



Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim **NEWSLETTER**

No 1 February 2012

Welcome to this first on-line issue of the PGLA Newsletter. Our purpose is to complement the PGLA website and demonstrate Freemasonry in action in our Province. To that end, we plan to publish details of special events which have taken place within the Province – at local lodge level, within charity districts and around the Masonic centres. We would also want to include articles of Masonic interest – *historical, geographical, Freemasonry in the 21st century*.

Our Newsletter will be a *work in progress* over the next few months, evolving and developing to meet the needs of **you**, our contributors. The initial format will be four pages, renewed on a monthly basis throughout the Masonic year. As each month brings a fresh Newsletter, so the previous month will be archived and you will continue to have access to those earlier issues for a period of time.

The first few Newsletters will be, in part, retrospective inasmuch as we hope to include material which has been submitted for the past couple of years and originally intended for the former PGLA Gazette. Articles and photographs for the Newsletter should, if possible, be transmitted by e-mail: it is easier to transfer and enhance photographs, but please remember – the better the original photograph, the better will be the finished product in the Newsletter. But don't be put off by technology – sending material by post is quite acceptable!

ST. PATRICK'S MASONIC LODGE 195



Members of **St Patrick's Masonic Lodge No 195** pictured with guests at their Installation which was held in the Nesbitt Room, Freemason's Hall, Arthur Square.

Included are W Bro James E. McAllister (Worshipful Master),
Bro Conor Keown (Senior Warden) and W Bro Sam Hughes, Junior Warden.

Photograph by Pat McGuigan Photography, Randalstown

RASHEE TEMPERANCE LODGE No 736 RAISE MONEY FOR NI HOSPICE



Left: W Bro Michael Alexander (WM) and W Bro Ainsley Steele (Treas) present a cheque for £500 to Jenay Doyle from Northern Ireland Hospice. **Below:** Jenay with the Brethren of Rashee



A 2010 event in Crumlin



W Bro David McFetridge receives his regalia for the office of Provincial Grand Steward from the Brethren of his Lodge, Crumlin Royal Blue 140. The presentation was made by the WM, W Bro Dennis Minford, accompanied by W Bro Rodney Mairs (DoC), W Bro Gavin Mairs (Treas) and W Bro James McClurg.

Photograph by Pat McGuigan Photography, Randalstown

Please send information for inclusion in subsequent Newsletters to the PGL Office in Rosemary Street, Belfast, or e-mail to: admin@pglantrim.org

50 Year Jewel at Randalstown



W Bro W H Adair (right) is pictured receiving his 50 Year Jewel at the April (2011) meeting of Randalstown Masonic Lodge 598 from RW.Bro Noel Millar, Past Provincial Assistant Grand Master. Looking on is Immediate Past Master of 598 W Bro Raymond Davis.

Photograph by Pat McGuigan Photography, Randalstown

TWO LANDMARK EVENTS IN 2010

70 year bar for W Bro Thomas Frame



On Thursday 16 September, **W Bro Thomas Frame** was presented with a 70 year bar for his jewel by RW Bro Robert Thomson, Past Provincial Grand Master. W Bro Frame is accompanied by W Bro Gordon Gregg (PP Grand Inner Guard) and looking on is W Bro James Morrow (PP Grand Standard Bearer).

W Bro Frame, who has been an honorary member of Golden Pillar Lodge No 156 for over thirty-five years, is in his mid-nineties and remains an active mason, taking a prominent part in the Crumlin Road Class of Instruction.

Lodge of Harmony 645 celebrates 225 years



On Saturday 17 April 2010, **Lodge of Harmony 645** celebrated its **225th anniversary** with a special Communication followed by a banquet in Corr's Corner. Guests included the Grand Master, MW Bro George Dunlop, the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro John Dickson, his Deputy, RW Bro Dennis Millen and from the Province of Down, Provincial Assistant Grand Master RW Bro Rodney McCurley. Past PGM of Antrim, RW Bro Robert Thomson was also amongst the guests. The WM of Harmony, RW Bro Cyril Ferguson, together with W Bro William Baird, were presented with their 50 year jewels by the Grand Master. RW Bro Dennis Millen received a cheque for £13,000 from the Lodge for Masonic charities. On the following day, Sunday 18, a thanksgiving service was held in Mossley Parish Church, conducted by VW Bro Rev David Reid, Provincial Grand Chaplain.

Filipino Brethren raise funds for Charity with Food and Music



Almost one hundred guests – Masons with their families and friends, enjoyed a wonderful variety of Filipino cuisine at its best, together with music from the Below Zero Band, in the 45 Club, Park Avenue Belfast, on Saturday 3rd December.

This was the second occasion when the Filipino members of Irish Constitution Lodges have held a food and music charity event – which we now hope will be on their calendar of events every year!

Once again the Filipino Brethren paid for the all food and the musicians.

Two charities each received half of proceeds from ticket sales, a raffle and an auction, all of which raised a total of **£608.50**.

- W. Bro. Dezy McCormick accepted a cheque on behalf of the **Belfast Masonic Charity Fund**. This fund is the oldest existing Masonic Charity sitting under the Irish Constitution of Freemasonry, and is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year. It was established for the relief of poor and distressed masons or their families.
- Brethren of every Masonic Lodge in the Province of Antrim, and Brethren in the Masonic Province of Down whose Lodge meets within a six mile radius of Belfast, are eligible to seek assistance from the BMCF through their Lodge Almoner.
- Mrs Gillian Smylie accepted a cheque on behalf of the **Miscarriage Association of Northern Ireland**. This charity was established in January 1994, by a group of women who had themselves experienced miscarriage.

The charity exists to provide support and information. It is available to both men and women for as long as is necessary – including during another pregnancy and whether a miscarriage is recent, or occurred a long time ago. Most women who have been through this experience express a desire to talk to somebody about it. If you, or your partner, would like to talk to someone confidentially, please contact Gillian Smylie Tel: 07743950566,

Congratulations to all who participated in making it a wonderful evening.