



The District Grand Lodge of North Queensland

Vol. 5 No. 3

News Letter

1-09-2023

Brethren,

A warm welcome to the 9th edition of the NQ Compass for 2023. I hope that you and your families continue to remain in good health. August was another very busy month for the DGLNQ Team and we commenced our visitation programme immediately.

Sat 5th August – As Dist GM, I received an invitation to attend the Installation Banquet for **RW Bro Les Keane**, after he was installed as **Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Carpentaria – Royal Order**

Aims of The N.Q. Compass.

- To promote those values and virtues we as Freemasons profess.
- To provide articles of interest to Members.
- To promote discussion and debate amongst Brethren.
- To highlight the activities of the Lodges in this district.
- To recognise individual achievements.
- To inform

of Scotland. The meeting and banquet was very well attended and all visitors provided positive feedback on the standard of our facilities at 50 Ingham Rd, which was very pleasing! (See photo's on Facebook).

Sat 12th August As Dist GM, I was well supported by a DGLNQ Team of 10, when we attended **St Andrew of Townsville Lodge's Installation**, attended with 12 members and 5 visitors and I can report that an excellent festive board ensued. (See photo's on Facebook).

Mon 14th August - 1st Degree Meeting for Mr Dan Cracknell – Townsville AIF Memorial Lodge. I was pleased to attend and was supported by a DGLNQ Team of 7, with 18 members and 3 visitors present. The candidate's father, Wor Bro Steve Cracknell, was present, which added to the very successful meeting. (See photo's on Facebook).

Thurs 17th August - 1st Degree Meeting for Mr Thomas Hopkins – Unity Lodge. The Dep Dist GM, VW Bro Joel Coleman attended and was supported by a DGLNQ Team of 6 with good attendance from the Unity brethren and visitors. (See photo's on Facebook).

Sat 19th August - The Dep Dist GM, VW Bro Joel Coleman attended **Millican Lodge** for the **Installation of Bro Mohammed Malabu**. A DGLNQ Team of 10 was on hand along with good attendance from the Millican brethren. An excellent and enjoyable festive board was enjoyed by members, visitors and their partners. (See photo's on Facebook).

Sat 26th August – As Dist GM, I was pleased to be able to lead a strong DGLNQ Team on a fraternal visit to **Muttaburra Lodge** for the **Installation of Bro JR Lillico**. I am very pleased to report that the Installation was a very successful

meeting for the Muttaborra brethren and families as **RW Bro Kim Ruru PAGM** (representing our **GM MW Bro Jeff Harper AFSM**) entered the meeting with a team of **25 Grand Lodge Officers (12 with UGLQ and 13 with DGLNQ)**. Several Muttaborra brethren and visitors were also in attendance making an almost full lodge room for the meeting. The banquet was very well attended with approx 50 seated for the function and we were entertained with some harmony items from the UGLQ Organist RW Bro Gwynne. There was also a Meet & Greet on Friday night which went well and congratulations must go to the Muttaborra brethren and ladies and to all who attended to support Muttaborra Lodge over the weekend. It is also of note that the Muttaborra ladies organised a tour of the Muttaborra Hospital Museum and the Cassimatis's Store for us all in the morning prior to the installation! (See photo's on Facebook).

Thurs 31st August - As a member of Hibernia & Albion Star No 15 (Lodge of Research), I went along to their regular meeting which was very well attended. A ballot was held for 5 new members and a good presentation 'Military Freemasons and Travelling Warrants', was delivered by Wor Bro Jason Ballard. If you are interested in joining, please contact Lodge Secretary VW Bro Beau Sankey.

Date Claimers : 1st Degrees: Mon 11 Sept—AIF Lodge—Mr Jason Harton, **Thurs 21 Sept—**Unity Lodge—Mr JM Trinder and **Installation: Sat 16 Sept —Northern Travellers Lodge—**Install Bro Ryan Blackwood - *Master Mason*

I ask that you attend the upcoming installation and 1st Degrees, if possible, and again thank you all for your continued support.

Keep up the good work!

Fraternally John. John Playford Dist GM / DGLNQ

The Muttaborra Connection.



Muttaborra, the geographical centre of Queensland, had a significant increase in its population when 13 Freemasons from this jurisdiction and 11 Grand Lodge Officers descended on the township on the weekend commencing Saturday, 26th August to see Bro. John Lillico Installed as the Master of Muttaborra Lodge, No.464 by R.W. Bro. Kim Rumu.

Many staying in the town were treated to great country hospitality with tours of the old hospital and George Cassimatis' store. Following is a brief pictorial representation of the Masonic side.



Muttal Trust "Meeting of the waters"



Muttal Trust Lodge No. 464



D.G.L. N.Q. travelling supplies



Entry of Grand & District Grand Lodge Members



Lodge brick in the chronological pathway



Plaque showing foundation members



Robing up



Wor. Bro. Spence welcomes R.W. Bro. Ruru



Grand & District Grand Officers



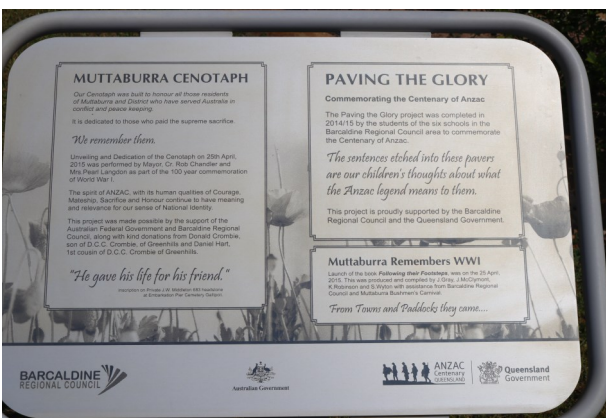
Wor. Bro. John Lillico post Installation



Sign outside the R.S.L. hall



Commemorative Plaque outside the hall



Plaque outside the hall



Hall set up on Saturday morning



Some of the prizes for the raffles



Silhouettes of servicemen outside the R.S.L.



Waiting for Festive Board to commence



Festive Board in progress



R.W. Bro. Ruru responds to a toast



Andrea Playford responds to the ladies toast



The Installation cake



Wor. Bro. Lilico cutting the cake



R.W. Bro. Playford & I.P.M. Peter Spence



Part of the 'meet & greet' on Friday night

“War and Peace”

Account of the Masonic Craft in Famous Novel.

Although many books have been written about Free Masonry it is not common to find references to the Craft in novels. One novel which contains quite a lot about Free Masonry is Leo Tolstoy’ monumental “War and Peace”.

The Masonic episodes related in the book occur in Russia around 1806-07 and the main character involved is Count Pierre Bezuhov, a nobleman of great wealth, bad morals and disreputable habits. Travelling to St. Petersburg he meets a stranger who is wearing a ring which has a skull engraved on it — “the symbol of Masonry”.

“Allow me to inquire,” he says, “are you a Mason?” “Yes, I belong to the Brotherhood of Masons,” says the stranger, “And in their name I hold out a Brotherly hand to you.”

Pierre appeals to the Freemason to help him change.

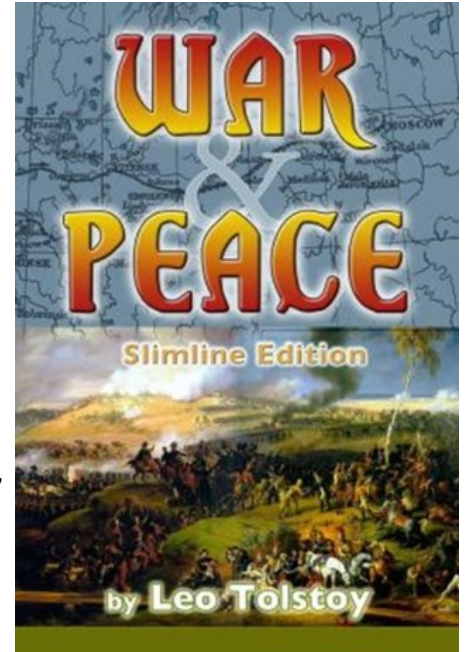
The stranger gives him a note which he is told to Count Willarski, a pole, who tells him that he has been asked to be his sponsor into Freemasonry. Pierre assures him that he has renounced his previous opinion of religion and affirms his belief in God. He is then taken to a large house in which he meets the Lodge in which he is to be Initiated.

In his preparation by the Tyler and in the description of the Initiation Ceremony there are points that are recognizable to the English Freemasonry of today, but there are many others which have no place now in our Initiation ritual. Some belong to other degrees and others are quite strange to us, nevertheless the description of the way in which Pierre Bezuhov becomes a member of the Craft makes most interesting reading.

After Bezuhov has been questioned about his motives for seeking Initiation, the Tyler leaves him but returns later “to instruct him in the seven virtues, corresponding to the seven steps of King Solomon’s Temple” which every Freemason should cultivate in himself. These virtues were :

- (1) Discretion, the keeping of the secrets of the Order;
- (2) Obedience to those of higher rank in the Craft;
- (3) Morality;
- (4) Love of Mankind;
- (5) Courage;
- (6) Generosity;
- (7) the Love of Death.

Some parts of the Initiation Ceremony have similarity to the modern Ritual but there are certain striking differences. One of these occurs when the Candidate sees the interior of the Lodge for the first time.



Pierre sees a number of Brethren holding swords pointed directly at him. Pick and Knight refer to this in “The Freemason’s Pocket Reference Book” as something which may be seen in the the Bristol working. Another interesting point is the presentation to the Candidate of three pairs of gloves — two men’s and one woman’s. The latter, he is told to give “to the woman whom you shall the purity of your heart to her whom you select to be your worthy helpmate to Masonry”.

A recent article in the American “Freemason” says there is evidence that this particular feature, which is foreign to British and American Freemasonry, does occur in certain other Constitutions.

In reading the book it must be remembered that the author is describing Russian Freemasonry as it was at the beginning of the 19th Century.

The N.S.W. Freemason, circa 1975.

Lets Leave the Door Ajar.

How often have you heard the remark, “If I’d known how to join the Masons I’d have joined long ago”. Lack of this “know-how” has prevented some men from applying for membership. Perhaps it is time to clear up the misunderstanding that seems to exist.

Although solicitation for new members is prohibited, nevertheless Lodge members are quite at liberty to discuss with their friends the pleasure that they themselves have found in Masonic fellowship. Just as one might discuss one’s interest in sport, hobbies, gardening, etc., so might he speak of his interest in the Craft. If during a conversation another person by a question indicates an interest in our Fraternity, the Lodge member can quite properly tell him much about the organisation and activities of Freemasons. It is during such a conversation that it could be pointed out that no person is ever asked to join; that the first move must be made by him.

It is in this way that the door can be left ajar so that those seeking to enter may find their “first move” to be an easy one.

**The N. Q. Compass welcomed the following members
to the Craft during September.**

Name

CRACKNEL, Dan

HOPKINS, Thomas

Lodge

Townsville A.I.F. Memorial Lodge No. 377

Unity Lodge, No. 300



Ritual of the Craft.

Have you ever considered how small the ritual of Freemasonry is in comparison with the grandeur of the ideas and the significance of the principles it teaches?

A ritual means a book containing the rites to be observed: a rite is the manner or performing a ceremony as established by precept or custom.

On the other hand, principles are laws embracing many subordinate truths, such as the principles of morality, of religion, of law and of government. They are those general and fundamental truths from which rules and maxims are obtained.

That the ritual of Masonry is small will very probably be questioned by the Brother who is trying to learn the floor work and the lectures, but it is brief in comparison with the great truths it contains, the magnitude of the lessons for living it shows forth, and the sure foundation it lays for faith in an eternal life.

The ritual is “small” because it teaches those sublime lessons by allegory and symbols. Only by the study of these can the real meaning, the real teachings, of Freemasonry be recognized. Only by such study, by contemplation, by examination in our hearts during quiet moments of repose can we recognize the meanings and teachings of these allegories and symbols which have been presented to us.

Oftentimes the real teaching is carefully concealed, for Masonry does not explain, even to its initiates. Its real purpose is to teach men to think, for after all, man is, so far as we know, the only thing the Supreme Architect created that can reason and pray.

The Masonic ritual offers you much. It offers you reference points; it gives generous tips; it points the way to truth; it is a lighthouse, a beacon indicating the way. But ***you must study, you must give your time and your best efforts to come to an understanding of what Freemasonry means and is.***

Unless you are willing to devote this time, this effort, and your energies to the search for the Lost Word which is a symbol of the truth Freemasonry teaches, you have wasted your time, for you will never become a Freemason except in time.

— North Dakota Mason, circa 1974.

Do You Recognise This Person?

Allow us to introduce Wor. Bro. Callum McColl a member and Past Master of St. John Davenport Lodge No. 33 in Charters Towers.

Callum McColl graduated from Blackheath and Thornburgh College in Charters Towers in 2009. He then went on to further studies at Griffith University at Nathan in Brisbane, graduating in 2015 with a Bachelor of Multimedia and a Bachelor of Information Technology. In 2016 his Bachelor of Information Technology was upgraded to Class I Honours.

Whilst at university he achieved selection in the Catalyst Start-up Programme which is sponsored by Steve Baxter of Shark Tank fame. This involved Callum travelling to Silicon Valley to spend time in large corporations such as Google, Facebook, Microsoft, Instagram, and Twitter. He has been invited as a speaker at international conferences in San Francisco, Toronto and Barcelona. Callum has published a number of highly technical papers on software issues.

Callum has been an active member of freemasonry in Charters Towers as a member of St John Davenport Lodge. He is also a member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Royal Arch and the Royal Order of Scotland. His masonic involvement involved working with the District Grand Lodge of North Queensland to update their computer facilities and advance the organisation with state-of-the-art software enabling lodges to access the Microsoft suite and electronically file documents.

His academic achievements were realised with his being awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (Computer Science) for a thesis titled Leveraging Decomposition for the Modelling, Implementation and Verification of Complex Real-Time Systems. The graduation ceremony took place at the Brisbane Convention Centre in July 2023.

Callum is currently the Lead Flight Software Engineer (Satellites) at Gilmour Space Technologies. This is the company launching the satellite from Abbott Point, Bowen later this year.

Callum's dedication to high achievement in both academic and masonic fields is a reminder that the rude material receives its fine polish only from indefatigable exertion and that perseverance is necessary for perfection."

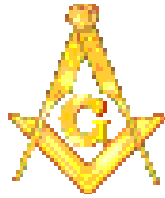
It is an honour to have such a person as an active member of our Order.

On behalf of The N.Q. Compass and the Masonic Fraternity I take this opportunity of extending our congratulations to Wor. Bro. Dr. Callum McColl whom I saw Initiated into Freemasonry at St. John Davenport Lodge on 17-02-2011 with twin Morgan.

Left: Dr. Callum McColl, with father Dr. Gordon McColl.



A Famous Freemason.



Lawrence Hargrave, HRAeS.

1850–1915.

Lawrence Hargrave was a truly remarkable man. When he modestly linked four of his cellular box kites together and added a sling seat, he not only propelled himself 16 feet off the ground in front of a sceptical public, but wrote himself into the history books forever. For on that day, the 12th of November 1894 near Sydney, in a wind speed of 21 mph, Hargrave became Australia's founding father of modern flight and opened the doors to countless other inventors and pioneers.

Hargrave emigrated to Australia from England in 1865 and arrived in Sydney in 1866. His father, a prominent judge, wanted his son to study law, but Lawrence — more interested in engineering — joined the Australasian Steam Navigation Company as an apprentice.



In 1867 he began an engineering apprenticeship in Sydney and between the years of 1872 and 1883 Hargrave practiced as an engineer, explorer, and astronomer. From 1872 to 1877 he explored in Queensland and New Guinea. With the Italian, Luigi D'Albertis, he made an epic 800 km. journey along the Fly River.

Returning to Sydney, Hargrave was elected to the Royal Society of New South Wales and became Assistant Astronomical Observer in 1878.

Yet from an early age, Hargrave had been interested in experiments of all kinds, particularly those with aircraft. When his father died in 1885 and Hargrave came into his inheritance, he resigned as an astronomer to dedicate his life to full-time research.

Twenty years before the Wright Brothers made their first flight, Hargrave studied the movements of birds, fish and reptiles, sea waves and air currents. He experimented with monoplane models of light wood and tissue paper, propelled with flapping wings or primitive airscrews.

Hargrave chose to live and experiment with his flying machines in Stanwell Park, a place which offers excellent wind and soaring conditions and nowadays is the most famous hang gliding and paragliding venue in Australia.

In 1892, during the course of his experiments, Hargrave discovered that a curved wing surface appeared to give greater lift than a flat supporting surface. This ground-breaking

discovery is considered to be the founding step in the development of all modern aircraft. Hargrave turned his attention to the behaviour of various types of kites and next discovered that a kite with two separated “cells” or double planes, had the greatest stability and soaring power..

In 1889, during one experiment, four box kites lifted him five metres from the ground in a 35 k.p.h. wind. Hargrave’s work on engines looked at many fuels — steam, carbonic acid, kerosene, petrol and gunpowder. It was also in 1889 he developed a rotary engine used later as a prototype for French WW1 airplanes.

Generously, Hargrave never applied for a patent on his discovery, or any others to follow. Rather he was a passionate believer in scientific communication as a key to furthering progress.

Thus, the Hargrave-designed box kite, with its improved lift-to-drag ratio, was to provide the theoretical wing model that allowed the development of the first generation of European (and American) aircraft. The weather bureau of the United States was the first to adopt a modification of Hargrave’s invention and the use of box-kites for meteorological observations became widespread. The principle was then applied to gliders and in October 1906 a box-kite aeroplane made the first officially recorded flight. Three years on, the box-kite aeroplane was the usual type in Europe.

Hargrave did not confine himself solely to the problem of constructing a heavier than air machine that would fly. Indeed, he gave much time to the means of propulsion. As a result, in 1889 Hargrave revolutionised engine technology by inventing the radial rotary engine driven by compressed air. However, his development of the rotary engine was frustrated by the weight of materials and quality of machining available at the time and he was unable to get sufficient lift from his engines to build an independent flying machine.

Hargrave never did solve the power-to-weight ratio problem. Yet his 1902 design was put to the test 100 years later when students at the University of Sydney rebuilt his aircraft from the original blueprint, replacing Hargrave’s power plant with a modern one... It flew.

He retired in 1910 and sold his models to Deutsches Museum, Munich. When war broke out in 1915 he was branded unpatriotic for this as ‘the Germans then had superior air power’.

Hargrave’s only son was killed at Gallipoli in 1915 and Lawrence himself died only nine weeks later.

Because of Hargrave’s refusal to patent his inventions because he hoped they would bring ‘peace and goodwill to all’, his achievements went largely unrecognised in his lifetime, but his contribution to aviation is now acknowledged. Hargrave has featured with Kingsford-Smith on an Australian \$20.00 banknote and in 1965 an Australian postage stamp commemorated the 50th. anniversary of his death.

Brother Lawrence Hargrave was Initiated into Freemasonry on April 2nd. ,1877 at United Service Lodge of New South Wales No. 937, English Constitution.





**A SUCCESSFUL MAN IS ONE WHO
CAN LAY A FIRM FOUNDATION
WITH THE BRICKS OTHERS HAVE
THROWN AT HIM.**

Brethren "The N.Q. Compass" is a newsletter for YOUR enjoyment
Please help to popularise it.