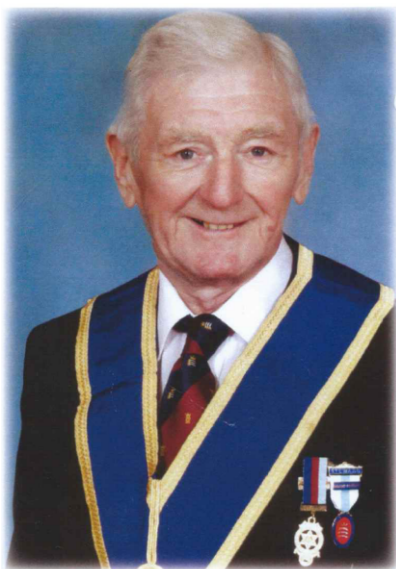




RAIN DIDN'T DAMPEN THE SPIRITS

This years Middlesex Grand Family Fete, which was called The Party in the Park, was a little damp. However, it was still a great event enjoyed by all who came along. Below are some photos from the day, but to see more click on any of the photos below.



W Bro James Stewart Mackay PProvGSwdB

On 6th April 2107, W Bro Stewart Mackay passed to the Grand Lodge above after a long period of hospitalisation. A Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving for his life was held at St Philip & St James Parish Church, Whitton on 28 April. The Service was conducted by the Reverend David Cloake and the Reverend Dr Bill Dolman, Provincial Deputy Grand Chaplain.

A lone Piper, W Bro Mark Haynes, played "Flowers of The Forest" as the coffin passed a Guard of Honour formed by Provincial Grand Stewards. The Service included hymns, a reading, a tribute from W Bro Geoff Rayner, a reflection by the Vicar and a rendition of "My Love is like a Red, Red Rose" sung by Bro Tom Jones, all relayed live to some of Stewart's relatives in Australia.

The Guard of Honour re-formed and escorted Stewart to the waiting hearse. His widow Karen, daughter Lucy, relatives and a few close friends went with him to Hanworth Crematorium. After the Committal, they joined the rest of the congregation for a reception at Cole Court, where a flowering cherry has been planted in his name. A collection which was taken up in support of Cancer Research UK raised over £1000. He will be sorely missed in many areas of Freemasonry. "A good Man, a good Copper and a good Mason"

DALHOUSIE LODGE

Dalhousie Lodge No 865 has achieved many milestones over its 156 years, commencing with the purchasing of Cole Court as a Masonic Centre.

History tells us that Dalhousie Lodge was sponsored by the Royal Alfred Lodge No 780 and was formerly No 1167. The Lodge was named after the 11th Earl of Dalhousie, Deputy Grand Master. He was an ex-Governor-General of India, had been involved in the putting down of the Indian Mutiny and was responsible for the presentation of the Kohli-i-Noor Diamond to Queen Victoria.

Recently, the Lodge undertook a 'new step' in its history with the amalgamation of Call Sign Lodge 9501 building on the fact that both Lodges had worked closely together for many years.

The formality of closing of Call Sign Lodge No 9501 then renewing Dalhousie Lodge under a new Lodge name of 'Dalhousie and Call Sign Lodge No 865 was an extraordinary day under the direction of W Bro Brian Fisher PAGDC AProvGM.

The new Lodge continues to be a "daylight" Lodge keeping to the direction of Call Sign Lodge by the Provincial Grand Master, HRH Prince Michael of Kent who expressed the view of having a Saturday Lodge meeting in the mornings with a lunchtime Festive Board.



The Festival Jewel - wear it with pride



There are so far 1650 Middlesex Masons that have achieved a personal honorific of the Festival. The Festival Committee send their immense gratitude to them for the support of the Festival and the children that the money we are raising is going to help in their time of need. This means there are lots of members who have not got their Festival Jewel.

If you don't have your Festival Jewel yet, for less than the cost of half a pint of beer a week will achieve you Steward of the Festival, that's just 22p per day. It isn't much to give to help a child. Ask your Charity Steward how to donate, go to www.the2020festival.co.uk or email: festival@pglm.org.uk

A Man Never Stands So Tall As When He Kneels To Help A Child



Tercentenary Service of Thanksgiving

The Provincial Service of Thanksgiving will be held this year at Guildford Cathedral on Sunday 5th November 2017 at 3pm. It will be a special event to celebrate our Grand Lodge Tercentenary.

Since we last held our service at Guildford Cathedral in 2014, the building has had vital repairs for the removal of asbestos from the concrete ceiling vaults, as well as a programme of re-pointing and stone cleaning. The work has been complemented with the visitor's facilities also being improved. This has been an essential programme, and one to which Middlesex Freemasonry was pleased to support and donate.

The service embraces those of all religious faiths; and importantly we warmly welcome our wives, partners, family members and other non-masonic friends.

It is a wonderful occasion and one of the most important events in the Provincial year. The service is a mixture of celebration, pageantry, music, singing, interesting speakers, and the opportunity of meeting together with fellow members of the Province and their families. It is also probably the only time in the year when Middlesex Freemasons are in public proudly wearing full regalia and displaying their Lodge and Chapter Banners.

Mike Karn

Sunday 5 November 2017
Put the date in your diary and come along

If your Lodge is having an event which is interesting or maybe different and you think others would like to know about it please email the details so it can be considered for inclusion into The Mercury Lite.

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