

Homewood Herald

Report from the Master

Greetings Brethren,

Ritual is central to Freemasonry. Like many, I suspect, I personally find memorizing charges and Lodge ritual the most challenging part of Freemasonry. It takes discipline, time and perseverance. Masons frequently comment that there can be a difference between the ability to discharge lines in the comfort of a living room versus an open lodge - a room full of people seems to make recall slower and appear less confident!

Why do we learn ritual by heart? Traditionally masonic ritual is done by rote and ritual is smoother and more natural when done by heart. A Lodge meeting where everyone knows their lines well always looks impressive and makes a Lodge appear well-run and serious about the craft.

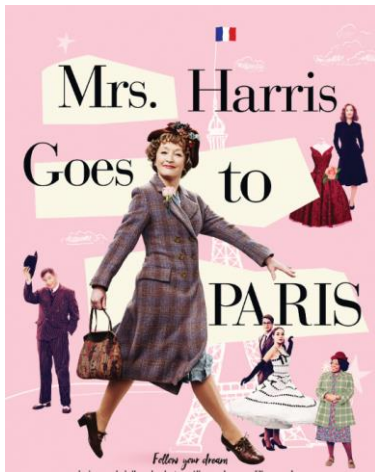
But there are other benefits too. When, over time, we commit more of our ritual to memory, we absorb and instil within us the words and meaning behind the ritual. This then assists us to draw upon their implicit values within our lives, including times when masonic wisdom can help us deal with times of trial.

VW Bro Murray Alford has produced useful written information on how to effectively learn ritual. Key elements include allowing plenty of time; understanding the context and meaning behind the ritual; chunking down the ritual and learning it in sections; and short but regular learning sessions - 10 minutes a day is better than one hour once a week. Coming to rehearsals is also important. Attendance at rehearsals helps other brethren become comfortable with their lines.

It seems hard to believe we are coming to the end of 2022. See you all at our final meeting on 24 November when we look forward to hearing Bro Michael Sagers give us the 1st Degree Tracing Board lecture.



*Ahdut Coah Hi
Worshipful Master
David Barnes*



Movie review: Mrs Harris goes to Paris

This film is about a middle-aged, working class war widow in London in 1957 who develops a sudden desire to travel to Paris to buy an expensive Christian Dior dress, as a way of spoiling herself and to rise above her poor existence.

With a bit of unexpected good luck she manages to accumulate the money and arrives in Paris where the French don't know what to make of her. She manages to buy the dress of her dreams and, along the way, she provides advice to help the Dior empire to address its financial concerns. She then returns to dreary London where the dress becomes the centre of attention, but not as we expected. The sub-themes include the British aristocracy's attitude towards working-class people, London life in the 1950s, beautiful scenes of Paris, French snobbery, and a few love stories.

Right from the start it's fairly obvious that Mrs Harris will end up with her Christian Dior dress, but the twists and turns towards the end of the film are quite unexpected and the emotional rollercoaster is in full gear.

This is a good film and it's worth seeing, although I thought it a bit far-fetched at times, particularly when Mrs Harris saves Christian Dior from financial ruin. However, it's a very happy film and you'll cry tears of joy. I'll give it four out of five stars.

David Ryan

Café review – Dukes Roadhouse Mangaweka

We were travelling back to Wellington during the School Holidays when a major accident closed State Highway 1 for several hours. All traffic came to a stop at Mangaweka and everyone suddenly converged on the Dukes Roadhouse. This is a café that doesn't have a massive patronage and suddenly had over 300 people wanting food. They were overwhelmed but were somehow holding it together. Eventually two people offered to help wash dishes, I started collecting cups and plates to help out.

We had never stopped there and now would highly recommend, being on the left, it is a lot safer than crossing to our usual location Flat Hills (Still also a great place), The food is fantastic and the staff are legends, I highly recommend you drop in if you are coming south. I'm giving this place 5 pies out of five



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Freemasons Hall Dublin

Freemasons' Hall, the home of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, is located at 17 Molesworth Street, Dublin 2 and is a matter of meters from Leinster House, Kildare Street, the seat of the Irish Parliament (Dail Eireann) and former Town House of William Robert FitzGerald, 2nd Duke of Leinster and Augustus Frederick FitzGerald, 3rd Duke of Leinster, both Grand Masters.

This fine building, completed in 1869, includes a Museum, which displays documents, artefacts and regalia providing an insight into Irish Freemasonry. During June, July & August, conducted tours of the premises take place at 2:30 p.m., Monday - Friday



Give nothing to racism

The appeal that persuaded you not to give

When it comes to appeals, everyone understands that every little bit adds up and makes a difference. So to get Kiwis to reconsider the impact of their 'small and insignificant' casual racism, we launched one of our own.

Beloved New Zealander of the Year Taika Waititi started the campaign by asking the nation 'What will you give to racism?' People became conscious of every tiny bit, and felt less comfortable feeding it, tolerating it, and allowing it to grow. They instead committed to giving racism no laughs, no smiles, no positive reactions, no support.

Kiwis are using 'Give Nothing to Racism' to call it out directly in the media, in the education system, on sports fields, in businesses. It's being used both as a collective standard to live up to in our culture, and a tool to respond to even the smallest examples of racism, in the real world and online – with a nation of individuals, organisations, schools, and even cities now actively giving nothing to racism.

Organisations
are adopting new tools to address systemic racism

Businesses
have upgraded their inclusivity & diversity policies

The Education Sector
is helping teachers self-assess biases

Schools
are incorporating Give Nothing into their curriculums

Cities
Our biggest cities have committed to new 'welcoming communities' practises

NZ Human Rights

In accordance with the principle of Freemasonry, Lodge Homewood welcomes and embraces diversity.

Recipe – Chicken & Cashew Stir-fry



Ingredients

Peanut oil - 1 Tbsp
Garlic cloves, crushed - 2
Chicken breasts or tenderloins, thinly sliced - 400 g
Stir fry mixed vegetables - 600 g
Salt-reduced soy sauce - 2 Tbsp
Cooked brown rice - 2 cups
Cashews - 1/2 cup

Method

Step 1

Heat oil in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Add garlic and chicken and stir-fry for 5 minutes or until chicken is cooked through. Add vegetables and cook, stirring, for 2-3 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Add soy sauce and stir through. Remove from heat.

Step 2

Divide rice among serving bowls and top with stir fried chicken and vegetables. Garnish with cashews to serve.

samaritans
Aotearoa New Zealand

If you are experiencing loneliness, depression, despair, distress or suicidal feelings, call 0800 72 66 66 now.

Samaritans operates a 24/7 crisis help line. Our phones are operated by volunteers from the community for the community. We receive no direct government funding.

“There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you”

Maya Angelou



Hearing aids can help you hear a lot better if you have hearing loss, they can improve your sense of wellbeing, independence and confidence.

There are various styles of hearing devices that vary in size, type, and technological features.

Masonic Membership Card Poem - Anon

I hold in my hand a little scrap of paper
2 1/2 x 3 1/2 inches in size.
It is of no intrinsic worth,
not a bond, not a check or receipt for valuables,
yet it is my most priceless possession.
It is my membership card in a Masonic Lodge.

It tells me that I have entered
into a spiritual kinship with my fellow Masons
to practice charity in word and deed;
to forgive and forget the faults of my brethren;
to hush the tongues of scandal and innuendo;
to care for the crippled, the hungry and the sick,
and to be fair and just to all mankind.

It tells me that no matter where
I may travel in the world,
I am welcome to visit a place where good
fellowship prevails
among brothers and friends.

It tells me that my loved ones, my home,
and my household are under the protection
of every member of this great Fraternity,
who have sworn to defend and protect mine
as I have sworn to defend and protect theirs.

It tells me that should I ever be overtaken
by adversity or misfortune
through no fault of my own,
the hands of every Mason on the face of the
earth
will be stretched forth to assist me in my
necessities.

And finally, it tells me
that when my final exit from the stage of life
has been made,
there will be gathered around my lifeless body,
friends and brothers who will recall to mind my
virtues,
though they be but few,
and will forget my faults,
though they may be many.

It tells me that, and a great deal more,
this little card,
and makes me proud yet humble,
that I can possess this passport
into a society of friends and brothers
that are numbered in the millions.