

LODGE OF BON ACCORD

No. 4935



1927 - 1977

JUBILEE MEETING

at

The Masonic Hall
Bordesley Green East
Stechford, BIRMINGHAM

on

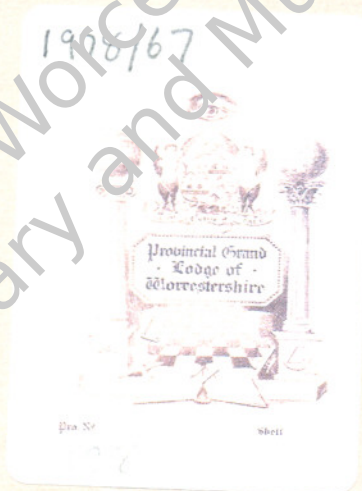
Saturday, 24th. September 1977



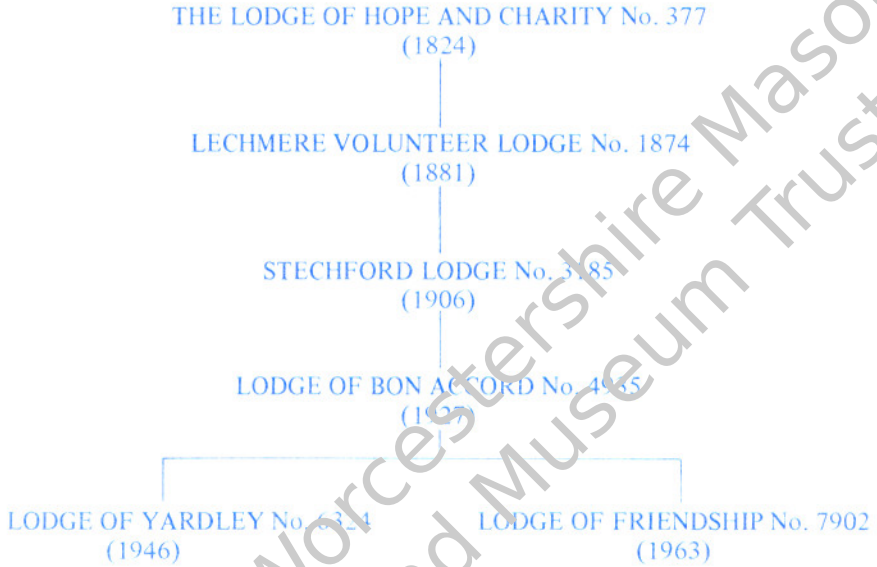
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This booklet, including the abridged history of the Lodge, is published to mark the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Lodge of Bon Accord, No. 4935, and to place on record the outstanding events in its life during the years from 1927 to 1977.



THE FAMILY TREE OF MASONIC LIGHT



DATES IN BRACKETS INDICATE YEAR OF WARRANT
OF EACH LODGE.

THE FIFTEEN FOUNDERS OF THE LODGE OF BON ACCORD

THE FIRST MASTER:-

W. Bro. James Mitchell, P.A.G.D.C., P.M. 3185, 5629

Initiated into St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 93, Aberdeen,	29. 9. 1895
Joined Stechford Lodge No. 3185	1909
Provincial Grand Steward	1915
Master, Stechford Lodge	1919
Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearer	1923
First Master Lodge of Bon Accord	1927
Past Provincial Senior Grand Deacon	1929
Provincial Senior Grand Warden	1934
Founder, Nautical Services Lodge No. 5629	1936
PAST ASSISTANT GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES	1937
Master Nautical Services Lodge	1941
Founder, Worcestershire Installed Masters Lodge	1949

On the death of his widow January 1967, from a bequest under the will, the James & Helen Mitchell Bequest Fund was established, which has so far provided the sum of £3,172 for Masonic Charities.

— AND THE REMAINING FOURTEEN FOUNDERS

W. Bro. A. E. Millward
W. Bro. Egerton West
W. Bro. W. G. Harpur
Bro. George Sutherland
Bro. Amos Holmes
Bro. J. S. Harriss
Bro. H. J. Edwards
W. Bro. J. E. Winterbottom
Bro. D. H. James
Bro. F. W. White
Bro. George Barton
Bro. S. Dunn-Toon
Bro. Edward Matthews
Bro. Ernest Newton

CONSECRATION OF THE LODGE OF BON ACCORD No. 4935

The consecration of the Lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Stechford, on September 29th, 1927 at 2.45 p.m. The Signature Book contains the names of seventy two brethren from this and other Lodges and Provinces who were present to support the Consecrating Officer, the Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire, The Right Worshipful Brother General Sir Francis J. Hayes. This number included fifteen Founder Members.

The First Master, Worshipful Brother James Mitchell, P.M. 3185, was duly installed into the Chair and proceeded to appoint his Officers.

It was at this First Ceremony that it was proposed that the Lodge of Bon Accord, No. 4935 qualified as a Hall Stone Lodge, and in course of time the Collarette and Jewel were presented at the September 1928 meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge in Birmingham.

Temple Lodge, No. 4929, in the Masonic Province of Warwickshire, was consecrated on the same day in the new Temple, Broad Street, Birmingham, and the following telegram was sent to its First Master, Worshipful Brother Wilfred Allen.

"Hearty greetings and congratulations from the Founders of Lodge of Bon Accord, No. 4935, Worcestershire, consecrated today, and desiring inter-visitation acquaintance (signed) Mitchell, W.M."

September 30th. Saw confirmation from the Temple Lodge also desiring and indeed applauding the proposed inter-visitation and this exchange between the Lodges continues to this day.

The business of the evening was finalised by the proposing of the first five candidates for Initiation into the Lodge and the first two Joining Members.

They were Messrs. Sydney Heath, W. T. R. Nixey, E. W. Jones, W. J. Boffin, and A. E. Lythall and Brothers G. Rowell and W. R. Dewsbury.

The first Charity Box contained the sum of £7.

THE FIRST FIFTY MASTERS

1927/8	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. James Mitchell</i> P.A.G.D.C., P.M., 3185, 5629
1929	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. Egerton West</i> , P.P.G.W.
1930	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. J. S. Harriss</i> , P.P.G.D.
1931	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. H. J. Edwards</i> , P.P.A.G.SEC.
1932	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. J. E. Winterbottom</i> , P.P.G.D.
1933	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. D. H. James</i> , P.P.G.W.
1934	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. F. W. Burre</i>
1935	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. George Barton</i> , P.P.G.W.
1936	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. S. Dunn Toon</i> , ASST. PROV. G.M.
1937	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. Ernest W. Jones</i> , P.P.G.D.
1938	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. Arthur E. Spackes</i> , P.P.G.D.
1939	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. A. E. Lythall</i> , P.P.D.G.D.C.
1940	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. W. J. Boffin</i> , P.P.G.SVD.B., P.M. 5224
1941	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. James Henry Owen</i>
1942	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. A. V. Boffin</i> , P.P.G.D., P.M. 6324
1943	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. Walter Towler</i> , P.P.G.STWD.
1944	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. H.P. Newton Mason</i>
1945	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. G. H. Badd</i> , P.P.G.W. P.P.G.W. (WKS.), P.M. 5811
1946	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. C. E. Wood</i>
1947	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. Lt.- Col. K. Golasbrough</i> , O.B.E.
1948	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. Ben Farniss</i> , P.P.A.G.D.C.
1949	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. Frank Shaw</i> , P.P.G.SUPT. WKS.
1950	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. L. E. Yeates</i>
1951	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. R. J. Shaw</i> , P.P.A.G.STD.B.
1952	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. J. E. A. Monkhouse</i> , P.P.A.G.STD.B.
1953	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. F. J. Johnson</i>
1954	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. Rev. R. A. Walsenholme</i> , P.P.G.REG., P.M. 6324
1955	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. R. J. Taylor</i> , P.P.G.W.
1956	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. C. T. Jelfs</i> , P.P.G.D., P.M. 7902
1957	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. S. W. Bloxidge</i> , P.G.STD.B., P.M. 6324
1958	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. F. L. Lancaster</i> , P.P.G.W., P.M. 6707
1959	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. E. W. Underwood</i> , P.P.G.REG.
1960	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. S. D. Hopper</i> , P.P.D.G.REG.
1961	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. Bernard Coaling</i>
1962	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. A. G. Jennings</i> , B.E.M., P.P.G.REG.
1963	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. A. E. Easter</i> , P.P.G.SUPT. WKS.
1964	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. A. E. Sinton</i> , P.P.J.G.W., P.M. 7706
1965	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. C. J. Wall</i> , P.P.G.STD.B.
1966	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. J. Beaman</i> , P.P.G.D.
1967	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. D. J. Parsons</i> , D.F.C., P.P.S.G.D.
1968	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. R. Carter</i> , P.P.G.D., P.M. 7902
1969	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. C. R. Malin</i> , P.P.A.G.D.C.
1970	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. D. H. Wilson</i> , P.P.G.D.
1971	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. W. A. Griffiths</i>
1972	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. L. F. Rixson</i> , M.B.E., P.P.G.D., P.M. 7902
1973	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. D. L. Richards</i> , PROV. G.STWD.
1974	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. A. L. Coache</i>
1975	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. H. Keen</i>
1976	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. J. M. Shaw</i>
1977	-	-	-	<i>W.Bro. W. S. Allsopp</i>

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LODGE OF BON ACCORD
1977

Bro. Wilfrid Samuel Allsopp, Worshipful Master
W. Bro. J. M. Shaw, I. P. M.

OFFICERS OF THE LODGE

S. W.	—	—	—	—	—	Bro. R. J. Mace
J. W.	—	—	—	—	—	Bro. D. T. Lockett
Chaplain	—	—	—	—	—	W. Bro. L. F. Vixson, M.B.E.
Treasurer	—	—	—	—	—	W. Bro. D. J. Parsons, D.I.C.
Secretary	—	—	—	—	—	Bro. J. K. Berlin
D. C.	—	—	—	—	—	W. Bro. A. L. Coache
Senior Deacon	—	—	—	—	—	Bro. L. H. Size
Junior Deacon	—	—	—	—	—	Bro. J. Tillotson
Almoner	—	—	—	—	—	W. Bro. C. R. Malin
A. D. C.	—	—	—	—	—	W. Bro. H. Keen
Guest Organist	—	—	—	—	—	Bro. T. Banham
Assistant Secretary	—	—	—	—	—	Bro. C. A. Ellis
I. G.	—	—	—	—	—	Bro. D. A. McKenzie
Steward:	Bros. H. C. W. Jennens, P.P.G. Stwd., D. Lacey, T. L. Ballinger, I. K. Abbott, D. L. M. Thomas, H. Turner, A. F. Rayner, P. M. Luscott-Evans, L. P. Williams.					
Tyler	—	—	—	—	—	W. Bro. W. B. Price, P.P.G.D.

BRETHREN OF THE LODGE

Bro. G. H. Fisher, P.P.G.O.	Bro. A. F. Davis
Bro. J. Herring	Bro. R. T. Shorrocks
Bro. T. N. F. Edwards	Bro. A. H. Royle
Bro. J. E. Oakley	Bro. S. Phillips
Bro. E. G. Noake	Bro. D. R. J. Brown
Bro. C. Hartley	Bro. G. W. R. D. Davies, B.A.
Bro. G. H. Neale	Bro. G. A. Keen
Bro. H. J. Ingram	Bro. C. F. Cantello
Bro. A. W. Docker	Bro. J. A. Jelly
Bro. S. E. Wilson	Bro. G. I. Phillips

HONORARY MEMBERS

R. W. Bro. F. H. Griffiths, O. St. J., Provincial Grand Master
W. Bro. A. J. Tennant, P.P.G.D (Warks.)

MENU

Prawn Cocktail

* *

Cream of Mushroom

* *

Fried fillet of Plaice

Tartare Sauce

* *

Roast Chicken

Bread Sauce

Chipolata

Petit Pois

New Potatoes

* *

Apple Pie

Cream

* *

Cheese Board

* *

Coffee

TOASTS

1. The Queen and the Craft.
2. The M. W. The Grand Master His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, G. C. M. G., G. C. V. O., A. D. C.
3. The M. W. The Pro. Grand Master, the Right Honourable the Earl Cadogan, M. C., D. L., The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master the Honourable Fiennes Cornwallis, O. B. E., D. L., The Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master, the Honourable Edward Latham Baillieu, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past.
4. The Right Worshipful The Provincial Grand Master, Frederick Hickton Griffiths, O. St. J.

Proposed by : W. Pro. G. J. Richards, Prov. G. Stwd.

Reply by : R. W. The Provincial Grand Master.
5. The Very Worshipful The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, H. A. Nock, M. C., Past Grand Sword Bearer, The Worshipful The Assistant Grand Masters, B. J. W. Chambers, Past Senior Grand Deacon, and L. H. C. Batt, M. B. E., Past Senior Grand Deacon, and the Officers, Present and Past, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire.
6. The Lodge of Ben Accord No. 4935.

Proposed by : R. W. The Provincial Grand Master.

Reply by : The Worshipful Master.
7. The Visitors.

Proposed by : Bro. D. T. Lockett, Junior Warden.
8. The Tyler's Toast.

AN ABRIDGED HISTORY OF THE LODGE OF BON ACCORD No. 4935

1927 – 1977

Reading through the Minutes of every Lodge Meeting for the past fifty years can become a most absorbing occupation, but however enthusiastic one might be, a mere repetition of extracts taken from the Minute Books might well fail to hold the interest of the reader.

Whilst presenting the facts in chronological order, an endeavour has been made to tell an interesting story. From the Lodge Minutes and other Masonic sources, it has been possible to verify the correctness of these records and everything of a doubtful origin has been omitted.

There are occasional gaps in the sequence of events. These gaps are caused by uneventful years, leaving little of note to record.

It cannot be denied that the times in which we live have been marked by a scientific and social revolution in our midst and in our manner of living. Remembering this, is it not a comforting thought that the tenets and principles of Freemasonry remain unchanged.

FIFTY YEARS ON

1927/1928.

In his first rather extended year, W. Bro. Mitchell distinguished himself by achieving in 15 Regular and Emergency Meetings a total of 10 Initiations, 10 Second Ceremonies and 7 Third Ceremonies. At one Emergency meeting, he worked 2 Second and 2 Third Ceremonies. Indeed, a strenuous year, but a year with the express purpose and aim of building up the Lodge and establishing high Masonic standards of moral and behaviour.

On October 4th, 1928, the Lodge Banner was presented to the Lodge by Bro. E. Newton, a Founder Member, to mark his high esteem and regard for his fifth-in-law, Mr. White, of "Bon Accord", Yardley. An explanation of the Banner is given in the Labour of the Jubilee Meeting.

Thus concluded the first year of the Lodge of Bon Accord, with a list of 25 subscribing brethren, showing remarkable evidence of virility and strength under the leadership of an outstanding personality in Freemasonry. Bro. G. H. Fisher was initiated during the year.

1929.

W. Bro. E. Egerton-West followed W. Bro. Mitchell into the Chair.

On February 12th., the I.P.M., W. Bro. Mitchell presented the Lodge with the I.P.M's chair.

In this second year of the life of the Lodge, on November 2nd., at the 16th. Meeting, W. Bro. A. V. Bollins was initiated into the Lodge.

And so, with 7 First, 4 Second and 6 Third Ceremonies performed in 7 Regular Meetings and 3 Emergency Meetings, W. Bro. Egerton-West was certainly emulating the standards set by W. Bro. Mitchell.

1930.

Bro. J. Harris, S. W., now attained the Chair. In 7 Regular and 1 Emergency Meeting, 5 Initiates were admitted during the year, with a total of 14 ceremonies being conducted.

1931.

In the January of this year, Bro. H. Edwards was installed as the Fourth Worshipful Master of the Lodge. It was he who initiated W. Bro. G. H. Budd, on an Olde English Night, held on December 5th., the 36th. Regular Meeting of the Lodge.

Two further candidates were admitted during this year.

1932.

This year saw the introduction of a most elaborate Installation Booklet and Menu set on the Festive Board. The Installation of Bro. J. E. Winterbottom was conducted with great ceremony and afterwards the Brethren sat down to the following menu (Cost 5/6d per head!)

Hot & Oeuvres
Oxtail Soup
Tomato Soup (Thick)
Boiled Halibut Oyster Sauce
Braised Sweetbreads
Roast Suckling Pig
Roast Chicken
Sprouts Boiled Potatoes
Baked Potatoes
Peach Melba Trifles
Cheese Biscuits Celery
Dessert
Coffee

Certainly a Menu not seen in our Lodges these days.

In a quiet and consolidating year of 7 Regular and 1 Emergency Meeting 10 Degree ceremonies were worked including 3 Initiations.

1933.

With Bro. D. H. James in the Chair, there occurred the deaths of two of the Lodge's Honorary Members, namely, W. Bro. W. Summers and W. Bro. P. Perry.

During his term of Mastership, W. Bro. James conducted 3 First Ceremonies.

1934.

The comparatively quiet pattern of recent years continues, with the W. M. Bro. F. W. White, admitting 3 Initiates.

It was on the 1st. December, at the 52nd. Regular Meeting of the Lodge that the father and uncle of W. Bro. S. W. Bloxidge were initiated. This year also saw W. Bro. Frank Shaw, father of our present I.P.M., W. Bro. J. Shaw joining the Lodge, having been a member of an American Lodge.

1935.

Bro. G. Barton now succeeded to the Chair, and one of his first Initiates was W. Bro. R. Shaw, who entered the Lodge on the 2nd. February, the 54th. Regular Meeting.

Letters of congratulation were sent from the Lodge to The R. W. Bro. General Sir Francis J. Davies on his being appointed as Deputy Grand Master.

Three First Ceremonies took place this year.

1936.

The Minutes of the 60th. Meeting, an Installation Meeting, and those of the 61st. Meeting are missing from the Minute Book which was severely damaged by fire in 1967. However, the Minutes of the 63rd. Meeting show Bro. S. Dunn-Toon in the Chair.

The year was marred by the death of His Majesty King George V.

In what appears to have been a strenuous year for Bro. S. Dunn-Toon, in 7 Regular Meetings and 2 Emergency Meetings he carried out 2 Initiation ceremonies, one of the initiates being Bro. J. C. A. Monkhouse.

1937.

Bro. F. W. Jones was installed by W. Bro. S. Dunn-Toon.

The 69th., 70th., 71st., and 72nd. sets of Minutes are missing from the badly scorched Third Minute Book. The Fourth Minute Book commences with the 73rd. set of Minutes, of a meeting held on December 4th. In the Labour of the Lodge, the candidate for election was W. Bro. F. J. Johnson.

The W. M. initiated 3 candidates during his year of Office.

1938.

With Bro. A. E. Sparkes in the Chair, the pattern of recent years continues. However, the war clouds were gathering and in the August, an important notice was issued by Grand Lodge to all the Craft.

The document emphasised the fundamental principles of the Order. It warned against other Bodies, styling themselves Freemasons which did not adhere to our Principles. The document ended with these words:—
“Our principles must be accepted wholeheartedly and in their entirety by those who desire to be recognised as Freemasons by the United Grand Lodge of England”.

Two initiates were admitted into the Lodge.

1939.

W. Bro. Sparkes now installed Bro. A. E. Lythall as his successor.

In view of the National Emergency that had arisen, Grand Lodge suspended all Masonic Meetings, but later in the month of September, the suspension was lifted and the resumption of Meetings permitted. For, as the Grand Secretary wrote at the time:—

“No one can lose sight of the fact that Freemasonry enters into the lives of so many that the interruption of meetings would not only cause personal hardship but a loss of inspiration to a considerable part of our Nation”.

Many rules of the “Book of Constitutions” were relaxed. It was laid down that Meetings may not be held on a Sunday, that morning dress or uniform may be worn, that meetings should be arranged for as early as possible, that any ‘after proceedings’ should be as brief and simple as possible, etc.

At the 81st Meeting of the Lodge, W. Bro. R. J. Taylor was elected and initiated into the Lodge. A large number of the Lodge remember him with affection.

The 86th Meeting, held on November 4th, saw W. Bro. S. W. Bloxidge as a candidate for initiation.

During this year, the Installation of the Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent, K. G., took place at Olympia, Kensington, London, on the 19th. July.

In the first months of the War, the W. M. conducted 7 ceremonies, including 2 initiations.

1940.

So far, in spite of war conditions, under the Mastership of Bro. W. J. Boffin, the Lodge maintained a good level of attendance.

Grand Lodge announced that the children of Freemasons now evacuated from this country had been received into the homes of Freemasons in the countries to which they had gone.

For the W. M., this was a quiet year in which he initiated one candidate.

1941.

Inclement weather, travelling difficulties with "black-out" conditions did not help attendance at Meetings. However, a special appeal was sent out by the W. M., now Bro. J. H. Owen, for all Brethren to make the effort to attend the 100th. Meeting of the Lodge, held on 1st. November. The appeal was successful and a goodly number of Brethren and Visitors attended.

Bro. J. Herriott, now residing in Wales, joined the Lodge.

Three Initiates were admitted into the Lodge.

1942.

At the 102nd. Meeting, held on January 3rd., in the Third Year of the War, W. Bro. A. V. Bollins was installed in the Chair. At this time, W. Bro. S. W. Bloxidge, was Lodge Organist and W. Bro. G. H. Budd, Secretary.

At the 106th. Meeting of the Lodge, news came through that the Grand Master, The Most Worshipful Brother Air Commodore HRH The Duke of Kent, K. G., had been killed in action.

The final meeting of the W. M's. year, saw congratulations from many esteemed Masons on the work done from the Chair in 7 Regular Meetings and 1 Emergency Meeting, which included 2 First Ceremonies.

An increased amount of Charity Monies was raised for the upkeep of the Masonic Schools and £32 was donated to the Masonic War Relief Fund.

1943.

At the Installation of Bro. W. Fowler, the Lodge was honoured by our Founder Worshipful Master being invited by the Province to act as Presiding Officer at the Installation Ceremony.

About this time the old Minute Books went missing, feared lost by enemy action. These books were later recovered, having been in the safe keeping of Brother Tyler.

The Brethren heard a number of lectures and saw 3 ceremonies conducted, one of which was a First Ceremony.

1944.

Again, W. Bro. J. Mitchell officiated as Presiding Officer when Bro. H. Paxton-Newton-Mason was installed.

At the March Meeting in this year, W. Bro. S. Dobson-Hopper was initiated. Whittington Barracks had been taken over by the American Forces and a number of the visitors to our Lodges were American and Commonwealth Masons. It is noted that two American Servicemen were admitted to the Lodge. They were Bro. J. Barnes and Bro. A. Rawlings.

Four candidates were initiated this year.

1945.

In this last year of the War, W. Bro. G. H. Budd succeeded to the Chair. A Directive was issued from Grand Lodge countermanding the Directions issued to the Craft in September 1939. Other Directives followed, concerning qualification for Initiation, special conditions and arrangements for returning members serving with H. M. Forces, the difficulties experienced by Brethren serving abroad, and so on.

Thus Masonry was becoming stabilised again and by virtue of these Directives, returning to normal very quickly.

Indeed, a most satisfying end to W. Bro. Budd's Mastership, having conducted 8 ceremonies, two of which were First Ceremonies.

1946.

Bro. C. E. Wood now attained the Chair, and at the 133rd Meeting of the Lodge, held on April 6th., the Master received a Deputation from the Promoters of the proposed Lodge of Yardley. Led by the Master Designate, W. Bro. A. V. Bollins, the petition was signed and the new Lodge of Yardley wished success by the W. M. and the Brethren.

The W. M. in his year of Office initiated 2 candidates.

1947.

Bro. Lt. Colonel R. Goldsborough, CBE, now succeeded to the Chair.

The October Meeting noted a letter received from Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth thanking the Lodge for the message of congratulations sent to her on the occasion of her 21st. birthday. The message came from South Africa where Her Royal Highness was on a Royal Tour.

The Master conducted 6 ceremonies, two of which were Initiation ceremonies.

1948.

Bro. B. Furniss was installed as W. M. It was in this year that W. Bro. J. Mitchell retired as Almoner and W. Bro. D. H. James took over. Acknowledgements for the sterling charity work of W. Bro. Mitchell, as Almoner, poured in from all quarters.

At the 21st. celebration of the Founding of the Lodge, held on October 2nd., a special item was included in the Labour of the Lodge, "to read extracts from the Minutes of the Consecration Meeting, held on Thursday, September 27th, 1927, at the Masonic Hall, Stechford".

These extracts were read out by the first W. M. of the Lodge. He stated that the Lodge of Bon Accord was the first to be consecrated in the present building and that the consecration took place on the 30th. anniversary of his initiation and that the 29th. September of this year had seen the 51st. anniversary of his initiation.

He also paid tribute to the quality of the work of the First Secretary W. Bro. J. Harris.

At this meeting, it was pleasing to note that all five of the surviving Founder Members of the Lodge were present, namely – W. Bro. J. Mitchell, W. Bro. J. Winterbottom, W. Bro. D. H. James, W. Bro. S. Dunn-Toon and Bro. E. Matthews.

At the November Meeting, a letter was read out to the Lodge from their Royal Highnesses, Princess Elizabeth and The Duke of Edinburgh, thanking the Lodge for the best wishes offered them on the birth of Prince Charles.

During this exciting year, the W. M. initiated two candidates, one of whom was Bro. T. N. F. Edwards, and who is now a Country Member.

1949.

Bro. F. Shaw now reached the Chair with his blood brother Bro. R. Shaw as Secretary.

W. Bro. E. W. Underwood, was initiated at the 155th Meeting held on 1st. October, and was the first of two candidates admitted during the year.

1950.

In the year that W. Bro. S. Dunn-Toon was appointed as Assistant Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Worcestershire, Bro. L. Yates was in the Chair.

W. Bro. G. H. Budd was elected Treasurer of the Lodge on November 4th, and joined the Board of Directors of the Stechford Masonic Lodge Co.

W. Bro. J. Mitchell enjoyed tribute, paid to him on the occasion of his Golden Wedding.

Two candidates were accepted into the Lodge.

1951.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W. Bro. Dr. E. L. Bunting was the Presiding Officer at the installation of Bro. R. Shaw.

Two well known Brethren of the Lodge were initiated in this year. These were Bro. J. Oakley, and the late W. Bro. A. G. Jennings.

The year was marred by the death of W. Bro. S. Dunn-Toon.

1952.

At the 174th Meeting, under the Mastership of Bro. J. C. A. Monkhouse, the death of the Sovereign and Past Grand Master H. M. King George VI, was reported.

The 176th Meeting of the Lodge, on October 4th, was the 25th Anniversary of the Consecration, and the Founders presented the Lodge with a set of seven colour printing dies.

The first use of the dies was at the 176th. Meeting and thereafter at Installation Meetings only, giving status and standing to our Installation Summons.

The Founders sought, by this gift, to honour the memory of those Founders who had passed to the Grand Lodge Above. The letter, carries the signatures of the surviving Founders at that time, namely David Henry James Edward Matthews and James Mitchell.

The W. M. in his year of Office admitted 3 candidates into the Lodge, one of whom was Bro. E. G. Noake.

1953.

W. Bro. J. Mitchell passed to the Grand Lodge Above. Notification of his passing came at the Installation Ceremony of Bro. F. J. Johnson. Tribute was paid him as Founder of the Lodge and to his 25 years of Office, in which time he had endeared himself to so many Brethren. The Minute Book contains numerous letters of condolence, appreciation and sympathy from many sources.

The Consecration of Dormer Lodge, No. 7234 occurred at Kings Heath on Wednesday, 16th. December. The Master Designate was W. Bro. J. Dennis, P.M. 6324 and J. D. in the Lodge.

W. Bro. A. Sinton, was initiated during this year, as also was W. Bro. C. J. Wall.

1954.

This was a quiet year for the new W. M., Bro. R. A. Wolstenholme, during which time he initiated 2 candidates, one of whom was W. Bro. D. J. Parsons, DFC., our present Treasurer, and the other, W. Bro. C. R. Malin.

1955.

W. Bro. Dr. E. L. Bunting, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master was appointed Provincial Grand Master and congratulations were sent from the Lodge to the new P.G.M.

The W. M., now Bro. R. J. Taylor, initiated 3 well known brethren into the Lodge, namely W. Bro. Reeve Carter, the late W. Bro. J. Beaman and Bro. S. F. Wilson.

1956.

At the Installation of Bro. C. T. Jelfs, which took place at the 200th. Meeting of the Lodge, the Almoner, W. Bro. D. H. James announced that the Lodge had qualified as a patron of the Royal Masonic Boys' Institution.

Under the untiring efforts of the W. M., the Lodge Class of Rehearsal came into being. He was the first Preceptor, and his progressive thought is now realised in the Bon Accord Lodge of Instruction, No. 4935, now under the Preceptorship of W. Bro. E. W. Underwood, who still maintains the very high standard of ritual, set in the first place by W. Bro. Jelfs.

During this year, Bro. G. H. Fisher was presented with a clock as a token of the Lodge's appreciation for his services as Lodge Organist.

Bro. B. Coaling presented the Lodge with the Cushion, still used on the W. M's. pedestal.

The Initiates for the year were W. Bros. D. H. Wilson and A. L. Coache.

1957.

The Wigornia Chapter, No. 4935, was founded this year, with W. Bro. A. V. Bollins as its first Principal. The W. M., now Bro. S. W. Bloxidge accepted the Petition and wished the Founders well for the future.

The Lodge was recorded as a Patron Lodge of the Royal Masonic Hospital.

Two candidates were initiated into the Lodge, one of whom was Bro. C. Hartley.

1958.

The pattern of the years continues. W. Bro. F. L. Lancaster, P.M. 6707, now succeeded to the Chair. His year was marked by the death of the Prov. Grand Master, the Rt. Wor. Bro. Ben Martin, J. P., and the passing of the Lodge's Senior Warden, Bro. F. W. Williams.

Guidance from W. Bro. C. T. Jell's saw the Ben Accord Lodge of Instruction officially formed.

Two candidates were admitted into the Lodge, one of whom was Bro. H. C. W. Jennens.

1959.

W. Bro. A. V. Bollins, P.P.G.W., was honoured with Grand Lodge rank of Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, in this year when W. Bro. E. W. Underwood was Master of the Lodge.

At the 225th. Meeting, of the Festive Board, W. Bro. Bollins was presented with a silver sash to mark his appointment to Grand Lodge Rank.

The W. M. initiated 2 candidates into the Lodge, W. Bro. L. F. Rixson, MBE., and Bro. C. L. Neale and admitted 2 joining members, Bro. E. Luscott-Evans, father of Bro. Maurice Luscott-Evans and Bro. L. Freeman.

1960.

Bro. S. Dobson-Hopper now achieved the Chair, and with his permission, W. Bro. G. H. Budd initiated his son, James, into the Lodge.

The sad passing of another Founder, Bro. E. Matthews occurred.

The W. M. Initiated one other candidate.

1961.

A sad year for the Lodge. By Dispensation, the 238th. Regular Meeting

was held on Wednesday, 29th. March, and it was at this Meeting, whilst acting as I.P.M., with W. Bro. Underwood, working the Third Ceremony that the Worshipful Master Bro. B. Coaling suffered a heart attack and collapsed in Lodge. The Lodge was immediately "Called off", pending further news and on being "Called on" the Master's death was announced to all Brethren present. The after proceedings were naturally cancelled.

The IPM, W. Bro. S. Dobson-Hopper acted as W. M. for the remainder of the year. Indeed, at the next Meeting, he continued the Raising of Bro. H. J. Ingram, and continued the usual Labour of the Lodge for a second year.

The Lodge became a Double Patron to the Royal Masonic Hospital.

Blakesley Lodge, No. 7706 was consecrated, with W. Bro. Bollins as a Founder Member and W. Bro. A. E. Sinton as First Senior Warden.

The second Initiate into the Lodge was W. Bro. D. T. Richards.

1962.

Bro. A. G. Jennings, BEM, as W. M. for this year, initiated his son-in-law, Bro. A. Docker into the Lodge.

The deaths of W. Bros. F. Shaw and B. Ermiss marked the year.

Two candidates were accepted into the Lodge, one of whom was W. Bro. H. Keen.

1963.

A very happy year for Bro. A. E. Easter, the W. M.

W. Bro. C. T. Jell was presented as Master Designate of the Lodge of Friendship, with Bro. L. F. Rixon as Founder Secretary. The Petition was presented, duly accepted and signed.

The W. M. initiated 2 candidates during his year of Office, one of whom was Bro. J. Tolson.

1964.

The Lodge continued to make progress with W. Bro. A. E. Sinton, P.M. 7706 now in the Chair.

The Lodge suffered the loss of three staunch members; W. Bro. C. T. Jell, Bro. E. Luscott-Evans and Bro. A. Corbett.

W. Bro. E. W. Underwood was appointed to the rank of Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies and elected Preceptor of the Bon Accord Lodge of Instruction.

The W. M. Initiated two candidates, W. Bro. J. M. Shaw and Bro. A. F. Davis.

1965.

Bro. C. J. Wall, now residing in Wales, was installed as W. M.

W. Bro. G. H. Budd, stood down as Treasurer after 15 years valuable

service. He was presented with a silver tray in recognition of his service to the Lodge. His office was taken over by W. Bro. A. G. Jennings.

W. Bro. W. S. Allsopp and Bro. R. T. Shorroek were initiated into the Lodge this year.

1966.

W. Bro. A. W. Smallwood, Assistant Provincial Grand Master passed to the Grand Lodge above in the year of the Mastership of Bro. J. Beaman.

At the Installation Meeting, greetings were given by a W. Bro. C. Bond from the Brethren of the Lodge of Bon Accord, Basbon, Australia and also from the Lodge of Bon Accord, Manchester.

The death occurred of W. Bro. D. H. James, P.P.G.W., the last surviving Founder Member of the Lodge.

Two other deaths are recorded, that of Bro. W. H. Bloxidge, father of W. Bro. S. W. Bloxidge and Bro. Cook.

The W. M. initiated two candidates, Bros. Phillips and McKenzie.

W. Bro. A. E. Sinton was appointed Provincial Senior Grand Deacon.

1967.

In the year of the Mastership of Bro. D. J. Parsons, D.F.C., Mrs. Mitchell, wife of our first W. M. and Founder of the Lodge died in her 90th. year.

Under the terms of her will, W. Bro. G. H. Budd was appointed joint executor with the Midland Bank.

After special bequests of cash and kind, the whole of the residue of the estate was left to the Lodge of Bon Accord to be applied to such charitable projects as are included in the activities of the Lodge and as the Lodge thinks fit.

The residue amounted to £206.5s.6d. It was suggested that this capital sum be included in the Lodge Accounts under the title "The James and Helen Mitchell Bequest Fund", and annually the balance sheet is submitted with the Lodge Accounts at the February meeting.

The Trustees of the Fund are, W. Bro. G. H. Budd, W. Bro. D. J. Parsons and Bro. A. Docker.

This year was the 250th. Anniversary of Grand Lodge and the Lodge received a Commemorative Jewel from Grand Lodge. This Jewel is now worn on the Worshipful Master's Collar.

In the October, because of a fire in the Lodge Rooms, which accounted for the scorched condition of Minute Book No. 3, the Festive Board could not take place and regrettably, the Visitors and Brethren departed after the Ceremony.

Bros. Royle, Dovey and Size were initiated into the Lodge.

1968.

In the year that H.R.H. The Duke of Kent was installed as Grand Master, W. Bro. Reeve Carter, P.M. 7902 succeeded to the Chair.

Bro. D. Wilson, S.W. and Bro. C. Malin, J.W., presented the Lodge with new Wardens' Columns of their Office. These Columns were suitably inscribed and presented formally from the Chair.

W. Bro. A. V. Bollins was promoted by Grand Lodge to the rank of Past Grand Deacon. News of which was received by the Brethren with acclamation.

The Lodge saw the passing to The Grand Lodge above of W. Bro. K. J. Taylor and W. Bro. Lt. Col. R. Goldsborough, O.B.E.

W. Bro. Reeve Carter initiated 2 candidates, namely, Bros. Mace and Lockett during his year.

1969.

W. Bro. H. E. Clive, Deputy Provincial Grand Master died on 3rd February, and the Lodge Summons, headed with the name of Bro. C. Malin as W. M., was printed in black and carried a memoriam notice. There were many Masonic tributes paid to the memory of W. Bro. Clive, a well-known and outstanding Mason of the time.

In September, the M.W. The Grand Master notified all Lodges of his intention to appoint the Rt. W. Bro. The Rt. Hon. The Earl Cadogan as Pro. Grand Master and the Rt. W. Bro. Major General Sir Allan Acland as Dep. Grand Master.

Bro. Hedley Ward died in the December.

The W. M. admitted 2 initiates during his year, one of whom was Bro. D. R. J. Brown.

1970.

The Dep. Prov. Grand Master, W. Bro. F. H. Griffiths was present when Bro. D. Wilson was installed in the Chair.

W. Bro. Bollins presented his Past Master's Jewel to the Lodge, which the W. M. was to receive at the Installation Ceremony of his successor, Bro. W. Griffiths, the following year.

The March Meeting marked the 300th. Meeting of the Lodge and to register the occasion the Minutes of the First Regular Meeting of the Lodge were read.

W. Bro. L. F. Rixson was appointed Provincial Junior Grand Deacon. Bros. C. Ellis and J. Butlin were initiated into the Lodge this year.

1971.

Bro. W. Griffiths now achieved the Chair, being Installed by W. Bro. D. H. Wilson. He was presented by his brother-in-law, W. Bro. A.G. Jennings.

During his year, the Lodge heard an excellent lecture by W. Bro. Harry Carr, P.J.G.D., Secretary of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076. The Lecture, entitled "Let's Talk" was an immediate success.

In September, the Lodge suffered the sudden and tragic loss of the Worshipful Master after what was a very short illness.

The I.P.M., W. Bro. D. H. Wilson took over for the remaining period of the session.

W. Bro. S. W. Bloxidge was honoured with Grand Lodge rank during this year, that of Past Grand Standard Bearer.

Bros. Ballinger and Abbott were initiated during this year.

1972.

With W. Bro. L. F. Rixson, in the Chair, this proved a progressive and effective year for the Lodge.

A Miniature of the Third Tracing Board was presented to the Lodge by W. Bro. E. W. Underwood.

It was in this year that the Lodge received another excellent lecture from The Worshipful Master of The Quatuor Coronati Lodge, W. Bro. Dr. S. Vatcher, O.B.E., L.G.R., travelling from Chichester to deliver the talk. Entitled "The Origins of Speculative Freemasonry, and the Symbolism of the Ornaments and Jewels of the Lodge", the lecture was received with great interest and many questions were asked of Dr. Vatcher afterwards.

The April Meeting of the Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Stechford, for the last time and the next meeting was the first meeting in our new Masonic Home at the old Y.M.C.A. building in Bonlesley Green Park.

The following appointments and promotions to Provincial Grand Lodge were made during the year:— W. Bro. G. H. Budd, P.J.G.Treas. to Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden, W. Bro. E. W. Underwood, to Past Provincial Grand Registrar, and W. Bro. D. J. Parsons, to Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearer.

The year saw the passing of the Grand Lodge Above of W. Bro. R. J. Shaw. During his year of Office the W.M. initiated Bro. D.L.M. Thomas.

1973.

The Prov. Grand Master, the Rt. W. Bro. Lt. Col. O. W. D. Smith, died in the year of Bro. D. L. Richards being Master of the Lodge, and the Lodge went into mourning for 3 months.

The Lodge furthered its knowledge with another lecture from W. Bro. H. Carr, F.I.G.D., Secretary of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, entitled "Freemasonry in the United States".

It was with regret that the Lodge heard of the closing of the Convalescent Home at Frinton. This was due in the main to the need becoming less and less for the services offered.

The Lodge received with great joy the news that The M. W. The Grand Master had appointed V. W. Bro. F. H. Griffiths, O.St. J., our Dep. Prov. Grand Master as Provincial Grand Master in succession to the late Rt. W. Bro. O. W. D. Smith.

The Provincial Grand Master was made an Honorary Member of the Lodge.

Two well respected members of the Lodge passed to The Grand Lodge Above, namely, W. Bro. Les Lancaster and Bro. Les Edwards.

Bros. Turner and Rayner were initiated into the Lodge during this year.

1974.

Bro. A. L. Coache now attained the Chair.

W. Bro. C. R. Malin had the rank of Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies conferred upon him, Bro. H. C. W. Jennens was appointed Provincial Grand Steward and W. Bro. A. G. Jennings, was promoted to the rank of Past Provincial Grand Registrar.

At the 330th Meeting held on 5th. October, W. Bro. A. G. Jennings was presented with the jewel of his new rank by W. Bro. E. W. Underwood.

Bros. Luscott-Evans and G. W. Davies were initiated into the Lodge.

1975.

At the 333rd. Meeting of the Lodge, Bro. H. Keen was installed into the Chair.

W. Bro. C. Malin presented two columns of a New Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry by A. E. Waite to the Lodge, to be loaned to each newly raised Brother to enable him to make a more detailed daily advancement in Masonic knowledge.

W. Bro. D. H. Wilson received the rank of Past Provincial Junior Grand Deacon, and W. Bro. A. E. Sinton was promoted to the rank of Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden.

Two highly respected and hardworking Past Masters of the Lodge, W. Bro. A. G. Jennings, and W. Bro. A. E. Easter, passed to the Grand Lodge Above. Bro. D. P. Williams was received into the Lodge.

1976.

Bro. J. M. Shaw now succeeded to the Chair in the 49th. Year of the Temple Lodge Intervisitation.

At the 345th. Meeting, held on November 6th, two films were shown, illustrating the work of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and the Royal Masonic Girls' School.

The W. M. presided over the meeting when W. Bro. H. Keen initiated his son, Graham into the Lodge.

1977.

And so we arrive at the Jubilee Year, with Bro. W. S. Allsopp in the Chair. It is also the year of the 50th Intervisitation of the Temple Lodge.

So far, it has proved a quiet, but progressive year, with Bros. Jelley and Phillips being initiated into the Lodge and Bro. Cantello being admitted a joining member.

W. Bro. D. J. Parsons was promoted to the rank of Past Provincial Senior Grand Deacon.

This very brief history of the Lodge would be incomplete without reference to, and an appreciation of, the Bon Accord Lodge of Instruction, which was formed in 1956, originally as a Class of Rehearsal.

Its objects are to encourage an early interest in Masonic ritual, and regular practice in its rendering. The results achieved have been of a high standard, and in this respect special acknowledgement is due to the late W. Bro. C. T. Jelfs, its first Preceptor, and to W. Bro. E. W. Underwood, the present and second Preceptor.

The Lodge of Instruction is self supporting, and makes regular contributions from its funds to the Lodge Charity Account.

A good average attendance is maintained, and the greatest possible interest is shewn by its members, who are ready at all times to take over any Office in the Lodge.

Over the years, the many and varied activities of the Lodge have run smoothly. The Lodge still continues to maintain a strong and healthy spirit and is held in great affection by the Brethren. This, undoubtedly, is due to the firm and true foundation laid down by our Masonic Forebears, who, as Worthy Masons, established standards and traditions of the highest order.

To them, the Brethren of today and of the future will be eternally grateful.

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In presenting this publication the Jubilee Committee, on behalf of the Lodge, wish to express their appreciation of the services rendered by W. Bro. L. F. Rixson, M. B. E., P. P. G. D., P. M. 7902, and W. Bro. D. J. Parsons, D. F. C., P. P. S. G. D., in compiling and writing it, which has entailed the reading and verification of Lodge records covering the 50 year period.

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