

St. Laurence Lodge

No. 2724

Province of Worcestershire



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Centenary

1898 - 1998



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St. Laurence Lodge

No. 2724

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The Worshipful Master Bro. G. R. Charlton
and Officers 1998.



Back Row, left to right:

BRO. J. V. PLAN. , BRO. A. K. VISWAN. BRO. T. G. BUTLER,
W.BRO. A. W. SMITH, P.P.A.G.D.C. W.BRO. J. TATE, P.P.G.R.E.G.
W.BRO. S. F. W. HALL, P.P.A.C.D.C. W.BRO. H. W. DAY, P.P.S.G.W.

Front Row:

BRO. R. C. MULGRUE. BRO. F. SMITH. BRO. G. R. C. CHARLTON, W.M.
W.BRO. J. L. BROOKER, P.P.G.R.E.G. W.BRO. W. E. WHITEHOUSE, P.P.S.G.W.
W.BRO. R. G. HAYTON, P.P.J.G.W.

ST. LAURENCE LODGE No. 2724 1898 - 1998

As we approach the end of our 100th year it has been deemed fitting to record a brief epitome of the history of our Lodge.

Until September 1948 when our sole surviving Founder (W.Bro. Joseph Hull) very sadly died we lost our last link with the original members. It has therefore been necessary to rely mainly on the Lodge Minutes for the salient facts here recorded.

There do not appear to be any recorded Minutes of the Meetings of the Founders held prior to the Lodge being consecrated. We know however, that it was decided to name the Lodge after the Patron Saint of the Parish Church of Northfield. St. Laurence was one of seven Deacons who served the Roman Church in the 3rd Century A. D. and his duties included the care of the goods of the Church and the distribution of alms to the poor. In consequence of his refusal to comply with an edict of the Emperor Valeren to surrender the riches of the Church he was placed on a gridiron and slowly burnt to death. The gridiron and flames are usually depicted in representations of the Martyr, as they are on the Lodge Banner.

St. Laurence Lodge was the first to meet at Northfield, which in 1898 was a country village governed by the King Norton and Northfield District Council. The only public conveyance to it from Birmingham and, needless to say, our brethren had no motor cars. In 1911 it became part of Birmingham as the railway, but not until some years later did it begin to develop into the suburb we know today.

The Lodge was consecrated in the Church Schbols, Northfield, which was its home for the first few years, on 8 December, 1898. The Consecrating Officer was the Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire, R.W.Bro Sir Augustus F. Godson, M.A., M.P., P.G.D.Eng. Fifteen Founders were present at the ceremony and they were supported by upwards of sixty visiting brethren. Among whom were Lord Leigh of Stonely Leigh, Alby, P.G.M. Warwickshire.

W.Bro. Walter Somers, Perserverence Lodge No. 573 our Mother Lodge

Sir O'fley Wakeman P.G.M. Salop

Sr. J Russell Bailey P. G.M. Hereford

The Mayor of Buddersfield

There were a further 25 Grand Officers.

W.Bro. Walter Somers, represented our Mother Lodge Perserverence No. 573 which meets at Halesowen. He was Chairman of Walter Somers Limited, the great engineering concern in Halesowen. The Perseverence Lodge Centenary Warrant was issued in 1950.

There were 15 Founder Jewels issued but the whereabouts of any are not known. The Warrant from the (Grand Lodge of England bears the signature "Albert Edward, Grand Master." which is that of the Prince of Wales afterwards, King Edward VII.

It embodies the names of the Founders as follows: -

G. G. Poppleton	J. C. Aston
T. A. Baylis	W. O. Dingley
T. K. Bayliss	W. Lister
G. J. C. Cross	J. Earle
C. Levers	J. A. Draycott
H. Jennings	P. Rayner
J. Hull	E. W. Phelps
F. H. Tatham	C. Taffe
E. J. Collins	

At the Installation Ceremony which followed the Consecration, W.Bro. W. Lister, Past Master of the St. James Lodge No. 482, Staffordshire, who acted as I.P.M. of the Lodge during the first year, installed W.Bro. G.G. Poppleton, P.M. of the Albert Edward Lodge No. 1783, as the first Master. W.Bro. Poppleton was the senior principal of the firm Poppleton and Appleby, Chartered Accountants of Birmingham. A present day member of the Lodge, W.Bro. J.H. Tate claims a direct connection with the first Master in that W.Bro. Tate's father was employed as an accountant by Poppleton and Appleby in the 1930's

The Menu for the Banquet which followed is indicative of those epicurean days, and is set out as a mailer of interest on the opposite page.

The Minutes of the second regular meeting of the Lodge contained nothing but routine matter, though it may be noted that the contents of the Charity Column yielded the sum of 6s.6d.

CHARITY COLLECTIONS

The First Charity Collection was £7.1s.0d. quite a respectable sum in those days. Following were successive collections of

6.6d.
£1.0.6d.
8.6d.
11.6d.
£1.0.0d.
11.0d.
14.0d.
11.0d.

The first Balance Sheet was issued on 25 December 1899. It showed a deficiency of £116.8s.0d. This Balance Sheet showed a presentation of Brass Candlesticks and 3 Brass Wand Stand by two Members of the Lodge.

MENU

Sherry

SOUP
Clear Ox Tail, Mock Turtle

Champagne:
Giesler
De St Marceaux
Geo. Goulet

FISH
Turbot, Lobster Sauce
Fried Fillets of Brill

Port
Claret
Brandy

ENTREES
Saute of Kidneys and Champignons
Lamb Cutlets and Peas

Liquers:
Kummel
Curacao

REMOVES
Roast Ribs of Beef, Horseradish Sauce
Saddles of Mutton
Roast Turkeys, Boiled Chickens

Cigars
High Life
Conchas
Larranaga
Crepusculo Aromas

Pheasants.

SWEETS
Charlotte Russe
Fruit and Wine Jellies
Compote of Fruit
Ice Pudding

DESSERT

COFFEE

There was a Gift to the Lodge on 27 March, 1899 of 3 beautiful Brass Columns,

Corinthian
Doric
Ionic

by W.Bro. Charles Lever

on 27 November, 1898, Bro. Phelps presented 3 beautiful Brass Pedestals to the
D.C., Junior and Senior Deacons Wands.

Items on the Balance Sheet shows purchases of:

Bible	cost	£1.12s.0d.
Charity Box	cost	£1.9s.6d.

W. Bro. Poppleton vacated the Chair on 29 January 1900.

Interesting point on the Balance Sheet showed the stocks of wines and cigars.

168 bottles	value	£33. 5s. 0d.
125 cigars	value	£1. 11s. 6d.

On 26 November 1900 W. Bro. Poppleton, Baylis and Coleman Cross gave their
names as surities in the sum of £200.0.0d.

We assume that this money was required to purchase (pay for) the majority of
the Lodge Furniture now required for the efficient running of the Lodge.

Below is an inventory of the Lodge Furniture and bits and pieces, which no
doubt formed part of purchases already made.

The Inventory is dated 18 January, 1900.

Volume of the Sacred Law and Cushion
W.M.'s Chair and Platform
S.W.'s Chair and Platform
J.W.'s Chair and Platform
Kneeling Stools
Large Pedestal
Small Pedestal

D. C. Wand of Office
 S. D. Wand of Office
 J. D. Wand of Office
 S. W. Column
 J. W. Column
 3 Tracing Boards
 1 Poinyard and Sheath
 Ballot Box and Balls
 Charity Box
 Rough Ashler
 Smooth Ashler and Pulleys
 Old Box of Working Tools
 Red Case containing Silver Square and Compasses
 Common Gavel
 One Banner Pole
 3 Mallets and Blocks for W.M.S.W. J.W.
 Collar of Office with Silver Jewels
 3 Sets of Gauntlets
 Sippers and Hoodwinks. Cable Tows.
 Lodge Room squares carpet and border carpet
 Ink Stand
 Polished Brass Candle Sticks and Pedestals
 20 Firing Glasses
 Secretary's Table
 2 Oak Plinths
 Letter 'G'
 4 Wooden Firing Mallets
 16 Whisky Glasses
 Declaration Book
 Book of Constitutions (large)
 Walnut Frame Organ
 1 Meridian Clock
 Tracing Board Easel

The Lodge moved to our new Preinises on 30 December, 1901

W.Bro T. A. Payliss was the new Master followed in successive years by
 W.Bro Coleman Cross

W.Bro J. Hull.

The first candidate, who was initiated in February 1899 is described in the minute
 of his proposal as "Mr. Bert Jordon, Medical Man". he was installed in the Chair in
 1907 and was made an Honorary Member in 1948.

At a Meeting in 1899, there being no Ceremony, occasion was taken to rehearse the Second Degree and later records show that 'rehearsals' of various Degrees as well as Lectures were a common occurrence in the early days of the Lodge.

The first Inventory of Lodge Furniture, dated 18 January, 1900 is very comprehensive and includes a number of gifts by various members, amongst which may be mentioned the Brass Doric Ionic and Corinthian Columns which still adorn the three Pedestals.

A list of the Wines in stock at the end of the first year showed the varied taste of the Members, for no less than eight different wines were listed. Champagne was evidently in demand, for the stock included 69 bottles. Scotch Whisky was priced at 42s. a dozen. Needless to say Beer was then considered too plebeian to figure in the Stock.

During the second year it became apparent that income of the Lodge was not keeping pace with the expenditure and three members were required to give security for an overdraft of £200.0.0d. by the Birmingham District and Counties Bank.

Up to April 1901 various styles and types had been used in the printing of the Lodge Circular, but it is noteworthy that at this date the general format of the Circular which is in use today, was first introduced.

The first mention of the change of venue of the Lodge from the Church Schools, Northfield was in April 1901 when it was proposed "that the next and future Meetings of the Lodge be held at the new premises" without specifying their location. A similar proposition was made again in November, 1901, and was then apparently carried out for the Circular for the next meeting in December requested members "to attend the duties of the Lodge at the Masonic Rooms, Northfield," which has remained our masonic home to this day. A slip attached to the Circular, reminiscent of the times, notified the Brethren that a vehicle would meet a certain train at Northfield Station and convey them direct to the Masonic Rooms, and make the return journey after the Lodge Meeting. This was a regular arrangement for some years. Incidentally, it may be recalled here that on the Consecration Circular was a note to the effect that "for the convenience of Brethren from Worcester and District it has been sanctioned by the Directors of the Midland Railway Company that the express train leaving Birmingham at 8.50p.m. shall call to pick up Northfield at 9.00 o'clock.

We learn from the minutes that in 1902, only 3 years after the consecration, the Lodge sent up the sum of £99.15s.0d. to the Festival of the R. M. Benevolent Institution, which was held under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master the R.W. Bro. Sir Augustus F. Godson.

The deficiency in the finances of the Lodge still existed in December, 1902, and it was then decided to meet this deficiency by "raising a Fund of £200.0.0d. by the issue of £1.0.0d. Bonds to be taken up by the Members of the Lodge, bearing interest at the rate of 5% per annum from Ladyday 1903, such Bonds to be redeemable by Ballot as the funds of the Lodge will permit" Later, in 1908 the remaining Bonds held by the Lodge (many having been given to the Lodge by individual Members) were surrendered to the Masonic Hall Co Ltd. - the first mention of such a Limited Company - and a rental was afterwards paid to the Company by the Lodge.

In November 1905 the first Past Master's night was inaugurated, and the Officers officiating on that evening commemorated the event by presenting a Masonic Clock to the Lodge. The Past Master's night has been held in November of each year since, with the exception of the war years 1939-45.

1908 there was the first mention of the Northfield Masonic Hall Company. There were various financial transactions from then onwards, to keep the Finance of St. Laurence in good order. It should be remembered that at this stage all expenses were born by the Lodge.

The following is a list of all our daughter lodges from then onwards:

1st The Campbell Lodge No.	3643
2nd The Kings Norton Lodge	4001
3rd The Northfield Lodge	5056
4th The Thistle Lodge	5064
5th The Coston Lodge	5600
6th Lodge of St George	5691
7th Wedley Castle Lodge	8196
8th Lodge of Justice & Equity	8807

When St. Laurence Lodge found the going hard financially, it was decided to charge a levy of £1.0.0d. per Lodge, per meeting. This prompted the Campbell Lodge and the Lodge of St. George to move to Kings Heath where they are still.

The Records show that on 16 November, 1917, the sum of £677.3s.0d. was donated by Members of the Lodge for the purchase of this Hall. It is recorded that on the 29 November 1917 the Freehold of Northfield Masonic Hall was purchased for the sum of £192.10.0d. It is also recorded that with the passage of time it was quite obvious that the Committee of Management could not continue to maintain the upkeep of the Hall without more assistance and following much discussion, it is recorded that on the 4 April, 1939 there was put before the Lodge Members a proposition: "That St. Laurence Lodge agree that the Trustees would Lease the land and buildings vested in them to a Company to be formed for the purpose of financing and carrying out alterations to the existing buildings and car park, such Company to undertake the future management of the Hall for the benefit of the Masonic Bodies meeting therein". Accordingly a Company was formed and named "The Northfield Masonic Hall Limited".

The Articles of association show that the rooms were leased to the new Company for a term of 50 years. However, the Lodge Minutes show that the Lease was rescinded by our Lodge in Minutes dated:

25 October, 1958
23 March, 1959
27 April, 1959
25 September, 1961

The property was finally transferred to the Northfield Masonic Hall Limited on 28 September 1964. The Transfers were negotiated by the following Officers of St. Laurence Lodge:

W.Bro. G. K Tomlin who was Treasurer 30 years
Preceptor 31 years
W.Bro. C. Balmforth who was Almoner 20 years

both had completed 50 years in Freemasonry in 1973.

Apart from W.Bro. G. K Tomlin, there were six other Grand Officers as listed below:

W.Bro. T. A. Bayliss	1900
W.Bro. K W. James	1922
W.Bro. F. C. James	1925
W.Bro. G. H. Tomlin	1938
W.Bro. H. E. Hearne (Hampshire)	1944
W.Bro. L. B. Heynes	1955
W.Bro. J. E. Cox	1978

Apart from the Officers who attained Grand Rank, honour is due to those who received certificates of 50 years service to the Lodge or Freemasonry in general. They are:

C. Balmforth
W.Bro. R. F. Hawkins
W.Bro. C. H. Chester
W.Bro. W. E. Whitehouse (organist)

It is of interest to note that the father, then Bro. L. L. Brooker, of our present Assistant Secretary, W.Bro. J. L. Brooker was Secretary of the Lodge 50 years ago this year.

There were others like W.Bro. E. T. Eaton who served the to Lodge loyally for many years but did not receive the accolades due to them.

The James brothers were of course the owners of the "James Motor Cycle Co." and Frank was the Grand Officer to receive the Hall Stone Jewel and Collar from the Grand Masters.

W.Bros. Tomlin and Heynes were towers of strength in The Lodge and there was nothing you could ask of them for which there was not a ready answer

The St. Laurence Lodge of Instruction was formed in September, 1909 and has continued to be a source of considerable benefit to members of all the Lodges meeting at Northfied as well as other Masons who reside in the district. Masters have frequently paid tribute to the instruction they received at the Lodge of Instruction and the deep gratitude of a large number of Masons is justly due to the self sacrificing labours of of the Preceptors throughout this long period.

To celebrate the one hundredth regular Meeting of the Lodge held on 2 March, 1911, the labour was undertaken as far as possible by the Founders of the Lodge.

In December, 1912, the Lodge decided to support a petition for the formation of a new Lodge to be called the Campbell Lodge, and thus was brought into existence our first Daughter Lodge.

In February, 1913, it was recorded with evident pride that for the first time in the history of the Lodge "The financial balance was on the right side." In later years the Lodge has more than once failed to keep its yearly expenditure within its income and on at least one occasion has had to introduce measures of economy like any other prudent organization in similar circumstances would do but by and large the Lodge has never had any serious financial problems beyond its capacity and it will enter upon the next century in good financial heart.

At the end of the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 31 January, 1916, there appears this note:

"On this night there was a great German Air Raid by Zeppelins in the Midlands Counties, three hundred and ninety-three being injured and sixty seven persons killed: the whole district was in absolute darkness, all lights being extinguished and all traffic stopped: some of the Brethren had to walk a distance of twelve miles in order to reach their. homes, which they did in the small hours of the morning."

During 1916 and 1917 a number of Shares in the St. Laurence Masonic Buildings were purchased by the Lodge and eventually the Lease having been secured, the Masonic Hall Buildings were transferred by Deed from the Certificate Holders who had originally purchased the property, to two Trustees upon trust for the Lodge. This Transfer Deed was executed in the Lodge on the 26 November 1917 in the presence of the Provincial Grand Master (R.W. Bro. Gen Sir Francis J. Davies) who signified his approval of the Deed of Assignment and Declaration of Trust by signing the document. This transfer was described in the Minutes as a "unique transaction in the annals of Worcestershire freemasonry".

The Lodge gave support to a petition for the constitution of a new Lodge to be called the Kings Norton Lodge and the second Daughter Lodge was accordingly consecrated in 1919.

In September, 1924 a scheme for extensions to the Masonic Hall and the installation of Electric Lighting was approved and the Trustees were authorised to proceed with the work at an estimated cost of £250.0.0d.

The first "Scottish Night" was held in 1924 and one was held every year for the next ten years. Then the custom fell into desuetude apparently owing to the fact that the number of Scottish members had declined beyond their power to adequately celebrate such an occasion. Old English Nights had been a feature of our proceedings for many years.

The provincial Grand master (General Sir Francis Davies) presided at the festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in 1925 when St. Laurence Lodge contributed the sum of £241.10.0d. During the fifty years of its existence it has contributed a total of £888.0.0d. to that institution alone.

In December, 1925 the Lodge qualified as a Hall Stone Lodge, having contributed no less than £922.2.0d. to the Masonic Million Memorial Fund and the W.Master W.Bro. F. C. James, P.M.G.S.B., attended Grand Lodge to receive the Hall Stone Collar, which has since been worn by the Worshipful Master at every Lodge Meeting.

In 1928 and 1929 the third and fourth of our Daughter Lodges were consecrated, viz: the Northfield Lodge and the Thistle Lodge and in the latter year the St. Laurence R. A. Chapter and the St Laurence Lodge of Master Masons were also consecrated.

In 1929 the Lodge entertained the Provincial Grand Lodge, when the Annual General Meeting was held at the Moseley and Balsall Heath Institute, Birmingham under the Banner of St. Laurence Lodge. The Consecration of the Coston Lodge, the fifth of our Daughter Lodges took place in 1935. In December 1935, the Trustees were authorised to purchase the private house adjoining the Masonic Buildings for the sum of £700.0.0d. which was eventually effected.

In the following year the sum of £200.0.0d. was donated by the Lodge towards the "William Thomas Page Memorial Fund" which was raised by the Province in memory of the late Deputy Provincial Grand Master to provide annuities to distressed Brethren or their widows in the Province of Worcestershire.

A Petition for the new Lodge to be named "St George" was supported and in 1937 this, the sixth daughter Lodge was consecrated.

In 1937 the Freehold of the Northfield Masonic Buildings and the adjoining house was purchased for £192.10.0d.

With the march of time and in consequence of the growing number of Lodges and other Masonic bodies using the Masonic Hall at Northfield, it became increasingly obvious that if the building was to be improved the cost would be beyond the financial resources of one Lodge and as a necessary corollary it followed that if all the masonic bodies meeting at Northfield were to be asked to share the additional expenditure they would rightly expect a voice in the control and management of the buildings. Accordingly, in 1939 the Lodge, after long and careful consideration decided that it would be willing to consent to a scheme whereby the Trustees (acting on behalf of St. Laurence Lodge) would lease at a nominal rental the land and buildings vested in them to a Company to be formed for the purpose of financing and carrying out alterations heating and lighting and repaying the existing Mortgage, totalling to over £2,000.0.0d. was raised by Debenture Stock for which members of all the Masonic bodies at Northfield subscribed.

With the completion of the above Scheme the responsibility for the care and maintenance of the Masonic Buildings passed from the Lodge which had cheerfully borne the burden of a period of 38 years. The older members – and they had provided the greater part of the money required at the beginning - were proud of the modest premises so reminiscent of a country lodge but in true masonic spirit they readily acquiesced in this new scheme which they felt would open up a new era of masonic usefulness in Northfield and district.

Over the next few years fell the shadow of the great world war, and the Lodge carried on quietly if austere with an attenuated attendance of members, as quite a large number reside at a considerable distance from Northfield which in itself apart from war duties, made it impossible for them to maintain a regular attendance. Moreover, owing to blackout conditions, the meetings could not be held on the usual Monday evening, and for a time were held on Saturday afternoons. The ground floor of the Masonic Hall was given up to Home Guard requirements and in consequence only the Lodge and Ante-rooms were available. Dinner was dispensed with and only light refreshments served after the ceremonies.

The year 1940, however proved to be a memorable one in the history of the Lodge, when it sent up the record sum of £508.15.0d. to the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, presided over by our Provincial Grand Master (R.W. Bro. General Sir Francis Davies). Mention has been made in these pages of contributions made to the various Masonic Charities. In addition, the Royal Masonic Hospital has been well supported by the Brethren who have contributed no less a sum than £183.0.0d. in addition to over £100.0.0d. subscribed by the members of the Lodge of Instruction to the Samaritan Fund. In fact throughout its history

the Brethren of the Lodge have been generous supporters of charitable causes both masonic and otherwise and from time to time have identified themselves with local hospitals and similar institutions. Moreover, it will be within the knowledge of the Brethren that dependants of deceased members have been given assistance in their time of need out of charity funds of the Lodge.

There have been many acts of great generosity over the years. The Master and Warden's Collars and Cuffs with the Bible Cushion was provided by W. Bro. H. A. C. Woollerton. He and his son W. Bro. P. C. Woollerton who is of course a Mason's Lewis made a considerable cash donation in order that the Lodge ceiling could be refurbished. The lighting was provided and installed by W.J. Bro. R. G. Hayton completely free and gratis.

Apart from the many gifts of cash and kind there was a great deal of time and effort put into the many projects by Members of the Lodge and other meetings at Northfield.

The father and son as afore mentioned provided an additional honour board made by a master craftsman who unfortunately lost his wife just before completion of the work. He had prior to this tragedy promised to make the coffin for his wife, but had to delay the funeral for two days in order to complete the honours board in time for the presentation at the next Lodge meeting and also to have the coffin ready for the interment.

In the years 1973, 1974 and 1975 Garden Parties were held at the homes of W. Bro. H. A. C. Woollerton and W. Bro. F. Tew from which considerable money was raised enabling us to carry out repairs and renewals, e.g. carpets panelling, bench seating, etc. W. Bro. K. H. Gallie carried out the upholstery and fifty chairs were provided by subscription of £19/20 each. There are plaques on the back of each chair giving the name of the subscriber.

In 1972 our then Senior Deacon, Bro. Len Shaw passed away and his widow, Bertha Shaw asked if she could present something to the Lodge in memory of her husband. A new set of Working Tools was agreed which she duly provided. W. Bro. Fred Smith, Thornton Williams and Frank Tew who were dealing with the matter decided the new tools deserved better presentation and accordingly a new cabinet was obtained made by a first class craftsman named Mr. Silver. The cost was about £160.00 raised by donations of £5.00. Known only to W. Bro. F. Tew a record was placed in an envelope at the back of the cabinet giving details of the maker and other information. It was suggested it may again be opened on the night of our Centenary.

The Members of St Laurence Lodge have over the century demonstrated their loyalty and dedication to Freemasonry and society in general and no doubt the Brethren that follow will go forward and carry on the good work during the next century. It is of historical importance that the working of the Centenary Ceremony is the last time this particular working will be used in the province of Worcestershire as it is to be reviewed before the next centenary celebrations.

Worthy of note WBro. G. H. Tomlin donated the sum of £5000.00 in 1981 for the Provincial Festival Appeal on behalf of the Girls School and the Lodge further donated £1000.00 plus through covenants and collections.

WBro. S. F. W. Hall held a Garden Party in 1990 and raised £600.00 for the Northfield Woodlands Hospital and the Flying Doctor Service.

St. Laurence has a history of social functions and in 1982 a Functions Committee was formed and is still meeting today. We normally hold three functions per year which includes The Ladies Evening.

The St. Laurence Lodge of Instruction is still in formation with other local Lodges attending the meetings which are held the first and third Monday of each month during the Lodge meeting months. The present Officers are: -

Preceptors	WBro. J. Main	Northfield Lodge 5050
	WBro. A. W. Smith, P.P.A.G.D.C.	St. Laurence 2724
Secretary	WBro. S. F. W. Hall, P.P.A.G.D.C.	St. Laurence 2724
Treasurer	Bro. G.R. Charlton	St. Laurence 2724

During the last 50 years the following Brethren have completed 50 years service in St. Laurence Lodge: -

WBro. D. Hawkins, P.P.J.G.W.
WBro. C. H. Chester, P.P.S.G.D.
WBro. W. E. Whitehouse, P.P.S.G.W.

It is hoped that WBro. W. E. Whitehouse who has also been our Organist for the last 35 years will be presented with his Fifty Year Certificate by the Provincial Grand Master at our Centenary Meeting to be held at Kings Heath Masonic Hall on Thursday, 10 December, 1998.

The current appeal of Grand Lodge is The Appeal 2000 for the Province of Worcestershire Masons and we have currently raised £6000.00 plus.

1998
OFFICERS

Bro. G.E. Charlton	Worshipful Master
W.Bro. R. G. Hayton, P.Prov.J.G.W.	I.P.M.
Bro. M. Wilkes	Senior Warden
Bro. R. C. Mulgrue	Junior Warden
W.Bro. S.F.W. Hall, p.Prov.A.G.D.C.	Chaplain
W.Bro. J.L. Stephens, P.Prov.J. G.W.	Treasurer
W.Bro. P. C. Woollerton, P.Prov.G.Reg.	Secretary
W.Bro. A. W. Smith, P.Prov.A.G.D.C.	Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. S.F. W. Hall, P.Prov.A.G.D. C.	Almoner
W.Bro. S.F.W. Hall, P.Prov.A.G.D.C.	Charity Steward
Bro. T. G. Butler	Senior Deacon
Bro. J. G. Plant	Junior Deacon
W.Bro. R. G. Hayton, P.Prov. G.W.	Asst. Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. W. F. Whitehouse, P.Prov.S.G.W.	Organist
W.Bro. J.L. Brooker, P.Prov.G.Reg.	Asst. Secretary
W.Bro. M. J. Mason, P.Prov.A.G.Reg.	Inner Guard
Bro. A. K. Viswan	Steward
	Tyler

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