



Vivary News

No 16

March 2020

VIVARY LODGE No. 8654

Province of Somerset

English Constitution

Past Masters at work

The New Year got off to a splendid start with a Fraternal visit by W Bro Martin Slocombe PJGD Assistant Provincial Grand Master of Somerset and members of the Provincial Team. Who witnessed the Lodge's unique ritual as the Past Masters carried out the Raising of Bro Robert "Barney" Barnett on behalf of City Gate Lodge, No 9890.



At the Double!

It's been very much the case of Vivary Lodge meetings being held at the double this season. Last April's successful Vivary's Gentlemen's Evening saw four of the attendees expressing a desire to enter Freemasonry which has resulted in two double initiations.

Following November's double initiation (see Vivary News No. 15) the February meeting saw another double initiation with Neil Hitchcott and Ben Gavins being welcomed as the latest members of Vivary Lodge.



In Memoriam

On the 22nd of November our Lodge sadly, lost Bro Colin Churchill. Born in Beer, Devon in 1940 Colin worked firstly in civil engineering and heavy mechanical engineering in Yorkshire and was initiated into Preston Temple Lodge, West Lancashire in 1971. He joined Vivary Lodge in January 1981 when moved to Somerset where he kept the village shop in Bishops Lydeard. As well as being an expert sailor and holding a skippers' his interests included the country sports of fishing and shooting. A family man Colin leaves a widow, a son, two daughters and several grandchildren.

Burns Night at the Masonic Hall

January's Burns Night Dinner at the Masonic Hall organised Taunton Lodge Liaison Group proved as popular as ever being starting with a Prosecco reception and the swirl of bagpipes played by a Piper in full tartan attire.

Burns Night traditions were upheld with the piping in of the haggis followed by its "killing" with appropriate words by W Bro Jack Leeming and tots of whisky raised in celebration.



After an excellent four course meal that included "neeps" and "tatties" as well as haggis the toasts were given in which members of Vivary played their part with Bro Richard Wilson proposing the Toast to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns. The Toast to the Lassies was given by Bro Mike Marshall whose wife Lilian responded with the Toast to the Laddies.



Vivary Events

Christmas cheer

As has now become traditional the Festive Board of the December meeting saw the members joined by their wives, partners and guests to celebrate Christmas tide with a meal of roast turkey and all the trimmings. This was followed by all participating in singing of traditional Christmas songs led by W. Bro. Adrian Halliwell and accompanied by W Bro Alwyn Clegg on the piano.

Adrian asks the Questions!

In February the Vivary Quiz Night organised by W Bro Adrian Halliwell and his wife Anne took place in the Masonic Hall. 12 teams of Brethren and their guests from not only Vivary but other Lodges took part. A fun filled evening was enjoyed by all with the team captained by Bro Mike Marshall coming out on top by the small margin of only two points. Besides the quiz there was also a raffle and the evening raised £500 in total in aid of the Guide Dogs for the Blind which is the Worshipful Master's chosen charity



Although the Corona Virus pandemic has necessitated all meetings being cancelled until the all clear has been given, the members of Vivary Lodge continue to support each other using the phone or the internet and look forward to meeting up in person soon.

Contributions for future editions will be welcome by the Lodge Communication Officer – mikejohnmarshall@btinternet.com Back numbers of Vivary News can be viewed on Vivary Lodge web page on the Provincial web site www.pglsom.org. If any recipient does not wish to be included in the (e)mailing list for Vivary News then please contact the LCO.