

# The Square and Compasses.

A newsletter for the Grand Lodge of South Africa. No. 88 May 2019



Most Worshipful Brother David Duncan OSM.

## The Moral of the Story

An incident which occurred recently within the Order reminded me of a learning experience that I once went through.

*A sales rep, an administration clerk, and the manager are walking to lunch when they find an antique oil lamp. They rub it and a Genie comes out. The Genie says, "I'll give each of you just one wish."*

*"Me first! Me first!" says the admin clerk. "I want to be in the Bahamas, driving a speedboat, without a care in the world." Poof! She's gone.*

*"Me next! Me next!" says the sales rep. "I want to be in Hawaii, relaxing on the beach with my personal masseuse, an endless supply of Pina Colodas, and the love of my life." Poof! He's gone.*

*"OK, you're up," the Genie says to the manager.*

*The Manager says, "I want those two clowns back in the office after lunch."*

*The Moral of the story is: Always let your boss have the first say!*

I hope that the above little story made you chuckle, but how often do we speak without understanding the consequences of what we have said? How often do we say the first thing that comes into our heads, only to find out later that we have not achieved what we truly wanted because it did not fit into the bigger picture.

We all have a "Boss" and our ritual refers to ours in various ways. In one of those ways, the "Boss" is described as a confidant and guide. Someone from whom we can always expect to get wise advice.

However; you will not get this advice if you do not ask for it. You will not be able to make the most appropriate decision if you do not give yourself the time to consider the implications of the advice received.

One of the better-known quotes by Maya Angelou is: *"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."*

Careless talk and selfish sentiment causes most of the disharmony in a Lodge. The bigger picture has to be that the Lodge should be filled with Brotherly Love; with no conflict and nothing to make one feel unhappy. Remember, to most, it is a place of refuge from the trials and tribulations of everyday life. If we all consider the bigger picture; not only will our Lodges be happier places, we will find that that the happiness enjoyed will form a foundation for our everyday lives. Positive interactions will replace suspicion and antagonism. We will be liked, not tolerated.

Brethren; I exhort you to study our rituals to uncover the deeper wisdom contained therein. Practically all of it relates to the manner in which you conduct yourself in relation to others.

If you are competitive and desire recognition and, let's face it, at certain times of our life we all are, then this recognition for achievement can be found in a benign way through such initiatives as the Ritual Excellence Program. (REP). The REP is not intended to be a race. It is a personal challenge intended to promote in you, the Masonic knowledge that will help you develop the life skills and confidence that will assist you in making a success of your personal relationships and your chosen avocation.

**MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM  
Grand Master**

## Eastern Division Brother enjoys REP Success

The Eastern Division AGM saw Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Basil de Kock, taking the opportunity to present Wor Bro Bruce Lamprecht (First United) with a hard earned Ritualist pin. This is a first for the Division and a fine example for our smaller Divisions.



RW Bro Tommy Hardiman, RW Bro Basil de Kock, Wor Bro Bruce Lamprecht, MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM



*Seen at the Eastern AGM are the GM, MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM (L5), PGM RW Bro Basil de Kock (L6) and various representatives of Grand Lodge, Provincial Grand Lodge, Sister Constitutions and our Lodges.*

### **Eastern Division close an excellent Year**

The weekend of Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May was an extremely busy one for Eastern Division. There were a number of Masonic events, all of which took place at the NMR Temple and each of which proved a great success in its own right.

On Friday evening the Division hosted a "What is Freemasonry?" presentation for a number of profane visitors, wives and partners. RW Bro Tommy Hardiman was in the chair and demonstrated just why he has the rare distinction of holding a Grand Ritualist jewel. He was well supported by Brethren from the various GLSA regions. Various questions were raised and these were addressed by the senior Brethren present. The feedback was generally positive and all present agreed that it was a very worthwhile evening.



Saturday afternoon saw us at the Eastern Division AGM and everybody was suitably impressed by the performance of RW Bro Basil de Kock and his team.

The Division has its challenges, but they are being handled most effectively and you could not help but feel that the leaders were well in control and that, judging by the ambience, for the most part the Brethren were thoroughly enjoying their Freemasonry.

During the extremely well run meeting, the PGM installed Wor Bro Johan van der Merwe as his Deputy and Wor Bro Antonie van Rooyen as Assistant PGM.

Right after the AGM we had the Isandlwana Installation with Wor Bro Johan van der Merwe being reinstalled as the Master. In this picture, MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM, RW Bro Vic Mühlenbeck and the WM are seen holding the Lodge's new banner produced by Bro Anthony Blake (2R). Once again, the working was of an excellent standard.



Finally, the Brethren relaxed at a much enjoyed formal festive board, embellished with some suitably wise words from our Grand Master. As they made their way back to their various homes, all agreed that it had been a special weekend. Exhausting, but special!



*The Isandlwana Master, Wor Bro Johan van der Merwe (4L) with MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM (31), RW Bro Basil de Kock (5L) and the various Masonic dignitaries and visitors.*

## Lodge Star of the East Installation

On 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019, Star of the East held its annual Installation at the Central East Rand Temple. A special evening was had by all present, with the new Master, Wor Bro Wayne Hunt, succeeding VW Bro Gavin Mackintosh after a successful year. There were 42 Brethren in the Lodge, including PGL Northern Division led by the Deputy PGM Wor Bro Simon Nash. Visitors included representatives from the English, Irish and Netherlandic Constitutions as well as members from other GLSA Lodges. The ladies, as always, served an excellent and much appreciated festive board.



*Installing Officer Ini Akpan with Wayne Hunt and the ladies*

## Sovereign Grand Commander visits the Cape

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April, MP Bro Boet du Plessis invested M Ill Bro Mahmoud Patel as the newest member of the AASR for South Africa's Executive. The ceremony took place at the de Goede Hoop Temple on an evening which also included a joint 28<sup>th</sup> degree working for the Ven Bros Martin Slabbert and Edgar Baron. The ESGIG for South Western Division, M Ill Bro Geoff Edwards, was in the chair for the 28<sup>th</sup> degree working. He welcomed the Sovereign Grand Commander to Cape Town, thanked him for the work that he is performing, particularly as regards education, and hoped that the Division will see him more often in the future. The working itself was well executed and the candidates were suitably impressed, describing it as a memorable and enlightening experience.



*Consistory de Goede Hoop Brethren seen with the SGC, MP Bro Boet du Plessis, and ESGIG, M Ill Bro Geoff Edwards. Ven Bros Baron and Slabbert are in the back row on right.*

## RA Chapter Fiat Lux Installation

On the morning of Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, Port Alfred saw Grand Superintendent, MEC Dawie van Rooyen, install EC Mark Hiles as the new MEZ of Royal Arch Chapter Fiat Lux in a well performed ceremony.



*In front are ECs Keith Hutton (EH), Mark Hiles (MEZ) and Nowellyn van Vuuren (EJ), while MEC Dawie van Rooyen (Grand Superintendent from Cape Town) stands behind them.*

## De Vereeniging has yet another Installation

The invitation said it all. This was indeed the 185<sup>th</sup> year of GLSA's No 3 Lodge who, as recently as 2017, relocated from Graaff Reinet to Port Alfred. They are now well established in their new home and, judging by the success of the installation, are making good progress. A local resident, Bro Timothy Ord, was installed in the chair and, to give it an extra bit of intrigue, the outgoing Master, also happens to be the Eastern Cape PGM, RW Bro Keith Hutton. He read his annual report, then set about installing his successor.

After many years of inactivity, the Lodge is now attracting new members and is showing real signs of life. The festive board was excellent and the Brethren much enjoyed the time that they shared with the Lodge.



*Wor Bro Dawie van Rooyen, Wor Bro Timothy Ord and RW Bro Keith Hutton.*

**We've organised the Masonic tools for you, so please ensure that you benefit from them!**



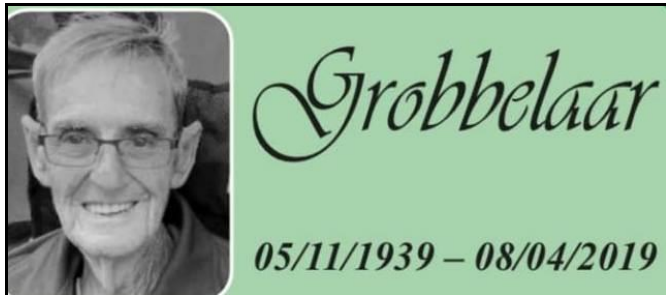
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## Almoner's Corner

It is with much sadness that we have to report the passing of VW Bro Andre Grobbelaar (Dagbreek) to the Eternal East. Andre was a 50 year Freemason, a Past Grand Master of Ceremonies and had been Secretary for Central Division for a number of years. He was a committed and cheerful Freemason who will be missed.



Wor Bro Fred Kitching (AJ Haak) continues to receive treatment for the cancer in his shoulder and is struggling with limited use of his arm.

Louise, wife of Wor Bro Koos du Preez (Johan van Riebeek), has been advised that there are no more signs of her cancer and she's now back to her normal self.

Bro Andrew Nell (Westerford) had a further operation following his fall but is now fully repaired and is back enjoying his Lodge activities.

Wor Bro Paul Nash (Star of the Rand) had throat cancer. He has now been pronounced as cancer free but continues to be afflicted by the resultant voice loss.

Bro Rob Eden (Westerford) is still struggling back to normality after his traumatic terrorist experience in Mozambique but, for the most part, is cheerful.

RW Bro Nuno Calvet (Star of the West) appears to be making steady and encouraging process after his heart operation of a few weeks ago.

Wor Bro Pat Smith (Brits) is still receiving treatment for fibro myalgia.

Wor Bro Corrie Grobelaar (Simon van der Stel) continues to fight his cancer. He continues to support his Lodge and his positive attitude inspires his Brethren.

Our back pain sufferers, Wor Bros Heinz Smekal (Hiram) and Ken Manefeldt (de Goede Trouw) continue to battle along bravely. Heinz is also being treated for cancer - please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

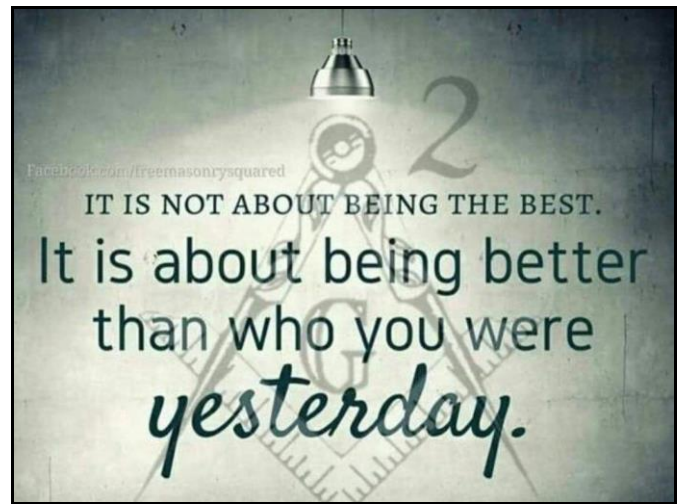
Wor Bro Ken Marcus (Isandlwana) is steadily recovering from his badly broken leg. He is now moving around on crutches and making good progress.

Wor Bro Ron Kessler (de Goede Hoop), a 50 year veteran, has been given the all-clear as far as his cancer is concerned but has lost much weight and needs to rebuild his strength. He continues to support his Lodge.

Wor Bro Tony Bosman (MW Pretorius) has recently been hospitalised with a kidney infection.

If anything is known about a Brother in distress, please ensure that your Divisional Almoner is aware of him:

Southern	Wor Bro Cobis Wilson	083 2844684
Northern	Wor Bro Simon Nash	082 4148604
Central	Wor Bro Johnny Cambanis	083 9865397
Eastern	Wor Bro Johan v d Merwe	083 3010219
E Cape	Wor Bro Roy Handley	082 8625804



## Son joins his father at de Goede Trouw

The Hamer's expanded on the GLSA's family groupings when Telan joined his father Brendan and brother Hedan as a member of Lodge de Goede Trouw on Tuesday 9th April 2019. Telan has joined a fast-growing Lodge that really enjoys its Freemasonry and we have every confidence that the family's shared Masonic experience will benefit both the Lodge and their Masonic brothers as well as their family.



*Bros Brendan and Telan Hamer are in the centre*

## Encouraging Skype meeting with GrandView

Our Brethren are very well aware by now of the enormous and positive impact that the use of GrandView as our Masonic Membership system is having on our Grand Lodge. We are able to manage and communicate with our Brethren far more effectively than has ever been the case before and have no doubt that, as we move forward, we will get more and more benefits from this excellent Masonic package.



Anyway, RW Bro Avron Jacobson and I recently had a one hour Skype meeting with Josh Mixon and Tim Larkins (L) of GrandView. We reviewed some of our present challenges and the future plans. We were excited by the direction in which they are taking the system and much look forward to new releases. Such features as assessed questionnaires, an ability for our Lodges to file their minutes and greater flexibility regarding new postings are all under development – and all very appealing!