



Message from District Grand Master

Brethren, Greetings to you and your families.

The last of the Installations in the District took place in November- Barrine Lodge on 11 November and Duyfken Lodge on 18 November. Our congratulations to the Masters and Officers of both Lodges and I wish both Lodges all the best for the coming year. At the Duyfken Lodge Installation, I had the pleasant duty to present Wor Bro Duncan Cunningham with his Immediate Past Masters Jewel, having served four years as Worshipful Master of that Lodge; the period being extended mainly due to COVID.

I also had the pleasure of presenting VW Bro Richard Fapani with a Life Vice Patrons Jewel on behalf of the Pyramid Highleigh Lodge to recognise his dedication and good work in and around the Gordonvale Masonic Centre. This presentation was done at the Pyramid Highleigh Christmas breakup lunch on 26 November, which was once again held at the Asian Foodies Restaurant. I congratulate Pyramid Highleigh Lodge for this event and other events held during the year (stalls at the Gordonvale Markets and a couple of events of interest to the general public) to which the public were invited. I particularly thank RW Bro Bill Winfield, the chief organiser of the events and Mrs Winfield for her support in relation to the Christmas breakup lunch.

A somewhat unusual presentation of a 50 year Service Jewel took place in November. The Jewel was presented to Bro Colin Skerritt, a member of Freshwater Lodge, who has lived in Urangan, in the Hevey Bay area since 2004. As Mrs Skerritt is housebound due to health conditions and it is difficult for Bro Skerritt to leave the house for any length of time, at the request of Bro Skerritt, the presentation was done by me sending a letter of presentation and Mrs Skerritt doing the presentation. I congratulate and thank Bro Skerritt for his services to Freshwater Lodge, his mother lodge Cairns AIF Memorial Lodge, which was closed in 2001 and Freemasonry in general and thank Mrs Skerritt for the presentation.

Hearty congratulations to Milla Lodge for their donation of a Defibrillator to Butchers Creek State School, which is located on the Atherton Tableland.

While there were no Initiations held in the District during the month of November, the situation is

certainly looking brighter for the coming year with some six or seven prospects currently under consideration.

In the October and November editions of the Carpentaria News, I have mentioned the District Board of General Purposes holding meetings at Atherton for Lodges meeting on the Atherton Tableland and another at Gordonvale for Lodges meeting in and around the Cairns City area. The main purpose of the meetings was to discuss the future of Lodge Buildings with a view to the possibility of establishing a Masonic Centre for the District in the Cairns area, where there are currently three buildings, located at Freshwater, Edmonton and Gordonvale and the possibility of the Tableland Lodges all meetings in the one Centre, that more than likely being the Atherton Centre, which is in the ownership of the District Grand Lodge of Carpentaria.

The outcome of the Gordonvale meeting is that there is currently not the willingness on the part of all of the lodge building owners to consolidate their resources and put those resources towards the establishment of one Masonic Centre for the District in the Cairns City area. A likely outcome is that some much-needed improvements to the Edmonton Masonic Centre will be carried out (new covered stairway, fire escape and a lift or chairlift) so that it could serve as the Centre for the District.

The outcome of the Atherton meeting is likely to result in two Lodges, those being Granite and Ravenshoe moving their meetings to the Atherton Centre in 2024 with improvements being carried to this Centre. The other three Lodges in the Tableland area (Barrine, Milla and Herberton Corrie) are likely to have a few of their meetings at the Atherton Centre but will principally continue to meet at their current locations in Yungaburra (Barrine and Milla) and in the Herberton Historical Village (Herberton Corrie).

While on the subject of Lodge Buildings, I note that the brethren of The Gulf Lodge have, in recent times, been carrying out various works at the Georgetown Masonic Centre in order to make the building compliant with regulations, etc. I congratulate and thank the brethren who are responsible for this good work.

The final Quarterly Communication of the District of Carpentaria for the year will be held on Saturday 2 December. It is with much pleasure that I am able to appoint a District Grand Organist, Bro Jeffrey Gough, who has moved up to Cairns recently from Brisbane. It has now been some years since we have had the services of a District Grand Organist. Bro Gough has received valuable assistance from the Grand Organist, RW Bro Gary Young, who has provided a copy of all of the relevant Masonic Music. I look forward to your attendance at the Quarterly Communication, to be held at the Atherton Masonic Centre at 2.00pm.

Looking forward to 2024, the District Grand Lodge of Carpentaria will be celebrating its Centenary with a Re-enactment of Consecration Ceremony on Saturday 25 May. The District Grand Installation will be held on the same day. The Re-enactment of Consecration will be in the morning at 11.00am, followed by a lunch at 1.00pm, which will then be followed by the Installation at 2.30pm. The Installation Banquet will be held that evening.

To celebrate the District Grand Lodge Centenary, the District Board of General Purposes, will be striking a Centenary Jewel, for sale to the brethren of

the District as well as any other interested brethren. A note, with the design of the Jewel, will be sent to all Lodge Secretaries in the very near future, asking for numbers of brethren interested in purchasing the Jewel to get some idea of how many to order.

On 10 February 2024, the Grand Director of Education and Development together with the Grand Director of Ceremonies will be visiting the District of Carpentaria to hold a one day training session for the brethren in the District. The training, which used to be held every few years but has now not been held for a number of years, will be most welcome in order to improve our ceremonial standards. My sincere thanks to RW Bro Rodger Klopp for putting the training program together and helping to organise this event. Brethren, I ask for your attendance at this Training Session, which will be held at the Freshwater Centre.

Brethren, I wish you and your families a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

RW Bro Raja Chohan
District Grand Master
District Grand Lodge of Carpentaria



LODGE MEETINGS

LODGE	DATE	TIME	WHERE	WORK
DGL Quarterly	Sat 2nd Dec	2.00pm	Atherton	Including AGM of AMW&O
Tully-Tyson	Sat 2nd Dec	12.00pm	Tully	General Business + Christmas Function
Trinity Daylight	Mon 4th Dec	9.30am	Whitfield	General Business
Temple Memorial	Mon 4th Dec	7.30pm	Freshwater	General Business
Pyramid-Higgleigh	Wed 6th Dec	7.30pm	Gordonvale	2nd degree Bro Richard Harm
Johnstone RH	Sat 9th Dec	7.30pm	Innisfail	General Business
Barrine	Sat 9th Dec	10.00am	Yungaburra	2nd degree Bro Mubeen + Christmas Lunch
Cairns-Gelling	Tue 12th Dec	5.30pm	Freshwater	General Business
Milla	Tue 12th Dec	6.00pm	Yungaburra	General Business
P Douglas Mossman	Thur 14th Dec	6.00pm	Mossman	General Business + mixed social festive board

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DATE CLAIMER

DGL Centenary Re-enactment of Consecration and DGL Installation on Saturday 25 May 2024

DATE CLAIMER



Bro Colin Skerritt of Freshwater Lodge, was recently presented with his 50 Year Service Jewel



VW Bro Richard Fapani was presented with a Life Vice Patrons Jewel at Pyramid-Highleigh Lodge Christmas function

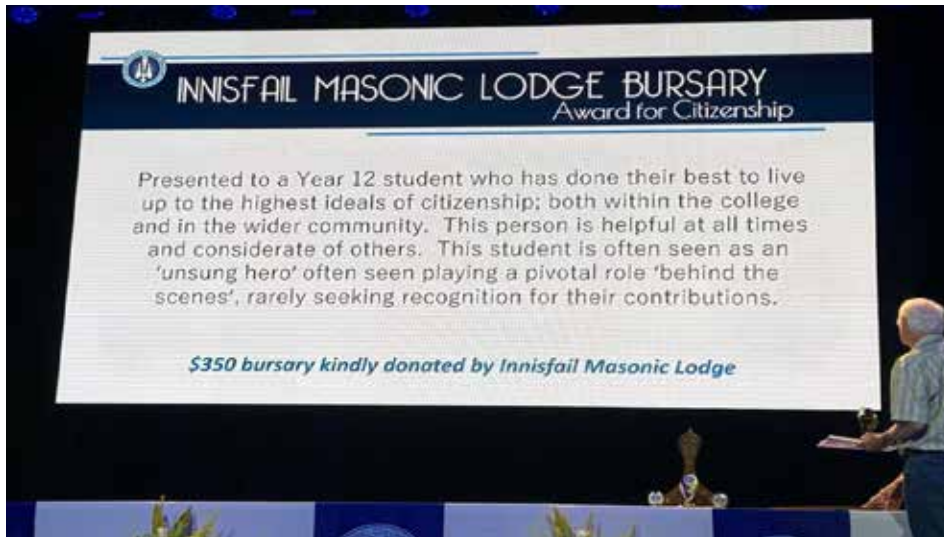
RW Bro Raja Chohan Dist GM presented Wor Bro Duncan Cunningham with is PM Jewel after 4 years in the chair of Duyfken Lodge



VW Bro Jim Sanders installattion at Duyfken Lodge



Milla Lodge donated and installed a Defibrillator at Butchers Creek State School



VW Bro Phil McCracken WM of Johnstone River Heritage presented the Bursary and Floating Trophy



**Wishing you and your Families a Peaceful Christmas
and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year**

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