



Mitre Review

Volume 1, Issue 9

September 2009

Inside this issue:

<i>The bits that don't go in the minutes</i>	1
<i>Musical Lunch, Sunday March 8.</i>	3
<i>Ladies' Festival April 18</i>	3
<i>Brother David Blore</i>	3
<i>Mitre Lodge and Chapter Supporting the York Against Cancer Minibus</i>	4

THE BITS THAT DON'T GO IN THE MINUTES!

Once again the January Instruction Lodge was held at the Windmill Hotel, Dunnington and followed what is becoming the established format. The Lodge was opened with twenty-eight Brethren present, formal business was conducted and the Lodge was then closed. Good company and good spirits were in abundance and the food was once again excellent. One slight note of regret which was expressed was that nearly all those in attendance had passed the Chair. It would be an even better evening if more of the 'junior' Brethren would come.

February saw the Passing of David Blore in the presence of thirty members and guests, a rather disappointing attendance, although the weather was not at its kindest. The ceremony was carried out sympathetically and with sincerity but, for some reason, it seemed a bit 'scrappy' and not quite up to the standard which we seek. The JW continued to avoid the Joke Book but proposed the health of our visitors with a good military story and in responding, W Bro Jim Hunter of Albert Victor Lodge No. 2326, warmly commended us for the warmth of his reception and for the companionship shown during the evening.

The collection raised £36.00 and the raffle £53.00.



March's Lodge will be remembered. We were honoured by the presence of the APGM, W Bro Bill Fisher, and his Provincial team and the Passing of Lee Townsend was done in traditional and enjoyable Mitre manner before an attendance of fifty-five members and visitors. Things became somewhat unusual at the after-proceedings when it was discovered that the key to the bar had been mislaid. It might have been said that spirits were dampened but this was not the case. There was no access to spirits - or wine or soft drinks, though we could reach the water - but Brethren took the disappointment in good heart. The DC, meanwhile, organised a rapid visit to a local source which produced bottles of red wine, which were gratefully received and faithfully applied. Cups served in lieu of glasses, though this meant that we were deprived of coffee for reasons not entirely clear. In replying to the toast to Provincial Grand Lodge, the APGM began by telling of a

reprimand he had received in his early days for drinking the first toast from a beer glass and wondered what the penalty was for drinking a toast from a coffee cup. In a more serious vein, he reiterated the PGM's recent comments on the need for courtesy and consideration in all our dealings and outlined two new initiatives within the Province. One is to attach a 'Friend', an Officer of Grand Lodge or a senior Officer of Provincial Grand Lodge, to every Lodge to make occasional informal and non-reporting visits to Lodges to offer advice, if needed, on any problem faced, for example, over recruitment and retention, progression or finance. These visits could prove fruitful if they led to the dispersal of knowledge and possible solutions and were in no way intended to be an 'inspection' Province was also keen to improve channels of communication and now intended that the Provincial Year Book would be sent direct to member's homes rather than dispatched en masse to Lodges for what was often rather haphazard distribution. He closed by warmly thanking the WM and the Lodge for the welcome which he and his team had received.

The JW stuck to his guns - O.K., his military career was as an infantryman, but you know what I mean, - and, by means of a couple of short anecdotes involving soldiery, reflected on the way in which attitudes influence peoples' actions and reactions. W Bro Kevin Simister of Good Fellowship Lodge No. 6910 made appreciative comments in his reply to the toast to Our Visitors and expressed the hope that he could come and see us again. The collection raised £91.00. The evening as a whole was a most rewarding one.

April 1st is not, perhaps, the most propitious date for a ceremony but there was no fooling for the Raising of David Blore. Thirty-one members and visitors witnessed a very well conducted ceremony, followed by more enjoyable after-proceedings. Time not being on our side, toasts and attendant speeches were brief. The JW welcomed the visitors warmly with another couple of good military stories reflecting how a few well chosen words can deflate self-importance, (not that any of us suffer from this), and the response by W.Bro. J Owen-Barnett, WM of the Old Peterite Lodge No. 6412, a Master at the school and

an Old Boy of the Royal Masonic School, was deservedly very well received. The collection raised £41.35 - and we had the bar keys again!

May's Lodge proved to be a most pleasant evening. Twenty-nine members and eleven guests, including a total of no less than six current Masters, saw the smooth Passing of Duncan Miller and then enjoyed a good meal and excellent spirits (of the non-liquid variety) upstairs.

Neither of our Deacons was able to attend because of heavy work commitments, but they were very ably understudied by Steve Coupland as JD and Tony Hodgson as SD. If they continue in similar good form, they could have a promising future!

In welcoming our visitors, the JW continued with his theme of linking military and Masonic virtues with a very good story involving a soldier, an airman, a car crash and a whisky bottle and in responding, W Bro Dick Ellison, the WM of Falcon Lodge No 1416, in a maiden speech as a ruling Master, spoke briefly and warmly and was very well received.

The collection for the night totalled £41.80 with the raffle raising £84.00 and the final act saw a ring of smiling faces and firm handgrips.

June was devoted to domestic matters with twenty-four members and no visitors. The usual elections were made and reports received but the major part of the evening was devoted to a discussion on the twenty questions from Province about the Lodge's operation in its relationships internally, externally and with family and friends and how improvements might be made. Without giving ourselves any 'toffee', opinions indicated that we were doing the right things, although a little tweaking could be done here and there.

Despite the absence of visitors, the JW was commanded by the WM to give what would have been his oration so that we could again enjoy a couple of his military stories, and we were not disappointed.

The collection raised £33.10 and the raffle £37.00 and a very enjoyable evening brought this year's formal proceedings to a close.

Musical Lunch, Sunday March 8.

Having been banished from the organ loft at Christmas for a very valid reason, Nicholas Page returned to it to entertain us yet again. The forty-seven members and guests thoroughly enjoyed both the playing and the presentation of:

Entry of the Gladiators	Fucik
The Strenuous Life	Scott Joplin
Romance	Phillip Underwood
Your tiny hand is frozen	Puccini
Gavotte	Ludwig Schytte
Sicilienne	Faure
Bats in the Belfry	Mayerl
Spring (Four Seasons)	Vivaldi
The girl with the flaxen hair	Debussy
The Whistler and his dog	Arthur Pryor
Singin' in the rain	Nacio Herb Brown
A Captivating Caprice	Malcolm Archer

and the meal which followed.

We are indebted to John and Sylvia Back for the organisation and to John Skeldon for the table plan. A gift was presented to Nick in token of our appreciation and he was complimented on his skilful playing, informative introductions and natural charm. (His writing is not easy to read, but the presenter thought that that's what the note passed to him said!)

LADIES' FESTIVAL April 18

Once again we gathered at the Fulford Golf Club for a most enjoyable evening, though the attendance of fifty-two was a touch disappointing. Perhaps this was due to it being at the end of the Easter holiday week. The food and service were of high quality, the music, both as background and for dancing, was pleasant and not too loud (!) and the company sparkling, as one would expect. Nicholas and his Lady, Liz Svenson, welcomed the guests individually before seating and he spoke very briefly at the end of the meal. Roy Crosbie-Wood, as Junior Warden

proposed the toast to 'Our Ladies' using a most appropriate and affectionate poem which he had culled from the web and Liz made a short and sincere response. The presentation to her was made by Martin Hemenway, the Senior Deacon, and brethren 'rendered' the Ladies Song. Conversation and dancing followed and it was good to note that rather more couples 'took the floor' than last year.

Our thanks are most sincerely offered to John Back, sadly absent for medical reasons, his wife Sylvia and his trusty aide, Ian Williams, for the effort and skill invested in the organisation of the event.

BROTHER DAVID BLORE was invited to tell us something about himself.

'Like W Bro Charles Burdett, I am in the psychology world although I am not a clinical psychologist. I originally trained in the 1970s as an SRN and then a mental health nurse transferring to psychology and then to psychotraumatology. For the last twenty years I have specialised in the treatment of psychological trauma in the working environment and am nowadays a consultant to several police forces, railway franchises, the petrochemical industry and the public service and manufacturing sectors. I am the Past President of EMDR UK and Ireland, and am registered with the charity HAP, a teaching charity which has taken me to Russia (mining disasters) and Turkey (earthquakes). A BSc (Hons) in nursing at Nottingham focussed on traumas in the underground environment. Ever the student, I completed the MPhil part of my PhD in 2007 and have continued my PhD studies to date at the University of Birmingham researching Post Traumatic Growth (the potential benefits of being traumatised!). I have numerous publications in both psychotraumatology and healthcare philosophy. I also find time to engage in my hobby of 'postal history of lighter than air transport', with a specific interest in the balloon mail which escaped in the 1870-71 siege of Paris, as well as what happened to the wreckage of various airships and the flight paths of Zeppelins over York!

I have been married for over thirty years to Sue, with whom I originally trained as a nurse.

Sue retired from nursing and has, in later years, developed rheumatoid arthritis. She co-founded the local charity YORKRA to help support those with rheumatoid arthritis in York. We have two children, Simon, now aged 28, who works in IT in York and Yvonne, 26, who does the same work her mum once did – a staff nurse on a renal ward.

MITRE LODGE AND CHAPTER SUPPORTING THE YORK AGAINST CANCER MINIBUS



Presentation by John Skeldon to Julie Barnie, General Manager of YAC May 13th

John found himself in need of attending St James's Hospital, Leeds for a series of radiotherapy treatments and was able to make use of the door-to-door service provided by YAC.

"I used it for thirty-six days out of thirty-seven and I calculate that it would have cost me a gallon of diesel every day so I was very happy to suggest donating £100 via Craft and £100 via Chapter. Both Lodge and Chapter readily acceded to the suggestion."

John has also made a matching contribution to YAC.