

The Square and Compasses.

A newsletter for the Grand Lodge of South Africa. No. 93 October 2019



Most Worshipful Brother David Duncan OSM.

“Accentuating the Positive”.

To most of us, the doors of the Temple are a barricade against the trials and tribulations of everyday life. When we enter through them, we are able to leave behind everything that has impacted negatively on us during the day and enjoy an evening of relative calm and positive stimulation.

Does this happen by accident?

Our founding Fathers, when compiling our rituals were well aware that human nature changes not in its essentials and will remain much as it is in the future as it has done so in the past. They took the opportunity to insist that we should avoid certain subjects of discussion in the Lodge. Subjects which should inspire us with their lofty precepts and teachings and yet have fallen so short in practice. Subjects that are promoted as being so essential to our daily wellbeing and yet have proven to be the sources of such great disappointment and discontent.

In our somewhat fractured society, in which the moral compass is spinning wildly, it is difficult to plot the right path. The path which leads to self-improvement. How does one choose the right way when it appears that, in modern society, “anything goes” and it is OK to take no responsibility for one’s own actions.

We live in an age where bad behaviour can be justified, and so, when enough do it, it becomes the norm. We all know that the norms of our society are always changing. But if, in our perception, they are

changing for the worse, should we just join in? A dilemma for every good man in society.

The Freemason however has his sanctuary from which he can observe these changes and compare them against a set of lofty principles and an accepted code of conduct that has stood the test of time. Surrounded by his like-minded Brethren, he can calmly discuss what is happening in the outside world and so by eliminating bias and prejudice, he develops the vision to choose a path for his journey to self-improvement.

We already have and have had for centuries, the physical facilities that, since 2010, have been promoted to the stressed in our society as “escape rooms”. If my understanding is correct, these are facilities in which an environment has been created to isolate the participants from the realities of civil society. Intellectual activities and challenges are presented to teams of individuals in which they have to cooperate to achieve a defined goal. These activities are designed to focus the mind and deflect it from the troubles of the world; so promoting stress relaxation and mental stimulation. Maybe a gymnasium for the mind!

The increasing popularity of this commercial opportunity yet again shows just how far ahead of the rest of society Freemasonry really is; but also it shows how poor we are in promoting the benefits of our Institution. When we talk about Freemasonry in civil society, we always talk about “making good men better”, but do we ever promote the processes by which we do it? We have so much that is of benefit to mankind and yet, maybe because we do not fully understand the processes ourselves, we refer to them as “Masonic secrets” and so deny our knowledge of a better life to the members of society.

Freemasonry is a positive influence in our lives. By accentuating the positive, we can make it a positive difference in many more lives and so contribute to changing society for the better; one man at a time.

**MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM
Grand Master**





The Grand Master, MW Bro Dave Duncan OSM, with Grand Lodge and PGL Officers and Sister Constitutions representatives.

Southern Division AGM a great success!

On Saturday 14th September the Southern Division AGM took place at the historic de Goede Hoop temple in Cape Town. After welcoming the Grand Master and his large delegation into the well attended meeting the PGM, RW Bro Tommy Hardiman, provide a detailed update on the Division's activities over the preceding 12 months which, almost inevitably, included both highs and lows.

Having completed the various reporting demands, the PGM then set about installing his Officers, starting with Wor Bro Mahmoud Patel as a new Assistant PGM. Wor Bro Patel also holds senior positions in both the Royal Arch and the AASR and much is expected from him in the future. Wor Bro Dennis Benadie continues as Deputy PGM and Wor Bro Jan Venter as an Assistant.



There were also several special awards handed out, including that for the Best Lodge Secretary, which went to RW Bro Avron Jacobson (de Goede Verwachting) and for the Best Advancement Paper which was awarded to a Fellowcraft, being Bro Michael Kern (Marina).

L: Wor Bro Llew Lloyd-Jones (PGL Secretary) with RW Bro Avron Jacobson.



R RW Bro Tommy Hardiman with Wor Bro Raymond Eyiomen (WM Marina) who received Bro Kern's award.



Grand Master awards 50 and 60 year Jewels

Cape Town saw us award 4 long service Jewels.



RW Bro Hymie Becker is one of Southern's legends and was rewarded for 60 memorable years. He spent most of his time at St Jan, and is now a member of de Goede Verwachting. He is a Past Grand Junior Warden and was an Assistant Provincial Grand Master. He is now retired and, while not active in Lodge, keeps in touch.

Wor Bro Peter van den Heever is a 50 year member of AJ Haak, who now lives in Graaffwater in the Western Cape. While he very seldom attends his Lodge any more, he is an extremely active 33^o member of the AASR and travels hundreds of kilometres to attend their meetings.



RW Bro Malcolm Lötter is another 50 year veteran. While now at de Goede Hoop, he spent most of his years at Bellville. He is a Past Grand Junior Warden and was a Deputy Provincial Grand Master. He is a retired School Head Master and was highly regarded in local Cricket.

Wor Bro Ross McIver is another 50 year veteran and is a long-term member and Past Master of de Goede Trouw. He is a Past Grand Steward and a very active and capable PGL Warden who very rarely misses a Provincial call-out.





Brits Installation (ND)

The Brits Installation took place on Saturday 7 September. It was a Grand Lodge call-out and a strong GLSA team was led by RW Bro Alf Brönnner. The PGL team was led by the Deputy PGM, Wor Bro Simon Nash, while the Assistant PGM, Wor Bro Freddie Diener, performed the Installation ceremony.

After providing a comprehensive report on the Lodge's activities during the past Masonic year, Wor Bro Eugene Steenkamp was reinstalled as the Presiding Master. His experience should bode well for the year ahead.

Marina Installation (SD)

Wor Bro Raymond Eyiomen is one of the rising stars of Southern Division. When he took over as Worshipful Master, the Lodge really was in dire straits – it is now one of the GLSA's fastest growing Lodges.

RW Bro Tommy Hardiman (PGM) led the PGL team and also performed the Installation ceremony. He was assisted by Wor Bro Jan Venter and the rest of the PGL team. There was a very significant turn-out for the event and the ambience was special.



Senekal Installation (CD)

This small Central Division Lodge has had its challenges in the recent past and needed a positive leader to step into the chair – and in Wor Bro Marius Kapp they believe that they have found their man!

This was Wor Bro Kapp's first time as a Worshipful Master and both the Installation and the Board of Installed Masters were ably performed by VW Bro Frans Appelgryn, assisted by the PGL Central team.

The Installation took place on Saturday 21st September and the event, overall, was an extremely successful one.



Widow's Sons making a real difference!

The Central Division Chapter of the Widow's Sons are making an enormous difference by their charity efforts – such as providing wheelchairs and cup cakes to the needy in the Free State Goldfields.



25 Year Pins a real winner

The new 25 year pins are being extremely well received around the country. In this Eastern Cape picture Wor Bro Marius Beyleveldt receives his pin from Wor Bro Marius Terblanche.



Supporting the Education Fund



Wor Bro Jock Wood, Chairman of the Southern Inter-Constitution Education Committee, hands Bro Marco Petronio his life membership certificate and jewel.

Masonic Spring Ball a Great Success

On Saturday 14th September Southern Division's 45th Annual Spring Ball took place at the Kelvin Grove club in Newlands. It really was a special occasion and an evening to remember. Here are just a few attendees.



Natalie & Tertius van Zyl



Jan & Malcolm Lötter



Geoff & Val Edwards, Chrissie & Alf Brönnner, Edelweiss & John Smith

To view all of the pictures taken at the Ball, click below:

[Spring Ball Pictures](#)

New GLSA Web Site launched

After a large amount of committed work by our new Web Master, Wor Bro Jeremy Rundle, and the Chairman of our Technology Committee, RW Bro Avron Jacobson, our new GLSA Web Site is up and running. Explore it for yourself using the link that follows – and make sure that you let them know how you feel about their offering. There's much more to come, so please be a part of it!

www.grandlodge.co.za

Almoner's Corner

5th August saw one of the GLSA and Central Division stalwarts, RW Bro Peter Watkinson OSM, called to the Eternal East. Peter was a Past PGM of Central Division and, right up to the end, a dedicated and active member of his Division and our Grand Lodge. He leaves a large hole and will be missed.



On 5th September, Bro Freddie Gonsalves (Parys) passed away after a heart attack. He'd only been a member for 6 weeks and our thoughts and prayers are extended to his family at this difficult time.

Bro Anthony Kitching (Tolerance) has recently lost his mother and has our deep-felt condolences. May the memories of good times shared help to sustain you.

Wor Bro Ron Kessler (de Goede Hoop) is in hospital fighting kidney and gastro problems and blood related issues. Look after yourself, Ron, you are important to us.

2 of our ladies are fighting cancer and are in our prayers - Wor Bro Mark Hiles' (Royal Protea) mom and Bro Carel Meyer's (Senekal) wife Lena. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

RW Bro Ken Manefeldt (de Goede Trouw) carries on battling with his back and is always in our thoughts.

Bro Theddeus Amaechi (President Burgers) has recently lost his 15 year old daughter after a short illness. We wish we could do more to ease your pain.

Wor Bro Johan Kruger (Tolerance) has recently had kidney stones and confirms that it's the sort of pain that you really wouldn't wish on your worst enemy!

Bro Alwyn Giel (Theophilus) spent last weekend in hospital with tick bite fever and is steadily recovering.

The father of Bros Sakkie and Dewald Jordaan (Peace and Harmony) has been called to higher service. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and the family.

Wor Bro Fred Kitching (AJ Haak) who has fought so valiantly against his cancer, has recently been hospitalised with an allied blood clot. Keep strong Fred!

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

Southern	Wor Bro Llew Lloyd-Jones	072 9653572
Northern	Wor Bro Reuven Coenen	071 6120577
Central	Wor Bro Johnny Cambanis	083 9865397
Eastern	Wor Bro Johan v d Merwe	083 3010219
E Cape	Wor Bro Roy Handley	082 8625804

A Social Potjie that really worked out well!

It all started off when Simon van der Stel decided to have some fun and entered the Potjie competition at the Durbanville racecourse – and finished up with them winning 1st prize and a cheque for R15,000. Now that's how fund raisers should always work out!



Sean Stuart, Gary Hendricks, Louis Krige & Tebogo Mabunda receiving the cheque. Their team was "the Rainbow Warriors"