CONSECRATED

18th APRIL, 1923

PETERSHAM LODGE

No. 4514

1923 - 2023




THE PETERSHAM LODGE
JURE
DIVINO
Nº 4514

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The first Initiate's breast jewel, presented to Bro. Lewis James Yates.

PETERSHAM LODGE

1923 - 2023

This history is
dedicated to the
memory and foresight of
the Founding Members of
Petersham Lodge.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mr John Cloake, President of the Richmond Local History Society for allowing his notes on the Petersham Hotel to be freely used in the compilation of this history.

W Bros Mike Allen and Peter Jones, PPJGW, for their diligent research and recording of the first seventy five years of the history of Petersham Lodge.

W Bro Ken Beattie, PPDepGReg, for the compilation of the last 25years of the history of Petersham.

Museum of Richmond; The History Centre, Surrey; Daniel Brown, Hotel Administrator at the Petersham Hotel for their valuable assistance.

(A comprehensive history of the Petersham Hotel can be found online by searching ‘The Petersham Hotel Richmond’ and scrolling down to ‘History of The Petersham’).

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CONSECRATION

OF THE

Petersham Lodge, No. 4514

AT THE

NEW STAR and GARTER HOTEL,
PETERSHAM ROAD, RICHMOND, SURREY.

On Wednesday, 18th April, 1923, at 5.30 p.m.,

BY

V. W. Bro. P. COLVILLE SMITH,
GRAND SECRETARY,

ASSISTED BY

W.Bro. A.C. TURNER, J.G.D. ... ... as S.W.
W.Bro. JAMES E. TERRY, P.G.D. ... ... as J.W.
W.Bro. Rev. GEORGE IRWIN, *B.D.,M.A.*,P.A.G.Chaplain ... as Chaplain
W.Bro. Lt.Col. H. HAMILTON-WEDDERBURN, *O.B.E.*,Dep.G.D.C. as D.C.
W.Bro. GEORGE V.A. SCHOFIELD, P.A.G.D.C. ... ... as I.G.

W.Bro. JOHN D. FIRMSTON, L.R.... ... ... W.M. Designate
W.Bro. EDWIN SKILTON, P.M. ... ... S.W. Designate
W.Bro. ARTHUR MOORE, P.M. ... ... J.W. Designate
W.Bro. MARSH, Grand Tyler.

MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS

Under the direction of
W.Bro. H. WHARTON WELLS, Mus.Bac., P.D.G.Org.
assisted by
W.Bro. GEO. MAY and Bros. HAROLD WILDE and GEO. WEBBER.

Ampthill **Pro G.M.**

To all and every our Right Worshipful Worshipful and Loving Brethren
We
Arthur William Patrick Albert
Duke of Connaught and Strathearn
Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter
&
Grand Master
of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England

Send Greeting

Know Ye *That We by the authority and under the sanction of the United Grand Lodge of England vested in us for that purpose and at the humble Petition of our Right Trusty and Well Beloved Brethren John Daniel Firmston, Edwin Skilton, Arthur Moore, Henry Almond, Henry Charles Almond, Alfred Allum, Ernest Michael Severn and others*
Do hereby constitute *the said Brethren into a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons under the Title or Denomination of*

No 4514 The Petersham Lodge

The said Lodge to meet at the Tudor Restaurant, Petersham Road, Richmond in the London Masonic District on the Second Saturday in January, February, March, April, October and November empowering them in the sai Lodge when duly congregated to make pass and raise Free Masons according to the Ancient Custom of the Craft in all Ages and Nations throughout the known world. And further at their said Petition and

The Mystery of the Original Meeting Place

The Consecration Summons dated 18th April 1923 shows the meeting place as the New Star and Garter Hotel, Petersham Road, Richmond. However, the Warrant of the Lodge which is displayed before every meeting, clearly shows The Tudor Restaurant, Petersham Road, Richmond as the venue.

W Bro Richard Gray, PPGReg, has devoted many hours researching the local history of the area and the various guises of what is now the Petersham Hotel in order to clarify the reason for the variance between the two documents.

An hotel named the Richmond Hill Hotel was built in 1865 and in 1877 it was renamed 'The Mansion', becoming 'The Mansion Hotel' in 1889. It took on the name of the 'New Star and Garter Hotel' in 1922, the 'New' being dropped some years later and in 1978 became the Petersham Hotel.

An examination of two sales brochures for the auction of The Mansion Hotel revealed that the dimensions of the restaurant would have enabled 70 persons to dine which was approximately the number of attendees at the Consecration Meeting. The conclusion therefore, although no definitive records exist, is that the restaurant within the New Star and Garter Hotel was named The Tudor Restaurant.

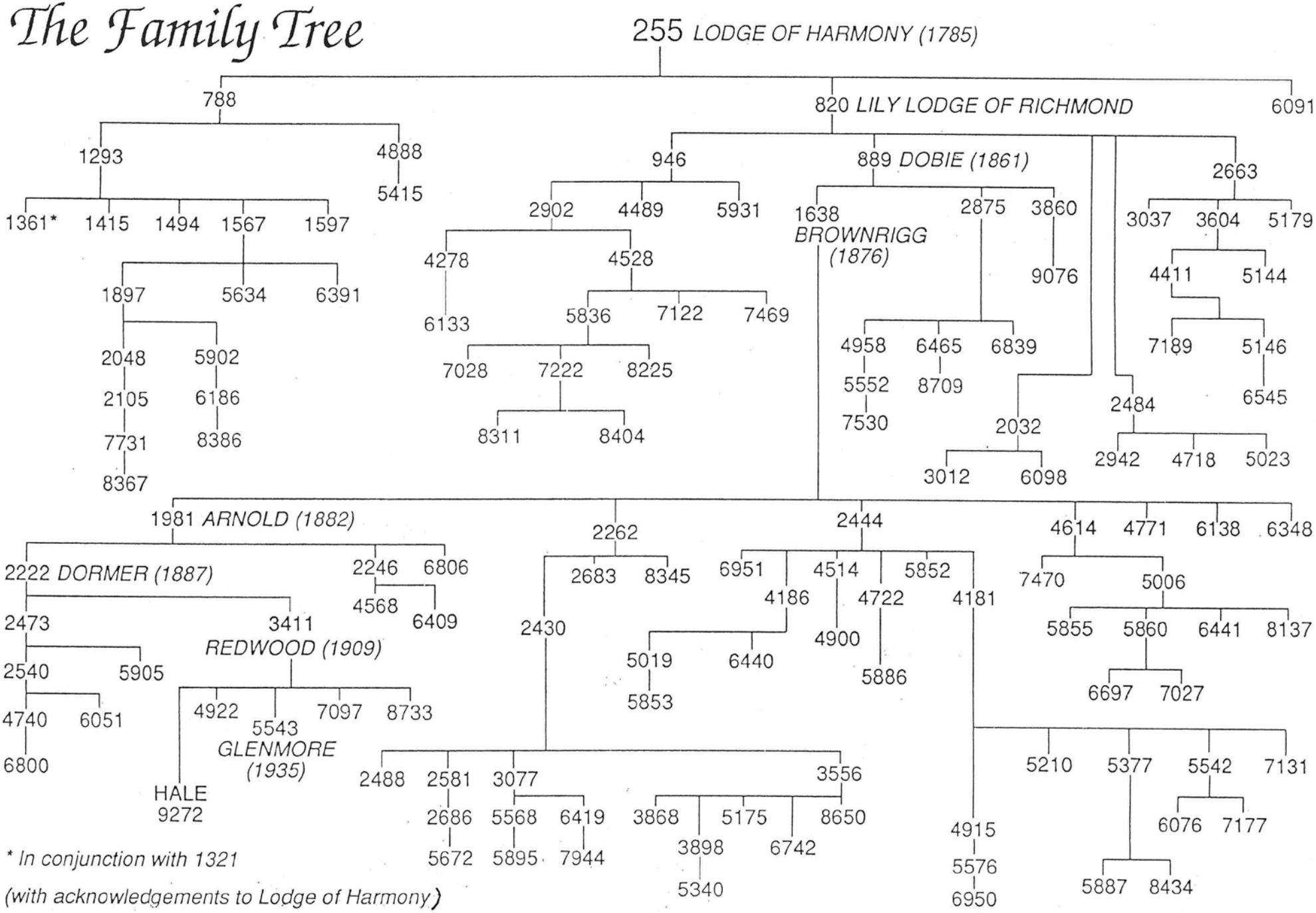


The Mansion Hotel, Richmond Hill



Star and Garter Hotel

The Family Tree



* *In conjunction with 1321*

(with acknowledgements to Lodge of Harmony)

Masonic Province, owes its formation to the love of home and old associations. Many efforts have been made in the past to establish such a Lodge—in fact, I believe the late brother of our S.W. took an active part in a movement some sixteen years ago, and which he was obliged to abandon through ill health. But, undaunted by previous non-success, Bro. Derrick and a few of our Founders returned to the attack, and in January, 1922, it was my privilege to receive from him a letter asking for assistance in organising a new movement. Immediately sympathising with the project, I was pleased to take an active part, and on placing the matter before the committee of the Cabot Lodge, the members were unanimous in their support, and I have gratefully to acknowledge the assistance received. The Masters' roll of that Lodge numbers five, four of whom are Founders of the Bristol Lodge, and the other is also present with us this evening. I shall now refer to one particular danger to which we are exposed, and that is in the admission of undesirable candidates. It is a very simple matter for any newly constituted Lodge to err in this respect, but especially so for this Lodge, which is certain to receive applications for membership from men of whom little is known in London. It is essential, therefore, there should be the closest possible co-operation with Bristol, and each Lodge in that Province should be aware of the names of candidates before us. To this end it would facilitate matters if a summons of each of our meetings were sent to the respective Lodge Secretaries, and it would also assist if each Founder resident in Bristol made it his especial care to prevent any undesirable person becoming a member. As a further precaution we have entered into an understanding with Grand Lodge, and also Prov. Grand Lodge, that we will not consider as a candidate for initiation anyone who, by residence, is eligible to make application for membership of a Bristol Lodge. It is indeed gratifying to see such a large number of visitors from the old city, including a number of reigning Masters of the Province, and to know they take such a keen interest in this Lodge, which is undoubtedly destined to become a most important Masonic link between London and Bristol. In conclusion, Brethren, I will once more thank you for your reception of this toast, and again assure the Founders of my earnest endeavour to merit your confidence, and to prove myself worthy of the high Masonic honour conferred upon me this evening.

The toast of The Visitors was acknowledged by Bros. Dr. Knight, Croom Johnson, and Morgan Fletcher, and The Officers by Bros. W. R. Powell, S.W., and C. W. Derrick, Secretary, the latter of whom had contributed such excellent service in the formation of the Lodge and the success of the evening.

PETERSHAM LODGE, No. 4514.

CONSECRATION AND INSTALLATION.

Freemasonry in Richmond and the surrounding district has for many years found active supporters, and it is not surprising, therefore, that a petition should have been sent to Grand Lodge asking for a Charter for a Lodge to be named the Petersham. The signatures included several well-known enthusiasts of the Edward Terry Lodge of Instruction. A Warrant having been granted, the consecration ceremony duly took place at the New Star and Garter Hotel, Petersham Road, Richr ond, on the 18th ult., the hostelry being almost on the edge of the Surrey Province, but within the recognised London District. A late start somewhat marred the proceedings, but a successful and interesting evening rewarded the numerous Brethren for their attendance.

Bro. P. Colville Smith, Grand Secretary, was the Consecrating Officer, assisted by Bros. A. C. Turner, J.G.D., as S.W.; James E. Terry, P.G.D., J.W.; the Rev. George Irwin, P.A.G.C., Chaplain; Lt.-Col. H. Hamilton-Wedderburn, D.G.D.C., D.C.; and George V. A. Schofield, P.A.G.D.C., I.G. The ceremonies of dedication and constitution were carried out with the customary dignity and solemnity usual on such occasions, the musical portions being rendered under the direction of Bro. Wharton Wells, P.D.G.Org. The W.M.-designate, Bro. J. D. Firmston, L.R., was installed, and the usual addresses were delivered by the assisting Grand Officers.

The following were invested as the first officers of the Lodge: Bros. Leonard T. Yates, as I.P.M.; Edwin Skilton, P.P.G.P., S.W.; Arthur Moore, J.W.; Henry E. Pannell, P.P.G.St.B., Treasurer; Henry Almond, L.R., P.P.G.St.B., Secretary; Henry A. Darch, L.R., D.C.; Alfred Allum, S.D.; Ernest M. Severn, J.D.; Joseph W. J. Samels, A.D.C.; C. W. Watson, Org.; William Vaughan, Asst.Sec.; Henry King, I.G.; William H. Skeet, John W. Scott, and Frank C. Linegar, Stewards; H. Barton, Tyler.

The Consecrating Officers were heartily thanked for their services, elected Honorary Members, and presented with Founder's jewels, and four candidates were proposed for initiation.

In the usual toasts following the banquet, Bro. James E. Terry, P.G.D., replied for the toast of "The Grand Officers," and said it would be a sorry return for their kindness and hospitality if he were to weary them with lengthy remarks on their duties and responsibilities. The members of that body were only pleased to render any service to Freemasonry, and it had been a red-letter day to assist in the consecration of the Lodge, which they wished every prosperity in the future, and hoped to visit again on many occasions.

In giving the health of the Consecrating Officers, the W.M. expressed the sincere and grateful thanks of the Founders for the beautiful ceremony they had witnessed. They thanked the distinguished Brethren for coming so far out of town, and assured them of their deep appreciation for all they had done. It particularly pleased him to see the Chaplain, with whom he was in association in Mortlake many years ago, and who was held in kind remembrance by many. They were indebted to all the Consecrating Officers. He was also pleased to see Bro. Schofield, for had the Lodge been situated only a short distance further from London they would have met him in the Province of Surrey.

The Grand Secretary, in his reply, said that if the Lodge had been in Surrey, he should not have had the privilege of consecrating it. They were glad to think they had done some good for Freemasonry by starting a Lodge which they believed would be a credit to the Craft and worthily uphold the principles of the Order. He would not give them advice, for they already knew that only good candidates should be brought in. On behalf of his colleagues he thanked the members for receiving them so heartily, and for the presents made to them. Freemasonry in the past few years had made great strides, and the membership in the past fifty years had increased fourfold, showing what a power for good it could be if they took their Freemasonry seriously, not only in their Lodges but also in the outside world.

Bro. Stanley Sparkes briefly proposed the toast of the W.M., referring to the fact that Bro. Firmston had been a sound Mason for many years, a good citizen, and was respected by all who knew him. In their particular district their W.M. had always been ready to give assistance in Freemasonry, and spared no pains in instructing the Brethren in the ritual and in the way they should conduct themselves. The wishes of all the Brethren were that he would be spared in good health during the next twelve months, and then he would be assured of a successful and happy year of office.

Bro. J. D. Firmston, L.R., W.M., thanked the proposer for his kind references. It was true he had associated himself with Freemasonry for many years, and had endeavoured to live up to it. He had resided in Mortlake for sixty-four years, where he followed his honoured father, whose good name was still remembered. As a Preceptor of two Lodges of Instruction, and P.M. of three Lodges, he felt it a great honour to be the first Master of the Petersham Lodge.

Other toasts were honoured, and an excellent musical programme successfully carried out.

9 Broadway Avenue
St Margaret's on Thames.
Middlesex
October 17th 1922.

Wor: Bro. G. V. Schofield Esq.
P.G. Secty. Surrey.

Dear Sir & Wor. Bro.

Enclosed please find Petition and Clearance Certificates of the Petitioners for a New Lodge in Petersham, in the Province of Surrey, which has been supported, and signed by the Nonsuch Lodge No. 2444. which is our nearest neighbouring Lodge, and has a membership of about 180, and although latterly a relief Lodge, called the Turner Lodge No. 4181. was formed which has already 80 members.

Petersham is a populous district, and we consider it is worthy of a Lodge, also the prayer of our Petition for a new Lodge, is that some of the Petitioners Lodges are at Eastleigh, Colchester, Slough, Liverpool, Jersey & Thurness, and for the constituency of their dwellings and suitable months and evenings for the meetings, we beg the favour of the Provincial Grand Master, or the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, to support the prayer of our Petition to the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Trusting the prayer of our Petition will be granted, and we promise strict obedience to the regulations in Freemasonry, as we have done in the past.

Yours faithfully & fraternally.
Henry. Almond L.R. P.M. 2622 & 3797
Edwin Shilton. P.P.G.P. Hants & I.O.W.
John Daniel Fiennes Tom. 2722, 3014 I.R.

CHAPTER 1

THE IDEA AND ITS FULFILMENT

In commencing this history there can be no better introduction than the below reproduced letter:

9 Broadway Avenue
St Margarets-on-Thames
Middlesex

October 17th 1922

Wor: Bro. G. V. Schofield Esq.
P. G. Sect - Surrey.

Dear Sir and Wor. Bro.,

Enclosed please find Petition and Clearance Certificates of the Petition for a New Lodge in Petersham in the Province of Surrey, which has been supported, and signed by the Noel Lodge No. 2444. which is our nearest neighbouring lodge and has a membership of about 180, and although latterly a relief Lodge, called the Turner Lodge No. 4181 was formed which already has 80 members.

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Trusting that the prayer of our Petition will be granted, and we promise strict obedience to the regulations in Freemasonry, as we have done in the past.

yours faithfully and fraternally,

Henry Almond L.R. P.M. 2622 & 3797
Edwin Skilton P.P.G.P. Hants & I.o.W.
John Daniel Firmston 2722, 3014 L.R.

Thus the fundamental questions of, Why?, When?, Where?, and by Whom?, are answered.

The production of this History indicates the success of the petition, but the fact that Petersham lies within a 10 mile radius of Grand Lodge meant that the resultant Lodge was a London Lodge and did not come under the auspices of the Province of Surrey until much later.

The minutes from the first meeting of Petersham Lodge are as follows:

The Consecration of the Petersham Lodge No. 4514 was held at the New Star and Garter Hotel, Petersham Rd, Richmond on Wednesday 18th April 1923.

Founders present, as signed the petition:

W.Bro. J. D. Firmston,
W.Bro. E Moore,
Bro. A. Allum
Bro. W. Vaughan,
Bro. H. King,
Bro. E. J. Glue,
Bro. F. C. Linegar,
Bro. J. W. Scott,
W.Bro. H. E. Pannell,
W.Bro. E. Skilton
W.Bro. H. Almond,
Bro. E. M. Severn,
Bro. J. W. J. Samels
Bro. W. H. Skeet,
W.Bro. H. J. Keyzar,
W.Bro. L. T. Yates
W.Bro. H. A. Darch,
Bro. W. H. Farrell.

[Note: 18 names are recorded in the minutes but 19 Brethren, the number of Founders, signed the book, Bro. H. C. Almond being the missing name.]

There follows a list of 51 visitors' names, as recorded in the Visitors' book.

The Consecrating Officer, V.W.Bro. P. Colville Smith G.S., entered the lodge in the procession with the Grand Lodge Officer and took the Chair and appointed his officers.

W.Bro. A. C. Turner, J.G.D.	as S.W.
W.Bro. James E. Terry, P.G.D.	as J.W.
W.Bro. Rev. George Irwin, B.D., M.A., P.A.G.Chap.	as Chaplain
W.Bro. Lt-Col. H. Hamilton-Wedderburn, O.B.E., Dep.G.D.C.	as D.C.
W.Bro. George V.A Schofield, P.A.G.D.C.	as I.G.

The Lodge was opened in the three degrees. V.W.Bro. Colville Smith gave an address to the brethren on the nature of the meeting.

The Founders were then arranged in order by the Director of Ceremonies and the D.C. read the Warrant of the Lodge.

V.W.Bro. P. Colville Smith then enquired of the Founders if they approved of the Officer Named on the Warrant.

The Founders signified their approval in due Masonic Form.

W.Bro. Rev. G. Irwin, Chaplain, gave an eloquent oration on the principles of Freemasonry and explained the nature of the ceremony / being much appreciated / and the excellent assistance of W.Bro. Lt-Col. H. Hamilton-Wedderburn D.C. lent additional dignity to the ceremony.

W.Bro. John D. Firmston was then installed as Worshipful Master in a very able manner by V.W.Bro. P. Colville Smith.

W.Bro. Henry E. Pannell was unanimously elected as Treasurer.

Proposed by Bro. E. Skilton, seconded by W.Bro. A. Moore and carried that W.Bro. H. Barton should be Tyler of the Lodge.

The appointment and investiture of Officers were.....

W.Bro. Leonard T. Yates	Acting I.P.M.
W.Bro. Edwin Skilton	S.W.
W.Bro. Arthur Moore	J.W.
W.Bro. Henry E. Pannell	Treasurer.
W.Bro. Henry Almond	Secretary
W.Bro. Henry A. Darch	D.C.
Bro. Alfred Allum	S.D.
Bro. Ernest M. Severn	J.D.
Bro. Joseph W. J. Samels	A.D.C.
Bro. William Vaughan	Ass. Secty.
Bro. Henry King	I.G.
Bro. William H. Skeet	Steward.
Bro. John W. Scott	Ass. Steward.
Bro. Frank C. Linegar	Ass. Steward.
W.Bro. H. Barton	Tyler.

Election of Committee to frame By-Laws, Proposed by W.Bro. H. Almond 'That the W.M., S.W., J.W., Secty, Treas. and D.C., with two Master Masons, total 8, serve'. Proposed by W.Bro. E. Skilton, seconded by W.Bro. Yates, 'That Bros. C. W. Watson and H. King should be the two Master Masons for the Bye Law Committee'. Carried.

[*Bro. C. W. Watson withdrew his name as founder of the Petersham Lodge on 2nd May 1923.*]

Wor. Master rose for the first time.

Wor. Master rose for the second time.

Candidates proposed for initiation:
- Mr Lewis James Yates, aged 23 years, [*Occupation and address*], proposed by W.Bro. L.T. Yates, seconded by W.Bro. H. Almond, Secty.
- Mr Charles David Warren, aged 51 years, [*Occupation and address*], proposed by Bro. A. Allum, seconded by W.Bro. H. Almond.
- Mr Ernest Edward Mills, aged 37 years, [*Occupation and address*], proposed by Bro. W. Vaughan, seconded by Bo. Arthur Moore.
- Mr Harold Gare, aged 33 years, [*Occupation and address*], proposed by W.Bro. H. Almond, seconded by Bro. Arthur Moore.
- Mr William Victor Quinney, aged 46 years, [*Occupation and address*], proposed by W.Bro. J. D. Firmston, seconded by Bro. J. W. Samels.
- Mr Frederick Dudau Quinney, aged 28 years, [*Occupation and address*], proposed by W.Bro. J. D. Firmston, seconded by Bro. J. W. Samels.

The Wor. Master rose for the third time. W.Bro. J. D. Firmston proposed a vote of thanks to V. Wor.Bro. P. Colville Smith and the Consecrating Officers for the very excellent manner in which

the Consecrating ceremony had been conducted and that the Founders were deeply grateful to these worthy Brethren for their services. W.Bro. J. D. Firmston proposed 'That the Consecrating Officers should be elected Honorary Members of the Petersham Lodge No. 4514.' Seconded by W.Bro. Edwin Skilton and carried unanimously.

V.W.Bro. P. Colville Smith expressed the pleasure of himself and his colleagues at assisting that day in the Consecration of the Petersham Lodge and extended their good wishes for the future.

W.Bro. J. D. Firmston presented the Consecrating Officers, on behalf of the founders, with a gold ceremonial pencil each, in remembrance of the occasion.

There being nothing further to propose for the good of Freemasonry the Lodge was closed in due form with prayer.

The minutes are signed by WM W.Bro. J. D. Firmston.

An article in 'The Freemason', dated 12th May 1923, reports on the consecration ceremony and after proceedings at the festive board in some detail. Two matters of interest perhaps:

- 'A late start somewhat marred the proceedings', no explanation given as to why the start was delayed; might it have some connection with the fact that some of the brethren were employed in the railway industry?

- 'The W.M., W.Bro. J. D. Firmston, being preceptor of two Lodges of Instruction and Past Master of three Lodges, said it was a great honour to be the first Master of Petersham Lodge.'

CHAPTER 2

THE EARLY YEARS

The Lodge held an emergency meeting on 19th May, when a ballot was taken for four candidates, Lewis James Yates, Charles David Warren, Ernest Edward Mills and Harold Frederick T. Gare. The ballot was unanimous and all candidates duly elected, but, as Messrs Warren and Mills had written to tender their apologies for absence, only L.J. Yates and H.T. Gare were initiated. The jewel presented on this occasion is reproduced on the frontispiece.

At the time of writing Lewis is residing in a home from where W.Bro. S.F. Smith and W.Bro. P. Smith spirit him to a local hostelry for lunch from time to time. It would be wonderful if he were able to join us for our 75th meeting.

At the next meeting in October two candidates were Initiated and two candidates were Passed, both ceremonies being conducted by W.Bro. Firmston. The tone of the year was clearly set. In November, the last meeting at The New Star and Garter Hotel, the WM went one better and conducted all ceremonies involved in Raising two candidates, Passing two candidates and Initiating two candidates. One month later, at a further emergency meeting at the new venue of the Masonic Hall, The Greyhound Hotel, High St, Richmond, two more candidates were Raised by the WM, who then allowed the SW, W.Bro. Edwin Skilton, PPGP Hants and I. of W., to Pass two candidates before resuming the chair to finish the evening off by Initiating two more candidates.

The same format was applied to the January 1924 Meeting. The theme of timekeeping reared its head again when a note on the summons requested brethren for Raising and Passing to be punctual.

The 7th meeting, in March 1924, the Installation of W.Bro. Skilton, was preceded by a double Initiation and the presentation of Grand Lodge Certificates to six Brethren. Bro. L.J. Yates presented the WM with an umbrella and walking stick on behalf of all the brethren initiated that year and later, after he had installed his successor, the first Past Master's Breast Jewel was presented by the Lodge. There can be few masters who have been more deserving of such an award, or indeed who have performed as many ceremonies during their year of office.

The building depicted on the Breast Jewel, reproduced on page 22 / 23, presented to Masters in appreciation of their year in the chair, is the New Star and Garter Hotel where the Lodge was consecrated, but where it met for only the first four meetings. This hotel was built on land which was once part of Petersham and Richmond's Hill Commons. These commons were once contiguous and grazing animals would stray across the boundaries. In 1639 a strip of land on the Richmond side was granted to one Francis Barnard on the condition that he made and maintained a sufficient fence and style between the two commons. This strip of land was later split into three.

A cottage built on the middle portion in 1650 was replaced by one of greater substance in the 1770s, which got the name of Nightingale Cottage from the nightingales which sang on Richmond Hill. Nightingale Lane, originally a straight path down the hillside, acquired its present alignment in 1810 when Richmond Vestry leased the lower part of the Hill Common to

the then owner of Nightingale Cottage to extend his garden. This leased land, which cannot be built on, is now the hotel car park.

In 1863 the Cottage was acquired by the Richmond Hill Hotel Company who completed their new hotel on the site in 1865, the same year that a new wing to the Star and Garter above it on the hill was completed. In 1922, when the old Star and Garter was demolished to be replaced by the Royal Star and Garter Home for disabled servicemen, the Hotel, which in the meantime had had several changes of name, took on the title of the New Star and Garter Hotel.

One might have gained the impression that W.Bro. Firmston devoted the whole of his labours to Freemasonry. Such, however, is not the case. He ran a coal merchant's business, and one of our members has a recollection of reporting to his office to register for a coal allowance during the Second War. Another remembers being reprimanded for wearing dark brown socks at his Initiation, at which time W.Bro. Firmston was the D.C.; clearly this man took his masonry very seriously, and missed very little.

The second year continued at much the same formidable pace. April saw two candidates Raised by the WM, two Passed by the DC and two Initiated by the WM. A further emergency meeting was held in May when again two candidates were Raised and Initiated by the WM and two were Passed by the IPM. October saw the WM Pass two and Initiate two candidates after the SW had Raised two. It also saw the first joining member admitted.

November, December, *[emergency]* and January meetings all involved two brethren being Raised, two Passed and two candidates Initiated. At the December meeting a dining fee of 5 shillings was charged, not bad when one considers that the meals at that time were of five courses and included wines, spirits, cigars and cigarettes.

In March 1925, W.Bro. A. Moore was installed as the third Worshipful Master of Petersham, this being the only item of business on the agenda. The first mention of a Ladies Social evening occurs. April saw him begin his year in an impressive manner by Raising, Passing and Initiating two candidates and by presenting six Grand Lodge certificates. A note on the summons records that a Ladies Social Evening shall take place on Saturday 2nd May, tickets 18/6 each, excluding wine.

In October two candidates were Raised and two Initiated. A Notice of Motion appears to the effect that 'The WM be entitled to invite two guests to regular meetings at the expense of the Lodge, and that the sum of £10. 10s. 0d be available, also from the funds, annually for the purpose of providing entertainment'.

In November two candidates were Passed and two were Initiated, one of whom, Mr Roy Frank Carter, was a Lewis. The summons reads, 'Special dispensation for Mr Roy Frank Carter, who will not attain the age of 21 years until 7th December 1925, is desirous [*with consent of his father*] of being Initiated into Freemasonry, [*he being a Lewis*]'. The Charge after Initiation was given by the SW, Bro. A. Allum, 'In a very efficient manner'. At this meeting it was proposed that the Petersham Lodge should become a Founding Lodge of the Freemasons Hospital and Nursing Home, and that the donation of £105. 0s. 0d be paid in 5 years at £21. 0s. 0d per year.

December again saw an Emergency Meeting being held, this time to Raise and to Pass two candidates, and Bro. A. Allum was again in action, this time explaining the Tracing Board 'in a very able manner'. January saw two Candidates Passed and two Initiated, with Bro. A. Allum

giving the Charge after Initiation and the IPM giving the Lecture on the First Degree Tracing Board.

At a further Emergency Meeting in February 1926, two candidates were Raised and two were Passed.

The masonic year concluded with the Installation, on March 13th 1926, of Bro. Alfred Allum, the first Master of Petersham not to have already served the office of Master in another Lodge.

In the three years since its inception the Lodge had grown from a membership of 19 - the founders, excluding Bro. C. W. Watson - to a total of 49, a quite remarkable growth rate.

W.Bro. A. Allum's year followed the pattern we are familiar with, 5 regular meetings. No new candidates were Initiated during his year but by special dispensation, in October, three candidates were Passed at the same meeting, two by the WM and one by the IPM. A Charity Box, which had been made by his brother, Bro. Robert Scott of the Shurner Lodge No 2374, was presented to the Lodge by Bro. J. Scott. A letter of condolence was sent to the widow of Bro. H. Ilett, Petershams 14th Initiate, who died 4th August '26, having been initiated on 31st May '24, Passed on 11th October '24 and Raised on 8th November '24.

In November item 6 on the agenda reads, 'To consider, approve and sign a recommendation petitioning Grand Lodge to grant a Warrant for a NEW LODGE to be named the SYENES LODGE [No. 4900].' Also at that meeting, 'In view of his services as Secretary of the Lodge W.Bro. Almond be asked to accept an Honorarium of 20 Guineas from Lodge funds.'

On 12th March 1927 Bro.Ernest M. Severn was installed as Worshipful Master and the first letter of resignation from a joining member, Bro. W. Penfold, was received. Two weeks later an Emergency Meeting was held to Initiate Mr Leonard W. Bennett aged 24 years, an architect and surveyor, who was leaving for Rangoon, Burma on 23rd March 1927. The April meeting was the first attended by a member of Syenes Lodge, W.Bro. Batey being the visitor. The October summons was the first to be black edged in respect for Bro. Frank Linegar, one of the Founders of Petersham, who had died on 26th April 1927 and to whose memory the members stood in Silent Tribute.

A letter from V. Wor. Bro. Sir Colville Smith, Grand Secretary, was read in the risings at the November meeting to declare that the 2nd and 3rd degrees would be conferred upon Bro. Leonard W. Bennett [*see para. above*] in the Pioneer Lodge No. 1305, Scottish Constitution. In January, following a double initiation, two PMs gave an address to the Brethren on the Masonic Mission to India and Ceylon of the R.W.Bro. Lord Cornwallis, Deputy GM. It was also agreed that the sum of two guineas be sent from the Benevolent Fund to the Richmond Mayor's Flood Relief Fund to 'assist the distress through the high tide of the river'. This sum was increased to £5.5s as the result of the Charity Box being circulated at the Festive Board.

At the Installation Meeting in March 1928 of Joseph W. J. Samels the Worshipful Masters of Richmond and Syenes Lodges were invited to attend. In April a Notice of Motion proposed that 'W.Bro. H. A. Darch, having been appointed a Grand Lodge Officer, the Lodge to present him with the G.L. undress clothing'.

In October the first reference to the fact that Petersham Lodge might qualify as a Hall Stone Lodge appears, a matter which was taken up at the November meeting, when a proposal that the

Petersham Lodge take steps to become a Hall Stone Lodge was fully supported by the 31 members present. At a subsequent Committee Meeting, on the 22nd November 1928, the Secretary was requested to write the Grand Secretary informing of this wish and Bro. H. King was appointed the special collector for the Lodge. In January 1929 a letter of thanks from V. Wor. Bro. Sir P. Colville Smith G.L. confirmed that Petersham could qualify to become a Hall Stone Lodge.

The Hall Stone Jewel has its origins in the need to fund the overspend which had occurred in the rebuilding of the Temple at Great Queen Street, original estimate £1,000,000. A contribution, which averaged ten Guineas per member, qualified Lodges to become Hall Stone Lodges and upon every Mason contributing that amount was conferred a Masonic Million Memorial or Hall Stone Jewel. The foundation stone was laid by the Duke of Connaught, Grand Master, in 1927 and the Masonic Peace Memorial Temple, as the building was to be known, was completed in 1933.

At a Committee Meeting, on 4th January 1929, the illness of the Master Elect Bro. Vaughan was discussed and the fact that only a further £5.5s was required to enable the Lodge to become a Founding Lodge of the Freemasons Hospital and Nursing Home. This payment was made, which completed the total contribution of £105 subscribed over four years, and by the 12th January, the next regular meeting, a letter and certificate were shown to the effect that the Lodge was a Founding Lodge. An Emergency Meeting was called on 18th February to elect a WM for the ensuing year as the SW, Bro. Vaughan, would be unable to carry out the duties owing to his health. The JW, Bro H. King, was duly elected.

Bro. King was installed on March 9th 1929 but tragically died three days later and at a committee meeting on 21st March it was decided that the IPM would carry out the duties of Master in summonsing the Lodge. The following meeting summons requires 'Masonic Mourning will be worn as a tribute of respect to the memory of our late Worshipful Master, W.Bro. H. King who died on March 12th 1929. Morning dress, Black tie, White gloves. Three crepe rosettes on apron, one on collar'. On this sad occasion the Brethren did not dine. The committee minute book further records that on 2nd May 1929 the SW, Bro. W. Vaughan, died.

This was clearly a bad period for Petersham and the minutes indicate that hardship was being experienced by some members and widows. Indeed, on 15th August 1929 a special emergency meeting was convened to grant the sum of 20 Guineas to a Brother in need. A further emergency meeting in September did Pass one Brother, but the main purpose was to agree a Petition to the Board of Benevolence on behalf of a Brother in need. Also the Secretary wrote a Letter of Introduction for a Brother Cole, who was about to depart on a world tour, that he could use when visiting any Lodge under the British Constitution.

The year continued with regular meetings, the main items of interest being a communication from the Board of General Purposes which indicated that any presentation to an outgoing Master from the Initiates of his year was undesirable - any presentation should come from the Lodge itself as a whole, and not a section of it. W.Bro. L.T. Yates was heartily congratulated on receiving Provincial Grand Lodge Honours. Yet another member's death was recorded, Bro. W.V. Quinney, Petersham's third initiate. The January summons was the first to show 'Founding Lodge of the Freemasons' Hospital'.

CHAPTER 3

THE THIRTIES

March 1930 saw Bro. William H. Skeet Installed and W. Bro Samels receive a bar to his Past Masters Jewel for occupying the chair for the second year in succession.

The year contained no special meetings, and in addition to the normal Masonic business it is recorded that the Lodge expressed a wish to be associated with other Lodges to which W.Bro. Firmston belonged in presenting him with his Grand Lodge clothing, on his being appointed as Past Grand Standard Bearer; an honour he was heartily congratulated on. On 11th October 1930, before the Lodge was opened, the WM called upon the Brethren to stand in silence as a mark of respect in memory of the Crew of the Airship R101. This craft had been on the first attempted Empire Flight to India, a flight which ended in terrible disaster on a hillside near Beauvais, France, with the loss of 46 lives.

In November, Masonic Million Memorial medals were presented to Bros Scott and Stone. In January 1931, Hearty Greetings were extended to W.Bro. Almond, a founder of the Silver River Lodge No. 876 [*Montivideo, S. America*] also one of our own founders. The cost of the tickets for that years Ladies' Night was 18/6 each.

The minutes of the Installation Meeting on 14th March 1931, at which Bro. John W. Scott assumed the chair, carefully records that a presentation to the IPM of a past masters collar and jewel was made from the whole Lodge. London Rank clothing was presented to W.Bro. A. Moore and four Masonic Million Memorial jewels to Bro's Dodge, Mills, Furse and Palmer.

In October, Bro. Scott was thanked for his presentation to the Lodge of a set of Blocks and Gavels, which were being used for the first time that night. Bro. Bennett was presented with his Masonic Million Memorial jewel and congratulated on his safe return from Persia, [but in March 1932 he was off overseas again].

The committee meetings that year discussed such topics as the 'admission of any member of the disciplinary Forces of the Crown below the rank of Sergeant'. 'Cigars at the Festive Board were to be BRITISH!!' [*Where, in Britain, cigar tobacco is grown was, however, not stated.*] 'The Secretary to order one suit for candidate as sample - cost 29/6d.'

March 1932 saw the Initiation of Mr G.E. Yates as a prelude to the Installation of W.Bro. L.T. Yates, the father of the initiate, both ceremonies being conducted by W.Bro. Firmston, PGStB. In April W.Bro. L.T. Yates Passed his son to the second degree and then went on to Raise a further two candidates, the order of the ceremonies being due to the former being a Lewis. An Emergency Meeting was held in May 1932 at which two candidates were Initiated before Bro. G.E. Yates was Raised. In October the presentation of a special Masonic Million Memorial jewel to W.Bro. Skilton is recorded to acknowledge his contribution of not less than £250 and further Jewels to Bro's Farrell and Matchan.

January saw the initiation of a father and son Mr Frederick Read aged 62 and his son Frederick James Read, aged 28. The Lodge to join with Syenes in presenting London Rank clothing to one of our founders, W.Bro. Severn.

Committee Meeting matters that year included the purchase and alteration of clothing for candidates; the repair of the Ballot Box; the purchase of a box for Lodge furniture; the decision to ask retiring Masters from other Lodges to take the Offices of SW, JW and IG in the Board of Installed Masters.

On Saturday 11th March 1933 Bro. H. F. Gare was installed in the Masters chair; the first 'home grown' master, he being the second initiate into Petersham Lodge, with W. Brothers from Kingston Temple Lodge and the Duke of Fife Lodges assisting. Also, for the first time, a list of Officers appears on the summons.

Two significant features of this year - the lodge finally reached the total required to secure the Hall Stone Jewel, which was collected by W. Bro Skilton and presented to the W.M. at the January 1934 meeting. Individual medals were presented to Bro's Matcham, Pulham and Lenn. The other was the decision to reduce the numbers of meetings to four, as an alternative to increasing the annual subscriptions.

The summons for the Installation of Bro. Frederick G. P. Mitcham at the meeting of March 1934 was black edged, in tribute to W. Bro Almond LR, PM, PPGStdB (Hants and I.of W)., a founder and 1st Secretary of Petersham and distinguished member of 3 other Lodges.

The year was marked by the official visit in January of W.Bro. Lt-Col. H. Hamilton Wedderburn, one of the Lodge Honorary Members and a member of the consecrating team, who presented W.Bro. A. Allum with his Grand Lodge clothing on behalf of the Lodge. Masonic Million Memorial jewels were presented during the year to Bro's Clough and C.M. Williams and commemorative Jewels of the Freemasons Hospital to Bro's Dodge and Pratt. The October summons showed the replica of the Hall Stone Jewel on the front for the first time and the decision to reduce the number of meetings to four was rescinded at the April meeting. However at the Committee Meeting on 19th May it was decided to advise that Brethren should pay 5/6d each for dinner at April meetings.

The 1935 Installation Meeting of Bro. Ernest Mills was attended by W.Bro. Lt-Col. H. Hamilton Wedderburn, who gave the address to the Wardens. For the first time, a Notice of Motion appears on the summons concerning the presentation of a Past Master's collar - to W.Bro. Gare, WM in 1933. At the following meeting, when this was put forward as a Motion, at the suggestion of W.Bro. Moore the additional words 'and to W.Bro. Mitcham and all subsequent Masters on leaving the Chair', were added. This was approved.

In October the Lodge stood in Silent Tribute to the memory of the late Pro. Grand Master, Lord Ampthill, the Deputy Grand Master and to Bro. F. Read the elder, of Petersham. In November 1935, by special dispensation and permission of his father, Mr E. Michaux was initiated, he not being 21 years until 30th January 1936. The meeting on January 11th, 1936, was again notified by a black edged summons, as the Lodge went into a three month period of Masonic Mourning at the death of His Late Most Gracious Majesty King George V.

During the year Masonic Million Memorial jewels were presented to Bro's Perry and Shaw. At the Committee meetings Syenes Lodge notified the Lodge that it no longer wished to hire the Lodge furniture; two Brethren wrote to deny any rudeness to the lady artist at the previous meeting and to having no recollection of making any objectional remarks at the dinner table: The SW did not intend to go on and it was agreed to recommend to the Lodge that W.Bro. Mills continue in Office for a further year.

W.Bro. Mills continued in office during the next Masonic year, in which the usual masonic business was conducted, bringing in new members and elevating others. In March an asked for donation of one Guinea was approved to assist fund the rebuilding of the Quetta Temple in India, destroyed by earthquake. Bro. Wyatt received his Masonic Million Memorial jewel. In November it was proposed that a Benevolent Association be formed and a committee of five was appointed to draw up rules. In committee there was talk of limiting the Lodge membership to 70 active members; problems concerning a charge levied on the Lodge by the Hotel of two guineas on three occasions - the Secretary and the Treasurer to interview the Hotel Manager about this!!

The March 1937 meeting, the Installation of Bro. Harold C. Corbin, also saw W.Bro. Samels presented with his LR clothing and W.Bro. Mills receive a presentation for his second year in the chair. At the November meeting a letter was read from the daughter of W.Bro. Severn, announcing the sudden death of her father, following which the Lodge stood in tribute whilst the organist played the death march. In committee, Syenes Lodge again requested the loan of Petersham furniture which was agreed, but at a charge of 21/- per night; an emergency meeting was scheduled for May 1938 in order to enable Mr Pecksen, a Lewis, to be brought into the Lodge without undue delay, but keeping to the resolution made earlier that there be only one candidate for each degree.

Bro Alfred Shorter was Installed in March 1938 and at his next meeting, in April, Initiated Mr Stanley A.G. Michaux, a Lewis and still an active member of the Lodge. During his time in the Lodge Stan has been the Organist, following in the family tradition, 1948 to 1949, occupied the Chair in 1957, was ADC from 1966 to 1969 and then DC from 1970 to 1972. Stan recalls as a lad seeing a model goat, complete with Masonic apron, on his fathers mantleshelf and being told that Initiates had to look lively to prevent being attacked from behind by the real article. Strangely, he recalls having some serious doubts during certain moments in the ceremony. Lodge fees he remembers at 4 Guineas, which funded five course meals with wines, cigars and all the lodge expenses, even extending to seven course meals at Installation meetings. The habit of general toasting occurred, but this did get a bit out of hand and was later stopped by edict from Grand Lodge.

Stan's family were heavily involved with Petersham. Walter, his father, was the sixth Inititiate, in 1923, and went on to become the Lodge Organist, a position he held until his death in 1947 when Stan himself played for 2 years. Ernest James, an uncle, was Initiated in 1925 and became Master in 1940 and his son, also Ernest, was initiated in 1935 whilst an Undergraduate. He went on to become a priest and later resigned and went out to the West Indies, where he worked in leper colonies. Harry, Stan's brother, was Initiated in 1961 and Paul, another son of E.J., was the last of the family to join the Lodge, being Initiated in 1965. Paul moved to Canada and became Master of the Lodge he joined in Toronto.

The previously mentioned Emergency Meeting in May introduced yet another Lewis, Mr Pecksen, into the Lodge. On this occasion there were no risings and those attending were required to pay 5/6 for their supper - times were obviously hard for the Treasurer. Bro. Povey died in the September and his widow was found to be in some considerable need, being almost blind and it was agreed to pay her a fraternity of £25, so perhaps the Lodge was not in such a bad financial position after all, but good to see that it got its priorities right.

The year continued with usual masonic business, one item of note being the instruction from Grand Lodge in January 1939 that greater care should be exercised on the admission of new candidates, also of visitors and the discussion of Masonic Matters in the presence of Non

Masons. Brethren were asked to ensure that those with whom they discussed Masonic Matters were in fact Masons themselves.

March 1939 saw Bro George A. Fish Installed in the Chair. A difficult time obviously, reflected by the decision at Committee in October to reduce the fees to one and one-half Guineas for duration of the hostilities, to resume the Lodge and for the Lodge to become non-dining. Members of H.M. Forces were asked to notify Bro. E. Michaux, the Senior Warden, of their military addresses in order that the Lodge may keep in touch with them.

The November summons requests attendance in Morning Dress or uniform and at that meeting a letter from Grand Lodge was read giving an account of the last meeting, at which His Majesty the King invested his brother His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent as Grand Master of England. The Worshipful Master, the Immediate Past Master and the Secretary, having all been successful in the ballot for tickets, added their own descriptions of the scene for the remainder of the brethren. A letter was read representing the widow of the late brother Povey, the result being a further grant to her of £1 per week for 10 weeks and a commitment to make representation to the next Benevolent Committee Meeting.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE FORTIES

In January 1940 the Lodge stood in silent tribute to W.Bro. F. Mitcham; one Guinea was granted in response to an appeal by the Royal Masonic Hospital for funds to meet the cost of knitting materials for the troops in the hospital and also one of our widows, Mrs Povey, died.

At the March 1940 meeting Bro. Ernest J. Michaux was Installed, and the Freedom of the Lodge was conferred upon W. Bro. Pannell in appreciation of his long and faithful service to the Lodge, he having been the first Treasurer of the Lodge from 1923 to 1928 and then Secretary from 1929 to 1939.

The Lodge met again in April when, in addition to one Raising and one Initiation, it was proposed that the Lodge present W.Bro. Yates with his Grand Lodge undress clothing on his appointment to Past Grand Assistant Standard Bearer and that W.Bro. Pannell be made an Honorary Member of the Lodge. There were no more meetings held, either Regular or Committee, until January 1941, when a meeting was held to elect the Master and all Officers for the ensuing year. The Lodge Committee met in February when a grant to a widow of £10 was recommended and it was decided to invest £100 from funds in 3% Defence Bonds.

March 1941 saw the Installation of Bro. George S. Good; a meeting at which the Brethren stood in Silent Tribute to Bros. W.J. Dodge and W. H. Farrell, a Founder, both of whom had died in 1941. In addition to approving the proposal concerning the purchase of Defence Bonds the Lodge also donated £2 to the King George Fund for Sailors. The committee met later in the month to arrange dinner at the next *[April]* meeting, the 100th, at the cost of 5/6 per head, exclusive of wines.

At the April Meeting a letter was read from one of the founders, W.Bro. Almond, now in Uruguay, stating that it was very unlikely he would be able to attend Petersham again, and, in view of his long standing, Honorary Membership was conferred upon him. The committee met in September and decided that lunch could be provided, at cost to the Lodge, before the October Meeting. At that meeting an Emergency Grant of five Guineas was made to the Masonic Hospital.

The November Meeting recommended that from October 1st 1941 all Brethren joining H.M. Forces should be excused Lodge Fees. The WM wished Bro. Stan Michaux God's Speed and a safe and speedy return, on his leaving for foreign service with the Fleet Air Arm. In January the sum of ten Guineas was given from the Benevolent Fund to a special appeal from the Royal Masonic Hospital, but this sum was increased to £14.16s. 0d as the result of a subsequent collection.

Bro. Roy F. Carter was Installed in the Chair of King Solomon in March 1942, a meeting tinged with sadness due to the earlier deaths of The Most Worshipful Brother, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, KG, Past Grand Master and our own first master of Petersham, W.Bro. J. D. Firmston. On a happier note W.Bro. Skilton was made an Honorary Member of the Lodge.

The Lodge met five times during the year, but at the October meeting no ceremony was conducted. Five Guineas was donated to an appeal by the British Sailors Society in April and the Lodge went into a period of Masonic Mourning in October [*full period 6 months, but 2 had already passed*] in respect for The Most Worshipful Bro. Air Commodore, His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, K.G., Grand Master, who had died in August 1942.

There was a dinner following the November Meeting, for which members had to purchase tickets at 6/6 each and the summons requested that guests be kept to a minimum. The first mention of a Brother's membership lapsing through non-payment of subscription occurs.

In March 1943 Albert T. Pratt was Installed, and during the meeting a grant of 25 Guineas was made to the Royal Masonic Hospital in answer to an appeal and a further grant of 5 Guineas to the King George Fund for Sailors. Dinner was provided and paid for by the Lodge.

The Lodge again managed to meet five times and conduct business and, although dinner was possible on four occasions, visitors continued to be restricted - this was underlined on the summons - and Brethren were required to purchase tickets at 6/6 each, inclusive of wine. 10 Guineas was put on the WM's. list for the RMI for Boys; Silent Tribute was paid to the memory of W.Bro. Skilton, a founder and the 2nd Worshipful Master, in November and to Bro. Seal in January. Sympathy was extended to W.Bro. Allum on the loss of a son.

At the Installation Meeting on 11th March 1944 Bro. Charles G. Stone was elevated to the Chair, two Guineas was sent to the Appeal for The Greater London Fund for The Blind and the Lodge paid for the dinner. The year was a busy one for the Lodge by comparison with the recent years; April - two ceremonies; October - two ceremonies - including the Initiation of Mr A.J. Shorter by his father, W.Bro. A. Shorter; November - three ceremonies; January - two ceremonies. A further 2 Guineas were donated to the King George Fund for Sailors.

The Lodge was clearly feeling confident concerning the future. At a Committee Meeting on 2nd December 1944 it was decided to recommend that normal subscription rates be applied from the end of that Petersham Masonic year. In February, the Committee decided to recommend to the Lodge that, after the Candidates on hand had all been Initiated, only one candidate be taken each year...To be reviewed as circumstances alter.

In March 1945, Bro. Herbert F. Elliott was installed in the Chair, the Lodge heard and approved of the plans to limit the number of persons Initiated each year and dinner was taken at 6.0 p.m., at the expense of the Lodge, as it would do henceforth.

April saw the Raising of a candidate followed by the Initiation of Mr F. G. Hill, the father of W.Bro. A. Hill. W. Bro E. Mills was presented with his London Grand Rank clothing and a further 2 Guineas was donated to the King George Fund for Sailors. At the Emergency Meeting in May, as well as the intended business of Passing two Candidates and Initiating one, it was proposed that 'As a Thanks Offering for Peace in Europe the Lodge vote 10 Guineas to each of the Masonic Charities'. This was confirmed by a vote at the October meeting, at which two ceremonies were again performed, as they were in November and in January. An Honorary Member, W.Bro. Lt-Col. Hamilton Wedderburn, OBE, PGD, attended in November as the Official Visitor, and the January summons was the last to ask brethren to restrict guests to a minimum. At this meeting the Secretary reported that the SW, Bro Matcham, had indicated that he would be unable to go forward to the Chair due to business commitments. After the Past Masters had withdrawn their names a ballot was taken which proved unanimous for the Junior Warden, Bro. Walter Clough.

The 125th meeting of Petersham, in March 1946, duly Installed Bro. Clough in the Chair, the Address to the Wardens being given by W.Bro. Lt-Col. Hamilton Wedderburn OBE, PGD. A Notice of Motion recommended that Annual Subscriptions be 4 Guineas, Country Members' and Visitors' dining fees be 15/-. The summons was the last to have reference to Service Uniform as an allowed form of dress. The usual meetings took place during the year, but sadly the Lodge suffered the loss of two of its Founding Members, W.Bro. L.T. Yates, Acting IPM for the first year of Petersham and WM for 1932, who died in March, and W.Bro. H.E. Pannell, the first Treasurer of Petersham and now an Honorary Member, who had passed to the Grand Lodge Above in September. He had also enjoyed the distinction of being the longest serving mason of the founding members, having been initiated on 17th March 1885.

Saturday 8th March 1947 marked another first for Petersham. W.Bro. Harold F. Gare, who had been through the Chair in 1933, was to be the first Master to enjoy a second term of office, during which he was honoured with London Grand Rank. The sum of 10 Guineas was granted to each of the two Charities, the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls and that for Boys. The year was attended with sadness at the death of The Most Worshipful The Grand Master the Right Honourable The Earl of Harwood, KG, GCVO, DSO, for whom the Lodge went into Masonic Mourning. Also passed to the Grand Lodge Above were Bro. W. Michaux, Organist; Bro. F. Gare, Tyler and W.Bro. Almond, a Founder and Hon. Member, who died in Montivideo.

Dudley C. Willis was to become the next Master of Petersham in March 1948 and he enjoyed a busy year with two ceremonies at each of his meetings, which included three Initiations. [*Clearly the rule concerning only admitting one per year had been quietly forgotten.*] April saw the grant by the Lodge to the Masters list of 50 Guineas for the RMI for Boys, that being their 150 anniversary year. A letter was read at that meeting from the Royal Masonic Hospital which informed Brethren that the Minister of Health had disclaimed the hospital from the Transfer of Provision under the National Health Act. It was decided that the proceeds of the Charity Box on that occasion should go to the Hospital.

At the October Meeting, again attended by W.Bro. Lt-Col. Hamilton Wedderburn as our official visitor, the Lodge agreed to donate 10 Guineas to purchase London Grand Rank clothing for W.Bro. H.J. Gare. In January 1949 a letter from Shorts Ltd., the owners of the Greyhound, Richmond, informed members that the hire of the Temple would be increased from two to five Guineas per year. Cutbacks in expenditure had been discussed at a previous Committee Meeting, agreement centering on after dinner entertainment as the source of savings.

On 12th March 1949 Bro. William Wyatt became the 25th person to occupy the Chair of Petersham. Extracts from a letter from Grand Lodge were read in which Special Reference was made to the Loyal Message of Sympathy sent to The Most Worshipful Brother His Majesty The King, PGM on his illness. Also, congratulations were sent to Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth, and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, on the birth of their son.

In April the subs moved to 5 Guineas, payable half yearly in March and October. 20 Guineas was voted to the WM's list for the RMI for Girls. A committee was formed to organise the first Ladies Festival since the war, this to be held in February 1950. At a committee Meeting in October the decision to do away with the after dinner entertainment was rescinded and the sum of 15 Guineas was voted for the WM to spend on entertainment at the Festive Board. Silent Tribute was paid at the October Meeting to W.Bro. H. F. Elliott, WM 1945, who died in August and in November to Bro. R. J. Hawkins who died in October. The November also saw the Initiation of Mr A. John L. Allum, a young 24 year old shipping clerk who no doubt made his

father very proud. John went on to become the Worshipful Master in 1965 and from 1971 to 1972 was the ADC, going on to become the DC in 1973, a post he held with some distinction until 1984. Two Guineas was donated to the Royal Institute for the Blind.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE REMAINDER OF THE YEARS AT THE GREYHOUND

Bro. Frederick Read was the next to occupy the Chair of King Solomon, which he did on 11th March 1950, enjoying yet another busy year as far as ceremonies were concerned with two at each of his meetings. In April London Grand Rank clothing was presented to W. Bro Shorter. In October the Lodge stood in Silent Tribute to W.Bro. the Rev. G. F. Irwin, DD, PGChap. an Honorary Member of Petersham by virtue of being the Consecrating Chaplin. It is the first time the minute book records a Calling Off and a Calling On. Quite remarkable if true, particularly when one considers the work undertaken by some of the early Masters.

The November Meeting saw the donation of 20 Guineas from the Benevolent Fund to the WM's List for the RMH and 10 Guineas from Lodge funds to the RMBI. In January the Lodge again went into six months of Masonic Mourning for one of the Grand Masters, this time The Most Worshipful His Grace The Duke of Devonshire. Two Guineas were donated to The Marie Curie Cancer Relief Fund.

During the year the Committee had discussed the plight of an ailing W.Bro. and set aside the sum of £25 for the WM and Treasurer to apply at their discretion. Also, a letter received from Richmond Lodge asked for a donation towards the repair of their organ, the letter stating that Petersham had made use of this instrument for some time. The Committee disagreed with this point and, in what must have seemed a particularly perverse act, decided to have Bensteads overhaul the 'Petersham organ', at a cost of between £12 and £15. A sign of modern times appears, in that the minutes of the March 1950 Committee Meeting are signed in Biro!!

The 150th Meeting of the Lodge in March 1951 saw Bro. Edward R. Smith move into the Mastership of the Lodge. Again, for him, a busy year with two ceremonies worked at each Meeting. The additional matters included, donations from the Benevolent Fund to a sick Brother in urgent need of financial assistance of £25 and to the widow of a late Bro., also of £25; a Silent Tribute to the late W.Bro. Stone, WM in 1944; a donation of 2 Guineas to the Royal Institute for the Blind and of 20 Guineas to the WM's list for the Royal Masonic Hospital. W.Bro. G.S. Good was congratulated on his appointment to London Grand Rank.

On 12th January 1952, before the Lodge was opened, the first verse of the National Anthem was sung as an expression of Loyalty and Thankfulness for the recovery of His Majesty The King from his serious illness. With hindsight this appears incredibly inappropriate, as on the 16th February we find the Committee standing in silence, the last tribute of respect to The Most Worshipful Brother, His Late The Most Gracious Majesty, King George The Sixth, Past Grand Master.

Committee matters during that year centred heavily on charity, the daughter of one of the deceased Founders being supported, following information from the Secretary of another Lodge, with a donation. She later obtained an annuity from the Board of Benevolence. The widow of a brother was supported, both by Grants and by Petition to the Grand Lodge Board of Benevolence, but this petition was later discontinued.

In March 1952 Bro. George Yates was Installed at a meeting which stood in silent memory to the late King and to Bro. W. Shorter. The Lodge passed a resolution expressing 'its deep sorrow at

the death of His Majesty and offering its profound sympathy to Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family'.

The year was a full one with two ceremonies at each meeting, the highlight for the Master undoubtedly being the Initiation in November of his son Lewis Bryant Yates. At that same meeting the Treasurer announced that the Lodge had been constituted a Patron Lodge of the Royal Masonic Hospital, this following a final donation at the previous meeting to the RMH of 10 Guineas. 2 Guineas was donated to Institute for the Blind and 20 Guineas put on the Masters list for the RMBI.

The Committee again considered charitable matters during the year. In February '53 a letter was received from Lewis Yates, a civil engineer, asking to become a non-dining member due to appointments in Kuwait. Also at this meeting it was agreed that musical entertainment would be confined to the Installation Meetings only.

Bro. Herbert R. Walker was the next to become Master of Petersham in March '53, a meeting attended by three Grand Officers, as was fairly common by now, W.Bro. Lt-Col. Hamilton Wedderburn being one of them. At the April Meeting the Brethren stood in silent memory to Her Late Most Gracious Majesty Queen Mary and in October they again stood, this time in respect to W.Bro. A. Allum LGR, Founder and Past Master. The cost of LGR regalia for W.Bro. G.A. Fish would be defrayed and a letter was read from the Directors of the Greyhound Rooms stating that they were reluctantly compelled to raise their charges for dinners and the hire of rooms.
In January 1954 Silent Tribute was again being paid, this time to W.Bro. H.F. Gare LGR who was, with Bro. L.J. Yates, one of Petersham's first Initiates.

The Committee dealt with matters such as the insurance of the Lodge furniture, cash, notes and cheques to the sum of £300; charity matters; the increased charges and a request from the organ-ising secretary of a Lodge yet to be formed, who wished to hire Petersham furniture, working tools etc.

Installation came round again in March, Bro. George L. Nursaw being promoted on this occasion. Silent Tribute was paid to another Petersham member, Bro. A.A. Peckson, BEM. At the April Meeting the Annual subs for country members were set at one and one half Guineas, the dining fee to be 18/- and the visitors dining fee also 18/-.

Two ceremonies were worked at each of the meetings, the Initiate in October being Mr R. E. Godfrey and in November Mr B.S. Gray, both of whom went on to hold the highest office the Lodge has in its power to confer, Robert in 1968 and Bernard in 1969. Additionally, Robert served as Chaplain from 1980 to 1989 and Bernard as Secretary from 1975 to 1987; obviously two very well chosen and worthy candidates. Silent Tribute was paid in January to Bro. T. Atle. An Honorarium of 25 Guineas was approved for W.Bro. A. Shorter LGR, who had served as Treasurer since 1949 and was to go on to serve until 1963. A donation of 20 Guineas for the WM's list was approved.

In Committee thanks were expressed to W.Bro. F. G. Hill for the gift of four rest blocks for the wands; the purchase of a Steward's collar and collar badge was approved; in response to a request from the Tyler, his fee was increased to one and one half Guineas per meeting.
Invitations had for several years been sent to Masters of other Lodges to attend the Installation Meetings and on this occasion they went to the WM's of Richmond, Seyenes, Sudbrook and Remigium Lodges.

March 1955 saw the Installation of Bro. Charles Hepworth into the chair in the presence of two Grand Officers attending as guests.

The April Meeting, at which Bro. Bernard Gray was Raised, was the last to be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, which had been the Lodge's home since the December 1923 meeting.

A letter from the management of the Greyhound Hotel was discussed at some length at a Committee meeting on 30th August 1955. This stated that, due to structural alterations, whilst a room could be made available for meetings, the dining facility would no longer be possible. A small committee was formed to investigate other possible new arrangements which later reported that the Star and Garter Hotel at Kew Bridge had been viewed and the opinion was that this was a suitable meeting place. Some changes would have to be made to the meeting dates in November and in April and there was a problem of storage space which meant that the 3 chairs, 3 pedestals, organ and carpet could not be stored. However, these could be hired from the Royal Alfred Lodge, No 970. It was proposed that the Lodge transfer to the Star and Garter Hotel.



The Star & Garter Hotel, Kew - our third meeting place.
(Photograph courtesy of Fuller Smith & Turner, plc)

CHAPTER SIX

THE STAR AND GARTER, KEW, YEARS

On Saturday 8th October 1955, by Special Dispensation from Grand Lodge, the Lodge had its first meeting at its new location, the Star and Garter, Kew. Unfortunately no ceremony was conducted, only the third time this had occurred, but a Grand Lodge Certificate was presented.

The November meeting was the first occasion that a lecture was performed, Brother Stanley Michaux, assisted by W.Bro. E. R. Smith gave an exposition of Section two of the Second Lecture. LGR clothing was presented to W.Bro. A. J. Pratt. In January a candidate was Initiated and Silent Tribute was paid to Bro. W. Furse.

In addition to matters concerning the search for a new meeting place the committee empowered the Secretary to offer the Petersham furniture, at a charge of one Guinea per meeting if it was required, at any meeting which might be called to establish a Masonic Centre at The Star and Garter Hotel. The Tyler reported that the wands had been lost or misplaced.

Bro. James E. B. Powell was Installed on 10th March 1956, a meeting at which the members stood in Silent Tribute to W.Bro. E. E. Mills LGR, who had served the Lodge as WM during the years 1935 and 1936. Bro. D. Reay was thanked for the generous gift of a cabinet in which to store the Lodge regalia. At each meeting during W.Bro. Powells year two ceremonies were performed. November witnessed the Lodge standing in Silent Tribute to Bro. W. W. Pike and also at that meeting the decision to wear Evening Dress for the Installation Meeting was taken whilst at the January 1957 the Initiate was Mr Philip W. J. Smith, who went on to become Master in 1970 and is presently serving as Chaplain. 10 Guineas was placed on the WM's list for the R.M.H. Extension Fund.

During the year the Committee considered two approaches to be involved in supporting new Masonic Meeting places, firstly at The Star and Garter, Petersham and secondly by looking for a suitable building in Hanwell to purchase and convert. It was decided that no action would be taken to further either of these aims. Mrs Furse enquired about financial assistance for widows and a letter of explanation was sent to her. The Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, advised that the Charge per meeting would be 25/-.

The March 1957 meeting commenced by standing in Silent Tribute to the memory of the Late W.Bro. Lt-Col. H. Hamilton Wedderburn OBE, PGD who had passed to the Grand Lodge Above on 30th December 1956, a Consecrating Officer and Honorary Member of Petersham who had been a very regular attendee at meetings. Bro. Stanley A. G. Michaux was Installed in the Chair in the presence of two Grand Officers and a Notice of Motion to increase the amount of Relief in cases of urgent distress from 2 to 5 Guineas was on the Agenda.

During the other meetings that year Honorary Membership was conferred upon W.Bro. J. W. Scott LGR, W.Bro. J.W.J. Samels LGR and W.Bro. W. H. Skeet LGR, all PMs and Founders of Petersham. Silent Tribute was paid to Bro. J. C. Elvin in April and to Bro. G. C. Stedman in November.

The Committee met routinely, discussing a letter in December from Bro. E. R. Norton, in which he expressed his wish to go through the Chair in one years time due to illness, the result being that Bro. H. V. Wilson, the Junior Warden, was voted Master Elect in January.

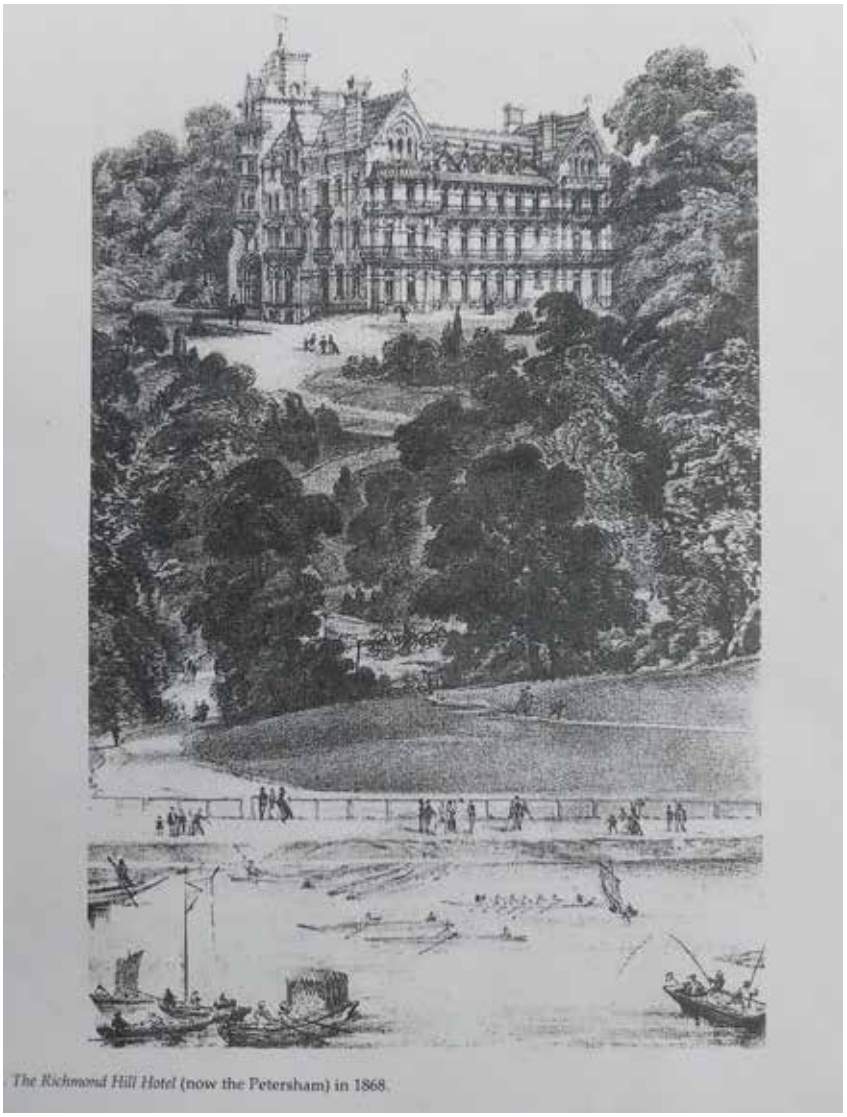
The Installation of Bro. Herbert V. Wilson, in 1958, was preceded by a Silent Tribute to another of the Founders and a Past Master, W.Bro. J.W. Scott LGR, who went through the Chair in 1931. W.Bro. Wilson went on to enjoy a full year, each of the meetings dealing with two ceremonies. In April yet another Silent Tribute occurred, this time to Bro. E.B. Shaw who had been Initiated in October 1925. In October a Notice of Motion appears on the summons, to defray the cost of LGR clothing for W.Bro. W. Clough, also that the sum of 20 Guineas from the Benevolent Fund be given to the Samaritan Fund of the RMH. In November further gifts of 10 Guineas were made from the Benevolent Fund to each of the RMIB, the RMIG and the RMBI. In January 1959 Mr Sidney Frank Smith, a brother of Philip Smith who had joined 2 years earlier, was initiated. Sidney, or Frank as he is known in the Lodge, is the only Grand Officer currently in the Lodge. He served in the Chair in 1973, going on to become Charity Steward from 1977 to 1981 when he became Treasurer, a post he held until 1988. As well as Provincial Rank in Surrey Frank also holds Provincial Rank in Middlesex, being a founder of Malines Lodge.

In Committee, notice was received from Grand Lodge of the Death of the Grand Secretary The R. W.Bro. Sir Sidney White, KCVO and the appointment of the Deputy Grand Secretary W.Bro. J.W. Stubbs to take his place as Grand Secretary. The £100 Defence Bonds 2½ % which the Lodge had purchased in 1941 [*they were 3% then, what happened to the other ½%?*] were redeemable on November 1st 1958 and it was decided to place the money in the Lodge Bank Accounts with Barclays Bank.

The 14th March 1959 saw Bro. Ernest R. Norton honoured with the Mastership of Petersham, and at that meeting Bro. Secretary reported that the widow of the late Bro. Elvin had made an application for their daughter Barbara, then aged 5 years, to receive the benefits of the RMIG. The petition was unanimously approved by the Brethren and in April a letter was read from the RMIG which acknowledged receipt of it. Subsequently, at a Committee Meeting on 17th September, a letter was read from the RMIG stating that the Committee had recommended a grant of £75 per annum until Barbara reached the age of 8 years, when it was hoped that a place in the junior school would be available.

At the October meeting the brethren stood to order in Silent Tribute to W.Bro. G. S. Good LGR, Master of Petersham in 1941 and Director of Ceremonies from 1947 to 1959. A proposition by Bro. Reg. G. Farrow that Petersham form a Lodge of Instruction was referred to the General Purpose Committee. In November a formal proposition 'That, subject to the approval of the M.W. The Grand Master, a Petersham Lodge of Instruction be formed forthwith'. This was carried unanimously and at the January Meeting Reg announced that the meetings would be held at the Railway Inn, Isleworth at 7.30 p.m. 25 Guineas was granted for the WM's list for the RMH from the Lodge Benevolent Fund.

The Committee received a letter from the widow of the Late W.Bro. Good requesting financial assistance, and a grant of 10 Guineas was made to her. Unfortunately the appeals to the Benevolent Fund of Grand Lodge and the RMBI had revealed that Mrs Good was ineligible for assistance until she reached the age of 60 years. A further meeting on 10th Feb agreed that Syenes Lodge No. 4900 be allowed to use certain of our Lodge furnishing Requisites, subject to a charge of 10/6 per meeting. The Dress regalia bequeathed to the Lodge by W.Bro. Good would be renovated and a set of undress regalia purchased in anticipation of the appointment to LGR of W.Bro. D. C. Willis. A report from Grand Lodge had sanctioned the formation of a Lodge of Instruction to be held at The Railway Inn, Isleworth and it was proposed to hold the first meeting on 16th March 1960 at 7.0 p.m. A loan of 5 Guineas was made to enable the LOI to meet its initial costs.



The Richmond Hill Hotel (now the Petersham) in 1868.



Four Past Masters' breast jewels, showing various artists' interpretations of the New Star and Garter Hotel



The Greyhound Hotel, Richmond - our second meeting place



Founders' Jewels

The March meeting Installed Bro. Reginald Farrow into the Chair, and also voted on a gift of 10 Guineas from the Benevolent fund to the widow of a deceased brother; the increase in the annual subs to 6 Guineas and in the fee for Initiation to 25 Guineas. All these were carried. In April Bro. D. Reay was thanked for his services in keeping the honours board up to date, and in October the Lodge silently remembered Bro. W. Gibbings and Bro. R.F. Phillips. It was also formally agreed to defray the cost of LGR regalia for W.Bro. D.C. Willis and that 10 Guineas would be put on the WM's list for the RMI for Boys from the Lodge Benevolent Fund. At the November meeting two candidates were initiated by W.Bro. G.E. Yates, one of whom was his son Mr Edward G. Yates.

The Committee met in April to discuss the disposal of items of Lodge furniture which had been in store for five years - one organ [mahogany], three wooden dias, two kneeling stools, three pedestals, three small pedestals, one black and white carpet, three large chairs, three wooden candlesticks and three wooden stands for wands. After interviewing the Manager of the Star and Garter Hotel, it was proposed to sell this furniture for the best figure that could be negotiated. An amendment that we do not sell the items but hire them out was suggested by Bro. Shorter but fell on a vote. A subsequent vote carried the original motion, and the Secretary was instructed to write a letter in these terms to the Manager of the Star and Garter, the price to be sought being £65. At Committee in September a letter from J. T. Davis & Co. Ltd, the Managers of the Star and Garter, agreed to the purchase at the asking price. It was agreed that all telephone charges concerning Lodge business should be paid for by the Lodge, and the Secretary was instructed to purchase three sets of gauntlets. At the February meeting the WM, as Secretary of the newly formed Lodge of Instruction, reported on its first years work.

Bro. Alfred Shorter DFC was the next member of Petersham to occupy the Chair of King Solomon, which he did on 11th March 1961, the 200th Meeting. A full year ensued with two ceremonies being performed at each meeting. October 1961 was a special meeting for W.Bro. F.G. Hill as he gave the Charge After Initiation to his son Anthony, the first of a number of candidates to come from the Fingerprint Branch at New Scotland Yard. Tony went on to the Chair in 1974, was Assistant Director of Ceremonies in 1984 and then DC from 1985 to 1992. He is currently the Treasurer elect. In November a further initiation occurred which saw another relative performing the Charge, this time W.Bro. Stan Michaux for his blood brother Henry. 10 Guineas was voted from the Benevolent fund to the WM's list for the RMIG and the By-laws were updated. In January the Late W.Bro. E.R. Norton, the WM in 1959, was the subject of a Silent Tribute.

During the year the committee considered a request from the Tyler for an increase in payment for services rendered. It was agreed, at the March meeting, that 2 Guineas per meeting would be paid, but, as at the September meeting it was reported that Bro. Ritchie had resigned, perhaps he felt that this was inadequate. Also in September the purchase of a cable tow, a blindfold, a slipper and a pair of compasses was agreed. The minutes for this meeting are written in Biro for the first time. In October the Acting Organist, no doubt having got wind of the increase achieved by the Tyler, asked for and got an increase to 2 Guineas per meeting. The question of purchasing a Lodge Banner was to remain on the table for further enquiries concerning costs etc.

[*Readers should not take the lapse of 37 years between this item first being discussed and the Ceremony in 1998 as an indication of the speed with which the Lodge deals with matters of importance.*]

Finally, in February, the Committee considered a petition from Mrs Lavinia Farrell, the widow of a Founder, which they agreed to support, subject to further enquiry, which two brethren offered to undertake.

The 1962 the March meeting commenced with Silent Tribute being paid to Bro. L. Tickner and then carried on with the Installation of Bro. Desmond Reay. The meeting also agreed to support the Petition for Mrs Farrell. Silent Tribute also started the meeting in April, this time for the Late W.Bro. G.A. Fish LGR, who had served the Chair of Petersham during 1939. In October yet again the meeting commenced on a sad note, this time standing in Silent Tribute to W.Bro. J.W.J. Samels LGR, a Founder, Past Master from his year in the chair in 1928, but who had also conducted the business of the Lodge during 1929, due to the untimely death, three days after the ceremony, of the newly installed Worshipful Master. At the November Meeting the donation of £50 from the Benevolent Fund to the widow of a deceased member was approved. The Lodge also supported a Petition to the Board of Benevolence on behalf of the widow of Bro. Gibbings and voted 10 Guineas onto the WM's list for the RMBI. January again saw the meeting commence with Silent Tribute, on this occasion to Bro. C.T. Brown.

The Lodge Committee dealt with information received from the Tyler to the effect 'that other Lodges were making unauthorised use of use of Petersham Lodge Furnishings'. After considerable discussion it was resolved to put a new lock on the cupboard. The WM announced that he intended to support the Festival of the RMBI to be held on 26th February 1963 and that his Ladies Night would be held at the Red Lion, Hounslow on 14th January 1963.

Information concerning the Western Masonic Centre Committee was received and it was agreed that the Secretary should ask to be kept informed of the progress concerning this Masonic centre for London. Replacement collars for the Deacons were authorised and it was agreed that the Charity lists of the next two Worshipful Masters would be combined to achieve a good subscription for the Boys Institution in 1964, this being sponsored by the Province of London. An Officer, who had repeatedly failed to attend during the year, was written to by the Secretary concerning his advancement to the next post and had replied to the effect that he would be able to attend more frequently.

March 1963 saw the Installation of Bro. F. G. Hill into the Chair and in April he was in action Initiating Mr Norman E. Newson. Norman progressed to the Chair in 1978, was Treasurer from 1989 to 1994 and at the time of writing is the ADC. However, he has agreed to be recycled through the chair and to this effect he will be appointed as Inner Guard in March '98.
A further Initiation of a current member occurred in January 1964. Mr Leslie Pinfold was the Candidate on this occasion and, although Leslie has not occupied the Chair in Lodge, he did perform the duties of Charity Steward from 1982 to 1989. He was rewarded with the rank of Provincial Grand Steward in consequence of that work. Unusually, the Junior Warden, Bro. John Allum, gave the charge after Initiation.

In addition to the above and other ceremonies performed, it was agreed during the year to defray the cost of LGR clothing for W.Bro. W. Wyatt LGR and to donate 10 Guineas from the Benevolent fund to the WM's list for the RMI for Boys. The success of a Petition to the Benevolent Institution on behalf of Mrs Gibbings was announced, the annuity being £120. Silent Tributes were made to the memories of Bro. H. Warman in April and to W.Bro. A Shorter LGR in January.

The Lodge Committee met and considered several matters concerning the welfare of various widows of past members; the asked for increase to 3 Guineas of the Tyler's fee, which it

approved; support for the Western Masonic Centre, for which the policy of continuing to keep a watching brief was agreed and the proposal to recommend that the Lodge Fees be increased to £6.16s.6d, non-dining fees to £2 and the dining fee for Visitors and non-dining members to £1.

The next Master to be Installed in the Chair of King Solomon was Bro. Leonard J. Hughes, this occurring on 14th March 1964. In addition to the usual ceremonies, the approval of the increases in subscriptions and the Tyler's fee, discussed in Committee the previous year, was approved. In October Bro. John Allum, now the Senior Warden, was again in action during the ceremonies, this time delivering an explanation of the Second Degree Tracing Board and in November Bro. A. Keddie, the Junior Deacon, was called on to perform this same task. A message of congratulation from the Grand Master to the London Grand Rank Association was read, which referred to the sum donated to the 1964 Boys' Festival. A letter of thanks from the widow of Bro. J. Ritchie, the Lodge Tyler from 1947 to 1961, for the wreath and expressions of sympathy was read to members at the October meeting. A further 10 Guineas was donated from the Benevolent Fund for the WM's list for the RMI for Boys' 1964 Festival.

Committee matters included consideration of a letter from the management of the Star and Garter advising of the increase in the cost of all meals by 1d. Syenes Lodge wrote to express appreciation for the use of Petersham furnishings for many years. Further matters concerning widows, in particular an application by Mrs Farrell to be considered for a place in one of the Masonic Homes, were dealt with.

The March 1965 meeting, which Installed Bro. Alfred John L. Allum into the highest Office the Lodge is empowered to bestow, commenced with Silent Tribute being paid to Bro. F. Carter, a long time member being the 8th Initiate into Petersham. A letter from his son, W.Bro. R.F. Carter, was read later in the meeting, expressing his thanks for the floral tribute from the Lodge and messages of support and regret.

During his year of Office W.Bro. John initiated Mr Robert C. Turner who went on to become Worshipful Master in 1980. Silent Tributes were made during the year to Bro. G.E. Irwin, Bro. H.T. Perry and to W.Bro. E.J. Michaux. 10 Guineas was donated to the WM's list for the RMBI from the Benevolent Fund and the Lodge agreed to defray the cost of LGR regalia for W.Bro. F. Read.

In Committee, the members dealt with a letter from the Brother who had been written to by the Secretary in 1963 concerning his non attendance whilst acting as Inner Guard, who was now asking to be relieved of his duties as JW. A potential candidate withdrew his application, being unable to attend meetings on Saturdays and the Management of the Star and Garter discussed with Bro. Secretary the concerns felt over the numbers present at meetings, asking him to achieve an increase in attendance or consider moving the meetings to another day of the week.

On 12th March 1966, once again, the Installation Meeting commenced in Silent Tribute to a Late Brother, this time Bro. P.H. Taylor, following which Bro. Douglas W. Bird was to have the honour to become WM. After a double ceremony in April, Bro. Secretary raised the question of the Grand Master's 250th Anniversary Fund, pointing out that the Petersham contribution would be £80. It was agreed that this sum be taken from the Lodge Benevolent Fund, to be reimbursed as the Treasurer collected £1 from each member. 10 Guineas was placed on the WM's list for the RMBI.

Two candidates were initiated at both the November and January meetings, the Charge after Initiation being given at the first by Bro. Robert Godfrey, the then JW, and at the second by Bro.

P. Rawkins, who was not even invested as a Steward, this being done at the following Installation Meeting. At the January meeting one of the candidates was a Mr H.T. John Cane, another current member, who went on to be the WM in 1981 and served as Secretary from 1988 till 1996.

The Committee meeting minutes show discussion on the cost of printing copies of the list of members; an acknowledgement for the donation made to the 250th Anniversary Fund; notice of an increase of 1/- per head for meals and 2/- per bottle for wine and the proposition that three consecutive Masters combine to support one of the Charities, thus making the total contributed a good figure. As a special effort was to be made to support Sir Allan Adair's appeal for the RMBI 1968 Festival, it was agreed that this should be the first to benefit. Three further collars were to be purchased to replace those badly worn.

Bro. Alistair P. Keddie was Installed in the Chair in March 1967 and enjoyed a full year, two ceremonies being performed at each meeting. In April the candidate was Mr Peter Jones who went on to become WM in 1982 and again in 1988. He also served as Charity Steward from 1990 to 1996 and is, at the time of writing, engaged on preparing this history in his capacity as the Secretary of the Lodge. In October Mr Peter Davidge was the candidate. Although Peter did not assume Office in Petersham he did go through the Chair in the Malines Lodge, of which he was one of the Founding Members, being concerned that, in view of the number of Brethren in the chain before him, age might preclude him from doing this at Petersham. At that meeting a copy of Nigerian ritual in Braille was donated to Bro. Charlie Redford by Bro. Peter Rawkins. A regular visitor at that time was Brother, later to become W.Bro., John Lewis who was also unsighted. Both enjoyed their Masonry enormously. In November the usual 10 Guineas was donated to the WM's list and at the January Meeting it was agreed that the cost of LGR regalia for W.Bro. G. E. Yates be met by the Lodge.

During 'Alec' Keddie's year the Committee discussed the suggestion that Grand Lodge communications be circulated to the Brethren in precise form from the printers, the cost involved to be researched. However, Grand Lodge, in their reply, indicated that this was not an option in favour at that time. A speaker on the Charities would be sought with particular reference to making donations by covenant. The Star and Garter informed the members that the rental for the Temple would increased to £2 per meeting, following the purchase of a new electric organ. Discussion took place on whether the Lodge should continue to defray the cost of full LGR regalia, the decision being to continue the practice for the time being.

Brother Robert Godfrey was the next to be elected to the position of Worshipful Master and was duly Installed in March 1968. Again a full year, with two ceremonies being worked at each meeting. At the April Meeting the candidate Initiated was Mr V. Wilson and the whole ceremony was conducted by the then Secretary and Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction, W.Bro. H.V. Wilson, his father. Silent Tribute was paid to two Brethren during the year, Bro. F. Bassett MBE and W.Bro. W.H. Skeet LGR, a Founder, Past Master and Honorary Member.
Honorary Membership was conferred on W.Bro. A.T. Platt, the usual 10 Guineas was put on the WM's list and it was proposed and confirmed that the application by the widow of a deceased Brother for accommodation in one of the Masonic Homes would be supported.

The Committee dealt with several matters concerning charity, one being the application for accommodation referred to at the full meeting notes above. The Star and Garter Management introduced a minimum figure of 50 for Saturday Lodge dinners and stated that they reserved the right to accommodate diners in the Lodge room. They required a form to be signed, absolving them from any responsibility for the loss or damage to Lodge property, a form which the Secretary was instructed to sign on behalf of the Lodge. In February a report concerning the

financial difficulties being experienced by the Lodge of Instruction, due to rent increases for the room in which it was held, was discussed, the decision being to sound out the feelings of the Lodge before taking action. The formation of a Charities Association was also raised and further details were to be obtained.

March 1969 saw Bro. Bernard Gray Installed in the Chair of King Solomon, preceded by a Silent Tribute to Bro G.E. Baverstock. At that meeting the plight of the LOI was put to the Brethren and the General Purposes Committee was asked to reconsider the matter and formulate concrete proposals for the Lodge to consider. At the April Meeting a ballot was taken for W.Bro. E.J. Luke, a potential joining member, which proved unanimous.

The October meeting was a very special one for Bernard as he Initiated his son Richard into the Lodge. Richard went through the Chair in 1984, was ADC in 1993 and took over as DC in 1994, a position he still holds. 1 Guinea was donated to the LGR Hospital Appeal, W.Bro. Ernie Luke was welcomed into the Lodge and a letter from the Grand Master concerning the appointment of R.W.Bro. The Earl of Cadogan as Pro.GM and the R.W.Bro. Major General Sir Allan Adair as Deputy GM. In November 10 Guineas was donated to the WM's list for the RMI for Boys and in January a Silent Tribute was paid to Bro. G. Comley.

At Committee, it was decided not to proceed with the formation of a Lodge Charities Association, covenants could be by arrangement with the RMI for Girls. The Lodge of Instruction would be supported in the sense that the Lodge would underwrite any deficits which might occur. However, the position was alleviated during the summer by a move from the Railway Inn, Isleworth to the South Western Hotel, Hounslow. [*The Lodge did seem to be pre-occupied with trains; the Hotel sign was an engine in Great Western livery.*] Charity matters included the discussions on Mrs Bassett's application to be housed in a Masonic Home which, sadly, did not look likely to be approved. In October W.Bro. Keddie offered to have the Honours Board repaired and updated, but a decision was deferred due to the fluid situation at the Star and Garter. In November the committee were informed of a change of management at the Star and Garter.

Bro. Philip Smith was Installed into the Chair in March 1970, a meeting at which the all too familiar Silent Tribute was given to Bro. H H. Wild. In April it was agreed to donate £100 from the Benevolent Fund to RMH Redevelopment and modernisation Fund. By-laws 9 and 12 be amended to increase the dining fees in each to £1.10s. In brackets the sum is shown as £1.50, the first reference to decimalisation. October saw a letter of thanks and congratulation, confirming that the Lodge had achieved the status of Patron for the RMI for Boys. In November a Silent Tribute was paid to Bro. T. G. Lenn. Rule 8 was to be amended to increase the annual subs to £10, and Rule 11 to increase the Initiation Fees to £27.50 and joining Fee to £10. The Lodge agreed to defray the cost of LGR clothing for W.Bro. Powell, and to send some Christmas cheer to W. Bro Platt, an Honorary Member.

During the year the Committee again considered the costs involved in defraying the expense involved in purchasing LGR regalia. It was finally decided in November that only the cost of Undress Regalia would be met by the Lodge. Other matters included making enquiries of the Association for the Blind concerning the amount of help received from that source by one of the widows, Mrs Lenn, who might need assistance.

In March 1971, the 250th regular meeting of the Lodge, Bro. Cyril F. Sandy was elevated to the Chair for a busy year, taking part in, or presiding over, two ceremonies at each meeting. The November meeting saw another first for Petersham, the initiation of two blood brothers and sons

of a member, Bro. Eddie Barker, the Inner Guard, who gave the Charge after Initiation. [*The Secretary can remember the look of horror which appeared on the face of Bro. Barker when the result of the ballot, which had been taken for both candidates at once, showed six votes against. Two subsequent ballots, one for each of the brothers, were unanimously in favour of each. The Past Masters were showing their disproval of time saving, but irregular, practice.*] £10.50 was voted to the WM's list for the RMBI, and Silent Tributes paid to Bro. A.J. Taylor and Bro. A.C. Richards.

In committee much discussion centred on what should be done to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Lodge and a sub committee was formed to undertake this task. It was reported that the widow, Mrs Lenn, did not appear to need financial assistance and indeed, at a subsequent meeting, it was reported that although she had been offered and accepted a place in a local Blind Home, she had changed her mind and refused the offer.

On 11th March 1972, Bro. Kenneth Jones was Installed into the Chair of Petersham. At that meeting W.Bro. E.R. Smith was made an Honorary Member. Again, a busy year was in prospect with two ceremonies being worked at each meeting, two of these being doubles. In April a Silent Tribute was given to a distinguished member, W.Bro. A.T. Pratt, who had been initiated in 1926, achieved the Mastership in 1943, granted LGR in 1955 and made an Honorary Member in 1968. In October the Lodge agreed to donate £100 to the General Purpose Fund of the RM Hospital. In November it was agreed to defray the cost of LGR undress regalia for W.Bro. Stan Michaux and in January £20 was voted from the Benevolent Fund to the WM's list for the RMIG.

The Committee continued to be involved with discussions concerning how the 50th anniversary should be celebrated. In July it was decided that previously discussed arrangements, involving the meeting being held at Great Queen Street and dining at the Connaught Rooms, were too ambitious. It was agreed that celebrations should be held in association with the Installation Meeting at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. 3 Officers from Grand Lodge would be invited. At a further meeting in November it was decided that the dining fee would be £3 for this occasion, and Bro S.F. Smith produced a rough format of an Anniversary Brochure in order that an estimated cost for printing could be established. In January approval was given to print 200 copies of the Anniversary Brochure and it was agreed to accept guests at the Festive Board only if prepaid tickets had been purchased by members. Bro. L.J. Yates, the first initiate, would be invited as a guest of the Lodge.

The 260th Meeting, held on 10th March 1973, witnessed the completion of 50 years and was marked by the Installation of Bro. S. Frank Smith into the Chair of Petersham. Grand Lodge was represented by V.W.Bro. G.P. Bulman, Past Grand Sword Bearer. Bro. Lewis Yates, the first initiate, was carried up the stairs in his wheelchair by several willing hands to enable him to enter the Lodge. 67 visitors were present on the occasion to witness a very proficient ceremony and happy occasion. Bro. Peter Jones, on behalf of members past and present who regularly attended the LOI, presented the WM with three inscribed goblets 'to be used, in perpetuity by the WM, SW and JW for the time being, at the Festive Board'. The additional business during the year included the donation at the April Meeting to each of the four Masonic Charities of £50 to mark the 50th Anniversary Celebrations. This meeting was graced with the presence of W.Bro. J. Davison the Assistant Grand Superintendent of Works. Silent Tribute was paid to Bro. F. Simmons at the October meeting and during the year Annual Subs were increased to £16, non dining fees to £3.50, Dining fees to £2 and Initiation Fees to £30. The sum of £20 was placed on the WM's list for the RMH who had, earlier in the year, circulated an appeal for increased support.

The committee had a relatively quiet year, the major decision taken by them being that members who attended the Audit Meeting should meet the cost of the meal provided on that occasion themselves. [*A lodge elder offers the perhaps cynical view that the only reason this meeting was well attended, prior to this decision being taken, was the free meal on offer.*]

Brother 'Tony' C. Hill was the 50th person to occupy the Chair of King Solomon which he did on March 9th 1974. Visitors on this occasion included two Grand Officers, W.Bro. J. Davison, AGSuptWks and V. W.Bro. G.P. Bulman, PGSwdB. In April Bro. Secretary informed the brethren that, at the A.G.M. of the LOI, a proposition was taken to make the annual subscription of £2.50 payable in advance in April each year, and expressed the hope that more members would join. At the November meeting Mr Robert Redford, son of Bro. Charles Redford, was Initiated. Robert has remained a member of Petersham despite living and working in Scotland for many years, a situation which has precluded him from attendance on all but a few occasions. At that meeting £25 was placed on the WM's list for the RMI for Boys from the Benevolent Fund. In January Silent Tribute was paid to two long standing members, W.Bro. D.C. Willis LGR, Initiated in 1931, WM in 1938, LGR in 1960 and made an Honorary Member in 1965, and to Bro. R. Kempthorn.

In Committee discussions included the fee for the Acting Organist, which was increased to £3.10, increased charges by the Star and Garter in their current seasons menus and an increase in the Tyler's fee to £5.

Bro. 'Eddie' Barker was Installed in the Chair in 1975, W.Bro. J. Davison, AGSuptWks, again being present as he was at the following, April, meeting at which £250 from the Lodge Benevolent Fund was donated to the RMH. A letter was read from the Hospital regarding the admittance of fee-paying non-masonic patients. A further letter from the RMI for Boys concerned steps being taken to admit sons of Freemasons to the School as fee paying pupils. Clearly the writing was on the wall concerning the future of both these institutions.

In October Silent Tribute was being paid to W.Bro. W. Clough, LGR, Initiated in 1930, WM in 1946, LGR in 1958 and passed to the Grand Lodge Above in July. Also, the death of the Acting Organist, Bro. G.T. Hall, who had played at Petersham since 1950, no less than 25 years, was marked in the same manner. £1 was donated to the LGRA Welfare Fund.

In November news was received and communicated of Bro 'Rex' Roberts, who had been initiated into Petersham in January 1972 and who was now resident in South Africa. Rex went on to become a founder of the first multi-racial Lodge in South Africa, of which he became WM in 1983. He was given District Grand Rank in 1988 - PDGStdB - and promoted to DAGDC for the Transvaal in 1991. Sadly Rex passed to the Grand Lodge Above on 21st August 1995. At the January meeting £25 was donated from the Benevolent fund to the WM's list for the RMBI and a motion passed allowing the Committee to vary the subs at their discretion.

In Committee, news of the decision that the Boys School would close by August 1977 was received with sadness. Discussion took place on a new format for the Summons and Agenda, and it was noted in January 1976 that the strength of the Lodge stood at 51 full members and 29 country members.

March 1976 saw the Installation of Bro. Leslie Green, again in the presence of W.Bro. Davison who was becoming a very regular attendee and friend to many in the Lodge. The Fees were set at £20 per annum for full membership and £5 for country membership. The April meeting dealt

with the alteration to By-Law 11, making the Initiation Fee £35 and the Joining Fee £15. By-Law 12 alterations saw the Visitor and Country Member Dining Fee increase to £3.

Silent Tribute to W.Bro. C. Hepworth, Initiated in 1937, WM in 1955, was paid at the November Meeting, and in January the by now usual donation of £25 was put on the Master's List for the RMI for Boys. In the Grand Lodge Communications details were given of the proposed Grand Officers' Visiting Scheme for London Lodges. A letter of appeal was received from the RM Hospital, indicating the need for greater assistance. At this time a very serious fire, following a burglary, all but destroyed the Star and Garter and the next two meetings were held by Special Dispensation at the Red Lion Hotel, Hounslow in Middlesex.

In March 1977 the Brethren stood to Order in respect for W.Bro. Alec Keddie, W.Bro. S.F. Smith delivering an oration in his memory. This was followed by the Installation of Bro. John M. Foster. In April W.Bro. R.E. Godfrey gave an Oration for Bro. A. Sheldon, who had died in Hospital on the Sunday following the Installation Meeting at which he would have moved from Junior to Senior Deacon. As a result, the Steward who had been asked to stand in for Archie as JD in March got the job of acting SD for the remainder of the year. Following that Oration W.Bro. Davison, our visiting Grand Officer, gave an Oration for W.Bro. H. Clark, the late Tyler of Petersham, who had supported the Lodge since 1970. It was proposed and carried that, as from September that year, subscriptions would be £25 per annum, Dining fees for visitors and Country Members be £3.75, Initiation Fee be £40 and Joining Fee be £20. Also proposed and carried that £50 be donated to the RMH in memory of W.Bro. A. Keddie.

In October, back in the newly refurbished Star and Garter, Silent Tribute was paid to W.Bro. L. Hughes who had joined Petersham in 1948 and served as the WM in 1964. W.Bro. F. Read gave an Oration. Silent Tribute was also paid to Bro. W.G. House. In November yet another death was being remembered in Silent Tribute, this time W.Bro. R.F. Carter who had been initiated at the age of 20 years and 10 months in 1925, being a Lewis, and appointed WM in 1942. At that meeting it was resolved to make a contribution from the Benevolent Fund to the RMH of £50 in memory of the Late W. Bro L. Hughes and to commemorate the excellent services he had performed in the Offices of Charity Steward - he was the first to fill this post when it was introduced in 1976 - and then Almoner, an office he held from 1970 to 1975.

The Committee discussed the advisability, or otherwise, of a permanent meeting place in a Masonic Centre and decided to keep the matter under consideration. Also, because of the past association between Petersham and Syenes Lodge, the serving Worshipful Master would be invited to Installation Meetings.

Bro. Norman Newson was the next to occupy the Chair of King Solomon, which he did on 11th March 1978 a meeting which had begun on a sad note with Silent Tribute to a long time visitor and friend of Petersham, W.Bro. J. Davison PAGSuptWks. These were difficult financial times, as can be seen by the motion repeated below, which was put and carried.

"That, to combat severe increase in expenditure due to inflation, and to regularize Lodge finances...

1 a.) Subscriptions for the period March to December '78 be £35, payable in two instalments in March and September.
b.) Country members subs £6 for the same period (By-Law 8).

2 As from 1st Jan. '79, Subs will become due and payable on the 1st January and 1st July annually.

3 Dining Fees for Visitors and Country Members to be £5, increase to apply to March '78

Installation Meeting and thereafter, until amended.

4 Initiation Fee to be £50 and joining members fee to be £25.

5 That New Members [*Initiate and Joining Members*] subscriptions shall be proportionally reduced to cover only the un-expired period to 31st December each year.

At the April meeting, which commenced with a Silent Tribute to Bro. H.E. Michaux, in the Risings, a letter was read from the RMH refuting any suggestion of the closure of the Hospital. Also the report of the AGM of the Hospital, showing that, although annual expenditure exceeded income, progress had been made since the previous year to reduce this amount. The modernisation programme was also going to plan. In October a further Silent Tribute was paid to Bro. F.H. Drube and congratulations given to W.Bro. Reg. Farrow on receiving LGR. In October Bro.T. Davies was welcomed as a Joining Member, and the donation of £25 to the WM's list for the RMIG was approved. At the January Meeting the all too familiar Silent Tribute was again being paid, this time to W.Bro. E.R. Smith, Initiated in 1934, WM in 1951, and to Bro. A.J. Fisher.

The Committee passed a vote of thanks early in the year to W.Bro. Farrow for renovating the Tracing Boards; discussed cutting the Meetings to four per year, deciding not to action this proposal; looked at ways in which attendance at the LOI might be improved; recommended that 'and the 1st July' be deleted from By-Law 8 to comply with a Grand Lodge request that Lodge Dues be shown as yearly, not half yearly. The widows would receive a Christmas donation of £10, a sum which would also be sent to Master Mark House, the son of Bro. Frank House. Christmas cards would be sent to widowers in the Lodge.

In November it was reported to the Committee that all possible help had been extended to Mrs House and at the February Meeting a letter from Grand Lodge was read, which set out the correct form for the first three toasts at the Festive Board, i.e. all honorifics should be omitted.

Bro. 'Bill' T. Kew was the next to occupy the Chair, doing so on 10th March 1979. In October Silent Tribute was paid to Bros. A.R. Pulham and R. Massey and a proposal that £750 be donated from the Lodge Benevolent Fund to the RMIG, the RMIB and the RMBI, to enable the Lodge to become a Patron of each, was passed. At the November Meeting, which was graced with an official visit from W.Bro. Elford PAGSwdB, the revised obligation in the first degree was discussed and at the following meeting in January Brethren were informed that the 'Alternative Wording' in the book of Emulation Ritual would be adopted by the Lodge. Also that meeting saw a further increase in the Visitors' and Country Members' dining fees, to £6.50, and in the Country Members' Subscriptions to £10 annually.

In Committee, discussions had taken place on the change to the wording in the Obligations; the Organist and Tyler would each receive £7.50 per meeting and cheques would again be sent to widows and again to Mark House.

Bro. 'Bob' Turner was Installed on 8th March 1980, a meeting at which it was proposed and carried that the date of the January meeting be changed to the fourth Saturday, instead of the second. At the April Meeting W.Bro. R.E. Godfrey presented the Lodge with a suitable engraved Volume of the Sacred Law, to be used on the WM's pedestal, and W. Bro S.F. Smith presented an inscribed cushion on which it would rest. Both were thanked accordingly. In October Silent Tribute was paid to W. Bro J.E.B. Powell LGR, W. Bro F.G. Hill and Bro J. Heatherington. In November the now familiar round of increases in subscriptions took the Annual Subscription to £52, the Country Membership Dues to £12, the Visitors and Dining Fees to £8, the Initiation Fees to £60 and the Joining Fee to £30. £30 was donated to WM's list for the RMIG from the Benevolent Fund and W.Bro. J. Allum was saluted with three on his appointment to LGR.

In Committee, the Christmas donations were again approved as for the previous year and discussions continued concerning the Masonic Centre at Hanwell, which brethren from other Lodges were discussing setting up. The Secretary and a Past Master from Petersham kept a watching brief at meetings held to discuss this matter.

The 300th regular meeting of the Lodge occurred on 14th March 1981, at which Bro. H.T. John Cane was Installed in the Chair of King Solomon. The October meeting paid Silent Tribute to W.Bro. D.K. Jones who had served the post of Treasurer through the difficult years 1976 to 1980, as recorded above. In November £50 was donated to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in memory of W.Bro. Ken Jones and £30 was placed on the WM's list for the RMH. In January a letter from Grand Lodge informed the Brethren that 'The Right Honourable Lord Cornwallis OBE, DL was now the Deputy Grand Master'. At this meeting the candidate was a Mr Graham Gatland. Graham achieved the Chair himself in 1990, acted as Tyler for the Lodge during a difficult period for that office in 1994, is currently the Charity Steward and has been a stalwart of the Lodge of Instruction, in which he holds the joint Secretary/Treasurer post.

The Committee, as well as dealing with the usual matters concerning the running of the Lodge Meetings, discussed the question of assistance for various members and their dependents; expressed concern over the donations coming to the Benevolent Fund from collections made at the Festive Board and had reports concerning the resignation of two members now resident overseas.

The Installation Meeting on March 1982, at which Bro. Peter Jones was put into the Chair of King Solomon, commenced with a Greeting to W.Bro. George Yates, who was celebrating the completion of 50 years in the Lodge. Two Joining members were welcomed into the Lodge, Bro. J. Payne, and Bro. John Luke, who went on to assume the Chair in 1989 and is still a regular attender. The October meeting commenced with a Silent Tribute to W.Bro. W. Wyatt LGR who was initiated in 1941, placed in the Chair in 1949, honoured with LGR in 1963 and acted as Chaplain from 1966 to 1969. The Initiate on this occasion was a Mr Esmond Howarth who is still an active member and regular attendee, both at Lodge and LOI meetings. Es went through the Chair in 1994 and is currently the overseeing Steward. In November W.Bro. R.E. Godfrey was congratulated on achieving LGR and £30 was placed on the WM's list from Benevolent Funds. In January '83 a miniature Third Degree Tracing Board, presented to the Lodge by W.Bro. John Cane, was used for the first time.

The matters dealt with by the Committee during the year included the insurance of lodge possessions; discussions and consideration of various options concerning our future meeting place and the usual routine matters.

On March 12th 1983 Bro John Collett was the next to be installed into the Chair, and in April was in action Initiating Mr Robert F. Dawe. Robert is currently the Treasurer, but at the next meeting will be appointed ADC. An outstanding ritualist, he held the Chair in 1991 and went on to serve in 1992 as well. In October £25 was donated to RMH in memory of the Late W.Bro. Wyatt. The November 1983 meeting, the last to be held at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, was tinged with sadness in consequence, but also with expectancy at the new phase which Petersham was about to enter. Most were aware that Provincial Masonry was slightly different to London Masonry, but just how different was the question on the minds of many members.

Mr Godfrey Fiamingo was Initiated on that occasion. Godfrey is currently the Senior Deacon, having had to drop out of a progression towards the Chair on a previous occasion due to business pressures. £30 was placed on the WM's list for the RMH.

Members had been aware for some time that the Star and Garter was to close as a Hotel and was scheduled to be sold for office development. Where the Lodge would locate to had been the subject of much research by Bernard Gray, the Secretary at that time, and others on the General Purposes Committee. That work, and all the discussions, were now focused in a Motion put to the Brethren to consider.

A proposal that By-Law 1 be amended to read:

- 'The Regular Meetings shall be held at Guildford on the second Saturday in January, March, April, October and November at such time as the Worshipful Master shall determine.'

was put to the Brethren and passed by 31 votes for, 1 against with one abstention. Thus the association with the Star and Garter ended, as did the status of the Lodge as a London Lodge.

CHAPTER 7

PROVINCIAL MASONRY AT GUILDFORD

Saturday, January 14th, 1984 saw Brethren arriving at Guildford Masonic Centre, Weybourne House, Portsmouth Road, Guildford clutching the maps Bernard Gray had provided. In the presence of distinguished visitors W.Bro. R Bowers PPJGW and W.Bro. W. Hambrock PPJGW, Bro. Es Howarth was Raised to the Third Degree.

Following news from W.Bro. John Cane of the Installation of W.Bro. Rex Roberts as WM of the Kosmos Lodge No. 2768 E.C. E. Transvaal, S. Africa, it was agreed that a Letter of congratulation should be sent to him from his Mother Lodge, Petersham.

During the previous masonic year the discussions in Committee had, of course, centred heavily on the future location of the Lodge. In all twelve possible homes had been researched but, due to the meeting dates which were required, some proved not to be suitable at an early stage. The final short list included the South London Masonic centre at Penge, Cole Court at Twickenham and Guildford - the strong recommendation of Bernard. Also, it was agreed that the WM should be allowed one guest free of charge at each meeting and two at the Installation Meeting and that all Lodge members should be invited to become members of the Lodge of Instruction at £3.50 each.

Just how different Provincial Masonry would be was amply illustrated at the next meeting, on March 10th 1984, when an official visit by W.Bro. B.C. Hart PAGReg, APGM and W.Bro. K.G. Twitchen ProvGDC saw a Procession being formed to escort the above into the Lodge. The WM vacated the Chair in favour of the APGM who occupied it whilst Bro. Secretary read the minutes and the vote was taken, following which, and suitable words of thanks, the WM resumed the Chair and Installed Bro. Richard Gray. The APGM gave the Address to the Brethren. Meetings continued, April, October and November all containing two ceremonies and at the latter the By-Laws were again being amended to show the Annual Subscription for Full Members to be £55, for Country Members £15, the Initiation Fee to be £70, and the Joining Fee £35. £30 was placed on the WM's list for the RMBI and details were heard of the proposed sale of the RMH. In January Brother Len Mee was welcomed as a Joining Member. Whilst Len has not progressed through the Chair he has served the Lodge with distinction as its Almoner from 1988 to 1996, being rewarded with the rank of PPGStwd for that work by Province.

The committee continued to meet at the South Western Hotel, Hounslow and matters dealt with included the donation to the widows as a Christmas gift, which was increased to £15. Donations totalling £750, spread over three years, were agreed for the Guildford Masonic Centre lift fund; a donation was made to the Testimonial Fund for the retiring Steward at Guildford; the prospect of running raffles at the Festive Board was discussed and there were further matters on the charity front which required consideration.

Bro. Stanley W. A. Pettitt was duly Installed into the Chair in 1985, a busy year as far as ceremonies were concerned with two planned for each of the meetings. Unfortunately, the candidate who was to be Initiated in January decided not to proceed at the last minute, and so that meeting was restricted to a single ceremony. £30 was donated to the WM's list and the widows again received a Christmas gift of £15 each. Voting was required on the future of the Royal Masonic Hospital which resulted in 7 votes being cast for the sale, and 21 against. The meeting in October paid Silent Tribute to W.Bro. Des Reay who had been Initiated in 1945 and Installed as WM in

1962. At that meeting a Mr Michael F. Allen was the candidate for Initiation. Michael progressed to the Chair in 1995, is currently the Lodge Almoner and the Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction, also acting as the Lodge Historian and Curator. As is stated in an acknowledgement on the frontpiece to this History, the writing of it would not have been possible without the time and effort he made in researching the minute books and other records to summarise the facts.

The Lodge of Instruction donated £100 from its funds to Guildford Masonic Centre and were thanked accordingly. Committee meetings also dealt with the unexpected resignation of the Junior Warden due to ill health and the application of the Senior Deacon to go on the Country List, the decision being that the WM and the SW should stay in office for a further year and that a past master should act as JW, other positions to rotate as planned.

Following that decision, the March Installation Meeting re-appointed W.Bro. Pettitt as the WM for a further year. At that meeting a resumé of computerisation in Grand Lodge was given. During the year Silent Tributes were paid to two Bros., E. Farrow, initiated in 1950, and M. Frampton, initiated in 1985. W. Bro. H.R. Walker, who had been the WM in 1953, completed 50 years in Freemasonry, having been Initiated into Petersham in October 1936. Regrettably, he was unable to be present to celebrate this anniversary. £30 was placed on the WM's list for the Foundation for the Aged and the Sick.

The Lodge Committee dealt with the usual matters and additionally decided that the Charity Column would be circulated in Lodge, rather than at the Festive Board. It considered the venue and timing of the committee meetings, deciding to make no change in the end. The Tyler and Organist would receive an increase in fees to £7.50.

Bro. N.P. Kress was Installed in the Chair in March 1987, a meeting which paid Silent Tribute to Bro. H.D. Gare who had been a member since 1936. The Charity Column was circulated in the Meeting for the first time and realised the sum of £52.70. In April the candidate for Initiation was a Mr Peter E. Henley and also at that Meeting the members welcomed as a Joining Member W.Bro. James A. Pound LGR. Peter went on to become Master of Petersham in 1996 by progression, and is currently the IPM. James was Installed in 1993.

In October congratulations were offered to W.Bro. John Foster on being appointed Past Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies and to W.Bro. Leslie Green on being appointed Past Provincial Assistant Grand Superintendent of Works, the first two Brethren to receive Provincial Honours from Surrey for their work in Petersham. The November meeting was attended by an official visitor, W.Bro. R.D. Gordon PAGDC, PPJGW, who presented a Grand Lodge certificate to Bro. Mike Allen. £50 was donated to the list of the WM for the RMH, and the subscriptions were increased to £69 per annum, non-dining members paying £20. The date of the April meeting was changed to the 3rd Saturday and By-Law 1 amended accordingly.

Matters considered by Committee during the year included the disposal of Jewels returned to Bro. Secretary; the timing in the ceremony of Salutations and the running of raffles, which were confined to two per year to attempt to improve the collections made for Benevolence. The proceeds of an April one would go to the Guildford Centre and the March one to the 1997 Festival Appeal. Poor attendance at the LOI was again causing concern, and Bro. Secretary was asked to write to all officers, an action which did achieve a slight improvement, as was noted at a subsequent committee meeting. W.Bro. S F. Smith was appointed Liaison and Press officer, and the year ended with a decision to move the LOI and committee meetings to a new venue at Laleham Village Hall.

W.Bro. Peter Jones was the next occupant of the Chair at the March Meeting 1988, having been recycled through the Junior and Senior Wardens chairs en route. The brethren were informed that the proceeds of the Ladies' Festival raffle, £506, had been donated to the Princes Alice Hospice. In April a Mr James M. Blandford was Initiated, the current Master of Petersham. The October Meeting, attended by W.Bro. E.N. Gudge PADC, PPJGW, the official visitor, commenced with Tribute to Bro. K. Matheson by W.Bro. Norman Newson. W.Bro. Norman had himself been afforded the Active Provincial Rank of PGStdB at the Surrey AGM, an honour he was congratulated on, this being the first time a member had received an active rank.

In Committee it was decided that reports from the Almoner and the Charity Steward should appear on the summons in future; the high cost of wine at the March Festive Board was raised by the Treasurer, but it was agreed that attendance had been much higher than normal; cheques for the widows' Christmas gift were approved at £15 and the provision of an Honours Board at Guildford was discussed.

On 11th March 1989 Bro. Sidney J. Luke was Installed in the Chair of King Solomon, a ceremony which, no doubt, gave much pride to his father, W.Bro. Ernest G. Luke. This pride was again to be in evidence in January 1990 when the WM Initiated his own son Jon Luke and W.Bro. Ernie, the 93 year old Grandfather, delivered the Charge in an excellent and most proficient manner. Annual Subscriptions were again increased, on this occasion to £65, with the Country Members to £23 and the dining fee being raised to £8.50. £50 was placed on the WM's list for the 1997 Festival.

In Committee it was agreed that the frequency of the raffles should increase, the proceeds from March would go to the Guildford Centre, from November to the Lodge of Instruction and the remainder would go to support the 1997 Festival. £100 was allocated from the Benevolent Fund for the Guildford Centre and the Christmas donation to widows was again set at £15. It was agreed to invite the reigning master of Syenes Lodge to the Installation ceremony, a practice which had died out, and furthermore that he should be requested to participate in the ceremony by occupying the Senior Warden's Chair.

In March 1990 Bro. Graham Gatland was installed in the Chair for his year of Office, W.Bro. Leyshon of Syenes occupying the SW Chair. It was announced at this meeting that the Lodge of Instruction venue would be the Manor Social Club at High St, Shepperton. In April a new set of Gauntlets was presented by W.Bro. R.E. Godfrey, the retired Chaplain of the Lodge, in appreciation of the enjoyment this and previous service to the Lodge had brought to himself. At the October meeting Silent Tribute was paid to W.Bro. H.R. Walker who had been Initiated in 1936 and Installed in 1953.

This meeting was graced with an Official Visit by W. Bro T. Doyle PSGD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master for whom W.Bro. Derek Barr PJGD requested an escort. After occupying the Chair for the minutes the PAGM vacated the chair in favour of the WM who then Initiated his blood brother Mr Ian Gatland. Ian is currently the JW. At the same meeting Brother John Gridley, currently serving as a Steward, was welcomed as a joining member. At the November Meeting subscriptions were again on the move, the new figures being voted for by the Brethren being:- Full Member £72, Country Member £28 and dinning fees £9. Also in November in was recorded that W.Bro. John Cane had presented the Centre with a set of Blocks and Gavels.

In Committee, it was announcement that the Tyler, W.Bro. S. J. Thorpe, was to move from the Guildford area and that a new Tyler had been found. W.Bro. R. E. Godfrey reported that the list of past masters in the Lodge Bible had been updated and was thanked for this action. W.Bro.

Pettitt, the Preceptor, stated that the LOI would continue at Shepperton, conditions there being satisfactory. There was some concern over the new Tyler, and it was agreed that the Secretary should write to him concerning certain points of procedure which may be peculiar to Petersham. The possibility of holding a Charity show to raise funds for the 1997 Festival was discussed, and a small sub committee was formed to progress this idea.

Bro. Robert Dawe was installed as the next Master on March 9th 1991, the 350th occasion that Petersham had conducted a Regular Meeting and one at which W.Bro. M. Leyshon from Syenes again acted as the SW. Bro. Secretary announced that W.Bro. Peter Jones was to receive active Provincial Grand Rank, DepPGSwdB, at the Surrey AGM and that, at the same meeting, W.Bro. Collett was to be appointed PPAGStdB and Bro. Len Mee PGSteward. In April the candidate for Initiation was Mr Michael W.C. Sanders, the current SW and Master Elect. In October the Brethren stood in Silent Tribute to W.Bro. E.J. Luke PPAGDC, W. Bro C. Sandy PPAGDC and to Bro L.B. Yates, a very sad start to a meeting at which W.Bro. John Luke Raised his son Bro. Jon Luke. The Official Visitor, W.Bro. J. C. Guersouille, PJGD, PPSGD suggested that W.Bro. Ernie Luke, the grandfather of Jon, was there in spirit to look over the Raising. Annual subs were again increased, this time to £80, Country Members £35 and dinning fees £9. In January yet a further need for Silent Tribute, W.Bro. Eddie Barker being remembered on this occasion. Brethren were informed that the LOI would meet at Guildford in future, and a letter of thanks was read from the Princess Alice Hospice concerning the donation of £831 from the proceeds of the Ladies' Night Raffle.

During the year the committee had continued to meet to deal with routine matters, additionally discussing and approving higher charges to enable the standard of the meals and wine to be raised. The transfer of £75 to the Master's List for the 1997 Festival was approved, and the decision to transfer the LOI to Guildford was debated at length, finally being approved for a two month trial period.

March 1992 saw W.Bro. Robert Dawe continue in office for a further year, due to the Senior Warden being unable to continue in progression due to business pressures. A resume was given of the Masonic Career of W.Bro. George Yates who had written a letter, dated 5th March 1992, in which he stated his disappointment at being unable, through ill health and because of Doctors' orders, to attend this meeting, it being the 60th anniversary of his Initiation into Petersham.

[*As an aside, the Petersham Record Book shows just five entries under 'Y', all for the Yates family.*]

In April the Initiate was Mr Paul Austin, a current member who is unable to attend on a regular basis due to his wife's health and business commitments. Also admitted at that meeting were two Joining Members, Bro. John R. Lucas and Bro. B.A. Jackson, both of whom are still members. In October Bro. Len Mee PPGStwd presented the Lodge with a 275th Anniversary Medal, and the Minute book records the singing of the first verse of the National Anthem at the closing of the Lodge, rather than in the Festive Board, for the first time.

At the November Meeting a presentation of the 2nd Degree Lecture, Sections 2-5, was given by members of the LOI. The Official Visitor, W.Bro. G. H. Jones, PAGDC, PPJGW, representing the Most Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, The Earl of Shannon, thanked the Brethren concerned and praised the high standard of the work, commenting that it reflected well on the LOI. Fees rose again, to £90, Country Members £40 and Dining to £10. Inscribed silver goblets were presented to W.Bro. J. Foster, W.Bro. L. Green and to W.Bro. P. Jones from the Lodge to commemorate various anniversaries of Initiation. These had been purchased from LOI funds and

would be presented to all Brethren on achieving 25 years service, or at the next 5 year interval thereafter if they had already passed that milestone. In January 1993 a letter of thanks from Princess Alice Hospice was read, thanking those concerned for the donation of £700 - the proceeds of the Ladies' Night Raffle. Also read was a letter from the Cystic Fibrosis Research trust concerning the donation of £240, this being the sum raised by a raffle of a 'T' shirt, signed by Ritchie Richardson, and obtained for that purpose by W.Bro. Richard Gray.

In Committee the usual duties of arranging the Lodge meetings and other administration matters were dealt with. Additionally, social functions - a trip to the Theatre to see the musical Buddy, a lunch at the Guildford Centre for wives and friends, perhaps even providing some incentive for additional membership, were arranged by W.Bro. Bob Dawe. The final details of the Cabaret night at Imber Court were presented by the organising Committee, the night itself being a resounding success. A contribution towards the leaving gift of the centre Steward Harry and his wife Cathy was agreed.

W.Bro. 'Jim' Pound was elected and Installed into the Chair of King Solomon on 13th March 1993, and a visiting Past Master from Seyenes, W.Bro. Leyshon, and W.Bro. Theale, the WM of Noel Lodge were asked to occupy the SW and JW Chairs respectively. Jim's year was to be marked with tragedy for, at the next meeting, whilst delivering the Traditional History, his very good friend and proposer into Petersham, W.Brother Stanley Pettitt suffered a massive heart attack and died, despite the best efforts of Lodge members and later Paramedics to revive him. The Lodge business was not fully concluded, some members did remain to dine, but there were no toasts or speeches.

At the October meeting an eulogy was given for W.Bro. G.E. Yates by W.Bro. S.F. Smith, and for W.Bro. S. Pettitt by W.Bro. R. Gray, following which Brethren stood in Silent Tribute to both. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and, as an addendum, reference was made to the fact that Bro. Paul Austin, who had been the candidate during the previous April Meeting, had attended Malines Lodge, at the invitation of W.Bro. S.F. Smith, a member of both Lodges, to be present whilst he delivered the Traditional History in particular, but also to witness the complete 3rd Degree ceremony in general. Thus the complete degree was made known to Paul as early as possible, and the links between the two lodges were further cemented. [*Several members of Petersham are also members of Malines and others frequently visit.*]

The intention for this meeting had been an Initiation, but the candidate was prevented from attending through illness. W.Bro. Bob Dawe, with only a few hours notice, presented an excellent rendition of the explanation of the First Degree Tracing Board, being complimented by a visiting Grand Officer who asked that the minutes show his comments. A silver goblet was presented to W.Bro. S. Michaux. Reports given indicated that a trip to visit a Lodge in Paris had been very interesting and successful. Also, a Sunday lunchtime trip on the River Wey had been both enjoyable and successful, in that a few extra pounds had been raised for the 1997 Festival and an impending trip to Great Fosters for Sunday lunch was now fully booked.

The November Meeting was attended by W.Bro. P. R. Swinnerton PGStdB, Provincial Grand Treasurer, representing the RWPGM, who was able to witness a presentation of the First Degree Lecture given by members of the Lodge of Instruction. A box of Working Tools was presented to the Lodge, the result of an anonymous donation in the memory of W.Bro. Stan Pettitt. In January W.Bro. S.F. Smith and Bro. L. Pinfold were presented with their goblets.

In Committee the additional matters dealt with included agreement to send formal letters of thanks to the Artists who had performed at the Cabaret Night, also thanking the Lodge Brethren

who had organised and participated in the event. A letter of appreciation would also be sent to Surrey Ambulance Service in respect to the events at the April Meeting.

In March 1994 Bro. Esmond Howarth was installed in the Chair, assisted by W.Bro. Chapman, a past master from Syenes, who occupied the SW's Chair, and W.Bro. Sillence, reigning Master of Noel, who occupied the JW's Chair. W.Bro. S. F. Smith presented the Lodge with the first Initiate's Jewel, which had been presented to Bro. Lewis Yates, and the Founder's Jewel of W.Bro. George Yates, on behalf of both these brethren, for display and safe keeping. Information was given concerning the impending honour of PPJGW [Middlesex] and PAGDC ranks to W.Bro. S.F. Smith and PPGSuptWks for his blood brother W.Bro. P. Smith.

In April Brethren stood in Silent Tribute to Bro. T. Davies; and in October, in the presence of W.Bro. H. M. Sharpe, PSGD Assistant Provincial Grand Master, and W. Bro J.A.R. Powell, Provincial Assistant Director Of Ceremonies, the Lodge of Instruction gave a presentation of the Second Degree Lecture. The Official Visitor presented W.Bro. R. Gray with an inscribed silver goblet to commemorate his 25 years in the Lodge, and passed a vote of thanks to those who participated in the lecture, saying how much he had enjoyed it. W.Bro. R.E. Godfrey was thanked for bringing the inscriptions in the Volume of the Sacred Law he had donated earlier up to date.

The November Meeting heard a very interesting talk on the work of the RMBI and how it spends the money it receives, given by W.Bro. J. Edmunstone PAGDC, who had agreed to attend to do this at very short notice. W. Bro S.F. Smith reported that he had presented W.Bro. J. Allum with his silver goblet whilst visiting him in Hospital. At the January meeting the fees were increased to £110 for Full Members, £55 for country Members and the dining fee to £11. This meeting was the occasion of the Initiation of Mr Eric Francis Eastwell, the current JD.

The Committee discussed the discontinuation of Petersham Charity Association and a move to use the Relief Chest run by Grand Lodge was proposed and agreed. This would overcome problems posed by changes in the rules governing Charity Accounts brought in by the Charity Commission. The need to look for a new Tyler was dealt with. Progress on the procurement of a Lodge Board was reported and the formation of a small working group to think about the 75th Anniversary was agreed.

The Installation of Bro. 'Mike' F. Allen in March 1995 was preceded by Silent Tribute to W.Bro. H.V. Wilson LGR who had been initiated in Jan 1943, occupied the Chair in 1958, had been the Secretary from 1961 to 1974 and was awarded LGR in 1975. Bert, never a person to tolerate fools, or anyone else for that matter, lightly was also the Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction and as far as this [*Bro. Sec.*] mason is concerned was responsible for the high standards of ritual achieved by Brethren during his time in that post. The Installation Ceremony was assisted by W.Bro. L. Hamberger, the reigning Master of Syenes Lodge, who occupied the SW Chair.

In April Mr Roger Martin Goswell was Initiated into the Mysteries and Privileges of Freemasonry. Roger is currently the IG. Silent Tribute was again given at the October Meeting, this time to W.Bro. R. Roberts who had died in South Africa in August. The meeting heard an impressive talk from Bro. B. Jackson on the preparation of a mason. A letter was read from Mrs J. Bird, the widow of W.Bro. D.W. Bird, stating that she had in her possession three table napkins, dating from 1887 when King Edward VII, who was then the Grand Master, had attended a Banquet in Yorkshire. Apparently only twelve of these napkins had been printed and she offered two to Petersham in memory of her late husband, which the Lodge accepted with pleasure and gratitude.

In November the Lodge joined together in an Act of Remembrance just before the Calling Off to commemorate those Brethren who had fallen during wars and in peacetime, making particular reference to those from Petersham who had been called to the Grand Lodge Above during the past year. This ceremony was introduced at the suggestion of W.Bro. R.E. Godfrey, and it is intended that it shall continue indefinitely. The minutes show that Bro. M. Sanders, the JW, had participated in the Lecture Festival organised by Egham Lodge and had answered the questions in the 4th Part of the First Lecture. Also, the long closing was delivered by the WM for the first time.

In January an Apron Cushion was presented to the Lodge by W.Bro. Mike Allen as a memento of his enjoyable year in the chair. W.Bro. Mike also thanked all the Brethren who worked outside the Lodge meetings to make the membership more interesting, enjoyable and worthwhile, also mentioning the wives of Bob Dawe and Len Mee in particular.

In Committee notification of a case of need by one of the widows was reported by Bro. Almoner and authorization was given for steps to be taken to provide relief. A request to assist with the garden fete at Shannon Court would be dealt with sympathetically. W.Bro. Gatland suggested that Menu cards be introduced and offered to undertake the task of preparing and producing them.

In March 1996 the position of Worshipful Master passed to Bro. Peter Henley. On this occasion his proposer, W.Bro. P. Jones, occupied the SW Chair and his seconder, W.Bro. A. Hill, the JW chair. W.Bro. S.F. Smith returned three more medals to the Lodge, one a Founder's medal and two Past Masters' medals which had been returned by Mrs Ellen Wilson. These were gratefully received. At the April Meeting Graham Gatland donated to the lodge a case in which Lodge Jewels could be displayed and was thanked accordingly. October began with a Silent Tribute to Bro P. Rawkins and to W.Bro. J. Foster PPGReg. In November Brethren again participated in the Act of Remembrance, following the Initiation of Mr Colin Matthews. W.Bro. A.C. Hill received his Silver Goblet, Annual Dues were increased to £140 Country Members to £80 and the Dining Fee to £12.

In January W. Bro 'Bob' Dawe gave his by now usual impeccable delivery of the Lecture on the First Degree Tracing Board.

Matters dealt with by the Committee included relief to a Brother in need; consideration of how the 75th Anniversary would be celebrated and the distribution of funds from the raffles. On this latter point it was agreed that the primary aim would be, for the time being, to fund the 75th Anniversary costs, with the matter to be reviewed after that event. The insurance of the Lodge effects would be reviewed by Bro Treasurer. The By-Laws would be re-written and updated by Bro. Ian Gatland, with his brother, W.Bro. Graham Gatland, offering to get them printed afterwards. It was agreed that Bro. Secretary take on the additional duties of Lodge Information Officer.

Bro. James M. Blandford was Installed in the Chair of King Solomon on March 8th 1997, a meeting at which it was announced that W.Bro. Newson was to be promoted to PPGSwdB at the next Provincial AGM. A letter was read in the third rising from the Guide Dogs for the Blind thanking the Lodge for the £1,200 donation raised by the Ladies' Night raffle. At the April Meeting Mr R. J. Simpson, the son in law of the WM, was Initiated into the Lodge. Two more Past Masters' Jewels were donated to the Lodge, which would go on display in the case. In October Brethren heard an eulogy by W.Bro. P. Smith, following which they stood in Silent Tribute to Bro. R. Adams who had been initiated in 1961. The Almoner reported on a successful

petition on behalf of one of our widows. The November Meeting saw the Initiation of Mr J.E. Luscombe, a ceremony performed by W. Bro. Mike Allen, which had been preceded by the Passing of Bro. R. J. Simpson, the first time for ten years that a double ceremony had been worked in the Lodge. Brother Mike Sanders, the Senior Warden, presented the Lodge with a splendid Master's Collar with attached nameplates, on which were engraved the names of all the Past Masters of Petersham, with sufficient blank ones left to accommodate his own name next year and many more to follow.

In March 1998, Bro Mike Sanders was Installed into the Chair of King Solomon. By-law 10 was amended to allow the sum of £100 to be paid out of Lodge funds without notice being given on the Summons. In April, Honorary membership was awarded to W Bro Reg Farrow. There was a Banner Dedication given in the presence of W Bro Paul Swinnerton PSGD, APGM. He was requested by the WM to dedicate the Banner, assisted by other Provincial officers. A special programme was produced for the occasion. The APGM also presented W Bro Stan Michaux with a letter from the PGM congratulating him on 60 years in Freemasonry.

In October, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to Bro Lewis Yates who joined the Lodge in 1982. Mr Paul Martyn Kerswell was then Initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry.

In committee, details of an alternative suit for candidates was suggested by the WM who stated that he would fund it personally.

In March 1999, Bro Ian Gatland was installed in the Chair for his year of office. In June, the LOI sponsored the Southwest Craft Lecture Festival which later attracted many favourable comments regarding the meeting and standard of ritual. Petersham members given offices at the meeting were W Bros Godfrey Fiamingo as WM; Mike Sanders as Treasurer; Graham Gatland as Secretary and Bro Eric Eastwell as Senior Deacon. W Bro Norman Newson and Bros Julian Luscombe and Roger Goswell assisted with the lectures. 78 Brethren dined after the meeting.

In October, Mr James Julian Grindley was initiated into the Lodge and in November, W Bro John Allum celebrated 50 years of Petersham membership. Annual dues were raised to £150 and £80 for full and country membership respectively and the dining fee to £13.50.

In committee, a paperweight with Petersham logo was suggested as a gift for all those attending the 400th meeting.

March 2000 saw the position of WM pass to Bro Godfrey Fiamingo. A Founders Jewel which had belonged to Bro Frank Carter was presented to the Lodge by W Bro John Cane. In October, Mr Andrew Frank Eastwell was initiated into the Lodge and the Working Tools were explained to him by his father, Eric.

The WM for 2001 is going to be invited to a reception at the House of Commons. Annual dues were increased to £160 for full membership, £85 for country membership and £15 for dining. W Bro Graham Gatland, Charity Steward, devised a novel way of collecting for charity. He distributed tubes of Smarties to the Brethren with a request that they were filled with 20p and £1 coins for donation to the 21cc fund. Bro P Kerswell is to act as IG at the SW Surrey Lecture Festival in June.

In committee it was agreed that a £5 surcharge would be levied to cover the extra cost of the meal for the 400th meeting.

Bro Eric Eastwell was installed as the next WM on 10th March 2001. In June W Bro E. Howarth was appointed to PPAGSuptWks and W Bros B. Gray and A. Hill both promoted to PPJGW at the Provincial AGM. In November, an entertaining talk entitled 'Freemasonry and Entertainment' was given by W Bro J. Ashby of the Quator Coronait Lodge No. 2076.

The Widows have been sent their usual Christmas cheques along with a letter stating they might be entitled to benefits if their husbands had been the victims of the Japanese during WW2. Petersham has been made a Patron of James Terry Court in acknowledgement of past help and fundraising. W Bro P. Jones presented the Lodge with a collar jewel originally given to W Bro G. Good in 1941/42 and recovered from an antique shop in Suffolk.

W Bro Roger Goswell was the next occupant of the Chair at the March meeting in 2002. In April, the WM and IPM were presented with lapel badges to mark the Jubilee year. W Bro P. Smith will be promoted to PPGReg at the forthcoming Provincial meeting while W Bros John Luke and Mike Allen were appointed to PPAGStdB and Peter Henley to PPAGSuptWks. Annual fees were raised to £165 and £90 respectively for full and country membership and £21 for the dining fee. The Initiates fee to remain at £75. In November, a demonstration of 'Making a Mason', circa 1790, was given by the William Cobbett Demonstration Team.

In committee, W Bro P.Kerswell undertook research into the feasibility of a Lodge website and W Bro A. Hill was appointed as the Royal Arch representative.

W Bro N. Newson was installed in the Chair in March 2003 but resigned shortly afterwards leaving the WM duties to W Bro J. Cane in April and W Bro S.F. Smith for the remainder of the year. In October, W Bro J. Cane delivered a paper entitled 'Coming to terms with Freemasonry' and in January read a paper he had written concerning the explanation of the Masonic apron. In November, W Bro Mike Sanders gave an explanation of the background to the Walking Charge.

In committee, a reduction in the number of meetings per year to four was suggested but rejected. The building of a new Masonic centre was under consideration close to the current one, Hitherbury House, which would become residential accommodation. Christmas cheques to the widows were increased to £30. It was suggested that too much time was being taken for tea and pre dinner drinks.

Bro Paul Kerswell was installed into the Chair in March 2004. At this meeting, Bro Timothy Patrick Harvey became a joining member. In April, W Bro M. Sanders read a paper entitled 'Freemasonry in the USA' and W Bro I. Gatland then read a further paper called 'Absent Brethren', both of which were well received. W Bro John Cane was congratulated on having his 2003 paper, 'Coming to Terms with Freemasonry' published and he has also been invited to sit on the Province Education committee. It was announced that eight members of Petersham were to visit St. George's Lodge in Paris on 23rd April. W Bros J Blandford and M. Sanders were selected to receive PPAGSuptWks and PPAGDC respectively.

In November, annual fees were raised to £175 and £95 respectively for full and country membership. The dining fee will be £18. In January, Bro Paul McIntosh Mudie became a joining member, W Bro M. Sanders gave an explanation of 'The Preparation of a Mason' and W Bro B.Gray was presented with a certificate commemorating his 50 years in Freemasonry.

In committee, it was agreed to support a request from Province for donations to the victims of the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Asia with a contribution of £100 plus further backing from funds accrued at the Ladies Night. A Lodge paperweight was donated for placement in a time capsule at Guildford.

W Bro P. Kerswell was proclaimed as WM for a further year in March 2005. The Brethren stood in silent tribute to W Bro Percy Davidge, PPAGDC (Middx) who was initiated in 1967. He was given a eulogy by W Bro S. Smith. In April W Bro M. Sanders, assisted by Bro T. Harvey, delivered the 4th section of the first lecture which was followed by the WM, assisted by W Bro R. Goswell, performed the 6th section of the first lecture. By-law 6 requiring a joining member to pay a £35 fee was repealed. W Bro I. Gatland has been offered PPGStB at the upcoming Provincial AGM.

In October, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to W Bro R. Turner, who joined the Lodge in 1966 and was WM in 1980 and Bro Len Mee, PPGStwd, who joined in 1985 and was Almoner from 1988 to 1996. £500 was donated to the New Masonic Centre Support Fund, Guildford. Petersham members would be assisting with the move to the new building on 21st November. In November, Bro Jon Luke re-joined the Lodge, W Bro M.Sanders delivered a paper on the third degree and annual fees were revised to £200 and £105 for full and country membership. The dining fee would be £19.50. In January, Bro J. Gonsalves became a joining member and Mr David William Lock was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry.

CHAPTER 8

THE NEW TEMPLE

In March 2006, W Bro G. Fiamingo was installed into the Chair of King Solomon for the second time. This was Petersham's first meeting in the new, purpose built temple. In April, the WM was appointed to PPGStB and W Bro G. Gatland was promoted to PPJGD. There would be a lunch on 10th September to show off the new centre to friends and family and possibly attract some new members.

In October, Mr Robin David Viner was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. Annual fees were increased in November to £210 and £110 respectively and the dining fee was to be £20. In January, W Bro G. Gatland was presented with a silver goblet to mark his 25 years in the Lodge.

In March 2007, W Bro Graham Gatland was installed for his year of office and presented the Lodge with a new minute book to celebrate his second period as WM. The Brethren stood in silent tribute to W Bro J. Pound, who joined the Lodge in 1987 and was WM in 2003. In April, Mr David Graham Gatland was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry and W Bro E. Eastwell was congratulated on being offered PPGStB at the Provincial meeting in June.

In October, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to W Bro M. Sanders, PPAGDC, who joined the Lodge in 1991 and was WM in 1998. W Bro S. Michaux was awarded Honorary membership in November in appreciation of his nearly 70 years in Freemasonry and Mr Stephen John Edmunds was initiated into the Lodge.

In Committee, W Bro P. Kerswell stated the Lodge website was up and running, having been properly registered. The Lodge Boards have been renovated by Bro D. Lock and were now in a very good condition.

W Bro Roger Goswell was installed as the next Master on 8th March 2008 with the PGM, Rt W Bro Eric Stuart-Bamford, in attendance. The PGM was presented with two cheques totalling £2500 for the 2008 Surrey Festival. The Lodge was presented with the Bronze award for contributions to the festival by the APGM, W Bro John Milner. The APGM was made an Honorary member of the Lodge.

In April, the Brethren stood in silent respect to W Bro S. Michaux, LGR, who joined the Lodge in 1938 and was WM in 1957. He was Organist from 1948 to 1949; ADC 1966 to 1969; DC 1970 to 1972 and Chaplain from1973 to 1979. It had not been possible to present his 70 years in Freemasonry certificate but it was passed to his family at the funeral. W Bro J. Cane was promoted to PPJGW and W Bro R. Goswell appointed to PPAGSuptWks. W Bro E. Howarth was presented with a silver goblet to commemorate his 25 years in the Lodge.

In October, the PGM was made an Honorary member of the Lodge. W Bro S.J. Luke was presented with a silver goblet to mark his 25 years at Petersham. W Bro K. Beattie became a joining member in November. Full and Country fees were raised to £225 and £110 respectively and the dining fee to £23. In January, W Bro S.F. Smith was presented with a Provincial Grand Masters certificate to commemorate his 50 years in the craft and Petersham in particular and W Bro G. Fiamingo was presented with his silver goblet to celebrate his 25 years in the Lodge.

In March 2009, the position of WM passed to Bro T Harvey. In April, with Petersham once again hosting the St. Georges Group meeting, the WM gave an explanation of the First Degree tracing board then the First section of the Second lecture was worked by W Bro I. Gatland, assisted by his son David. W Bro J. Cane presented back to the Lodge a Founders jewel belonging to Henry Almond (Founding Secretary) and two further jewels which had belonged to Arthur Moore (Founding JW) and Joseph Samuels (Founding ADC). The WM then presented one of Petersham's PM jewels to W Bro Marcus Moore, PPAGSwdB, the WM of St. Georges Lodge No. 3 in Paris. This jewel to be worn each year by their reigning WM.

In November, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to W Bro R. Farrow, LGR, who joined the Lodge in 1943 and was WM in 1960. He was Almoner from 1963 to 1969 and 1977 to 1982. The WM read a paper entitled 'Freemasonry, a Male Preserve' then W Bro P. Jones presented a paper entitled 'Willing Hands and Voluntary Gifts', the story of the Masonic Million Memorial Fund. Annual dues were raised to £230 and £115 respectively for full and country membership with the dining fee at £23.

A very rare event occurred in January – the meeting scheduled for 9th had to be abandoned due to the large amount of snowfall which rendered travel almost impossible.

W Bro Tim Harvey was declared as WM for a second year in March 2010, the Lodge being unable to elect a Master for the ensuing year in January due to the inclement weather causing its abandonment. At the same meeting, W Bro B. Gray was awarded Honorary membership. In April, W Bro I. Wilson was admitted as a Joining member and Bro Timothy James Anthony Harvey was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. W Bro P. Henley received a promotion to PPSGD, W Bro S.J. Luke to PPAGDC and W Bro P. Kerswell to PPAGReg.

In November, Bro Neal Henry Brookes of Lodge of Service No.7470 was raised to the sublime degree of a MM. It is uncommon but not unknown, to perform ceremonies on behalf of another Lodge for a variety of reasons. Petersham were very pleased to assist on this occasion. The Brethren stood in silent tribute to W Bro P. Smith, PPGSuptWks, who joined the Lodge in 1957 was WM in 1970 and was Chaplain from 1993 to 2004. Annual dues were revised to £235 and £115 respectively for full and country membership with the dining fee set at £24. In January, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to
W Bro E. Howarth who joined the Lodge in 1982 and was WM in 1994.

W Bro S.J. Luke was the next occupant of the Chair in March 2011 for his second stint as WM. At that meeting, seven members of Lodge of Service No. 7470 entered the Lodge as a Column of Friendship to acknowledge the growing link between the two Lodges. In April, Mr Richard Perrin was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry and W Bro K. Beattie received a promotion to PPAGReg.

In November, W Bro P. Jones gave a lecture entitled 'Ship to Shore': Trafalgar, the National Trust and our Maritime Heritage. In January, Mr Trevor James Nell was initiated into the Lodge. Annual dues were raised to £240 and £120 respectively and W Bro Tony Hill was presented with his 50 years in Freemasonry certificate. Several amusing anecdotes were included for good measure.

Bro Jon Luke was installed in the Chair in March 2012 by his father, W Bro S.J. Luke, who had in turn been installed by his father making them both a Lewis. In October, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to W Bro B. Gray, PPJGW, who had been initiated into the Lodge in 1954 and became Master in 1969. He was also Secretary from 1975 – 1987. He was given a eulogy in November by W Bro J. Cane.

A regular visitor, W Bro S. Draper, read an oration in the second degree which led to a lively discussion on topic arising from it. He was rewarded with a bottle of port at the Festive Board in appreciation of his work. W Bro P. Henley was presented with a silver goblet to mark his 25 years in the Lodge. In November, the WM worked the Fourth section of the Second Lecture, assisted by W Bro P. Kerswell. A guest, W Bro M. Faulkner then gave a presentation on the work of the RMBI and Friends of Shannon Court. Dues were once again raised, this time to £245, £125 and £25 for full and country membership and dining.

In January, long standing Acting Organist, W Bro Noel Antliffe, passed to the Grand Lodge Above. He was given a eulogy by W Bro S.J. Luke and the Brethren then stood in silent tribute.

On 9th March 2013, W Bro K. Beattie was installed into the Chair of King Solomon. W Bro Graham Gatland received a promotion to PPGSwdB, W Bro Ian Gatland to PPAGDC and W Bro I. Wilson a first appointment to PPAGDC. In April Mr Paul John Noke was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. In October, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to The Earl of Shannon, Provincial Grand Master.

In November, Mr Samuel Bartholomew John Gordon was initiated into the Lodge. Annual subscriptions rose to £255 and £135 respectively for full and country membership and the long closing, introduced to the Lodge by W Bro M. Sanders, was given by W Bro P. Kerswell.

In committee, a Charity group was proposed consisting of W Bros K. Beattie, R. Goswell, P. Henley and G. Gatland in order to support the Charity Steward.

W Bro I. Wilson was installed as the next Master on 8th March 2014. W Bro E. Eastwell received a promotion to PPAGDC . Guildford Masonic Centre requested that Lodges meeting on a Saturday change to meeting during the week. A vote was taken resulting in a unanimous decision to remain a Saturday Lodge. The Brethren were given details of the Surrey 2019 Festival. In October, Mr Graham Neil Roberts was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. Subscriptions were revised to £265, £165 and £26 for full and country membership and dining. In January, Brethren were informed of the passing of Mark House, son of Bro W. House, in the autumn.

In committee, James Terry Court were having an Xmas Fayre for the first time and requested that Petersham attend with their bottle stall. This was agreed. W Bro P. Henley was appointed Preceptor of the LOI, replacing W Bro G. Gatland. The passing of Mark House led to a bequest to the Lodge which was to be used for the benefit of current and future members. W Bro P. Kerswell was managing disposal of the estate with the solicitor representing the House family and a sub-committee was instigated to look at proposals for use of the funds and to make recommendations to the Lodge.

In March 2015, the position of Master passed to Bro D. Gatland who was installed by his father, W Bro I. Gatland. W Bro R. Goswell received notification of a promotion to PPAGDC. In April, W Bro J. Arney and Bro C. Berry were welcomed into the Lodge as joining members. At that meeting, Mr Samuel Paul Storey was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. In October, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to Rt. W Bro Terry Doyle **PPGM** and to our Grand Officer, W Bro S.F.Smith **PAGDC**, PPJGW who had joined the Lodge in January 1959. He was WM in 1973, Charity Steward 1977-1981 and Treasurer 1981-1988. A eulogy to him was given in November by W Bro J. Cane. Also in October, W Bro I. Gatland was presented with a silver goblet to mark his 25 years in Freemasonry by his son, the WM.

In November, a proposition that ‘The Lodge endorses and accepts the decisions made by the Extraordinary Committee Meeting of 8th November 2015’ which was duly confirmed by the Brethren. A new case for the Working Tools was displayed which is to be a memorial to the House family in recognition of their legacy to the Lodge. W Bro M. Faulkner was presented with a cheque for £2000 for the Lodge to be considered a Patron of Shannon Court. In January, Mr Richard David Alexander was initiated into the Lodge.

In Committee, the House bequest was to be discussed at Extraordinary General Purpose meetings in April and November. Agreement on purchases and charity donations were among the items to be considered. A solicitor was engaged to develop a governance mechanism regarding future expenditure and Petersham Lodge Limited was formed to oversee bequest funds and purchases.

In March 2016, W Bro P. Henley was installed for his year of office, the second time he had undertaken the role. W Bro G. Gatland stepped down as Charity Steward after many years work in that position. He was considered legendary for his ability to extort money from the Brethren and the WM gave a glowing report of his achievements which culminated in a standing ovation. He surrendered the position to his brother Ian. W Bro P. Kerswell announced he had managed to purchase two Petersham Founder Jewels from an internet auction. In April, Mr Jake Gordon was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. A proposition was made to donate £4050 from the Relief Chest and a similar amount from the Bequest Fund to the 2019 Surrey Festival Fund. This would enable the Lodge to qualify for a Bronze award and was duly confirmed by the Brethren.

In October, Mr David Carl Gibbins was initiated into the Lodge. A proposition to purchase 50 British Legion poppies which had been made of brass from detonators and pigments mixed with earth from the Somme was unanimously confirmed by the Brethren. They each come with the name of a soldier who fell on the battlefield and would be given to every member and guest attending the November meeting which is traditionally one of remembrance. The soldier's names would be read out during the Festive Board each November.

In November, Mr Jamie Paul Smith was initiated into the Lodge. Widows Xmas cheques were increased to £50. In January, Mr Halvard William Green was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry and W Bro G. Gatland was awarded Honorary membership. In committee, there was a Petersham Lodge Limited Bequest update. Items discussed were those already agreed and paid for; those already agreed but yet to be paid for and those agreed to be paid for as ongoing matters. Tyler and Organist fees are to be increased to £30.

Bro A. Eastwell was installed in the Chair in March 2017.The Address to the WM was given with feeling by his father, Eric. W Bro S.J.Luke was to be promoted to PPJGD at the Provincial meeting, W Bro P. Henley to PPGSdB and W Bro P. Kerswell to PPDGReg. W Bro Bill Caughie **PAGDC**; APGM, was offered Honorary membership of the Lodge which he accepted. In April, W Bros J. Cane and P. Jones were presented with their 50 years in Freemasonry certificates courtesy of a surprise visit by W Bro Bill Caughie. A silver goblet was sent to Bro P. Austin to celebrate his 25 years in the Lodge as he was unable to attend. In October, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to RW Bro D. Phipps MBE, PPGM. A proposition to purchase a Tercentenial Masters Collar Jewel was unanimously approved.

In November, Mr Gulham Abbas Sheikh was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. In January, W Bro S.J. Luke was presented with his 50 years in Freemasonry certificate. A proposition to vary By-law 6 regarding the non payment of fees from one year to nine months was confirmed as was a proposition to donate £2000 to the 2019 Festival. In committee, a
£225 lifetime membership of the Civil Service Club was purchased to enable the Lodge to use the venue for meals after various functions. A revamped Lodge Website was now running and decisions made as to the content.

Bro T. Nell was the next occupant of the Chair in March 2018. W Bro P. Kerswell received a promotion to PPGReg and W Bro K. Beattie to PPDGReg. In April, W Bro D. Rickwood was welcomed into the Lodge as a joining member and Mr Nicholas Clifford Green was admitted to the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. A memorable rendition of the Charge after Initiation was given by Bro H. Green, son of the candidate.

In October, the Brethren stood in silent tribute to W Bro G. Gatland, PPGSwdB. He joined the Lodge in 1982, was WM in 1990 and 2007. He was Charity Steward from 1997 to 2006 and again from 2009 to 2015. W Bro P. Kerswell and Bros P. Noke and C. Berry participated in a Zipwire challenge which raised over £3000. In November, Silver status was achieved for the 2019 Festival. W Bro S.J. Luke has crafted an image of the 'Silent Tommy'. It was proposed that it should be placed in the Lodge during November remembrance meetings, which was confirmed unanimously. In January, a proposition was approved that allowed Bro Treasurer to make payments by electronic means.

In committee, it was agreed to purchase gold goblets for those members who had completed 50 years in Freemasonry from the bequest fund. Several replacement aprons and jewels were also given assent along with an apron cushion, shroud, Inner Working tools, a set of compasses and a pencil. Provincial regalia will be purchased for all First Appointments. A new WM collar was purchased as the old one was nearly full with the names of previous WMs. Gift Aid envelopes are to be used for Alms collections to take advantage of the tax breaks.

On 9th March 2019, Bro P. Noke was installed into the Chair of King Solomon in the presence of the PGM, RW Bro Ian Chandler who gave the Address to the WM with great feeling. The PGM then presented the Lodge with a Silver award with respect to the 2019 Festival. In April, Mr Jack George Noke was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry by his father, the WM. A proposal to give Honorary membership to RW PGM, I. Chandler, W Bro M. Winchester, ProvGSec and W Bro B. Pickett of Erdemont Lodge No. 5865 was unanimously confirmed. A Centenary Committee was formed to deal with all matters connected with the 2023 Centenary celebrations of the Lodge, headed by Bro S. Storey who is due to be WM at that time.

In October, the Brethren stood in silent respect to W Bro J. Cane, PPJGW, who joined the Lodge in 1967, was WM in 1981; Secretary from 1988 to 1996, Almoner 1999 to 2008; Membership Officer in 2010 and Lodge Mentor 2009 to 2012. Also, W Bro E. Eastwell, PPAGDC, who joined in 1995, was WM in 2001 and Chaplain from 2005 to 2013. Eulogies were given by W Bro P. Jones and W Bro A. Eastwell respectively. W Bro R. Gray was presented with a 50 years in Freemasonry certificate and Mr Jonathan James Corbey was initiated into the Lodge.

In November, Mr Paul Richard Elsey was admitted to the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry and in January, W Bro I. Oakley was admitted as a joining member and Mr Luke James O'Kelly was initiated into the Lodge. In Committee, it was agreed to present W Bro A. Eastwell with the silver goblet that had been due to W Bro E. Eastwell for his 25 years in the Lodge, as a tribute to his father.



Weybourne House, Guildford

CHAPTER 9

THE WORLD CHANGES

By the time of the March meeting, Coronavirus had spread to this country and was starting to create chaos. Many members and guests decided not to attend because of safety concerns regarding the virus. The meeting went ahead with some members and guests taking Acting roles to ensure all the offices were filled.

The Brethren stood in silent tribute to W Bro P. Jones, PPJGW, who had joined the Lodge in 1967. He was WM in 1982 and 1988, Charity Steward from 1990 to 1996; Secretary 1996 to 2008 and Treasurer 2009 to 2017. Also, Bro G. A. Sheikh who joined the Lodge in 2017. Eulogies were given by W Bro P. Henley and K. Beattie respectively.

Bro S. Gordon was installed as the next Master by W Bro P. Henley who had been given just one hours notice. After the ceremony, he was given deserved applause. W Bros I. Gatland and I Wilson have both received promotions to PPSGD and W Bro D. Gatland has been given a first appointment of PPGStB. In committee, a custom made box to house the old WM collar was displayed. It was decided to place two memorial plaques on the box to W Bro M. Sanders and W Bro P. Jones.

Two days after the meeting, Coronavirus restrictions came into being. The April meeting was cancelled by order of the Most Worshipful Grand Master. By October, COVID rule had been eased slightly and a group of six members were permitted to attend a meeting, purely to deal with Lodge business. No ceremonies were permitted. Notice of Motion was given that the full subscriptions for 2021 would be reduced by £75 to reflect the lost festive boards in 2020. A Lodge Whatsapp Group was formed by Bro J. Smith to enable Brethren to stay in contact with each other.

Before the November meeting could take place, COVID restrictions had been re-introduced and no meetings were permitted. The next meeting of Petersham Lodge was in October 2021.

At this meeting, W Bro S. Gordon was declared as WM for a second year in accordance with the Book of Constitutions. In November, W Bro A. Hill was presented with his 60 years in Freemasonry certificate by the DepProvGM, VW Bro R. Wileman, PGSwdB. The 2022 subscriptions were set at £190 and £145 for full and country membership, again to reflect the lost festive boards during the year.

In March 2022, W Bro I.Wilson was installed as WM for a second time. The Lodge was awarded a Silver Patron certificate from James Terry Court for donations made to the home. Honorary member, W Bro B. Pickett has received a promotion in Kent to PPSGW and W Bro A. Eastwell has been given a first appointment to PPAGStB. W Bro J. Arney has been promoted to PPSGW in Middlesex and W Bro P. Noke has been given a first appointment to ProvGStwd, an active rank.

In committee, the Senior and Junior Wardens columns have been replaced due to the poor state of repair of the old ones and the Lodge Banner has been superbly restored and is now in prime condition.

In October, the Brethren stood to order in silent tribute to Queen Elizabeth II who reigned supremely for over seventy years.

Mr David Simon Banks was Initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The meeting ended with the first rendition of God Save the King since 1952.

So, as the Lodge nears the start of it’s second century, we remember all those who have gone before and paved the way for the current members and it is to be hoped that the Lodge will continue to prosper until time with us shall be no more.

MASTERS OF THE LODGE

1923	J.D. FIRMSTON, L.R.
1924	E. SKILTON, P.P.GP. (HANTS & I.O.W.)
1925	A. MOORE.
1926	A. ALLUM.
1927	E.M. SEVERN.
1928	J.W.J. SAMELS.
1929	H.J. KING.
1930	W.H. SKEET.
1931	J.W. SCOTT.
1932	L.T. YATES.
1933	H.F. GARE.
1934	F.C.P. MITCHAM.
1935	E.E. MILLS.
1936	E.E. MILLS.
1937	H.C. CORBIN.
1938	A. SHORTER.
1939	G.A. FISH.
1940	E. MICHAUX.
1941	G.S. GOOD.
1942	R.F. CARTER.
1943	A.T. PRATT.
1944	C.A.G. STONE.
1945	H.S. ELLIOT.
1946	W. CLOUGH.
1947	H.F. GARE, L.G.R.
1948	J.O.C. WILLIS.
1949	W. WYATT.
1950	F.J. READ.
1951	E.R. SMITH.
1952	G.E. YATES.
1953	H.R. WALKER.
1954	G.L. NURSAW.
1955	C. HEPWORTH.
1956	J.E.B. POWELL.
1957	S.A.G. MICHAUX.
1958	H.V. WILSON.
1959	E.R. NORTON.
1960	R.G. FARROW.
1961	A.J. SHORTER, D.F.C.
1962	D. REAY.
1963	F.G. HILL.
1964	L.J. HUGHES.
1965	A.J.L. ALLUM.
1966	D.W. BIRD.
1967	A.P. KEDDIE.
1968	R.E.GODFREY.
1969	B.S. GRAY.
1970	P.W.J. SMITH.
1971	C.F. SANDY.
1972	D.K. JONES.
1973	S.F. SMITH.
1974	A.C. HILL.
1975	E.J. BARKER.
1976	L.J. GREEN.
1977	J.M. FOSTER.
1978	N.E. NEWSON.
1979	W.T. KEW.
1980	R.C. TURNER.
1981	H.T.J. CANE.
1982	P.E. JONES.
1983	W.J. COLLETT.
1984	R.W. GRAY.
1985	S.W.A. PETTITT.
1986	S.W.A. PETTITT.
1987	N.P. KRESS.
1988	P.E. JONES.
1989	S.J. LUKE.
1990	G.C. GATLAND.
1991	R.F. DAWE.
1992	R.F. DAWE.
1993	J.A. POUND, L.G.R.
1994	E.T. HOWARTH.
1995	M.F. ALLEN.
1996	P.J. HENLEY.
1997	J.M. BLANDFORD.
1998	M.W.C. SANDERS.
1999	I.M. GATLAND.
2000	G.F.H. FIAMINGO.
2001	E.F. EASTWELL.
2002	R.M. GOSWELL.
2003	N.E. NEWSON.
2004	P.M. KERSWELL.
2005	P.M. KERSWELL.
2006	G.F.H. FIAMINGO.
2007	G.C. GATLAND.
2008	R.M. GOSWELL.
2009	T.P. HARVEY.
2010	T.P. HARVEY.
2011	S.J. LUKE.
2012	J.W. LUKE.
2013	K.M. BEATTIE.
2014	I.R. WILSON.
2015	D.G. GATLAND.
2016	P.J. HENLEY.
2018	T.J. NELL.
2019	P.J. NOKE.
2020	S.B.J. GORDON.
2021	S.B.J. GORDON.
2022	I.R. WILSON.
2023	S.P. STOREY.

CHAPLAINS

W.Bro. L.T. YATES, PM, PPGStdB (HANTS & I.O.W.) 1925 -1926
W.Bro. J.D. FIRMSTON, LR. 1927 - 1930
W.Bro. A. ALLUM, LGR. 1931 - 1939
Bro. THE REV. E. MICHAUX. 1940 - 1941
W.Bro. A. ALLUM, LGR. 1942 - 1943
W.Bro. J.W.J. SAMELS, LGR. 1944 - 1945
W.Bro. A. SHORTER, LGR. 1946 - 1947
W.Bro. A. T. PRATT, LGR. 1948 - 1956
W.Bro. D.C. WILLIS, LGR. 1957 - 1964
W.Bro. E.R. SMITH. 1965 - 1965
W.Bro. W. WYATT, LGR. 1966 - 1969
W.Bro. J.F.B. POWELL, LGR. 1970 - 1972
W.Bro. S.A.G. MICHAUX, LGR. 1973 - 1979
W.Bro. R.E. GODFREY, LGR. 1980 - 1989
W.Bro. J.M. FOSTER, PPAGDC. 1990 - 1992
W.Bro. P.W.J. SMITH, PPGSuptWks. 1993 - 2004
W.Bro. E.F. EASTWELL, PPAGDC. 2005 - 2013
W.Bro A.C.HILL, PPJGW. 2014 - Date

TREASURER

W.Bro. H.E. PANNELL 1923 - 1928
PPG Std B (KENT), PM, PPAG.Sec (KENT).
W.Bro. A. MOORE. 1929 - 1937
W.Bro. J.W.J. SAMELS, LGR. 1938 - 1942
W.Bro. J.W. SCOTT, LGR. 1943 - 1948
W.Bro. A. SHORTER, LGR. 1949 - 1963
W.Bro. F..J. READ, LGR. 1964 - 1975
W.Bro. D.K. JONES. 1976 - 1980
W.Bro. S.F. SMITH, PPJGD. PPSGD (Middx.) 1981 - 1988
W.Bro. N.E. NEWSON, Pro G Std.B. 1989 - 1994
W.Bro. R F. DAWE. 1995 - 1998
W.Bro. A.C. HILL, PPJGW. 1999 - 2008
W.Bro. P.E. JONES, PPJGW. 2009 - 2017
W.Bro. P.J. HENLEY, PPGSwdB. 2018 - Date

SECRETARY

W.Bro. H. ALMOND LR, PM, PPGStdB (Hants & I.O.W.) 1923 - 1928
W.Bro. H.E. PANNELL, PAGSec (Kent), PM, PPGStdB (Kent) 1929 - 1939
W.Bro. E.E. MILLS, LGR. 1940 - 1947
W.Bro. W. CLOUGH, LGR. 1948 - 1960
W.Bro. H.V. WILSON. 1961 - 1974
W.Bro. B.S. GRAY, PPSGD, LGR. 1975 - 1987
W.Bro. H.T.J CANE, PPJGD. 1988 - 1996
W.Bro. P.E. JONES, PPJGW. 1996 - 2008
W.Bro P.M. KERSWELL, PPGReg 2009 - 2016
W.Bro K.M. BEATTIE, PPDepGReg. 2017 - Date

DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES

W.Bro. H.A. DARCH, LR. 1923 - 1930
W.Bro. J.D. FIRMSTON, PGStdB 1931 - 1941
W.Bro. L.T. YATES, PAGStdB 1942 - 1946
W.Bro. G.S. GOOD, LGR 1947 - 1959
W.Bro. W. WYATT, LGR 1960 - 1965
W.Bro. J.E.B. POWELL 1966 - 1969
W.Bro. S.A.G. MICHAUX 1970 - 1972
W.Bro. A.J.L. ALLUM, LGR 1973 - 1984
W.Bro. A.C. HILL, PPAGDC 1985 - 1992
W.Bro. S.W.A. PETTITT, Pro.G.Stwd. 1993 - 1994
W.Bro. R.W. GRAY, PPGReg. 1994 - 2001
W.Bro P.J. HENLEY, PPGSwdB. 2002 - 2011
W.Bro I.M. GATLAND, PPSGD. 2012 - 2015
W.Bro R.M. GOSWELL, PPSGD. 2016 - Date

ALMONER

Bro. H. KING.	1925 - 1925
Bro. J.W. SCOTT.	1926 - 1926
Bro. H.H. FARRELL.	1927 - 1927
Bro. H.F. GARE	1928 - 1928
Bro. W. QUINNEY.	1929 - 1929
W.Bro. E. SKILLTON, PPGP (RANTS & I.O.W.)	1931 - 1941
W.Bro. J .W. SCOTT, LGR.	1942 - 1942
W.Bro. A. SHORTER, LGR.	1943 - 1945
W.Bro. G.A. FISH, LGR.	1946 - 1955
W.Bro. D.C. WILLIS, LGR	1956 - 1956
W.Bro. E.R. SMITH.	1957 - 1959
W.Bro. C. HEPWORTH.	1960 - 1961
W.Bro. F.J. READ, LGR.	1962 - 1963
W.Bro. R.G. FARROW.	1963 - 1969
W.Bro. L.J. HUGHES.	1970 - 1975
W.Bro. A.P. KEDDIE.	1976 - 1976
W.Bro. R.G. FARROW, LGR.	1977 - 1982
W.Bro. L.B. GREEN, PPAGSuptWks.	1983 -1987
Bro. L. MEE, PPGStwd.	1988 -1996
W.Bro. M.F. ALLEN.	1997 - 1998
W.Bro. H.T.J. CANE, PPJGW.	1999 - 2008
W.Bro. R.W. GRAY, PPGReg.	2009 - Date

A.D.C.

W Bro. J W J. SAMELS, LGR.	1923 - 1923
Bro. W. VAUGHN.	1924 - 1924
Bro. W. SKEET.	1925 - 1926
Bro. J.W. SCOTT.	1927 - 1927
Bro. H. FARRELL.	1928 - 1928
Bro. H. GARE.	1929 - 1929
Bro. F G. MITCHAM.	1930 - 1930
Bro. W. DODGE.	1931 - 1931
Bro. H.C. CORBIN.	1932 - 1932
Bro. A. SHORTER.	1933 - 1933
W.Bro. J.W.J. SAMELS, LGR.	1934 - 1937
W.Bro. E.E. MILLS, LGR.	1938 - 1939
W.Bro. A. ALLUM, LR.	1940 - 1940
W.Bro. L.T. YATES, PAGStd.B.	1941 - 1941
W.Bro. H.F. GARE, LGR.	1942 - 1945
W.Bro. G S. GOOD.	1946 - 1946
W.Bro. A.T PRATT.	1947 - 1947
W.Bro. R.F CARTER.	1948 - 1955
W.Bro. W. WYATT.	1956 - 1959
W.Bro. E.R. SMITH.	1960 -1963
W.Bro. J.E.B. POWELL.	1964 - 1965
W.Bro. S.A.G. MICHAUX.	1966 - 1969
W.Bro. A.J. SHORTER, D.F.C.	1970 - 1970
W.Bro. A.J.L. ALLUM.	1971 - 1972
W.Bro. D.W. BIRD.	1973 - 1974
W.Bro. C.F. SANDY.	1975 - 1983
W.Bro. A.C. HILL.	1984 - 1984
W.Bro. E.J. BARKER PPAG Supt.Wks.	1985 - 1988
W.Bro. J.M. FOSTER, PPAGDC.	1989 - 1989
W.Bro. S.W.A. PETTITT Prov.G.Stwd.	1990 - 1992
W.Bro. R.W. GRAY, PPAG.Reg.	1993 - 1993
W.Bro. J.M. FOSTER, PPAGDC.	1994 - 1996
W.Bro. N.E. NEWSON, PPGStdB.	1997 - 1998
W.Bro. P.J. HENLEY, PPGSwdB.	1999 - 2001
W.Bro. I.M. GATLAND, PPSGD.	2002 - 2011
W.Bro. R.M. GOSWELL, PPSGD.	2012 - 2015
W.Bro. K.M. BEATTIE, PPDepGReg.	2016 - 2016
W.Bro. I.R. WILSON, PPSGD.	2017 - 2020
W.Bro. P.J. NOKE, ProvGStwd	2021 - Date

CHARITY STEWARDS

W.Bro. J. HUGHES. 1976 - 1976
W.Bro. S.F. SMITH. 1977 - 1981
W.Bro. L. PINFOLD, ProvGStwd. 1982 - 1989
W.Bro. P.E. JONES, PPDepGSwdB. 1990 - 1996
W.Bro. G. GATLAND, PPGSwdB. 1997 - 2007
W.Bro. P.M. KERWELL, PPGReg. 2007 - 2008
W.Bro. G.C. GATLAND, PPGSwdB. 2009 - 2015
W.Bro. I.M. GATLAND, PPSGD. 2016 - 2019
W.Bro. T.J. NELL. 2020 - Date

ORGANIST

Bro. C.W. WATSON. 1923 - 1923
(W.Bro. A.C. FIGG of WOLSEY LODGE No. 1656 also acted as Organist in 1923.)
Bro. W. MICHAUX. 1924 - 1926
Bro. C. GABBINS. 1927 - 1932
Bro. W. MICHAUX. 1933 - 1947
Bro. S.A.G. MICHAUX. 1948 - 1949
Bro. G.T. HALL (Acting). 1950 - 1975
W.Bro. E.J. FOSKER (Acting). 1976 - 1983
W.Bro. L. LIPSCOMBE, PPAGDC (Acting). 1984 - 2004
W.Bro. N. ANTLIFF, PPGStwd. 2005 - 2012
W.Bro. K. KHAN (Guest). 2013 - 2016
W.Bro. C. JOHNSON, PPJGD (Guest). 2017 - Date

TYLER

W.Bro. H. BARTON, PM. 1923 - 1933
Bro. F.W. GARE. 1933 - 1947
Bro. J. RITCHIE. 1947 - 1961
W.Bro. J.D. LITTLEJOHN. 1961 - 1965
W.Bro. G.S. EVENS. 1966 - 1969
W.Bro. H.G. CLARK, PPGD. 1970 - 1976
W.Bro. HATCHER (Acting). 1977-
W.Bro. R. WADHAM, PPAGDC. Oct. 1977 - 1983
W.Bro. S.J. THORPE, PPAGDC. 1984 - 1990, 1988 - 1996
W.Bro. G.R.F. LANGLEY, PPGStd.B. 1991 - 1993
W.Bro. G. GATLAND (Acting). 1994 - 1994
W.Bro. M. VARNEY, PPAGDC, LGR. 1994 - 2003
W.Bro. V. PARKER, PPGStwd. 2004 - 2010
W.Bro. C. CHANDLER, PPSGD 2011 - Date

VISITING RECORD

Year	Meetings	Visitors	Year	Meetings	Visitors	Year	Meetings	Visitors	Year	Meetings	Visitors
1923	6	77	1948	5	84	1973	5	146	1998	5	86
1924	7	82	1949	5	101	1974	5	98	1999	5	58
1925	6	112	1950	5	78	1975	5	100	2000	5	48
1926	6	85	1951	5	87	1976	5	101	2001	5	68
1927	6	75	1952	5	97	1977	5	73	2002	5	56
1928	5	93	1953	5	78	1978	5	94	2003	5	43
1929	8	55	1954	5	98	1979	5	88	2004	5	48
1930	5	80	1955	5	54	1980	5	42	2005	5	44
1931	5	9	1956	5	65	1981	5	44	2006	5	78
1932	6	80	1957	5	57	1982	5	60	2007	5	83
1933	5	54	1958	5	51	1983	5	51	2008	5	65
1934	5	65	1959	5	51	1984	5	55	2009	5	99
1935	5	75	1960	5	59	1985	5	52	2010	4	50
1936	5	44	1961	5	51	1986	5	29	2011	5	65
1937	5	47	1962	5	49	1987	5	47	2012	5	75
1938	6	49	1963	5	60	1988	5	67	2013	5	70
1939	4	31	1964	5	58	1989	5	83	2014	5	46
1940	2	12	1965	5	72	1990	5	80	2015	5	44
1941	6	25	1966	5	69	1991	5	81	2016	5	51
1942	5	46	1967	5	103	1992	5	80	2017	5	56
1943	5	46	1968	5	115	1993	5	51	2018	5	45
1944	5	60	1969	5	104	1994	5	48	2019	5	53
1945	6	82	1970	5	119	1995	5	64	2020	3*	15
1946	5	83	1971	5	149	1996	5	56	2021	2	14
1947	5	69	1972	5	114	1997	5	42	2022	3	22

(including October meeting)

* Included one
'Rule of Six' meeting

THE PETERSHAM LODGE No. 4514

FACTS

Founders = 19.

Initiates = 206.

Joining members = 21.

First 25 years: from 19/5/23 to 10/4/48 = 92 Initiates + 4 Joining Members.

Second 25 years: from 9/10/48 to 13/1/73 = 71 Initiates + 4 Joining Members.

Third 25 years: from 12/1/74 to 8/11/97 = 43 Initiates + 13 Joining Members.

Fourth 25 years: from 10/1/1998 to date (October 2022) = 26 Initiates + 10 Joining Members & 1 Re-Joining Member

From the 206 Initiates, 200 have so far have been made Master Masons in Petersham Lodge, Bro. Leonard Walter Bennett being Passed and Raised in a Scottish Lodge in Persia,? in l928/9

From the 19 Founders 10 became Past Masters of Petersham.

From the 206 Initiates 56 so far have become Past Masters, with 3 going in the chair twice.

From the 21 Joining Members 4 so far have become Past Masters, with W.Bro. Stan Pettitt going through the chair two years running.

Petersham's youngest Initiate is shared by Bro. Roy Frank Carter, who was 20 yrs & 10 months old when he was initiated by special dispensation on 14/11/25, and went on to become W.M. in 1942, and Bro. Ernest Michaux, initiated 9/11/35 also at 20 yrs 10 months old.

Three brethren share the honour of being the oldest initiated in the lodge, all being 62 yrs young at the time. Bro. Frederick Read, (who was initiated with his son 28yrs old) 14/1/33; Bro. John Wrangle Hetherinton initiated 13/10/79 who sadly passed to the Grand Lodge above in Sept. 80 before he could be Passed & Raised; Bro. Gulam Abbas Sheikh (62 Years), Initiated 11/11/2017, Died 22/1/2020 having achieved Master Mason but before being presented with Grand Lodge Certificate.

Since the 1st joining member Bro. William Bertie Penfold on 11/10/24 the oldest joining member so far was W.Bro. Frank Charles Sadler P.P.G.Stwd, aged 76 on 9/1/93, who resigned 31/12/96. The previous oldest joining member, & sadly missed, was W.Bro. Ernest George Luke aged 73 when joining in 26/4/69, the senior member of Petersham's last three generation family members, who sadly passed to the Grand Lodge above 16/6/91.

Not including the Founders, the lodge has had, at time of initiation:-

35 members aged between 21 - 29
61 members aged between 30 - 39.
83 members aged between 40 - 49.
27 members aged between 50 - 59.
8 members aged 60 and upwards
with 13 no age recorded in the Record Book.

FACTS

1998 - DATE (OCTOBER 2022)

Ages of Initiates at time of Initiation

21-29	8
30-39	6
40-49	4
50-59	6
Over 60	2

Number of Initiates that progressed to WM - 6

Number that did not progress - 6

Number of Joining Members that progressed to WM - 4

Number that did not progress - 3

Number of Initiates that progressed to Master Mason - 18

Number that did not progress - 3

Initiates that went through the Chair twice - 7

N.Newson 1978 & 2003 / G.Gatland 1990 &20 07 / G. Fiamingo 2000 & 2006 /

P.Kerswell 2004 & 2005

R.Goswell 2002 & 2008 / P.Henley 1996 & 2016 / S.Gordon 2020 & 2021

Joining Members that went through the Chair twice - 3

S.J.Luke 1989 & 2011 / T.Harvey 2009 & 2010 / I. Wilson 2014 & 2022



Past Masters' Jewels



Masters Chair and Collar



Original Masters Collar



Original Masters Collar with First Worshipful Masters' Names

Province of Surrey

Petersham Lodge No. 4514

DEDICATION OF THE BANNER

Saturday 18th April, 1998

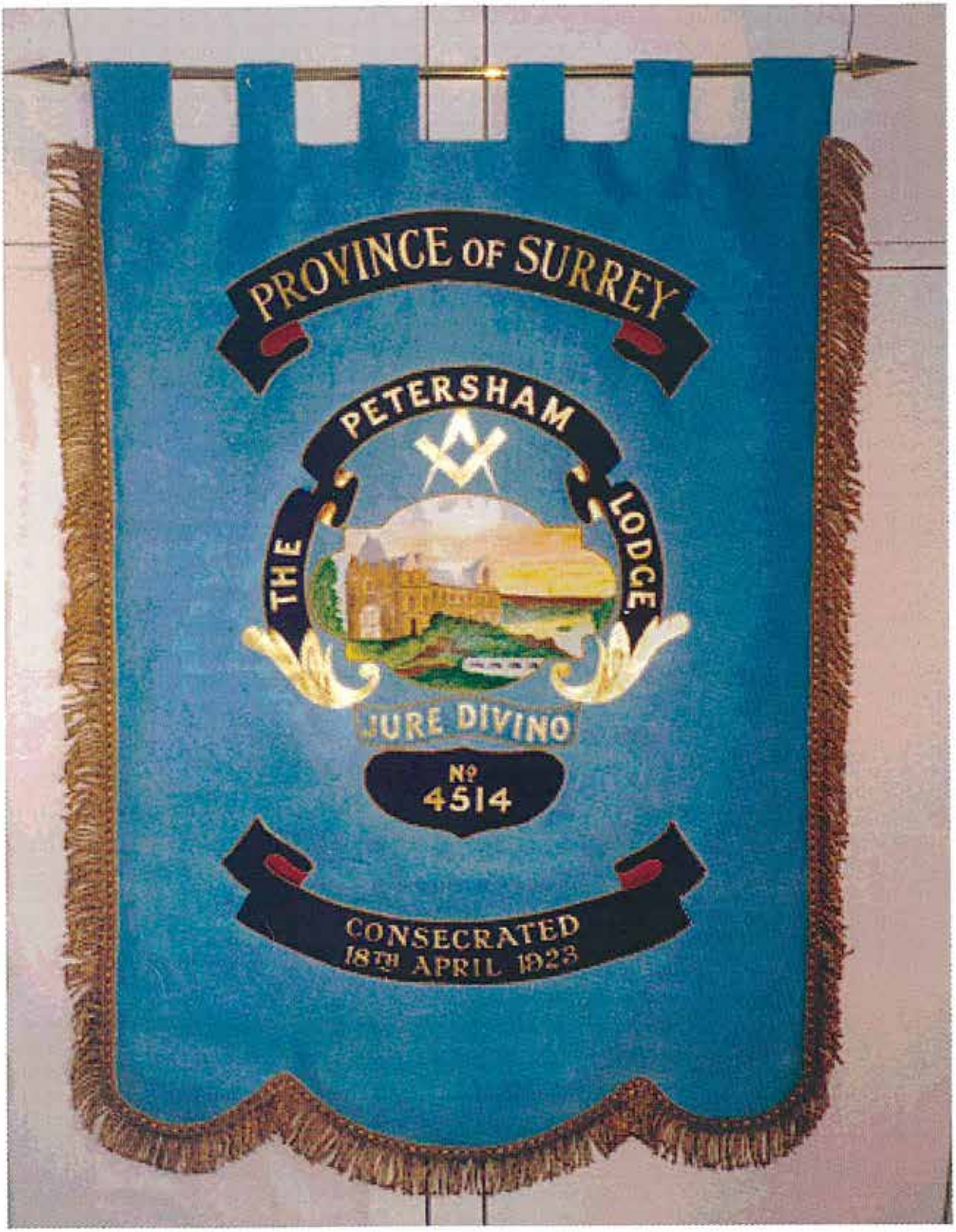
Dedicating Officer:
W. Bro. P.R. SWINNERTON, PSGD
Assistant Provincial Grand Master

Assisted by:
W. Bro. D. HEATLEY, PJGD
as Chaplain

W.Bro. D.A. BULL, PPSGW
as Senior Warden

W.Bro. G.B. ARNSBY, PPJGW
as Junior Warden

W.Bro. W.G. PAYNE,
Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
as Director of Ceremonies



The Petersham Lodge banner, 1998


TRUTH HONOUR AND VIRTUE