



A collection of recent history, current event and future affairs for Mark Master Masons of the Province of South Wales.

Mark Masons Hall Salutes St. David



The Welsh Dragon was flying high at Mark Masons Hall, St. James's Street, London, to commemorate St. David's Day.

We'll Keep a Welcome !!

That great Welsh Song composed by Mai Jones with lyrics by Lyn Joshua and James Harper, which has almost become an anthem to Welsh people worldwide has provided donations annually to the Mark Benevolent Fund now totalling over £14,000.00.

A member of Stability Mark Lodge, Bro. Percy Jones was bequeathed the Rights to the song on the demise of Mai Jones, who may be remembered by some of us older brethren as being the Producer of the BBC series "Welsh Rarebit," which was recorded many times in the Cory Hall in Cardiff, where the

Capital Centre is now built. When Bro. Percy died he in turn bequeathed the Rights to the Mark Benevolent Fund, in the name of Stability Mark Lodge.

There is only one Welsh word in the song - "Hiraeth" - which has no direct translation into English. It means "longing," longing to be home or with someone or family, a feeling only the Welsh can fully understand. Perhaps that was what Bro. Percy felt when he gave the gift to Mark Masonry.

So in future when the song is heard remember that the Mark Benevolent Fund is being supported in a very positive way by this now very traditional song !



Llandaff Cathedral Organ Restoration Fund

Mark Grand Lodge has donated £5,000.00 towards the restoration of the Organ in Llandaff Cathedral, and at the Installation of W.Bro. Michael Lewis as Commander of Cambrensis Royal Ark Mariner Lodge the Assistant Provincial Grand Master W.Bro. T. Eirian Jones presented the cheque to the Chairman of the restoration appeal, W.Bro. Capt. Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards.



Congratulations

The season for Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge appointments has arrived as this issue of Mark My Word is being prepared and we congratulate all those who have received such recognition for their tireless work, and trust that they will enjoy their new appointments and the responsibility they carry. We practically congratulate W.Bro. Alun Williams and W.Bro. Brian Langley, who the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Paul Raymond Clement, has appointed as Provincial Grand Senior and Junior Warden respectively, and they will be invested on Wednesday 2nd June at the Annual Investiture. They also take on the added responsibility of President and Vice-President of the Provincial Grand Mark Officers Mess.

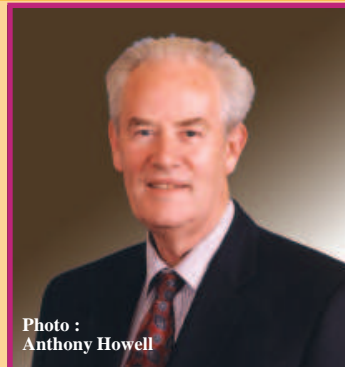


Photo : Anthony Howell

W.Bro. Brian Langley

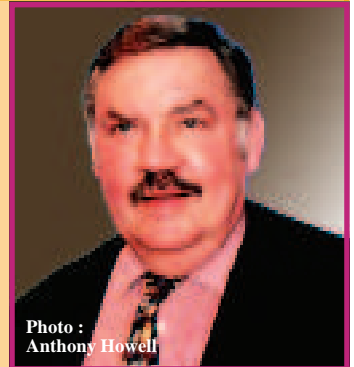


Photo : Anthony Howell

W.Bro. Alun Williams

Haiti Earthquake Disaster

Mark Masons Respond with £50,000.00 Aid !

The news and the vivid pictures reporting the disaster in Haiti resulted in an immediate response from the Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund in the granting of £50K of aid to the people of Haiti.

The grant was presented to ShelterBox which is a disaster relief charity that provides shelter, warmth and dignity to those who have been affected by disasters worldwide.

They deliver boxes of aid, each of which provides a family of ten with quality survival equipment to use while they rebuild their homes. Each box cost £490.00, which includes the cost of delivery to those who need it. The boxes can be tracked by their own unique reference number, so donors can find out where their box has been sent.

ShelterBox Response Teams accompany the boxes into the disaster zones, responding to earthquakes, volcanoes, floods, hurricanes, cyclones, tsunami or conflict.

ShelterBox was founded by Tom Henderson, a Rotarian and former Royal Navy search and rescue diver. ShelterBox was launched in April 2000 and the Rotary Club of Helston-Lizard in Cornwall adopted it as its millennium project. Since its launch it has become the largest Rotary club project in the world, with affiliates in eight countries.

The first consignment of 143 boxes were sent to earthquake victims in the Indian state of Gujarat in January 2001. Over the next three years the project matured and by the end of 2004 nearly 2,600 boxes had been dispatched. On the 26 December 2004 news came of the Indian Ocean Tsunami ShelterBox faced its most significant challenge, one that changed its course forever.

In 2005 more than 22,000 boxes almost 10 times the number sent out in the previous three years, not only sending aid to victims of the Tsunami but helping those who had lost their homes in Hurricane Katrina and the massive earthquake which hit the Kashmir region of Pakistan.

In donating to ShelterBox, the Mark Degree has helped to provide immediate practical assistance to the people of Haiti.

