



A HISTORY OF
ROYAL NAVAL LODGE

NO. 2761 E.C.

(District of Malta)

From 11th March 1899 to 30th June 1971

W/Bro D. MATTHEWS P.P.S.G.D. SEVERN LODGE 5583.

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Acknowledgements

This history would never have been written had it not been for W. Bro. C. R. Jones who, when Secretary, Senior Warden and W. Master spent many hours at 6 and 7 Marsamxett Street, in the summers of 1965, 1966 and 1967 sorting Lodge records, reading old correspondence, etc. All letters affecting Lodge records were passed to me to be checked against the names shown in one or more of the five ledgers, and, to verify certain dates, reference had to be made to the Minute Books. Whilst doing, so I often found other items of interest, facts not where else recorded, so that I often read on past the point being verified and the idea of writing a history was born.

Past Secretaries had from time to time re-written the ledger i.e. had brought forward the names and particulars of those Brethren still on the Roll of Membership at a given date, so that eventually the record of some brethren was in all of the five ledgers. There was no easy method of reference, so each Brother's name was traced and a cross reference made from one ledger to another.

We now have one Register which records in order of seniority every name and shows the date as a Founder; of Initiation Passing and Raising; of joining and re-joining; of death, resignation or exclusion. Against the registered number is a reference to the entries in the old ledgers and, as a complement to the Register, we have a complete alphabetical index of names showing registered number and a reference to old ledgers.

I gratefully acknowledge the information obtained from R. W. Bro J. W. Stubbs, Grand Secretary; from "Floreat Melita", an Account of Freemasonry in Malta, written by R. W. Bro. C. E. de Wolff, the D.G. Master for Malta; and from the Annual Reports of D.G. Lodge

August 1965 to August 1971

W. Bro. L. G. Haldane, P.G. St. Br.

FOREWORD

Brother Leonard Haldane has written an excellent history of the Royal Naval Lodge, and, I hope that every Member and Members of other Lodges will obtain a copy.

One can read through the Minutes and find that for considerable periods the Lodge opened in peace and closed in harmony. This is as it should be, but it does not give very much scope for the Historian.

It is quite obvious that this history has entailed an enormous amount of research with the result that a most readable booklet has been produced.

It is a pleasure for me to write this short Foreword as it gives me the opportunity of expressing my admiration of the high standard of efficiency that the Royal Naval Lodge has maintained throughout its existence.

1971

C. E. DE WOLFF
District Grand Master.

A HISTORY OF ROYAL NAVAL LODGE No. 2761

The first recorded Minutes are those of the Consecration Ceremony. No correspondence leading to the foundation of the Lodge could be found so the assistance of the Grand Lodge was sought.

The Grand Secretary replied that there was no correspondence in Grand Lodge files but enclosed a photostat copy of the Lodge petition and of the letter from Zetland Lodge No. 515 who sponsored the new Lodge.

The petition reads:—

“To the Most W. Grand Master of the United Fraternity of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of England.

We the undersigned being regularly registered Master Masons of the Lodges mentioned against our respective names having the prosperity of the Craft at heart are anxious to exert our best endeavours to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of the art; and for the convenience of our profession and other good reasons we are desirous of forming a new Lodge to be named the Royal Naval.

In consequence of this desire, we pray for the grant of a Warrant of Constitution, empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at 27, Strada Stretta, Valletta, in the Island of Malta on the third Monday in each month from October to May inclusive and there to discharge the duties of Masonry in a constitutional manner according to the forms of the Order and the Laws of the Grand Lodge, and we have nominated and do recommend Bro. Deputy Inspector General James Hamilton Martin R.N., D.S.O., who has served the Office of Warden in Lodge No. 349 St. John and St. Paul to be the first Master. Bro. Lieut. Henry Cyril Royds Brocklebank, R.N. to be the first Senior Warden and Bro. Frederick Hannaford, R.N. to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge.

The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

We remain, M. W. Sir,
Yours fraternally”

The letter from Zetland Lodge No. 515, dated 12th May 1899 reads:

"We the undersigned W.M. and Wardens of the Zetland Lodge No. 515, and in accordance with a resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Lodge, do support and recommend the Constitution of the Royal Naval Lodge as Consecrated by the R. W. District Grand Master on the 11th March, 1899.

On behalf of Lodge Zetland No. 515"

The original sketch of the Founders Jewel is still in Lodge records. The colour of the ribbon was described as Navy blue but had to be altered to Craft blue before approval was given. This sketch shows the Lodge Number as 2743 and Royal Naval Lodge was Consecrated a month before Waller Rodwell Wright Lodge No. 2755. This perhaps is the reason why early Lodge Members were inclined to consider Royal Naval the Senior Lodge. The relevant dates have been copied from "Fleuret Melita"

	W. R. W. No. 2755	R. N. No 2761
Date of petition	7th. Feb. 1899	10th Feb. 1899
Provisional Warrant granted by D.G.M.	9th. Mar. 1899	10th Feb. 1899
Consecrated	8th. Apr. 1899	11th Mar. 1899
Date of Warrant	9th. May 1899	31st July 1899

The delay in delivery of the Royal Naval Lodge Warrant was due to failure of the Lodge to forward with the petition clearance certificates in respect of two of its Founders."

The date set for the Consecration was Saturday, 25th February 1899, but as the D.G.M. had been called to Crete on military duty it was postponed until Saturday, 11th March. The Meeting was at 8 p.m. and held in the Masonic Hall, 27, Strada Stretta, Valletta.

The Consecration Ceremony was performed by R. W. Bro. Major General John F. Owen, R.A., D.G.M. and he was assisted by

W. Bro. J. A. Bell D.D.G.M.	as Chaplain
W. Bro. H. R. E. Woodthorpe. D.G.J.W.	as D.G.S.W.
W. Bro. S. J. Yeoman. P.D.G.S.W.	as D.G.J.W.
W. Bro. W. E. Cook	D.G. Secretary
W. Bro. A. Bumstead	D.G.D. of C.
W. Bro. R.C. Bates	D.G. Tyler

The gavel was then passed to W. Bro. A. Bellamy Hall

D.G. Pres. B. of G.P. who Installed as first Master Bro. J. H. Martin R.N., D.S.O., and he in turn appointed and invested his Officers. Before the meeting closed five names were proposed as candidates for Initiation.

The attendance sheet, later on inserted in the bound Attendance Book, records the names of 12 D.G. Lodge Officers, 18 Founders and 15 visitors. The printed agenda gives the names of 24 Founders, but 6 more are shown in the records.

FOUNDERS AS PER AGENDA

R. W. Bro. J. F. Owen, D.G.M.		Bro. T. F. Sparrows
W. Bro. J. A. Bell, D.D.G.M.		first Stwd.
W. Bro. W. E. Cook, D.G. SEC.		Bro. H. E. Cross
W. Bro. A. Bellamy Hall,		Bro. A. E. J. Fogg
D.G.P.B. of G.P.		Bro. H. J. Loveridge
Bro. J. H. Martin	first w.m.	Bro. P. W. Domas
Bro. H. Brocklebank	" s.w.	Bro. C. J. Finch
Bro. F. Hannaford	" J.W.	Bro. J. D. Henwood
Bro. W. W. Chillcott	" TREAS	Bro. C. Farwell
Bro. H. B. Townshend	" SECT.	Bro. A. Hayes-Sadler
Bro. Rev. C. Archer	" s.D.	Bro. H. Spicer
Bro. E. G. Budgen	" J.D.	Bro. G. M. Gunner
Bro. S. M. Laverne	" I.G.	Bro. G. Reekes

The following are also recorded as Founders:—

Bro. T. H. Lord	Bro. W. H. Hailes
Bro. H. W. Smith	Bro. W. H. Boyes first D. of C.
Bro. J. Dorman	Bro. R. W. Toman " STWD

Each of the above paid a Founder's fee of £1-3-0 but only twenty of them purchased a Founder's jewel. Two of 18 carat gold at £4-10-0 each; six of 9 carat gold at £3-5-3 each and twelve of silver gilt at £1-3-9 each.

It may be of interest to note that on the Roll of Membership at 1st January 1966 only one Founders name remained, that of Bro. H. B. Townshend, (Honorary Member) and he died on 25th December 1966, thus severing our last link with the foundation of the Lodge. As a result of correspondence with his grandson in New Zealand, with the Curator of the Grand Lodge Museum

and with the assistance of our D.G.M., W. Bro. Townshend's Founders jewel was "returned to the Lodge" in a simple ceremony at the regular meeting on 16th October, 1967. This jewel is now in the District of Malta Museum.

The Minutes record only the bare bones of the proceedings and for four emergency meetings there were none, so it was only by reading subsequent Minutes that the progress of events could be traced. Details of Officers, Members and visitors were not recorded in the Minutes; a list of Officers was given only on the Installation agendas; when an agenda appeared with black edging no name was shown thereon or in the Minutes. Yet there was sufficient to show how hard our early Brethren worked to lay a sure foundation.

The Rules in the B. of C. were different in those days for twice 5 candidates were Initiated at one Meeting, and at other meetings 3, 4 and 6 were Raised at the same time. In the first year one Consecration, one Special, eight Regular and nine Emergency Meetings were held. At five Meetings only one Degree was worked; at nine Meetings two Degrees and on two occasions three Degrees. Ten Meetings were held in the Masonic Hall E.C., 27, Strada Stratta and the others in the Masonic Hall I.C. Strada Giuseppe, Nenglea.

The exigency of the Service did then, does now and, I expect, ever will have an effect on our membership and our Meetings. Although at only one meeting was it recorded that there were no candidates because the Fleet was out, the dates of the emergency meetings do show that they had to be arranged when the Fleet was in the Harbour. For example—in November an emergency meeting was held on the 6th and the 13th and the Regular Meeting on the 20th. Another example is that 3 Brethren were Initiated, Passed and Raised in 38 days.

In May, five Honorary Members were elected. (See list at the end of the book). They were Past Masters from each of the other five English Lodges and each was a P.D.G. Lodge Officer.

In April Bro. Townshend, Secretary, informed the Lodge that he was returning to England, so the following month Bro. Simmonds was appointed J.D. to replace Bro. Budgen who was appointed

Secretary. It is of interest to note that Bro. Budgen held this Office until 1925, except for the year 1908 when he was Master of the Lodge.

On September 25th a Special Meeting was called to receive a "Special Communication of Grand Lodge". The Lodge was opened in the three Degrees and the D.G.M. and his Officers admitted. It is recorded "during its business two Brethren of Royal Naval Lodge were given Office in D.G. Lodge. Bro. Rev. R. D. Lewis was made D.G. Chap. and Bro. Budgen a D.G. Steward. Business of D.G. Lodge concluded and retired. The Lodge was then closed in the three Degrees". There is no clue as to any other business but there were present 11 Members of Royal Naval Lodge, 19 D.G. Lodge Officers and 45 visitors.

On the 20th November Bro. Rev. C. E. Cowen, Paired 14th September was appointed the first Chaplain of the Lodge.

On the 15th January, 1900 it was recorded that Grand Lodge had resolved that Brethren of the Grand Orient of France should not be recognised as that body had removed from its Constitutions those paragraphs asserting a belief in the existence of the G.A.O.T.U.

On the 19th February a Brother was Passed at the request of Sir Francis Drake Lodge No. 2649. Bro. Rev. R. D. Lewis was appointed S.D. to replace Bro. Rev. C. Archer who had left the Island, and Bro. F. Hannaford, J.W., elected Master for the ensuing year, the S.W. Bro. H. Brocklebank having left the Island. A proposal was made that a Past Master's jewel, up to the value of £7-7-0, should be purchased and presented to W. Bro. Martin.

On the 17th March, an emergency Meeting, dispensations had been given to Initiate one, Pass one and Raise two Brethren, but the strange part was that the Brethren to be raised were members of St. John and St. Paul Lodge. Also at this Meeting a Grand Lodge Certificate was presented to a Brother of the Lord Charles Beresford Lodge No. 2404.

To complete an account of the work done in the first year 23 Brethren were Initiated, 21 Passed (one on behalf of another

Lodge) 21 Raised (two on behalf of another Lodge) and 12 joined.

The first By-laws, read and approved in open Lodge on 17th April, 1899 and finally approved by Grand Lodge in September of that year show that the fee for Initiation to include Passing and Raising as £10 - 10 - 0; dues for Resident Members as £1 - 4 - 0 per year and non-Resident dues 10/-. Yet the cash books show that the fees charged were Initiation £4 - 4 - 0, Passing £1 - 1 - 0, Raising £1 - 1 - 0 (three separate payments) and these fees did not change until 1921. Non-Resident dues of 10/- have never changed.

The first Statement of Accounts shows a balance of £112 6-7. The Secretary's salary was £3 - 15 - 0 (for the full year £5-0-0) and his boat fares were £1 - 13 - 4.

The first Minute Book records the meetings from 11th March 1899 to an emergency on 8th March, 1904. As previously observed the Minutes recorded were only the bare bones, but by reading on, consulting the Register, Cash Books and Balance Sheets it has been possible to pick out the high lights of the next four years.

Without any explanation the prefix "Worshipful" was shown against the names of Bros. Chillcott and Budgen. "Floreat Melita" supplied the answer. They had been Installed as Master of Union of Malta Lodge No. 107 in 1900 and 1901 respectively. In the case of W. Bro. Budgen this was of advantage to our Lodge for he took the Chair at several meetings in the absence of the Master and was the Installing Master in 1902 and 1903. W. Bro. A. Bellamy Hall (Founder) was the Installing Master in 1899 and 1900 and W. Bro. Richards (Joining Member) in 1901.

At the end of March, 1904 the last number in the Register was 179. Another 74 Candidates had been Initiated and 40 Brethren had joined, but on the other hand 81 Members had resigned, 2 had died and 3 excluded. Many Brethren had left the Island and among them were W. Bro. A. Bellamy Hall, W. Bro. Martin, I.P.M. and W. Bro. F. Hannaford W.M., all in 1900. W. Bro. Chillcott in 1901 and W. Bro. R. D. Lewis in 1902.

W. Bro. Hannaford, W.M. 1900, presided over the April meeting, was away sick for the May meeting and then left Malta. The Chair was taken by W. Bro. Griffiths, joining member,

until the I.P.M., W. Bro. Martin returned late that year when he occupied the Chair until the next Installation. The date is not recorded but W. Bro. Hannaford also returned to Malta for he is shown as Chaplain in 1903 and W. Master again in 1904.

The movements of the Fleet continued to affect the Lodge for there were as many Emergency as Regular Meetings. Dispensations were frequently obtained in order to Pass and Raise Brethren in shorter periods than those normally permitted. In one year there were nine dispensations and in another year eleven. As previously quoted three Brethren had been Initiated, Passed and Raised in 38 days. We can now quote one Brother doing the same in 31 days. All these dispensations were not for Brethren of Royal Naval; some were for Brethren of other Lodges. In five years 15 Brethren were Passed and 23 Raised on behalf of other Lodges, mainly Union of Malta No. 407, United Services No. 1428 (Portsmouth) and Lord Charles Beresford Lodge No. 2404 (Gillingham). On the other hand Union of Malta No. 407, Zetland No 515, United Brethren No. 1923, and United Services No. 1428 had assisted us by Passing 5 and Raising 6 of our Members.

Attendances at both Regular and Emergency Meetings continued to be very good and each attracted a large number of visitors. Average over the five years, but not including Installations, was Brethren 20 and visitors 15. The highest attendance recorded was 40 Members and 31 visitors.

In January, 1901 the D.G.M. accompanied by D.G. Lodge Officers visited the Lodge. In December, 1901 the D.D.G.M. and his Officers made a visit. In both instances they were admitted after a Degree had been worked, remained to see another Degree and then retired before the Lodge closed.

A most important event in the history of Freemasonry in Malta occurred on the 19th May, 1902. Our Lodge was opened at 5.45 p.m. The business of the evening, to perform the ceremonies of Initiation, Passing and Raising, being completed the Lodge was lowered to the first Degree, general business conducted and the W.M. rose for the 1st., 2nd. and 3rd. time; and here follows the actual Minutes recorded:-

"The Lodge was raised to the third degree to receive a deputation from the D.D.G.M. and Officers of D.G. Lodge for the purpose of Installing the D.G.M. Rt. W. Bro. Col. Hughes-Hallett. Officers of D.G. Lodge were admitted and saluted according in ancient custom. The business of D.G. Lodge being over they retired in the usual manner, Nothing further being offered for the good of Freemasonry in general or of this Lodge in particular, the Lodge was closed in due form and solemn prayer."

Other items of interest were:—

- May 1900 R. W. Bro. Lt. Col. Owen, D.G.M., made an Honorary Member
- Oct. 1900 A Lodge banner had been purchased for £15-0-0 but there is no record of it being presented or dedicated.
- Oct. 1901 W. Bro. Martin made an Honorary Member.
- Nov. 1901 Lodge pledged to pay the Masonic Hall Committee the minimum amount of £40 p.a. as rent (Future Statements show that the actual payment was £22-16-0, later on to be increased)
- Jan. 1902 Bro. Butt appointed Treasurer to replace W. Bro. Chilcott who had resigned in 1901. Bro. Butt retained this Office for three years and after his second year was presented with a Treasurers jewel (sic) at the cost of £4-4-0
- Jan. 1905 One of the visitors was a distinguished Brother from the Oriental Lodge of Tunis. Speaking in his own language he thanked the Lodge for a pleasant evening and W. Bro. Robinson, who had vouched for him interpreted.
- Feb. 1903 The first mention of a black ball being used. There had been other occasions when a name had been withdrawn before the ballot.
- Mar. 1903 W. Bro. H. Mitchell, a P.M. of United Brethren Lodge No. 1923, but not a Member of Royal Naval, was appointed Organist, but a separate record of Lodge Officers shows that he had held this Office since March 1899.

Nov. 1903 R. W. Bro. Col. Hughes-Hallett, D.G.M., made an Honorary Member.

Feb. 1904 W. Bro. Stewart, a P.M. of the Lodge, elected Tyler and he held this Office until 1914 when W. Bro. Bates, D.G. Tyler. who had been our Tyler for the first five years, was again elected and he in turn held the Office until 1927.

From the 1903 Statement of Accounts it is seen that Lodge funds had increased from £ 113 - 6 - 7 to £ 266 - 12 - 7 In 1904 the Secretary's boat expenses had been discontinued but his salary had increased to £10 in October 1900 and to £13 - 0 - 0 in January, 1904. The By-laws stated "He shall be exempt from all dues and shall receive the sum of £ 20 annually for his services from the funds of the Lodge, unless he shall decline the whole or any part of this amount".

THE SECOND MINUTE BOOK records the period 21st. March, 1904 to 20th. February 1911. A period of steady progress and an overall picture of harmony. Although there were fewer emergency meetings and fewer Degrees worked, membership steadily increased by 90 Initiates and 12 joining Members including 4 Members who had rejoined. That the Candidates were selected with care is evident for out of 93 proposed only 3 were blackballed. (4 out of 187 in twelve years).

The By-laws stated "This Lodge is formed especially for the use of Brethren connected with the Naval Services, namely:-

- (A) Those of or above the rank of Chief Petty Officer in the Royal Navy or Colour-Sergeant in the Royal Marines.
- (B) Corresponding grades in the Royal Naval Reserves, and in the Indian and Colonial Navies.
- (C) Those of or above the rank of Subordinate Officer in any of H.M. Establishments connected with the Royal Navy.
- (D) Individuals who have served in any of the above-mentioned capacities and have honourably retired from the same.

Previously the membership was as shown at (A) but during this period 11 Dockyard Officers joined and one was Initiated.

At the end of February, 1911 the last number in the Register

was 338 but of these 204 had resigned, died or had been excluded. The first Roll of Membership found in the records was as at January 1911. Agendas with a black edge now showed the name of the deceased, drew attention to the correct dress, "Uniform or Dark Clothing", and asking Members leaving, or had left the Island to notify the Secretary of the change in address.

Out of a total of 76 Meetings there were only three when the Candidates for the ceremonies were not present and on each occasion a P.M. gave the Lecture on the 1st. T.B. Our Lodge continued to assist other Lodges for it is recorded that on their behalf G.L. Certificates were presented; twice a Past Master's jewel was presented; 27 Brethren were Passed and 15 Raised. (Total since 1899, 42 and 38 respectively). Other Lodges assisted us for they Passed 16 and Raised 15 on our behalf. (total since 1899, 21 and 21 respectively).

A Past Master's jewel had been presented to each of the retiring Masters at the cost of £7 - 10 - 0 each, but as W. Bro. Hannaford occupied the Chair a second time in 1904 he was given a present to the same value.

The rent had increased from £22 - 16 - 0 to £28 and again to £35, and the Statements of Accounts showed a continual decrease in the balance of Lodge funds. Perhaps for this reason the Lodge Committee, meeting in December 1908, put to the Lodge the following recommendation:-- "To guard against expenditure of Lodge Funds and with a view of assisting any Charity—that except on Installation or special occasions refreshments to be limited to beer, whisky and minerals with bread and cheese, and only the amount consumed to be shown on the Tyler's bill". Apparently the Lodge had a lot of expenses at Installation Meetings. The accounts show an expenditure of £38 - 18 - 11 for Installation dinner and refreshments, but the income was only £3 - 9 - 0, 23 Brethren charged 3/- each.

Although not Lodge history the following Certificate, dated 11th June, 1906 is of interest.

Hauley Lodge No. 797 Dartmouth.

KNOW ALL MEN on whom, as far as winds blow and waters roll, rest the meridian rays of the glorious Sun of Freemasonry **THAT** our well beloved and right trusty Brother..... has declared off from our aforesaid Hauley Lodge No. 797 (under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England) at the date hereunder set forth **AND THAT** he has faithfully met all fraternal obligations and fully discharged all Masonic Dues and contributions required of him during his sojourn amongst us.

Other items of interest were:-

Nov. 1907 A levy of 10/- per head (total £52) was made to assist in the alterations to the new Masonic Hall at 6 Marsamuxett Street,

Feb. 1908 The Lodge met for the first time in the new building. In October of that year a letter was received from Grand Lodge stating that the change of Meeting place had not been submitted to them for approval. Action by the Lodge was to send a letter to the D.G.M. asking him to confirm the action taking by the Lodge, together with the other Masonic bodies, in moving out from the old to the new Hall.

Mar. 1908 W. Bro. Budgen Installed as Master. From this agenda we have the first indication that he was a P.D.G.S.W. From 1902 to 1907 inclusive W. Bro. Budgen had been the Installing Master in Royal Naval Lodge, but it has not been recorded who Installed him or the Masters for 1909 or 1910. In 1908 a Bro. Nicks was appointed and invested Secretary, but all the Minutes for that year were written by W. Bro. Budgen. It was recorded for the first time in 1906 that the D.G.M. and his Officers were present at the Installation Meeting and they were present again in 1908.

Apr. 1908 H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, the M.W. Grand Master, elected an Honorary Member; and as a special case the ballot was dispensed with. In the previous month W. Bro. A. Bellamy Hall had

informed the Lodge that he had made the acquaintance of H.R.H., who was travelling to Egypt onboard H.M.S. Aboukir. The M.W. Grand Master, on being informed of the progress of Masonry in Malta, expressed the hope of being allowed to visit the Lodges on his return to England. W. Bro. Hall obtained the permission of H.R.H. to propose him as an Honorary Member of Royal Naval.

- Dec. 1908 Bro. Beterson, I.G., presented to the Lodge two ballot boxes and a set of beans, (100 of each, black and white) all of which had been made by him.
- Jan. 1909 The American Brethren of the Fleet visiting Malta and who had been invited by request, were given a hearty welcome. In reply it was said that it was one of the best evenings they had spent on their tour. At this Meeting there were 20 Brethren of Royal Naval and 42 visitors - but no indication how many of them were Americans.
- Oct. 1909 Lodge placed in mourning for three months because of the death of the D.G.M. R.W. Bro. Col. H.T. Hughes-Hallett.
- May 1910 Lodge placed in mourning until further notice because of the death of H.M. King Edward VII, Past Grand Master.
- Dec. 1910 A second Degree worked by members of the Lodge of Instruction.

THIRD MINUTE BOOK. 20th March 1911 to 20 February 1922

In a period which included the First World War one would expect many items of interest. There may have been, but no mention was made in the minutes.

During these 11 years meetings were held regularly, except in May 1915, and Degrees worked except in October and November 1913, May and October 1914. At these last mentioned meetings the lecture on the First and Second T.B.'s was given or a Degree rehearsed.

In 1915 the W.M. attended only one meeting after his

Installation, but it is only in February 1916 that the reason was given, as the Minutes recorded that W. Bro. West was still on the sick list. In 1919 the W.M. did not attend at all after his Installation. No reasons for his absence were recorded but it is of interest to note that this W. Brother was the only one since 1899 who did not receive a P.M.'s jewel. The W.M. of 1918, having received a jewel for his year of Office in 1916. was presented with D.G. Lodge regalia.

From 1899 to 1914 a P.M.'s jewel cost £7-7-0., but by 1920 the cost had risen to £10-3-9 Another increase was the rent paid to the Masonic Hall. This had been £30-0-0 per for several years but rose to £44 in 1921. On the other hand Lodge assets had fluctuated, often being in the red, so that in 1921 they were only £2 more than in 1911.

The number of Candidates continued to be fairly high, an average of 11 a year, the lowest being 4 in 1915 and the highest 22 in 1920. Emergency meetings were few until the period 1917-21 when they ranged from 5 to 12. It was during the same period that the first mention was made of the Lodge "dividing", i.e., a P.M. and a second team of Officers working a Degree in another room concurrently with the W.M. and his Officers working a Degree in the Main Temple. This occurred three times in 1918, seven times in 1920 and ten times in 1921, and was in consequence of the new Rule 192 B. of C. coming into force.

This read:-

"No Lodge shall initiate or confer any one Degree on more than two Candidates on the same day unless by a Dispensation from the Grand Master or the Provincial or District Grand Master"

The Rule is now 168 in the 1965 edition of the B. of C.

There is no doubt that the Lodge worked hard and flourished. The attendance by the members was very good and visitors often outnumbering the members. The total number of members and visitors at the meetings averaged 25 to 54.

An abstract for the period 1911 to 1921 may be of interest. The plus indicating a Candidate from another Lodge. That three were Initiated on behalf of another Lodge is not an error.

Year	Meetings	Initiation	Passing	Raising	Joining
	Reg.	Emerg.				
1911	8	3	10	7 plus 1	8 plus 1	3
1912	8	2	12 plus 1	8 plus 1	6 plus 1	5
1913	8		7	7 plus 3	6 plus 2	2
1914	8	1	11 plus 2	5	5 plus 1	
1915	7	1	4	3 plus 1	1	
1916	8	3	13	10 plus 1	9	1
1917	8	7	18	14 plus 1	13 plus 1	1
1918	8	9	18	21	19	1
1919	8		9	6	4 plus 3	4
1920	8	12	22	21 plus 1	19 plus 2	3
1921	8	5	15	13 plus 4	13 plus 5	5

From 1899 to 1921

	I.	P.	R.
Degrees worked by R.N. on behalf of another Lodge.	3	54	55
Degrees worked by another Lodge on behalf of R.N.	34	41	

It should also be noted that many Candidates left the Island before completing their Degrees. W. Bro. Budgen, Secretary from 1899 to 1925 must have been an exceptional man for everyone of those Candidates eventually became a M.M., mostly in English Lodges elsewhere, one in Malta, one in a Scottish Lodge. Two of these Brethren waited 10 years and another waited 18 years.

On the 31st. December, 1921 the last number recorded in the Register was 498 but due to deaths, resignations and exclusions over 22 years the actual membership was 173.

Other items of interest.

April 1911 The Lodge Committee ruled that every member should pay his own and his guests dining fee at Installation Meetings.

May 1911 Six new collars purchased for £1-13-6 and the remainder repaired by the Tyler at the cost of £1-4-6

Oct. 1911 The Masonic Hall Committee requested to instal electric light.

May 1912 M.H. Committee asked the Lodge to pay £6-10-0 as their share towards the installation of electric light.

April 1913 A P.M.'s jewel was presented on our behalf to W. Bro. Crocker by Victory Lodge (The number not recorded).

- March 1914 W. Bro. H. B. Townshend, P.M. of Victory Lodge No. 3509 E.C. and a Founder Member of Royal Naval Lodge No. 2761 elected an Honorary Member.
- Aug. 1914 W. Bro. Stewart, Tyler since 1904, died at Bighi hospital. At a later date the Lodge paid one-fifth of the funeral expenses, £ 1 - 8 - 2 and one-fifth of the cost of a headstone, £ 5 - 0 - 0
- Oct. 1914 W. Bro. Bates, D.G. Tyler, elected Tyler of the Lodge for the remainder of the year.
- Mar. 1915 The first time in Lodge history that the retiring Master, W. Bro. E. J. Hooper, installed his successor, Bro. F. J. West.
- June 1915 Death of W. Bro. T. L. Washington, D.D.C.M.
- June 1915 Bro. C. White, initiated in 1911, killed in action.
- Oct. 1916 W. Bro. A. Bellamy-Hall, a Founder of the Lodge made a personal presentation to W. Bro. Budgen, Secretary. (No details recorded.)
- Feb. 1917 It was proposed that the dining fee at Installation meetings should be 5/- This was amended to 4/- and carried.
- Feb. 1917 Bro. B. Birmingham, initiated in 1902, killed in action
- Oct. 1917 New Rule 152 of the R. of C. introduced. (See text)
- Feb. 1918 Dining fee at Installation Meetings increased to 4/6
- Oct. 1918 An item on the agenda requesting Brethren to pay the dining fees incurred in March.
- Feb. 1920 Fees for Initiation, to include Passing and Raising, to be increased to £ 10 - 10 - 0, for Joining to £ 1 0 - 0 (These were the fees laid down in the first By-laws printed in 1899).
- Feb. 1920 Dining fees at Installation meeting increased to 5/-
- Feb. 1920 Secretary's salary increased to £ 20 - 0 - 0 p.a. as laid down in the 1899 By-laws.

FOURTH MINUTE BOOK. March 1922 to December 1928

During this period emergency meetings were comparatively few. This was not due to lack of work for at each meeting it was usual to work two and, quite often, three Degrees. Besides our own 75 Candidates Initiated, 66 Passed and 61 Raised,

other Lodges, both in Malta and elsewhere, had asked for assistance, and several times D.G. Lodge was asked to give a dispensation so that the same Degree could be conferred on more than two Candidates in one evening. Out of a total of 65 meetings there were 27 in which eleven F.C. and twentyeight M.M. Degrees were conferred on Brethren of 17 other Lodges. Six of these Lodges plus another five also requested us to present Grand Lodge Certificates.

The Lodge was fortunate in that it had several Past Masters who assisted the W. Master. In 31 meetings the Lodge was "divided" in order to confer a Degree concurrently with the work in the Main Temple.

The W.M.s for 1922, 1923, 1924 and 1928 attended all meetings and conferred Degrees, but the Masters for 1925 (his second year in succession), 1926 and 1927 left the Island during the recess and for the rest of these years W. Bro. S. Matthews (W.M. in 1916 and 1918) presided and Installed the new Masters in 1926, 1927 and 1928. Of the several Masters who assisted, W. Bro. Matthews and W. Bro. F. J. West (W. M. in 1915) were outstanding for their untiring work in conferring Degrees and, in the case of W. Bro. Matthews, giving the Lectures on the 1st. and 2nd. T/Bs. It was W. Bro. West who, due to illness, had attended only one meeting after his Installation.

Only once in these six and a half years was there a meeting in which no Candidate was present. On that evening, 15th October, 1923 the W.M. (W. E. Pack) gave the Lecture on the 2nd. T/B and W. Bro. Matthews the Lecture on the 1st. T/B followed by an explanation of the M.M.'s apron.

The regular Meeting held in April 1925 was, by dispensation, held on a Saturday instead of a Monday. A First was worked in the Main Temple and a second in the Small Temple. The Lodge was opened in the Third Degree and the Brethren called to order to receive V. W. Bro. P. Colville Smith, Grand Secretary and V.W. Bro. J. Granville Grenfell Grand D. of C. There is no record in the Minutes or the attendance book whether the

D.D.G.M. and/or D.G. Lodge Officers were also present, but there were 31 members and 82 visitors who signed the attendance book. The distinguished visitors witnessed the ceremony of Raising with W. Bro. Brees, W.M., in the Chair and they expressed their pleasure in being present.

At the meeting the following month both of these Grand Lodge Officers were elected Honorary Members of the Lodge. Between March 1922 and December 1928 six distinguished Brethren were so honoured, (see items of interest) which brought the total of Honorary Members to 16. Of this number only two W. Bro. Martin, Founder and first W.M., and W. Bro. H. B. Townshend, Founder and first Secretary, were members of Royal Naval Lodge.

In October 1925 the Secretary, W. Bro. Budgen, informed the Lodge that as he was returning to the U.K. it was with great regret he tendered his resignation as Secretary. The Lodge must have had some previous knowledge of this for at the May meeting £5 was voted to W. Bro. Budgen as "a token of friendship". At the December meeting he was voted another £5 to "reward him in a small way for his past services". As W. Bro. Budgen had been the Secretary for 26 years (1899 - 1925) this was hardly "a golden handshake". In March 1927 it was proposed that a Past Secretary's jewel should be purchased and presented to him and this was eventually done at a cost of £5-7-6.

On the October and November agendas 1925 the name of the acting Secretary was shown as E. F. Hobbs. He was W. Bro. Hobbs, P.D.G.W. and a member of Zetland Lodge No. 515, and he joined Royal Naval in November, remaining our Secretary until November 1934.

In October 1927 another long serving Officer, but not a Member of the Lodge until elected an Honorary Member in 1925, resigned his Office owing to ill health. This was W. Bro. R. C. Bates, P.D.G.W., D.G. Tyler, who had served as our Tyler from 1899 - 1903 and 1915 - 1927, Bro. P. M. Smith, a member of Zetland Lodge, was appointed Tyler and invested as such the following month.

Approval had been sought from Grand Lodge to change the

month for Installation from March to February. Approval was received in October 1926 and came into effect the following year.

During the period recorded in Minute Book No. 4 there had been 114 names proposed as Candidates or Joining members but never once was there a black-ball, for if there was any doubt, and in five cases only, the name was withdrawn before the ballot was taken. Only four names had ever been black-balled and that was in the period 1903 to 1911.

The charge for Installation dinners remained at 5/- per member and 5/- for his guest. At ordinary meetings the charge was 2/- a head for a hot supper. From the Statements of Accounts it can be seen that each year the expenditure on meals was £50 to £60 more than the income. Perhaps this was because there were so many visitors who had to be guests of the Lodge. On the other hand it may have been partly due to members not paying their dining fees. On every agenda and for every year a notice was printed. "It is earnestly requested that those Brethren who are in arrears will do their best to meet their obligations either wholly or in part and settle their Dinner Tickets." The last five words being heavily underlined. During the period 1919 to 1928 there were 76 Exclusions.

In November 1926 another notice was printed on the agenda. "The Secretary regrets that he cannot hold himself responsible for any dues sent to him from Brethren for other Degrees. It is therefore requested that Brethren should forward such subscriptions to the Secretary concerned.

Far too many Brethren, in being in arrears, cause the Secretary and Treasurer a lot of unnecessary work both during the year and at the end of the year when Annual Returns have to be prepared for Grand Lodge and District Grand Lodge".

Other items of interest:-

25th April 1923 An exact extract from the Minutes. "Lodge opened in the 1st., 2nd. and 3rd. Degrees. Officers of D.G. Lodge were received in ancient form. The business of the half yearly Communication was concluded and D.G. Lodge Officers retired. The Lodge was then closed in the 3rd., 2nd. and 1st. Degrees."

- 15th. Oct. 1923 Senior Members of the Lodge reported that they had arranged and paid the expenses of the funeral of a Brother who had committed suicide at Kalafrana on the 6th. October. Their action was approved and the cost, £8-12-0, authorised to be paid from Lodge funds. The W.M. suggested that the charity collection that evening should be earmarked for the widow. The response was very generous, being £4-8-0.
- 19th. Nov. 1923 First mention in the Minutes of Brethren standing to order and in silence in memory of a deceased Brother.
- 17th. Dec. 1923 W. Bro. A. L. Barrett, P.D.G.W., elected an Honorary Member.
- 20th. Oct. 1924 W. Bro. Brees, W.M. presented the Lodge with a set of gavels.
- 25th. Mar. 1925 W. Bro Brees, presented with a P.M's collar, the gift of the Initiates during his year of Office.
- 18th. Apr. 1925 V. W. Bro. P. Coleman Smith, Grand Secretary, and V.W. Bro. J. Grenville Grenfell, Grand D. of C. visited the Lodge.
- 18th. May 1925 The two Grand Lodge Officers mentioned above elected Honorary Members.
- 18th. May 1925 At the First Rising W. Bro. A. Bellamy Hall gave greetings from Grand Lodge, informing the Brethren that he had been appointed P.A.G.D. of C.
- 19th. Oct. 1925 Zetland Lodge No. 515 and Royal Naval Lodge No 2761 together presented G.L. regalia to W. Bro. Bellamy Hall. (Royal Naval's share was £10-10-0.)
- 16th. Nov. 1925 W. Bro. R. C. Bates, P.D.G.W., D.G. Tyler, elected an Honorary Member.
- 24th. Nov. 1926 Another special meeting for the half yearly D. G. Lodge Communication.
- 16th. May 1927 Lodge in mourning for V.W. Bro. J. Grenville Grenfell
- 16th. May 1927 Lodge informed that W. Bro. Seymour, W.M. in 1926, had been presented with his P.M's jewel in Prince Edward Lodge No. 1903, Portsmouth.

17th. Oct. 1927 W. Bro. W. O. Marks, P.G.D., D.D.G.M. elected an Honorary Member.

21st. May 1928 W. Bro. D. M. Bates, P.D.G.W. elected an Honorary Member.

17th. Dec. 1928 Before the Lodge was opened the Brethren sang the first verse of the National Anthem as His Majesty King George V was lying sick and weak.

FIFTH MINUTE BOOK. January 1929 to September 1944

Every word recorded in the Minutes from 1899 to 1944 has been read, every endeavour made to check the reasons for certain happenings, reference made to the Statements of Accounts, the Register of Members, etc., but this history seems to be developing into a list of facts and statistics. It does prove however that the Lodge worked in peace and harmony, that continued progress was made, and that there were many Brethren, especially Past Masters who, for year after year, gave unstintedly of their services.

From the record of "Office Bearers" it is evident that some Brethren served a period in Malta, returned to the U.K. and came back at a later date. One such Brother was W. Bro. B. W. Pearce who joined the Lodge in 1923, became the W.M. in 1927 and left Malta in the middle of that year. His name does not appear again until 1935 when he was the D. of C., an Office he held until 1941. During the years 1935 to 1939 he installed four Masters, presided over the Lodge (in the absence of the W.M.), twenty five times and worked 34 Degrees.

Another such Brother was W. Bro. F. J. West, who joined the Lodge in 1910 from Zetland, became in turn J.D., S.D., S.W. and in 1915 the W.M. As previously recorded he was unable, due to illness, to attend the Lodge after his Installation. His name appears again in 1918 and from then until his death in January 1935 he was a very active member, serving as Organist for three years, D. of C. for eight years and Treasurer for five years. He installed three Masters, presided over the Lodge fifteen times and worked fortyfive Degrees.

The reason why the Lodge had a presiding Master so often was mainly due to the W.M. leaving the Island and, especially in the war years, being absent on duty. Of the 16 Masters Installed (two in 1932, but see text, and one twice), only three completed their year of Office, five remained half a year, and of the others one did not attend at all, three attended one meeting, three attended two meetings and one attended three meetings. Only three of these W.M.'s installed their successors. Each retiring Master, with the exception of one, were voted a P.M.'s jewel. The exception was the Master who was Installed in December 1939 and who did not attend another meeting. This I feel sure was an omission in the Minutes for he had served the Lodge as faithfully as the others, for the Attendance book and the Minutes record that he was a regular attendee at both regular and emergency meetings in 1930 and 1931; returned to Malta in July 1937 and from then attended Lodge as often as his duties would permit, serving as J.D. and S.W. from December 1937 to November 1939 and Installed as W.M. in December 1939.

The P.M.'s jewels were actually purchased and presented except for the Masters of 1941/42 and 1942/43 for the Minutes record that the purchase of jewels in those years was not permissible until the war was over.

Also conspicuous in the Minutes were the names of:-
W. Bro. E. F. Hobbs, W.M. of Zetland in 1916 and 1939, who joined Royal Naval in 1925 and was appointed that year and each successive year to December 1933 as Secretary.

W. Bro. C. F. Young, P.M. of Victory Lodge No. 3509 who joined R.N. in 1932

W. Bro. Capt. Sir Maxwell Hendry Maxwell Anderson, R.N. (Rtd.) Colonial Judge (Rtd.) P.D.G.M. of the Western Mediterranean S.C. Hon. Grand Warden S.C., P.M. of Navy Lodge No. 2612 E.C. who joined our Lodge in December 1937. More will be said about this distinguished Brother later on.

Bro. P. M. Smith of Zetland, the Lodge Tyler from 1927 to 1933

W. Bro. F. J. Chandler, W.M. of Wayfarers Lodge in 1927, the Lodge Tyler from 1934 to 1939.

Neither of the last two mentioned joined Royal Naval Lodge.

The Lodge was often assisted by members of other Lodges, the most notable being:-

W. Bro. A. L. Barrett, P.M. of St. John and St. Paul No. 349 (1924) and D.D.G.M. in 1944 and 1945.

W. Bro. N. S. Hall, P.M. of Union of Malta Lodge No. 407 (1911 and 1924) the D.G. Secretary from 1924 to 1938.

W. Bro. T. Nessler, P.M. of Zetland Lodge No. 515 (1942-1943)

W. Bro. G. L. Smith, P.M. of United Brethren Lodge No. 1923 (1932)

W. Bro. T. Trodd, P.M. of United Brethren Lodge No. 1923 (1935)

Lodge meetings were regularly held. In the war years very few meetings were cancelled but the date was often changed from the 3rd. Monday and the times of the meetings varied between 2 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. As can be expected the attendances of Brethren and visitors fell to a very low figure. At the Installation in December 1933 there were 7 Brethren and 11 visitors. It is worthy of note that the D.D.G.M., W. Bro. A. M. Macfarlane, attended almost every Installation meeting of our Lodge during his term of Office (1929-1943).

Between January 1929 and December 1937 the Lodge continued to assist other Lodges by Passing and Raising their Brethren but in the period 1938 to September 1944 this happened only once when a Brother was Raised. Altogether 6 were Passed and 21 raised, bringing the total since 1899 to 3 Initiated, 71 Passed and 104 Raised. In the same period other Lodges assisted us by Passing 9 and Raising 10, bringing their total to 46 Passed and 58 Raised.

It has been ascertained that 6 and 7 Marsamxett Street became untenable due to enemy action. The March 1941 Meeting was held at Villa Blye, but from June 1941 until March 1942 the meetings were held at Lamplough Hall, Floriana. At one meeting objections were raised on the grounds that the Lodge rooms were prepared by a Maltese and that the cost, £4 per meeting, was far too high for Lodge finances. So from July 1942 until June 1943

meetings were held in the crypt of St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral and resumed at 6 and 7 in October 1943.

Floreat Melita gives a more detailed account.

"On the 27th February 1941, a landmine fell about 100 yards away and severely damaged all buildings in the vicinity, and the Masonic Hall became unusable. All the doors and windows were blown out; the massive doors of the Lodge room fell down and some ceiling stones of the dining room fell and crashed into the passage below and these, in turn, fell into the cellars. The Civil and Military Authorities considered the building unsafe for use, but it was used for storage accommodation.

The Scottish and Irish Brethren at Villa Bije at once invited the Lodges to share their building, an offer that was most gratefully accepted. In June, the Masonic Hall Committee were able to get the use of Lamplough Hall under the Methodist Church at Floriana and Meetings were held there for the next ten months.

In April 1942, a heavy bomb fell outside the Church and rendered it unsafe. Some of the ceiling of the Church fell into the Lamplough Hall. In June 1942, permission was obtained to use the Crypt of St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral. During the summer of 1943, thanks to the great efforts of the Brethren who were serving in the Royal Engineers, the premises at 6 and 7 Marsamxett Road were partially repaired, so that by October of that year, the large Lodge room, part of the dining room and the rooms downstairs were able to be used."

The practice of inserting a copy of the Statement of Accounts in the Minute Book ceased as from the year ending 1927 and they did not appear again until the year 1942. A great pity as much information of interest might have been obtained. In some of the Lodge Permanent Committee Minutes there was a brief reference to Lodge finances and it can be recorded that the Lodge assets rose from £379 in 1927 to £531 in 1943. Cost of Installation dinners for members and their guests was six shillings each.

At the Installation Meeting in February 1930 a Brother asked questions which were ruled out of order. A Committee meeting, to which all members of the Lodge were invited to attend, was held in May to hear the complaint of the Brother which was:-

(i) A majority of the Brethren were unable to attend the Regular meeting in January when the election of the W.M. for the ensuing year took place owing to the Fleet being away from Malta. After some discussion it was decided to ask Grand Lodge for approval to hold the election meeting in November and the Installation in December.

(ii) That being a senior member of the Lodge (Initiated in 1914) he had not been called upon by the M.E. to take Office. The W.Master gave his reasons and after discussion it was proposed and seconded that paragraph 1 of By-law 6 should be re-arranged to make it more elastic. Paragraph 1 read, "No member shall be eligible for Office in the Lodge, or have a right to vote unless he had paid all Lodge dues."

The complaining Brother gave his reasons why he had raised the matter in open Lodge and it transpired that he had not made himself acquainted with the Rules of the B. of C. Eventually the Brother was asked to apologise to the W.M. and I.P.M. for embarrassing them and for causing a certain amount of discord in the Lodge. Apologies were offered and accepted.

This Brother attended the meeting in May but after that there was no further record of his name and he was Excluded in 1934 for non-payment of dues.

In May 1930 alterations to the By-laws, to change the months of election and Installation Meetings, were proposed and carried in open Lodge, but a letter from the D.G. Secretary, dated 18th June, stated that the D.D.G.M. did not think it advisable to forward the alterations to Grand Lodge as the same By-law had been changed four years previously and for the same reason, to meet the movements of the Fleet. He also pointed out that this would again prevent the W.M. and the Wardens completing their year of Office.

In February of 1931 and 1932 a dispensation was obtained to hold the Installation Meeting on a Saturday instead of on a Monday.

In February 1932 it was again proposed and carried in open Lodge to alter some of the By-laws

- (i) To hold the election in November and the Installation in December.
 - (ii) Joining fee to be increased from £1 to £1 - 10 - 0
 - (iii) Re-joining fee to be increased from 10/- to £1
- Qualifications to become a member:—
- (iv) Amend: To include P.Os, Sergeants and Chargemen of H.M. Establishments
 - (v) Add: Sons of members.

This time they were recommended by the D.D.C.M. and approved by the M.W.G.M. on the 8th July, 1932. Therefore there were two Installations in that year - February and December. In the reprint of the By-laws the original No. 1, "Qualifications to become a member" was shown as a preamble.

Lodge membership at 31st December 1943 was 181. The last number in the Register being 730, and 549 Brethren had resigned, died or had been excluded.

Items of interest:

- 1929 March A Charity Pillar presented to the Lodge by W. Bro. S. Matthews. W.M. in 1916 and 1918.
- „ May A sum of money voted to W. Bro. A. A. Brees, W.M. in 1924 and 1925, for alteration to his D.G. Lodge regalia from S.D. to S.W.
- 1930 February Greetings received from W. Bro. F. Hannaford, a Founder and W.M. in 1900 and 1904, and from W. Bro. A. Bellamy Hall, a Founder and W.M. in 1921.
- „ June Lodge paid £3 - 5 - 0 towards the cost of a memorial stone to W. Bro. S. G. Yeoman.
- „ November D.G. Lodge Communication held under R.N's banner
- 1931 March W. Bro. Woodruff's P.M's jewel presented to him in St. Georges Lodge No. 4387. (Gillingham)

- 1931 April W. Bro. H. B. Townshend, a Founder and first Secretary, Honorary Member in 1914, visited the Lodge after an absence of 32 years.
- „ November Lodge voted £10 towards the cost of D.G. Lodge regalia for W. Bro. F. J. West, W.M. in 1915
- 1932 May W. Bro. N. S. Hall, D. G. Secretary, having received Grand Lodge rank, all Lodges in the District contributed towards the cost of his regalia. R.N's share was £1 - 3 - 0
- „ July Alterations to By-laws approved by the M.W.C.M.
- „ November Death in the U.K. of W. Bro. D. M. Pates, P.D.G.W. and Honorary Member in 1928. W. Bros. Wooller, Brees, and Pearce represented the Lodge at the funeral.
- „ December Second Installation meeting in the year.
- 1933 December W. Bro. N. S. Hall, P.G. St. Br., D.G. Secretary, elected an Honorary Member.
- „ December W. Bro. F. Hannaford, a Founder and W.M. in 1900 and 1904 asked the Lodge to present him with D.C. Lodge regalia to mark his 34 years as a member. The Minutes record that he was informed of the decision of the Lodge but do not say what the decision was. In the absence of copies of the Statements of Accounts for this period it is not possible to say if the regalia was purchased or not.
- 1934 January Death of W. Bro. Hobbs, P.D.G.W., Secretary of the Lodge since 1926.
- „ January His P.M's jewel was presented to W. Bro. A. T. B. Carthy W.M. 1932/33, in the United Services Lodge No. 2258 (Devonport)
- „ April D.G. Lodge communication held under R.N's banner.
- 1935 February Bro. D. Kynman, Initiated and Passed in Royal Naval in 1918, was Raised in Humber Lodge No. 57.
- „ October Lodge in mourning for the M.W. Pro. G.M., Rt. Hon. The Lord Ampthill.

- 1935 November Death of W. Bro. F. J. West, P.M. in 1915 (see text)
- 1936 February Lodge in mourning for H.M. King George V.
- „ February A P.M's jewel presented to W. Bro. N. S. Gooch, W.M. 1934/35. in Canada Lodge No. 3527 (London)
- 1937 October The Lodge presented a P.D.G.W's regalia to W. Bro. B. W. Pearce, W.M. in 1927
- „ November W. Bro. Capt. Sir Maxwell Hendry Maxwell Anderson joined the Lodge. (see text)
- 1938 May Greetings received from W. Bro. H.C.R. Brockbank a Founder and the first S.W. of the Lodge, now G. S. Deacon and D.P.G.M. for Dorset.
- 1940 March Reported that Bro. J. H. Winter, Initiated 1930, had been killed in action.
- 1941 March Reported that Bro. G. A. Bowen, joined 1928, had been killed in action
- „ November D. G. Lodge communication held under Royal Naval's banner.
- 1942 January Lodge in mourning for H. R. H. The Duke of Connaught. P.G.M.
- „ August Lodge in mourning for H. R. H. The Duke of Kent, M.W.G.M. killed in action.

SIXTH MINUTE BOOK. October 1944 to November 1954

The opening remarks for the previous period, January 1929 to September 1944, apply just as well to this period. It is not possible to "clothe the bones with much flesh".

The Lodge was more stable for most of the Masters completed their year of Office. The W.M. of December 1945, W. Bro. C. G. J. Seymour, completed his year, was W.M. again in Dec. 1946 and Installed his successor in December 1947. In April 1950 he occupied the Chair for the rest of the year and also Installed the M.E.

The W.M. of Dec. 1951, W. Bro. L. W. Jackson, completed his year and Installed his successor, who for reasons not recorded attended only the January meeting of 1953, leaving W. Bro. Jackson to occupy the Chair for the rest of the year and to Install the M.E.

The full period was a very busy one, in which 85 Candidates were Initiated and 56 Brethren joined. The Degrees worked were 46 Firsts, 44 Seconds and 42 Thirds, which included Passing 9 and Raising 20 Brethren for other Lodges. To enable this programme to be carried out the Lodge was divided at 43 meetings.

Many of the Past Masters continued to support the Lodge for several years by presiding in the absence of the reigning Master, as Installing Masters and, assisted by other W. Brethren, by working a Degree when the Lodge was divided. Some names appear in the Minutes for several years running.

W. Bro. C. G. J. Seymour	1945 to 1952
W. Bro. J. J. Simmons	1947 to 1949
W. Bro. L. W. Jackson	1951 to 1957
W. Bro. W. G. Dallimore	1953 to 1959
	(P.M. of Waller Rodwell Wright)
W. Bro. H. C. Livingstone	1955 to 1960

The first notice of the Lodge of Instruction (Preceptor W. Bro. H. W. Tilbury) appeared on the agenda for October 1944 and was repeated three times in 1945. This notice on the agenda was not shown again until January 1968.

The first Lodge of Instruction was held on the 16th March, 1891 and its meetings have been held regularly, now every fortnight, ever since. (vide Floreat Melita.)

Official visits to the Lodge were made by the W.M. and Brethren of St. Andrews No. 966 S.C. in March 1945, of Leinster No. 327 I.C. in May 1946 and in April 1948, of Abercorn 273 I.C. in April 1947 and Waller Rodwell Wright No. 2755 E.C. in March 1949, the Jubilee Meeting of Royal Naval Lodge.

A reply to a letter written by W. Bro. Sir M. H. Maxwell Anderson, Treasurer of the Lodge, to the Grand Secretary was received in April 1945. The Grand Secretary wrote "While the provisions of Rule 148 B. of C. are still operative, in cases where a member, owing to being on war service, cannot remit his dues, the operation of the above Rule may be deferred, pending a return to more stable conditions, when arrears of dues can be paid. The entry of "war service" against the name of Brethren so situated, the entry of "exclusion" will be held in abeyance."

The following month the Grand Secretary authorised the "Resignation" of a Brother who had been "Excluded" in 1943.

Between 1944 and 1946 W. Bro. A. L. Barrett, who had assisted the Lodge on several occasions, visited the Lodge five times as D.D.G.M. W. Bro. H. E. Lewis, D.D.G.M., visited in 1948 and 1949. As the D.G.S.W., W. Bro. C. E. de Wolff visited the Lodge in March and December 1949, February 1950 and then as D.G.M. in December 1950, continuing his visits, as far as this section of history is concerned, to December 1954.

At the regular meeting in May, 1950 the Brethren were informed that W. Bro. Brig. C. E. de Wolff, P.G.D., had been appointed D.G.M. for Malta, but no subsequent mention was made of his Installation on the 18th November of that year. The influence and guidance of the D.G.M. was soon felt. His first Aide Memoire, dated November 1950 stated "As I feel sure that the Worshipful Masters will wish to have guidance so as to assist me in the administration of the District, and thereby ensure that all Lodges are working on the same general principles, I shall from time to time, as may be necessary, issue an Aide Memoire which I am confident will be acted upon in the same spirit in which it is sent". Up to June 1971 there have been 71 Aide Memoires.

It would appear that the Inspection of Lodges commenced in 1951. (We have copies of the Inspection Reports from February 1953 to February 1971) The Inspections were carried out by the D.G.M. and the D.D.G.M. in alternate years and in some instances by Grand Lodge Officers. The Lodge Minute book, Attendance book, and the Accounts are examined by the Inspecting Officer. The reports show the number of attendances of the W.M. and his Officers, number of degrees worked, number of exclusions, and number of fully paid-up members since the last Inspection and finally the Inspecting Officer's remarks on the working of the degree that evening and on the administration in general.

Apart from a few minor criticisms our reports up to date state that the Lodge is maintaining its reputation for the high standard of its working and administration.

In the second rising of a meeting in May 1952 the D.G.M. drew attention to certain Brethren wearing open neck shirts. These Brethren were visitors and, I believe, the explanation given afterwards was that the dress was the summer rig for the Navy.

It has been previously mentioned that although P.M.'s jewels had been voted the actual purchase was held in abeyance until circumstances improved. For this purpose a P.M.'s jewel fund had been created. It is recorded in the Minutes that these jewels were eventually purchased and presented. In 1949 and 1952 the jewels were those of the late W. Bro. Basham (W.M. in Dec. 1917) and W. Bro. Boswell (W.M. in Dec. 1944). In 1952 the Lodge presented Grand Lodge regalia to W. Bro. G. C. J. Seymour.

From 1899 to the end of 1954 Royal Naval Lodge had on request Initiated 3, Passed 80 and Raised 117 for other Lodges. On the other hand other Lodges had on our request Passed 60 and raised 78 of our Brethren. At 31st. December 1954 the actual membership was 222. The last number in the Register was 886.

Items of interest

28th April 1945 An emergency meeting held to receive the District Grand Lodge of Malta.

Nov. 1945 The increase of resident dues from £1-4-0 to £1-16-0 approved by Grand Lodge

27th April 1946 Bro. C. Martin Raised in Richard Collyer Lodge No. 4905, eighteen years after his Initiation and Passing.

17th June 1946 Death of W. Bro. A. L. Barrett, D.D.G.M., 1944 to 1946

17th March 1947 The Grand Secretary confirmed the Jubilee date would be 50 years from the 10th February 1899 and that no particular jewel was worn for this occasion.

30th June 1947 Death of W. Bro. D.K.F. Boswell, W.M. Dec. 1944

1st Oct. 1947 Death of W. Bro. R. E. Glover, W.M. Feb. 1923.

- 20th Oct. 1947 Lodge in mourning for Rt. Hon. The Earl of Harewood, Dep. G.M., who died on 24th May 1947
- 21st March 1949 Jubilee Meeting.
- 16th May 1949 £100 donated to the Building Fund. (M.H.C.)
- 16th Jan. 1950 Lodge in mourning for Rt. W. Bro. Col. Sir A. Henry McMahon, P.G.W., D.G.M. Malta since 1924
- 16th Jan 1950 W. Bro. W. T. J. Crick, P.D.G.W. elected an Honorary Member. (Joined April 1940)
- 18th Dec. 1950 Lodge in mourning for the Duke of Devonshire, M.W.G.M., who died 26th Nov. 1950
- 18th Dec. 1950 W. Bro. Sir Maxwell Hendry Maxwell Anderson, P.D.G.M. Western Mediterranean, S.C., Hon. Grand Warden, S.C., P.D.G.W., E.C. elected an Honorary Member. (Joined Nov. 1937)
- 19th Feb. 1951 First Inspection meeting by the D.G.M. and his Officers.
- 21st May 1951 Rt. W. Bro. C. E. de Wolf, D.G.M. elected an Honorary Member.
- 21st May 1951 The increase of fees and dues approved by Grand Lodge.
- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Initiation fee from | £10 - 10 - 0 | to | £16 - 16 - 0 |
| Joining fee from | £ 1 - 10 - 0 | to | £ 2 - 2 - 0 |
| Rejoining fee from | £ 1 - 0 - 0 | to | £ 2 - 0 - 0 |
| Annual Dues:- | | | |
| Resident | £ 1 - 16 - 0 | to | £ 2 - 0 - 0 |
| Non-resident | 10/- | (No change since 1899) | |
- 9th June 1951 Death of W. Bro. Sir Maxwell H. M. Anderson.
- 19th Nov. 1951 Another £40 donated to the Building Fund
- 19th Nov. 1951 W. Bro. D. N. Smith, W.M. who had left the Island during the recess sent "a graphic description of the Installation of the Earl of Scarborough as M.W.G.M. at the Albert Hall on the 6th November 1951" where he represented the Lodge.

- Dec. 1951 Wearing of white gloves to commence at the next Meeting.
- 18th Feb. 1952 Lodge in mourning for H.M. King George VI, P.G.M. who died 6th Feb. 1952.
- 18th Feb. 1952 W. Bro. A. Bellamy Hall, P.A.G.D.C., a founder and W.M. in 1921 and W. Bro F. Hannaford, a founder and W.M. in 1900 and 1904 elected Honorary Members
- 19th Oct. 1953 W. Bro. Dallimore elected an Honorary Member.
- SEVENTH MINUTE BOOK. Dec. 1954 to Dec. 1960

A period difficult to record, for although it was hard working there were few outstanding events. An analysis is perhaps the best way to highlight the work.

At all the Regular Meetings (46) more than one Degree was worked; at seven of these meetings there were three Degrees in the one evening, but it was never recorded if the Lodge "divided". In addition there were 8 Emergency Meetings and, of course, 6 Installations. The Worshipful Master for the year was assisted by W. Bros. Jackson, Livingstone, Trundle, Boyes, Lawrence and Dallimore, all of Royal Naval Lodge; W. Bros. Hutton and Allen of Wayfarers Lodge and Holloway of United Brethren Lodge.

The total Degrees worked were 101; Firsts 37; Seconds 33; Thirds 31. Of these 45 were carried out by the reigning Master and 56 by the W. Brethren assisting. During the six years 69 Candidates were Initiated and 32 Brethren joined. The Passings and Raisings included 2 and 4 Brethren of other Lodges. In the same period 4 of our Brethren were Passed and 9 Raised elsewhere.

The total from 1899 to 1960 became:-

By Royal Naval	Initiated 3	Passed 82	Raised 121
By other Lodges		„ 64	„ 87

Four of the Masters completed their year and Installed their successors. The other two almost completed the year but the Installation was performed for them by W. Bro. Livingstone

(1957) and W. Bro. Hutton (1958). Each Past Master was presented with a Jewel.

After a lapse of 14 years, the Statement of Accounts and the Roll of Membership for 1959 were inserted in the Minutes and again in 1960.

The last number in the Register of Members at 31st Dec. was 987, but the actual membership was 259.

Items of interest were:

17th Jan. 1955 A Brother who had been Initiated in this Lodge 18 years previously, returned to Malta, re-joined and was Passed. The Raising was the following month.

19th Mar. 1956 £200 donated to the Masonic Hall Committee for repairs to roof.

21st Jan. 1957 Amendments to by-law 1, "that June be included as a regular month for meetings" was approved.

21st May 1957 £50 donated to the M.H.C for re-seating and painting the Temple.

18th Nov. 1957 W. Bro L.W Jackson elected an Honorary Member.

30th Apr. 1959 £20 voted for the purchase of regalia.

18th May 1959 The death of W. Bro. Allison Bellamy Hall was recorded. He was a P.G.A.D.C., a Founder of this Lodge, its W. Master in 1921 and was made an Honorary Member in 1952.

18th May 1959 Bro. W. Williams, D.G. Tyler, and our Tyler, presented with full dress D.G. regalia by the Lodge (£23 - 3 - 3)

The presentation was made by the D.G.M. who also gave a short lecture on the origin and history of the Tyler's post.

20th June 1960 A Brother Initiated, but he was not Passed until he returned to Malta in 1968. He was raised in Jan. 1969.

20th Dec. 1960 W. Bro. H. C. Livingstone elected an Honorary Member

The R.W. Bro. C. E. de Wolff, D.G.M. attended the Installation Meetings of 1954 to 1958 and again in 1960. W. Bro. T. F. Harvey, D.D.G.M. attended the 1959 Installation.

The Lodge was inspected by the D.G.M in 1955, 1957, 1958 and 1960. By W. Bro. C. W. Stone, D.S.G.W. in 1956 and by W. Bro. H. Cooper, D.G. Secretary in 1959.

EIGHTH MINUTE BOOK. January 1961 to October 1963

By reading the Minutes of November and December 1963, recorded in the Ninth Minute Book, I have completed the details for three years.

I (Haldane) joined the Lodge in October, 1961 and can claim knowledge of members from that date until the end of this history, a total of 153 Brethren. I was elected Treasurer in 1962 and being elected each successive year still hold that Office. Having copies of the District Grand Lodge Annual Reports from 1961 onwards I have been able to show the appointments of our Brethren to D.G. Lodge rank.

I had also joined Zealand Lodge No. 515 and, being a P.S.W. of my Mother Lodge, was Installed W. Master in February 1963 and from that date was able, with other Past Masters, to assist the W. Masters of Royal Naval in working Degrees when the Lodge was divided.

The W.M. for 1960/61 left Malta during the recess and W. Bro. Pickles occupied the Chair for the Oct.—Dec. meetings and installed the Master Elect. The two other W.M.s completed their year and Installed their successors.

There was only one Emergency meeting in these three years, but two and sometimes three Degrees were worked at each Regular Meeting, the Lodge being "divided" on 18 occasions with W. Bro. Sayer of Waller Rodwell Wright Lodge, W. Bro. Pickles and myself working Seconds and Thirds. A total of 21 Firsts, 21 Seconds and 18 Thirds. 39 Brethren were Initiated and 20 joined.

At 31st Dec. 1963 the last number on the Register was 1046 and members on the Roll 283.

One Brother, Initiated in Nov. 1960 resigned the following Nov. his reason being "that he was unable to sit in the Lodge with harmony". Another Brother, Initiated and Passed in 1963, left the Island before he could be Raised. As he was in the Navy and did not obtain a shore posting it was difficult to arrange the Raising by another Lodge. Several attempts were made; indeed arrangements had been completed and a date fixed with a Lodge in Bahrein, but at the last moment the ship returned to Mombasa. It was not until May 1968 that this Brother was Raised in Haslar Lodge No. 7234.

It is recorded that W. Bro. Naylor, W.M. 1960/61, was presented with his P.M.'s jewel in January, 1962 in the Lord Charles Beresford Lodge No. 2404 (Chatham). From the records it is possible to say that, with 3 exceptions, every P.M. from 1908 to 1963 had been presented with a jewel and those who had held that Office twice had been presented with D.G. Lodge regalia, and in one instance also with a bar to the jewel. Two jewels in this period had been returned to the Lodge for the use of future Masters.

The Minutes of Jan. 1963 record the death of Bro. Billy Williams after a long illness. He was Initiated in this Lodge in Dec. 1921, re-joined in May 1945 and our Tyler from Dec. 1945 to Nov. 1960. He was also the D.G.L. Tyler for several years. Unfortunately I never met him but at that time, and many times since, heard that he was very popular and held in high esteem by all Brethren.

The D.G. Tyler's full dress regalia, presented to Bro. Williams in May 1949 was purchased in 1962 at two-thirds of the original cost by Bro. J. Coins, D.G. Tyler and when he left Malta in 1965 was purchased by Bro. W. Holding (J. W. 1961/62) and presented to the Lodge. In Dec. of that year it was presented to our Tyler, and D.G. Tyler, Brother C. Harris with permission for him to wear it at meetings of other Lodges of which he was Tyler. After the death of Bro. Harris in August 1965 the regalia was presented by the Lodge to D.G. Lodge.

In June 1963 the Lodge agreed to purchase D.J.G. Wardens regalia and present it to W. Bro. Pickles. The presentation, at the

request of our Master, was made by W. Bro. A. Routeledge, D.S.G.W. in Nov. As the accounts show one sum for "regalia and P.M.'s jewel" the cost of the regalia, plus Customs duty, has been estimated at £38.

Over the years the rent payable to the Masonic Hall Committee had increased. From £23, £28, £35, £44, to £65 in 1963. Three years later it was £75 p.a.

The total Degrees worked on behalf of other Lodges and by them for us was now:-

By Royal Naval.	Initiations 3	Passings 83	Raisings 122
By others		„ 66	„ 93

Items of interest:-

20th Feb. 1961 £50 donated to the M.H.C. for the decoration of the Main Temple.

17th Apr. 1961 New Lodge regalia purchased at a cost of £169-12-6

Apr. 1961 W. Bro. Pickles appointed D.S.G.D.

Dec. 1961 Death of Bro. W. Williams, D.G. Tyler and Lodge Tyler.

16th Apr. 1962 W. Bro. M. H. J. Cleverley elected an Honorary Member.

15th June 1962 Malta Lodge No. 7830 consecrated by the Asst. G. Master, Rt. W. Bro. Sir Allen Adair, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queens Street.

18th Mar. 1963 Bro. W. Rashbrook elected an Honorary Member.

Apr. 1963 W. Bro. Pickles appointed D.J.G.W.

18th Nov. 1963 The Lodge presented D.J.G.W.'s regalia to W. Bro. Pickles.

The D.G. Master attended the Installation Meeting in 1961 and 1962, and the D.D.G.M. in 1963.

The Lodge was inspected by W. Bro. H. Cooper, D.D.G.M. in 1961 and 1962 and in 1963 by W. Bro. W. Hutton. (Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction since 1950). The reason why is given in extract from the R.W.D.G. Master's address at the Annual Communication held on 29th April 1963.

"Brethren, the high light of the past year was the official visit of the Grand Secretary last September. It was the first official visit since my Installation as D.G.M. 13 years ago, and it was undoubtedly a great success. The Wayfarers Lodge, under the Mastership of W. Bro. Routeledge, carried out a First Degree in an exemplary manner. The Grand Secretary wrote to me and said he had seldom, if ever, seen better working. That was praise indeed and made me very proud of this District, as I am sure the other Lodges, if they had had the opportunity, would also have done very well. This working by Wayfarers Lodge was a direct reflection on the excellent coaching by the Lodge of Instruction and I, therefore, asked the Preceptor, W. Bro. W. Hutton, to inspect, on my behalf, all Lodges, with the exception of his own which is Wayfarers Lodge, and report at the end of his inspection how near the Lodges were to that perfection which had so pleased the Grand Secretary."

NINTH MINUTE BOOK. November 1963 to June 1969 and incorporating October 1969 to June 1971 of the TENTH MINUTE BOOK.

After the first two years of this period the run down of the Services began to be felt. Resident membership in 1964 was 24 but in 1968 had fallen to 11, rising to 13 in 1970. The average number of Candidates for Initiation per year in the period 1961 to 1965 was 12, but in 1966 to 1970 fell to 5½. There was also the same ratio of reduction in the number of joining members, but in the latter years these included several who were permanent residents. After the recess in 1967 it was recorded that, with the exception of the Chaplain, Treasurer and D. of C., every Officer shown on the agenda had left the Island, but with the help of the other members and visitors the work continued.

It must have been about this time that the members felt great concern for the future of Masonry in Malta and a letter to the D.G. Master was written. There is no record of the correspondence in Regular or Committee Meeting Minutes, but there must have been a suggestion to reduce the number of Lodges in the District. To put it very briefly the answer was "Let the D.G.M. do the worrying."

On at least two occasions, at the dinner after an Installation or Inspection meeting, the D.G.M. has reminded the Brethren of the letter expressing concern and that, if there had been a reduction in the number of Lodges, Royal Naval, being the junior Lodge would have been the first to go, yet the Lodges continued to prosper. Looking ahead to October 1971 and making allowances for the Brethren who would leave the Island during the recess, the resident membership will be 21, and of this number 14 permanent residents and including 10 Past Masters.

In 1964 and 1965 there were 13 and 8 Initiations and the Lodge was divided 7 and 6 times, the P.M.s assisting being W. Bros. G. Bryant, E. Pickles, S. C. Jones and myself. With fewer Candidates in the other years it was unnecessary to divide until February 1968, and this was for the last time as a directive was received from the D.G.M.

"That if it was found necessary for a Lodge to work two Degrees in the same evening then such Degrees will be worked CONSECUTIVELY in the same Temple and not CONCURRENTLY in the two Temples."

The W. Masters of 1964, 1965 and 1967 left Malta during the recess and W. Bro. Pickles occupied the Chair. He also Installed two of the incoming Masters and W. Bro. H. F. Carpenter (W.M. in Dec 1961 and who had returned to Malta in 1967) Installed the third. After the sudden death of W. Bro. Pickles in April 1968 the Chair was occupied by W. Bro. H. F. Carpenter and he Installed the M.E. in December.

The W. Masters of 1966, 1969 and 1970 each completed a full year and Installed their successors.

In February 1965 the Lodge had a letter from a Brother, who had been Initiated and Passed in 1960, to say that he was in Malta on a short visit. An emergency meeting was arranged for a Saturday so that he could be Raised.

In May 1965 another Brother on a short visit, who had been Initiated in November 1962 was Passed at the Regular meeting and he was eventually Raised in Lodge of Hope No. 6703 in December 1965.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting in October 1965 record only 6 members and two visitors present and that the Acting Master stated "that there being sufficient Brethren present the Lodge business (Initiation) would proceed. It was apparent that many Brethren had been unable to reach the Masonic Hall owing to the torrential rain and flooding of the roads".

This entry can be amplified for I was one of those who could not attend. The Secretary, Bro. C. R. Jones, had collected me and the Organist, Bro. G. C. Turner, in Sliema at 5.45 to reach 6 and 7 by 6 p.m. The rain was heavy then but progressively got worse. The water was gushing down the side streets as we went up Prince of Wales Road and down Rue D'Argens. The round-a-bout at Msida was like a lake and the pavements and islands invisible and several cars had stalled. By 7 p.m. we had crawled to St. Andrews Bastion and there, in a dip in the road, stopped. Although there was a sheer drop on one side of the road the flood water could not get away. Two cars had been washed into the middle of the road and several others had stalled. We could not go forward or backward and had to stay there until 8 p.m. All this time the downpour had continued. Eventually we did manage to turn and crawl back to Sliema, the journey taking another hour. The newspapers next morning had large headlines. "ELEVEN INCHES of rain had fallen in Floriana."

As a copy of the annual letters for the years 1965 to 1970 have been inserted in the Minute books it is possible to amplify some of the entries in the Minutes.

The M.E. for December 1966 was Bro. C. R. Jones and for the occasion his father came to Malta. The annual letter states:-

"The Installation was highlighted by the presense of the M.E.s father, W. Bro. S. C. Jones, who had been Initiated in Royal Naval Lodge on the 9th May 1919 and became the W. Master of Portsmouth Temperance Lodge No. 2068 in 1949. Although born in 1887 he is still young at heart and a very keen Mason. The Lodge has to thank him for contacting old and new Royal Naval Brethren in the Portsmouth area. W. Bro. S. C. Jones took the Office of Chaplain before and during the Installation ceremony, presented the W/Ts in the 1st. Degree and gave the address to the W. Master in a manner delightful to hear".

Bro. C. F. Craven, our last Honorary Member, also came to Malta for the Installation. The annual letter goes on to say:-

"Unfortunately, due to a delayed flight and, we believe, to emotional feelings, he was unable to attend the meeting. Bro. Craven was born in 1884 and Initiated in Royal Naval on the 17th January 1910 and still has his agenda for that meeting. The Lodge had made special arrangements for his reception and we were naturally disappointed that he could not attend."

Some smart work by W. Bro. C. R. Jones resulted in 12 Brethren and their wives arriving at the Golden Bay Hotel soon after Christmas to greet Bro. Craven and wish him well. They remained for couple of hours, needless to say at the bar, and all agreed that it had been a wonderful evening and a great pleasure to have met one of our elder Brethren and a delightful person."

1967 commemorated the 250th Anniversary of the Foundation of Grand Lodge. There was an Especial Grand Lodge Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall on the 27th June and H.R.H. The Duke of Kent Installed as Grand Master. The Master of each Lodge could apply for a ticket for himself or a nominated P.M. and our W.M. nominated his father, W. Bro. S. C. Jones, who on the following day sent us an agenda and an interesting and graphic description of the meeting.

Our O.G. Master, Rt. W. Bro. C. E. de Wolff, was also there and was honoured by being selected as one of the six Provincial and District Grand Masters to escort the Grand Master. Our D.G.M. was also empowered to make one District promotion to commemorate the occasion and our W. Bro. H.F. Carpenter P.D.G.D.C., was promoted to P.D.S.G.W.

The annual letter for 1967 mentioned the sterling work of W. Bro. C. R. Jones in being instrumental in bringing Lodge records up to date, as mentioned in the Acknowledgements.

The Minutes for April 1968 record that W. Bro. C. R. Jones' Past Master's jewel had been presented to him in March in Portsmouth Temperance Lodge No. 2068. The annual letter for that year reads:—

"Portsmouth Temperance Lodge No. 2068 assisted us on the 25th March by presenting a P.M.'s collar and jewel, the gift of his father, and a P.M.'s breast jewel, presented by R.N. Lodge, to W. Bro. C. R. Jones who was the Master of R.N. in Dec. 1966. The presentation was made by W. Bro. T. Smart, P.G. St. Br. and W.M. of R.N. in 1940. As W. Bro. Jones had to come down from Scotland the arrangements for this presentation had not been easy. The members of R.N. Lodge present at that meeting were W. Bros. T. Smart, S. C. Jones, C. R. Jones, E. Salmons, J. Trestrail and Bros. J. Duncan, S. Bodie and J. Robson. The R.N. Lodge members were honoured that evening by leaving the Lodge in procession immediately after the Grand Lodge Officers."

The June 1968 Minutes record the death of W. Bro. F. E. Pickles on the 29th April. Again the annual letter amplifies this bald entry.

"W. Bro. F. E. Pickles was Initiated in P.N. Lodge on 17th January 1955 and Installed W.M. in 1960: was our D. of C. for 5 years and took the Chair again in Dec. 1967. He was a P.D.G.W. and for the last three years the P.D.B.G.P. His passing has been a great loss to this District as he had taken the Chair in every Degree and, at the time of his death, held an active Office in each. To R.N. Lodge his loss was even greater for he had been the main pin holding the Lodge together since 1960."

In November 1968 we Passed a Brother who had been Initiated in June 1966. He had returned to Malta for a second tour of duty, and was Raised in March of the following year.

In February 1969 Malta Lodge No. 7830 Raised on our behalf a Brother who had been Initiated and Passed in Feb. and April 1968.

In March 1969 the Lodge was informed that another Brother, Initiated in October 1962 had been Passed in Acorn Lodge No. 5677. He was Raised by the same Lodge in Dec, 1969. The annual letter of 1969 mentioned that 12 Brethren Initiated in the years 1960 and 1969 had left Malta as E.A.s or F.C.s but, with one exception, were now M.M.s.

The Minutes of 1969, 1970 and up to June 1971, with the exception of one entry, are remarkable in that there were no items of interest recorded, but they were years of quiet efficiency. No better proof can be given than the Inspection report of March 1971 and this report summarises all the Inspection reports from 1952.

"The books of the Secretary and Treasurer were examined and called for no criticism. Both Officers are to be congratulated on the excellence of their work.

The third Degree was most splendidly worked by the Master and his Officers and was right up to the high standard of this Lodge. A most enjoyable evening.

(Sgd.) C. E. de Wolf, D.G.M.

The Minutes of 16th November 1970 record that the W. Master had great pleasure in presenting a suitably inscribed clock to W. Bro. F. M. Jefferies as a token of the high esteem in which he was held. (The clock had been purchased by subscriptions from the resident members) The 1970 annual letter read:-

"W. Bro. Jefferies, initiated in this Lodge in May 1956, has done much for the administration since his return to Malta in 1967. The last Secretary to complete a full year of Office was in 1965-1966. The Secretaries appointed in December 1966, 1967 and 1968 left Malta in May 1967, February 1968 and January 1969 respectively. When Frank arrived in Malta in 1967 he volunteered to act as Secretary; continued to act in 1968 when he was S.W.; continued to act in 1969 when he was the W. Master. He was appointed Secretary in Dec. 1969 and continued as such until he left Malta in November 1970. Without his very valuable assistance the Lodge would have had a very hard time."

The Lodge continued to present a jewel to the Past Masters, but the Minutes of this period are not very clear, for on two occasions there is no record of a proposal being made yet there is clear evidence that a jewel was eventually presented. By checking the accounts it would appear that there was no presentation to one Past Master, but I can find no reason. The Master in question had loyally served the Lodge before and after his Installation and had been very popular.

The cost of the jewel rose from £9 - 17 - 6 to £15 - 10 - 6 (c.f. £7 - 7 - 0 in 1914) Two jewels had been purchased from widows. That of W. Bro. Pickles, W.M. 1959-60, was presented to W. Bro. F. M. Jefferies, W.M. 1968-69. and that of W. Bro. A. A. Brees, W.M. 1925-26, to W. Bro. A. Renshaw, W.M. 1969-70. The cost of renovation and re-enscribing plus the purchase price was almost as much as a new jewel.

For each member and for each of his guests the dining fee including wine, is now 12/6; Installations 25/-. (c.f. 2/- and 4/- in 1918)

The by-laws of 1899 show Initiation fees as £10 - 10 - 0, resident dues £1 - 4 - 0 and non-residents 10/-. They are now £21 - 0 - 0.; £2 - 0 - 0. but non-resident fees are still 10/-. p.a.

From March 1899 to 30th June, 1971:-

By R.N. Lodge for other Lodges Initiated 3. Passed 87. Raised 125
By other Lodges for R.N. Passed 63. Raised 99

Items of interest.

17th Feb. 1964 W. Bro. Bryant, J.P.M., the District representative for the B.M.I.G. announced that £175 had been collected from all Lodges in the District.

20th April 1964 Approval received to increase Initiation fees from £16 - 10 - 0 to £21 - 0 - 0 and joining fees from £2 - 2 - 0 to £3 - 0 - 0.

30th April 1964 W. Bro. F. E. Pickles promoted to D.S.G.W.; W. Bro. L. G. Haldane appointed D.G. Reg. and W. Bro. G. K. Bryant appointed D.G.J.D.

18th May 1964 An E. A. was unable to answer the usual questions before being Passed and the W.M. directed that he should retire and as he was the only Candidate for Passing the working of that Degree be cancelled. This Brother was Passed the following month.

12th June 1964 Death of W. Bro. H. W. Cooper, P.G. St. Br. D.D.G.M. since 1960.

30th Nov. 1964 W. Bro. J. A. Hamilton-Rose Installed as D.D.G.M.

19th April 1965 The Lodge voted to continue the use of the old wording of the Penalties in the Obligation.

- 29th April 1965 W. Bro. Pickles, P.D.G.W., appointed Pres. B.G.P. and W. Bro. Haldane promoted to D.J.G.W.
- 21st June 1965 Confirmation received that the Lodge was a Patron of the Royal Masonic Hospital and a Vice Patron of the R.M.I.B., R.M.I.G. and the R.M.B.I.
- 19th Dec. 1965 Death of W. Bro. M. H. J. Cleverley. He was Initiated in this Lodge in May, 1920: W.M. in Dec. 1931 and made Honorary Meriter in 1962
- 22nd Feb. 1966 Death of W. Bro. H. B. Parkes (Tay) P.G. St. Br. D.G. Secretary since 1960.
- 29th April 1966 W. Bro. Haldane promoted to L.S.G.W. and W. Bro. Pickles re-appointed Pres. B.G.P.
- 17th Oct. 1966 Bro. C. F. Craven elected an Honorary Member.
- 25th Dec. 1966 Death of W. Bro. Townshend, a Founder and first Secretary of the Lodge, at the age of 93. He was made an Honorary Member in 1914.
- 26th April 1967 W. Bro. A. G. Carpenter appointed D.G.A.D.C., W. Bro. Pickles re-appointed Pres. B.G.P. and W. Bro. Haldane, P.D.G.W. appointed D.G.Reg.
- 27th June 1967 Installation of H.R.H. The Duke of Kent as Grand Master.
- 16th Oct. 1967 W. Bro. H. F. Carpenter appointed P.D.S.G.W. (see text for the last period).
- 16th Oct. 1967 The Founder's jewel of W. Bro. Townshend returned to the Lodge on permanent loan by D.G.M. (see text at the commencement of the history). The jewel is now in the Masonic Hall museum.
- 29th April 1968 Death of W. Bro. F. E. Pickles (see text for the last period).
- 29th April 1968 W. Bro. Haldane P.D.G.W. appointed Pres. B.G.P.
- 1st July 1968 Death of Bro. W. Rashbrook, Initiated in this Lodge in Nov. 1906 and made an Honorary Member in 1963.

- 21st April 1969 £10 donated towards the cost of an organ to be presented by Lodges in this District to the Prince George, Duke of Kent Court at Chiselhurst, Kent.
- 29th April 1969 W. Bro. W. G. Ridley appointed D.G. Puis. and W. Bro. Haldane re-appointed Pres. B.G.P.
- circa June 1969 Death of Bro. C. F. Craven, Initiated in this Lodge in Jan. 1910 and made an Honorary Member in 1966.
- 20th Oct. 1969 Recorded in the Minutes the death of Rt. Hon. The Earl of Scarborough, M.W. Pro. Grand Master.
- 20th April 1970 £50 donated to the Masonic Hall Committee for repairs, etc., to the Masonic Hall.
- 29th April 1970 W. Bro. W. G. Ridley, D. G. Puis., promoted to D.J.G.D.; W. Bro. W. E. Davies appointed D.G. Reg.; W. Bro. F. M. Jefferies appointed D.A.G.D.C. and W. Bro. Haldane re-appointed Pres. B.G.P.
- 1st Feb. 1971 Death of W. Bro. J. A. Hamilton-Rose.
P.A.G.D.C., D.D.G.M. since 1964.
- 19th April 1971 The Lodge had its first Past Master's evening. All the Offices, for an Initiation, were taken by members of the Lodge and with the exception of the Chaplain were also Past Masters. The Chaplain was the most junior member.
- 28th April 1971 W. Bro. T. Smart, P.G. St. Br., promoted to P.A.G.D.C. and W. Bro. L. G. Haldane appointed P.G. St. Br.
- 29th April 1971 W. Bro. A. R. Craddock, P.G. St. Br., Installed as D.D.G.M., W. Bro. W. E. Davies, D. G. Reg. promoted to D.J.G.W., W. Bro. A. Renshaw appointed D.G. Puis. and W. Bro. Haldane re-appointed Pres. B.G.P.

Between 1964 and 1971 the D.G. Master inspected the Lodge five times and was present at the Installation four times. The D.D.G.M. inspected the Lodge three times and attended the Installation three times.

CHARITY

It would be almost impossible to list all the grants made to Brethren in distress, to widows, to the many appeals, to the Masonic Hall, etc., but the following can be verified. Our Lodge is:-

A Patron of the R.M. Hospital (£105) and has donated a further	£ 30
A Vice Patron of the R.M.I.G. (£210) " " " " "	£163
A Vice Patron of the R.M.I.B. (£210) " " " " "	£161
A Vice Patron of the R.M.B.I. (£210) " " " " "	£115

That the Brethren donated to:-

The 250th Anniversary	£151. 17. 0
The R.M.B.I. Festival (1968) under Sir Allan Adair	£122. 18. 0
To the M.M.C.A. (Figures only available from 1940)	£475. 0. 0
To the R. & M. Fund, R. M. Hospital, to date	£165. 5. 0
These alone make a total of £2,146	

ROLL OF MEMBERSHIP

AS AT 30th JUNE, 1971

Last number in	Founders	30	On the Roll	279
the Register	Initiated	728	Honorary Members	5
1132	Joined	346	Died	106
	Re-joined	28	Resigned	425
		1132	Excluded	317
				1132

Past Masters OF the Lodge 26 plus 2 Honorary Members

Past Masters IN the Lodge 24 plus 3 Honorary Members

Grand Lodge Officers 7 R. W. Bro. C. E. de Wolf	P.J.G.D. 1950
	D.G.M 1950
W. Bro. J. J. Simmons	P.G.St.Br. 1950
W. Bro. G. C. J. Seymour	P.A.G.D.C. 1951
W. Bro. W. G. Dallimore	P.A.G.D.C. 1952
W. Bro. T. Smart	P.G.St.Br. 1959
	P.A.G.D.C. 1971
W. Bro. R. J. Knott	P.A.G.D.C. 1961
W. Bro. L. G. Haldane	P.G.St.Br. 1971

WORSHIPFUL MASTERS

March	1899	J. H. Martin	Founder	Dec.	1935	G. S. Wilcox	J. 1933
"	1900	F. Hannaford	"	"	1936	F.O. Thwaites	l. 1924
"	1901	R. D. Lewis	l. 1899	"	1937	W.E. Scrimshaw	l. 1926
"	1902	C. Stewart	J. 1900	"	1938	S. G. Clue	l. 1924
"	1903	C. Hebgin	J. 1901	"	1939	H. J. Jessup	l. 1930
"	1904	F. Hannaford	see 1900	"	1940	T. R. Smart	J. 1938
"	1905	A. Spilman	l. 1902	"	1941	F. Young	J. 1939
"	1906	A. J. Parkes	J. 1904	"	1942	R. J. Knott	J. 1940
"	1907	F. Fields	J. 1905	"	1943	R. J. Knott	"
"	1908	E. Budgen	Founder	"	1944	D.K.F. Boswell	l. 1920
"	1909	F. Fields	see 1907	"	1945	G.C.J. Seymour	J. 1944
"	1910	J.W. Carrington	J. 1907	"	1946	G.C.J. Seymour	"
"	1911	W. G. Bishop	J. 1909	"	1947	J. J. Simmons	J. 1945
"	1912	S. Crocker	J. 1909	"	1948	G. E. Finch	l. 1936
"	1913	E. Brown	J. 1910	"	1949	I. W. Boyer	J. 1948
"	1914	E. J. Hooper	l. 1910	"	1950	D. N. Smith	J. 1949
"	1915	F. J. West	J. 1910	"	1951	L. W. Jackson	l. 1949
"	1916	S. Matthews	J. 1914	"	1952	W. F. Turnbull	l. 1932
"	1917	F. L. Basham	l. 1915	Jan.	1953	H.C. Livingstone	J. 1951
"	1918	S. Matthews	see 1916	Dec.	1954	A. J. Bravery	l. 1941
"	1919	J. H. Murphy	l. 1915	"	1955	S. C. Knight	l. 1948
"	1920	W. Slade	J. 1912	"	1956	E.W.F. Boryer	J. 1953
"	1921	A. Bellamy Hall	Fder.	"	1957	T. Stead	l. 1936
"	1922	W. T. Govier	J. 1920	"	1958	N.A. Lawrence	l. 1952
"	1923	G. E. Glover	J. 1918	"	1959	F. E. Pickles	l. 1955
"	1924	A. A. Brees	l. 1920	"	1960	L. R. Naylor	J. 1955
"	1925	A. A. Brees	"	"	1961	H. F. Carpenter	J. 1950
"	1926	A.E. Seymour	J. 1923	"	1962	G. K. Bryant	J. 1960
Febr.	1927	B. W. Pearce	J. 1923	"	1963	P. E. Haines	J. 1955
"	1928	W. E. Pack	l. 1916	"	1964	A. J. Gosney	J. 1963
"	1929	W. J. Wooller	J. 1928	"	1965	A. G. Carpenter	J. 1963
"	1930	T.H. Woodruff	J. 1923	"	1966	C. R. Jones	l. 1950
"	1931	M. Cleverley	l. 1920	"	1967	F. E. Pickles	see 1959
"	1932	J. W. Huxley	l. 1922	"	1968	F. M. Jefferies	l. 1956
Dec.	1932	A.T.B. Carthy	J. 1929	"	1969	A. Renshaw	J. 1968
"	1933	S. A. Nash	l. 1926	"	1970	W. E. Davies	J. 1967
"	1934	N. S. Gooch	J. 1932				

HONORARY MEMBERS

15th May 1899	W. Bro. J. W. Starkey P.D.D.G.M	
" " "	W. Bro. S. G. Freeman P.D.G.W.	
" " "	W. Bro. W. Peate P.D.D.G.M.	
" " "	W. Bro. F. Mitchell P.D.G.W.	
" " "	W. Bro. F. Gardner P.D.G.W.	
21st May 1900	R. W. Bro. J. G. Owen F.C.M.	
21st Oct. 1901	W. Bro. J. H. Martin P.D.G.W.	Founder and first Master
17th Nov. 1902	R. W. Bro. H. T. Hughes-Hallitt D.G.M.	
20th Apr. 1908	M. W. Bro. H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught M.W.G.M.	
16th Mar. 1914	W. Bro. H. B. Townsend P.A.D.G.D.C.	
17th Dec. 1923	W. Bro. A. L. Barrett P.D.G.W.	
18th May 1925	V. W. Bro. P. Colville Smith's Grand Secretary	
18th May 1925	V. W. Bro. F. S. Granville Grenfell Grand D. of C.	
16th Nov. 1925	W. Bro. R. C. Bates P.D.G.W., D.G. Tyler	
17th Oct. 1927	W. Bro. W. O. Marks P.G.D., P.D.G.M.	
21st May 1928	W. Bro. D. M. Bates P.D.G.W.	
18th Dec. 1933	W. Bro. N. S. Hall P.G. St. Br., D. 3 Secretary	
16th Jan. 1950	W. Bro. W. T. J. Crick P.D.G.W.	
18th Dec. 1950	W. Bro. Sir M. H. Maxwell Anderson P.D.G.W.	Joined 1940. Sec. 1940/49
21st May 1951	R. W. Bro. C. E. de Wolff D.G.M.	
18th Feb. 1952	W. Bro. A. Bellamy Hall P.A.G.D.C.	Founder W.M. 1921
18th Feb. 1952	W. Bro. F. Hannaford	Founder W.M. 1900 & 1904
19th Oct. 1953	W. Bro. W. G. Dallimore P.A.G.D.C.	
18th Nov. 1957	W. Bro. L. W. Jackson P.D.G.W.	Initiated 1949 W.M. 1951
20th Dec. 1960	W. Bro. H. C. Livingstone P.D.G.W.	Joined 1951 W.M. 1953
16th Apr. 1962	W. Bro. M. H. C. Cleverley P.D.G.D.	Initiated 1910 W.M. 1931
18th Mar. 1963	Bro. W. Rashbrook	Initiated 1906
17th Oct. 1966	Bro. C. F. Craven	Initiated 1910

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