

# The Square and Compasses.

A newsletter for the Grand Lodge of South Africa. No. 77 June 2018



Most Worshipful Brother David Duncan OSM.

## What can we tell them?

Benjamin Franklin, in the opinion of many, has been the most accomplished American that has ever lived. He was a master of the art in many spheres; a signatory on both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America, as well as an eminent Freemason. He is attributed with the adage; *"tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I will learn"*.

Freemasonry is all about involvement. This is how we convey an understanding of our principles and tenets to our Brethren. Our ritual is designed to be fully participative in its practice and the more you practice, the more involved you become.

One of the joys of Freemasonry is sharing. The practice of Brotherly Love extends way out of the Lodge and should be part of our everyday life in civil society. This does not mean that we should give away everything that we have; but the sharing of a kind word and a shoulder to cry on costs us nothing materially and yet can make a vast difference in the life of someone less fortunate than ourselves.

I would include, probably somewhat arrogantly, that a good man with all of the attributes, but who has not yet become a Freemason, is indeed less fortunate than ourselves. We owe every *"free man of good repute"* the opportunity to join us and be facilitated in the process of developing and refining his character according to the principles of our ancient and honourable Order.

Successful Lodges are active Lodges. They are able to motivate their members by involving the Brethren in the art of giving. We do this every time we bring a new Brother into the Order. He is the rough stone and we need to excite and encourage him to start his work on squaring it. Notice Brethren; *his work!* We cannot do it for him, we can only assist and guide him by the giving of ourselves in an environment that is caring, facilitating and always positive.

The promotion of this environment in our Lodges is the responsible of all of the members. Too many expect the Master to do this alone - an impossible task. Remember, the Master is a Brother just like the rest of us. He has come through the Offices in the Lodge, in which he should have developed his skills by involvement. This implies that he was involved at every stage. Has he therefore not got the right to expect his Brethren to show the same commitment, so that they can assist him to develop the ambiance of the Lodge?

In this way, by the synergy of a team effort, the Lodge will create the facilitating environment in which every Brother will prosper emotionally.

So; what can you tell members of civil society? What can we share with a potential Candidate?

Just about anything they want to know, with the exception of that which will destroy the *"WOW"* experience of their initiation.

**MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM  
Grand Master**

## Grand Master's Jacaranda FM Interview

On 23<sup>rd</sup> May MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM, along with the Chairman of our Public Relations Committee, RW Bro Alan van der Vyver, spent 30 minutes on Jacaranda FM being interviewed by Rian van Heerden about what it really means to be a Freemason.

They were given the opportunity to touch on some of the rich history of our organisation, to talk about such often controversial issues as the accusation that we are a "secret society" or why we are a male only organisation, and to dispel some of the outrageous suggestions such as Freemasonry being directly linked to the Illuminati. Overall, the interview was both a positive and constructive one and the general reaction of the public was extremely encouraging.

Jacaranda Radio attracts some 5 million listeners and this very successful and frank interview really does highlight modern Freemasonry's more open approach.

To listen to the interview, access these 2 links:

[Jacaranda Interview part 1](#)

[Jacaranda Interview part 2](#)

## New Young Masters Installed

Installing a new Worshipful Master is always a very special event, but when the new Master is taking the Chair for the first time, the event is an even more special one. In the recent past we have seen several young, vibrant Brothers taking the Chair and feel more than encouraged by this. All of them are highly committed and each offers something special.



*Wor Bros Scotty Lourens and Evangelos Doucas with the Grand Master, MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM*

Wor Bro Skottowe Lourens (Westerford) is an impressive ritualist and heads up Southern Division's Ritual Excellence Program. He is a Master Ritualist who is determined to ensure that his Brethren benefit from their quality experiences – and meaningful and stimulating ritual is just one exemplification.

Wor Bro Evangelos Doucas, the Deputy PGM, performed the Installation ceremony, and RW Bro John Smith OSM the Board of Installed Masters.

Wor Bro Robert Thomsen has been installed as the new Master of Star of the West in Klerksdorp. He is another real contributor and, despite his youth, is already the Secretary of Central Division.

The Installation, including the Board of Installed Masters, was very well performed by Wor Bro Godfrey Place. The PGL delegation was headed by Wor Bro George Potgieter while Grand Lodge was led by the Assistant Grand Master RW Bro Alan van der Vyver.



Wor Bro Donovan Adler was installed as the new Master of Helderberg at the Strand Temple. He and his team are looking to fill the void left by the unexpected passing of RW Bro Ray Supra a few months ago.



*Wor Bro Jan Venter, MW Bro Geoff Edwards OSM, Wor Bros Donovan Adler, Dennis Benadie, Dawie van Rooyen*

The Installation was most competently performed by Wor Bro Dennis Benadie, while Wor Bro Dawie van

Rooyen attended to the Board of Installed Masters. The immediate Past Grand Master, MW Bro Geoff Edwards OSM, led the Grand Lodge delegation and he was supported by 7 Grand Lodge Officers.

## Eastern Division's new PGM is Installed

After several successful months in an acting capacity, on Saturday 5th May, RW Bro Basil de Kock was installed by the Grand Master as the new Provincial Grand Master of the Eastern Division. As a Rugby match interfered with our scheduled arrangements, the event took place in Pietermaritzburg at the Hayfields Temple. The AGM and Installation were well supported by both our own and the Sister Constitutions and the weekend proved to be a most memorable one.



*MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM with RW Bro Basil de Kock*

In forming his new team, RW Bro Basil de Kock promoted Wor Bro Grant Futter to Deputy PGM and appointed Wor Bros Johan van der Merwe and Antonie van Rooyen as the Assistant PGMs. All are highly regarded Freemasons and seem likely to do very well.



*Wor Bro Johan van der Merwe (APGM), MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM, RW Bro Basil de Kock (PGM), Wor Bro Grant Futter (DPGM), Wor Bro Antonie van Rooyen (APGM)*

Eastern Division prides itself on the close fraternal relationships between the 4 Constitutions and this was well demonstrated by the support and participation of the English, Irish and Scottish Brethren. Their presence made a very real difference to an already successful day.



*RW Bro Basil de Kock with the Sister Constitution Brethren*



*The AASR of South Africa's 33<sup>rd</sup> degree Brethren, including the newly crowned members and our overseas visitors*

### **AASR Install 5 new 33<sup>rd</sup> degree Brethren**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May saw the AASR for South Africa crown 5 Brethren as 33<sup>rd</sup> degree members. The event took place in the Phiroze Gorralla Temple, which is in the de Goede Hoop complex in Cape Town. The Brethren were M Ill Bro Brandon Topham and Ill Bros Mahmoud Patel, Frans Appelgryn, Fred Meiring and Vic Tabanelli. The Sovereign Grand Commander performed the ceremony, assisted by the Executive.



*MP Bro Boet du Plessis, M Ill Bro Brandon Topham, Ill Bros Vic Tabanelli, Mahmoud Patel, Fred Meiring, Frans Appelgryn*

The occasion was further enhanced by the presence of our international visitors, who were given the honour of assisting with the investiture of our new Brethren. They participated throughout the weekend and really made a very significant difference to its overall success.



*Arturo de Hoyos (USA), Hans Heijman (Netherlands), Alessi Wilson (Togo), Peter Fahy (Zimbabwe)*

### **AASR Annual Meeting a major success**

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May saw the AASR of South Africa hold its Annual Meeting in the historic de Goede Hoop Temple. The event was well supported and included a most interesting address by leading international AASR authority, MP Bro Arturo de Hoyos (USA - Southern Jurisdiction). It also provided our Sovereign Grand Commander, MP Bro Boet du Plessis, with the opportunity to formally launch our Education program.

In the afternoon, Chapter de Goede Hoop passed some 25 Brethren through the Elu degree and even our overseas visitors were suitably impressed.



*Dave Duncan, Hans Heijman, Arturo de Hoyos, MP Bro Boet du Plessis, Alessi Wilson*

The evening's banquet was a most enjoyable affair with resident Caterer, Wor Bro Llew Lloyd-Jones, making sure that everybody present was more than satisfied. Various speeches and awards were made and the ambience was very special.



### **“What is Freemasonry?” another Success!**

Another memorable WiF event was held at the Parktown Temple. A fuller report with pictures to be included in July but, as a starter, access the link below.

**What is Freemasonry?**

If you ever have any input for Square & Compasses, please email it to [secretary@grandlodge.co.za](mailto:secretary@grandlodge.co.za)

## REP – Promoting a Quality Experience

One of the fundamental philosophies applied by our Grand Lodge is that “every candidate is entitled to a Quality Experience”. A key component of this experience revolves around the manner in which the ritual workings are performed. With this in mind, we introduced the Ritual Excellence Program so that our Brethren could test their ritual progress and be recognised for their achievements.

Over the past 2 or 3 years we really have made significant progress on the project and our 2 leaders, RW Bros Alan van der Vyver and Tommy Hardiman, have both qualified as Grand Ritualists – the highest attainable level of achievement recognition.



*RW Bro Tommy Hardiman, Bro Gideon Joubert, Wor Bro Seppi Ricci (WM of de Goede Trouw)*

RW Bro Tommy Hardiman’s successful attempt was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May when he performed the initiation of Bro Gideon Joubert on behalf of de Goede Trouw.

As from this issue we will, on a regular basis, update you on the REP progress being made by our Brethren, drawing particular attention to successes.

### REP Achievements Table as at end May:

**Grand Ritualist:** A van der Vyver, T Hardiman.

**Master Ritualist:** S Lourens.

**Senior Ritualist:** S Nash, R Yosimbom.

**Ritualist:** G Ngouessy-Guibinga, W Welthagen, F Kitching, E Ejimadu

**Others: 5 or more points:** Northern - D Bailes (7), C Cornelius (6), Z Fourie (5), A Smith (7), J Turley (10), G Thomas (15), W Wepener (8), R Beeton (7), S Mulder (6), B Dunckers (9), D Kotze (6), R Thomsen (16), M Mostert (15), B Topham (15), N Steyn (7), A Katumbay (12), P Booth (10), L van der Schyff (6), V Gautam (8), R Coenen (9), D Markantonis (6), S Mabilia (6), A Kabamba (6), H Kloppe (6).

Southern – J Batchi (7), J Bossenge-Nkoy (16), D Lombard (10), W de Goede (16).

Eastern Cape – K Hutton (21), P West (5), D Nienaber (7).

Ritual Excellence, Brethren, is essential if we are going to ensure that we and all those affected by us are going to get the most out of our Masonic experience. If you are not already participating, contact your local PGL Secretary and ask him how you can get yourself started on your REP journey.

## Grand Master seeks Financial Advisers!



With the move towards centralised FNB accounts and Grand Lodge assisting the Lodges with their financial management, the Grand Master is establishing a committee of Investment specialists to work with the Grand Treasurer in providing meaningful advice in terms of optimising our various investments. If you feel that you can assist, please email your credentials to the Grand Secretary at [secretary@grandlodge.co.za](mailto:secretary@grandlodge.co.za)

## Almoner's Corner

Wor Bro Clive Daniels (Perseverance) recently had his son tragically murdered in a botched ransom attempt in Nigeria. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Clive and Gloria and their family.

Sincere condolences to Wor Bro Wayne Hunt (Star of the East) whose wife, Amanda, passed away over the weekend after battling cancer. May the memories of good times shared help to sustain you and your family.

Wor Bro Piet van Rooyen (Morgenster) has also been taken to the Eternal East. Our condolences are extended to his family at this very difficult time.

Van der Stel members, VW Bro Johan Haasbroek and Wor Bro Corrie Grobelaar, continue to battle against a stroke and cancer respectively. May their wives and family have the strength to support them as they face the challenges that lie ahead.

To all the Brethren and their loved ones who have suffered bereavement or are battling against illness, please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

If anything is known about a Brother in distress, please phone RW Bro Neville Klein OSM at 071 4148869 or send him an email to [nevilleklein44@gmail.com](mailto:nevilleklein44@gmail.com)

## GRAND LODGE REGALIA and OTHER ITEMS

*“Wear them with pride”.*

These items of the Grand Lodge of South Africa regalia are available from the Grand Lodge Office.

The price of the tie is R100.  
The cufflinks cost R140.



Both items are only available whilst the current stocks last.

The Grand Lodge also has some hard cover Lodge Attendance Registers with 300 pages. Price: R450.

The latest revised rituals in the A5 and larger print are available in Afrikaans and English from Grand Lodge at a price of R40 each.