



On the Square

Issue 22



Spring 2019

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CORBY MASONIC COMPLEX

Brethren

From the Masonic view point 2019 to date has seen a number of landmark masonic events take place at the complex coupled with higher than normal attendances. There is certainly a feel good factor amongst all of the orders that meet here at our complex. As well as our annual commemorations to Robert Burns this year has seen special meetings celebrating the 300th meeting of Corbie Lodge and 400th meeting of Ferraria Lodge.

Once again we have seen many new entrants to Freemasonry, each Lodge now has a significant numbers of new and young masons. There is also a newly established Light Blue club where new and young masons and their families can meet and enjoy a diverse range of social events.

Friday 17th May sees the now annual Corby United Lodges meeting. This year being held under the banner of Thistle & Rose and is a first degree ceremony - I do hope to see as many of your there as possible.

My congratulations go to all of our brethren who have received honours and promotions in the craft and other orders. I also congratulate W Bro Mark Constant, a group officer here at Corby who has received a First appointment in Grand Lodge as active JGD and will be promoted to APM next month. Clearly a source of pride for Corby Freemasonry.

Best wishes for the remainder of the season and the summer recess, don't forget to attend the Corby Masonic Complex AGM in June.

Jimmy Spence
Complex Chairman

To keep up to date with Masonic news and events visit: www.corbymasoniccomplex.co.uk

300 plus 400 equals Great Celebrations

Two Corby Lodges, Corbie No. 9155 and Ferrara No 8489, celebrated significant milestones within six days in March resulting in two fantastic evenings. Both meetings were very well attended and both lodges reciprocated with visits to the other Lodge.

Corbie Lodge kicked off the celebrations with their 300th meeting on Thursday 14th March. WBro Lou Orsi PAGDC, AsstProvGM was the Official Visitor on the night accompanied by WBro Paull Hoffmann ProvAGDC. VWBro Wayne Williams PGSwdB, PAsstProvGM also attended, being an honorary member of the Lodge. During the evening Bro Ronan Keegans was raised in a great ceremony which was led by the WMaster Bro Ian Lapsley.

Corbie Lodge's two remaining founder members WBro Mike Coleman PPJGW and WBro Peter Konarczak PPJGW were presented with a commemorative glass and a comic printed on the day of the consecration.

Everyone left having enjoyed a fantastic evening and a piece of the very tasty cake made by Mrs Sandra Summerfield.



With only a few days of rest in between Ferrara celebrated their 400th meeting on Tuesday 19th March. WBro Charles Bennett PSGD DepProvGM, was the official visitor on the evening accompanied by WBro Bill Abram ProvAGDC.

The WMaster Bro Richard Skillen took charge of a very enjoyable ceremony in which Bro L Crozier was passed. A 70's style festive board followed, at which the two remaining founders of Ferrara Lodge WBro Barrie Cole PJGD and W Bro John Hallum PPSGW were presented with gifts vouchers marking the significant contribution they had made to the Lodge since its inception in 1972

Congratulations to both Lodges. A date for your diary: 17th January is when the Lodge of Heritage celebrates its 200th meeting, an event not to be missed .

New Young Masons Club

The first AGM of the Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire New and Young Masons Club (NYMC) took place at Corby Masonic Centre on Sunday 17th March. It has been created to provide a forum to help new Masons to meet and enjoy social events together. Commonly referred to as Light Blues Clubs, it has an exclusive and restricted membership to those masons who wear white & light blue aprons.



The role of the New and Young Masons Club is to provide a structure to ensure a vibrant and enthusiastic membership, not bound by old ideas and traditions, but respectful of them, to share ideas and contribute towards the future of our fraternity. The NYMC will do this by supporting the membership of a number of local light blue clubs across the province.

The AGM was followed by a 5 a side football tournament, which was won by a team led by Milan Crooks



On the 25th March the Corby Light Blue Club was formed with the following brethren taking office: Milan Crooks - Chairman, Richard Skillen - Vice Chairman and Events Coordinator, Rab Reid - Secretary and Aaron Deveneny - Communications Officer. Examples of social events being planned include comedy nights, golf days and sports tournaments. Watch out on Facebook or WhatsApp for details or come along to the next meeting on Wednesday 23rd April at 7.30pm at the complex or contact Rab on rabreid50@outlook.com

Charity

We all know about the Masonic Charity Foundation (MCF), aiming to raise over £2 million to help fund its diverse range of support activities. One local example of how the MCF helps is young people with disabilities and complex learning difficulties making music with the Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust (NMPAT) thanks to a grant presented by Northants and Hunts Freemasons.

The £23,000 MCF grant is in support of the Reach the Stars project, which aims to use music making to develop communication and other core skills in young people of school age by building confidence and encouraging social interaction. In particular for young people with additional needs, with physical limitations and profound multiple learning disabilities - it is proven through music making that experiences are enhanced and isolation reduced.



Reach the Stars has been developed by NMPAT in collaboration with all twelve Northamptonshire special schools and digital signal processing (DSP) units. The grant will help maintain the project's dedicated staff and music therapists, Gideon Malitske and Emily-May Roebuck during its first year.

The presentation was made back on the 15th of November 2018 at the Red Kite Academy, which opened in Corby in September 2018 and provides specialist support for primary and secondary age children presenting a range of complex special education needs.

Notice Board & Events

New Group Officers for Corby

Congratulations

Congratulations to WBros, Alex Henderson and Steve Burton who have been appointed as Group Offices for the Corby Lodges they have been in post since October 2018. They take the place of W Bro David Jackson who is stepping down and W Bro Mark Constant who has been promoted to Assistant Provincial Grand Master. Our thanks to go to Bros David and Mark for the help, experience and assistance they have provided to the membership here at Corby.

Friday 17th May ~ United Corby Lodges

A reminder that the now yearly meeting of Corby Lodges takes place on Friday 17th May, this year it is being held under the banner of Thistle & Rose and is a first degree ceremony. Book your dining requirements with Rab Reid: rabreid50@outlook.com.



Saturday 15th June ~ Summer Ball



WBro Steve Burton will be co-hosting a Black tie Summer Ball at the Corby Masonic Centre.

Arrival is from 5.30pm with a reception of canapes and drinks. Tickets are £30 and include dancing, disco, food and fun! For more details see accompanying flyer.



And finally, the Ronnie Stone joke slot ...

Murphy hijacked a submarine, he then sent a ransom note demanding £10,000 and a parachute.

