

The St Nicholas Lodge Bugle

May 2024



Dear Brethren,

2024 seems to be advancing at pace and May seems to have stealthily crept up on us and we are now approaching the May Day Bank Holiday. May Day as a celebration dates back over two thousand years, falling roughly between the Spring Equinox and Summer Solstice Taking it's rise in the fertility of spring and the start of Summer, and the Romans celebrated this during the festival of Floralia celebrating the Goddess Flora, the Goddess of flowers and Spring.

Thirteen visitors from seven lodges attended the regular May meeting of St Nicholas Lodge, to see the passing of Bro. Dennis Vaughan, who conducted himself brilliantly especially with the questions – well done! An excellent ceremony ensued, and the brethren and all our visitors, including a last-minute booking and looking at our website, by W. Bro Mark Rudston from Technical Lodge 3891, had an enjoyable meeting.

One of the great aspects of Freemasonry is that it is spread over the four quarters of the globe, and no matter where you are you can always find a fraternal welcome. This was evident on Wednesday when St Nicholas met Saint Nicholas. Bro Simon Livingston, who was in Scarborough on a training course, was walking into town from his hotel for a meal, when he chanced upon the Masonic Hall.

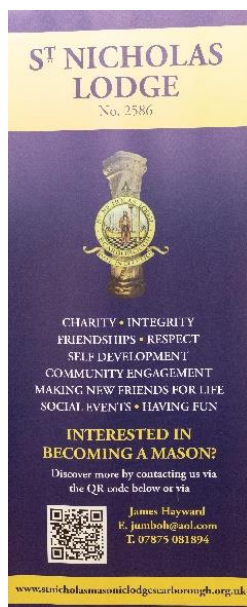
Seeing the lights on, and being curious, he ventured in, and was greeted by one of the lodge pop-ups stating St Nicholas Lodge. By coincidence, his own lodge in Great Yarmouth Saint Nicholas 6623! Bro. Rob was duly invited to the festive board where he was made very welcome, made new friends, and bonds were formed that will no doubt involve a trip to Great Yarmouth!



From Left to right: W. Bro Mark Rushton, W. Bro Roger Kaye and Bro. Simon Livingston



From left to right, JW Alastair Yeomans, Bro, Rob Livingston, WM Roger Kaye, SW Scott Davison



The Lodge Pop Up Banner

Looking Ahead



Lodge of Instruction – 20th May

The next lodge of instruction will be held on Monday 20th May at 6:30p.m. We will be opening and closing with the 2025 officers and there will also be a talk, a quiz, and any questions. It is an opportunity for all newer members, to learn more and take part. Please let Bro. Jamie Wallis know if you are unable to make it.

11th May – Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire North and East Ridings will take place very soon at York Racecourse at 11:00 a.m. in the Voltigeur Suite No. 2.

The annual meeting is a very enjoyable day, and it is quite the occasion, bringing brethren together from around the region. For the first time families and partners will be able to attend to witness those brethren receiving honours and promotions. If you have not been before it is a very enjoyable day and full of ceremony. This is open to Master Masons and above.

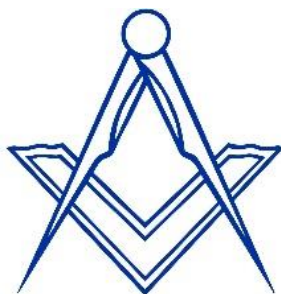
W.Bro. Ron T Penny and W. Bro Jamie Wallis will be receiving promotions on this occasion and support from the brethren would be welcome.

5th June – Second Degree

A second degree for Bro. Daniel Vass initiated on 7th February 2024. Please note all entered apprentices can still attend!

3rd July – Save the Date!

Our July meeting will be a White Table event where we will be able to invite non masons and prospective candidates to join the lodge. We will have a brief formal meeting then invite our guests into the lodge room, for a short talk and open question session. This will be followed by an informal meal at the festive board. This a format that worked well in March 2020. It is your opportunity to invite and friends, family & neighbours who would make good candidates for joining the lodge. Guests will be paid for by the lodge.



Social Events

The brethren and partners had a fabulous evening on 19th April ten pin bowling followed by a delicious fish and chip supper at the Golden Grid. There was a competitive but friendly atmosphere! A great evening and thanks to W. Bro Roger Kaye and W. Bro John White for organising.

Social events are a wonderful way for you to get more out of Freemasonry.



Coming Up

- Summer Pub Crawl - TBC
- Restaurant 1909 – Thursday 17th October
- Ladies Night at North Cliff Golf Club – Saturday 23rd November

Lodge Committee – Open to all members

The next meeting of St Nicholas Lodge Committee – which is open to all lodge members – will be held on **Tuesday 11th June** at 6:30pm at the masonic hall. It is your chance to hear about candidates, future plans, charity propositions, and have your say!



Charity



Westway Open Arms

The Worshipful Masters, charity of the year, Westway Open Arms are the recipients of the proceeds of the lodge raffle which raised £147.00. The charity supports the Eastfield community and is a much-needed service for those in need. The bottle of Rum was won by W. Bro Jimmy Morrison of Leopold Lodge. 1760.

HMRC

Thank you to the brethren who participate in the Gift Aid scheme. We were delighted to receive back £312.65 from HMRC.

Talking News

At the lodge committee meeting the brethren voted to support the Scarborough Talking News. This is an independent charity that sends our audio descriptions of local news in various formats to blind and visually impaired people. The lodge has donated £963.59 to purchase new computer equipment. Talking news supports eighty visually impaired listeners in the borough of Scarborough and beyond.

Connaught Court Summer Fayre – Saturday 8th June

The friends of Connaught Court in York, which is care home run by the RMBI Care Co. (Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution) will be holding a fundraising fair on Saturday 8th June, with fun events for all the family. The RMBI run seventeen care home across England and Wales and supports older Freemasons, their families, and people in the wider community. The RMBI was founded in 1842 and Connaught Court was established in 1971.



Lodge Website

We are delighted that the new lodge website is up and running and we hope this will be useful as a tool to all of us, visiting brethren and to attract interest from new candidates for Freemasonry. Websites are an essential tool and also a good repository for blogs and articles like the Bugle. The website is important as a 'call to action' when interacting with the media and social channels to direct people to find information and contact details.

Please take a look and useful feedback is welcome!

[St Nicholas Lodge 2586 – Scarborough \(stnicholasmasoniclodgescarborough.org.uk\)](http://stnicholasmasoniclodgescarborough.org.uk)



Chapter



The next meeting Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch of Jerusalem, Denison Chapter 1248 will take place on 9th October. Old Globe Chapter will take place on Friday 10th May.

Chapter is an essential part of your masonic journey and once was a part of the third degree and is now a separate and unique order. Should you like to know more and are interested in joining chapter, please contact our Chapter representative, W. Bro John White.

Daily Advancement

The Trowel



The brethren will notice that the collar worn by the various officers of the lodge are all different and represent distinct roles undertaken in the lodge. The one worn by the Charity Steward is the trowel.

This ancient building implement used in brickwork or stonework for levelling, spreading, and shaping mortar or concrete is highly symbolic in Freemasonry. It is mentioned in the charge than even 'Monarchs themselves have not thought it derogatory to exchange the sceptre for the trowel.'

Before the poniard, it was the tip of a trowel that was pressed to the naked left breast of a new candidate. In the eighteenth century there was no office of Inner Guard, and each new initiate was presented with a trowel as well as an apron. It was the latest initiate on the inner side of the door, and he used the trowel for knocks as well as admitting new initiates. Thus, Monarchs can wield a sceptre as power, but in exchanging this for lowliest position in the lodge with the trowel, he is learning the lesson that we all must begin at the bottom of the ladder.

Since earlier times the trowel was the symbol of care for the brotherhood and represents the spreading of friendship, kindness, and virtue, as well as been a key component for building, it acts as a symbol to build a moral foundation based on the principles of masonry.

In some parts of the world the trowel is one of the working tools of a Master Mason.

Fun Fact: -

George Washington laid the first or foundation stone at the northeast corner of the United States Capitol in full Freemasonry pageantry on September 18th 1793. A parade of lodges in full regalia assembled at the site where George Washington struck the foundation stone three times with a gavel.



George Washington was presented with a silver trowel and marble gavel especially for the occasion. The trowel now is on display at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. The trowel and gavel have been used occasionally for the foundation of other important buildings such as Herbert Hoover Building, The British Embassy, The Washington Monument and National Cathedral. The Gavel was donated to Potomac Lodge and remains in a vault for safe keeping!

I hope you have enjoyed this edition, if you have anything that you would like to include, please let me know!

Yours fraternally

Jamie Wallis

Editor

The St. Nicholas Bugle

