



## The District Grand Lodge of North Queensland

Vol. 5 No. 8

News Letter

1-02-2024

Brethren,

A warm welcome to the 2nd Edition of the NQ Compass for 2024. I hope that you and your families are getting back into the swing of things for the new year and also that you fared well through the weather event that was TC Kirrily.

As there seems to be chance of another TC forming in the Coral Sea presently, I ask that you all prepare accordingly and mention that if you find yourself requiring assistance down the track, please immediately reach out to us in the District Office or your Lodge WM or Secretary.

The general focus for the DGLNQ Team during January was preparation and planning for the 2024 Masonic year and I confirm that the District Lodge Calendar has been completed / circulated to all Lodges and is on display on the Notice Board at 50 Ingham Rd.

### 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

Several of our district lodges have been busy completing applications for candidates and joining members and at this early stage, **we have 1 First Degree in February.** We are aware that there are papers in process for another 3 candidates. This is great news and we congratulate all of the lodges involved for being active with leads being received.

**Townsville AIF Lodge** are meeting on **Mon 12th Feb to initiate Mr Kevin Moran** and it would be appreciated if we could have a good attendance from our DGLNQ Team and Lodges to welcome the candidate into Freemasons NQ!

**The first of our 13 District Lodge installations** will commence on **Sat 6th April**, with Proserpine Whitsunday Lodge and the final installation will be for Harmony Daylight Lodge on the **Fri 18th Oct 2023.**

There are a number of **Date Claimers** we would like you to make a note of :

- **Freemasons NQ Family Fundraiser/Fun Night - Fri 8th Mar** at the OES Hall to support local charities **Meals on Wheels, Joyful Foundation & CWA Crisis Fund.** Everyone is welcome so we are looking for a good attendance especially from our younger members and their families and friends
- **ANZAC Meetings - Sat 20th Apr -St John Davenport, Mon 22nd Apr—Townsville AIF & Wed 24th Apr** Kennedy Lodge
- **DGLNQ June QC & Proclamation—Sat 8th June—** It is proposed that a luncheon will be held after the QC and then we will have tea / coffee informally after the Proclamation at 50 Ingham Rd .

Other events on the 2023 Calendar are:

- **SA / NT Grand Installation in Adelaide** —12th -13th Apr—Andrea and I and Joel & Melanie will represent DGLNQ on this installation week end;
- **DGL Carpentaria— Sat 25th May** at Bentley Pk Lodge—**11.00 am** Re-Consecration of District by our GM and a UGLQ Team, **1.00pm** Lunch, **2.30 pm** Installation of **VW Bro Dave Scott** and **6.30 pm** Banquet at Cairns Sherdian Hotel. We will take the Lodge Bus—leave 5.30 am Sat and home Sunday am;
- **UGLQ Proclamation** for our Grand Master, MW Bro Jeff Harper AFSM, on 5-6th July in Brisbane.

Many thanks for supporting the District whilst we were on leave recently!

Fraternally John. John Playford Dist GM / DGLNQ

# “Cardinal” in Masonry.

The word “Cardinal” is derived from the Latin “cardo”, a hinge. We get the original meaning of the word from ancient peoples, and is traced to their method of making hanging doors: there were two upright cylindrical wooden pegs, or dowels, projecting from the door — one from the top and one from the bottom. The dowels fitted into a socket and on these pins the door swung.

The hinged door was regarded as a symbol by primitive peoples; they believed that at the top of the universe was a pivot on which the earth turned, and at the bottom was another pivot which corresponded to that at the base of the door. The word “cardinal” was used by old Roman writers to indicate the four points of the compass — the east, west, north, and south; it was also used to allude to the winds blowing from those quarters.

The East, West, North and South are called cardinal points because they are the principal points of the compass on which all others hinge or hang. In Freemasonry each of them has a symbolic signification — the East represents Wisdom; the West, Strength; the North, Darkness and the South, Beauty. In the oldest lectures of the last century, the Mason is said to travel from the West to the East; that is from Darkness to Light.

**THE EAST** has always been considered sacred. The point where the sun made his appearance at the dawn of the day was revered by his worshipers as a symbolic birthplace of their God, and honoured with an appropriate measure of respect. The camp of Judah was placed by Moses in the East, the tabernacle in the wilderness was situated due East and West. All Masonic Lodges, like their great prototype, the Temple of Solomon, are built, or supposed to be built, due East and West. The Master sits in the East which is considered the most honourable part of the Lodge, and is distinguished by the Ionic column and a raised platform or dais which is occupied only by those brethren who have passed the Chair.

**THE WEST.** As one of the four cardinal points, the West, in Masonic symbolism, holds a respected place as the station of the Senior Warden and of the Doric Pillar of Strength that supports the Lodge. In the “Legend of the Craft” as contained in old Masonic constitutions, there is always a reference to the migration of the Masons from Egypt eastward to Jerusalem; hence in the symbolism of Speculative Freemasonry it is commonly assumed that the Mason, during his advancement, is travelling from the West to the East in search of light. To this day we speak of a deceased person as having “gone West”. “To the West all men come at last — men and Masons — to the beautiful tender West and lay them down in the sleep that knows no waking.” **(Haywood)**

**THE NORTH.** In Freemasonry the North is a place of darkness. Dr. Mackey uses it as an illustration of this the fact that the sun in his summer journey never passes north of 23 deg. 28 mins., and that a wall built anywhere above that will have its northern side entirely in shadow, even when the sun stands at his meridian. As this fact became known, it led early peoples to regard the North as a place of darkness. Milton connects Satan with the North, and Shakespeare speaks of demons “who are substitutes under the lonely monarch of the North”.

**THE SOUTH.** In Masonry the sun in the South is represented by the Junior Warden. When the sun has arrived at the zenith, at which time it is in the South, the grandeur of its rays merits the appellation “the beauty and glory of the day”. In our ritual we say the sun is **at** its meridian, whereas the sticklers for purity say the sun is **on** its meridian. The Corinthian Pillar of Beauty is assigned to the Junior Warden, hence that officer is said to represent “the sun in the South at High Twelve”, at which hour the Brethren are called by him from labour to refreshment.

**FORTITUDE.** The excellencies of this virtue are enlarged upon in the First Degree. It teaches the worthy Mason to allow nothing to shake the inviolable fidelity he owes to the trust reposed in him. William Preston, Scottish Mason (1742) has this to say: “Fortitude is a fence or security against any attack that may be made upon him (the Mason), by force or otherwise, to extort from him any of our Royal Secrets”.

**JUSTICE.** Justice is usually depicted as a hood-winked woman, holding in one hand a sword and in the other a pair of scales at equilibrium. The feet firmly placed on the ground and the body erect is, in Masonry, the true symbol of Justice. The Mason will remember how it was stressed that he preserve an upright position in all his dealings with mankind, and at all times to act justly to himself, to his Brother, and to the world. This is the basis on which he may expect to erect a superstructure alike honourable to himself and to the Fraternity.

(The initiate is also taught the importance of other excellencies of character, namely, Secrecy, Fidelity, and Obedience, a full explanation of which is to be found in the ritual).

— **“FIAT LUX.”**

“Not how did he die? But how did he live?

Not what did he gain? But what did he give?

These are the things that measure the worth

Of a man as a Mason, regardless of birth.”

# Freemasonry Is Not A Religion.

While Freemasonry is religious, our purpose as Freemasons is not that of a religion. We seek no converts. We raise no money for religious purposes. We do not ask our members to subscribe to any religious tenet or dogma.

There are some who would make it so in order that they personally might rationalize and excuse their own escape from the the claims of religion. Being completely a tolerant organization, there is nothing in Freemasonry that is opposed to the religion a man brings with him into the Lodge. We have prayers, it is true — invocations to Diety, but we have no ritual of worship. We have no symbols found in Church or Synagogue. Our symbols are related to the development of Character and the relationship of man to man. They are not our working tools — used in the building of life.

Freemasonry does not assert and does not teach that one religion is better than another. We do not say that all religions are equal because we admit men of all religions. We do not ask a man if he believes in God and that is a religious test only. Belief in God is faith; belief about God is theology. We are interested in faith only and not in theology.

When Freemasonry accepts a Christian, or a Jew, or a Mohammedan, it does not accept him as such, but as a man — worthy to be received into the Craft. Freemasonry is a teaching through exemplification in its degrees, of the highest ethical and moral principles known to mankind. There it stops, and there it must stop, else it would become a revolution or a religion.

## *From the Archives (1975).*

Hinchinbrook-Cordelia Lodge, No. 69 (Ingham), held their annual Ladies' night on the 25th of October. It was an outstanding success and gives encouragement to the idea that Masons should mix socially.

The Ladies' night is an annual dinner and dance. It is given to honour Mason's wives and for their forbearance in staying at home while their husbands attend Masonic meetings during the year. All Masons, their wives and friends are welcome to attend the dinner and dance.

The host and hostess for this year's dinner and dance were Wor. Bro. Hobbs and his wife. They were ably assisted by the Master of Ceremonies for the evening, W.B. Lamborn.

A 'get together and make your acquaintance' half hour preceded the dinner. The catering arrangements were excellent, the food most enjoyable and the music was an invitation to dance.

At the close of the evening the guests were thanked and to use a quote, "This was an evening for our wives and guests of Masons. Bless you one and all and I sincerely hope each and every one of you will be attending our Ladies' Night next year".

***Brethren, you are reminded to log into your Facebook page and in the top left hand corner [Search Facebook] type in [The N.Q. Compass](#) then hit return to view photographs of events taking place through out the District or other wise having an effect on this District.***



Freemasons of North Queensland



Invite you to their

# Family Fun Night & Community Fundraiser

**When:** Friday 8th March 2024 from 5:30pm

**Why:** *To raise funds for Meals on Wheels, Joyful Foundation and CWA Crisis fund*

**Where:** OES Hall –48 Ingham Rd

**Cost:** \$20 per adult; \$5 per child; \$50 Family 2 adults 2+ chn (includes 1 burger and dessert)      Drinks will be on sale on the night

**RSVP** by email/ phone no later than 1st March 2024 to Andrea

[dglng@nqfreemasons.com.au](mailto:dglng@nqfreemasons.com.au)/ 0488716413 and prepay to the bank acc below:

Preferred Payment Option:- EFT Banking: District Grand Lodge of North Queensland  
BSB 633 000 - Bendigo Bank 170 157 341 NB: Please use your Surname as the Reference



**Theme:** Country Boot Scootin' hosted by Tropical Boots Line Dancers

***Come in Western outfits to make the night more fun!!***

*Everyone Welcome so bring your friends!!*

Multidraw Raffles, Line Dancing, Fun and Games, Barbeque, Prizes and more

## A Famous Freemason.



# Don Rickles

Don Jay Rickles was born on May 8th, 1926 in Queens, New York to Max Rickles, an insurance salesman and his wife Etta Feldman. Growing up an only child he left home at 18 and enlisted in the Navy, serving the United States in the Philippines during World War II. Shortly after he was discharged from his post he returned to New York City and began studying at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. After this major career change Rickles found it hard to find any acting jobs and worked a mix of sales jobs while performing at bingo parlours, churches, and synagogues. A few years later he moved to Los Angeles with the dream of landing an acting job and finally starting his career in the limelight. While in LA he accepted a few part time roles on television shows and began honing in on his stand up comedy routine.



During his performances he began to notice his audience would laugh far louder at his off the cuff responses to hecklers in the audience than to his written jokes, Rickles realized he had found his comedic niche of poking fun and simply being loud. Rickles' witty and boisterous personality blossomed into a full fledged comedic personality that celebrities like Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin idolized.

## Finding His Voice.

The story goes that one night in 1957 Frank Sinatra and his friends came to see Don Rickles perform in Hollywood. As Sinatra took his seat, Rickles looked down on the world-famous singer songwriter and said, "make yourself at home, Frank." Apparently, Sinatra laughed so hard he just about fell out of his seat. Although a favourite of Sinatra's, Rickles spent almost a decade trying to break through to a national audience. During the glory years of "The Tonight Show," with Johnny Carson, Don Rickles made numerous appearances poking fun at Johnny Carson. This led him to a slew of cameos on Dean Martin's

television roasts where he soared at heckling the celebrities that adorned the stage. It was often said that no matter the man or woman that took the stage they were never safe from Don Rickles' jokes and jabs. Carl Reiner, a popular American screenwriter at the time said, "if they hadn't been insulted by Rickles, they weren't it."



***Don Rickles with Robert De Niro in "Casino"***

## **The 1960s and Beyond**

In 1968 Rickles landed his first variety show called, "The Don Rickles Show." Although only lasting a season, viewers loved the hour a day they spent laughing with Rickles. In 1972, "The Don Rickles Show" was revived as a sitcom, but again only on air for a short period of time. His 1993 sitcom, "Daddy Dearest" starred Richard Lewis as his son. Although his time starring and producing his television shows was short-lived, his career was far from over. Critics found it hard to describe his energy on stage, his affinity with his audience, and his resilience to all obstacles. Rickles explanation of his ability to bounce back: "I'm the guy at the Christmas party who makes fun of the boss on Friday night and still has a job on Monday morning." Rickles truly was a comedic master with a unique enough delivery to get through any blow he delivered.

Later in his career he was cast in "Casino" with Robert De Niro and Sharon Stone, a movie that quickly became a cult classic for movie lovers. Rickles also found huge success as the voice of Mr. Potato Head in the highly popular movie, "Toy Story," and in 2011 played Betty White's husband in the sitcom, "Hot in Cleveland."

In 2007, Rickles published a memoir called "Rickles' Book" which was later loosely adapted into a HBO documentary about the Stardust Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas and the stars that performed and hung around there. In 2014, Spike Cable channel threw him a TV tribute featuring David Letterman, Jerry Seinfeld, Jon Stewart, and Bob Newhart – some of Rickles' closest friends from the industry. As health issues began to inhibit Rickles from performing as frequently as he had before, resilient as ever, he continued to make television and concert appearances and was one of the final guests on "Late Night with David Letterman" in 2015.

Don Rickles died on April 6th, 2017 leaving behind his wife, Barbara Rickles, their two children, Larry and Mindy, and two grandchildren, Ethan and Harrison. Rickles was a force of nature, a comic with a distinct voice, and the ultimate roaster, he will always be remembered for the mark he left on Los Angeles and the film and television industry.

## **Bro. Rickles**

Little is known about Don Rickles time as a Mason in his hometown of Queens as a member of Service City Geba Lodge No. 1009 in Astoria, New York. He was raised a Master Mason on June 6th, 1953 after attending the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. His life is an example of how with hard work, time, patience, and perseverance, a person can achieve great success. One can assume he upheld the tenets of Relief, Truth, and Brotherly Love and found a few ways to poke fun at his fellow Brethren.



## Other Events on the 2023 Calendar are:

- Yeppoon Lodge No 316 UGLQ —Sat 11th May —To mark the Centenary of Yeppoon Lodge and the Re-Consecration of Wowan Lodge No 315 UGLQ and Installation of Bro. Adam John Vardy as WM of Yeppoon Lodge. Commencing at 10.00 am at the Yeppoon Masonic Centre, 133 Rockhampton Rd Yeppoon. Note that the DGLNQ Dist. GM will attend this meeting as he was WM of Yeppoon Lodge in 2011. It will be a great weekend for Yeppoon Lodge and the Dist. GM would encourage other DGLNQ members to attend if possible!  
More details to follow.

- Muttaborra Lodge Installation of Wor. Bro Ian Morris – Sat 24th Aug 2024.  
More details to follow!



## Do You Know The Origins of These Expressions?

### “Between The Devil And The Deep Blue Sea”.

Britain’s history as a seafaring nation has left its mark on modern English language usage. Dozens of common idioms have their source in shipboard life during the age of sail: **in the same boat, at the helm, to run a tight ship, on the rocks, to keep things on an even keel**, and so on.

Slightly less obvious are the phrases **on the wrong tack** (referring to an upwind course), **to know the ropes** (referring to the rigging on a sailing ship), and **to give someone a wide berth** (or **to give some leeway** or **to steer clear of them**).

Sometimes the link with sailing has become fairly obscure. To describe as **broad in the beam**, for example, is to refer in fact to the beam of a ship — that is, its point of greatest width.

**Hard and fast**, generally applied these days to a rule, was originally said of a ship that was stuck fast through being stranded. Ans **touch and go** probably originally meant coming near to being stranded — to scrape the keel in shallow water.

The phrase **by and large** too is nautical in origin — to sail by and large in a sailing ship was to sail at a slight angle to the wind. Perhaps because this was ‘by and large’ a safe and effective way of sailing in the direction of an oncoming wind, the phrase came to be used in this more general sense.

To **sail close to the wind**, by contrast, was a more risky business — it was to steer as near head on as possible to the oncoming wind. Hence the general sense of the expression today; to take risks, or to verge on the irregular or illegal. The risk was that a slight shift in the wind might suddenly press the sails back against the mast, causing the ship to lose its stability and be **taken aback**, or **taking the wind from its sails** — two more nautical expressions that have passed into general use.

If everything is going well, you might say that all is **plain sailing** — originally **plane sailing**; that is, navigating by means of a simple plane chart, based on the assumption that the earth is flat or a plane. If things go badly, on the other hand, you might be **on your beam ends** — the beams were the diagonal struts across a ship, used to buttress the keel; so when a ship was on her beam ends, she was tilted over on her side and in danger of capsizing.

Rather less reliably, the two phrases **the devil to pay** and **between the devil and the deep blue sea** have been traced back to the days of sail. When anticipating trouble, people sometimes say **There’s going to be the devil to pay**. A longer version of the idiom, rarely heard nowadays, is **The devil to pay and no pitch hot**, suggesting lack of preparation for some important task. The devil here is a seam between planks on the side of a ship. And **to pay** such a seam is to seal or smear it with tar. (The words **pay** and **pitch**, in these senses, are in fact related, both going back to the Latin word for tar, **pix**.) If the sailors had neglected to prepare for chalking, then there was **the devil to pay and no pitch hot**. And if the captain found out about this inefficiency, there would be **the devil to pay**.

**Between the devil and the deep blue sea** suggests a simple choice between two equally unwelcome options. Perhaps there is a more specific seafaring reference — to ‘**walking the plank**’ on a pirate ship. Dictionaries list, as one meaning of **devil**, a sharpened tooth or spiked tool. A captive walking the plank would have the sea before him, and a pirate behind, prodding him with a marlinspike or **devil**.

It is possible, however, that the **devil** once again refers to the seam in the side of a wooden sailing ship. To chalk that seam, a sailor might be lowered by a rope from the deck — a precarious and dangerous position to be in, with little room for manoeuvre, suspended **between the devil and the deep blue sea**.



**Unfortunately, The N. Q. Compass  
Was unable to welcome any new members  
to the Craft during January, 2024.**



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