



Ashton News

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NEWSLETTER of ASHTON LODGE No 218 of the UNITED GRAND LODGE OF QUEENSLAND

Agonising loss of valued member

Initiated
December 1992
Passed
March 1993
Raised
September 1993
Worshipful Master
July 1999

Thursday 26th July will be a day long remembered among the members of Ashton Lodge. This was the day that it bade farewell to our well loved Brother, John Pender.

At a service held at the Anglican Church Wynnum, more than 75 brethren from among the mourners, estimated to be in excess of 350, stood to pay their respect to the memory of their departed

Brother.

His passing was without warning and to all who knew him, hard to believe.

A week or so before his death, John was visiting his favourite lodges in the Wynnum area, and was laid low with a heavy cold which kept him away from work for two days.

He had a bad turn on Saturday morning and lapsed into unconsciousness.

He was put onto a life support machine at Princess Alexand-

ria Hospital but failed to respond and passed away on Sunday, 22nd July, 2001, aged 50 years.

John was a third generation Freemason.

His grandfather John joined in 1925 and was a member until his death in 1939 and father Don, was initiated into Ashton in 1953 and became its Master in 1964.

John was initiated into the Lodge in December 1992 and after being made a Master Mason, immediately became involved in the activities of the Lodge.

He was placed into the Chair of King Solomon in 1999.

After serving his term as Immediate past Master, John made himself available to fill in the vacant position of Senior Warden, a position he occupied until his sudden passing.

During his term as Master, John introduced the wearing of a tartan tie as part of our dress regalia, and

with the co-operation of his wife Vicki, who manufactured them, they became available to all members.

John had spoken about his early years as a child of an Ashton member, remembering the happy days when the annual picnic was held on the foreshores of Wynnum and the Christmas parties for members and their families on a Sunday afternoon in the Centres at Vulture Street and Stones Corner. His wish was that those happy days could be reintroduced into the social activities of the Lodge again.

John was a great ambassador for his Lodge and the numerous visits during his term of office gained for him the respect of many members of the Craft, as was acknowledged by the numbers who attended his interment to pay their last respects.

Honouring an Obligation

Before anyone can become a Master of a Lodge, he has to be elected by its members and satisfy specific criteria. Here is an excerpt from a portion of the ceremony, which to my mind more than exemplifies the character of John Pender.

"It is requisite in every Candidate for the Office of Master that he be true and trusty, of good report, and held in high esteem among his Brethren. He ought to be of exemplary character, courteous in demeanour, easy of address but steady and firm in principle. He should be well skilled in this our noble Science and a lover of the Craft".

"Jack the Ripper" Murders and Freemasonry

By Paul M Bessell, Executive Secretary, of the
Masonic Leadership Centre, George Washington
Masonic National Memorial Website

Jack the Ripper is the name applied to the murderer or murderers, never caught, of several prostitutes in London in 1888.

There are many theories about this case, including some interesting aspects related to Freemasonry.

It is useful for Masons to have the facts about it.

"Prosecutor's" Case

This is what a prosecutor might say to attempt to show that Freemasons were involved in the Jack the Ripper murders --

1. Queen Victoria's son, later King Edward VII, was Grand Master of Masons in England in 1888.

His son, Eddy, would have become King if his grandmother and father died before him.

Eddy, aged 24 in 1888, aided by a carriage driver, made secret visits to a London artist named Walter Sickert and his friends.

Eddy met and had a baby with an illiterate Catholic "shop-girl" named Annie and they were married secretly.

Sickert hired a nanny for Eddy and Annie's baby daughter.

The nanny was Mary (or Marie) Kelly, who, with Sickert, was a witness at Eddy's and Annie's wedding.

Britain then was in great political turmoil, and if the country had found out that someone so close to the throne married someone like Annie it could have led to the end of the monarchy and all those who benefitted from the British political and social system, especially the Freemasons.

2. Word of all this got to Queen Victoria, who ordered her Prime Minister, the Marquess of Salisbury, to "fix" it.

Salisbury, a prominent Freemason, arranged to have Annie placed in an insane asylum where she died 32 years later.

Their daughter later became Sickert's mistress, had a son with him, and died in 1950.

Sickert died in 1942. Eddy died in 1892.

3. Marie Kelly became a drunken prostitute and shared her information with three fellow prostitutes, who threatened to expose Eddy's actions.

Prime Minister Salisbury decided this threat had to be ended. He called on his high ranking Masonic brethren, particularly Sir William Gull, physician to the Queen, the doctor who certified Annie as insane.

Besides being a doctor, politically well con-

nected, and a high level Freemason, Gull was mentally unbalanced.

5. Gull decided to kill the women according to Masonic ritual.

When Prime Minister Salisbury and other Masons in the government and police recognised what Gull was doing, even though they did not agree with his methods they arranged a cover-up because they were required to keep the secrets of a Freemason, and appreciated what Gull was accomplishing.

Gull convinced Netley the carriage driver and Sickert the painter, to assist him to identify the four prostitutes.

Then, one by one, they offered them lifts in their carriage, murdered the women and mutilated their bodies as prescribed in Masonic rituals.

They then dropped the bodies in selected locations.

6. Gull killed the victims in the following manner:

(a) On Aug. 31, 1888, Mary Ann (Polly) Nichols' throat was cut very deeply, starting at one ear and circling her throat, and her abdomen was cut open;

(b) On Sept. 8, 1888, Annie Chapman's throat

was "ferociously" severed from one side to the other, her tongue protruded between her teeth and was swollen, her abdomen was entirely opened, all of her small intestines were removed and placed above her right shoulder but still attached, part of her stomach and "pubes" cut out and placed above her left shoulder, her uterus, womb and most of the bladder removed.

Her jewelry and coins were removed and two brass rings were placed at her feet;

(c) On Sept. 30, 1888, Elizabeth (Liz) Stride's throat was cut from one jaw to the other;

(d) On Sept. 30, 1888, Gull thought he was killing the last and most important victim, Marie Kelly, but he mistakenly murdered Catherine (Kate) Eddowes (who lived with a man named "Kelly," and used the name Mary Ann Kelly).

Her throat was cut "from ear to ear," nose completely cut off, part of right ear cut off, severe cutting of other parts of her face in the shape of triangles, abdomen all exposed, intestines drawn out and placed over her right shoulder, a 60cm piece removed and placed between her body and left arm in a careful manner.

Her left kidney and

part of her womb had been cut out and taken away.

Nearby, police found a piece of her cut apron which fit exactly with the part still on her body.

It was wet with blood, and just above it a message was found in white chalk on black bricks saying: "The Juwes are The men That Will not be Blamed for nothing"; and

(e) After discovering the mistake with Eddowes, on Nov. 9, 1888, Gull and his allies murdered the real Mary Kelly in her apartment.

Her throat was cut with the tissue severed "all around," whole surface of abdomen and thighs removed and abdominal cavity emptied, breasts cut off, arms mutilated, face hacked beyond recognition. Her uterus, kidneys, and one breast were under her head, the other breast by her right foot, liver between her feet, intestines by her right side, and spleen by her left side. Skin removed from her abdomen and thighs was on a bedside table. Part of one lung was missing, as was her heart.

It appeared that the fireplace there had been used.

7. If these were ordinary murders, the mutilations would have placed the murderer in danger of being caught. (Stride escaped mutilation because she refused the carriage ride and had to be killed quickly in the street.)

The only reason for the specific types of mutilations was to inflict Masonic penalties.

We should note the

way the throats were cut, removal of the heart, removal of intestines (bowels), triangular cuts, cutting and removal of part of a victim's apron, divesting of minerals and metals with brass rings looking like the pillars at Solomon's temple being placed at the feet.

Eddowes, who was thought to be Kelly and thus the last victim, was left in "Mitre Square."

The mitre and square are Masonic tools and Mitre Tavern was a well known Masonic meeting place.

When the "Juwes" message was found on the wall, Sir Charles Warren, the head of the police and a Freemason, personally went to the scene to order it to be washed off, even though he had never before gone to the scene of a murder.

He did this because the "Juwes" was too clear a reference to the ruffians who in Masonic legend murdered Hiram Abiff.

8. Freemasons have murdered those whose actions angered them, including Mozart and William Morgan.

The *Protocols* published in England in 1920 show that 33rd degree Masons crave absolute power and are willing to use murder, although low level Freemasons are ordinary, law-abiding citizens.

9. Dr. Gull was said to have died in 1890, but he really was put into an insane asylum under the name "Thomas Mason" and died years later.

10. Sickert told the true story of the Jack the Ripper murders to his son Joseph (with Eddy

and Annie's daughter).

Joseph told the story to Stephen Knight, who found evidence to support it, especially the part about Masonic control of the police, judiciary, and government in Britain.

"Defence" statement

This is how a defence attorney might respond to the statements made above --

1. Joseph Sickert in 1978 described Stephen Knight's 1976 story of the Jack the Ripper murders, which Knight said came from Joseph, as "a

hoax ... a whopping fib."

Philip Sugden, an expert on the "Jack the Ripper" murders, said, "The falsehoods and absurdities in this [Knight's] yarn have been exposed in many books and there is no need to repeat them His [Knight's] research is now known to have uncovered evidence which proved that the story was untrue.

Yet he shamelessly chose to suppress it."

For example, neither rings nor coins were found at Annie Chap-

Brisbane Cathedral a 19th Century Classic

When builders add the final touches to Brisbane's St John's Cathedral in 2006, it will be the last gothic-style building in the world to be completed.

Designed by John Loughborough Pearson in 1888, the cathedral has been built in three stages.

The first two were completed in 1910 and 1968, and all have been built to original plans.

The cathedral is a classic example of 19th century Gothic Revival architecture and features beautiful stained glass windows created by William Bustard and Sydney artist David Saunders.

The 1000 seat cathedral also features exquisite wood carvings in Queensland silkwood, a font with pillars of 350 million years old limestone from Frosterley in the UK, and more than 400 needlepoint cushions patterned with Australian flora and fauna, designed by students from the Queensland College of Art.

However, the piece-de-resistance of the cathedral will be the elegant arches and columns of Queensland sandstone and the stone vaulted ceiling – the only one of its kind in Australia.

man's murder site.

2. There is no evidence that the murder victims were killed in a carriage, and no witnesses mentioned seeing or hearing one. The small amount of blood at the murder scenes can be ascribed to the manner in which their blood was soaked up by their clothing.

3. Knight alleged that Masonic penalties mention having the heart and other body parts removed and thrown over the left shoulder.

This is questionable, and Chapman's and Eddowes' intestines, not heart, were placed over their right shoulders.

Mary Kelly's heart was removed, but other body parts were left in the room and not burned.

Sugden concluded, "Only by a shameless selection of evidence can the Masonic theory be invested with apparent credibility

Knight's theory, in sum, was a colossus "built on sand."

Sugden also ridiculed Melvyn Fairclough's attempt in 1991 to support Knight's theory by saying skin was removed from Mary Kelly's right thigh as a reminder of the "naked" knee in Masonic initiations.

5. Sugden said Knight's analysis of the "Juwes" message is wrong, since the ritual of three murderers of Hiram Abif had been removed from English Masonry 70 years earlier, and in neither England or the U.S. had they ever been referred to collectively as the "Juwes."

Begg, another "Ripperologist," wrote, "It is a

mystery why anyone ever thought that 'Juwes' was a Masonic word."

6. Sugden believes the evidence shows the Jack the Ripper murder victims were killed where they were found, by a sexual psychopath, and there are many other theories about who Jack the Ripper was that are more likely to be true than Stephen Knight's.

The allegations of a Masonic conspiracy in the police and government to cover up the true nature of the Ripper murders are untrue.

It was lack of experience with murders such as this, and some degree of police and government incompetence and lack of ingenuity, that prevented the capture of Jack the Ripper.

References

The following books present information about the "Jack the Ripper" murders.

The first book listed has the most complete information about all aspects of the case, and the other two present the case as an alleged Masonic plot.

The first book clearly and decisively demolishes this theory.

The Complete History of Jack the Ripper, by Philip Sugden (New York, 1994)

Jack the Ripper: The Final Solution, by Stephen Knight (London, 1976)

The Brotherhood: The Secret World of the Freemasons, by Stephen Knight (New York, 1984)

AN IRISH BLESSING

May you be poor in misfortune, rich in blessings, slow to make enemies, quick to make friends; but rich or poor, quick or slow, may you know nothing but happiness, wherever you go.

Installation Night well attended

Members and visitors to our July installation were afforded a night of enjoyment and good food, as well as witnessing a most impressive Installation Ceremony.

Within the Temple there were 25 members and 59 visitors including V Wor Bro Geff Walker, AGS Wks as the representative of the UGLQ.

This was the inaugural visit of Bro Walker and he was cordially welcomed by outgoing Master Gordon Dougan.

Our newly installed Master John Gray made special mention of the numbers of brethren from Camp Hill Lodge who were in attendance. John is also a member of this lodge. He also expressed thanks to those brethren who, with their partners, made the big trip up from Goulbourn NSW to witness the ceremony.

At the festive banquet, 17 ladies joined the brethren to partake of an excellent two course meal catered for by volunteers from the Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment (H.I.K.E.), an organisation dedicated to the improvement of hearing problems in children.

This year, as in previous years, mention has to be made about the presence of three of the stalwarts of Ashton Lodge. Myrtle Wallace, Peg Fenner and Jean Kingston.

These ladies have regularly attended our installation festive board for some years now, and it certainly gives pleasure to members of the lodge to have them amongst us.

Tale of a Cow and a Bull(bar)

When your luck is out, its out That's what our new Master John Gray thinks.

Driving home from his first meeting in August, John turned around a corner in Cedar Grove road just in time to meet up with a stray cow who failed to give right of way to John's car, resulting in a badly dented front end. The cow was out for the count for a short time, and afterwards managed to get to its feet and continue on its way, leaving John stranded.

Next day, with wife Diana, John took the other car to do some shopping in Beaudesert. After parking they were horrified to see a four wheel drive car back into the grill and headlights of the parked car.