

THE LODGE OF THE HOLY WELLS No.6975

Held at the Masonic Hall, Churchfields, Bromsgrove, on the fourth Thursday in January, February, March, April, September, October and November.

YEAR OF WARRANT 1950

Installation - September

14th July 1948

A Sub-Committee was appointed by Bromsgrove Lodge No.5414 to consider the founding of a new Lodge. On the proposition of W.Bro. A. Grosvenor and seconded by the W/Master Bro. W.E. Dawes, it was unanimously agreed to invite W.Bro. T. Harris P.P.A.G.D.C. to be the first Master. W.Bro. T. Harris accepted the invitation and then occupied the chair.

Bro. F.W. Manning was appointed to act as Secretary to the Founders.

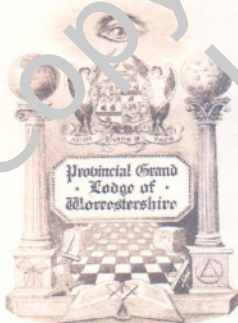
After a full discussion it was unanimously agreed that the new Lodge should be named "The Lodge of the Holy Wells". (This in view of the local association with the Wells of St. Kenelm and St. Chad.)

Subsequent meetings were held at which suggestions as to the full complement of the Founders were discussed.

28th December 1949

At this meeting a final list of Founders (twenty-one) and their Offices was presented and accepted as follows.

W.M.	-	W.Bro. T. Harris	P.P.A.G.D.C.
S.M.	-	W.Bro. F.W. Manning	
J.W.	-	Bro. J.E. Watterson	
A.P.M.	-	W.Bro. W.E. Dawes	
Chap.	-	W.Bro. C. Crane	P.P.G.D.(Works) P.P.A.G.D.C.
Treas.	-	Bro. D. Lambert	
Secy.	-	Bro. Rev. Hugh Moseley	
D.C.	-	W.Bro. J. Leeson or W.Bro. F. Sowerbutts	
S.D.	-	Bro. E.A. Peakman	
J.D.	-	Bro. H.W. Clifford	
A.D.C.	-	W.Bro. H.R. Bird or W.Bro. H. Emery	
Alm.	-	W.Bro. J. Leeson	
Org.	-		
Ass.Sec.	-	Bro. R.B. Lewis	
I.G.	-	Bro. H. Moreton.	



Pro. No

Shelf

27

Stewards	-	Bro. N. Owen
	-	Bro. N.G. Irish.
	-	Bro. J.T. Dale
	-	Bro. S.R. Bromley
	-	Bro. T. Merry

Varying 'Traditions' were agreed, one of which was that the Candles be lighted at the opening of the V.S.L. and snuffed at the closing of the V.S.L.

Consecrated Thursday, 29th June 1950 at the Masonic Hall, Alcester Road South, Kings Heath by R.W. Bro. Ben Marsh, J.P., Provincial Grand Master assisted by W.Bro. Dr. E.L. Bunting, P.G.D. Deputy Provincial Grand Master and W.Bro. S. Dunn Toon, P.P.G.W. Assistant Provincial Grand Master.

The first Lodge meeting was held in September 1950 at the All Saints Parish Hall Bromsgrove and the first meal was supplied at the Golden Cross in Bromsgrove which received its first mention connected with Masonry in 1786.

Meetings were held at the All Saints Parish Hall until September 1961 when the first meeting was held at the new Masonic Hall, Churchfields, Bromsgrove.

January 1951.

W.Bro. P.D. Woods, P.M. St. John's Lodge No. 3. Quebec, presented an Oak Frame for the Warrant of the Lodge as a token of appreciation of the welcome and kindness of the Brethren of the Lodge to him as a visitor.

March 1951

The first Past Masters' Night took place.

April 1952

R.W. Bro. Ben Marsh, Provincial Grand Master, dedicated the Lodge Banner which had been presented by W.Bro. Charles Crane, P.P.A.G.D.C.

April 1958

The Lodge Glittering Star No. 322 of A.F. and A. Masons of Ireland, attached to the 1st. Bn. The Worcestershire Regiment worked an Initiation ceremony at the Masonic Hall, Northfield, Birmingham. The Hall was placed at their disposal and expenses defrayed by the Lodge of the Holy Wells whose members supported the occasion.

December 1962

The new Masonic Temple was dedicated by the R.W. Bro. Lt.Col. O.W.D. Smith, D.L. J.P., Provincial Grand Master.

October 1963

Bro. R.E. Griffin presented the Lodge with a pair of silver candlesticks.

29th June 1971.

The reigning Master W.Bro. T. Merry P.P.A.G.D.C. gave a party at his home to

celebrate the coming of age of the Lodge.

The following speech was made by W.Bro. Leonard W. Greenwood, M.A., P.G.D.
Assistant Provincial Grand Master.

"Ladies and Brethren, we have met this evening in these charming surroundings by the inspired and generous invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Merry, to celebrate the coming of age of the Lodge of the Holy Wells, No. 6975, of which he is the reigning Master.

This 21st anniversary is a focal point in the Lodge's history, and its members are naturally led to ponder its threefold aspect - Past, Present and Future.

First - the story of the Past. It is not for me, an outsider, to tell you the history of your own Lodge, but I would bid you pause for a moment and look back - with gratitude, I am sure, to the Founders of the Lodge, seven of whom we rejoice to have with us this evening - and to all other brethren who up to this present date have ensured a record of unity, enthusiasm, success and happiness of which you may be justly proud.

Second - the joy of the Present. Just now I called your W.M.'s invitation 'inspired'. and so indeed it is, for I can think of no more appropriate and ideal way of punctuating this occasion - especially so because throughout his year, the friendship between Brethren and their families has been your W.M.'s over-riding theme. He has stressed this aspect of Masonry unceasingly, and this evening's large gathering of happy people, will, I know, have warmed his heart.

Third - the dream of the Future. This of course contains the fervent hope that the Lodge may continue to prosper till time shall be no more. In such a dream complacency has no place. A fine tradition has been built up, but to keep that tradition fresh, vital and effective, each succeeding generation of brethren, must make its own distinctive contribution. I have no doubt that your intentions are good; may they be translated into the efforts which will be needed to maintain the prosperity and happiness of this Lodge, which was consecrated 21 years ago this very day. May I sum up my thoughts in a piece of doggerel:

So on the Lodge's Natal Day
The Present, Past and Future may
Give point to all we do and say
To greet this Anniversary.
Remember there's no greater zest
Than knowing you have done your best;
And as in passing years you grow
In wisdom and in spirit, so

You can help others to discern,
 How happiness they best may earn;
 For as the generations pass,
 Like sun and shadow o'er the grass,
 Each speeding year may something give
 To teach the next one how to live;
 So when your time shall come to go
 Sad, but yet happy, you shall know
 That something of you still shall stay,
 Though you are gone, to point the way.

Ladies and Brethren, I ask you to drink long life, prosperity
 and happiness to the Lodge of the Holy Wells.

A very happy Birthday to you all.

April 1977

^{W.Bro. RB.}
 Bro. Lewis was invested as P.G. Std.B. in the United Grand Lodge of England
 by the M.W. The Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Kent, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.,
 A.D.C.

There are three surviving subscribing Founder Members of the Lodge:-

W.Bro.	R.B. Lewis	P.G. Std.B., P.P.J.G.W.
W.Bro.	E.A. Peakman	P.P.G.Reg.
W.Bro.	T. Merry	P.P.G.Reg.

There are currently fifty Lodge Members.

Up to the end of the 1978-1979 Season, sixty-three Candidates had been
 initiated into the Lodge.

Other items presented to the Lodge:-

V.S.A.	-	Bro. N. Owen.
Stuffers	-	Bro. E.A. Peakman.
Collars and Regalia	-	Each presented by its first wearer
Pole for Banner	-	Bro. E.A. Peakman
Taper Holder	-	Wor.Bro. A.F. Hodgetts and Bro. W.P. Sproat.

The Heirloom of the Lodge is the P.M. Jewel presented to the first Master of the
 Lodge, Wor.Bro. T. Harris, P.M. 5414. P.G.Std.B., P.P.G.W.

Lodge Customs:-

Masters signatures are recorded in the V.S.L.

A Birthday Book recording Ceremonies is maintained and the names of candidates and presiding Masters are read out at Festive Boards at each anniversary of the occasion.

A Masonic edition of the V.S.L. is presented to each initiate.

Tylers - Bro. L. Barrett, Bro. W. Deakin, Bro. P. Barker. Bro.H.W. Adams.

THE LODGE OF THE HOLY WELLS. No.6975

P A S T M A S T E R S

1950	Wor.Bro.	T. Harris	1st
1951	Wor.Bro.	F.W. Manning	2nd
1952	Wor.Bro.	J.E. Watterson	3rd
1953	Wor.Bro.	Rev. E.H. Moseley	4th
1954	Wor.Bro.	R.B. Lewis	5th
1955	Wor.Bro.	E.A. Peakman	6th
1956	Wor.Bro.	H.W. Clifford	7th
1957	Wor.Bro.	N.G. Irish	8th
1958	Wor.Bro.	G. Randall	9th
1959	Wor.Bro.	G. Young	10th
1960	Wor.Bro.	H. Rowlett	11th
1961	Wor.Bro.	R.M. Godwin	12th
1962	Wor.Bro.	E. Stride	13th
1963	Wor.Bro.	H. Moreton	14th
1964	Wor.Bro.	H.F. Pinfield	15th
1965	Wor.Bro.	H.W. Dutton	16th
1966	Wor.Bro.	J. Craig	17th
1967	Wor.Bro.	G.S.G. Gates	18th
1968	Wor.Bro.	D.H. Attek	19th
1969	Wor.Bro.	A.G. Brodrick	20th
1970	Wor.Bro.	T. Merry	21st
1971	Wor.Bro.	A.F. Hodgetts	22nd
1972	Wor.Bro.	R.T. Nettell	23rd
1973	Wor.Bro.	R.H. Daniels	24th
1974	Wor.Bro.	A. Stride	25th

Past Masters continued....

1975	Wor.Bro.	C.S.L. Jones	26th
1976	Wor.Bro.	S.G.T. de Beau	27th
1977	Wor.Bro.	G.T. Taylor	28th
1978	Wor.Bro.	N.I. Jones	29th
1979			30th
1980			31st
1981			32nd

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