



# Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim **NEWSLETTER**

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## **St PAUL'S MASONIC LODGE No 160 Presentation of 50-year Jewel**



The Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro John Dickson, presents **RW Bro Tom Bill** with his 50-year Jewel and Certificate at the June Communication of the Lodge. Looking on is the Worshipful Master, W Bro Andrew Hunter.

RW Bro Bill was initiated into St Paul's on 30 November 1961, passed on 06 February 1962 and raised on 06 March 1962. He was Worshipful Master in 1971. RW Bro Bill was active in Provincial Grand Lodge, serving as Provincial Steward of Charities from 1977 to 1990 and Provincial Almoner from 1990 to 2000. He also represented Lodge 160 at the Six Mile Valley Charity Committee from 1968 to 1990, serving as Chairman for the last eleven of those years.

In recognition of his services to Provincial Grand Lodge and of his faithful support of St Paul's Lodge for over fifty years where he has served in various offices, RW Bro Bill was appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Bulgaria in June 2011.

# FREEMASONRY IS A FAMILY AFFAIR



W Bro John Montgomery of **Unitas Masonic Lodge 485**, Miss Amy Horner and her mother, Ms Linda Lavery, in front of Amy's exhibition piece *Catching Eyes*.

On Halloween Night 1996, our Lodge lost a popular member, Bro Sam Horner, in a tragic car accident. Sam had just turned 48 and left behind a 4½ year old Daughter called Amy. Sam was our friend but he was also a private man and, initially, the Lodge was not aware of his daughter. However we later heard about Amy and from her mother, Linda, who fondly remembers leaving Amy to school on her first day accompanied by Sam. Linda was aware that Sam was a member of the Order but it wasn't until speaking to some relatives in England, who were also members of our Fraternity, that she was advised that the Masonic Order might be of some assistance in helping with all the bills for a growing girl. Once informed, **Unitas** put the wheels in motion and with a certain amount of pride, took receipt of their first ever annuitant.

As the years passed Linda has always kept the lodge informed of Amy's progress through her school career which included developing a passion for photography. In her own words she described how photography **has definitely become part of my life and feel it forever will**. Continued work in her passion culminated with a BA (Hons) in Creative Imaging - a degree course based at Southern Regional College's Lurgan Campus and awarded by John Moore University Liverpool. She passed with flying colours! As part of her Graduation, Amy, along with other students in her class, had to exhibit their work publicly. Amy and Linda wasted no time in sending an invitation to our lodge. On 30 May I had the honour, on behalf of all the members of our Lodge, to attend the 16 degrees BA (Hons) Creative Imaging End-of-Year Exhibition in the Market Place Theatre and Arts Centre.

Amy and Linda both know that Sam's friends and brothers in Freemasonry will be ever willing to provide support whenever required.

In memory of our friend and Brother, Sam. **FIAT LUX ET FACTA EST LUX.**

*John Montgomery PM, Unitas Masonic Lodge No 485*

# PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ANTRIM

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

The Provincial Grand Lodge met in the Lisburn Masonic Centre, Belsize Road, on Monday 29 September and this article highlights three special features.

Before the Opening Ceremony, two charity cheques were presented by VW Bro Robert Wilson:

- **£1250** to Dr Alistair Reid for **Cystic Fibrosis** in the **Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children**
- **£1250** to W Bro Michael Holden and Mr Nigel Millen for **Disability Pride**

The cheques represented the proceeds from the Provincial Charity Golf Day in May and VW Bro Wilson, in his comments, thanked all those – Masons and their friends – who had supported the event. Dr Reid thanked the Brethren for their donation and spoke briefly about his work with children with Cystic Fibrosis and indicated that the money would be used to assist with the purchase of new nebulisers. W Bro Holden and Nigel Millen expressed their thanks to the Brethren and gave a short resume of the workings of Disability Pride.

### Presentation of Charity Golf Day Prize

The Provincial Grand Master congratulated W Bro Michael Arbuthnot and presented him with First Prize from the Charity Golf Day.

### Investiture of Provincial Assistant Grand Master

**VW Bro Ivan Gillespie**, Past Master of Strathearn Masonic Lodge No 680 and present Provincial Grand Secretary, was presented, obligated, installed and saluted as **Provincial Assistant Grand Master**. RW Bro Gillespie was supported by W Bro Lawrence McLea (Chain Bearer), W Bro David Girvin (Sponsor) and W Bro Bruce Kirk (Sponsor).

Congratulations were proffered and a number of Brethren spoke highly about RW Bro Gillespie's contribution to Freemasonry in general and the Province of Antrim in particular. He was praised for his role as Provincial Grand Secretary, in particular his diligence, courtesy, helpfulness and approachability, not to mention the considerable amount of time he has devoted to the office.

There is no doubt that this was the highlight of the September Communication: the Hall was filled to capacity, with many attending to show their support for the new PAGM. There was no one present who did not agree with the sentiment that the honour was well-deserved and long overdue. *Hearty congratulations, Ivan!!*



# RE-DEDICATION OF ORR MEMORIAL *at Ballycarry on Saturday 14 June*

The Re-Dedication ceremony was carried out by RW Bro John Dickson, Provincial Grand Master of Antrim, and was ably assisted by the Rev J W Nelson of the Old Presbyterian Church in Ballycarry.



After the Lodge meeting held in the Masonic Hall, hosted by Redhall Lodge No 260, we then proceeded to the Old Presbyterian Church on Main Street, where the Rev Nelson spoke very supportively of the long history of Freemasonry in the village and for the efforts made by the Brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim to raise substantial funds in support of the repair and reinstatement of The Orr Memorial. A memorial booklet has been produced, which gives details of all six hundred Masonic plates sold by the Province, with a picture of the Orr Memorial and the name and details of the purchaser.

Despite the wet weather, we all strolled up to the old Churchyard at Templecorran, with many of the Brethren wearing their Masonic regalia. Once the considerable crowd had assembled, RW Bro Dickson and Rev Nelson carefully pulled back the covers over the monument and declared this memorial re-dedicated to the memory of James Orr. After the photo call, we all retired to the Ballycarry Community Centre for a warming cup of tea.



*Original text and photographs by RW Bro Robert Bashford.*  
For further details and more information, visit [www.irishfreemasonry.com](http://www.irishfreemasonry.com)