the memorial restoration of the Senior Warden chair and the Freemasons’ Hall building extension fund, exceeded €800.

This event will keep on giving to the latter fund, as the author has very kindly allowed the profits on her signed hardback €40 and paperback €30 editions, a supply to be kept in Freemasons’ Hall which may be replenished as required. Copies may be obtained by emailing me at munsterfreemason@gmail.com

Star News 37

KATHLEEN ALDWORTH FOSTER IN DONERAILE




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Tribute to R.W. Bro. Nigel H.H. Chillingworth, 30°

Retiring representative of the Grand Lodge of China at the Grand Lodge of Ireland

David J. Butler writes ...

The recent retirement of R.W. Bro. Nigel Chillingworth, pictured here, third from left, as representative of The Grand Lodge of China at the Grand Lodge of Ireland after three years in the appointment came about this spring, as a result of a



change in his health, necessitating resignation from all his Masonic memberships.

R.W. Bro. Nigel, who was for some years our provincial representative on the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes, has since been elected an Honorary Member of Youghal Lodge No. 68, in recognition of his services across 14 years of membership since returning to his native East Cork in 2009, at a whole series of levels – ranging from maintaining the lodge rooms, to acting secretary, to steward of charities – roles in which he held much experience wherever he served the Order in the United Grand Lodge of England; similarly, he is now also an Emeritus Member of the Royal Arch Chapter No. 68, which he served so faithfully as treasurer, registrar and representative on the District Grand Chapter of Munster board of general purposes over a similar period.

The brethren of Youghal, in consultation with the companions of its royal arch chapter, somewhat inspired by recent developments at the chapter room on Tuckey Street, have had a bespoke working tools box created for their royal arch chapter, at the Hubert bookbindery, which was the subject of a recent and much followed social media campaign, as to what is best practice and eminently

possible, in the conservation and proper display of heritage items which still have a working role in the history of our Order. A fitting tribute to Nigel.



St. Fin Barre's No.8 - An intimate lodge, full of history

Writes W.M. Conor Crowley

Lodge No.8 has been around for a very long time. It was issued its current Warrant all of 215 years ago. In fact, records suggest that the Lodge may be up to 300 years old.

Lodge No.8 played an important role at the laying of the foundation stones for two of Cork's most iconic structures – St. Patrick's Bridge and St. Fin Barre's Cathedral.

Many individuals, indeed dynasties, of mercantile and professional prominence in both Cork and Ireland were in membership of Lodge No. 8, among them William

Penrose (1809), after whom Penrose Wharf and Quay in this city is named; Francis Wise (1811) and George Wise (1839) of the distillery family, a member of this family paid for the building of one of the spires of St Fin Barre's Cathedral; Thomas Dunbar (1847) after whom Dunbar Street is named; Patrick Alexander Fitton (1882) of the legal and engineering family after whom Fitton Street is named. W.H. Hargrave, of the dynasty of architects – which numbered amongst their designs The Cork Harbour Commissioner's Offices and St Patrick's Bridge. Other architects associated with the lodge included Frederick Hill (1886), whose firm designed St Luke's Church, the School of Commerce and many other buildings in the city centre of Cork

The early twentieth century brought with it the centenary year of the lodge, which was marked on May 8 1908 with a banquet in the Clarence



Room of the Imperial Hotel, South Mall, marking a return to the former lodge meeting room.

St Patrick's No. 8 retained ownership of 31 Maylor Street for a considerable period after vacating the premises at the end of 1925, and it proved a most valuable source of revenue from April 1928, when lodge decided to lease to the National Union of Railwaymen (N.U.R.) Club, who met there from May 1928 until December 1939 (having run into financial difficulties during that year). From February 1940, it became the

Arcadia Ballroom, generating rental income of £125 per annum for the ensuing 25 years. In November 1950, it was proposed to sell the lodge leasehold interest in the building. This was carried into effect during 1951 and the old lodge room continued as a ballroom for many years; in the early 1990s, following a decade or more of disuse, it was demolished and the site incorporated into Roches Stores (now Debenham's). The membership profile of this lodge diversified further in the first half of the twentieth century. Famous families, landed and mercantile, continued to be numbered amongst its ranks, among them Captain R.B. Beamish (1909), Richard V. Jago (1939, Lord Mayor of Cork in 1957), and Colonel W.T. Hungerford (1939).

Our membership is usually around 30 in number. We are a medium sized Lodge. Our members generally come from Cork City and County. The age-profile of our members is wide,

spanning the age groups of those in their 20's - 80's. Our Members come from all walks of life: e.g., from engineers to IT specialists to opticians to event organisers to teachers, to name but a few.

We are an 'intimate' Lodge in that we are regularly in contact with each other and provide good Brotherly support. After each monthly meeting in Freemasons' Hall, Tuckey St, we have an excellent 'supper' and equally excellent chat for an hour or two. For those who can attend, we have a coffee-morning every Wednesday (10:30am – 12:00 noon) at Garryduff Sports Centre, which members of other lodges also attend.

We pay special attention to rehearsing our rituals and explaining what it is we do and why. We have a large collection of papers on a plethora of Masonic matters (and some marginally

Masonic). We are particularly interested in Masonic Education and hold regular "Evenings of Discussion / Education". We have a very active WhatsApp Group where we not only keep ourselves up to date on upcoming events etc., but also engage in wholesome banter. We are a Lodge that takes its Masonic activity very seriously when appropriate but also can be jovial and light-hearted at other times. The current W.M. is Conor Crowley, Senior Warden is John O'Brien and Junior Warden is Tony Barber.

We hold our meetings at 27, Tuckey Street, Cork on the First Thursday of every month, at 8.00 pm (excluding June, July, and August). February meeting on First Saturday at 6.00 pm (Installation Dinner).



Some members and guests of St. Fin Barre's Lodge No.8, Cork. Photo following the Installation Meeting in 2023 The newly installed WM in the centre with the PGM to his left.

I've been 'in the chair'

Writes W. M Kevin Warner.

I find myself sitting down to write this piece and ponder the lessons I have learned along the way in the short time that I've been 'in the chair'. My first full meeting as WM of Antient Bandon Lodge 84 was on 8th February 2023 – just 5 weeks prior to writing this.

I had spent a lot of time preparing for what I expected would be a nervous but quiet first meeting so that I could get into the swing of it with as little pressure as possible, then the RWPGM and the past RWPGM walked in to our country lodge room! It was both an honour and nerve wracking to have senior brethren present but I was immediately put at ease by the well-wishers and support at the beginning and during the meeting. **Lesson 1** - anyone from the fraternity can turn up so don't panic – they are here to support you.

I had prepared some topics I wanted to bring up in lodge and one of them was the earlier request by the RWPGM that Lodge 84 would prepare an article for the Plumblin, so during the course of the meeting and at the appropriate time I asked for a volunteer. At this point I learned **Lesson 2** – be specific with how you ask! Within moments, much to the entertainment of the brethren in attendance and I'm still not sure how, I became the owner of that task thanks to W Bro Keith Perrott.

Over the next couple of weeks I set about reading up on the long and illustrious history of our lodge, with a warrant that has been in continuous existence in Bandon since 1738. My primary source of information was a very interesting and beautifully prepared book – *Two Hundred and Seventy Five Years of Freemasonry in Bandon* authored by V.W.B Alwyn Williams and R.W.B. David Butler. I read about how its name had changed to the Boyne Lodge 84 for a period of time and the number of other lodges that came and went over the centuries in Bandon. I read about how the name came to include 'Antient' and about the times when the lodge flourished, and when it was on the brink of returning the



Figure 1 Warrant of Antient Bandon Lodge 84

warrant, I had prepared notes and summaries. Then at Provincial I got talking to R.W.Bro. Derek Dunne and learned **Lesson 3** – read the brief! The request was for a piece on the lodge today rather than a historical review.

So now I find myself writing about the lodge today. In this piece you will find a number of pictures of the building that is Lodge 84 and no doubt pages could be filled about the furniture, canopies, regalia and pictures that adorn the walls. But I would prefer to talk about the people that make up our lodge. We are a relatively small lodge in terms of membership – we have 24 members, two of whom recently received their 50 & 60 year jewels and one who has just been initiated a few months ago. Some members can trace family history in Lodge 84 going back generations and there are

people like myself who are first generation in the Craft. We are fiercely proud of our lodges history and its contribution to Munster and Irish Freemasonry throughout its very long existence. The whole group is very supportive of younger members coming up through the ranks and while we have the same recruitment and retention challenges as other lodges, what I can say from experience is that if you commit to the lodge and put the work in then the brethren of the lodge will commit to you.

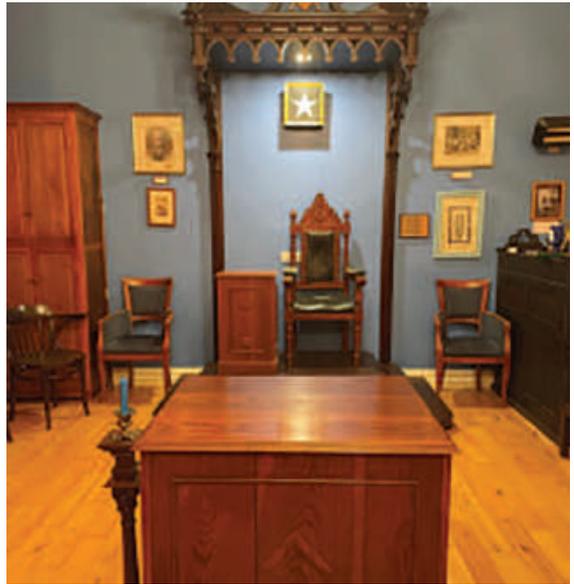


Figure 2 The view from the West



The Brethren of Lodge 84

A Day and Night to Remember

Grand Lodge of Ireland Installation Meeting & Banquet for Most Worshipful Brother Rodney McCurley.



The Munster group at the installation Banquet in The Mansion House, Dublin.

Writes Bro. David O' Sullivan L86 Youghal.

A gathering of the great and the good began early at Molesworth Street in advance of the 2pm start time, bus loads, independent travellers along with a few clever carpool comrades all headed for the Home of Freemasonry in the Irish Constitution to witness an historic moment, many of us for the first time. An event which would be the dream of many ambitious Masons, to witness the Installation of a new Grand Master, to rule and govern the constitution in good and wholesome Masonry aided by the officers of the Grand lodge and representatives from many countries across the globe. It was a true show of strength for the world's oldest fraternal organisation. Every colour and creed, young and old alike bristling with enthusiasm for the Grand Master designate M.W. Bro. Rodney McCurley and sharing stories of the many highlights from the outgoing Grand Master M.W. Bro. Douglas T. Grey, who in his time has done amazing work to lead Freemasonry into the modern age.

'Your watchword being friendship' The ceremony of the installation of a Grand Master takes the time-honoured format, regular masons have come to know, as they install their officers in their home Lodge, except on this occasion there is an expectant additional layer of justifiable pomp and circumstance. The installation

was done with all the personality and character of the outgoing Grand Master that we have come to enjoy from the public appearances of M.W. Bro. Grey. Humble, humorous and on message.

It was soon completed following the obligation, a powerful sight to behold, where two men at the pinnacle of the craft both honoured each other, one in the giving, the other in the receiving. The address from the newly installed Grand Master reaffirmed to all present the fundamental principles of Freemasonry with one resounding message for this young mason to remember, that is friendship.

M.W. Bro. McCurley had invited long time friends he had met through his distinguished career to take part in the proceedings, bearing the chains of office, his standard bearer and one or two others. Throughout the address, M.W. Bro. McCurley continually referenced the value and importance of the relationships he has built up with brethren from his Lodge, Province, and Grand Lodge career. The sincerity and warmth he expressed was striking. If we were to take anything away from the day it certainly was the truly untapped potential for meeting friends along our Masonic journey. In fact I had the great pleasure of dining with a diverse group of young and not so young Masons at the meal afterwards, where that spark of friendship was still there for all to be enjoyed.

Embracing technology allowed those wishing to attend, where the Lodge room could not physically accommodate a single soul more, using a live stream in the dining room downstairs. The brethren were able to enjoy the facilities that Molesworth Street has to offer while seeing the proceedings on a big screen. After the meeting the Grand Master and his officers visited those who watched the stream and despite some glitches, the event was enjoyed by those present. The interlude at some local establishments, Peruke & Periwig being the temporary home to the Munster contingent allowed time for members to change into black tie and enjoy a few social drinks before crossing the street to the Mansion House for the evenings Banquet.

The Mansion House was decked out with red carpet, a celestial ceiling and a rolling tribute to the past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Ireland on large screens. 25 or so tables of 10. Family, friends and Partners joined the celebration as the staff of the Mansion house deployed a worthy banquet in double quick time. Guests were treated to Kenmare Fishcakes (Star of the West territory). Roast beef, Crème Brulee and a fine Red and White selection.

Visiting dignitaries included M.W. Bro. Jonathan Spence, Pro Grand Master, United Grand Lodge of England. R.W. Bro. Richard Ensor, Deputy Grand Master who told us all of a very cunning retirement plan for those who may worry about the cost of nursing home care in our twilight years. And R.W. Bro. Charles Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont. Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Scotland. All delivered and or suitably replied to the toasts for the evening. Again the theme of friendship rang through all the speeches, its clear that the fondness and sincere friendships forged by M.W. Bro's Grey and McCurley with the other Grand Lodges ensures a universal regard for the Grand Lodge of Ireland and its Officers across the globe. In fact many references were made

to the immense efforts that Grand Masters make during their term of office to engage with their warranted Grand Lodges. I had hoped to recall the list of visiting representatives of the many Grand Lodges who's authority comes from Ireland but alas and also thankfully, there were far to many to list.

It would serve newly minted Master Masons within the Province to come together and visit the regular Grand Lodge meetings. Many are swayed by ill formed views around the workings of Grand Lodge. Having attended a number of these meetings, I can assure you that you get out of it what you put in to it. Many brethren travel in small groups or even alone, keen to enjoy the meeting and social activities which surround it. Should you reach out the hand of friendship at any time under the banner of your Lodge, Provincial or Grand Lodge meeting it will be warmly received and repaid with a new friendship, which like many mentioned by our new Grand Master, could last a lifetime.

Every health happiness and fraternal good wish to the new Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland M.W. Bro. Rodney McCurley. Eternal gratitude and a long happy 'retirement' to the outgoing Grand Master M.W. Bro. Douglas T Grey.



M.W Bro. Rodney McCurley pictured with R.W Bro. Charles Olden.



Bro. Ryan Fitzgerald & R.W. Bro Malcolm Tyrell, Munster pictured with R.W. Bro Cecil Wellwood, Midland Counties.



Lucy Tyrell, Nora Brownlow and Janet Murphy, Munster, pictured at Grand Lodge of Ireland Installation Banquet.



Received by W. Bro Leo Spillane who delivers Teddies to Mallow Hospital.

Dear Leo,

Just sending this email to say we can't thank you enough and the charity that provide Teddy Bears to our unit here in Mallow Injury Unit (MIU).

I can honestly say they are the best thing we have been given. They provide great comfort to the children, who usually have named the Teddy before they leave the department. It makes their journey a little less stressful. So once again, Thank you, keep up the good work. It is very much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Sharon Kennedy (Staff Nurse, ED, MGH) Mallow Hospital.

Reply:

Thank you so much Sharon It is indeed our pleasure to be able to bring a little comfort to children in distress.

Regards Leo

Received by W. Bro Liam Cunningham from UHK Tralee Co. Kerry

UHK Tralee Co. Kerry

Tracy Hurley (A/Staff Officer Emergency Department

Dear Liam,

We would like to take this opportunity to extend, on behalf of all the staff within the Emergency Department Team, our heartfelt gratitude for the unwavering support through the voluntary provision of Teddy Bears here in UHK. Whilst our team continues to face the challenges brought by Covid 19, we do so with the acknowledgement and support of your voluntary service, which brings such joy to our paediatric cohort of patients. We look forward to continued relations and welcome further supports in the future.

Kind regards, The Emergency Department Team

Kind Regards

Tracy Hurley,

Emergency Department,

University Hospital Kerry,Rathass, Tralee, Co Kerry

Tracy.Hurley@hse.ie

Iso from Tralee

Hi Liam

My name is Gearoid, I'm a paramedic in Tralee

I recently received some teddies from Leonard in the ED in UHK

I have put them on each ambulance in Tralee base.

They will come in handy during our treatment of children in the ambulance

If you could send me more information on the charity I would appreciate it

Thank you

Gearoid Constable

Tralee ambulance base

Reply:

Hi Gearoid

A little background on TLC, Teddies for Loving Care it is a registered charity, financed and run by Grand Lodge of Freemasons Ireland.

It was started originally by Freemasons in England and started here in Ireland around ten years ago. Our sole reason in doing it is to ease, if possible, the trauma of ED (A&E) then, for small children. The basic idea being that the giving of a simple gift to a little person in a distressing situation such as being brought into a hospital creates a bond between the child and the caregiver.

All ED's throughout the country have been offered Teddies and about ninety percent have accepted.

I look after the distribution of Teddies for the Munster region of Freemasons Ireland, we deliver them to KGH, CUH, Mercy, Mallow and Bantry. On average these five hospitals get through about 4000 Teddies a year.

We fundraise within the Masonic Order and (pre covid) some of us engaged in other forms of fundraising, either way it is the intention of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons in Ireland that as long as there is a need, the charity will be there.

Thank you for your participation and interest.

Liam Cunningham

TLC

(Yes I am a freemason)

Reply:

Thank you Liam

My wife's grandfather from Belfast was a member of the Freemasons up there before he passed away a couple of years ago .

His name was Eric Longley and his son David is still a member

Thank you again

Gearoid Constable

Black Tie

MASONIC FUNDRAISING EVENT

Saturday, 2nd September 2023

at 19:00

in Carrigaline Court Hotel

Drinks reception with appetizers

3 Course dinner with wine

Tickets €80pp

Single Room with breakfast €179

Double Room with breakfast €189

There will be a raffle
& a band:

RUNAWAYS RETRO

ALL DONATIONS WILL
GO TO THE WORKS ON

Tuckey
Street

Dress code is formal attire

Evenings of Discussion and Education



Freemasons meeting to welcome masters. France, 18th century

By W. Bro. Eamonn McCarthy, St. Fin Barre's Lodge No.8

For the past 7 – 8 years St. Fin Barre's Lodge No.8 has held "Evenings of Discussion and Education" ["EDE's"] at Freemasons' Hall, Tuckey Street, Cork on the second Friday of each month. This was interrupted by the Covid restrictions for two years; during which time the EDE's were held remotely via the Zoom platform. The meetings (more correctly described as a 'get together' or gathering) are totally informal and do not involve a formal Lodge Meeting. The EDE's commence at 7:30 p.m. and usually run until 9:30 – 10:00 p.m. Most nights we have to cut the meetings short at 10:00 p.m. as otherwise we would be there all night such is the flow or momentum of discussion. The meetings are open to and are attended by

all Masons irrespective of Lodge, Degree, or Province. In fact, several members from Limerick regularly travel to Cork for these meetings and make a tremendous contribution to the success of the EDE's.

The format usually consists of a Brother presenting a paper on a 'Masonic' topic which is then followed by Q&A's. Invariably, this leads into a discussion on a wide range of 'Masonic' matters that generate some of the most interesting revelations of what Freemasonry is all about. We put 'Masonic' in inverted commas above because we consider that any subject or topic that can make us better men is 'Masonic' in a general sense. For example, a paper might be presented on the risks associated with social media and its arguable negative impact on a balanced and realistic world view.

We describe these as EDE's and not as 'Lodge of

Instruction' meetings because there is a Grand Lodge of Instruction ['GLI'] and, apart from not wanting to cause any confusion, our focus is somewhat different to that of the GLI. The GLI is concerned with the practice of 'Ritual or Ceremonies of Ancient Craft Masonry' (the 'how'), whereas the EDE's tend to concentrate more on the 'why?'. Whilst we sometimes rehearse Ritual at the EDE's it is normally accompanied with a running analysis/commentary as to why the actions and words are what they are.

We describe the evenings as being of 'Discussion' and 'Education'. They are not just about members presenting papers but most importantly are about discussing their content and any other Masonic topics that are raised. These discussions usually become the highlight of the evenings and the knowledge and insight that is gleaned from them tends to resonate with and make a lasting impact on those in attendance.

We appreciate that various Brethren join Freemasonry for different reasons or combinations of reasons. Some join because it is a family tradition; others for the comradery, others for the benevolent causes that it is involved in, others for the theatrics, others for its rituals and ceremonies and others for the mystical / spiritual / esoteric elements. Whilst any one of these alone is a great reason to join the Order, the more of these areas that a Brother can partake in and enjoy the greater will be his payback from Freemasonry.

The reason(s) that a Brother joined the Order may or may not continue to be the reason(s) that keeps him a member. Many preconceived ideas (often incorrect) of what Freemasonry is about and what it means to be a member of a Lodge, and which led someone to join, can be quickly dispelled or revised. Some find that the Freemasonry that they experience does not live up to what they thought it was all about; these members tend to leave the Order. In many if not most cases, they left because what Freemasonry has to offer was not properly or adequately explained or shown to them, unless of course they joined for improper reasons such as mercenary advantages. Most importantly, we

do not believe that Freemasonry is to blame for these members becoming disillusioned, rather, it is our failure to explain and show what Freemasonry is about and what it has to offer. Freemasonry is somewhat unique. In general terms it is about 'making good men better'. It is filled to the brim with a plethora of fascinating elements and subjects including ritual, 'psychology', philosophy, history (including ancient history), Fraternity / comradery, symbolism, allegory, charitable works, esoterica and mysticism, science, art, rhetoric, as well as lessons on morality, life and death. One could spend a whole lifetime investigating any one of the above not to mention all of them. How could anyone become bored or disillusioned with such an array of fascinating subjects? The answer is that one could very easily become bored if not made aware of this reservoir of knowledge that is waiting to be used. Some members are naturally curious and will seek out and discover this treasure trove for themselves, but other Brethren can do with some help. The mentoring programme that is in place in some jurisdictions or provinces or lodges is designed to provide such help, where an experienced Brother is appointed as a mentor to a new Brother. This can be of great help, but only if the 'experienced' Brother is himself aware of the Masonic reservoir of knowledge – you cannot give what you do not have.

The EDE's are geared towards identifying as many as possible of the topics and subjects that Freemasonry can help us with. Freemasonry is not dogmatic per se, it accommodates a wide range of views. In this sense Freemasonry is more in the nature of a system or a platform than a set of beliefs or rules or code of conduct. It provides a conduit, a set of signs, a path to knowledge that for the most part is available to everyone and not just Masons, albeit that Freemasonry's system of symbolism and allegory does go about this in a particular way. The path taken by each Brother in Freemasonry is a personal journey. He will follow that path which interests him. The EDE's attempt to throw light on those various paths.

Provincial Grand Officers visit to Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster – 5th May 2023



R.W Eric Henty PDGM & PGM R.W David Valentine Wicklow & Wexford.



R.W. Bro. Charles Smyth PDGM & R.W. Bro. Ian Devonport PGM South East Countries.



R.W. Bro Kenneth Roe PDGM & R. W. Bro. Derek Brennan PGM Metropolitan.



PGM Armagh R.W. Bro Gilbert Irvine, PGM Munster R.W. Derek Dunne, PGM Antrim R. W. John McLemon.



The Provincial Grand Lodge Officers visit to Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster on the 5th May pictured with Officers of the PGL of Munster.

Neptune Installation Dinner 2023

On Saturday, March 4th 2023, Neptune Lodge 190, C6bh celebrated its annual Lodge Installation Meeting and Dinner at 5.30pm in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster, Tuckey Street, Cork.

For the 2nd concurrent year we began the ceremony with a degree, this year an Entered Apprentice degree given to Mr. Ephraim Ferandoz. As has become lodge tradition since our return from lockdown, the degree was given by a variety of brethren of the lodge including the obligation by JW Ian Chris Lawas, the workings by Bro. Terence Murphy, the charity by Bro. Brian Oglanby and Bro. Barry Nolan and the tools by Bro. Mark Carillo, all in an impeccable man-

ner.

The brethren, having done the lodge proud, proceeded to install SW Stephen McSweeney in the Chair of King Solomon for the ensuing year. Despite last minute illness and other regrettable circumstances beyond the control of our visitors, the event was still attended by 54 masons of various lodges of Munster, Greystones, Scotland, and UGLE among others and by 2 prospective 190 candidates for the dinner.

We greatly look forward to the year ahead and wish the new WM, his officers and all the brethren great success and enjoyment in their Freemasonry to come.



(Brethren from Scotland accompanied by some Neptune brethren).



(Recipient of the EA Degree, Bro. Ephraim Ferandoz with some Neptune brethren).



Post Installation.



Brethren from UGLE.



W.M. Richie Hamilton of Greystones and member of Neptune 190.



Brethren of Neptune Lodge 190.

New Brethren for Neptune Lodge 190, Cóbh.

Report by W. B Walter Mahony

Since the beginning of 2023, Neptune Lodge have been fortunate enough to initiate not just 1 but 4 new Entered Apprentice Freemasons. The first of these was Mr. John Gledhill in January. John was barely in the door and was already delivering part of the charity to 2 newer brethren in an emergency meeting in March. The second of our new brethren was just prior to the installation of the new WM and his officers and was given to Mr. Ephraim Ferandoz (please see the article on Neptune Installation 2023).

Finally, in an emergency meeting at the end of March, the new WM. Stephen McSweeney and his officers gave a double initiation to Mr. Geo Ivan Cenit and Mr. Maurice Dineen in King's Terrace, Cóbh. Several brethren took part in this degree as is the new standard and tradition of Neptune 190 but most notable on this occasion was Bro. John Gledhill who had only received his own EA Degree in January. Neptune are greatly appreciative of all the support and well wishes received from the brethren of the province and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.



(Eighteen brethren, all from Neptune Lodge 190, at the emergency meeting for the purpose of initiating two Entered Apprentices, in March 2023, at Kings Terrace, Cóbh).

Neptune and the 3 Rs 2023

Writes W. B Walter Mahony

Neptune Lodge 190 C6bh had a fortunate year between March 2022 and March 2023 with no less than 7 new Enter Apprentices, 1 new Fellow Craft, 1 new Master Mason and the return of the longest serving member of the lodge in late 2022.

Given our recent emergence from Covid however, we thought it beneficial to enquire of these members what their experiences of joining/re-joining have been, to ask of the new members of their preconceptions prior to their respective initiations and their hopes going forward, and of our returning member what he finds most crucial to masonry. Entered Apprentice 1 :

In my short time as a member of the lodge, Freemasonry has already helped me to grow my self-confidence, a key element I think in my personal development. Speaking and making speeches in front of my fellow brethren is not easy to pull off, especially when you are not used to it. I have met those from different cultures, with different values and unique opinions but the responses from the brethren have been of acceptance, respect and brotherhood without negativity or judgement. I feel like part of a family.

The only negative I have experienced so far comes from the misconceptions of family or friends outside of Freemasonry which I believe I must deal with positively to be a good example of what Freemasonry really is.

I have a lot to look forward to and would like to gain more knowledge of the history of Freemasonry.

Entered Apprentice 2 :

I'm not sure what to add. Not knowing what to expect I didn't have much in the way of preconceptions. I can say that my experiences have been hugely welcoming and engaging. If I had to pick a negative it would be the difficulty of figuring out what is fully going on for us "newbies". Online sources can't be trusted and don't reflect the C6bh workings anyway. I get a distinct sense that what you get out of it comes from what you put in, which works for me.

Entered Apprentice 3 :

To be honest, I don't even know what the Plumline is but I really would like to know more. Is there anything I can read or study ?

Entered Apprentice 4 :

My one experience has been quite positive, and I look forward to more moving forward.

Entered Apprentice 5 :

I'd really like to see more outdoor meetings, like charity events. I was at the ones in Gouganbarra and the Tennis

Club. I'd really love to see more of that.

Fellowcraft :

Becoming an Entered Apprentice

was a fabulous experience for me. This was, for me, long anticipated and a well considered decision over several years. It was nerve wracking and really only became more clear after attending a second EA in Bandon and witnessing the degree as a lodge member. My FC Degree was given by another lodge in Tuckey Street and was delivered with equal reverence, precision and dignity. My father was involved in Freemasonry in the UK and I have since really enjoyed the camaraderie and sincere fellowship. I have come to admire all the brethren from each of the lodges that I have visited. I feel as if I have always been welcome in my lodge and have been thrown into the mix. As newly appointed "Social Officer" for 190 I look forward to creating more social events to offer brethren and to meet/mingle with as many brethren as it allows. All in all, my experience to date has been extremely positive and I look forward to receiving my MM Degree in the coming months and to visiting many more Munster Lodges in the near future.

Recently returned member (Longest service to 190) :

Covid did not help my lodge attendance, but Neptune Lodge 190 had lost me well before that. We were a static group with little sign of positive progress or recruitment. Most meetings in fact were bolstered by Country Members or visitors. I recently received contact from the lodge enquiring if I was interested in recommencing attendance at the lodge as there was a lack of Past Masters/Senior Members which made holding degrees to progress forward quite difficult. As a true blooded Freemason I could not refuse such a request. What met me was astounding! A vibrant, active and hard-working team which had not forgotten how important the social aspect of the lodge was. For the future I say "More of the same !".

Taking these experiences into account can only highlight the necessity of engaging members of all ranks and seniority, especially those freshly in the door in as many aspects as possible to ensure a sense of belonging, welcome and ownership of and to their own lodge.

Likewise, if we can appreciate anything after the previous 3 years it is our desire for socialising and fun wherever and whenever it can be availed of.

With regard the 3 Rs initiative, we hope that Neptune have added what we can to the province and greatly appreciate the support and meaningful relationships we have developed with all of the brethren throughout the province and beyond. Here's to a fantastic year ahead for all.



Celebratory Luncheon To Celebrate Members Who Have Served For 50+ Years As Members Of The Masonic Order, Freemasons' Hall Tuckey Street, Cork On May 20th, 2023



V.W. Bro. Michael Saville (8), V.W. Bro. Davy Walls (234), V.W. Bro. Brian Espey (95), W. Bro. Eric Patterson (84), R.W. Alan Campbell (27), W. Bro. Bill Perrott (84).



R.W. Bro. Malcolm Tyrrell (27), W. Bro. Stuart Musgrave (3), W. Bro. David Firshman (27), V.W. Bro. Rowland Newenham (1).



W. Bro. Joe McCloat (N.Connaught), W. Bro. John Mustard (1), R.W. Derek Dunne.



R. W. Bro. Derek Dunne made a presentation to recently-retired M.W. Grand Master, Douglas T. Grey during his recent visit to Freemasons' Hall, Tuckey Street, Cork.



V.W. Bro. Kevin Ryan & V.W. Bro. David . J. Butler.

The Legacy

W. Bro. Hugo Beasse

“To build up a future, you have to know the past”. On May the 22nd, that phrase kept on coming back to me.

On that day, the province of Munster recognised the legacy, the tenacity, the contribution of long standing Freemason for their service across 50 to 60 years. To make the celebration even more special, the Most Worshipful brother Douglas T. Grey made us the honour of a visit. All the ingredients were present to make that gathering a memorable one. It started with sharing stories and bonding over a homely cooked meal and some nice wine. After desert, the R. W. P. G. M. Derek Dunne presented the M. W. Bro. Grey with a spectacular maul carved out of beech. That gift was recognised by Douglas as one of the most special gift he ever received, a maul that will surely have a distinc-

tive space on his desk.

Hibernian Lodge 95 was honoured to be part of that celebration by hosting a meeting. It was the time for the lodge to also recognise the service from long standing member but also to take a stroll down the history of our order. W. Bro. Derek Molloy read the history of 95, warranted in Cashel in 1738 and established in Cork in 1750. W. Bro. David Peters then shares for the first time his paper, “Mozart the Mason” highlighting the last seven years of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart as a Mason and the important role the order played in his life and work. The meeting was saluted as a great example of the Munster working, well executed by the **Director of Ceremony W. Bro. Leo Spillane**, the deacons and all the officers of Hibernian Lodge 95. It was only normal to pay tribute to all the man who gave so much to the organisation, to our history, to our legacy.



R. W. Bro. Charles Olden Receives His 60 Year Certificate



Kevin Ryan W.M Shamrock Lodge No.27 & officers of the lodge making a presentation to R.W. Bro. Charles Olden of his "60 Year Certificate.

Writes Kevin Ryan W. M. Shamrock Lodge No.27.

It was my great pleasure to recognise in open Lodge, at our March Regular Stated Communication, another great milestone in the remarkable Masonic career of R.W.Bro. Charles Olden. As we're still playing "catch-up" in many areas, the presentation of his "**60 Year Certificate**" to R.W.Bro. Olden was a little late. However, judging by the obvious delight he expressed on receiving it, it was very much appreciated.

R.W.Bro. Charles received his Entered Apprentice Degree in Lodge '**Quis Separabit 595**' on May 17th. 1962, his Fellowcraft Degree on September 29th, 1962 and he was raised to the third or sublime degree of a Master Mason on October 18th, 1962. Since then he has held office at every level in several branches of the Masonic Order. He has served as a Grand Lodge officer and a Provincial Grand Lodge officer – he's a Past Provincial Grand Master of the R.W. the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster. He is currently serving as **Supreme Grand King of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland.**

To have arrived at this stage in his Masonic career is a remarkable achievement, which needs no certificate for affirmation. However, it was a great pleasure, and in equal measure, both humbling and inspirational for me to be able to recognise R.W.Bro. Charles' remarkable contribution to Irish Freemasonry thus.



Bro. John W. Packham of St. Fin Barre's Lodge Nr.8, receiving his 50 Year Jewel from R.W. Bro. Malcolm P. Tyrrell, Prov. Assistant Grand Master, and W. Bro. Aidan Coakley, Lodge Nr.8 Secretary at his home in Sandycove Kinsale recently

Grand Lodge of Ireland meeting, Freemasons' Hall, 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin held on the Thursday, the 1st June 2023



Representatives at Grand Lodge were L to R R.W. Wilfred Baker (Poland) R.W. Alec Bryan newly appointed (China) R.W. Derek Dunne PGM, R.W. Barry Jenkins newly appointed (Alpina Switzerland) and R.W Hubert Sweetnam (Monaco).



Large Munster group who attended Grand Lodge recently.



During a recent visit to Freemasons' Hall, Tuckey Street are pictured L. to R. , V.W. Kevin Ryan; R.W. Malcolm Tyrrell; R.W. Stuart Brownlow; R.W. Derek Dunne, P.G.M., Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster; R.W. Tommy K.W. Cheng, P.G.M., R.W. Fredrick C.C. Leung, P.D.G.M., and R.W. Sandy Tang, P.P.D.G.M. Provincial Grand Lodge of the Far East, and W. Vincent O'Donovan.



Bro. Ivan Arapinac who was initiated and received a warm fraternal welcome at L15 recently



Recent visit of PGL Munster and Shamrock Lodge 27 to Lodge 680, Strathearn, Lisburn.



W. Bro. Stuart Musgrave how received his 50 jewel pictured with ; R.W. Derek Dunne, P.G.M., and the W.M Declan O' Driscoll of the Third Lodge of Ireland.



R.W. Derek Dunne, pictured with his officers at the PGL Munster Installation meeting

Installation Dinner



Third Lodge of Ireland.



St Fin Barre's Lodge No. 8

Installation Dinner



Shamrock Lodge No. 27



Hibernian Lodge No. 95



The Plumblīne



*To submit articles for December 2023 issue
please email W. Bro. Vincent O'Donovan
vincent@carrigdhoun.com*