



# The N.Q. Compass



## The District Grand Lodge of North Queensland

Vol. 7 No. 1

News Letter

July 2025

Brethren,

A warm welcome to the **First Edition** of the NQ Compass for **2025-2026!** I hope that you and your families continue to remain in good health and that you are managing to keep away from the flu and stomach bugs that seem to be going around at the moment.

The District Office has remained busy for the month June mainly with **DGLNQ Team** visits to Lodges and also as we held the **DGLNQ June QC on Sat 14th June.**

Visitations undertaken and highlights from late May / June are as follows:

**Sat 31st May** - The DGLNQ Team led by the **Dep Dist GM VW Bro Joel Coleman** travelled up to Ch Towers for two local Lodge Installations.

The **first Installation** at 10 am was at **St John Davenport Lodge (Scottish Const)** where **RW Bro Geoff Jackson** was **Proclaimed as WM** by the Lodge Officers with assistance from Corinthian Lodge & DGLNQ brethren!

The **second Installation** was for **Corinthian Lodge (Irish Const)** where **Bro Glenn Petersen** was installed as WM of the Lodge by **Wor Bro Roger Landsberg PM** with assistance from his brethren, St John Davenport and DGLNQ members!

During the meeting, **VW Bro Coleman** presented **Bro David Cummins** with his **50 Year Service Jewel**. After this Installation, all brethren and families adjourned to an enjoyable and harmonious Festive Bd at The **Civic Club in Charters Towers.**

**Sat 31st May** - The **Pres of the DGLNQ BoGP, VW Bro Brennan Long** represented the **Dist GM** at the **Installation of Wor Bro Steve Cracknell** as **WM of AIF Townsville Memorial Lodge No 377** at 50 Ingham Rd Townsville! A good number of brethren and ladies / family were seated for a harmonious and enjoyable festive bd.

**Wed 4th June** - As **Dist GM**, I was pleased to represent **Freemasons NQ** at the **UGLQ June QC** in Brisbane. It was a well attended meeting with some informative reports tabled and with several presentations made by our **GM MW Bro Jeff Harper AFSM**. An important document was also signed to confirm an agreement between **UGLQ and SGRAC** in relation to the joint use of member management systems moving forward!! This was the **final UGLQ QC** for our GM and some heartfelt speeches were made at a well attended festive bd.

**Mon 9th** - As **Dist GM**, I attended a **T'ville AIF Mem Lodge No 377** regular meeting along with **Wor Bro Mick Litka-Fry**. At the meeting, the brethren **balloted for 2 new members** and then **VW Bro John Woodford** delivered an informative presentation on the **MFOB - the Masonic Fund of Benevolence - Bro Woodford is a director of MFOB).**

**Sat 14th** - **DGLNQ** held their **June QC at 50 Ingham Rd** at 10.30am. The meeting went well and the reports tabled were all positive and very informative. I was pleased to announce **Grand Rank of PJGD was Conferred on Wor Bro Ron Rowe** by our **GM on Wed 4th June 25!** A smaller festive board was held and was well catered for by our ladies.

**Sat 21st** - As **Dist GM**, it was a pleasure to attend the **Unity Lodge No. 300 Installation**, where **Bro Naph Yvan Yague** was installed as **WM** and the Investiture of Officers was completed! I was supported by a **DGLNQ Team of 9 officers** and the meeting was very well attended with **19 members** and **25 visitors** present to almost fill the Lodge Room. I was privileged to present **Wor Bro Philip Grier with his PM's Jewel**, to present **Wor Bro Jose Francisco Figueiredo** with a special **MFOB LVP Charity Jewel** and also to present **VW Bro Gavin Craig with his 30 Year Service Jewel and lapel pin.** **RW Bro Morrie Bligh** was also presented with a **60 Year Service Jewel** by his long time friend **Wor Bro Don Ross** and I was honoured to present Morrie with his **60 Yr Lapel Pin and Certificate!** We adjourned to an enjoyable festive board to cap off a great day where **62 persons and 3 children** seated for a great banquet!

**Sat 28th** - As **Dist GM**, I was accompanied by our **Dep Dist GM VW Bro Joel Coleman** to represent **Freemasons NQ** at the **Hinchinbrook Cordelia Lodge No 69 Proclamation of Bro Chris Taylor** as **Lodge WM**. During the ceremony, I was privileged to present **Bro Michael Milanovic** with his **Master Masons Certificate!** After the meeting, we adjourned to a harmonious and enjoyable banquet which was held at the **RSL Club in Ingham**. During the banquet, **WM Chris Taylor** made a **special presentation of \$22,600.00 to Ingham Meals On Wheels** group which represented **2 years of fundraising efforts by the Lodge in partnership with Hand Heart Pocket - the Charity of Freemasons Queensland!**

**Date Claimers and Other Events on the DGLNQ 2025 Calendar** are as advised within this **NQ Compass!**

Once again, I thank you for your continued support for DGLNQ and myself as Dist GM.

Fraternally John Playford - Dist GM / DGLNQ

## JULY LODGE MEETINGS and Events

Lodge/Event	Time	Date	Where	Work
Millican 137	7:30pm	3/7/25	50 Ingham Rd	
Proserpine Whitsunday 251	7:30pm	3/7/25	Proserpine	3rd Degree
UGLQ Installation	Over 2 days	4-6/7/25	Brisbane	Installation
Ashlar Magnetic 509	3:00pm	5/7/25	Magnetic Is	1st Degree
BoGP Meeting	5:00pm	8/7/25	50 Ingham Rd	
St Andrew of Townsville 94	7:30pm	10/7/25	50 Ingham Rd	6pm Dinner Centenary Hotel/Ballot
Kennedy Lodge #11	3:30pm	12/7/25	Bowen	Installation
Townsville AIF Memorial 377	7:30pm	14/7/25	50 Ingham Rd	1st Degree
Hinchinbrook Cordelia 69	7:30pm	17/7/25	Ingham	
Harmony Daylight 530	10:00am	18/7/25	50 Ingham Rd	
Star of the West	1:30pm	19/7/25	Hughenden	Installation
Northern Travellers 384	7:00pm	21/7/25	50 Ingham Rd	Ballots and election of Officers
Unity 300	7:00pm	23/7/25	50 Ingham Rd	
Millican	2:00pm	26/7/25	50 Ingham Rd	Installation

### LODGE HAPPENINGS: 31st May 2025 (Photos from these two installations follow on page 3 )

#### St John Davenport Lodge #33 Proclamation

The DGLNQ Team led by the Dep Dist GM VW Bro Joel Coleman travelled up to Charters Towers on Saturday 31st May for the Proclamation of RWBro Geoffrey Jackson, as he begins his 2nd year in the Chair of St John Davenport Lodge (Scottish Constitution).

St John Davenport were ably assisted by members of Corinthian Lodge and DGLNQ to ensure the success of the ceremony.

A light lunch followed before the brethren returned up stairs for the 2nd Installation for the day.

#### Corinthian Lodge #71 Installation

Following St John Davenport's Proclamation, Dep Dist GM VW Bro Joel Coleman and his Team represented DGLNQ as Bro Glenn Petersen was installed as WM of Corinthian Lodge (Irish Constitution) by Wor Bro Roger Landsberg PM with assistance from his brethren, St John Davenport and DGLNQ members. Visitors also came from Millican Lodge Townsville to support the Charters Towers Lodges!!

We congratulate Bro David Cummins who was presented with his 50 year jewel during the ceremony.

A harmonious combined festive board was held at the Civic Club in Charters Towers and we wish both Lodges every success for the coming year.

## St John Davenport



## Corinthian



## Townsville AIF Memorial Lodge #377 Installation

After the initial postponement, the Installation went ahead on Saturday 31st May and Wor Bro Steve Cracknell was installed into the Chair for Townsville AIF Memorial Lodge for 2025-2026.

Wor Bro Jason Ballard was presented with his Past Master's Jewel after 2 years as Master of the Lodge. Many thanks to VWBro Brennan Long, Pres BoGP and VWBro Mal Edmiston for representing DGLNQL at this special occasion.

We wish Wor Bro Cracknell and his team every success for the coming year.



## *Sincere Thanks*

Since we have been in this building, VWBro Noel LeRoy has been dedicated to ensuring none of us have ever gone thirsty! At every meeting and event the drink's fridge is fully stocked to cater for all member's tastes. He tallies the drinks after each event and charges the Lodges accordingly. He makes sure he gets the best deals on the drinks to keep the costs down and is also there to man the bar when the occasion requires.

The time has come for Noel to hand over the reigns and RWBro Morrie Bligh who is going to attempt to fill Noel's shoes.

Thank you very much Noel for your dedication and attention to this ongoing task. We are very grateful for your time and effort.



Noel (L) and his trusty offsider Andrew Young

## St Andrews Meals on Wheels



Mick and Maria Litka –Fry continue to deliver meals for St Andrew’s Meals on Wheels.

Their last delivery is to the nuns at the Loretto Nursing Home who have morning tea waiting and love nothing better than a social chat.



**Don’t forget to get in touch with Mick if you are able to help with this worthy cause.**

## DGLNQ June QC

DGLNQ held their June QC at 50 Ingham Rd on Sat 14th June 2025 at 10.30am. There were many apologies from the District brethren for the QC but the meeting went well and the reports tabled were all positive, busy and very informative.



The Dist GM was pleased to announce Grand Rank of PJGD was Conferred on Wor Bro Ron Rowe by our GM on Wed 4th June 25.

We adjourned to a more simple and casual festive board which was well catered for by our ladies!

At our DGLNQ QC set for Sat 13th Sept 25, a Secret Ballot to select our Dist GM Elect will be conducted.



## UGLQ June QC



The Dist GM, John Playford represented Freemasons NQ at the Freemasons Queensland Quarterly Communication at Grand Lodge, Ann St Brisbane on Wed 4th June 2025 accompanied by his wife Andrea. This was the final QC for the current Grand Master and Andrea attended the final ladies function for the GM’s wife Dorothy.

They called in at Grand Lodge on Wednesday morning to say hello to Andrew, Monica & Danielle and chat with GSE Mervyn Gray at the office of Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Queensland!!

It was a well attended meeting with some informative reports tabled and with several presentations made by our GM MW Bro Jeff Harper. An important document was also signed to confirm an agreement between UGLQ and SGRAC in relation to the joint use of member management systems moving forward!!



It was an opportunity to meet with all brethren again especially RWBro Dave Scott and VWBro Lex Livingstone-DGL Carpentaria!

## Unity Lodge #300 Installation

Saturday 21st June was a special day for Wor Bro Naph Yague, when he was installed as Worshipful Master of Unity Lodge. There was great attendance in the Lodge room to witness the Installation including almost 100% from Ashlar Magnetic.

It was an honour for Dist GM, RWBro Playford and his Dep Dist GM, VWBro Coleman and the seven Dist Grand Officers to attend this Installation as Wor Bro Yague has been a member and supporter of the DGLNQ Team for many years as a Steward and now Herald.

The ceremony was well conducted and prior to retiring from the Lodge, the Dist GM was privileged to present Wor Bro Philip Grier with his PM's Jewel, Wor Bro Jose Francisco Figueiredo with a special MFoB LVP Charity Jewel and also to present VW Bro Gavin Craig with his 30 Year Service Jewel and lapel pin, on behalf on the Unity brethren!!



RW Bro Morrie Bligh was also presented with a 60 Year Service Jewel by his long time friend Wor Bro Don Ross and the Dist GM was honoured to present Morrie with his 60 Yr Lapel Pin and Certificate!

Over sixty guests attended the delicious and well-organized festive board catered for by the ladies.

We wish Wor Bro Yague and his team of Officers every success for the ensuing year.



## Unity photos continued...



## Masonic Fund of Benevolence visit at T'ville AIF Meeting

VWBro John Woodford a director of Masonic Fund of Benevolence, visited Townsville on Monday 9th June to inform brethren on the role and function of MFoB. All Lodges/ brethren were invited to attend.

T'ville AIF kindly hosted the event as it coincided with their monthly meeting.

Dist GM, John Playford and President BoB Wor Bro Mick Litka-Fry both attended.

At the meeting, the brethren balloted for 2 new members and then VW Bro John Woodford delivered an informative presentation on the MFoB.



## Special Milestone

Last Thursday, Northern Travellers' Brother Director of Ceremonies, had the great honour of travelling to Canberra to witness his son, Bro Matthew Sutherland, being Raised to the Third Degree. Congratulations to both Bro Matthew and his proud father, WBro Lewis Sutherland, on reaching this meaningful and memorable milestone together .



## Hinchinbrook Cordelia Lodge # 69 Installation

The Dist GM, RWBro John Playford, his wife Andrea, Dep Dist GM, VWBro Joel Coleman, along with Bros Long, Gosling, Exelby, Rowe and MacDonald represented DGLNQ and DGL Carpentaria at the Hinchinbrook Cordelia Proclamation, which saw Wor Bro Chris Taylor begin his 2nd year as Master of the Lodge. During the ceremony Bro Michael Milanovic was presented with his Master Masons Certificate.

At the festive Board that followed, the Lodge presented a cheque for \$22 600 to the very grateful Ingham Meals on Wheels representatives. This is the 2nd stage of Hinchinbrook's ongoing commitment to Meals on Wheels in the district which was initiated by Ron Rowe during his term as Master. All members who volunteer their time to the



charity commented on the enjoyment and satisfaction they get from this community service.

We wish Wor Bro Taylor and his team every success over the coming 12 months.



*Grand Lodge Above—Our thoughts and sympathy are with the family and friends of the following brethren :*

*VWBro Ron Capps who passed on Sunday 22nd June 2025*

*VWBro Malcolm Douglas who passed on Wednesday 26th June 2025*

### **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**



*Please stay safe and well. We know there are a number of brethren/wives who are not feeling 100%. Please know our thoughts are with you and we hope you have a speedy recovery .*