

04/01/06

## A Special Meeting in January.



The "Nautical Services Lodge No. 5629" 452<sup>nd</sup> meeting will be remembered by both the members and visitors for a very long time.

It was on this cold January evening that the warmth of the lodge was further enhanced by the presence of The Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother R.G.H. Godaard MA along with the Master and Wardens of the "Mother Lodge" Masfield Lodge No.2034.

This special night was to mark the earliest possible date for the presentation of "The Prestonian Lecturer Jewel for 2006" to Worshipful Brother G.S. Angel P.Prov.G.Swd.B. for his research, investigation and "presentations" of the address 'The Victoria Cross and Freemasonry'.

During the evening the Lodges was further entertained by the younger and newer members performing a piece of work from the "Book of Lectures" on this occasion "The Sixth Section of the First Lecture", to whom the PGM congratulated.

The PGM expressed his pleasure and delight in the presentation of this very special Jewel to W.Bro. Granville, further congratulating him on his extremely very hard work in his research and investigation over a very long time into the subject of the "Victoria Cross and Freemasonry", especially in this the 150 year since inception. An exhibition of Victoria Cross's and holders Etc. will be on display at Freemasons Hall, Great Queen Street later this year.

He expressed how proud and pleased both the Lodge and Province were in having such a diligent and academic brother as a member. On the completion of the presentation the PGM went on to promote W.Bro. Granville to the Office of Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden, having pulled out this surprise to the brethren of the Lodge then presented W.Bro. Granville with new "undress" regalia.





Upon completion of these presentations the Worshipful Master W.Bro. J.T.R. Palmer then invited the Master and Wardens of the Mother Lodge "Masefield" close the Lodge.

Worshipful Brother D.J. Silk P.Prov.J.G.W. both congratulated and thanked the "Daughter" Lodge for this privilege afforded to him and his Warden's.



From W.Pro. Granville (by E-mail),

"Delighted to give my permission for you to use any of the photographs taken of your lodges visit to your daughter lodge Nautical Services Lodge No 5629. A great historical evening and we were very pleased to host you officers attending. May I bring to your notice, that the Province of Worcestershire's Prestonian presentation is being given at Bromsgrove School, hosted by Old Bromsgrovian Lodge No 5743 on Friday 17th February and It will again be a historical and an "Educative and Entertaining" evening. You might wish to bring this to the attention of your lodge members."

## THE PRESTONIAN LECTURE

William Preston (1742-1818), born in Edinburgh August 7<sup>th</sup>, son to a writer, signet or solicitor, attend "high school" in Edinburgh and among his curriculum were Latin & Greek. Before the age of 12 though his father died and William was taken into the care William Ruddiman and later an apprentice to the same. At the age of 18 he has found his way from Edinburgh to London and carrying a letter to the Kings printer gains employment. William had no sooner come of age when he became a member of the craft and a Master of a Lodge by 25 years. An active member of the craft he developed an elaborate system of Masonic instruction, in the form of catechetical lectures, practiced in association with the "Lodge of Antiquity".

At his death in 1818, he bequeathed to Grand Lodge the sum of £300, the "interest" from which was to be applied to some well informed Mason to deliver annually a Lecture on the First, Second or Third Degree of the Order of Masonry. According to the system practiced in the "Lodge of Antiquity".

With occasional intermissions, lectures on his method were accordingly delivered from 1820 until 1862. After 1862 the lecture records appears to have been lost.

In 1924 it was revived, with modifications of the original scheme: the lecturer delivering a paper on a Masonic subject of his own selection.

It is to this that Worshipful Brother Granville Angell P.Prov.J.G.W. has applied his diligent investigation and research to this Years (2006) title "**The Victoria Cross and Freemasonry**"

The Prestonian Lecture is the only lecture held under the authority of the United Grand Lodge of England and, with the exception of the years 1940-46, regular appointments have been made annually since 1924 to the present day. The list of brethren so honoured and the titles of their lectures appear at the end of the Masonic Year Book