



Message from RW District Grand Master

Brethren, Greetings to you and your families.

As we all know, the month of April is a time when we reflect on the courage and tragic sacrifice of life during the many conflicts in the past. We honour those who paid the supreme sacrifice in war so that future generations may live in peace, love and harmony. But with so many conflicts still underway today, sadly humanity does not seem to have learnt the lessons of the past.

The Deputy District Grand Master, VW Bro Dave Scott and I attended the early morning ANZAC service on the Esplanade in Cairns and laid wreaths on behalf of the District of Carpentaria. I am aware of at least four other Brethren who attended the service and I thank them for their attendance. It was good to see a large crowd present at the service to honour our war heroes.

On the evening of 23 April, I attended and took a small part in a wonderful ANZAC service conducted by the Tully-Tyson Lodge. The service, which was open to the public, was attended by some 40 brethren and families from the area. I congratulate Tully-Tyson Lodge for continuing to hold the services each year. Congratulations also to The Gulf Lodge for holding an ANZAC service in the outback town of Georgetown, backing up the service which the Lodge held last year.

During the month of April there were no initiation ceremonies in the District. Bro Richard Harm was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by Pyramid-Highleigh Lodge and we congratulate Bro Harm on becoming a Master Mason. There was only one Installation held during April, that being Herberton-Corrie Lodge and we congratulate the Worshipful Master and Officers of that lodge. I thank the Deputy District Grand Master, VW Bro Dave Scott, for officiating at the Installation.

On 11 May, I had the very pleasant duty of presenting Wor Bro Bob Laybutt with his 70 year Service Jewel at the Port Douglas-Mossman Lodge. What a wonderful achievement for a brother with a lifetime of service to our wonderful fraternity.

During May, there will be two Installation Ceremonies – Carpentaria Lodge on 4 May to Install Bro Chowdhary and on 11 May Temple Memorial Lodge to Proclaim Wor Bro Church. I encourage the brethren to attend these important events and support the two Lodges. I, with a full team of District Grand Officers will be conducting the Carpentaria Installation Ceremony.



funds were provided by Hand Heart Pocket for operations during the COVID period. To mark the fifth anniversary of the Centre on 18 May, COUCH has kindly prepared an article outlining the delivery of services that provide a holistic approach to cancer care, to improve the quality of life for people living with cancer as well as their carers. This article is included in this edition of the Carpentaria News following my message.

Brethren, you should all be aware of the COUCH Wellness Centre in Cairns located in a beautiful setting off Reservoir Road in Whitfield. The Centre, which provides additional support services to those affected by cancer to improve their quality of life, was established and opened in May 2019. The establishment of the Centre was particularly special for the Masonic fraternity as Hand Heart Pocket, in consultation with the Carpentaria District Freemasons, had provided \$500,000 Significant Grant towards the initial stage of construction for a large conference pavilion and an amenities block. Further



Our most important event for the year will be held on Saturday 25 May when we celebrate the Centenary of the District Grand Lodge of Carpentaria with a Re-enactment of Consecration Ceremony and the District Grand Installation when VW Bro Dave Scott will be installed as the District Grand Master. These ceremonies are open to the public and registration forms for these ceremonies have been sent out to all Lodge Secretaries in the District. If you are attending, the registration forms **MUST** be completed and sent to the District Grand Secretariat.

As mentioned previously, to commemorate the District Grand Centenary, a Centenary Jewel has been struck. I encourage the brethren to acquire this piece of memorabilia. You can do so by completing and sending the form that has been sent to all Secretaries in the District to the District Grand Secretariat.

Brethren, the achievement of a Centenary, in all walks of life, is normally celebrated with a special event and so it is for the District Grand Lodge of Carpentaria on 25 May 2024. I encourage the brethren to attend and I particularly make a call to those brethren who have not witnessed a Lodge Consecration Ceremony to make it their business to attend and witness the ceremony that every Lodge has gone through at its formation. In terms of Masonic Education, there is nothing more important than witnessing this ceremony.

In Masonic Ritual, the elements of corn symbolizing plenty and abundance, wine symbolizing joy and cheerfulness, oil representing peace and unanimity and salt the emblem of hospitality and friendship are poured in a Consecration ceremony that dates back to ancient times.

When a new lodge is formed and officially consecrated, it is not a building that is consecrated but a body of men who are the foundation members of a lodge and who are banded together for the high purpose of Freemasonry. The lodge is therefore, a living organism, a continuing group knit together into an entity by the granting of its charter, the ceremony of consecration and the solemn declaration and affirmations of officers and brethren to live and act within the bounds of Freemasonry and to be loyal and true to its ideals and practices. So when a lodge is consecrated, the ceremony binds its members to be conscious of the high purpose involved and to remember they are required to maintain the honour and dignity of their Lodge.

Brethren, as this will be my final message to you as the District Grand Master, I reiterate my basic messages of the past three years. I encourage Lodges to support each other through visitations, particularly for important events such as Installations, degree workings particularly Initiation Ceremonies to welcome a new member to our fraternity and on occasions such as Jewel presentations to recognize the good work, dedication and achievement by a brother. Lodges should factor in their planning, some fraternal visits, which I believe will encourage our new members to do more visitation. Please take every opportunity to focus on Masonic Education so that we are all better informed about our degree workings and the symbolism that we regularly see within our Lodge rooms but simply take for granted. Last year, a few young brethren called for meetings of Master Masons to do just that and I thank RW Bro Duncan Walker for facilitating fairly regular meetings of Master Masons to talk about all matters Freemasonry. I encourage all Master Masons to take part in these meetings as a way for furthering your Masonic careers.

In the April 2024 edition of the Carpentaria News, I included my address to the March 2024 District Grand Quarterly Communication, in which, I thanked the District Grand Officers, the members of the District Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence, the District Grand Secretariat and members of the DNP and District Grand Trustees. All of these brethren play a very important role in the operations of the District and I thank them again. I also express my deep appreciation and thanks to RW Bro Mil Clay, who has now put together and distributed 60 editions of the Carpentaria News to better inform the brethren of events in the District. He has done this work on a voluntary basis and continued to carry on the role even though he and his wife moved from the District to Brisbane towards the end of 2022.

And finally, I thank you the brethren of the District of Carpentaria for giving me the opportunity and the honour of serving you as the District Grand Master for the past three years. It has been a humbling experience and one that I will cherish.

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



DATE
CLAIMER

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

DATE
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Upholding Wellness: COUCH and Queensland Freemasons Join Hands

In the heart of Cairns Far North Queensland, a beacon of hope shines bright for those impacted by cancer. COUCH, a local organisation, stands tall in its mission to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals living with cancer in the region. Their dedication to providing integrated cancer care is a testament to their commitment to enhancing the quality of life for their clients, their families, and friends.

At COUCH, they understand that care is essential for navigating the challenges of cancer. From coordinating care to offering evidence-based health and wellbeing services, COUCH serves as a guiding light through the local health and social landscape. Moreover, they actively engage in community initiatives, fostering collaboration for comprehensive cancer care.

COUCH has provided over 6,600 individual services to clients in the past year including;

Nursing: Providing enhanced support and attention tailored to the needs of cancer clients.

Group Classes: Offering a range of group activities such as Yoga and Meditation to promote holistic well-being and stress relief.

Touch Therapies: Including Oncology and Lymphedema Massage to address physical and emotional needs, promoting comfort and healing.

Gym Sessions: Providing opportunities for physical activity and rehabilitation to support individuals in their journey towards improved health.

Allied Health: Such as Exercise Physiology and Physiotherapy, offering specialised support and guidance for managing health and well-being proactively.

Construction of The Meeting Place at the COUCH Wellness Centre stands as a significant historical milestone in COUCH's journey, made possible by the unwavering support of the Queensland Freemasons and their charity Hand Heart Pocket, this vital space assists in providing support, resources, and a sense of community. The Freemasons' generous contribution of \$500,000 has not only transformed physical spaces but has also touched countless lives, offering comfort and solace during challenging times.

Furthermore, amidst the hardships brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Freemasons continued to stand by COUCH, providing financial assistance that their essential services remained accessible to those in need.

As COUCH continues its noble mission of enhancing the quality of life for the cancer-impacted community in Far North Queensland, the partnership with the Queensland Freemasons remains a strong beacon of collaboration and compassion. Together, they exemplify the power of collective action in making a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals impacted by cancer. Services offered by COUCH are available to the individuals, families and carers impacted by cancer within the Freemason community.

Together, we stand as beacons of hope, offering support, comfort, and compassion to those in need. Through our partnership with COUCH, we reaffirm our commitment to upholding the principles of charity and brotherhood, illuminating the path toward a brighter, healthier future for all.

COUCH will hold a community open day on Saturday the 18th of May from 12pm – 3pm, all Freemasons in North Queensland are welcome to attend.



Cairns COUCH Ltd. PO Box 332, EDGE HILL QLD 4870 ACN: 123 878 026
T: (07) 4041 9429 | F: (07) 4041 9499 | E: info@couch.org.au | www.couch.org.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CairnsCOUCH



Grand Master's Visit August 1973

Report to September 1973 Quarterly Communication by Grand Master MW Bro Norwin William Bauer MVO, QPM on his recent visit to North Queensland:

On 21st August 1973 I left Brisbane to visit a number of Lodges in North Queensland. On that night I visited Mourilyan Lodge No. 135, Innisfail and then paid a visit to Norman No. 56 Normanton; Sir William Wallace No. 64, Georgetown; Allan No 284, Cairns; Fraser No. 210, Atherton; and Port Douglas-Mossman No. 40, Mossman, all in the District of Carpentaria. I was accompanied on all these visits by the District Grand Master, R.W. Bro. R.D.R. Rex, P.A.G.M. and a goodly number of Grand and District Grand Officers and Brethren. The visit to Normanton and Georgetown were certainly highlights of the tour. At each of those places I accepted the gavel, and assisted by the District Grand Master and other Grand Officers conducted the ceremony of Installation.

There were 60 Brethren present at Normanton and 57 at Georgetown. At Georgetown the Lodge could only muster 7 members, the remaining Brethren being all visitors. The visiting Brethren from Cairns and the Tableland travelled to those places by 3 chartered aircraft and a large number of cars. We were received, welcomed and treated everywhere with the greatest of Western type hospitality. My sincere thank go to R.W. Bro. R.D.R. Rex p.a.g.m.; the District Grand Secretary, wor. Bro. K.T. Macdonald; the D.G.D.C. R.W. Bro. H.R. Chatfield; the D.D.G.D.C. Wor. Bro. T.H. James, and all other Grand and District Grand Officers, and Brethren for having made my visitation such a memorable one, and particularly to the District Deputy Grand Master RW. Bro. L.S. Lacey, and his good wife for the very kind hospitality extended to me.

I was accompanied on my visitation to the Lodges at Cairns, Atherton and Mossman by R.W. Bro. R. Gailey P.A.G.M., a member of the Board of Benevolence.



On the left VW Bro Lex Livingston was presented with Life Patron's Jewel by RW Bro Duncan Walker at Duyfken Lodge's April meeting

On the right RW Bro Raja Chohan Dist Grand Master presented Wor Bro Bob Laybutt with his 70 year Service Jewel at the Port Douglas-Mossman Lodge.





From left to right Tully-Tyson ANZAC Memorial Service • RW Bro Mil Clay at the Urn of Remembrance in Ann Street Masonic Memorial Centre having laid a wreath on behalf of Gregory Allan Lodge 50H • Deputy Dist and Dist Grand Masters VW Bro Dave Scott and RW Bro Raja Chohan laid wreaths on behalf of Carpentaria Freemasons at the Cairns Cenotaph.



Recent Installation of Wor Bro Gregory Barry at Herberton-Corrie Lodge No. 39H was attended by Dep Dist Grand Master VW Bro Dave Scott and Dist Grand Officers

LODGE MEETINGS

LODGE	DATE	TIME	WHERE	WORK
Tully-Tyson	Wed 1st May	7.00pm	Tully	General Business
Pyramid-Highleigh	Wed 1st May	7.30pm	Gordonvale	3rd Degree Bro Richard Harm
Carpentaria	Sat 4th May	4.00pm	Freshwater	Installation Bro Rohtas Chowdhary
Temple Memorial	Mon 6th May	7.30pm	Freshwater	General Business
P Douglas Mossman	Thur 9th May	7.00pm	Mossman	General Business
Temple Memorial	Sat 11th May	4.30pm	Freshwater	Proclamation Wor Bro Earl Church
Johnstone RH	Sat 11th May	3.00pm	Innisfail	General Business
Barrine	Sat 11th May	3.00pm	Yungaburra	General Business
Cairns-Gelling	Tue 14th May	5.30pm	Freshwater	General Business
Ravenshoe	Thur 16th May	6.00pm	Ravenshoe	General Business
Freshwater	Fri 17th May	7.30pm	Freshwater	General Business
Bentley Park	Sat 18th May	1.00pm	Edmonton	General Business
Gregory Allan	Mon 20th May	7.30pm	Freshwater	3rd Degree Bro Jamie Martin
Duyfken	Wed 22nd May	5.30pm	Freshwater	General Business
Dist Grand Lodge	Sat 25th May	11.00am	Edmonton	Re-enactment of Consecration
Dist Grand Lodge	Sat 25th May	2.30pm	Edmonton	Installation of VW Bro Dave Scott
Granite	Mon 27th May	10.30am	Mareeba	General Business

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THE GULF LODGE NO. 64 ANZAC MEMORIAL CEREMONY



Wor Master and Dep Dist GM



Escort team with Empty Chair



Dep Dist GM just laid a wreath



Director of Ceremonies



Junior Warden



Senior Warden



Dep Dist GM VW Bro Dave Scott presenting Wor Bro Don West with his Past Masters Certificate



The accommodation is Five Star

