

Dear Brethren

Grand Lodge British Freemasons in Germany Half Annual Communication November 7, 2009

At an impressive Communication yesterday, including the Ceremony of Remembrance for those brethren who have departed to the Eternal East who included both our own Worshipful Brother Frank Allen and Worshipful Brother Trevor Ahrens, it was pleasing that 10 members of Niederrhein were present out of a total of 70. There is always room for improvement and it is hoped that many more of our residents make the trip to the Annual Communication in May.

Martin, albeit we have been blessed in recent GL meetings with about 17 attending, to be among the largest contingent is not so disturbing and the fact that our newest member, Thibault Gi was there should be an inspiration to all members. Well done Thibault.

Brethren, our own Worshipful Master, assisted by Worshipful Brother Robert G, carried out an outstanding presentation on the Quatuor Coronati Lodge No 2076 (The Premier Lodge of Masonic Research).

These two fine brethren are the Joint Secretaries (German branch). For those of you interested in joining the Masonic Circle you should make contact with Robert who will be able to accommodate you with the necessary application forms.)

The GM gave a full report on the proceedings of the Konvent 50th year anniversary and Installation of the new Grand Master of the United Grand Lodges of Germany which had been held the previous week in Berlin and thanked the Lodges for their participation and support. Our GM stressed the importance of our keeping close ties with our Sister Grand Lodges within the UGLs of Germany

Our own Worshipful Master in his report confirmed the International aspects of Lodge Niederrhein and how we were ensuring that we were in regular contact with Lodges from our Sister Lodges in Nord-Rhein (German speaking Lodges as well as our own Grand Lodge).

It was pleasing that two of our brethren were appointed to Past Grand Rank- Peter J and Richard E unfortunately Richard was unable to be present. He was in the process of moving house in Brighton.

In the report from the Grand Charity Steward, it was gratifying to know that Lodge Niederrhein (Patron of Honour) has contributed more- by a considerable amount- than any other Lodge to the GM charity.

Keep contributing brethren- we were given some raffle tickets to sell with a prize of a lap top computer. All contributions will go to the WM Charity which as you know in turn is the GL Charity.

To my surprise I found out, at the report by the Senate Representative. that I had been appointed as The Grand Representative of the Prince Edward Islands, Canada near to the United Grand Lodges of Germany.

I feel honoured but this is a tribute to you all, for your support to our Grand Lodge and the United Grand Lodges of Germany. Please continue to support.

I personally was delighted that all 10 of us sat down to an excellent festive board. Here in my capacity as JGW, I was able to comment, at the Toast to the Visitors, on the Julian R lecture and the importance of visiting.

The Deputy GM advised the brethren that New Absalom which is currently in darkness would repon on March 6th, 2010 at Gutersloh and invited support from all members of Grand Lodge.

Brethren, we should all thank Worshipful Brother Steve D, President of the Board of Stewards and his deputy, Worshipful Brother Roger O whose hard work made the Communication go well with only the minor hiccup. Yes, we managed to get most of the Temple set up on the Friday evening but most of

the hard work is carried out by these two brethren both before and after. A personal thank you to Steve as he kindly drove me up and I look forward to visiting him at Star of Saxony in the near future.

We look forward to seeing you all at Bad Iburg, in May.

THE JULIAN R BOOKS

In my newsletter, dated 27 October, I invited resident brethren to forward their requirements of books so that I could make a composite order and thus reduce the cost of postage. I gave a deadline of November 20.

I will extend this date to December 1 to allow those of you slightly slower than others in forwarding details for me to action.

FREEMASONRY TODAY

As you know, we used to be able to obtain this publication, but last year an agreement was made that all members of UGL of England would receive the magazine free of charge and for some reason there was delay in ascertaining how we could receive the issues. Well arrangements have now been finalised and we are able to receive 4 issues per year for 20 pounds per annum. I enclose, as an attachment, a subscription document.

This is by far the best Masonic magazine currently available.

There is a wonderful article this month "Thinking with the Heart". Some Royal College of Surgical Fellows talking to Julian R. And what struck me as well was the cosmopolitan aspect of the Royal College of Surgeons. Reading the article for me it was like being at a Freemasons Lodge, recognising no distinctions of religion or creed. Both surgeons and Freemasons have ethics and morals as priorities - they show an ability to do what is best for the "patient" - ie the human being. That of-course is the place where Freemasons start from- the Heart.

I look forward to seeing all residents at the LOI on Monday 30th November.

Kind regards

S&F

David+