



The St Nicholas Lodge Bugle

June 2025



Rose and Honeysuckle – birth flowers of June

Welcome to the June edition of the St Nicholas Lodge Bugle. As our gardens burst in to life pictured above are the Rose and Honeysuckle which are the birth flowers of June. Roses represent love and Honeysuckle signifies happiness and appreciation. Roses apparently are said to be 35 million years old with over 150 species across the northern hemisphere. There you go time for some flowers to our loved ones brethren!

Although we didn't have a ceremony this month, the evening was a special occasion as we welcomed W. Bro John Murphy and some of his Festival team to give us a presentation on the exciting work of the Festival 2029 team.

The festival is always a special occasion that all lodges can get behind and involved with. This time the festival is supporting the Masonic Charitable Foundation, which was featured last month. We are delighted that so far as a lodge, we have donated £6,586 towards the festival. This is made up of lodge and individual contributions towards the festival jewels. This means we are half way to receiving Vice Patron status!

The presentation informed us about upcoming events including a sponsored parachute jump, a 24 hour ride, Indian food night, a celebrity talk with sporting memorabilia auction, a musical extravaganza, Go Ape challenge and an inter lodge dragon boat racing challenge.

Our Charity Steward presented a further donation on behalf of the lodge for £600.00 and we also allocated the proceeds of the evenings raffle towards the festival which raised a further £142.00, which brings us to £7,328.00 so far towards the festival!

We were pleased to be visited by 11 visitors from 7 lodges, including the festival team.



From left: W. Bro Ged Demoily, W. Bro Paul Bissett, W. Bro Scott Davison, W. Bro Cedris Thornton, W. Bro John Murphy

We were also delighted to award our first Solomon diploma to Bro. James Hayward. Bro. James has undertaken the component parts of the UGLE course which consists of Welcome Entered Apprentice, Welcome Fellowcraft, Welcome Master Mason and Welcome Companion. Bro. James was presented with his certificate and a lapel pin by W. Bro Jamie Wallis, lodge mentor. Congratulations Bro James!



Looking Ahead



Lodge of Instruction

The next Lodge of Instruction will be held Monday 16th June at 7:00pm in the main temple. We will be going through a partial first-degree ceremony with the officers of 2026 ; all officers and brethren are welcome.

This is your opportunity to learn more about our ceremonies. Please let the Assistant Director of Ceremonies W. Bro Tony Hewitt know if you are unable to attend.

Brethren can meet in Scholars bar from 6:15 pm to enjoy some social time before we practice and learn.

- July

Second Degree for Bro. Graeme Needham

- August

Third Degree Ceremony

Charity



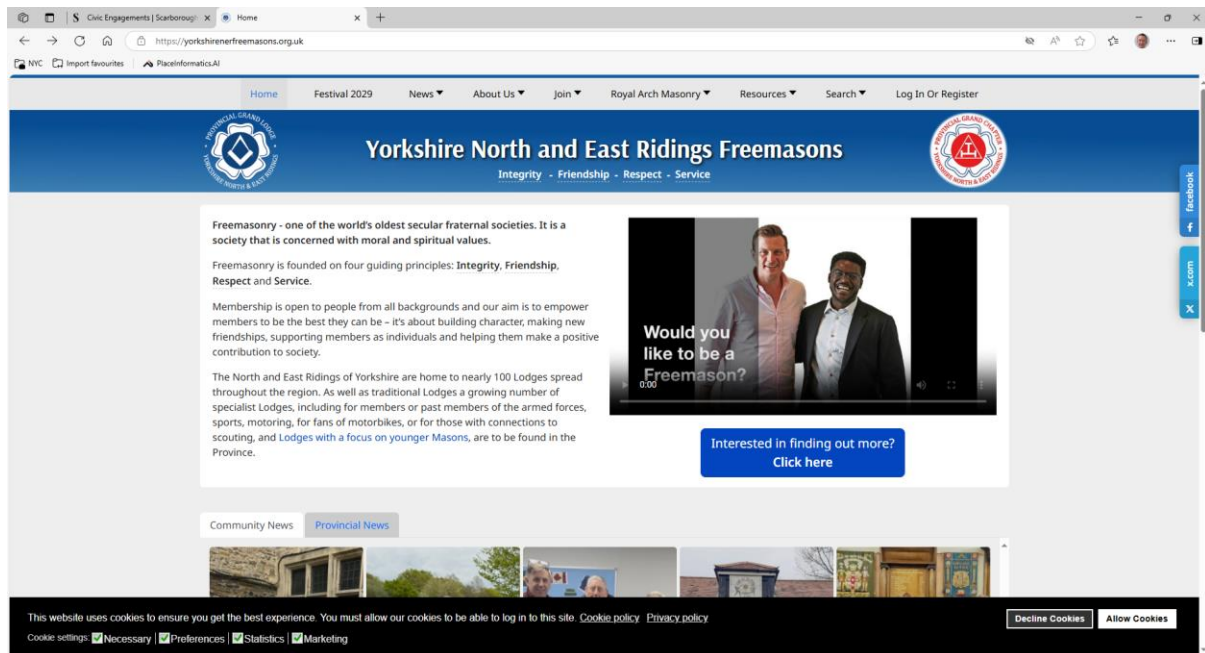
Lodge Raffle

The Festive Board raffle proceeds went towards the Festival 2029 which raised £142.00.



Provincial Website

There is a whole range of information and resource available on the Provincial website [Home](#) including the latest news, information, assistance and details on the Festival 2029. The website covers craft and chapter, and if you get a log in you can access further information and resources. I would encourage you to do so. You can view the lodge profiles on there and look at the calendar of upcoming meetings and social events.



Chapter



The Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch of Jerusalem (Or just Chapter), Denison Chapter 1248 is now in recess and our next meeting is on **Wednesday 8th October**.

The Royal Arch together with Craft Freemasonry constitute 'Pure Antient Masonry'. By joining the Royal Arch after becoming a Master Mason, completes a Freemason's journey and this has been taking place for almost 300 years. Learn more about this important and fabulous degree, which can only be joined after becoming a Master Mason. [Royal Arch Masonry](#)

Should you 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.

Social Events

Our social secretary W. Bro Roger Kaye has a few events planned for the future:

Confirmed at the moment is:

- 25th August – The Cornerstone Circle have arranged a Masonic Tour of York which a number of our brethren have confirmed are attending. Following the tour the St Nicholas brethren will be undertaking their own cultural tour of York#

Planned Events

- Race Night
- Malton Cultural Tour

Daily Advancement

The Significance of the Number Seven



The Sacred Seven: The Symbolic Power of the Number Seven in Freemasonry

The number seven has captivated humanity for millennia, and in every corner of civilisation that spans across cultures and religions. It has represented mystery, completeness, spiritual perfection and divine order.

The Pythagoreans called it the perfect number, as made up of three and four, two perfect figures, the triangle square – sound familiar?

When you start to think, there are many famous sevens, including the seven wonders of the ancient worlds, the seven seas, the seven days of the creation, the seven days of the week, the seven deadly sins, the seven continents, the seven pillars of wisdom, the seven colours of the rainbow, the seven hills of Rome, the magnificent seven, the seven samurai, and our own 007....

In the rich and allegorical world of Freemasonry, numbers carry deep symbolic significance. Among them, the number seven stands out as particularly sacred and powerful.

Across Masonic rituals, architecture, and teachings, the number seven emerges time and again—not merely as a numeral, but as a symbolic bridge connecting the temporal to the eternal, the physical to the spiritual.

The Symbolic Power of Numbers in Freemasonry

Freemasonry is steeped in numerology. From the **Three Great Lights** to the **Five Orders of Architecture**, numbers are far more than mathematical entities—they are carriers of great meaning and symbolism.

Seven in Masonic Symbolism and Ritual

In Freemasonry, the number seven is woven through various degrees, teachings, and lodge elements:

1. Seven Officers of a Lodge

Three Rule a Lodge (The Master and his two wardens), Five who hold a lodge (Master, Wardens and two fellowcraft), and seven who make it perfect, are the addition of two entered apprentices added to the former five. Three rule a lodge because there were three Grand Masters who bore sway at the building of the first Temple at Jerusalem, namely King Solomon, Hiram King of Tyre, and Hiram Abif.

Five hold a lodge in allusion to the five noble orders of architecture, namely the Tuscan, Doric, ionic, Corinthian and Composite. Seven or more make a perfect lodge because King Solomon was seven years and upwards in building, completing and dedicating the Temple to God's service. They likewise have an allusion to the seven liberal arts and sciences.

2. Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences—Grammar, Rhetoric, Logic, Arithmetic, Geometry, Music, and Astronomy. Mastery of these was considered essential to personal and philosophical development.

3. Seven Steps of the Winding Staircase

In the Fellowcraft degree, the candidate ascends a winding staircase by seven steps (three plus four), symbolising intellectual and spiritual advancement.

4. Seven Years to Become a Master Mason (Historically)

In operative Masonry, apprentices typically served **seven years** before becoming eligible to be considered journeymen or masters. This time period symbolised the dedication, patience, and growth needed to master a craft.

5. Seven Lights

Some Masonic traditions speak of seven symbolic lights in a lodge, each representing different aspects of enlightenment and guidance.

6. Seven tassels

A master Mason's apron has seven tassels on each side to remind us that no lodge is perfect unless seven brethren are present.

7. Jacob's Ladder

On the first degree tracing board can be seen a representation of Jacob's ladder, that metaphorical path that represents the path of man from earth to heaven to achieve moral and spiritual enlightenment. It has seven rungs, that must be ascended thereby bringing us closer to God. The three principal rungs are well known to masons, Faith, Hope and Charity. Symbolically it shows and quest to rise above worldly concerns and seek higher knowledge and virtue

The Spiritual Dimension

Freemasonry is not a religion, but it deeply engages with spiritual themes. The number seven symbolizes the **divine union of the earthly (four)** and the **spiritual (three)**. In this way, seven becomes a bridge—uniting heaven and earth, symbolizing completeness in moral, intellectual, and spiritual pursuits.

A Journey Toward Perfection

In many Masonic interpretations, seven is not an endpoint but a path—a symbol of the initiate's journey through degrees of knowledge, virtue, and self-realisation. Just as the ancient initiate ascended the winding staircase, modern Freemasons are encouraged to ascend intellectually and spiritually through the symbolic wisdom embedded in the number seven.

The number seven is not merely a coincidence or a ritual flourish in Freemasonry. It is a deliberate, powerful symbol that reflects ancient wisdom and Masonic ideals. From the structure of the lodge to the journey of personal growth, seven speaks to the universal longing for balance, knowledge, and spiritual harmony.

In the Lodge and in life, seven serves as a subtle but ever-present reminder: that the path to enlightenment is not linear but layered—and that true understanding is built step by step, just like the Masonic staircase.



I hope you have enjoyed this edition and please let me know if you would like anything included for future editions.

Jamie Wallis - Editor