

The DGM/s Corner

DEPUTY DISTRICT GRAND MASTERS REPORT

May 2025

Brethren all,

I am pleased to report that I have had an engaging, active and enjoyable year.

In addition to my regular duties with the Boards and Trust, I have attended thirty regular English meetings, twelve under the NZ Constitution and three Scottish.

I've also had the privilege of participating in fourteen Installations, including eight within our Constitution, as well as attending a couple of very successful charity events run by our District Grand Charity Steward and presenting eight discussion papers; I'm sure my audiences had a good sleep!

As always, I'm deeply appreciate of the company and companionship of those who have joined me in my travels, and the warm welcome and hospitality we've received at these meetings.

Looking ahead my goal is to represent English Freemasonry in general, and our District in particular, I intend to maintain a busy schedule, continuing to attend as many meetings as practical across our District and with our Sister Constitutions.

RW Bro Soper, WBro Moroney, and I are focussed on assisting you and your Lodges in being the very best you can be in the Lodge Room, at Refectory, and out and about on the Masonic visiting circuit; it goes without saying that we, and the District officers, are happy to assist in any capacity, please do reach out and we'll do our best to help.

Thanks again for all your support and encouragement over the last year, I wish you all every success with your Lodges moving forward and congratulate you all on a very successful year since our last communications.

Fraternal best wishes.

Frans van Zoggel

Deputy District Grand Master.

South Island

Lodge Roundup

Southern Star 735

Southern Star Lodge recently held a vibrant and engaging meeting that featured a variety of updates and activities. Worshipful Brother Steve Jordan delivered a compelling talk titled "Police Cell to Pulpit," where he shared his remarkable journey from senior leadership in the UK police force to becoming an Anglican priest. With wit and honesty, he reflected on purpose, transformation, and faith, leaving the brethren both inspired and entertained. The Lodge also voted to support the upcoming Kirkpatrick House Trust Centennial Celebration by donating \$1,000 from Lodge funds and requesting a matching \$1,000 from the South Island District Masonic Trust.

In addition to regular business and a ballot, plans were shared for upcoming events including Past Masters' Night in August, a Filipino-themed casual meeting in July featuring a general knowledge quiz, and continued officer practices. The meeting closed with a warm atmosphere of fellowship and renewed enthusiasm for the months ahead.



Dunedin Lodge 931

Communications 2025

Dunedin Lodge had the awesome challenge to host the Communications 2025 event. I would like to thank the assistance given to us by Grand Lodge.

I also need to thank the planning committee and those who helped over the two days in making the event the success it was.

Being my and several Dunedin Lodge members first ever Communications event it was an open book as to what to expect.

Things kicked off on Friday with registration (44) and the DGL Board of General Purposes meeting.

Fridays Meet and Greet evening with 44 participants went off very well, good food good drink and good company, what more could we ask for (maybe an extra bottle of red)

Saturday started with Lady's program which was a great success thanks to Tania and Peter.

Other events in the morning were the Master Masons presentation and the DGL practice as well as the Charitable trust meeting at 1 pm followed by the main event.

I would like to congratulate the Grand Lodge officer* on their positions and duties, without your dedication to the craft we would not be able to function.

At this point I would like to express Dunedin Lodges pride and appetite on seeing our own promoted (congrates Azher well deserved)

The day was finished off a banquet that night.

Again, Good food Good drink and good company.

The whole event for me was a success which would not have happened without my team.

So again thank you.

Mark

Dunedin Lodge

Canterbury 1048

On Tuesday the 10th June WBro John Woolcott WM of The Canterbury Lodge 1048 visited RT WBro Geoff Friend

It was Geoff's 91st Birthday

Because Geoff has been unwell, it was agreed by members of The Canterbury Lodge, that John would present him with his 50 year badge and certificate at his home, on behalf of the Lodge.

Geoff's Father was also a Member of The Canterbury Lodge, which Geoff joined 50 years ago and rose to the Exalted rank of R.Wor District Grand Master

Congratulations RTWBro GK Friend



Greymouth Lodge 1233

Greetings Brethren All.

On Saturday, the 14th of June the Greymouth Lodge held its regular meeting, which also included the "Passing Ceremony" of Bro S.T.Hillier. While admittedly perhaps not quite the turnout we had hoped for, we were very fortunate to have our Rt. Wor. D.G.M present for the meeting & honoured to officially receive him into the Lodge.

We are always pleased to both see & welcome any visiting Brethren & on this occasion to be accompanied by visiting members of x2 Lodges from our Sister N.Z. Constitution, those being Advance Mawhera Lodge #61 (Greymouth), & Lodge Torea #121 (Waimangaroa / Westport). I must pay a special THANK YOU to these visiting Brethren, as without their assistance, the meeting would have been made all the more difficult, with them filling some offices for our meeting, one of which playing a vital & very pivotal role in the "Passing" Ceremony, that of S.D. Thank you, Bro M.Preece from Lodge Torea for previously accepting the invitation & role, moreover the professionalism & manner in which you conducted the perambulation.

Also, however I must also pay a special thanks to Wor. Bro. J.Colenso (Lodge Torea) for "acting" as Chaplain, & Wor. Bro. M.Woodgate (Advance Mawhera Lodge) for "acting" as I.G. for the meeting, these 2 were only given last minute

notice (on the day), but didn't shy away & wholeheartedly accepting the roles & doing an outstanding job, THANK YOU.

Again, the Ceremony was performed to a high standard & I was exceptionally proud of both the performance & quality of the charges given, it is clearly evident & a testament to both the Lodge & Brethren, that there had obviously been a great deal of effort put into not only learning but rehearsing the Charges. I am exceptionally proud to see members of our Lodge step up & offer to learn & give Charges, that would otherwise prefer to play a more "behind the scenes" role. While admittedly we aren't all public speakers & for some, this can be quite a daunting & confrontational experience even amongst just fellow Lodge members, let alone with all due respect having the added pressure of both our D.G.M & visiting Brethren in attendance, EVERYONE should feel proud & give yourself the credit you deserve, you ALL made the day & Ceremony what it was & without all of us playing the parts we did, the Ceremony would not have been the success it was, this was all due to you, so I again THANK you all.

To those brethren that travelled to attend this meeting, we are so very grateful for your time & effort, likewise, to have the company of the ladies at the dinner, please do convey our most sincere appreciation.

Wor. Bro. J.Colsnso (Lodge Torea, NZC), as previously mentioned in this article (& as he did in our 1st degree ceremony) again gave an absolutely outstanding presentation & explanation of the 2nd degree tracing board, this was without question one of the highlights of the Ceremony amongst others, it goes without question the having our D.G.M in attendance, presenting the 2nd degree Working Tools being another, on behalf of our Lodge I would like to THANKYOU both very much.

Our next regular meeting will be held at the Masonic Lodge, Shantytown in Greymouth, on Saturday 02/08/2025. Seeing as our upcoming 3rd degree in September, will be my first 3rd degree as Master, & the first 3rd degree the Lodge has conducted since 2018, this will also incl. a practice prior to the official meeting, to ensure we are prepared for the ensuing Month.

The Greymouth Lodge is now looking forward too & working towards its 3rd degree "Raising" Ceremony, this will be held on the morning of Saturday, September 06th, after which we will also hold the Installation of our Master Elect for the ensuing year.

This promises to be a meeting / day, filled with intrigue, camaraderie & companionship, celebrated by a refectory & a sit down dinner together. If the previous 2 Ceremonies are anything to go by, then you will also experience & witness some excellent Charges, but don't just take my word for it, contact our Lodge Secretary at greymouth1233@gmail.com & mark the day / date on the calendar, you will be made most welcome.

Fraternally.

Wor. Bro. P.D.Brewer. ADGDC.

WM. Greymouth Lodge #1233 E.C.



Phoenix 1690

Installation postponed due to the weather conditions on the mountain passes.

Winchester 1737

A domestic meeting

Ashburton 1811

A domestic evening held.

Conyers 1916

A presentation by the District Learning & Development Officer, Phil Jackson Visiting and Proving, an interactive discussion and demonstration.

He wandered through his experiences overseas and the different forms of proving.

Many questions were asked with some good answers coming from the floor.

**Amberley 2007**

A presentation by Frans van Zoggel on the 9 working tools. A very thought-provoking presentation.

No meeting

Lodge of St John 1137

Pacific Lodge of Hokitika 1229

Lazar1689

Canterbury 1048 RAC

District Officers – What is their Role

These working roles are not generally well known by the Brethren in general and what these roles entail and how they interact with the Lodges and visa versa.

Starting In the July issue I will outline these roles and the importance on how they need Lodge support.

The roles that will be discussed include the District Secretary, Treasurer, Almoner, Membership Officer, Charity Steward and Mentor.

District Charity (Nigel Paterson – nigpat@extra.co.nz)

Welcome to the colder months!

Throughout June I have kept in contact with both district charities.

Cholmondeley

I have spoken with Ingrid (Fundraising Manager) to check in and she is eager to look at doing a feature on the district relationship in their monthly newsletter so discussions are under way on what this might look like and how it can show case the partnership

I also received some passes for a local activity centre in Christchurch called 'Ninja Valley'. With 17 child passes gifted to us from a recent attendee of the last Whisky & Gin tasting it meant there was enough for their next intake of kids. They were very pleased with the gift and look forward to taking the kids.

One Mother to Another

They are also looking to run a feature in their newsletter, and social media, around our partnership. I'm in talks with Joy and the team on how this will look.

I'm also eager to have a group of volunteers do a packing day for them. This would mean having at least 6 people involved where we would spend a few hours helping pack some of the packages they provide to the hospitals. I don't have a date yet as they are flexible. Can you please contact me directly if you are keen to be involved and I will collate names and then provide some dates that would work. nigpat@xtra.co.nz or 0272201001.

Next event

I'm still waiting to hear from people on the West Coast and Blenheim area to understand interest in a simultaneous night we can run a dinner, for late October/November, that we will run a video link between each venue. This event will mean dinner, raffles and auctions where the proceeds will be split between both district charities. Touch base on the contact details above to show interest.

Membership Officer (Alister MacPherson - alistermacnz@gmail.com)

The following can be used by you. Brethren while it maybe cold & dull, why not use this time to pause & reflect on YOUR LODGE & it's membership. What is YOUR LODGE doing about growth? When did you personally introduce a new member to YOUR LODGE? Next time you attend LODGE look around at the age of your membership? Ask yourself where will MY LODGE be 5 years from now? You can make a difference & do something!!!!!!PLEASE everyone start doing something to grow our lodges. I can assist BUT need your support & input

District Mentor (Nigel Howard – nigelflyer@xtra.co.nz)

No update provided.

THE PUBLICATION OF THE DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF THE SOUTH ISLAND

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The views expressed in these pages do not necessarily reflect those of the District Grand Lodge

Degrees South Deadline:

4th August for the July Edition.