

Mark My Words

– The Newsletter for the Mark Master Mason



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The Neath Mark Lodge, No.1125, raised £200.00 for the Welsh Air Ambulance by organising a 'Champagne Breakfast' at the Queen Street Masonic Temple. The occasion, which was well supported by Brethren from all Neath Lodges, was organised by Morris Fish. The W.A.A. was represented by Pilot Officer Alan Davies, pictured accepting the cheque from the Master of Neath Mark Lodge, Roger Gale.

Lodge News

Barry Lodge No.1043.

Surprise! Surprise!

Alan Ford Thomas has achieved approval of the Barry Lodge banner design from Grand Lodge - all this unbeknown to the Brethren. It will come as no surprise though that he will be looking to them to finance the Project - Good Luck !

Barry Lodge are also planning a Balloon Race in the summer. £1.00 per entry, with prize of £100.00 for the longest flight. Details from Alan.

Afan Lodge No.1088

Poems & Pints evening - Sat 3rd May

Porthcawl Lodge No.1377

Congratulations to Denis Cohen and Don Booth (pictured) on achieving 25 years service in Porthcawl Mark Lodge. Although never progressing past the office of Steward, they have been loyal supporters of the Lodge, and were presented with engraved glass rose bowls.

The Porthcawl Mark Lodge will dedicate their banner on 7th October.

Late Summer ball at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl on Saturday September 6th at 7.15 p m tickets £25

De Cymru Lodge No.1606

A new RAM Lodge for holders of Grand Rank is being formed. The Lodge will be attached to De Cymru Lodge, and preparations are at an early stage. A founders meeting will be held shortly. Contact-Keith Hyde.



A First in Wales

In early 2002 a group of Mark Master Masons lead by Edward Morgan became interested in forming a Mark Masters Lodge for Past and Present Provincial Mark Stewards. On the 20th June 2002 a meeting of the interested Brethren was held and the decision made to form a Lodge under the name of 'South Wales Mark Provincial Stewards Lodge'. After many trials and tribulations and with the assistance of the Provincial Secretary, Jeffery Clarke, all the requirements for forming a new Lodge were completed.

On the 12th March 2003 the new Lodge was consecrated at the Bridgend Masonic Temple in the presence of 80 Mark Master Masons. The Consecrating Officer was Desmond Barnett, Provincial Grand Master of the Province assisted by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Paul Clement and the Assistant Provincial Grand Master Anthony Moore together with the full Provincial team including Michael Howell the Provincial Director of Ceremonies who directed the ceremony.

At the end of the consecration ceremony the South Wales Mark Provincial Stewards became Lodge number 1829 under The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas, to the delight of the founders. This Lodge being the only Mark Provincial Stewards Lodge in Wales and one of only a handful in the United Kingdom.

Immediately after the Consecration the Master Designate, Edward Bolton, was installed as Worshipful Master by the Installing Master Paul Clement in a most sincere and delightful Ceremony.

The Worshipful Master then appointed and invested his Wardens, William Wilson as Senior Warden and Keilh Pearson as Junior Warden. He then appointed and invested the remainder of his Officers.

The Worshipful Master thanked The Provincial Grand Master Desmond Barnett and the Provincial team for the honour shown to the Lodge by their attendance.

The Provincial Grand Master, together with The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Team and honoured guests joined the Founders at the after proceedings. All agreed that the day had been a tremendous success.

All Past, Present and those about to be promoted to Provincial Steward are entitled to join the new Lodge and should contact the Lodge Secretary, Trevor Lewis on 01443 225676

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Boxing at Llantrisant

The **Arthur Lewis Mark Lodge** hosted the third annual boxing tournament at Llantrisant Leisure Centre recently, and the event proved to be an outstanding success. The tournament was attended by 240 people, including the Provincial Grand Master, Desmond Barnett, The Asst. Provincial Grand Master, Anthony Francis Moore and Hywel Davies, the Craft Provincial Grand Master.

The bouts were hosted by the Kyber Colts Boxing Club, and the official in charge of the event was Anthony Wynne, ably assisted by John Nathaniel and Jeffrey Williams.

The event raised the magnificent sum of £2500.00 for the 2004 Festival, bringing the total raised by The Arthur Lewis Mark Lodge to over £5000.00.



Anthony Wynne and John Nathaniel present a cheque for £2,500.00 to Desmond Barnett, with Hywel Davies in attendance



Paul R. Clement, Desmond Barnett, Geoffrey C. Atkins and Anthony Moore.

The **Brychan Mark Lodge No.1725** held a spectacular meeting on Wednesday the 18th March, 2003 in which the Brychan Lodge Banner and Past Masters' Board were dedicated by the Provincial Grand Master, Desmond Barnett, J.P. The Lodge members were delighted that the Dedication Ceremony was able to be arranged during the year in which Geoffrey C. Atkins was Master of the Lodge, as he, an architect by profession, was instrumental in designing the Founders Jewel / Past Masters Jewel. This has now become the design accepted by Mark Grand Lodge to be suitable for the new Lodge Banner. The design depicts at the top of the Banner the name of the Lodge and its number and the Brecon Beacons, below which were the Working Tools of a Mark Master Mason and the date of the Lodge's Consecration.

A further enjoyment for the members was the fact that two Mark Men had produced a beautiful Past Masters' Board for the Lodge. D. Neil Morgan, a Past Master of St. Illtyd's Mark Lodge No.784, and Merfyn Evans, a member of Cynon Dare Mark Lodge No.1590, had made the board and the Keystone for it respectively. The Ceremony of Dedication was a sincere and colourful one for all present. The Worshipful Master offered the gavel to the Provincial Grand Master which was accepted for the purpose of the Banner Dedication Ceremony and the Executive Officers and the Provincial Officers took their respective offices in the Brychan Mark Lodge.

A Banner Escort was formed and consisted of a number of Brychan Lodge Members who processed out of the Lodge, secured the Lodge Banner and delivered it into the Temple under the direction of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Banner was paraded to the dais, unveiled by the Provincial Grand Master and delivered to the Worshipful Master in conjunction with the unveiling of the Past Masters' Board by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Paul Clement, which was delivered to the Brychan Lodge's Senior Warden. After dedicating the Lodge Banner and the Lodge Past Masters' Board, the Provincial Grand Master gave an informative explanation of the Banner Ceremony. He stressed its importance as a rallying Point for members of the armed forces in years gone by and today and the great honour bestowed on those who were allowed to carry it. He intimated how delighted he would be if all Mark Lodges possessed their own banners which could be processed into the Cardiff Temple at future Provincial Grand Lodge Meetings. After this interesting talk concerning the importance of banners, the Banner was paraded around the Lodge by the Lodge Escort for all the Brethren in attendance to see it in all its glory. The Escort was seated, the Provincial Grand Master vacated the Chair and the Worshipful Master then took control of the Lodge.

After the Lodge was closed guests and members retired to an excellent Festive Board held at the Bishop's Meadow Motel. I thank our Provincial Grand Master, Desmond Barnett and all of his Provincial Officers on behalf of the Worshipful Master, Geoffrey C. Atkins, Officers and Brethren of the Brychan Mark Lodge No.1725 for their support in making this dedication ceremony a most memorable occasion and particular thanks for the organisational skills of our Provincial Grand Secretary and Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Alan R. Thomas

Correction ! In the last Issue of the Gazette it was reported that the boxing tournament at Pontyclun, organised by Gino Coco raised £1020 from its raffle, for Masonic Charities. The total realised was in fact £3,570.00, which has kindly been donated to the 2004 Festival. Thanks also to Simon Green of C.P.S. Wales Ltd. who supplied the tickets and programmes.

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