

Mark My Words

-- The Newsletter for the Mark Master Mason

Page 1



August 2004

WELL DONE SOUTH WALES!

They came, they saw and they were delighted by the warmth of the welcome. These are the general comments from the many letters of congratulation that have been received from the Brethren and their ladies who attended the Mark Benevolent Fund Festival held on Saturday 3rd July 2004 at the Cardiff International Arena.

It was a great pleasure to be able to welcome so many Brethren, ladies and their families from no less than twenty nine Provinces as well as Switzerland and the Isle of Man together with over thirty Brethren and their Ladies from the offices of Grand Lodge who came to give us their support. In total

over 1100 attended the Gala Dinner which is the highest number ever to attend such an occasion.

The weather was kind to us and all the guests were welcomed on the steps of the C.I.A. by the New Orleans Walking Jazz Band, who also paraded around the Arena during the reception prior to Dinner. They got everyone in the mood with much hand clapping and foot tapping to the music.

The setting of the room and the decorations were perfect and those attending were impressed by the overall picture created. Congratulations must be extended to those concerned for a job well done.

Prior to dinner the Chairman our Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master accompanied by Mrs. Elaine Barnett, held a reception for the visiting Provincial Grand Masters, their Ladies and heads of other Orders. It is pleasing to report that all Orders were represented. Musical entertainment was provided by harpist, Bethan Watson.

The Grand Director of Ceremonies escorted Rt. W. Bro. Desmond Barnett and Mrs. Barnett into the arena accompanied by The President of the Mark Benevolent Fund Rt. W. Bro. Keith Carmichael, Rt. W. Bro. John Hale Pro Grand Master and the Grand Secretary Rt. W. Bro. Timothy Lewis. Also in the processional party were the Deputy and Assistant Provincial Grand Masters and their Ladies. They

were greeted by the Fanfare Trumpeters of the Welch Command of the Legion of Frontiersmen.

During dinner the guests were entertained with music by the Wayne Warlow Orchestra. Lee Gilbert and his dancers provided the cabaret and returned after the formal proceedings ended to further entertain us. It was a delight

to witness so many enjoying themselves dancing to the music, and continuing to dance until the end.



The highlight of any Festival Gala is the announcement of the total raised and we were not disappointed when Rt. W. Bro. Timothy

Lewis, the Secretary of the Fund gave the results. The Chairman's List together with contributions from Lodges, other Provinces and other Orders amounted to a grand total of £468,567.07. Rt. W. Bro. Lewis congratulated Cambria Mark Lodge and Stability Mark Lodge as having the highest amount per capita of membership, also Arthur Lewis Mark Lodge who raised the magnificent total of £22,455.23. In the Royal Ark Mariner Degree, Barry Lodge led the field and were thanked for raising £2,025.00. The totals were met with much applause and the Grand Total was flashed on the overhead screen which also provided views of the Province, activities and personnel.

The Chairman of the 2004 Festival Rt. W. Bro. Desmond Barnett, in his reply thanked all who had contributed in helping to make this excellent total. He also thanked the Charity Stewards and the Festival Committee for all their hard work in helping to make this Festival a success.

At the conclusion of dinner the Provincial Grand Master and Chairman of the Festival together with the Principal Guests retired, to the singing of "We keep a welcome" ringing in their ears.

All present will look back over this weekend for many years to come and agree it was the Festival that we Remember.
V. W. Bro. S. W. J. Clarke,
Prov. G. Sec., Festival Organiser



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Friday 2nd July turned out to be a very hectic day for the organizing committee of the 2004 Festival. Over 300 guests would be arriving and staying at several hotels in Cardiff. Jury's Hotel was picked as the Headquarters being just across the road from the Cardiff International Arena.



P.G.M. and Asst.P.G.M. pay a visit to the Provincial Reception desk. Mrs. Pauline Beddoe, Miss Amanda Whetter, Miss Eleni Ecidipi-Greedy, Mrs. Andrea Clarke and Mrs. Valerie Thomas

All guests arriving at the hotels were presented with a "Welcome Pack" giving them, what was hoped would be useful information to enjoy the weekend. We had the added good fortune to have our own reception area set out at Jury's which allowed us to welcome each of our guests and to make sure that their requirements had been attended to.

The Festival Committee would like to thank our ladies for manning the reception over the two days, which was much appreciated by us all.

Over 300 attended the informal party held in Jury's on Friday evening and were entertained by Wyn Calvin who also took on the role of Comper for the evening, the party were also entertained by singer Jane Matthews, the Vivace choir and Wayne Warlow Jazz Quartet, music throughout the evening was provided by Sleepyjeans Experience.

2004 Festival - A Photo Record

Rt.W.Bro. Desmond Barnett P.G.M., and Mrs. Elaine Barnett with their family



THANK YOU.

On behalf of the Provincial Grand Master and members of the 2004 Festival Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Brethren and their Ladies who assisted the committee in the preparation of the Festival. It encompassed many tasks and challenges which were rewarded by the smooth running and success of the whole Festival.

We thank you all

V.W.Bro. S.W. Jeffrey Clarke
Festival Organiser.



Rt.W.Bro. Timothy J. Lewis, Grand Secretary being greeted by the P.G.M. and Mrs. Elaine Barnett.



The P.G.M. and Mrs. Barnett with W.Bro. and Mrs. Hywel Davies



V.W.Bro. Paul R. Clement, Dep. P.G.M.
M.W.Bro. John Hale, Pro Grand Master.
Rt.W.Bro. Desmond Barnett, P.G.M.
V.W.Bro. Anthony F. Moore, MBE.,



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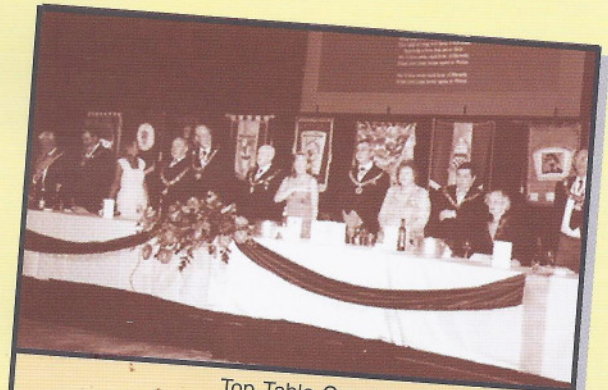
Page 3.

More Pics

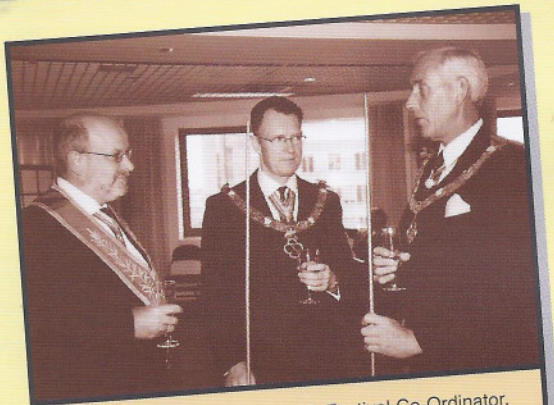
Photographs : Anthony Howell



W.Bro. John Taylor and Rt.W.Bro. Brian Cull and their ladies



Top Table Guests



W.Bro. Martin J. Sale, M.B.F. Festival Co-Ordinator, W.Bro. Nigel F. J. Scott-Moncrief, Dep.G.D.C. and Rt.W.Bro. Michael G. W. Masters, G.D.C.



P.G.M. and Mrs. Barnett with Mrs. F. E. Jones and V.W.Bro. and Mrs. S.W. Jeffrey Clarke.



Most Worshipful W.Bro. John Hale, Pro Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Keith S. Carmichael, CBE, President of the General Board and R.W.Bro. Desmond Barnett, PGM

Other Bits & Pieces

Ysgolion Lodge Ladies Night was a roaring success at Pontyclun recently, attended by 68 people. Congrats to Dennis Tucker on his Election as Master, Installation on 24th September. The Lodge is still looking for new members from the Old Boys of Penarth Schools, as well as Old Cantonians, Cathays High School Old Boys and Old Howardians to balance the superiority(?) of Cardiff High School Old Boys!

Barry Mark Lodge are awaiting the proofs of a Royal Mail stamp issue to see if their Owain Glyndwr design is on one, - a possible first day cover?

A Barry Mark Lodge token will be struck soon. They will then be the third Lodge in the Province to have their own token. Any body know the other two?

Best wishes to Richard Jasinsky (Cowbridge Lodge) for a full recovery from recent heart surgery!