



## The St Nicholas Lodge Bugle

November 2023



Dear Brethren,

How quickly the year seems to be going and we are just passed Halloween and now Christmas doesn't seem that far away. Our last regular meeting of the year was held on All Saints Day, which seemed especially fitting for a lodge named after the patron saint of Sailors, Saint Nicholas.

November is always our business meeting and we were delighted to elect our Master Elect, Bro. Roger Kaye - our current Senior Warden. Bro. Roger thanked the brethren for the trust placed in him. W. Bro Peter Hemmingham was also re-elected as lodge Treasurer. We can be assured of a year to look forward to.

A ballot was held for two new initiates, Mr Dennis Vaughan and Mr Jay Williamson-Jones. Following the successful ballot, we went on to initiate Mr Dennis Vaughan who was proposed by Bro Roger Kaye. Our Worshipful Master conducted an excellent ceremony, with the entrusting done by W. Bro Ron T Penny, the North East Corner by Bro. Nev Chambers, Working Tools by Bro Scott Davison and the Charge by W. Bro Jamie Wallis.

An initiation is always a special night at the festive board, with the adamantine chain explanation by W. Bro Chris Blackman and the brethren in good voice!

The lodge was delighted to welcome nine visitors from three lodges and the visitor's response was delivered by the new Worshipful Master of Leopold Lodge 1760, W. Bro Mickey Ward.

The brethren were delighted to welcome Bro. Dennis in to the St Nicholas Lodge and we hope he has many happy years in the craft.



The brethren, new and existing are strongly encouraged to use the free online tool from United Grand Lodge, called Solomon. It's a free tool and enables you to learn more about this fascinating craft, with nuggets and modules, and you can customise what you can view.

It's a great addition to your masonic journey, and enables you to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge and your time in Masonry more enjoyable. It is highly recommended.

[Getting Started with Solomon \(ugle.org.uk\)](https://solomon.ugle.org.uk)



From left - SD Bro Alastair Yeomans, WM Tony Hewitt, Bro Dennis Vaughan, JD James Hayward

Images by Bro Nev Chambers

## Looking Ahead



### Lodge of Instruction

The next lodge of instruction (Junior Lodge) will be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November. Officers moving in to new positions or are learning ritual have the opportunity to practice for the installation ceremony and next year's offices.

As always, if you are unable to make it please let the lodge DC know!

### December Installation

The Past Masters met on 2<sup>nd</sup> November with the Master Elect and the Officers for 2024 and the installation proceedings were confirmed. The meeting will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at **5:30 pm** and the lodge will be open for refreshments from 4:30pm. The meal will be two courses with Carols at the festive board. The representative of the RW Provincial Grand Master will be W. Bro Tony Dyer.

### Charity



### Lodge Raffle

The Festive Board Raffle raised £122 for lodge charity funds!

## Remembering the Fallen

As we approach the time of year when we remember the fallen on Armistice Day. As is the St Nicholas Lodge tradition, our Worshipful Master will lay a wreath at Oliver's Mount War Memorial.

He will be supported by several of our lodge members and their partners, and if you would like to attend please meet in Oliver's café from 10:00 a.m.



## Social

- **Coming Up! Thursday 16th November 2023 - WM's Ladies Evening at Restaurant 1909.**
- **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023.**

The traditional after installation lodge social will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December, meeting from 12:00 p.m. for lunch and a couple of drinks of drinks around town. All St Nicholas Lodge brethren are welcome. The meeting location will be confirmed at installation.

## Chapter



The Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch of Jerusalem, Denison Chapter 1248 installation will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> December.

Should you would like to know more and are interested in joining chapter, an essential part of your masonic journey, please contact our Chapter representative, W. Bro John White.

## Daily Advancement – What is a Poniard?



When Bro. Dennis Vaughan was admitted, he had a poniard presented to his naked left breast, as is the custom for all initiates. The symbolism is naturally explained later, but what is a poniard? To many of us we have never heard the term and essentially it is similar to a parrying dagger.

It is a long, lightweight, slender thrusting knife with a continuously tapering, acutely pointed blade with a cross guard. This type of knife was traditionally worn by the nobility and upper classes, particularly members of the knighthood and men of honour.

The poniard emerged during the middle ages and they are rarely seen today outside of Museums and Freemasonry!



I hope you have enjoyed this edition of the bugle, and if you have anything you would like to include or know, please let me know.

Yours fraternally

Jamie Wallis

Editor – The St. Nicholas Bugle