



# On the Square

Issue 23



Christmas 2019

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CORBY MASONIC COMPLEX

## Brethren

As another year draws to a close, and as a new decade dawns it is the perfect opportunity to thank all members and their families in helping to make 2019 so successful and enjoyable. As an event venue of choice we have to maintain our facilities in tip top condition, and with the help of you our members we have been able to do this at a reasonable cost, a huge thank you (*you know who you are*).

We need to keep in mind young and not so young couples are beginning their married lives in our Centre, and creating memories for them and theirs. Be proud, take pride in our facility and what is providing to local people

Looking forward, applications for membership here at Corby continue to be sought after, good men clearly want to join us, and the complex continues to receive plaudits from visitors. As always my thanks go to Jason, his team and the members of the committee who do so much to make the complex tick.

I would like you all to remember in your thoughts those brethren who have passed to the grand lodge above during the past twelve months, their widows and relatives, not forgetting the widows and relatives who themselves have also passed away.

A new initiative this Xmas is the introduction of a "Corby Masonic Christmas hamper" this year it is planned to donate this to the local food bank, who have provided a list of items that are desperately needed, let's fill it, full details are on the back page of this publication. Finally let me end by wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year.

*Jimmy*  
*Complex Chairman*

This newsletter can also be found online at [Corby Masonic Complex Website](#) - information regarding hiring our complex can also be found on this site.



## Let's Go Social

2019 has been a year which has seen an emphasis on the promotion of social activities including our families in a more formal way. To this end there has been a Province wide club set up for New & Young Masons who are yet to receive Provincial Honors this provides a framework for local clubs to operate, these are called light blues as the name suggests it is based on the colour of the apron worn. The local club here at Corby goes by the name of the "Steel Acacia's" after the name of Centre and the steel industry in our town, currently events are organised by amongst

others Milan Crooks, Rab Reid and Richard Skillen, events have been well attended and range from Pool nights, Chinese Meals and a Summer BBQ.

Since August the members bar has been open each and every Friday night for all members, families and friends, during this period there has been themed nights including a quiz, a darts tournament, and even a cricket game night. Including our families and friends on our masonic journey is increasing understanding of freemasonry as well as making our complex a more vibrant facility for the community now and in the future

## Calling All NYMC Annual Joint Lodge Meeting

Corby Acacia Rooms Masonic Centre - Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Continuing on from previous Annual joint meetings the host Lodge this year is Corbie No 9155. It is the intention of the WM Bro John Fowler to invite masters of Lodges to take up the Officers positions for the actual ceremony which is a second degree ceremony.

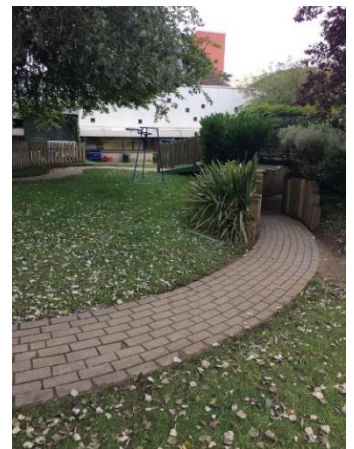
Brethren "come one come all" put the date in your diaries. It would be incredible to have all NYMC members to enjoy this special 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary meeting.



## Lewis Hamilton would be pleased to go round that track

During the summer a number of Corby Masons gave up their spare time and provided hard graft to help out the Pen Green centre in Corby, they had closed some of the play areas due to overgrown plants and some of the items had become dangerous for the children to play on. This work could only take place during a closure period. After the summer break we received a thankyou letter with the following quote from the Head Teachers

***"We would thank you all so very much for your generosity and for voluntarily giving your time and skills to help improve the outdoor learning space for the nursery children. Your work has vastly enhanced the outdoor play area. As you are aware we have struggled to maintain the garden areas due to reduced funding and rising costs of resources and materials. On return after the 2-week closure, staff, governors and parents immediately commented on the development that had been undertaken. The children were very excited to be able to access the cycle path and small bridge once again. Without your support this would not have been able to happen"***





Last season's gift

## Cheers Paul – good work

W Bro Paul Tew the Almoner of Thistle & Rose Lodge 6644 has hit on an innovative way of keeping in touch with members of the Lodge by presenting them with a birthday gift and encouraging each member of the Lodge to send the recipient a birthday message. Having the full support of the Lodge this initiative is now in its second season and has proved very successful.

Let's not forget the office of Almoner is often underestimated by the Brethren, and the full extent and importance of the duties are not always appreciated or understood. The role can be a very demanding one, concerned as it is with ensuring the welfare of Lodge members and their widows and dependents. An Almoner needs to maintain

contact with Lodge members, including those who are not regular attendees, and with widows and dependents of former members. (WBro Paul has certainly achieved that).

*For more information please contact WBro Paul Tew – Almoner Thistle & Rose 6644*

## From one chair to another

Milan Crooks is a serious brother, following a decision to join Ferrara Lodge straight after becoming a freemason in the Lodge of St Giles he then progressed through every office consecutively year on year which has resulted in becoming worshipful master of his mother lodge St Giles last season, going straight into the chair of King Solomon in Ferrara Lodge in current season. (see pic "he loves a chair")

This is a first for our complex and a benefit to both Lodges, it has certainly encouraged visiting. Last season the Lodge of St Giles Ladies night over which Milan's wife Allison presided attracted records numbers and was fantastic success, they are hosting Ferrara ladies' night on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020, an event not to be missed

Milan is a committed member of the fraternity here in Corby, a member of the management committee, and can be relied upon to lend a helping hand wherever it is needed. An example for us all



## Prostate Cancer Awareness Testing ~ it could be a life saver



Following-on from the highly successful series of PSA testing sessions at various centers in the Province during the 2017/18 season in conjunction with the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust, it has been decided the Royal Arch Province should support a further series of test sessions to continue to support the health of our members. This initiative is fully supported by the PGM and the Craft, who are generously assisting in its funding. The sessions are to be held during the 2019/20 season and the Corby testing session is being held on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020**. –

**DON'T MISS IT**



# The Corby Masonic Hamper 2019

The greatest gift you can give this Xmas, whatever your circumstances, we can all afford to do this. Make this year special for someone.

Every time you come to the Masonic Complex, please bring any of the following items and one of the staff will put this in storage for the Corby food bank for use this Christmas.

Please give as little or as much as you Can, it will all make a difference; this is the list of items the food bank needs around Xmas time.



**Tinned meat, Tinned fish. Tinned vegetables. Tinned spaghetti. Tinned rice pudding.**

**Custard. Long life sponge pudding. Biscuits. Snacks for children. Juice. Squash.**

**Instant mash. Jam. Cereal. Porridge oats. Long life milk, Toothpaste. Tooth brushes.**

**Shower gel. Shampoo. Soap. Deodorant. Feminine hygiene products.**

**Shaving foam. Razors. Toilet roll. Washing up liquid, Washing powder**

Further information, Contact our complex manager Jason 01536 201535 email [jason@corbymasoniccomplex.co.uk](mailto:jason@corbymasoniccomplex.co.uk) or Rab Reid 07516118869 email [rabreid50@outlook.com](mailto:rabreid50@outlook.com)

## And finally ~ a Ronnie Stone double

**The Irish have solved their unemployment problems by putting the school leaving age up to 27**

**Or**

**Ronnie's Christmas Cross Word Clue - Flightless Bird from Iceland 2 words 6 & 7 letters**

**Ans ----- FROZEN CHICKEN**

