

## 'Father' of the Lodge 68 Youghal Honoured

Writes R.W. Bro. Wilfred Baker

The year 2019 sees a very special anniversary for V.W. Bro. George Roch-Perks of Youghal Lodge No. 68 and P.P.S.G.W. of Munster - his sixty-fifth year in Masonry.

George was initiated into Harmony Lodge No. 555 in Cork on 4th June 1954, shortly after its re-location from Fermoy to Cork. He was Worshipful Master there for 1961, and affiliated to Lodge No. 68 in 1959, since Youghal was more geographically convenient to his residence and business interests, and, by the late 1960s, his membership was entirely focused upon the Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter there. Over the years the fortunes of the Lodge varied and for a considerable period from the early 1980s, its membership was so small that it would have closed had it not been for the untiring efforts of George, the late V.W. Bro. Eric Edwards and the late W. Bro. Leonard Clarke, who were determined to keep Masonry alive in Youghal. Their refusal to give up was well rewarded and today Lodge 68 is flourishing, with many new and younger members on its Roll and more to come. The Masonic Hall in Youghal, previously in a state of semi-dereliction, has been completely renovated and is now a delightful venue for meetings.

George is now the 'Father' of the Lodge though he has been unable to attend meetings for some years, due to ill health. On 8th November three brethren from the Lodge visited George in his home, Woodbine Hill, Youghal, and presented him with a Sixty-Five Year Certificate, to mark the Sapphire



R.W. Bro. Wilfred Baker presenting the Certificate to V.W. George Roch-Perks accompanied by W. Bro. The Rev. Canon Peter Rhys Thomas and W. Bro. John Griffith, George's son-in-law.

Jubilee of his membership of the Masonic Order. His wife, Mary, and members of his family were present to witness this very special event.

The picture on the wall shows W. Bro. Colonel Horace S. Roch, P.P.S.G.D. of Munster, George's father-in-law, who served as a doctor in the Royal Army Medical Corps in the Boer War and the First World War and as an intelligence officer in the Second World War. Colonel Roch did sterling work for Lodge 68 over three decades from 1930, conferring all the degrees, and codifying the Lodge's unique ritual, which has roots in the eighteenth century, and which is still in use.

# So, What Is A Lewis?

*We had an unusual occurrence in my Lodge very recently, it was the proposal of a Lewis for membership. I also learned that 50 years ago, the first man to step onto the surface of the moon, Neil Armstrong was a Lewis.*

Writes **R.W.Bro. Alan Campbell**

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## So, what is a Lewis?

The speculative meaning of Lewis is the son of a Mason. Any son, whether born before or after his father's initiation. We tend to think

the term is confined to sons who are initiated but this is not so, any son of a Freemason is a Lewis and indeed the daughter of a Freemason may be termed a Lewisa. In fact in the 18th and early 19th centuries there have been instances of "Lewisa" being used as a forename for the daughters of Masons !

However, we nowadays only term the son of a Mason a Lewis when he seeks initiation

before he has reached the age of 21 – normally 18.

Grand Lodge Law no 135 (149 under the new revised version) states that :

" a Lodge shall not initiate any person until he shall have attained the age of 21 years, unless by dispensation from the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master "

So under the Grand Lodge of Ireland there is no mention of the son of a Freemason having any special privileges but by custom rather than by any rule when permission is granted should he be one of several awaiting initiation then he takes precedence.

The same procedure applies in Lodges under

the United Grand Lodge of England. In Scotland however, sons of Master Masons " owing allegiance to Edinburgh " are permitted to seek initiation at any time after the age of 18.

It seems the word "Lewis" was first used in the Book of Constitutions of 1738 where it was applied to the son of Frederick Lewis, Prince of Wales who had been initiated on 5th. November 1737.

In the operative sense, a lewis is an iron clamp which is inserted into a prepared cavity in a stone. The stone may then be easily lifted or lowered by means of a derrick. Many Lodges have a model of just such a device and note the

stone is always a perfect ashlar.

This has a reason too. The perfect ashlar represents an elderly Mason who having led a good life is perfect in every way and is now ready to be tried by the Great Architect's square. As I said the Lewis is the clamp used to lift this perfect ashlar easily.

The symbolism tells us that it is the duty of the Lewis to make life easy for his aged parents.

Sources Laws & Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, A Reference Book for Freemasons by Frederick Smyth and the Square Magazine, September 2019 edition.



# Act of Remembrance in Tuckey Street

Writes **RW. Bro Tea Rea**

The wall memorial in the Dining Room was the focus of an act of remembrance on the Friday 15th November 2019 after Remembrance day.

The traditional Poppy wreath was placed beneath the 'Wall Memorial' by Brother Aaron Patton.

This is the second year in which the Friday morning members and visitors paid their tribute and respect, the attendance included our Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro L Deane.

Hopefully this 'Act of Remembrance' will now become a regular feature on the Masonic Calendar in Freemasons Hall each year.



The traditional Poppy wreath was placed beneath the 'Wall Memorial' it by Brother Aaron Patton, also present was RW. Bro Tea Rea

## Mourne Preceptory No. 1 - Members honoured by the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master Robert G. Quigley GCT

Writes: **Eminent Sir Knight Robin E.W. Newenham**, Registrar – Mourne Preceptory No. 1

Mourne Preceptory No. 1 is the branch of the Knights Templar based in Cork. Its membership currently exceeds 50 members from all over the Masonic Province of Munster.

Membership is by invitation and we meet four times a year. Within the last year Mourne Preceptory has

had two members honoured by the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master Robert G. Quigley GCT, by conferring them with the Rank of Knight Commander of the Temple. On Wednesday 5th June 2019 Right Eminent Sir Knight Wilfred F. Baker received this honour, and on Wednesday 4th December 2019 Right Eminent Sir Knight Edwin Hunter received this honour and pictured with him are some of those who went to support him.



Eminent Sir Knight J. Keith Roberts, Right Eminent Sir Knight Wilfred F. Baker KCT ( Great Herald at Great Priory) , Right Eminent Sir Knight Edwin W. Hunter KCT (Great Prelate at Great Priory) , Eminent Sir Knight Robin E.W. Newenham and Sir Knight Brian Armitage of Sharavogue Preceptory in the Midlands.

# The 7th Annual Harmony Lodge 555 Historical Lecture Evening

Writes **W. Bro David J Butler**

The 7th Annual Harmony Lodge 555 Historical Lecture Evening took place on Monday 27th May last.

The event was preceded by supper to which, as in previous years, non-members were invited. Over fifty attended for the lecture and discussion meeting which followed, which was delivered by W. Bro. Ingo Lindner of Minerva Lodge No. 1, Berlin who, as the 555 exchange lodge, had travelled from Germany for the second time in as many years to visit their Cork brethren.

The Berlin brethren were in Cork for three days and were entertained by 555 brethren, cooperating with brethren of Kinsale, Youghal and Cobh Lodges, to facilitate daytrips to these respective towns to sample their history, monuments, masonic lodge rooms and partake of local refreshments.

The lecture, which examined the history of the Swedish Rite and the Grand Lodge of

Germany to which Minerva belongs, was very well received and the notes and slides were subsequently shared with the attendance.

The meeting was followed by light refreshments and a raffle in aid of The Grand Master's Festival of Charity 2020 which, combined with the monthly charity collection, raised €577 on the evening.



The German delegation visiting Kinsale with guides WM. Bro. Kevin Gregg and with Bro. Eamon Connaughton



The German delegation pictured in Youghal St Mary's Collegiate Church picture with W. Bro David J Butler and Town Cryer Clifford Winsler)



Members of visiting lodge Minerva Lodge No. 1, Berlin, pictured with members of Lodge 555, also present was R.W Bro. Leslie Deane Provincial Grand Master of Munster and officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster.



W. Bro. Ingo Lindner of Minerva Lodge No. 1, Berlin delivering the Annual Harmony Lodge 555 Historical Lecture

# W. Bro. John Mustard's 50 year jewel achievement

Writes W. Bro David J Butler

Congratulations to W. Bro. John Mustard on his 50 year jewel achievement. 40 brethren attended First Lodge of Ireland tonight, 16 of them visitors. €1075 was raised for The GM Festival 2020 through John's generous hosting of us all to dinner and drinks. The raffle was also complimentary with all donated prizes and everyone given a strip of tickets. The Munster Travelling Maul was an added attraction, being obtained by First Lodge last month and it now rests with Hibernian Lodge 95 - the 12th successive lodge to hold it since its October 2018 launch - until their September meeting.



W. Bro John Mustard

## Are you are Master Mason for at least one year? - Then the Royal Arch is open to you!

The next step in Ancient Craft Masonry, as acknowledged in the Grand Lodge Laws & Constitution after the third or Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, is that of a Mark Master Mason, and Royal Arch Degree. Two wonderful degrees under the auspices of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter which complete what Freemasons know as Pure Ancient Masonry.

We have 8 chapters in the District Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland, 1, 3, 8, 71, 95, meeting in

Tuckey Street, 68 in Youghal, 84 in Brinny, and 190 in Cobh. Each Chapter meets on average 4 times a year and the dates are available in the Blue Book, and online at our website.

If you're interested in becoming a Royal Arch Mason, ask a member of your Lodge or enquire with a Chapter Registrar that meets in a location and time that most suits you! We are delighted to answer any questions about the Chapter.

[www.munsterfreemason.com/royal-arch-chapters/](http://www.munsterfreemason.com/royal-arch-chapters/)

# Toastmasters & Freemasonry an Interlocking Journey

Writes **W. Bro Aidan Coakley**

If I had not joined Toastmasters would I have ever entered Freemasonry? To my mind the answer is a resounding no.

Both organisations have much in common although from divergent perspectives of meeting style, administration and, membership. These two august global organisations both develop the member through improving their self-confidence, leadership and ability to inter-act with each other and, society outside of the organisation.

Perhaps an overly simplified view on the end goals of both groups and, yet it has an honesty to it.

This year sees my completion of my period as Ex. King in Belazeal Nr.8 R.A.C. and, until the end of next June, I am an Area Director (I.e.; a Coach/Mentor) to four Toastmasters clubs in the



**W. Bro Aidan Coakley**

Cork city area.

Am I grateful for joining both groups and now having a vastly improved knowledge of meeting formats and, expected conduct. Yes, is the clear answer.



65th Cork International Choral Festival performing in the Lodge Room in Free Mason's Hall Tuckey Street, Cork,

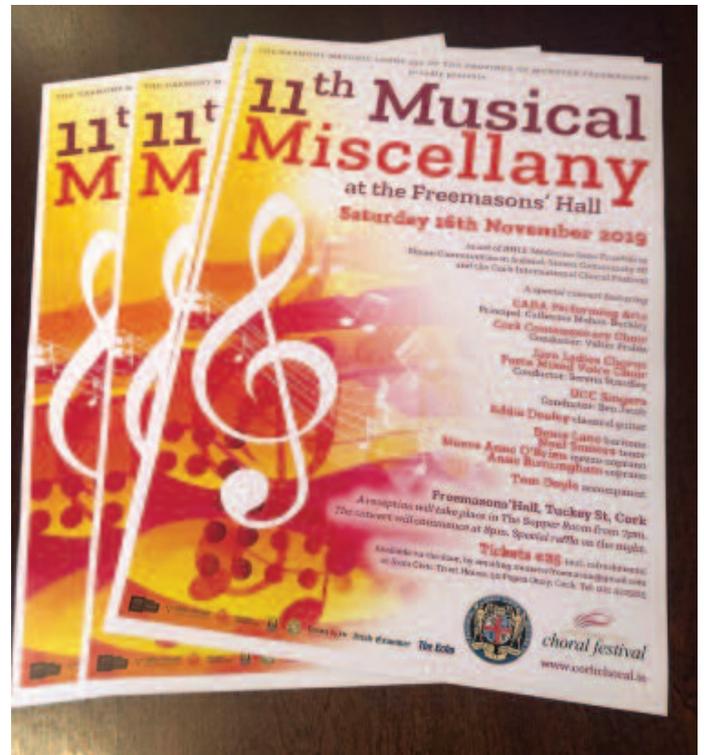
# 11th Annual Musical Miscellany

Report by **W. Bro David J Butler**

On Saturday 16th November, the 11th Annual Musical Miscellany was hosted at Freemasons' Hall by the brethren of The Harmony Lodge 555. As in previous years, the proceedings commenced with a substantial canapés and wine reception, and the musical offerings included classical and contemporary choirs, vocal ensembles, soloists and instrumentalists. The musicianship was of the highest quality and the performances drew sustained applause, perhaps the most admiring for eleven year old Eddie Dooley, a classical guitarist fresh from his Feis Ceoil and Cork School of Music awards success. The dulcet tones of contralto Amanda Neri, duets and solos of Maeve Ann O'Brien and Denis Lane were very well received and the Lodge Room was much brought to life by the several award winning choirs and ensembles, much in the originally intended function of our building as a mid-eighteenth century assembly rooms.

The miscellany evening, which also featured a rich

and varied raffle, raised a sum of the order of €3,000, to be divided between the Vision2020 charities and our longstanding partner, the not-for-profit Cork International Choral Festival.



# VISION 2020

Writes **W. Bro. Kevin Ryan**

As members of the Masonic Order, we identify as a body of men who endeavour to cultivate and exhibit Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, to one another and to the world at large. We regard ourselves as “part of Society” rather than “apart from Society”, and thus, in fulfilment of our commitment to Relief, we support many non-Masonic Charities, while continuing to support our own Masonic Benevolent Funds. And so, at regular intervals, a Grand Master’s Festival is held, whereby every Lodge on the island of Ireland raises funds for specific non Masonic Charities. The current Grand Master’s Festival, entitled “Vision 2020”, is well and truly underway. In fact, an esteemed Worshipful Master of one of the Lodges of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster, is on record as having recently advised his brethren: “Any Masonic Brother in Ireland, who is not familiar with ‘Vision 2020’ by now, must be living under a stone!”.

In the last edition of “The Plumblin”, I wrote about “The Grand Master’s Festival” in an explanatory fashion. I described it as a project “...primarily concentrated on fundraising for non-Masonic Charities”.

I talked about our “Small Change Project” here in Munster (whereby brethren, their families, members of their households, and their friends collect their surplus small change over the two-year period 2019- 2020). I’m delighted to say that, not alone has it successfully taken off in the Province of Munster, it has been adopted by many Lodges in other Provinces, as a worthwhile means of painlessly raising a significant amount of money. (Imitation, as we know, is the sincerest form of flattery!). In Freemasons’ Hall, Tuckey Street, the idea has been expanded in the form of the “Blue Bin Appeal”, which welcomes currencies of all denominations (including pre-Euro), which will be translated into Euro at the end of 2020. I spoke of the plans that many Lodges were considering as “fundraisers”, with a little trepidation and a lot of optimism. I had no idea that we would experience such a variety of creative, innovative and productive events, providing a huge range of social opportunities for the delight of brethren, their families and friends, as well as people who had never consciously encountered a Mason before!

We have enjoyed lavish hospitality through the generosity of members of a number of Lodges, and their families, who have opened their homes for Summer barbecues. We’ve had a range of social activities organised by different Lodges: A



Clay Pigeon Shoot; a Lodge Summer brunch; a Drama Group Gala Evening; An Inaugural ‘Annual Masonic Social’; First Lodge’s “World Cup Rugby Fest 2019”, to coincide with Rugby World Cup Quarter Final. This is not by any means a complete or exhaustive list, but certainly is an indication of the creative and imaginative thinking engaged in by Lodge members! And each event realised a considerable amount of money for the “Vision 2020” coffers.

Many Lodges have organised “in-house” activities, to which brethren have responded very generously: Post-meeting Draws/Raffles at Festive Boards, and other Lodge functions have raised lots of money, and worthy of particular mention is W. Bro. John Mustard’s fiftieth

anniversary celebration, which raised significant funds in the form of a lavish supper and Raffle hosted by him, in Tuckey Street.

There’s much to look forward to between now and Christmas: Shamrock Lodge 27’s “Whiskey Tasting Night” and “Bowling Night”, as well as Bezaleel Lodge 234’s “Gala Dinner” and the Lodge 555’s “11th Musical Miscellany” among them. Some brethren have indicated that they’ll host Dinner Parties, where guests will be invited to make a financial contribution for charity. (For ongoing updates, watch “Munster Vision 2020 Whats App” notices, as well as notices through Lodge Secretaries)

All of these events continue to promote the spirit of fraternity in our Lodges. They also support a positive public perception of Freemasonry, and firmly underscore our position as a very fully functioning ‘part of society’.

I, personally, wish to express my gratitude for the enthusiastic and courteous way in which everybody has responded to my persistent appeals, on behalf of The Most Worshipful the Grand Master. I look forward, with tremendous optimism, to what The Grand Master’s Festival will send to surprise and excite us in 2020.

Bank Details:

**Grand Masters Festival**

**IBAN: IE24 AIBK 9312 2501 2720 58 BIC: AIBKIE2D**

## Obituary

# V.W. Bro. William T. (Bill) Cavanagh, HonPPJGW

Bill was initiated into Freemasonry in December 1950 in his mother lodge in Limerick city. He affiliated to 555 some 58 years ago, during the year 1961, and served the office of Worshipful Master for 1970, before going on to serve as lodge secretary for 1972-73.

He gave many years of service to the senior lodge offices: a record 22 years as Chaplain (1987-94 and 2001-14), 16 as Almoner and 3 as Director of Ceremonies (1998-2000).

Bill was not a member of other branches of

the Order, but served the Province of Munster as its Standard Bearer for 1978. He was awarded the status of Very Worshipful Honorary Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden of Munster, during 2013 by the Provincial Grand Master and was very proud to wear this regalia, over that of lodge chaplain, to meetings of 555 up to May 2014. At this point, declining health required him to retire from office and from attendance, whereupon he was granted emeritus membership of the lodge.

## Heritage Day Launch



Leslie Deane, Right Worshipful Provincial Grandmaster of Munster and Lord Mayor Cllr John Sheehan at the launch of Cork Heritage Open Day 2019 at the Masonic Hall on Tuckey Street Cork City.

# Launch of the Heritage Day 2019 in the Freemason's Hall Tuckey Street on the Night of the 7th August 2019

Pics by Darragh Kane Photography



Steve McSweeney, Masonic Lodge and Brian Gould, The Carpenters Hall at the launch of Cork Heritage Open Day 2019 at the Masonic Hall on Tuckey Street Cork City.



Alan Campbell, Masonic Lodge and David Butler, Masonic Lodge at the launch of Cork Heritage Open Day 2019 at the Masonic Hall on Tuckey Street Cork City.



Maev O'Shea, Everman Theatre, Leigh Delaney, Cork Chamber, President of Network Cork Gillian Hennessy, Triskel Arts Centre and Barry Jenkins, Masonic Lodge at the launch of Cork Heritage Open Day 2019 at the Masonic Hall on Tuckey Street Cork City.

Vision  
2020

# 2nd Annual BURNS NIGHT SUPPER

FRIDAY 24TH JANUARY 2020  
7PM - 11:30 PM

The Munster Green Committee invites you  
to an evening of Robert Burns.

To celebrate the Scottish Bard, the event is open to Brethren, their guests and hopes to open the social calendar with flair! Bagpipes, poetry, a haggis supper, and whisky to be conferred on the night and full audience participation will be welcome. We'll also hold a small prize raffle on night in aid of Vision 20/20 and other Munster Masonic Charities.

Tickets €30, first come, first served.

Spaces limited, book online [www.bookwhen.com/mgc](http://www.bookwhen.com/mgc)

Enquiries to [munstergreencommittee@gmail.com](mailto:munstergreencommittee@gmail.com)

Freemasons' Hall  
27 Tuckey Street, Cork

'no refunds can be offered the week of the event.'

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