

Hanwell Chapter No. 4676

GOLDEN JUBILEE CONVOCATION

8th April 1982

HANWELL CHAPTER No. 4676

FROM 1932 TO 1982

To mark the Silver Jubilee Meeting of the Chapter, a souvenir brochure was compiled by the late Ex. Companion Frank S. Batson, recalling major events of the first twenty five years. The object of the present brochure is to extend the story to mark the Golden Jubilee and much of what Companion Batson wrote has been repeated here.

CONCEPTION

On Sunday, April 12th, 1931 a meeting was called at the Golf Course in The Grove, Hanwell by Ex.Comp. Frank Toley at which fifteen companions intimated their willingness to be associated as Founders of the proposed Chapter. They signed the Petition on May 17th and on June 26th a resolution giving consent to the Petition was duly passed at a meeting of Hanwell Lodge.

CONSECRATION

Supreme Grand Chapter granted the Charter and the Consecration Meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, April 22nd, 1932, this being the first Chapter to be consecrated in the new building.

The ceremony was conducted by E.Comp. Sir Colville Smith, G.Scribe E. as Consecrating Principal, assisted by -

E.Comp. E.G. Turner, P.A.G.Soj.	H
E.Comp. Rev. G. Freeman Irwin, B.D.,	
P.G.S.B.	J

E.Comp. Sir George Royle, C.B.E., P.G.S.B. SN
 E.Comp. C.R.I. Nichol, G.D.C. DC
 with E.Comp. J. Boyd, G.Jan.
 E.Comp. G. Thomas, P.G.S.B.
 E.Comp. G. West, P.A.G.D.C.

THE FOUNDERS & FIRST OFFICERS OF THE CHAPTER were:-

E.COMP. F.W.J. SHEATH	..	..	..	M.E.
E.COMP. J.J. LYNCH	..	..	..	H.
E.COMP. G. TAPLEY-SMITH	..	..	..	J.
COMP. S.C. RADFORD	..	..		SCRIBE E.
COMP. E. HOWARD	..	..	..	S.N.
COMP. F. MARKS	..	..		TREASURER
COMP. F. TOLEY	..	..	..	D.C.
COMP. F.S. BATSON	..	..	..	P.S.
COMP. A. WYATT	..	..	1st ASST.	S.
COMP. H.J. BAKER	..	..	2nd ASST.	S.
COMP. G. HILTON	..	..	ASST.	D.C.
COMP. E.R. ROYLE, O.B.E.	..	..	ASST.	S.E.
COMP. A.A. GARDNER	..	..		STEWARD
COMP. E. PEACH	..	..		STEWARD
COMP. F.G. COOPER	..	..		STEWARD

The badge adopted was that of the Hanwell Lodge,
 designed by the late W.Bro. Sir Montague Sharp, K.C.,
 P.G.D., the explanation of the design being -

"It is held that the name 'Hanwell' is a local one,
 and derived from a combat in the sixth century
 between the Britons and some West Saxon Invaders,
 which took place on Cuckoo Hill in a clearance
 there, and since known as 'The Bloody Croft'.
 The defeated Saxons buried their dead by the
 wayside during their retreat to the ford of the
 Thames at the southern end of Hanwell. In 1886,
 when digging for gravel, the graves of seven of
 their leaders were found buried in hempen
 garments fastened over their breasts with bronze
 brooches of saucer pattern peculiar to the West

Saxons, and thickly plated with gold. Near by had been buried over 50 iron spear heads."

The word 'Hean-wel' signifies 'slaughter on high ground' but in the course of centuries the 'e' in 'Hean' has been lost in verbal transmission, as in other Middlesex place names.

On the jewel of the Lodge, the Chariot of Victory and the rising sun proclaim the success of the Britons, won in a clearing amidst the oak trees on Cuckoo Hill over a band of invading West Saxons, whose retreat is shewn by their shield at the bottom of the Hill.

After the Consecration, some of the corn used in the Ceremony was gathered up by Comp. Sam Radford, Scribe E., who had it inserted in a broken column which he presented to the Chapter and which is still used for collecting the Charity contributions.

PROGRESS

When the Chapter had been formally constituted and the Officers invested, six propositions for Exaltation were announced, and at the Second Convocation five of the six candidates were Exalted, quite a handful for the P.S. to manipulate!!

During the next few years many Brethren presented themselves for Exaltation, and the Chapter flourished without anything happening that was particularly noteworthy but at the outbreak of war in 1939 our attendances dwindled owing to the consequent calls of service and business. At the meeting held on November 24th only eight Members and one visitor were present. At the following meeting there were ten, and when the next four meetings were held by dispensation at the Park Hotel the attendances

dropped to eight and then to seven, an all-time low record.

In spite of these small numbers, a faithful little band continued to function as a Chapter and reaped a reward when in April 1942 Bro. Joe Wren presented himself as a candidate for Exaltation. He was a Member of Coronation Lodge and this event was to have far reaching consequences to our future as he brought many other Members of his Lodge into the Chapter.

In the Coronation Year of 1953 it was singularly appropriate that three Members of Coronation Lodge should occupy the principal Chairs; a very fortuitous coincidence.

In the years 1943, 1944 and 1945 it was found necessary to place Past Principals in the three Chairs.

The meeting held on June 23rd 1944 was particularly memorable for two reasons, firstly the proceedings were interrupted and punctuated by the explosion of Flying Bombs and secondly, we received a visit from one of our Founders, E.Comp. George Tapley-Smith, who for reasons of health had been absent for some time and was practically blind. His devoted Wife brought him to the meeting.

In the years which have followed the Silver Jubilee the Chapter has steadily built up a solid membership notwithstanding the many residential changes which are inevitable in the London area, and the uncertainties which have overshadowed the past several years.

Our present membership is fifty.

LOYALTIES

Like many other institutions the Chapter has relied

very much upon the loyalty and industry of its senior officers and we recall with gratitude such names as Companions Batson, Neale and Harding as Directors of Ceremonies, MacWilliam, Hamblett and Byford as Secretaries and Hunt, Mead and Bolton as Treasurers.

In March 1968 we elected E.Comp. Frank S. Batson, P.A.G.D.C., L.G.C.R. and E.Comp. Percy G. Hunt, P.G.S.B., L.G.C.R. to Honorary Membership of the Chapter in recognition of their long and distinguished service.

Our present Secretary, E.Comp. Peter Taylor is a tower of strength to the Chapter and in E.Comp. Alfred White we have a sprightly and indefatigable Treasurer, who has recently celebrated his Diamond Wedding.

Supreme Grand Chapter has recognised the work of a number of Companions for this and other chapters and over the years we have been happy to congratulate them upon their appointment as -

P.G.S.B. Hunt, Nex and Bolton.

P.A.G.D.C. Sheath, Lynch, White, Batson,
Tapley-Smith, Tobitt, Wyatt and
Harding.

S.L.G.C.R. Neale.

L.G.C.R. Baker, MacWilliam, Hamblett,
Greenland, Dey, Newton, Gillanders,
Taylor and Harris.

Prov. Grand Radford, Pryer, Mead and Coombes.
Chapter Office

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E.COMP. R.A.S. STEPHENSON, M.V.O., P.Z.

It gave particular pleasure to all companions when Her Majesty the Queen in 1979 appointed E.Companion Ashley Stephenson to the honour of Membership of the Royal Victorian Order in recognition of his services as Bailiff of the Royal Parks.

GREETINGS

The Chapter has met at several London Hotels during the past few years.

The present venue is the Park Court Hotel, Lancaster Gate, where we meet for the 150th Regular Convocation to celebrate the Golden Jubilee on Thursday, April 8th 1982. There we shall receive the good wishes and congratulations of the Companions of yesteryear send from the Silver Jubilee Convocation. Of the sixty two Companions on their summons only five are in membership now.-

H.J. Bolton, W.T. Harding, S.J. Hoadley,
C.A. Nares-Pillow and P.A. Taylor.

We thank them for their salutation and join with them in sending fraternal greetings forward to the Centenary Convocation of 2032. Like them we did not enter our order lightly. We will pursue it steadfastly and endeavour to demonstrate to others that the Royal Arch is indeed the foundation and keystone of the whole masonic structure.

HENRY BOLTON, P.G.S.B. (R.A.)

FIRST PRINCIPALS OF THE CHAPTER

F.W.J. Sheath, P.A.G.D.C.	...	1932-33
J.J. Lynch, P.A.G.D.C.	...	1933-34
G. Tapley-Smith, P.A.G.D.C.	...	1934-35
H.J. Baker, L.G.C.R.	...	1935-36
F. Toley	...	1936-37
F.S. Batson, P.A.G.D.C., L.G.C.R.	...	1937-38
S.C. Radford, P.P.G.St.Br.	...	1938-39
E.A. Toley	...	1939-40
P.G. Hunt, P.G.St.B., L.G.C.R.	...	1940-41
J. MacWilliam, L.G.C.R.	...	1941-42
G.H. Hemmen	...	1942-43
J.J. Lynch, P.A.G.D.C.	...	1943-44
F.S. Batson, P.A.G.D.C., L.G.C.R.	...	1944-45
P.G. Hunt, P.G.St.B., L.G.C.R.	...	1945-46
J.T.C. Hamblett, L.G.C.R.	...	1946-47
L.A.J. Greenland, L.G.C.R.	...	1947-48
E.D. Pryer, P.Prov.G.Sc.N.	...	1948-49
C.W.K. Neale, S.L.G.C.R.	...	1949-50
E. Witham	...	1950-51
W.R. Nisbet	...	1951-52
J.I. Wren	...	1952-53
B.J. Mead, P.P.G.P.S.	...	1953-54
N.G.H. Dey, L.G.C.R.	...	1954-55
H.J. Bolton, P.G.St.B., L.G.C.R.	...	1955-56
E. Newton, L.G.C.R.	...	1956-57
G.M. Tobitt, P.A.G.D.C.	...	1957-58
R.H. Byford	...	1958-59
S.A.G. Nex, P.G.St.B., P.Prov.G.Treas.	...	1959-60
R.A. Duncan	...	1960-61
G.E.G. Vallat	...	1961-62
F.J. Keays	...	1962-63
W.T. Harding, P.A.G.D.C., L.G.C.R.	...	1963-64
E. Newton, L.G.C.R.	...	1964-65
P.A. Taylor, L.G.C.R.	...	1965-66
A.F. Pike	...	1966-67
R.G. Byford	...	1967-68
P.A. Taylor, L.G.C.R.	...	1968-69
C.A. Nares-Pillow	...	1969-70

H.G. Harris, L.G.C.R.	...	1970-71
F.J. Keays	...	1971-72
A.H. White	...	1972-73
J. Gillanders, L.G.C.R.	...	1973-74
H.J. Coombs, P.Prov.G.Std.B.	...	1974-76
K.R. Ackrill	...	1976-77
H.G. Harris, L.G.C.R.	...	1977-78
R.A.S. Stephenson, M.V.O.	...	1978-79
J.T. Knott	...	1979-80
G.J. Taylor	...	1980-81
F.G. Smith	...	1981-82

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D J How 1982 - 1983	B Cole 2003-2004
G H Massey 1983 - 1984	B Cole 2004-2005
J Arnold 1984 - 1985	P J Martin 2005-2006
D Briggs 1985 - 1986	J S Southerm 2006-2007
L Janes 1986 - 1987	P K Wood 2007-2008
P J Martin 1987-1988	P K Wood 2008-2009
D Briggs 1989-1990	P K Wood 2009-2010
D Briggs 1990-1991	J D Knott 2008-2009
L Janes 1991-1992	A G Wheeler 2010-2011
H R Squires 1992-1993	A M S Wargent 2011-2012
P J Martin 1993-1994	M C Richards 2012-2013
B Cole 1994-1995	P Gibson 2013-2014
J M Dean 1995-1996	P Gibson 2014-2015
CM Squires 1996-1997	H Senane 2015-2016
CM Squires 1997-1998	D Fenton 2016-2017
L B Tippen 1998-1999	P K Wood 2017-2018
A G Wheeler 1999-2000	G A Mildenhall 2018-2019
A D Cadman 2000-2001	G A Mildenhall 2019-2020
F A Partington 2001-2002	P K Wood 2020-2021
D McNeice 2002-2003	