

Geo. W. Waring

1815

1915

Province  
of

Stafford-  
shire



# Noah's Ark Lodge

No. 347

OF ANTIENT, FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS

## Centenary Festival SOUVENIR

St. Paul's United  
Methodist Schools  
Dudley Port Tipton

November 27th  
: : A.L. 5915  
: : A.D. 1915



# NOAH'S ARK LODGE

Of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons  
Number 347  
on the Roll of Lodges holding under the  
:: United Grand Lodge of England ::

CENTENARY  
: FESTIVAL :  
SOUVENIR

27th November, 1915

Worshipful Master, 1815 - - - HOPE WOOD  
Worshipful Master, 1915 - JOHN WHITWORTH

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AUGUSTUS FREDERICK G.M.

To ALL AND EVERY OUR RIGHT WORSHIPFUL, WORSHIPFUL  
AND LOVING BRETHREN.

We PRINCE AUGUSTUS FREDERICK of Brunswick Lunenburgh  
DUKE OF SUSSEX, Earl of Inverness Baron of Arklow Knight of  
the Most Noble Order of the Garter, &c. &c. &c.

No. 668

Grand Master

of the MOST ANTIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED  
MASONS OF ENGLAND.

Send Greeting

Know Ye that we by the authority and under the Sanction of the United Grand  
Lodge of England vested in us for that purpose and at the humble petition of our Right trusty and well  
beloved Brethren HOPE WOOD, JAMES SMITH, WILLIAM BRISCOE, HENRY HARRIS,  
THOMAS ANSLOW, BENJAMIN CALL, JAMES HOBBIN and others residing at Wolverhampton  
in the County of Stafford Do hereby constitute the said Brethren into a Lodge of FREE and  
ACCEPTED MASONS under the title or denomination of Noah's Ark Lodge to be opened  
and held at Wolverhampton aforesaid empowering them in the said Lodge when duly congregated to make  
pass and raise FREE MASONS according to the antient custom of the Craft in all ages and nations  
throughout the known world. And further at their said petition and of the Great trust and confidence  
reposed in every of the above named Brethren. We do appoint the said HOPE WOOD to be  
the Master the said JAMES SMITH to be the Senior Warden and the said WILLIAM BRISCOE  
to be the Junior Warden for opening and holding the said Lodge and until such time as another Master

shall be regularly elected and Enrolled strictly charging that every Member who shall be elected to preside  
over the said Lodge shall be installed in antient form and according to the Laws of the Grand Lodge  
that he may thereby be duly invested with the dignities and powers of his Office. And we do  
require you the said HOPE WOOD to take special care that all and every the said Brethren are or  
have been regularly made Masons and that you and they and all other the Members of the said Lodge  
do observe perform and keep the laws rules and orders contained in the Book of Constitutions and all  
others which may from time to time be made by our Grand Lodge or transmitted by us or our Successors  
Grand Masters or to the Deputy Grand Master for the time being. And we do enjoin you to  
make such Bye Laws for the Government of your Lodge as shall to the majority of the Members appear  
proper and necessary the same not being contrary to or inconsistent with the General Laws and Regulations  
of the Craft and a Copy whereof you are to transmit to us. And we do require you to cause all such  
Bye Laws and Regulations and also an account of the proceedings in your Lodge to be entered in a  
Book to be kept for that purpose. And you are in no wise to omit to send to us or our Successors Grand  
Masters or to the RIGHT HONORABLE THOMAS LORD DUNDAS our Deputy Grand Master  
or to the Deputy Grand Master for the time being at least once in every year a List of the Members  
of your Lodge and the names and descriptions of all Masons initiated therein and Brethren who shall  
have joined the same with the Fees and Monies payable thereon it being our Will and intention that  
this our Warrant of Constitution shall continue in force so long only as you shall conform to the Laws  
and Regulations of our said Grand Lodge. And you the said HOPE WOOD are further required as soon  
as conveniently may be to send us an account in writing of what shall be done by virtue of these presents.

Given under our hand and the Seal of the Grand Lodge the 27th November, 1815.

By Command of the M.W. GRAND MASTER.

WILLIAM H. WHITE.

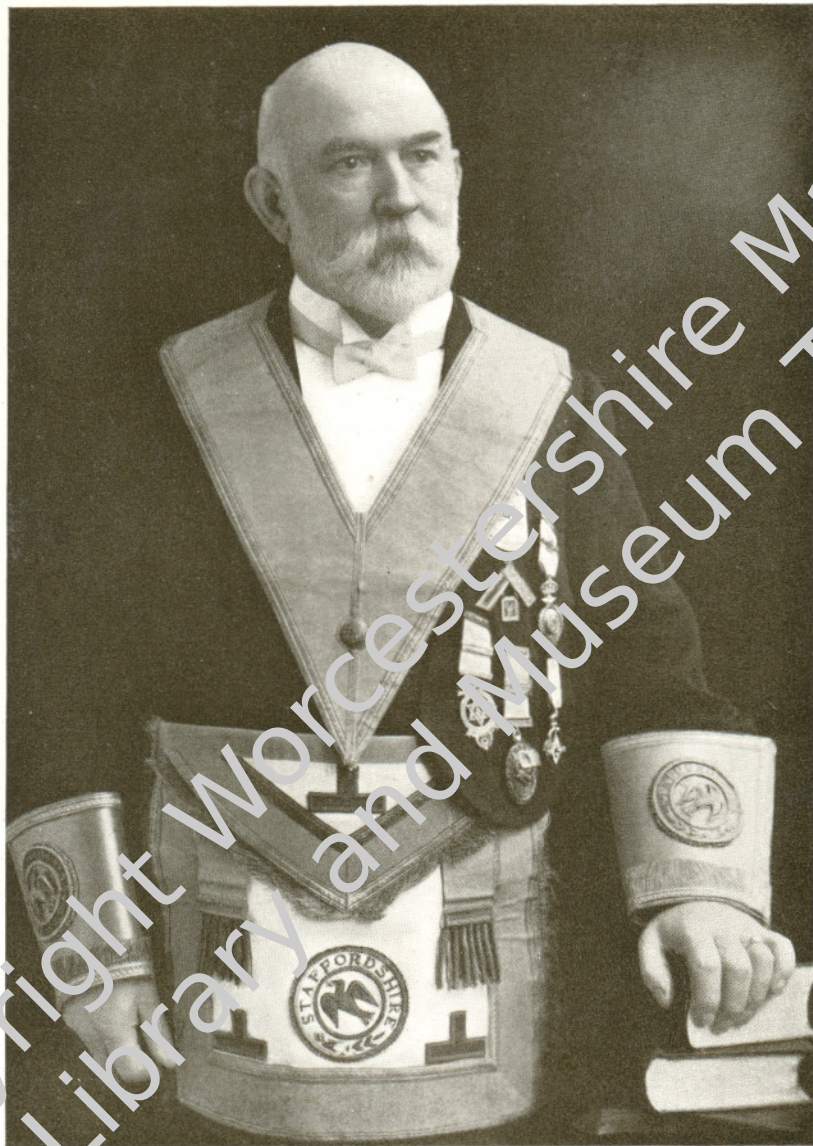
EDW. HARPER.



DUNDAS D.G.M.

ROLL OF WORSHIPFUL MASTERS, OF NOAH'S  
ARK LODGE, No. 347, FROM 1815.

1815	Hope Wood.	1866	William Purcell.
1816	Hope Wood.	1867	Edwin Hooper.
1817	Hope Wood.	1868	Rev. Benjamin Willmore.
1818	Hope Wood.	1869	Rev. Benjamin Willmore.
1819	Thomas Anslow.	1870	Alfred Caddick.
1820	Hope Wood.	1871	George M. Waring.
1821	Hope Wood.	1872	Thomas Stamford.
1822	Hope Wood.	1873	Rev. Samuel Thomas Tozer.
1823	Hope Wood.	1874	Rev. Samuel Thomas Tozer.
1824	Hope Wood.	1875	Joseph Round.
1825	Hope Wood.	1876	Rev. James Seddon.
1826	Thomas Anslow.	1877	Charles Edward Smith.
1827	Hope Wood.	1878	George Barkham.
1828	Hope Wood.	1879	George M. Waring.
1829	George Hilton.	1880	James Joseph.
1830	John Evans.	1881	Joseph Round.
1831	George Burch.	1882	Daniel Round.
1832	William Nagington.	1883	Thomas Beach.
1833	George Hilton.	1884	Charles Round.
1834	George Hilton.	1885	William Brown.
1835	William Nagington.	1886	Federick Augustus Jones.
1836	Paul Law.	1887	Joseph Whitworth.
1837	Edward Bickerton Whitehead.	1888	Joseph Collins.
1838	Joseph Spencer.	1889	Edward Hobbins Smith.
1839	Lyons Levy.	1890	John Mills.
1840	Thomas Lewis.	1891	Alexander Smith.
1841	James Bromley.	1892	William Henry Smith.
1842	James Bromley.	1893	Edward Walter Smith.
1843	Titus Thompson.	1894	George Bott.
1844	Titus Thompson.	1895	William Henry Fellowes.
1845	Edward Ingle.	1896	Richard Mason.
1846	Thomas Lewis.	1897	Henry William Jabal Ince.
1847	William Nagington.	1898	James Passfield.
1848	John Fox Warner.	1899	Walter Hamblett.
1849	John O. Brettle.	1900	Thomas Edgar Waring.
1850	Charles Lester.	1901	John Vincent Webster.
1851	William Hobbins.	1902	George William Butler.
1852	William Hobbins.	1903	John Brown.
1853	John Fox Warner.	1904	William George Cummings.
1854	John Fox Warner.	1905	Henry Smith.
1855	Rev. Edward H. A. Gwynne.	1906	William Henry Jukes.
1856	William Howells.	1907	Horace Scotthorn George.
1857	Edward Silvers Cresswell.	1908	Henry Alfred Hammond.
1858	George M. Waring.	1909	James Shenton.
1859	William Lees Underhill.	1910	George William Waring.
1860	Thomas Waterhouse.	1911	Luke B. Taylor.
1861	David Peacock.	1912	John Dallow.
1862	Thomas Walton.	1913	James Edward Rowley.
1863	George Whitehead.	1914	Arthur Richard Banks.
1864	Philip Partridge Baker.	1915	John Whitworth.
1865	Charles Round.		



WOR. BRO. JOSEPH WHITWORTH, P.P.G.S.D.

## Places of Meeting.

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1815.

"Red Cow," Dudley Street, Wolverhampton.

1816.

"Noah's Ark," Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton.

1819.

"Golden Lion," Salop Street, Wolverhampton.

1828.

"Kings Arms" Inn, Swan Bank, Bilston.

1848.

"Waggon and Horses" Inn, Bilston.

1853.

"Navigation Inn," Park Lane, Tipton.

1870.

"Waggon and Horses" Inn, Dudley Road, Tipton.

1880.

"Star" Hotel, Bloomfield, Tipton.

1893.

"Waggon and Horses" Inn, Great Bridge, Tipton.

1910.

Masonic Hall, Royal Oak Hotel, Dudley Port, Tipton.

PRESENT PAST MASTERS OF NOAK'S ARK LODGE,  
No. 347.

Past Masters.	Year Installed.
W. Bro. WM. BROWN, P.P.G.Supt.W. . . . .	1885
W. Bro. JOSEPH WHITWORTH, P.P.G.D. . . . .	1887
W. Bro. GEORGE BOTT, P.P.D.G.D.C. . . . .	1894
W. Bro. RICHARD MASON, P.P.G.Swd.B. . . . .	1896
W. Bro. WALTER HAMBLETT, P.P.G.D. . . . .	1899
W. Bro THOS. E. WARING, P.P.G.Swd.B. . . . .	1900
W. Bro. J. V. WEBSTER, P.P.G.Supt.W. . . . .	1901
W. Bro. GEO. W. BUTLER, P.P.G.D. . . . .	1902
W. Bro. JOHN BROWN, P.P.G.D. . . . .	1903
W. Bro. HENRY SMITH, P.P.G.D. . . . .	1905
W. Bro. WM. H. WILKES, P.P.G.O. . . . .	1906
W. Bro. MORACE S. GEORGE, Prov. D.G.D.C. . . . .	1907
W. Bro. M. A. HAMMOND, Prov. G.Std. . . . .	1908
W. Bro. JAMES SHANTON, Prov. G STD. . . . .	1909
W. Bro. G. W. WARRING . . . . .	1910
W. Bro. J. K. TAYLOR . . . . .	1911
W. Bro. J. DALLOW . . . . .	1912
W. Bro J. E. ROWLEY . . . . .	1913
W. Bro. A. R. BANKS, Prov. G.Std., I.P.M. . . . .	1914





PRESENT PAST MASTERS OF NOAH'S ARK LODGE, No. 347.

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Masonic

## A Few Items of Interest.

On a petition being presented to the Grand Lodge of England by Bros. Hope Wood, James Smith, William Briscoe, Henry Harris, Thomas Anslow, Benjamin Call, James Hobbin, and others, all residing at Wolverhampton, a Warrant for a new Lodge to be called the Noah's Ark Lodge, was granted, bearing date November 27th, 1815, and numbered 668 on the Register of the Grand Lodge of England, appointing

Bro. HOPE WOOD, W.M.

Bro. JAMES SMITH, S.W.

Bro. WILLIAM BRISCOE, J.W.

for the opening and holding of the Lodge.

### EARLY PLACES OF MEETING

1815.—Red Cow Inn, Dudley Street, Wolverhampton.

1816.—The Noak's Ark Inn, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton.

1819.—The Golden Lion Inn, Salop Street, Wolverhampton.

1828.—King's Arms Inn, Bilston.

The first minutes we have any record of commence with Noah's Ark Lodge, No. 668, held at the King's Arms Inn, Bilston, June 30th, 1828. Wor. Master Hope Wood in the Chair with proper Officers present; also Bros. Wylde, Fenn and Giles. Messrs. George Burch, E. B. Whitehead and Michael Goodall were proposed by Bro. Wood, and seconded by Bro. Giles, were balloted for and duly elected, and initiated into the first degree of Masonry. Thomas Bowen, of Bilston, Brass Founder, was duly proposed by Bro. George Burch and seconded by Bro. Wood, when on a show of hands it was unanimously carried that he should be initiated on the next Lodge night. There were present at this meeting, as visiting Brothers, John Evans, of Faithful Lodge, No. 680, Bro. George Hilton, Lodge No. 555, and Bro. William McNaughton, of Lodge No. — It was also proposed by Bro. Wood that these visiting brethren become members of this Lodge, and unanimously carried and agreed to by the visiting brethren.

1st December, 1828. The Lodge was held at 10 o'clock in the forenoon to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. Bro. George Hilton was installed W.M. All business being concluded, the Lodge was closed. The remainder of the day was spent with great pleasure and conviviality and many philanthropic and Masonic Toasts and sentiments were drunk with the honours of Masonry. The Lodge expenses this night were £4 6s. 6d.

13th October, 1830. We received a letter from the Rt. Wor. Prov. Grand Master, Earl Ferrers, stating that he should be at Bilston on the Festival Day, the 30th October, at 1 o'clock, for the purpose of selecting Grand Officers for the County of Stafford.

It was customary at this time to advertise the Meetings of Prov. G. Lodge. The following is a copy from Aris's *Birmingham Gazette*, of 25th October, 1830.

#### MASONIC.

The Right Honourable Earl Ferrers, Provincial Grand Master for the County of Stafford, intends holding a Provincial Grand Lodge, at the King's Arms Inn, Bilston, on Saturday, the 30th day of October, at 1 o'clock, to which all brothers are respectfully invited.

Dinner on the table at 4 o'clock.

JOHN DEAN,

Secretary to the Noah's Ark Lodge, No. 668, Bilston. October 1830.

30th October, 1830. Noah's Ark Lodge, No. 668, held at the King's Arms Inn, Bilston, by command of the Rt. Hon. Earl Ferrers, Prov. Grand Master for the County of Stafford, for the purpose of appointing Prov. Grand Officers for the said County, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master in the Chair, with Prov.G. Officers for the County of Warwick attending. The Lodge was opened in form and with solemn prayer. Bro. John Tomkys, Junr. was appointed Prov.G. Sec., and Bro. John Dean, Junr. was appointed Prov.G. Treasurer after a ballot, it being carried in the affirmative. They were both members of our Lodge. There were 14 visiting brethren present from Dudley, Stafford and Birmingham. All business being concluded, the Lodge was closed in due time and perfect harmony, and with a blessing. The remainder of the day was spent in a very friendly and convivial manner, and many Masonic and appropriate Toasts were drank with honours to the Craft, and my Lordship spoke in the highest terms of the dinner and wines supplied by Miss Tomkys. All the brothers separated, highly gratified with my Lordship's affability and the good entertainment they met with on this interesting occasion.

This is the first record we have of the Provincial Grand Meeting being held in connection with our Lodge.

7th October, 1831. On this date the Provincial Grand Lodge was held again in our Lodge Room, the King's Arms Inn, Bilston, by the R.W.P.G.M., Earl Ferrers. Bro. L. N. Torre, D.P.G.M. for Warwickshire was present. It is to be regretted that the Minutes of this Prov.G.L. Meeting were never entered up, although space in the Minute Book is left for them.

14th November, 1831. It was unanimously agreed that the sum of £1 10s 0d should be paid for wine sent to Bro. John Hilton, who had been ill for 12 months, without making any claim on the Lodge. It was the usual practice of the Lodge at this time to send Wine to the Brethren if they were ill.

12th December, 1831. It was agreed by the Brethren that the usual St. John's Feast be omitted this year, owing to their having had an extra feast and many other unexpected expenses during the past year. This extra feast would be the meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge on the 7th October.

21st August, 1832. A Lodge of Emergency was held at the Fighting Cocks Inn, Goldthorn Hill, near Wolverhampton, in consequence of the alarming sickness prevailing at Bilston, and to propose a donation from the Lodge Funds towards the relief of those poor persons who were, or may be, affected with Cholera. The sum of £5 from the Lodge Funds was given.

11th February, 1833. The sum of £5 was given to Bro Hope Wood, our first W.M., to enable him to purchase tools and stock to carry on his business as a tin-plate worker. On this date the number of our Lodge was altered from 668 to 435.

5th August, 1833. Bro. Cheshire, the Treasurer of the Lodge gave a note of hand for the funds of the Lodge, £20, in his possession, and paid 4% interest on the amount.

14th July, 1834. A petition was signed for a Warrant for a new Lodge at Wolverhampton, to be called the St. Peter's Lodge.

9th March, 1835. It was carried unanimously that two Chairs should be made for the Senior and Junior Wardens, These are in present use.

8th May, 1837. The sum of £2 was sent towards a memorial to be presented to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, as a tribute of respect for his unwearied exertions to promote the good of Masonry throughout the Kingdom.

9th October, 1837. A petition of thanks and condolence was forwarded to the Rt. Hon. Earl Ferrers, late Prov.G.M. for Staffordshire, thanking him for the valuable services he had rendered to the craft and expressing deep regret that ill-health should incapacitate him from discharging those duties which he had so honourably discharged for a series of years, and which they felt satisfied nothing but old age and infirmity, which the Great Architect of the Universe in His great dispensation will cause to all, would cause our faithful Brother to decline the high office he had held with such credit to himself and benefit to the Craft. This petition was signed by the Brethren in open Lodge.

12th November, 1838. Bro. George Hilton was made an honorary member of the Lodge for having rendered great and valuable services to this Lodge in particular and the Craft in general.

3rd April, 1840. There are no minutes from this time until the 11th June, 1841, when Bro. James Bromley was installed W.M. in the place of our W.M., Bro. Thomas Lewis, who had left this country. There are no records from this time until the 9th October, 1843, there being only 11 members of the Lodge, and regret was expressed to the Grand Lodge that for the want of funds we were unable to subscribe to the Schools, but hoped our members might increase and enable the Lodge to resume its former position.

17th October, 1844. The Lodge decided to purchase *Preston's "Illustrations of Masonry"* for the use of the Lodge, and to be kept in the Lodge for the exclusive use of its purposes. The cost was 8/-.

7th April, 1845. A circular from the Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund was read showing the Lodge was entitled to 20 votes.

14th May, 1846. Bro. Geo. Hilton was presented by the Lodge with a Provincial Apron.

8th July, 1847. The D.P.G.M., Bro. H. C. Vernon, was introduced in due form and took the Chair. He stated that this Lodge ought to and must have bye-laws, and advised the Lodge to take in the "Free Mason's Quarterly Review". This is the first record of a visit by Bro. H. C. Vernon, D.P.G.M.

12th June, 1848. It was resolved that the Lodge should be removed to the Waggon and Horses Inn, Bilston. This was the last meeting at the King's Arms Inn, Bilston.

22nd August, 1848. First Meeting at the Waggon and Horses Inn Bilson; the D.P.G.M. highly approving of the removal of the Lodge to this Place.

12th December, 1848. It was proposed and carried that the following Officers neglecting to attend the Lodge, sending a substitute or giving the W.M. one day's notice of the same, shall be subjected to the following fines:—the W.M. and Wardens 2/6 each; Deacons and Secretary 2/- each; Inner and Outer Guard 1/- each.

16th July, 1849. In consequence of the prevalence of Cholera to an alarming extent in Bilston and neighbourhood, no Lodge was held from this date until November 13th.

10th September, 1850. On account of the continued non-attendance of the Officers and Brethren of this Lodge, it was proposed and carried that the Lodge be discontinued, the Warrant given up to Grand Lodge, and the Lodge Furniture sold to meet the expenses, and that every Brother have due notice of the above proposition, in the next regular summons, so that the opinion of the Brethren of the Lodge may be taken upon so important a subject.

8th October, 1850. It was proposed and carried that the proposition at the last meeting, in reference to the returning of the Warrant to Grand Lodge, should be null and void, as several of the Brethren had promised to attend the Lodge, and would promote its prosperity as far as possible.

11th March, 1851. No Lodge could be held on this date in consequence of the non-attendance of the W.M., J.W., Secy. and Deacons of the Lodge. Present: Bro. Magington, P.M., J. Fox Warner, P.M., Cooper, S.W. and Bro. Wright, Tyler. The total number of members at this time was only 8.

10th August, 1853. First Meeting at the Navigation Hotel, Park Lane, Tipton.

31st January, 1854. The Lodge, after this date, commenced to meet on the third Friday in each month, and has continued to do so since.

16th February, 1855. The R.W.P.G.M., Col. Vernon, and Bro. John Fox Warner, P.M., were elected Hon. Members of the Lodge. Bro. Sol. Powell presented a handsome Poinard.

18th January, 1856. A petition to the Grand Lodge was read praying for the establishment and consecration of a new Lodge at West Bromwich, to be called the Dartmouth Lodge. It was signed by the P.M.'s and Officers who were members of Grand Lodge. The R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Lieut.-Col. Vernon, was present and congratulated the Secretary, Bro. George Whitehead, upon the neat and excellent appearance of the Minute Book, and, in token thereof, recorded his name therein.

15th April, 1864. The charge for suppers was raised from 1/9 to 2/6 per head, but those who drank Brandy were to pay for it out of their own pockets.

18th March, 1870. First regular meeting held at the Waggon and Horses Inn, Dudley Road, Tipton.

19th May, 1871. An Alms Fund was founded—the box taken round and 12/- subscribed.

20th April, 1877. The sum of £5 5s. was contributed from the Alms Fund to the Shrewsbury Presentation Fund for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

18th May, 1877. The W.M. referred to the lamented death of the R.W.P.G.M., The Earl of Shrewsbury, and moved that a vote of condolence and sympathy be sent to the Countess of Shrewsbury and family in their bereavement.

17th January, 1879. The W.M., Bro. C. M. Waring proposed that a suitable Tablet be provided at the expense of the Lodge (similar to the one at St. Matthew's, Walsall, No. 539) recording the name of each W.M., and the year he held the Office from the time the Lodge came to Tipton (or even from the date of the Warrant of Lodge, if a true record can be obtained from the old Minute Book down to the present time and for succeeding years, and that a Committee, consisting of the W.M., P.M.'s and Officers of the Lodge be formed to make arrangements and give orders for the same, which was seconded by Bro. Charles Round, P.M., and supported by Bro. Peter, P.M., and carried unanimously.

A Tablet was provided and a Roll of Wor. Masters obtained from the Minute Books of the Lodge. They commence with the name of Bro. John Fox Warner, W.M., 1853. None prior to that date could be found.

19th December, 1879. The sum of £10 10s. was given from the Funds of the Lodge to the Royal Institution for Girls, the money being sent to the W.D.P.G.M., Bro. G. S. Tudor, on the occasion of his acting as Steward at the forthcoming festival.

17th September, 1880. First meeting at the Star Hotel, Bloomfield, Tipton.

18th February, 1881. A letter was read from the Grand Sec., announcing the appointment by the Most Wor. G.M., of Bro. Geo. Singleton Tudor, as Prov. G.M. for Staffordshire. A vote of congratulation was sent to Bro Tudor.

20th January, 1882. Bro. G. Walton Walker, J.W., No. 1838, paid us a visit.

16th June, 1882. The annual subscription to the Lodge was raised from £1 10s. od. to £2 2s. od.

18th January, 1884. The initiation fees were raised from £5 5s. od. to £7 7s. od., and the joining fee from 15/- to £2 2s. od.

18th April, 1884. The Lodge went into mourning for three months on account of the lamentable death of Bro. His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, Knight of the Garter.

18th March, 1887. Bro Thomas Spencer, W.M., of Dartmouth Lodge, No. 662, West Bromwich, applied for the loan of three Chairs and Antique Gavil for the use of the Prov.G. Lodge to be held at West Bromwich, on the 17th May next, which the Lodge unanimously agreed to grant. The D.P.G.M., Bro Foster Gough was present and thanked the Lodge for granting them the loan of the Chairs and Gavil to Prov.G. Lodge.

19th September, 1890. A vote of condolence and sympathy with Lady Carnarvon, in consequence of the lamented death of the Rt. Hon. The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W.Pro.G.M., and Prov.G.M. for Somerset was unanimously adopted, and the Secretary was directed to communicate the resolution to Her Ladyship.

19th February, 1892. A vote of condolence was passed with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Wor. Grand Master, (England,) on the death of his son, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., also a letter of condolence to the family of our late P.G.M., Col. Foster Gough, deeply deploring the great loss the Province has sustained by his sudden death.

17th February, 1893. First meeting at the Waggon and Horses Hotel, Great Bridge, Tipton.

19th May, 1893. The sum of £225. 0d. was voted as a donation to the Orphan Asylum, Wolverhampton, which is now known as the Royal Orphanage. Since this date we have given the sum of £124 19s. 0d. to this excellent Institution, which is doing such good work, in addition to this, nearly every member of the Lodge is an annual subscriber.

20th April, 1894. The W.M., on behalf of the members, presented to Wor. Bro. G. M. Waring a loving Cup, as a memento of the completion of his 40th year as a Mason and a member of Noah's Ark Lodge.

June 5th, 1894. The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Dartmouth installed Rt. Wor. Prov. Grand Master at the Annual Meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge, held at the Drill Hall, Wolverhampton. There were at this time 31 Lodges and 1,318 members in the Province. In this our Centenary year (1915) there are 36 Lodges and 1909 members, exclusive of the members of Foster Gough Lodge.

20th May, 1898. Congratulations were sent to Wor. Bro. Lieut.-Col. G. Walton Walker, on his appointment to the honourable position as D.P.G.M. of Staffordshire.

20th January, 1899. The sum of ten guineas was given to the Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, of which the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Dartmouth had accepted the Stewardship.

16th February, 1900. The sum of ten guineas was voted from the Lodge Funds to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, at the annual Festival to be held in May next, under the Presidency of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Dartmouth, P.G.M., Staffs. A letter was read from the D.P.G.M., Bro. Lieut.-Col. G. Walton Walker, thanking the Lodge for the subscription sent to the Fund raised on behalf of the widow of the late R.W. Bro. Col. G. Singleton Tudor. Bro. G. M. Waring, P.P.G.J.W., was elected an Honorary member of the Lodge. £4 8s. 6d. was collected from the Brethren and made up to ten guineas from the Lodge Funds, and given to the Masonic Funds in South Africa.

21st December, 1900. It was unanimously resolved that the Lodge's sincere and heartfelt sympathy be conveyed to the R.W.P.G.M., in the loss he had sustained by the death of his mother, the late Dowager Countess.

15th February, 1901. The Lodge expressed its deep sorrow at the most melancholy event of the lamented death of her late Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. The W.M. proposed a hearty vote of congratulation to our late M.W.G.M., King Edward the VII, on his accession to the throne.

21st March, 1902. The Lodge subscriptions were raised to £2 10s od. per annum, payable half-yearly in advance; the fee for Initiation to ten guineas, and the Joining fee to three guineas.

18th April, 1902. A most interesting event in the history of the Lodge took place this evening. The D.P.G.M., Lieut.-Col. G. Walton Walker, and 21 visiting Brethren were present. The D.P.G.M. presented P.M.'s Jewels to 14 P.M.'s of the Lodge, which had been readily and willingly subscribed for by the Brethren. In making the presentation, the D.P.G.M. referred to the faithful and valuable services rendered to the Lodge by the P.M.'s and their appreciation by the Brethren, as was shewn by the handsome and valuable Jewels they had handed to him to present on their behalf.

18th December, 1903. A letter of condolence was sent to the family of our late Bro. G. M. Waring, P.P.G.J.W., who was Initiated in this Lodge on the 12th June, 1853, and made an Hon. Member on the 16th February, 1900, for his long and valuable services.

16th June, 1905. A Circular was read from Prov G. Lodge, requesting the members of the Lodge to attend the Ceremony of the laying of the Foundation Stone of the Nurses Home, the Hospital, West Bromwich, by the R.W.P.G.M., the Earl of Dartmouth, with Masonic Ceremonial, on Monday, the 10th July next. The sum of five guineas was voted to the Home.

17th May, 1907. The sum of 20 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, for the endowment of the S.W.'s Chair.

16th December, 1910. First meeting at the Royal Oak Hotel, Dudley Port.

19th May, 1911. The sum of £26 5s. was voted to the Royal Orphanage on opening the new wing.



26th February, 1914. Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth proposed that the Lodge take into consideration the question of inviting to Noah's Ark Lodge the Prov. Grand Lodge for 1916, and also the question of making application to Grand Lodge for Centenary Warrant, seconded by Wor. Bro. Richard Mason, and carried unanimously.

20th March, 1914. Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth proposed that the Lodge petition the Grand Lodge of England to grant to this Lodge a Centenary Warrant on the 27th day of November, 1915, empowering the members thereof to wear a Centenary Jewel, in conformity with the regulations of the Order, which was seconded and carried unanimously. He also gave an excellent and interesting resumé of the records of this Lodge from its earliest period to the present. Bro. J. E. Rowley proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth for the ability and care he had given in collecting the details for the Centenary Petition, seconded by Wor. Bro. Hamblett, and carried unanimously. The Secretary read a letter from the Prov. Grand S. e. acknowledging the receipt of a petition for Prov. Grand Lodge, to be held at Tipton in 1916.

15th May, 1914. The Wor. Master announced that the United Grand Lodge of England had been pleased to grant to this Lodge a Centenary Warrant.

15th May, 1914. On the proposition of Wor. Bro. Walter Hamblett, seconded by Wor. Bro. George Butler and supported by several other brethren, it was unanimously resolved that the most cordial thanks of the W.M., P.M.'s, Wardens and Brethren of Noah's Ark Lodge, be tendered to Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth, P.P.G.S.D., P.M. No. 347, for his successful efforts in obtaining the sanction of Grand Lodge to grant a Centenary Warrant to our Lodge, No. 347.

18th September, 1914. In accordance with notice given, Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth proposed that the sum of £31 10s. od. be granted from the Lodge funds in aid of the Prince of Wales War Relief Funds, seconded by the W.M., and carried unanimously. It was further resolved that a cheque be drawn forthwith and forwarded to the Prov. Grand Lodge of Staffordshire.

28th September, 1915. A letter of sympathy and condolence was sent to the Rt. Wor. P.G. Master; the Countess of Dartmouth, and their family, on the death of Capt. The Hon. Gerald Legge, who lost his life while on active service in the Gallipoli Peninsula. Although severely wounded, he refused to leave his post and died there, playing the game to the end, fighting and dying for the honour of his King and Country. No one could have done more. May his soul and the souls of all such brave men find peace and eternal rest.

28th September, 1915.

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*A full History of the Lodge has been written by Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth, P.P.G.S.D., and will be published during the present year.*





CENTENARY OFFICERS, 1915

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## Centenary Officers, 1915

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BFO. JOHN WHITWORTH	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	W.M.
BFO. ARTHUR OLDBURY	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	S.W.
BFO. GEORGE ARNOLD	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	J.W.
BFO. JOHN BROWN	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Chaplain
BFO. THOMAS E. WARING	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Treasurer
BFO. WILLIAM CHATTAWAY	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Secretary
BFO. GEORGE A. T. LEGG	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	S.D.
BFO. THOMAS DALLOW	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	J.D.
BFO. GEORGE WILLIAM WABING	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	D.C.
BFO. LUKE B. TAYLOR	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Asst. D.C.
BFO. GEORGE WILLIAM BUTLER	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Almoner
BFO. WILLIAM H. JEFFES	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Organist
BFO. WILLIAM E. BASSETT	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	I.G.
BFO. JAMES WHEELER	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	} Stewards
BFO. OHN CHILTON	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
BFO. JOHN DALLOW, JUN	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
BFO. HORACE WILLIAM PARSONS	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
BFO. JAMES JOHNSON	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
BFO. ARTHUR RICHARDSON	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Tyler

ROLL OF PRESENT MEMBERS OF NOAH'S ARK  
 LODGE, No. 347.

Name.	Date of Initiation or Joining.	Name.	Date of Initiation or Joining.
William Brown .. ..	15th Feb., 1878	James Wheeler .. ..	21st Oct., 1904
Joseph Whitworth .. ..	19th Nov., 1880	John Chilton .. ..	17th Nov., 1905
Alexander Smith .. ..	20th April, 1883	John Dallow, Junr. .. ..	8th May, 1906
George Bott .. ..	15th May, 1885	Horace William Parsons .. ..	19th Oct., 1906
Richard Mason .. ..	16th April, 1886	Enoch Wheeler .. ..	15th May, 1907
Walter Hamblett .. ..	18th Sept., 1891	Jabez Johnson .. ..	5th May, 1907
James Pasfield .. ..	18th Sept., 1891	Joshua Bailey .. ..	14th June, 1907
Thomas Edgar Waring .. ..	20th May, 1892	James Wallace Prince .. ..	18th Oct., 1907
John Vincent Webster .. ..	16th Dec., 1892	William Henry Yates .. ..	20th Mar., 1908
George William Butler .. ..	21st April, 1893	William Henry Nock .. ..	24th April, 1908
John Brown .. ..	21st April, 1893	Albert Edward Bassett .. ..	19th June, 1908
Henry Smith .. ..	15th Sept., 1893	Benjm. W. F. Whittaker .. ..	20th Nov., 1908
Alfred Long .. ..	21st Dec., 1894	Edward Olive Barker .. ..	21st May, 1909
Horace Scotthorn George .. ..	15th Feb., 1895	James William Shenton .. ..	21st May, 1909
William Henry Jukes .. ..	20th Sept., 1895	James Charles Dunn .. ..	17th Dec., 1909
Robert Albert Prince .. ..	14th June, 1896	Augustus Edwin Millichip .. ..	16th Sept., 1910
John Dallow .. ..	8th June, 1897	John Thomas Colley Hamblett .. ..	17th Mar., 1911
Henry Alfred Hammond .. ..	18th Feb., 1898	Harold Brown .. ..	17th Mar., 1911
Luke B. Taylor .. ..	17th June, 1898	William Lloyd .. ..	15th Sept., 1911
James Shenton .. ..	21st Oct., 1898	Joseph Venetia Dewis .. ..	17th Nov., 1911
George William Waring .. ..	18th Nov., 1898	John William Smith .. ..	18th Oct., 1912
James Edward Rowley .. ..	1st Sept., 1899	William Thomas Hale .. ..	15th Nov., 1912
Arthur Richard Banks .. ..	1st Sept., 1899	Daniel Meese .. ..	18th April, 1913
John Whitworth .. ..	17th Nov., 1899	Samuel Acheson .. ..	20th Feb., 1914
Arthur Oldroyd .. ..	21st June, 1901	Charles Leonard Hodgetts .. ..	20th Mar., 1914
George Arnold .. ..	20th Sept., 1901	Henry Herbert Richards .. ..	17th April, 1914
William Whitehouse .. ..	15th Nov., 1901	Edward Ralphs .. ..	15th May, 1914
Joseph Parkes .. ..	16th May, 1902	Albert Bye .. ..	18th Sept., 1914
William Chattaway .. ..	17th Oct., 1902	Frederick Everiss .. ..	20th Nov., 1914
Harold Brindley .. ..	19th June, 1903	John Pargeter .. ..	21st May, 1915
George Alfred Townsend Legge .. ..	18th Sept., 1903	William Edward Hartland .. ..	17th Sept., 1915
Thomas Dallow .. ..	18th Mar., 1904	Arthur Richardson (Tyler) .. ..	16th Sept., 1910
William Isaiah Bassett .. ..	15th April, 1904		



PRESENT MEMBERS OF NOAH'S ARK LODGE, No. 347.

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PRESENT MEMBERS OF NOAH'S ARK LODGE, No. 347. NOT IN OFFICE.



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## Programme of the Proceedings at the Centenary Commemoration Festival, 1915.

1. At 3-15 p.m. the W.M., Officers and Brethren will take their respective places in the Lodge Room.
2. The Lodge will be opened in the 1st Degree.
3. The Director of Ceremonies will announce the Wor. D.P.G. Master of Staffordshire; Col. G. Walton Walker, Grand Officers and Officers attending will then enter the Lodge in procession. (The Brethren will stand to Order).
4. The Wor. D.P.G.M. will take the Chair, and he and the Grand Officers will be saluted.
5. All sing the *Masonic National Anthem* :—

God save our Lord the King, Long may King George reign,  
God save the King ;  
Send him victorious, Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us  
God save the King.  
Hail, mystic Light Divine, May'st thou ne'er cease to shine,  
Over this land ;  
Wisdom in Thee we find, Beauty and strength combined, Masons  
are ever joined  
In heart and hand.  
Come then, ye sons of Light, In joyous strains unite,  
God save the King.  
Long may King George reign, King of the azure main, Masons  
rejoice and the strain,  
God save the King.
6. The Secretary will read the Summons convening the Meeting, also the Dispensation to hold same.
7. Transact the Lodge business as per Circular.
8. Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth, P.M., P.P.G.D. will address the Brethren and welcome the Visitors.
9. The W.M. will present the old Charter of the Lodge and the Centenary Warrant to the Wor. D.P.G. Master for his inspection.
10. The Wor. D.P.G. Master will direct the Prov. G. Secretary to read the Old Charter and the Centenary Warrant.
11. The Wor. D.P.G. Master will congratulate the Lodge on its Centenary.
12. The Wor. D.P.G. Master will hand the Charter and Centenary Warrant to the W.M., and direct the proceedings to be recorded in the Minutes of the Lodge.
13. The Wor. D.P.G. Master will invest the W.M. and the Brethren with their Centenary Jewels.



14. The Wor.D.P.G.Master will then resign the Chair in favour of Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth, who will give a short history of the Lodge.
15. Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth will present to the Lodge a Tablet containing the names of the 38 missing Wor. Masters from the date of the Warrant, 1815, to the year 1853.
16. The Prov. G. Chaplain the Revd. C. H. Heather, M.A., will give a short Oration.
17. The Brethren will all sing:—

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our Eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of Thy Throne  
Thy Saints have dwelt secure ;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight,  
Are like an evening gone.  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away ;  
They fly forgotten as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,  
And our Eternal home.

*SO MOTE IT BE.*

18. The Prov.G.Chaplain will offer up prayer:—

**V**OUCHSAFE Thine aid, Almighty Father and Supreme Ruler of the Universe, to our present convention, and grant that all the Brethren now assembled to praise Thee may so dedicate and devote their lives to Thy service as to become more and more true and faithful in the service of God and of man. Endue them with a competency of Thy Divine Wisdom, that, assisted by the secrets of our Masonic Art, they may the better be enabled to unfold the beauties of true godliness to the honour and glory of Thy Holy Name.

*SO MOTE IT BE.*

**W**E supplicate the continuance of Thine aid, O Merciful Lord, on behalf of ourselves and all our lawful undertakings. May Thine unseen presence be ever felt in all our Lodges, so that all words and works therein may follow after Thy Wisdom, Thy Truth and Thy Love. Especially we pray Thee of Thy mercy to behold and to prosper our schools wherein we nurture and train the children of our brethren who have passed away, and also all those our brethren whose old age we strive to brighten and to sustain by the charity that Thou dost inspire. May these and all our other works begun in Thy Name be continued to Thy glory, and evermore established by obedience to Thy precepts, O Thou that art the Author and the Rewarder of our faith.

*SO MOTE IT BE.*

**A**LMIGHTY and Everliving God, Who hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men ; We humbly beseech Thee most mercifully to receive these our prayers which we offer unto Thy Divine Majesty ; beseeching Thee to inspire continually our Fraternity with the spirit of truth, unity and concord. We beseech Thee also to save and defend Thy servant, George, our King, Patron of the Craft, that under him we may be

godly and quietly governed. Guide, uphold, and bless the Most Worshipful our Grand Master, Arthur, Duke of Connaught, the Pro Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Master and Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, together with all other Provincial and District Grand Masters. Guide also, Thou source of all Wisdom, all those who in Grand Lodges bear rule, and especially in the Grand Lodge of England, that their deliberations and conclusions may ever be worthy of the respect and obedience of the Craft. And to all our brethren, initiates, fellow-crafts, master masons and officers, give Thy Heavenly Grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that with meek heart and due reverence, aided by the principles and reminded by the ritual of the Order, they may hear and receive Thy Holy Word, truly serving Thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. And we most humbly beseech Thee of Thy goodness, O Lord to comfort and succour all our brethren wheresoever dispersed over the face of land or sea, who are distressed by trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, giving them a speedy release, if it be Thy Will, from all their sufferings, and, should they desire it, a safe return to their native land. And we also bless Thy Holy Name for all our brethren departed this life in Thy faith and fear; beseeching Thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be united in The Grand Lodge above and partakers of Thy Heavenly Kingdom. Look upon them. Most High, for good, and give them rest where the light of Thy countenance shines upon them, so that both they and we may continually lift our eyes to that bright Morning Star whose rising brings peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race.

*SO MOTE IT BE.*

The Brethren will all join in saying:—

**O**UR Father which art in Heaven; Hallowed be Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever.

*SO MOTE IT BE.*

19. The Brethren will all sing:—

Now thank we all our GOD,  
With heart, and hands, and voices,  
Who wonderful things hath done,  
In Whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our Mother's arms  
Hath bless'd us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours to-day.

O may this bounteous GOD  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace,  
And guide us when perplex'd,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to GOD  
The FATHER, now be given,  
The SON, and HIM Who reigns  
With Them in Highest Heaven,  
The ONE Eternal GOD,  
Whom earth and Heav'n adore,  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.

*SO MOTE IT BE.*

20. A collection will be taken on behalf of the Tipton Nurses Home.

21. The Prov. G. Chaplain will give the Patriarchal Benediction :—

The Lord bless and preserve thee;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon thee,  
And be gracious unto thee;  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee,  
And grant thee peace.

*All chant—SO MOTE IT BE.*

22. Wor. Bro. Joseph Whitworth will tender thanks to the Wor. D.P.G.M.,  
and other Grand Officers and Visitors for their attendance.

23. The Brethren will stand to order while the Wor. D.P.G. Master and  
the Visitors retire.

24. The W.M. will close the Lodge.