



## The St Nicholas Lodge Bugle December 2024



Dear Brethren,

Welcome to the December 2024 edition of the St. Nicholas Bugle. Our December meeting is the anniversary of our founding 129 years ago, and of course is our installation. As we say goodbye to our outgoing Master, W. Bro Roger Kaye, we must offer our congratulations on a first class year, and finishing as he started with an excellent installation ceremony. Well done!





We must now welcome our new Worshipful Master, Scott Davison, who was well prepared and we who will be an excellent leader of the lodge. He conducted himself in a self-assured way and the brethren were left in no doubt that the lodge is in good hands. He is certainly the youngest Master we have had for some time, well at least since 2009!



An excellent ceremony and festival of St John the Evangelist ensued with W. Bro Tony Dyer attending as the representative of the RW Provincial Grand Master. Stand out's from the ceremony were the younger brethren delivering the working tools, in the persons of Bro Nev Chambers (Third Degree), Bro Alex Blackman (Second Degree) and Bro Heath Samples (First Degree) – well done!

Visiting has been on the increase since Covid and this year particularly we have seen a significant increase in visitors. Our installation ceremony was no exception, with 28 visitors from 9 lodges.

The Festive board was replete with Christmas Carols, speeches and much laughter. The evening finished at just before 10:20 and was enjoyed by all (despite the cramped seating for some!).



## Looking Ahead



### Lodge of Instruction

The next lodge of instruction will take place in the new year on **Monday 20th January** at 6:30pm in the upper temple. We will be going through part of the first degree ceremony with the officers of 2025. **All brethren** are welcome as this is meant for new members and those on the ladder.

If anyone would like to learn anything for the ensuing year, please let me know. As always this is also an opportunity to make a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge, practice and ask questions in an informal setting.

Please note if you are unable to attend, please let W. Bro Jamie Wallis know.

### January Meeting – Note Change of Date – 8<sup>th</sup> January

The eagle eyed amongst you will notice that the first Wednesday in January is New Years Day. As it is a bank holiday and through special dispensation, our next meeting will be the following Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January. It is hoped to have a lecture to ease us in to the year.

### February Meeting

This will be a third degree raising of Bro Alex Blackman, who was passed on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024.





### **Lodge Fees**

The fees for 2025 are now due, please make sure these are paid as soon as possible - **£220.00**. These can be paid quarterly by arrangement with the Lodge Treasurer – Peter Hemmingham – 01723 583141 or [peter.h1933@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.h1933@btinternet.com).

### **Social Events**

#### **Ladies Night**

The Worshipful Master Roger Kaye and his wife Denise had a fantastic evening at North Cliff Golf Club on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

An excellent meal was had with the Ladies song being sung by Bro Dan Henley of the Leopold Lodge 1760. The evening had a wonderful atmosphere and the club was an excellent venue. We were also delighted to be joined by W. Bro John B White who was visiting from his home in the Midlands.





### Scarborough Athletic Club

A number of St Nicholas Brethren and other brethren from other lodges joined a hospitality event organised by long term Scarborough supporter, W. Bro Tony Hewitt to watch Scarborough Athletic vs Warrington Town.

Before the match the brethren enjoyed a drink and set meal before settling into the seats in the stand to watch the game. Although no goals were scored, it was generally felt that Scarborough were the better side! It is hoped to arrange a similar event in 2025.





### Post Installation Social Afternoon

As is traditional in the St. Nicholas Lodge, the brethren gather in Scarborough the day after installation to enjoy a social afternoon and lunch. Around 12 – 15 met throughout the afternoon with the hardiest staying on until evening! Here are some highlights from the afternoon :-





Charity



A raffle was held at the festive board which raised a fantastic £282.00 with the proceeds going to the Westway Open Arms which will be one of the Worshipful Master's charities of the year. This is in addition to the £2,219 we have raised so far during 2024!

Additionally, as is traditional at Installation, we also had a charity collection which raised £145.36 to go towards Masonic Charities.

Throughout 2024, the Immediate Past Master, Roger Kaye made Westway Open Arms at Eastfield his nominated charity of his year. This social action centre in Eastfield provides practical support and advise to those in need in the local area, including a Food Bank, Client Support and Debt support.

#### **Daily Advancement**

#### **Festival of St John the Evangelist**

Our new Junior Warden Bro James Hayward announced as part of his special duty that instead of the festive board, we refer to our December meal as the Festival of St John the Evangelist. Also known as St John the Apostle, this date is more commonly referred to as a feast, and is usually celebrated on the 27<sup>th</sup> December, and marks mid-winter. It is also just after the winter solstice, a date that pre-dates Christianity going back to the ancient Druids.

St. John the Evangelist is also highly appropriate with regards to Freemasonry as he is also the patron saint of love, loyalty, and friendship, qualities Freemasons are only too familiar with

The feast of Saint John the Baptist falls on 24 June and marks mid-summer. Interestingly the first Grand Lodge was formed in 1717 on this feast day and St John The Baptist was also regarded as the patron saint of stonemasons during the middle ages and would have been an appropriate day for consecration. The Grand Lodge of Ireland also use this day to install a Grand Master having been founded in 1725.

The Grand Lodge of All England, which was located primarily in York, as well as its predecessor the Ancient Society of Freemasons in York, elected its President and Grand Master in 1725 on the feast of St. John the Evangelist. As a matter of interest this date is also long and closely associated with the Scottish lodges.





From left: St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist

The Antient Grand Lodge of England also elected its Grand Master on the same day. When the Antients and the Moderns merged in 1813 to become the United Grand Lodge of England it occurred on the Feast of St. John the Evangelist on 27 December 1813. It may have been coincidence or design that St Nicholas Lodge was consecrated near to this date, but given the largely Methodist religion of this new lodge and the significance, I would wager it was by design.

It could be said that St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist are the patron saints of Freemasonry.

#### **Christmas Greetings from the Worshipful Master**

I hope you have enjoyed this festive edition of this fantastic and informative newsletter 'The Bugle'.

On behalf of myself and my wife Cherie, may we wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year in 2025 – Worshipful Master Scott Davison

**Merry  
Christmas**

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