

Sir George Clark Memorial Lodge No 669 Newsletter

Issue 2, June 2012

The next meeting of Lodge 669 will be held in Dublin, at the Grand Lodge of Ireland, 17 Molesworth Street, on Saturday, the 22nd September 2012, at 2:30pm.



The plan is to travel to Dublin together by train, departing from Central Station, Belfast at 10.35 am, on a special daytrip fare, returning from Dublin on the 7:00pm train which arrives back in Belfast at 9:15pm.

Everyone is invited to come along on our trip to Dublin: Lodge Brethren, their family, children, and friends, can all have a tour of the Grand Lodge building at 1:30pm, and at 2.30 pm the Lodge Brethren and Masonic visitors will have their meeting in the Grand Lodge Temple.

Grafton Street shopping is close by, as is Buswells Hotel across the street, for those not attending our meeting.

Costs for the day can be kept to minimum by bringing your own food and drink for the train.

On a previous occasion in April 2006, the W. Master: W. Bro. Willie Cardwell and the Brethren of Lodge 669 travelled to Dublin with wives and family, for a great day out. We travelled by train from Belfast, enjoying "a hearty breakfast" on the way, which the brethren had brought with them. At Molesworth Street, in Dublin, we had an interesting and informative tour of the beautiful Grand Lodge building, and then held our own Lodge 669 meeting, while the ladies went shopping in nearby Grafton Street. We all met up again in Buswells Hotel, directly opposite the Grand Lodge for some refreshment, before heading back to the station for our train home.



Don't miss this opportunity to visit Grand Lodge. Contact the Lodge Secretary today, to book your place for our Saturday 22nd September 2012 tour, and Lodge meeting. Secretary@lodge669ic.org Tel: (028) 908 69353

Dates for Your Diary:

Saturday 18th August: "A Barrio Fiesta for a cause.." an afternoon with our Filipino Brethren and their families, will be held at Lisburn Masonic Hall, Belsize Rd, Lisburn from 2.00pm – till late. Everyone is invited to come along with their families and enjoy Filipino delicacies and have a fun afternoon.

Friday 12th October: Ladies Night Dinner Dance at Wellington Park Hotel, 21 Malone Road, Belfast. Cost is £28.00 per person. **Book Now** with a £10 deposit to the Treasurer, or Secretary Free parking, and a special rate of £40pp/B&B – Tel: 028 9038 1111 to book a room. Ref: Lamont Party Brethren are invited to donate raffle prizes, and all proceeds of the event will be donated to: The Belfast Masonic Charity Fund which is the oldest existing Masonic Charity under the Irish Constitution of Freemasonry.

Saturday 1st December: Christmas Carols at Arthur Square, starting 6:00pm. All welcome

Contact the Secretary: W. Bro. Ivor McAllister to order your 2013 Masonic Diary

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee



The new official image of: Her Majesty the Queen.

Picture by kind permission of W. Bro. Mike O'Keefe, Custodian of the Official Royal Image Library for HM The Queen and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh
www.royalimages.co.uk

To mark 60 years of The Queen's reign her Diamond Jubilee will take place in 2012. The celebrations will centre around an extended weekend in 2012 on 2nd - 5th June. The Queen came to the throne on 6 February 1952 and her coronation took place on 2nd June 1953. Her Majesty celebrated her Silver Jubilee (25 years) in 1977 and her Golden Jubilee (50 years) in 2002.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will be visiting England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland in 2012 to mark Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

Elizabeth II (Elizabeth Alexandra Mary); born 21 April 1926 is the constitutional monarch of the United Kingdom, and of all the sovereign states known as the Commonwealth realms, and head of the 54 member Commonwealth of Nations.

On Wednesday, 6 February 1952, Princess Elizabeth received the news of her father's death and her own accession to the throne, while staying in a remote part of Kenya. The tour had to be abandoned, and the young Princess flew back to Britain as Queen. She was greeted by Prime Minister Winston Churchill and other officials at the airport.

Her Coronation took place in Westminster Abbey on the 2nd June 1953. It was a solemn ceremony conducted by Dr Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury. Crowds of people viewed the procession all along the route, despite heavy rain. The ceremony was also broadcast on radio around the world and, at The Queen's request, on television for the first time. Television brought home to hundreds of thousands of people around the Commonwealth the splendour and significance of the Coronation in a way never before possible. The Coronation was followed by drives through every part of London, a review of the fleet at Spithead, and visits to Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Bro. Alexis Lambert attended an **Information & Fellowship Day**, hosted by PGL Antrim, on Saturday 19th May 2012, at Steeple Road Church Hall in Antrim.

The event was advertised as a morning of information and good fellowship.

Presentations included: History of Freemasonry, Rosemary Street update, Getting and retaining members, Data Protection Act and Lodges, Charity information, Launch of a Grand Lodge book for prospective members.

Bro. Alexis reports: The Masonic gathering took place on Saturday May 19th 2012 at Antrim's Presbyterian Church. Our Provincial Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Dennis Millen was attending this half-day, dedicated to the different sides of the Irish Freemasonry.

Tea and coffee were kindly served by the Church staff.

Brethren from different Lodges were there and the event was apparently well-attended.

During the morning, several speakers gave presentations, including an extensive information on the different charities (Masonic and Non Masonic), recruitment and a brief history of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, commencing with the builders who erected the Medieval Cathedrals in Europe and its official foundation in the early 1720s', shortly after the Grand Lodge of England and prior to the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

In an adjacent room several stands displayed historical documents, books, Masonic jewels, medals and badges from various Lodges, some from the Grand Lodge of England.

Attending Brethren were encouraged to mingle and ask questions on Freemasonry.

Free informative brochures were also on display, such as "An Initial Guide to Freemasonry in Ireland", a very useful brochure for prospective Masons as well as for neophytes in the Order.

Indeed, it includes a diagram of Lodge layout and names some famous Freemasons such as John Wayne, Nat King Cole, Oscar Wilde, Daniel O'Connell, W A Mozart, among others - Louis Armstrong, Stan Laurel, cartoonist Hergé (father of Tintin), Duke Ellington, Pink Floyd members, Charles Lindbergh, La Fayette or André Citroën (French industrial who founded the Citroën car brand, the two chevrons being the Compass and the Square) can be added to this long list.

Our Titanic Weekend charity events are reported in the June edition of the Grand Lodge News.

Click on the address to open: www.irish-freemasons.org/GLN_pdf_Files/GLI_News_06_12.pdf

Scams: Please be aware of a current telephone scam. The person involved appears to have a lot of information relating to Masonry, i.e. Lodge numbers, names etc, and is therefore coming across as very genuine. Disregard any appeals for cash, made over the telephone, in relation to a distressed Brother trying to obtain a visa for heading to a funeral in Ireland.

Under no circumstances should you give out any bank details or credit card number.

Another **SCAM** this time in e-mail format, supposedly originating from the Grand Lodge of England: and in particular from "Fidelity 500" offering investors 'a minimum of 2% per month, every month'. This is another **SCAM**. It looks too good to be true and guess what -- yes it's a **SCAM**

For all Lodge 669 Meeting Dates in 2012: <http://www.lodge669ic.org/meetings.htm>

If you are a Lodge 669 member, we expect to see you at our meetings.

Having joined our Lodge, we are keen to see you participate in its activities.

As a visitor, we look forward to welcoming you to one - or more, of our meetings.

Lodge 669 Website: <http://www.lodge669ic.org>

Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim Website: <http://www.pglantrim.org>

Grand Lodge of Ireland Website: <http://www.irish-freemasons.org>

The Mother-Lodge By Bro. Rudyard Kipling 1865 – 1936

Lodge of Hope and Perseverance, No. 782, E.C., Lahore, Punjab, India (now Pakistan)

There was Rundle, Station Master, An' Beazeley of the Rail,
An' 'Ackman, Commissariat, An' Donkin' o' the Jail;
An' Blake, Conductor-Sargent, Our Master twice was 'e,
With 'im that kept the Europe-shop, Old Framjee Eduljee.

Outside – "Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!"
Inside – "Brother", an' it doesn't do no 'arm.
We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,
An' I was Junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!

We'd Bola Nath, Accountant, An' Saul the Aden Jew,
An' Din Mohammed, draughtsman Of the Survey Office too;
There was Babu Chuckerbutty, An' Amir Singh the Sikh,
An' Castro from the fittin'-sheds, The Roman Catholick!

We 'l't good regalia, An' our Lodge was old an' bare,
But we knew the Ancient Landmarks, An' we kep' 'em to a hair;
An' lookin' on it backwards It often strikes me thus,
There ain't such things as infidels, Excep', per'aps, it's us.

For monthly, after Labour, We'd all sit down and smoke
(We dursn't give no banquits, Lest a Brother's caste were broke),
An' man on man got talkin' Religion an' the rest,
An' every man comparin' Of the God 'e knew the best.

So man on man got talkin', An' not a Brother stirred
Till mornin' waked the parrots An' that dam' brain-fever-bird;
We'd say 'twas 'ighly curious, An' we'd all ride 'ome to bed,
With Mo'ammed, God, an' Shiva Changin' pickets in our 'ead.

Full oft on Guv'ment service This rovin' foot 'ath pressed,
An' bore fraternal greetin's To the Lodges east an' west,
Accordin' as commanded From Kohat to Singapore,
But I wish that I might see them In my Mother-Lodge once more!

I wish that I might see them, My Brethren black an' brown,
With the trichies smellin' pleasant An' the hog-darn passin' down;
An' the old khansamah snorin' On the bottle-khana floor,
Like a Master in good standing With my Mother-Lodge once more!

Outside – "Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!"
Inside – "Brother", an' it doesn't do no 'arm.
We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,
An' I was Junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!

Trichies – a type of cigar, *hog-darn* – a cigar-lighter, *khansamah* – a Butler, *bottle-khana* – a pantry.

Please send items and pictures for inclusion in the Newsletter by email to: Secretary@lodge669ic.org