

The Square and Compasses.

A newsletter for the Grand Lodge of South Africa, No. 140-September 2023



Most Worshipful Brother Godfrey Place.

Brotherly Love in Freemasonry:

A Bond That Transcends Borders

Freemasonry has been built upon the principles of Truth, Morality, and Brotherly Love. Brotherly Love emphasises the importance of unity, compassion, and support among our members. The concept of Brotherly Love in Freemasonry is significant, as it fosters a sense of camaraderie among us. However, these traits must be carried out into the world at large, so the public can see the benefits of belonging to our Order, and they will know that it is to us, as Freemasons, they can turn and unburden their hearts when troubled.

Definition and Origin of Masonic Brotherly Love:

Brotherly Love refers to the genuine affection and respect that we have for one another. It is a bond that transcends differences in age, race, religion, nationality, and social status. The origins of Brotherly Love can be traced back to the earliest days of Freemasonry, where it was seen as a fundamental principle for the fraternity's success. This practice if carried out in our daily lives, has the ability to bring a small spark of light and sometimes happiness in many people's lives, because we treat them in the way on which we wish to be treated.

The Symbolism of Brotherly Love:

In our Order symbols play a key role in teaching deeper meanings. The square and compasses, are two of our most recognisable symbols. These represent the importance of balance and harmony. The square symbolises morality, or as we term it, rectitude, which keeps us on the right path, unwavering in following the voice of reason and the path that duty dictates.

This means that we can clearly distinguish between right and wrong. The compasses represent self-control. These teach us to measure our actions and interactions with our members as well as our neighbours. Together, they signify the need for us to treat one another with fairness, kindness and understanding and apply these principals in how we behave in society at large.

The Practice of Brotherly Love:

Brotherly Love is not merely a theoretical concept in Freemasonry; it is actively practiced within lodges and Masonic communities worldwide. We are encouraged to support and assist one another in times of need, both within and outside the lodge. We are called to practice this in the very first part of our initiation, whilst in a dangerous position, supported by our Brethren, we are reminded to help and succour a brother in need to the best of our ability. This support can take various forms, such as financial aid, emotional guidance, or simply lending a helping hand.

Unity and Inclusivity:

Brotherly Love brings together individuals from diverse backgrounds. We welcome men from different walks of life, fostering a culture where differences are respected and celebrated. This inclusivity strengthens the bond of Brotherly Love, as it encourages us to learn from one another and grow together.

Moral and Ethical Development:

Brotherly Love goes beyond the surface level of friendship. It serves as a catalyst for personal growth and moral development. Through shared interactions with our brethren, we are encouraged to reflect upon our actions and strive for self-improvement. The principles of Brotherly Love guide us to be better people, both within the Order and in our daily lives.

The Impact of Brotherly Love on Society:

The influence of Brotherly Love extends beyond the boundaries of Freemasonry. We are encouraged to be active members of our communities, promoting harmony, tolerance, and compassion. By embodying the principles of Brotherly Love, we become role models, inspiring others to embrace unity and understanding in their own lives.

Brotherly Love is the Masonic cornerstone. It binds us together in a unique and profound way. It is a principle that emphasizes the importance of unity, compassion, and support among our members, transcending differences and fostering a sense of camaraderie. Through the practice of Brotherly Love, we do not only strengthen our Order but also contribute positively to society at large. By continuing to uphold the principles of Brotherly Love, the world becomes a better place, one act of kindness at a time.

MW Bro Godfrey Place
Grand Master



The Grand Master, MW Bro Godfrey Place, (6L) and First Grand Principal, MEC John Smith OSM MSA,(7L) and RA Comps. had circulated his report ahead of the meeting. All the formalities were well attended to.

RA Southern AGM a Great Success

On Saturday 16 September the Royal Arch Southern Division Annual meeting took place in the historical de Goede Hoop Temple in Cape Town..

The AGM ran well and, as Grand Superintendent, MEC Mahmoud Patel, was medically incapacitated, MEC Louis van der Linde took the chair on his behalf. He read MEC Patel’s report, confirmed that the finances were in good order and highlighted the Division’s positive growth in their various activities.

The First Grand Principle, MEC John Smith OSM MSA, then installed MEC Louis van der Linde as Southern Division’s Grand Superintendent. The Deputy GS is EC Keith Hutton OSM.

The time had now arrived for our Grand Master, MW Bro Godfrey Place, to install Raymond Eyiomen as the new PGM of Southern Division. This was the first PGM Installation performed by MW Bro Place and his new team and they really excelled.



Having been installed, RW Bro Eyiomen then installed his Officers including Wor Bros Frank Begot and Malcolm Gessler as the new Assistant PGMs.



MEC Louis van der Linde (3L) is with 2nd Principal, MEC Cobis Wilson (2L) and 3rd Principals EC Malcolm Gessler and EC James Lidderd.

Wor Bro Harry Faktor completes 60 Years



Wor Bro Harry Faktor (Westerford) was initiated on 18 August 1963. On 17 September 2023 he received his 60 year jewel from the Grand Master, MW Bro Godfrey Place, and Deputy, RW Bro Tom Hardiman.

Southern Division AGM a memorable Event

On the Saturday afternoon 16 September, it was the turn of Southern Division to have their AGM. Acting PGM, Wor Bro Raymond Eyiomen was in the chair and outgoing PGM, RW Bro Tommy Hardiman,



The Grand Master, MW Bro Godfrey Place, (7L) with the Brethren who attended the Southern Division AGM.



In front are Wor Bro James Lidderd (1L), Wor Bro Ric Gillmer (4L), Wor Bro Herdus Snyman (5L), while in the 2nd row is Wor Bro Hendrik Rademeyer (6R). The meeting took place at the “Temple on the Beach”.

Jeffreys Bay Install Herdus Snyman as WM

On Saturday 9 September Jeffreys Bay had their annual Installation. Wor Bro Herdus Snyman is the new Worshipful Master. The Provincial delegation was led by Acting PGM Wor Bro Ric Gillmer, while Wor Bro James Lidderd performed the Installation and Wor Bro Hendrik Rademeyer the Board of Installed Masters. This most successful event was very well supported by our Eastern Cape Freemasons.



Gary Hendricks and Dennis Knight and their partners

Southern Celebrate their 49th Spring Ball

As part of the Southern Division AGM weekend we celebrated the 49th consecutive Spring Ball. This year, as has become the recent custom, it was held at the Kelvin Grove club and, to make it even more interesting, we also celebrated the Installations of PGM, RW Bro Raymond Eyiomen as and RA Grand Superintendent, MEC Louis van der Linde.

Here are some pictures taken at the event.



MW Bro Godfrey Place (7L) with senior Officers and wives



Leon and Denel Brown



Jackie and Johan van der Merwe



Wendy and Rodger Wegener



Roy and Bernie Ball

RW Bro Peet Louw Installed as UGLE DGM

On Saturday 16 September Wor Bro Peet Louw was Installed as the District Grand Master of the UGLE’s Central Division. He is also a well respected Worshipful Master of our Magersfontein Lodge.

The ceremony took place at the Kimberley Temple. It was well supported by GLSA Brethren with RW Bro Alf Brönnner leading our delegation.



Bro Pieter Kruger, Wor Bro John Meyer, RW Bro Frans Appelgryn , RW Bro Peet Louw, RW Bro Alf Brönnner



Odile and Bradley Bordiss and Derian Echeveri-Molina

“Don’t find fault, find a remedy.” Henry Ford

Golden City Initiate Bro Jacques Williams

On Thursday 21 September Golden City initiated Bro Jacques Williams. The working was graced by an official visit from Prins Frederik, with other visitors including PGM, RW Bro Simon Nash. All agreed that it was an excellent working.



MW Bro Godfrey Place, Bro Heinrich Roodt, Wor Bro Vishal Gautam, Bro Jacques Williams, Bro Sashin Palliam, RW Bro Simon Nash

AASR Settlers welcome 4 new 4th Degrees

On Monday 4 September 4 Brethren from Jeffreys Bay were advanced to the 4th degree by Settlers Chapter in Port Elizabeth. In the chair was MWS Herdus Snyman and, assisted by the Officers of the Chapter, a high standard working was performed.



In front are Bros Danie Myburgh, Schalk Rademeyer, Ven Bro Herdus Snyman, M Ill Bro Nowellyn van Vuuren Bros Adolf Rademeyer, Miass Janse van Vuuren

de Goede Verwachting Initiate Jacques Grobler

On Thursday 21 September the Master of de Goede Verwachting, Wor Bro Cobis Wilson, and his team initiated Bro Jacques Grobler as a member of the Lodge. Overall, it was a memorable evening.



Bro Martin Carstens, Wor Bro Cobis Wilson, Bro Jacques Grobler, Bro Chris van der Merwe

Eendracht Maakt Macht perform 14th Degree

The 14th degree is new to the AASR of South Africa. It is a beautiful ceremony and I'm assured by

the Brethren involved in the Eendracht Maak Macht working of Thursday 28 September that it is here to stay. The evening was a great success.



Front Ill Bro Ian Huntley, Bros Samuel Zwane, Sunday Ogunronbi, Alodapo Adepoju, Andrew Pienaar, Eric Houniet ; back M Ill Bro Reuven Coenen (2R)

Eastern Cape support UGLE Installation

On Saturday 2 September the UGLE installed a new District GM for their SA Eastern Division. The meeting was at Makanda (Grahamstown). The GLSA were represented by the Acting PGM, Wor Bro Ric Gillmer, along with several Officers and Brethren.



Bro Tyrone Benett, Wor Bros Marius Terblanche, Herdus Snyman, Ric Gillmer Bro James Lidderd jnr, Wor Bros Hendrik Rademeyer, James Lidderd, Bro Adolf Rademeyer and Bro Schalk Rademeyer

Almoner's Report

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Bro Rickey de Beer (Star of the Rand). Rickey, a Fellowcraft, had been ill for a couple of years and really wasn't able to get his Masonic journey properly started. Our sympathy is extended to the family.

Wor Bro Herman Finnern (Zur Eintracht) has also been called to the Eternal East. He spent 10 years as an Assistant PGM of Southern Division and had the distinction of performing Installations in English, Afrikaans and German. Our thoughts are with the family at this challenging time.

Finally, Wor Bro Barry Conchar (Cape Town) has also passed away and our thoughts and prayers are extended to his family in their time of grief.

If anything is known about a Brother in distress, please share it with your Divisional Almoner.

Southern	Wor Bro Cobis Wilson	083 2844684
Northern	Wor Bro Herman Roos	082 3184238
Central	Wor Bro John Meyer	073 3525832
Eastern	Wor Bro Bushy McKelvey	076 8912058
E Cape	Wor Bro Ian Hetherington	082 9545297

Grand Master's Cookie Challenge!

The Festive season is fast approaching and our Grand Master, MW Bro Godfrey Place, is keen that we help as many less fortunate people as we can. He has launched his Cookie Challenge, so make sure that you are aware of the details and get involved!