



# WELLINGTON LODGE

No. 548

*Consecrated 20th January, 1848*



## SOUVENIR

of the

# One Hundred And Fifty Years Celebrations

at

FREEMASONS HALL  
GREAT QUEEN STREET  
LONDON, W.C.2

*14th January, 1998*



Patron:

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION  
ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS  
ROYAL MASONIC HOSPITAL



# *Preface*



I was delighted when the authors, W.Bros. Roger Wardley and Mike Wilson asked me to write a brief preface to the history of the first hundred and fifty years of the Wellington Lodge. The last time and, so far as we know the only time, such a history has been written for the Lodge was for the Centenary in 1948. At that time the country was recovering from the effects of the Second World War. Rationing was very strict, all goods and especially luxuries were in very short supply. The Lodge was determined to celebrate this auspicious event in spite of all the difficulties. They managed even with the paper shortages and printing problems to publish the history.

Fifty years on another history has been produced and, in time for our hundred and fiftieth birthday. Our thanks and our congratulations must go to Roger and Mike for their achievement.

This Lodge which we all hold in great affection was, for the most of us our first step into Freemasonry. Some members have gone on to widen their Masonic knowledge very considerably by joining other Lodges and Orders whilst others have found sufficient within this Lodge without need to go further but, whatever rank they have achieved or degree they have entered, Wellington Lodge must remain in prime place in their hearts.

The Lodge has over the years been through many difficult times but we look forward to its continuance towards its second century with enthusiasm for the future.

**W. Bro. D.H.P. Panton, P.G.Std.B., L.G.R.**

# *THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS*

**A**t the outset, the attempt to record the history of the Wellington Lodge No. 548 has to face the handicap of the Minute-book, covering the first ten years of its existence, being missing. Fortunately, however, there are found available the original Declaration book and the first Attendance book from which to obtain valuable information, and together with the full records kept at Grand Lodge, enabling to establish the Lodge's unbroken continuity of existence over one hundred and fifty years.

There is no information to be found specifically given as to the reason for the choice by the Founders of the title of Wellington, but one needs not go far at surmising of its being due to the great popularity, then at its height, of the famous Iron Duke, Field-Marshal the Duke of Wellington, the hero of Waterloo, afterwards from 1828 to 1830, Prime Minister, and who at the time of the formation of the Lodge, and down to his death, four years later, was the Commander-in-Chief of the British Army.

Records show that the Founders hailed for the most part from the Greenwich, Lewisham and Deptford Districts of South-east London. It is not impossible that a clue may be found to the choice of the title in the fact that one of them was a member of the Union of Waterloo Lodge No. 13, meeting at Woolwich, and so named in 1826, but dating from a much earlier date. Also in the fact that many of them may have been connected with the dockyards and naval and army establishments.

There were eleven Petitioners and they belonged to nine different Lodges with the exception of one Brother owning allegiance to the Scottish Constitution. Two were members of a Lodge at Sidmouth, one belonged to Sheerness, Kent and the others to London Lodges. They were:

Bro. J. Savage, Royal Athelstan,  
No.19, London.

Bro. T. B. Collins, Lodge of Perseverance  
No.164, Sidmouth.

Bro. T. A. Mitchell, Lodge of Perseverance  
No.164, Sidmouth.

Bro. G. A. Masters, Old Concord,  
No.172, London.

Bro. E. Randall, St. Paul's  
No.229, (Now No.194), London.

Bro. J. W. Blanch, Union of Waterloo,  
No.13, Woolwich.

Bro. J. L. Turner, British Lodge,  
No.8, London (a "red apron" Lodge).

Bro. R. D. Jones, Lodge of Friendship,  
No.248 (Now No.206), London.  
(originally a Deptford Lodge).

Bro. R. Fowler, Adam's Lodge,  
No.184 (Now No.158), Sheerness.

Bro. J. R. R. Richards,  
(Scottish Constitution).

Bro. A. D. Lowenstall, Lodge of Israel,  
No.247 (Now No.205), London.

The Warrant of the Lodge was issued on 2nd December, 1847, and its Consecration took place at the Bull Inn, High Street, Lewisham, on 20th January, 1848, the ceremony being conducted by a Past Master of the Robert Burns Lodge No.25, London, W. Bro. Wm. Watson, on behalf of the then Grand Master, Thomas, Second Earl of Zetland, by whom had been designated as first Master, Bro. John Savage, of Royal Athelstan Lodge No.19, then Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes, who was afterwards installed. He subsequently proceeded to the initiation of two Candidates,

Mr. P. C. Clark and Mr. J. D. Ireland. The ceremony of Consecration must have begun at an early hour, as dinner which was afterwards served, started at 6 pm. It is on record that no fewer than forty visitors attended.

The original Number allotted to the Lodge was No.805, but with the last “Closing-up” of the rotation of numbers of Lodges, in 1863, it became No.548, as at present.

The Lodge in the first two decades of its existence had frequent changes of home, no fewer than nine being shown between the year of its foundation and 1894. They were successively, after leaving, already in the year following its Consecration, at the Bull Inn, Lewisham:

Sydney Arms, Lewisham Road, Deptford.	(in 1849)
Railway Tavern, Catford Bridge, Lewisham.	(in 1850)
Roebuck Inn, High Street, Lewisham.	(in 1855)
Bull Tavern, High Street Lewisham,	(in 1857)
Lord Duncan Tavern, Broadway, Deptford.	(in 1858)
Clarendon Arms, Upper Lewisham Road, Deptford.	(in 1862)
Wickham Arms, Brockley Lane, Deptford.	(in 1864)
White Swan Tavern, High Street, Deptford.	(in 1865)
City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, London.	E.C. (in 1894)

And after remaining at the latter for a period of forty-six years, final removal was made in 1940 to Freemasons’ Hall, Great Queen Street, its present home.

The membership, for several years, comparatively, was small, and the first available Minutes extant show that twenty-six members including the officers were then present. It would appear to have been the average attendance at the time, and the Minutes bear evidence of the dissatisfaction of the members with the accommodation

provided for them, which the frequent changes made of meeting places, further bear out, until in 1865, removal was made to the White Swan Tavern, Deptford, where the Lodge met for the following twenty nine years.

From that time, a notable improvement is shown in the attendance, and it is significant that at the time of the removal, the office of Treasurer was held by W. Bro. R. Welsford, who retained it for the ensuing fifteen years, and on his resignation in March, 1880, owing to ill health which proved fatal during the same year, he was the recipient from the Lodge of a clock and a pair of vases in testimony of his services.

With such improvement must also be joined the names of the Secretary for twenty

two years, W. Bro. F. J. B. Burnstead and of W. Bro. J. J. West, Treasurer for fifteen years.

Also in the course of that period, in March, 1854, the Wellington Lodge of Instruction was formed, and it held its first meeting at the Lord Duncan Tavern, Deptford, when representatives from eight Lodges attended. It has since worked continuously,

under successive Preceptors, down to the present time and in its one hundred and forty four years of existence (with gaps) has proved inestimable value to the Brethren and to the cause of Freemasonry.

The Minutes of the Lodge do not record any outstanding event beyond the ordinary business of the Lodge, Initiations, Passings and Raisings, until 1878. In March of that year, there is reference to the notification made by Grand Lodge to the English Craft of the action of the Grand Orient of France in forsaking its

belief in God and the immortality of the soul, and substituting for it absolute liberty of conscience, with all allusions to the Great Architect of the Universe eliminated from its ceremonies. It issued the injunction, as the result, on all English Freemasons to abstain from any contact or communication with members or Lodges of that Jurisdiction.

On 11th March 1879 was initiated in the Lodge a candidate who was destined to prove one of the most outstanding of its members, W. Bro. F. W. Hancock, who became Master in 1891, was later appointed Past Grand Deacon, and for many years, was Junior Vice-President of the Board of Benevolence. He remained a member of the Lodge for more than fifty years, and the period of renaissance which marked its history at that time began with the date of his entry into Freemasonry.

In 1883 attendance was shown to have increased, no doubt as a result of the better accommodation provided, and at the Installation, in January, it is recorded that forty eight members and thirty visitors were present. The Officers and Brethren appeared to have worked hard in those days, for in addition to the Installation, there were Passings and the Initiation of no fewer than four candidates. At the March meeting of the same year, a Square and a Pair of Compasses were presented for use on the V.S.L., by the Master, W. Bro. W. C. Batchelor, and he was thanked for his generous gift. Two years earlier a complete case of Working Tools had been presented by Bro. H. Carman, for which he received the thanks of the Lodge. In the following December, a presentation of plate was made to the W. Bro. E. J. B. Burnstead, to mark his long services as Secretary, since 1865.

In April 1884, there is the record of a letter of sincere condolence sent by the Lodge, through the Grand Secretary, to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, then M.W. Grand Master,

on the death of his youngest brother, Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, who was at the time, Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire. It was signed by the Master and Secretary.

In October, 1890, the Lodge resolved upon an alteration of its By-laws regarding the charge to be made for Visitors, fixing it at 5s. on an ordinary night, 7s. 6d. for a Banquet, and increased to 12s. 6d. on Installation Night. The Initiation fee was also raised to ten guineas, which compared to twenty guineas in 1947, cannot be considered excessive, having regard to the present depreciation of the pound sterling since the halcyon days of fifty eight years ago.

At the Installation, in January, 1891, of W.Bro. F. W. Hancock, to whom reference has already been made, the Lodge was presented by him with a new Sword for the use of the Tyler, in commemoration of the event.

Of special historical interest is the donation voted in January 1892, of the sum of twenty five guineas to the Jubilee Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, celebrated on 24th February, that year at a great meeting held at Covent Garden Theatre, under the presidency of the then Deputy G. M., the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, when £69,000 was raised, then an outstanding record, higher by £40,000 from the previous highest, and which was to remain unbroken for the next twenty seven years.

On 14th November, 1893, the attention of the Lodge was drawn by one of its P.M.'s, W.Bro. Kitson, to the fact that the White Swan Tavern in which it had met since 1865, had again changed hands, and for the fourth or fifth time during the past five years, and having regard also that the neighbourhood had likewise deteriorated, he suggested the desirability of a removal being made to another place of meeting and locality. On 13th

March of the following year, following upon the conclusions of the report presented by the sub committee which had been appointed to look into the proposal, W. Bro. F. W. Hancock moved that the Lodge be removed to the Cannon Street Hotel, E.C. where it remained for forty six years, until, in 1940, the Lodge was granted accommodation at Freemasons' Hall.

On 11th April, 1894, a presentation was made to W. Bro. J. J. West, to mark the occasion of his retirement after fifteen years, from the office of Treasurer. It consisted of a gold watch, a piece of plate and an engrossed vellum of his Masonic record.

The year 1898, witnessed the fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the Lodge, W. Bro. Frederick. Jones being Master on that memorable occasion. The membership had then risen to ninety nine, showing that a great increase since the time of removal, in 1865 to the White Swan Tavern at Deptford, and the Cannon Street Hotel in 1894.

At the Installation, in January, 1899 W.Bro. F. W. Hancock was invested as Treasurer, an office he was to hold in the Lodge continuously for thirty one years. He had been elected in that same year a member of the Board of Benevolence, and both these appointments only came to an end shortly before his death in August 1930. In 1901 he received the congratulations of the Lodge, on being appointed P. Prov. Senior Grand Deacon, in Surrey, with promotion in 1923, Prov. Senior Grand Warden, and in April 1908 upon being called to the active duties of A.G.D.C., in Grand Lodge. In token of appreciation the Lodge presented him with the regalia of his Grand Rank, it being recorded at the time, that it was the first appointment in the Lodge of a Grand Officer, during its sixty years of existence. In April, 1928, he received promotion as Past Grand Deacon, and was

again the object of the congratulations of the Lodge, which on the following 13th of January, 1929, celebrated the attainment of his jubilee of active membership, by the presentation to him of a cheque for one hundred guineas, which after thanking the Brethren, he handed over to the Freemasons' Hospital and Nursing Home, as the Royal Masonic Hospital was then known .

In August, 1930, the Lodge sorrowfully had to mourn his passing, and no better tribute to his life of service could there be than that paid in Grand Lodge, on the occasion of the election of his successor as Junior Vice President of the Board of Benevolence, at the Quarterly Communication of 3rd September, by the then Pro. Grand Master, the late Lord Amphill, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., when he said :

*“ Brethren, before we proceed to the next business, I should like to remind you that W.Bro. F. W. Hancock, P.G.D., the late Junior Vice President of the Board of Benevolence, in whose place we have tonight to appoint another Brother, rendered very great and valuable service to the Craft. There can be no doubt whatever that his name will be cherished and held in affectionate and grateful memory by all those who had the privilege of knowing him. He was one of those men who did the work for the love of it in an absolutely disinterested way, with self abnegation which was almost ideal, and without thought of any recognition or reward. That is the type of man who makes the strength of the craft and whom we can ill spare. God grant that we may always have such men, because it is to them that we owe the real spirit and soul that animates us. Brother Hancock was Junior Vice President of the Board of Benevolence for no less than twenty one years, and before that he had been for many years an elected member. But that was not the beginning and the end of his charitable work, for he was for eleven years on the Committee*



*of the Boys Institution and also for many years Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Freemasons' Hospital. In these several capacities he rendered much valuable service that it will be very difficult indeed to replace him. I feel sure that I speak what is in the mind of you all, when I say that so long as we live we shall hold his name in affectionate and grateful memory."*

(Applause).

In 1901, the sum of £49 was voted by the Lodge to complete its qualification as Vice Patron of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Two years later, in 1903, was voted the sum of fifty guineas, to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

In October, 1908, on the first institution of the honour of London Rank, W. Bro. C. Atkins was appointed, and the regalia of the new rank was presented to him by the Lodge. Since that date, fifteen other Past Masters of the Lodge have been similarly honoured, the names of whom will be found recorded on the list attached to this brief review of the Lodge activities.

On the appointment, in January, 1909, as the new Secretary of the Lodge, of W. Bro. H. W. Wybourn, the Lodge decided to make a presentation to his predecessor, W. Bro. A. Holmes, in recognition of his services for the past fourteen years, this taking the form of a gold cigarette case, and a purse of fifty guineas. In December of the same year, the new Secretary was elected by Grand Lodge a member of the Board of Benevolence. In 1917, ill health compelled him to relinquish the secretaryship, and the Brethren in appreciation of his services, presented him with a cheque for fifty guineas. The severance however, was not to prove final, for after an interval of seven years, on the resignation in his turn of his successor, W. Bro. W. E. Jeanes, L.R., for a similar cause of illness, W. Bro. H.

W. Wybourn, returned to the service of the Lodge as Secretary, and continued in that office, from that date, October 1926, until his death, in December 1929. To the holder in the interim, W. Bro. W. E. Jeanes, the Lodge presented a cheque for £72 2s. 6d., as a mark of esteem.

In 1915, a happy contact was made with the Wellington Lodge No.1521, of New Zealand, formed in 1874, in Wellington its capital, named also in 1840, together with the district, after the Iron Duke, and there was an exchange of greetings by correspondence.

The year 1925, saw the completion of another record of fifty years' membership by a P.M. of the Lodge, W. Bro. W. P. Catterson, P.Prov.G.P., Surrey, who had occupied the Chair in 1886. Two more similar records, were completed in April, 1939, by W. Bro. Harry Groves, P.M., L.G.R., and Bro. E. J. Champion, both initiated in 1889, to whom congratulations were sent.

The appointment of a second Grand Lodge Officer, in the person of W. Bro. J. L. James, as P.G.Std.Br., brought much gratification to the Lodge in 1931, which presented him with his regalia. Subsequent years saw three more similar appointments among its Past Masters, all likewise recognised by the Lodge : W. Bros. Wm Manchester in 1935; H. C. Jones in 1940, and A Kilby, M.B.E., in 1946, all three honoured with the same rank of P.G.Std.Br. The Lodge was to suffer early the loss of one of their number, W.Bro. W. Manchester, its Director of Ceremonies, who, as a result of a motor accident, died in 1942.

On 9th March, 1938, the Lodge was honoured by a visit of the R.W. Asst. Grand Master, Brig. Gen. W. H. V. Darell, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., appointed as such the previous year, and whom it is enjoying the privilege again of welcoming on the celebration of its Centenary. At the conclusion



of the Initiation which he had witnessed, he offered his congratulations upon the manner the ceremony had been performed.

In connection with the Masonic Memorial Fund the Lodge had taken early steps under the direction of W. Bro. J. L. James to qualify as a Hall Stone Lodge but it was not until 1933 that substantial progress was made when one of its Past Masters, W. Bro. H. C. Jones, organised the Wellington Masonic Memorial Association and the Hall Stone status was achieved.

The completion by the Lodge of its qualification as a Patron of all three Royal Masonic Institutions and the Royal Masonic Hospital was announced on 9th January 1946. Acknowledgment was made of the donation of one hundred and twenty guineas from the Wellington Masonic Benevolent Association to the Lodge for this purpose.

On the lighter side an entry in the minutes of the Lodge records on 9th October 1947, that at the close of the proceedings the announcement had to be made that owing to a waiters' strike, no dinner could be served, this news was accepted as a sign of the times but not without some disappointment by the members and visitors present.

Before concluding this brief review of events during the hundred years of the Lodge's existence, must be recorded the significant fact that throughout the whole period of the war

just closed, all the meetings have been held with unbroken regularity, members attending in excellent numbers, especially having regard to the absence of so many called to the Services or transferred to other cities. The Masonic enthusiasm of those who remained in London deserves the highest praise, being truly, as they found themselves, in the front line of battle.

It is worthy of note that the pedestals of the Master the Senior and Junior Warden which were presented to the Lodge in 1848 by Brother Edward Randell, Senior Deacon were used by the Lodge for ninety two years, until the Lodge removed to Freemasons' Hall, where each Lodge room is fully and excellently equipped.

These pedestals were in the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, during the bombing of London and although the building was hit, the pedestals escaped damage. Since this time they were used and carefully preserved by the Lodge of Instruction, (see page 14).

Another record in which the Lodge takes pride is the honour received by three of its brethren, of appointment as Members of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, in the persons of Bros. L. Caswell, and F. J. Dowsett, also its Secretary, W. Bro. Alfred Kilby, P.M., P.G.Std.Br.

*(Updated from the original One hundred year history by W Bro Kilby PGStdB.)*

*A Wellington Lodge  
Festive Board in 1951*





# *THE LAST 50 YEARS*

**B**efore I began the last 50 years History of the Lodge, I was reminded by the comments in the opening paragraph of our history, The First 100 years, written by W. Bro. Alfred Kilby, in that any attempt to trace the history of the Wellington Lodge has to face that indispensable tool “The Minute Book” and I am indebted to W. Bro. Mike Wilson, who assisted me in the research needed for this subject. Many interesting hours have been spent, reading the detailed notes of our meetings for the period concerned, and combined with the anecdotal information from W. Bros. Eke, Smith, Poynter and Panton, finally, we have been able to bring you this section. Other people setting out to write this history may have approached it in a different way, and I am sure there are things that could have been included and things which others may have not considered as important.

As you already know, W. Bro. Kilby has completed the history of the first hundred years of the Lodge, but to appreciate a little more of the task involved, we must go back to around the 1930's to update this period, and also look at the arrangements for the Centenary.

The Lodge had been managed by the Lodge Advisory Committee, as it was then called, and it met at the Cannon Street Hotel, which was just above Cannon Street railway station. The building suffered heavy damage from bombing during the war and was replaced eventually in the early sixties with the modern construction of today. Many of those who featured in the latter years of the Lodge, can trace their joining back to this period, and one such case was W. Bro. Dennis Austen, whose father, W. Bro. Harry Austen had the one casting vote, in the recommendation of a brother for honours in 1930.

The committee at this period, were interviewing as many as two or three candidates, and at that time, visits were made to the home of the prospective Mason, to discuss the views of his family and especially his wife. Many of the events, as you have already read, were carefully chronicled by W. Bro. Kilby so you get a feel of the way in which the Lodge developed.

In 1933 Harold Jenkin joined the Lodge, and, remained one of the longest serving brethren, along with W. Bro. Alfred York, Bro. Hawood Clarke, and W. Bro. Tom Waterman (Snr), who joined some years later. Bro. Hawood, was a professional musician who played the organ for the Lodge for many years. The records show that he was “invited” to play the organ at the Centenary meeting in January 1948. In April 1941, the minutes record a letter from the secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, confirming, that The Wellington Lodge had completed its qualification as a Patron of the Institution. In the October meeting of 1942 the regretted death of the Duke of Kent M.W. Grand Master was formally reported. He was succeeded by The Rt. Hon. Earl of Harwood in Dec. 1942.

January 1943 saw the appointment by His Majesty the King, of our Secretary, W. Bro. Alfred Kilby an OBE., whilst Bro. Lionel Caswell was awarded the MBE. for meritorious service in the Merchant Navy.

March 1943 saw a proposal that, “In view of the shortage of manpower, and the difficulty in leaving occupations during the day, as an emergency measure, and until blackout restrictions were lifted, our meetings should be held on the second Wednesday of January, April, May, August and September at such times as will allow the brethren to return home in daylight. Hence the die was cast for

meetings on the second Wednesday of specific months which has remained so, until today. 1943 continued to see an influx of new members including Bro. Albert George Warner and Pilot Officer Dennis “Whiskers” Austen, who was initiated at a special meeting before being sent overseas. In 1943 the Lodge committee moved from the Cannon St. Hotel which was owned by the Southern Railway Company prior to Nationalisation, to the restaurant, (which plans show was alongside the Hotel), due to some damage from air raids, before again moving to Caxton Hall, where Bro. Wilfred Bennet was the Manager. Many different meetings, from Committee to L of I took place here due to the limited accommodation in London at that time. Some candidates who applied to join the Lodge had a weekly wage of only £3-0-0d per week at that time. As we also know the Lodge by laws received a major amendment in October 1946, when the first committee meeting was held at Freemasons Hall.

One further point W. Bro. Kilby’s research recalls, relates to the pedestals for the Senior and Junior Wardens, which were presented to the Lodge in 1848 by Brother Edward Randall (then Senior Deacon), and were used in the Lodge for over 90 years, until the Lodge moved to Freemasons Hall. These pedestals which were in the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, London during the 1939-45 war, survived the horrific bombing of London despite the building being hit several times. This Hotel was also owned by the Southern Railway Company and was a short walk from Cannon Street Station. It seems that the Lodge met here for a while, although records of this period are a little sketchy. They were used and carefully preserved by the Lodge of Instruction until their loss during the time the Lodge of Instruction was moved around various locations. Following the reinstatement of committee meetings proper in 1946, they

moved for a short time to the Bridge House Hotel, near London Bridge, (where a plaque on the wall can be seen commemorating the original building on the site, and before the first meeting in Freemasons Hall in October of that year. W. Bro. Kilby, the Lodge Secretary, had been appointed by the M.W. The Grand Master to the rank of Past Grand Standard Bearer in the Grand Lodge of England, during that year.

It seems that the Wellington Ladies Festival survived, despite the problems and during the war years with the exception of 1941 to 1943 continued in 1944 onwards with a special one in November 1945. A discussion took place in 1946 concerning the proposal that as the Lodge contributed to the Ladies Festival, (contrary to today’s practice, where the function MUST stand alone), only Masons should be admitted. It is recorded that this suggestion was not acted upon..

1947 saw the granting of the Centenary Warrant to the Lodge, whose continued working was recorded since 20th January 1848 and as such, this would be the Centenary date. Work was put in hand to complete the arrangements for the Centenary Meeting and many hours of committee minutes detail the actual work undertaken. A sub Committee was formed and it was agreed that :-

- a) Each member should pay for himself at this meeting at a cost of 35 shillings
- b) A History of the Lodge would be compiled and this task was undertaken as we know, by W. Bro. Kilby P.G.Std.B., and printed on Vellum or Parchment depending upon cost. This book turned out to be the original 100 year history
- c) That W. Bro. York and W. Bro. H. E. Austen would handle the protocol and Toasts for the event, when records show there was a lively debate on many occasions.

# ***THE CENTENARY MEETING & BANQUET.***

**I**n total 100 brethren attended the meeting held in No.1 Lodge Room and banquet at the Connaught Rooms, made up of 13 Past Masters, 33 Members, 43 guests together with Rt. W. Bro. W.H. Darrell (Asst. Grand Master), V. W. Bros. J. Moffett (Past Grand Chaplain), Sidney White (Grand Secretary), W. Bros. Philip Bush (Grand Director of Ceremonies), J. Brewer and A. B. Broughton (P.G.Std.B.s) and J. E. Peel (Grand Tyler), and as we know Bro. Hawood Clarke started a long association with the Wellington Lodge as organist and even today constantly keeps in touch despite advancing years.

The Lodge summons was of a more modest nature, due to the shortage of materials, however it was printed in dark blue and on a stiff card, which fortunately has stood the test of time and needs to be guarded for posterity. During the meeting, it is reported verbally, that The W. Master, W. Bro. Reuben Tatum, performed all three degrees, however this is not supported by the Centenary Lodge Summons as being part of the programme. Salutations were given to the Asst. Grand Master, by the V.W. Bro. J. Moffett who delivered an oration which reached great heights and was well received by the brethren.

V.W. Bro. Sydney White read the Centenary Warrant authorising the wearing of the Centenary Jewel. It is verbally stated that during the Centenary Meeting the Pro. Grand Master, The M. W. Duke of Devonshire made a short visit to the Lodge to congratulate the brethren on their achievement, although no record exists of this visit in the minute book.

The Banquet took place in the Connaught Rooms which due to the era of food rationing was of a modest nature. The menu was again

## **The Officers of the Centenary year were:-**

W. Master	W. Bro. Reuben Tatum.
I.P.M.	W. Bro. P. A. J. Turner
S.W.	Bro. E. J. Williams.
J.W.	Bro. W. M. Wood.
Treasurer	W. Bro. Harry Darby L.G.R.
Secretary	W. Bro. A. Kilby P.G.Std.B.
D.C.	W. Bro. Harry Jones P.G.Std.B.
S.D.	Bro. F.S. Dabbs.
J.D.	Bro W. A. York (Alfred)
ADC.	W. Bro. R. Foster. L.G.R.
Organist	Bro. Hawood Clarke
Almoner	W. Bro. E.R. White L.G.R.
Asst. Sec.	W. Bro. D.T. Jones L.G.R.
I.G.	Bro. Harold Jenkin
Stewards	Bro. P.W. Collins
	Bro. Wilfred.C. Bennett
	Bro. James E. Lea
	Bro. M.E. Morse
	Bro. Tom Cavendish Waterman
	Bro. A Robertson
Tyler	W. Bro. W.T. Baker L.G.R.

a modest document of four pages, the outer cover being of the same material as that of the Centenary Summons. The actual menu was









given as three courses plus coffee and was shown thus:-



A musical programme had been arranged and this featured Bro. John Wynton (Tenor) and Miss Pamala Woolmore (Soprano). The "Usual Toasts" were taken during the Festive Board, except, that this time, there was a response from the Rt. Worshipful, The Assistant Grand Master. A special Centenary Song written by W Bro R.E. Polden, Albany Lodge No 2652 (Surbiton), was sung dedicated to the Wellington Lodge No 548,

This seems to be the highlight of that year and business continued, as usual over the next couple of years until in 1950, the W. Master informed the brethren of the death of the M.W. The Grand Master, His Grace The Duke of Devonshire K.G and the passing of our own W. Bro. A. Kilby P.G.Std.B.

November 1951 saw the Especial Grand Temple held at the Royal Albert Hall, London for the Installation of the M.W.Bro. The Earl of Scarborough as Grand Master. It is recorded that in the absence of the M.W. Bro. His Majesty The King, due to illness, the ceremony was performed at his Majesty's request by The R.W.Bro. Rt. Hon. Earl of Derby M.C., Deputy Grand Master, and the Wellington Lodge was well represented by W. Bro.s Dabbs and H.C. Jones. Bro Alfred York was Installed into the Chair of the Wellington Lodge in 1952 at which point in time the subscription was increased from £6 to £7 payable each half year. At this time is was agreed that a Centenary Jewel of the

Lodge should be deposited in the Library and Museum at Grand Lodge, Freemasons Hall, London.

The March Meeting records the death of His Majesty King George VI., Past Grand Master together with the initiation of Bro. James Gardner. At this time candidates were still subject to a visit to their home before decisions were made final. October saw a letter from the Grand Secretary confirming that after the considerable delay due to the war, the Wellington Lodge No 548, which had qualified as a Hall Stone Jewel Lodge, through the Masonic Millions Memorial Fund, and has been inscribed on the wall, just inside the Tower entrance, on the left hand side as one enters Freemasons Hall.

1954 saw Bro Jimmy Lea Installed as W. Master for the ensuing year, and one in which he received the Master and brethren from the Wellington Lodge No 341 from Rye in Sussex. April that year saw the Centenary of the Wellington Lodge of Instruction which had found a home at Caxton Hall, and Bro Dennis Austen was involved in his first Ladies festival, a tradition which ran for some 25 years. The Festivals were at that time held in or around London. The Connaught Rooms were used for some considerable time before moving to the Hanover Grand, and one, at King Arthurs Court formerly the Northumberland Grand Hotel. The dancing was to "The Nat Temple Trio" a smaller version of the Nat Temple Dance Band. Just as a follow on to this, in 1982 Freddie Poynter suggested that the Ladies Festival should go out of town and make it a full weekend. After discussion, the venue was fixed as The Queens Hotel, Eastbourne where it continued for several years even after the death of Dennis Austen. In 1992 the Festival moved to Bournemouth where it has remained to this date, and it is intended to hold the 150th Anniversary Ladies Festival there in 1998.

Jack Bishop joined the Lodge in 1955 and the following year, Bro. Tom Cavendish Waterman was installed as Master. Tom was wonderful to talk to and one could listen to his anecdotes about the Lodge and his services in India and the Far East during the war for many hours. Whilst he was very coy about his actual service life, he was very aware of the Lodges that were set up in that part of the world during the war, and in the POW camps. In December 1957, Mr E.C. Shepherd, a great grandson of W.Bro. George Masters, a founder of Wellington Lodge No 805 (renumbered 548 in 1863) and its first Secretary, presented the Lodge with a gold Jewel inscribed "Presented by the Brethren of Wellington Lodge No 805 to Bro George Masters, PM, as a regard they entertain for the faithful discharge of his duties as Secretary, and his desire at all times to promote the interests of the Lodge" It was unanimously agreed that it was to be worn by all future Secretaries of the Lodge, as a constant reminder of the debt we owe our founders. This Jewel is worn today in accordance with that request, by our current Secretary W. Bro. Don Pantan P.G.Std.B.

Bro Dennis Austen was Installed as Master of the Lodge in 1958, utilising the No.1 Lodge Room. This Lodge Room was used for our Installations on several occasions around this period. In 1959 the Annual subscription was increased from £7 to £8. The sad death of Bro. Richard Percival in 1961 after being a Mason for 56 years marked the end of the earlier brethren of the Lodge, however things were beginning to take a turn for the better as Bro. Tony Eke joined the Lodge that year followed in 1962 by W. Bro. Dennis Smith our current Director of Ceremonies. W. Bro. Dennis Smith S.L.G.R., as he is today had all three degrees performed by the W. Master of that year W. Bro. Edward William Foreman. W. Bro. Foreman moved to Weston Super Mare just

after joining the Lodge, however, he travelled up to London every week for Lodge of Instruction and to attend Lodge Meetings. He used to get what was known then as "the milk train" home arriving in Weston Super Mare at around 12.30 in the morning, when his wife, who had been woken from her slumber, would meet him from the train and drive him home. The journey used to take approximately three hours.

W. Bro. Tony Eke as he became, eventually took on the offices of Almoner and Charity Steward, combining both for many years. He was the Lodge Almoner for over twenty years until his retirement in the late 90's. It was a credit to Tony's character, and care for others that he brought to this duty, a level of compassion and understanding which today must be a model for new masons undertaking this office. His respect and friendship to the widows of Lodge members together with those in distress, with whom he continuously maintained contact with has I am sure proved the true nature of masonry.

1963 saw a 'First First', when W. Bro. Sydney Charles Merson Initiated his son Richard Sidney Merson into the Lodge, which was the first time records show this event happening in Wellington Lodge.

At the Meeting in December 1963, W. Bro. H.E Austen was congratulated by W. Bro. James Stubbs, Grand Secretary, having celebrated 50 years as a member of the Lodge, and it was sad less than 12 months later to hear that he had died.

The following years saw Ken Nunn and Freddie Collett join the Lodge. Ken became Treasurer for many years and managed to keep the Lodge solvent through some very difficult times. Reference has already been made concerning our current Secretary W. Bro. Don Pantan who was initiated into the Lodge in

1965 and as they say, the rest is history as Don, has along with other Senior Past Masters, worked long and hard to keep Wellington going, and to assist in bringing it where it is today. In that year, W. Bro. James Lea who had served the post of Secretary for some 17 years gave notice that he was standing down in favour of some one younger to take over this role. This was filled by W. Bro. Bert Geary who held the post for several years. Bert was also a great supporter of the L of I especially during its time at the Sugar Loaf Public House. The same comments also apply to W. Bro. James Gardner who succeeded W. Bro. Bert . Over the next few years we had been fortunate in that many of the new brethren joining the Lodge have gone on to either introduce new brothers or played a significant role in the development of the Lodge. For example, 1966 saw W. Bro. Alfred York receive the honour of London Grand Rank, the Lodge received its 250th Anniversary commemorative Jewel for the Master's collar commemorating the 250th anniversary of Grand Lodge, and Freddie Poynter joined the Lodge.

Bro Jack Bishop was Installed as Master in 1967, some 12 years after joining, and he remained a member until his death in 1997 a total of 42 years.

Bro Tony Eke was installed as Master in 1969 and has also remained a long servant of the Lodge right up to date, and later that year, the Pro. Grand Master, the M.W. Earl of Scarborough KG died after a long and distinguished service in the Craft for which he was Grand Master between 1951 and 1967. Another milestone that year concerned W. Bro. Harold Charles Jones P.G.Std.B. who celebrated 50 years membership of the Lodge, particularly the Lodge of Instruction where he had been Preceptor for over twenty years. Some interesting points that came to light during the research concerning Harry were as follows:-

a) Harry lived in Surbiton in Surrey, and the name of his house was "Wellington Lodge", which he built himself.

b) It the attic/ loft of his house there was a fully equipped L of I room complete with pedestals and pavement.

c) Such an enthusiastic mason, Harry would practice the ritual for hours on end in his own little temple until he had perfected it.

Harry's happiest role was that he founded the Wellington Masonic Benevolent Association some 25 years before and through it the brethren had been able to contribute over £10,000 to the four charities of the craft.

**D**uring the following decade, the Lodge continued with its business and had some high spots, the most notable of which were:-

**1970** Bro. Dennis Smith was Installed as Master for the first time, and W. Bro. Brian White, who had been elected Treasurer of the Lodge in 1967, died tragically in a boating accident at Caversham on the River Thames, whilst on a short boating holiday with his wife and young daughter.

W. Bro. James Lea was later elected by the brethren to take over as Treasurer in these special circumstances.

**1971** Paul Wood the son of W. Bro. Malcolm Wood who was Master in 1950 joined the Lodge.

**1972** Lodge subscriptions went up from £15 to £20 following an increase in the Dining Fee at the Connaught Rooms to a minimum charge with service of £3 per person. Jimmy Fitzpatrick was initiated into the Lodge, and again notification from Connaught Rooms of an increase in the dining when the seating charge was increased from £3 to £3.50. The current Secretary W. Bro. Jimmy Lea

expressed to the brethren his disappointment at the treatment by the aforesaid increase, especially as some commitment had been given by the Connaught Rooms to provide some stability in pricing. It is comforting to know that life has very few new changes to make in this area, just the same old ones going round and round.

**1973** Bro. Freddie Collett was installed as Master and later that year welcomed two brethren from Australia, who were W. Bro. Tenny of the Gordon Lodge No 557 and W. Bro. Edwards from the Turrumurra (pronounced Toora- moora) Lodge No 896. It is recorded that both of these Lodges were, at that time, under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of England.

Bro. Norman Strangeways joined the Lodge along with many other brethren, introducing candidates over several years, such as Louis Brenton, who died tragically, Malcolm Goodman, our current Treasurer, and Roger Wardley.

W. Bro. Tom Cavendish Waterman initiated his son Tom F. Waterman Jnr. into the Lodge, which was only the second time this had happened in the history of the Lodge.

**1974** Bro. Don Panton was installed as Master, and Bro. George Abbott who later became preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction became a joining member from the Universalis Lodge No. 4163. Notices were issued at the Installation Meeting concerning the Electricity Emergency, and yes!, you have guessed it, cold Festive Board was the order of the day.

**1975** Another increase in subscriptions came increasing to £50 per annum, and the Lodge Chaplain W. Bro. Percy Collins completed 50 years membership and service to Freemasonry in the Lodge. W. Bro. Percy was initiated in 1925, became Master in 1955 and was presented with a small memento by

the brethren. It was during this year that the Office of Charity Steward was created for the first time, and the first holder of this office was Don Panton. In accordance with the instruction from Grand Lodge and the Board of General Purposes, the Charity Steward would take precedence when appointed after the Junior Deacon of the Lodge so more history is created.

It was around this period that some of the later names, associated with the Lodge, started to feature more prominently and records show the diligent work they carried out on behalf of the Lodge, amongst the foremost of these was Bro. Freddie Poynter who was installed as Master in 1976 and later went on to become Chaplain among many other offices. W. Bro. James Gardner was award the MBE, and the Lodge mourned the death of W. Bro. Wilfred Bennet in that same year. More pleasing news came, when W. Bro. Harry Jones, P.G.Std.B., attended his first meeting for several years at the age of 94 years, following some ill health. Another Brother who has played a sound part in Lodge history is W. Bro. Dennis Smith, who, currently Director of Ceremonies, was installed as Master in 1977 for the second time and appointed W. Bro. James Gardner MBE. as Secretary, an association that continued for several years. Dennis was able to report during this year that the Wellington Benevolent Association made a donation to the R.M.B.I. of £476 pounds and that since it was reformed in 1943 it had been able to support charities to the sum of £13,349, which was, as I am sure you will agree, no mean feat.

The Lodge of Instruction was having a few problems at this time, in finding locations for their meetings, and, after several moves, finished up at the "Sugar Loaf" Public House, and was now forced to move to "The Gainsborough Club" in Drury Lane. This was I believe, from our records, the start of many moves which used, an amateur boxing club,

“The Sun” Public House in Sun St., Covent Garden., Freemasons Hall, “The Wine Bottle” in Chancery Lane, and the Clerkenwell Masonic Centre EC1, until it unfortunately ceased due to poor support. Many of our brethren were awarded further honours over this decade among them were W. Bro. Harold Jenkin to London Grand Rank in 1971, along with W. Bro. A.H. Geary, in 1974, W. Bro. Tom Cavendish Waterman in 1977, W. Bro. Dennis Austen in 1979. Other notable appointments were W. Bro. Alfred York as Past Grand Registrar for the Province of Kent (West), W. Bro. James Lea as Past Grand Std. Bearer at the United Grand Lodge of England, both in 1977.

**1978** saw W. Bro. Don Panton being Installed as Master of the Lodge for a second time, due to a shortage of lay brethren coming through to fill the offices, and W. Bro. H.C. Jones P.G.Std.B. who was now in his 96th year continued his attendance at Lodge and was congratulated by the brethren, who conferred the distinction of Honorary member to him. This was not a good year for Wellington Lodge as many aged long serving and experienced brethren passed away, however some relief was obtained with some of the newer brethren making progress and among these were Bros. Louis Brenton, John Finnigan, and Roger Wardley.

Bro. George Abbott was installed as Master in 1979 and continued for two consecutive years. In 1980 the Lodge moved its dining arrangements to the “Prince of Wales” in Drury Lane due to the rising costs at the Connaught Rooms which feature prominently in the Lodge records over this period. However, this seems to have been short lived as it was agreed at the October meeting in 1981, to give the Connaught Rooms another trial for 12 months, because of the quality of the meals and the poor service received at the Prince of Wales. The Lodge

Tyler W. Bro. Fred Askew retired through ill health and W. Bro. Albert Harris come on the scene, bringing back memories for many brethren who spent much time with Albert in the anteroom. Albert served the Lodge for many years and became a friend to many brethren. This was not a good time for new brothers as many who came in during this period “fell by the wayside” in not too happy circumstances and added to the problems of the Lodge, both in numbers and financially. Most London Lodges were going through this cycle at this time but although comforting to know that the Lodge was not alone, concerning for all the brethren.

The early eighties saw Freddie Poynter again as Master of the Lodge and new brethren coming into the Lodge such as Ron Funnell, and Malcolm Goodman. W. Bro. Tony Eke was awarded London Grand Rank in 1982 along with W. Bro. Jimmy Lea who received London Grand Chapter Rank. When Bro. John Finnigan was Installed as Master in 1983 several other high points were reached, notably W. Bro. Harold Jenkin celebrating 50 years of active membership of the Lodge, W. Bro. James Lea on the 50th anniversary of his initiation and W. Bro. Tom Cavendish Waterman receiving his appointment to Senior London Grand Rank. A report received from the R.M.I.G showed that the Wellington Lodge which had managed to contribute £1100 that year was the eighth highest contributor in London.

Alas! as they say, many good things come to an end, and it was with deep regret and much sorrow that W. Bro. Alfred York S.L.G.R., P.P.G.Reg. (West Kent) who was initiated in 1937, was Master in 1952, and Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction, and Director of Ceremonies for some twenty years, died on 18th August 1984. He is fervently remembered by many of us who attended L of I and were under his direction at Lodge for

his military style but always courteous manner, albeit he scared some of us on many occasions.

W. Bro. Dennis Smith was appointed to London Grand Rank in 1985 along with W. Bro. Tony Eke who was appointed to London Grand Chapter Rank. This was followed in 1986 by W. Bro. George Abbott who was appointed to P.Prov.A.G.Soj. (Middx). George continued through all weathers to keep alive the Lodge of Instruction travelling into London every week to attend and instruct the lay brethren in the ceremonies. His role as Preceptor over those years will be remembered with humility by many of us who passed through his hands, and as I write we know George is of failing health, I trust he will have the opportunity to read this compilation of the last fifty years of the Wellington Lodge.

**1987** saw W. Bro. Dennis Austen appointed to P.A.G.D.C. in Supreme Grand Chapter and later that year to Senior London Grand Rank. Dennis had held several Offices in the Lodge but as mentioned earlier was probably best known as Chief Steward (not an Office ) and Festival Secretary for many of the Past Masters of the Lodge. His handlebar moustache (he was a member of the elite Handlebar Club), had been with him since his days in the Royal Air Force when he was a Pilot Officer, along with another distinguishing sight, a red rose in his lapel.

W. Bro. Mike Wilson my co author and researcher on this History was initiated into the Lodge in 1987 and Roger Wardley was Installed as Master for the first time in 1988. This was as many brethren have found a harrowing experience but one we will never forget or have wished we had not taken that path. W. Bro Malcolm Goodman our current Treasurer followed as Master in 1989 and in March of that year we changed our dining arrangements to the Kingsley Hotel, where we

have remained, and the special banquet for our 150th Anniversary has been set.

The Nineties has not been one of the strongest periods for the Wellington Lodge, although things have improved marginally in later years, with a steady flow of new brethren, we hope it will bode well for the future of the Lodge into the next Century. In 1965, the Lodge had 85 members compared to today which just struggles to 40. The one thing that is evident, is that the original "Pointings" working of the Lodge is disappearing now that there is no longer a Lodge of Instruction, (more about this later) and with brethren belonging to other Lodges with different workings, unless "Pointings" is practised correctly, it will be lost as other, more familiar practices creep in.

Whilst it is unlikely that many of the current brethren will be around to see the Lodge celebrate it 200th anniversary, it is I believe our fervent hope, that the tradition of the Lodge will continue on the foundations laid by our original brethren all those years ago. Bringing the new brethren up to date, we have, Bro. Alan Winter (Master in 1995) Bro. Geoffrey Chandler (Master in 1996), Bro. Andy Hammond (Master in 1997) along with Bro.s Mike Atkin, Timothy Jones, Nick Coletta, David Jevans, (son of long standing visitor W. Bro. A. D. Jevans S.L.G.R.), together with Bro.s Roland Moore, Barry Sullivan, Alan Martin and Ian Hunter, who now have the future of the Lodge in their hands.

Other facts during this period included in March 1991, W. Bro. Tom Cavendish Waterman S.L.G.R. completed 50 years in Masonry and it was a sad occasion exactly one year later, to mourn W. Bro. Tom's passing.

The Lodge carried on with its business in due form and in 1992 our Secretary W. Bro.



D.H.P. Panton was appointed by the M.W.Bro. The Grand Master to P.G.Std.B. in Grand Lodge W. Bro. George Abbott also received further honours in 1992 when he was appointed P.Prov.S.G.D (Middx). Some other appointments were W. Bro. Malcolm Goodman to London Grand Rank along with W Bro Roger Wardley.

In respect of its charity work, and as part of the London Festival Appeal, the Wellington Lodge Charity Steward has been able to confirm that at the time of writing this history the Lodge has been awarded not only the Bronze Jewel but also the Silver Jewel, and, will now be awarded the GOLD Jewel, for contributing at least £300 per member, an honour for which only a few hundred Lodges were thought to qualify..

It has been interesting to see the areas that the Wellington lodge had drawn its membership, and the influences over the course of time. The first hundred years has been well documented from its inception however, looking at the post Centenary years we can trace the group from Surbiton which centres on Harry Jones, followed by the West London faction centering on the Austen family with Harry and son Dennis. Then came Edgar White and his two sons Derek, who was a bank manager and moved to Newcastle, and Brian of whom mention has already been made on page 18.

Other members came from insurance companies, along with brethren from the newspapers and the banks. Following on, and with the change in technology, it was not long before the Electronics Industry provided members, and the last major invasion was a contingent with members from this field.

**S**o where are we Today.? The Lodge, despite many trials and tribulations, has through hard work, managed to survive with a dwindling membership. This is not just the problem for the Lodge, but a situation faced by many of London Lodges to keep going with rising costs. We are fortunate to have a strong group of younger Masons, working their way through the Offices, and it will be on their shoulders, to ensure that Wellington Lodge No 548, remains on the books of the United Grand Lodge of England. One way is to ensure that the Lodge does have a Lodge of Instruction.

The Lodge of Instruction over the past 25 years has had many changes of Location, and it has dwindled to a very few members meeting occasionally. Tribute must be paid to both W. Bro. Alfred York, and subsequently W. Bro. George Abbott for their sterling efforts in acting as preceptors over many years. One of our aims for the immediate future must be to revive the L of I, since it will ensure the strength and continuity of the Lodge and, as Wellington is one of the few lodges using "Pointing's" or as it is also called "South London" working. A good L of I is necessary to perpetuate the working and ensure that the standard of our ritual set by our predecessors is maintained, and to which as Masons, we will all have played our part.

One final point concerning the Lodge ritual and "Pointing's" working. In January 1966 W. Bro. Alfred York, in an attempt to resolve the on going debate concerning the ritual, wrote to the Secretary of the London Grand Rank Association, W. Bro. Arthur Buddell, OBE, M.C., P.A.G.Swd.B., P.P.Dep.G.Swd.B. (Surrey), to seek some further advice. W. Bro. Buddell subsequently made an appeal to the members of London Grand Rank Association for any spare copies of the ritual by **J. S. Poynder**.





Knowing that our ritual, according to the Lodge of Instruction by laws, referred to **“J. S. Pointing”** our D.C. (W. Bro. Alfred York), whose knowledge of Masonic Ritual, and, insistence on accuracy and precision was renowned, again wrote to W. Bro. Buddell and queried the name he had used.

The first response came in April 1966 when W. Bro. Buddell replied that he was convinced that the ritual was in fact “J.S. Poynder”, who for many years was the D.C. of the Claremont Lodge in Croydon. He also stated that beyond this fact he knew little of Poynder, but that his own Lodge “Mount Lebanon” used his working and that it was through the younger brethren of this Lodge, he had been able to obtain a copy of the working. W. Bro. Buddell suggested, that as this book was probably out of print it would be worth going over to Taylor’s working, which was similar in nearly every respect.

That appeared to be it, much to W. Bro. Alfred’s dissatisfaction, which was expressed to W. Bro. Buddell at the time, However, less than one month later, another letter was received from W. Bro. Buddell, and I quote.

*“ Dear Bro. York.*

*Further to our earlier correspondence.*

*This week I visited Claremont Lodge in Croydon, where they exhibit the banner of the Past Masters of the Lodge. On that banner I distinctly saw the name of “J.S. Pointon” who was W. Master in 1898. I checked with the Secretary who assures me, that this was the brother who wrote the ritual that we are both interested in, so I think this clinches it and it appears that we were both wrong*

*yours fraternally*

*Arthur Buddell “*

It seems that W. Bro. Alfred was still not convinced, and followed other lines of inquiry which unfortunately are not so well documented. One fact does emerge which at this point in time we are unable to disprove. Some correspondence refers to a W. Bro. Hancock who was renowned in the craft over many years, and in his latter years became P.G.S.W. of Surrey. In a letter to the revision Committee in 1938 reference was made to “J.S. Pointon’s “ ritual so, could this be the start of the change or was the original written by “J.S. Pointing” and mis-spelling has raised this query? I leave you with this thought.

**F***inally, on behalf of W. Bro. Mike Wilson and myself, can I take this opportunity to thank ALL of those brethren who have assisted in the compiling, writing and the making of the history of the Wellington Lodge. A special thanks to W. Bro. Don Panton for his unerring support in the venture, to W. Bro.s Freddie Poynter, Dennis Smith, Tony Eke and the late Tom Waterman for their anecdotal knowledge. We sincerely hope that you will get as much pleasure in reading about the Wellington Lodge as we have in compiling and researching its history. We all have a Lodge to be proud of, and one, that will keep going, well into the twenty first century, and hopefully beyond..*

**W. Bro. Roger A. Wardley L.G.R.**

## ***Roll of Past Masters - 1848 to 1998 :***

1848 John Savage	1890 J. Youlden	1925 Harry Darby, <i>L.R.</i>
1849 T. B. Collins	1891 F. W. Hancock,	1926 H. E. Austin, <i>L.R.</i>
1850 E. Randell	<i>P.G.D. Eng.,</i>	1927 H. C. Jones,
1851 A. D. Lowenstark	<i>Jun. Vice-President,</i>	<i>P.G.Std.Br.</i>
1852 T. B. Collins	1892 H. J. Smith	1928 D. T. Jones, <i>L.R.</i>
1853 T. B. Collins	1893 C. W. Hathersich	1929 G. H. Thompson, <i>L.R.</i>
1854 J. Creswell	1894 C. Atkins, <i>L.R.</i>	1930 R. Foster, <i>L.R.</i>
1855 C. Ireland	1895 J. Macgregor, <i>L.R.</i>	1931 J. G. Lowless, <i>L.R.</i>
1856 W. Hay	1896 W. Riminton	1932 A. Kilby, <i>M.B.E.,</i>
1857 W. Simmons	1897 H. W. Wybourn	<i>P.G.Std.Br.</i>
1858 T. Bayley	1898 F. Jones	1933 F. C. Watson
1859 R. Wadeson	1899 D. Jackson	1934 E. H. White, <i>L.G.R.</i>
1860 E. Owden	1900 H. Groves, <i>L.R.</i>	1935 W. Wright
1861 R. Welsford	1901 G. J. Freame, <i>L.R.</i>	1936 A. Bolen
1862 R. I. Bentley	1902 W. E. Jeanes,	1937 T. W. Love
1863 J. Stevens	<i>P.P.G.D. Bucks.</i>	1938 H. A. Coles
1864 H. J. Bagshaw	1903 C. Childs	1939 W. S. Beer
1865 E. Wakefield	1904 W. E. Berryman	1940 W. J. Stockford
1866 E. J. B. Bumstead	1905 J. Laxson	1941 S. Sanders
1867 G. E. Gale	1906 R. Griggs	1942 J. H. Veale
1868 J. Jones	1907 F. T. Adams	1943 J. Ettridge
1869 J. J. West	1908 T. A. Whiting	1944 R. Mawby
1870 W. P. T. Saegert	1909 D. S. Ross	1945 H. Leonard
1871 T. H. Phillips	1910 J. L. James,	1946 W. W. Jones
1872 J. W. Comb	<i>P.G.Std.Br. Eng.,</i>	1947 P. J. A. Turner
1873 G. S. Wintle	<i>Elected Member Board</i>	1948 R. W. Tatum
1874 E. J. B. Bumstead	<i>of Benevolence.</i>	1949 E. J. Williams
1875 J. J. West	1911 H. Browne	1950 W. M. Wood
1876 J. F. Chittendon	1912 T. E. Honeyball	1951 F. S. Dabbs
1877 W. E. Brooks	1913 G. M. Betser, <i>L.R.</i>	1952 W. A. York, <i>S.L.G.R.</i>
1878 W. Youlden, Senr.	1914 V. Wheatley	1953 H. E. Jenkin, <i>L.G.R.</i>
1879 P. Magee	1915 V. Wheatley	1954 J. E. Lea,
1880 W. L. Kitson	1916 J. J. Stoner	<i>P.G.Std.Br., L.G.R.</i>
1881 S. P. Catterson	1917 A. Rogers	1955 P. W. Collins
1882 W. Fieldson	1918 W. W. Coulstock	1956 T. C. Waterman,
1883 W. G. Batchelor	1919 W. Manchester,	<i>S.L.G.R.</i>
1884 A. Holmes	<i>P.G.Std.Br.</i>	1957 B. J. White
1885 G. Newall	1920 W. Manchester,	1958 D. E. Austen, <i>S.L.G.R.</i>
1886 W. P. Catterson,	<i>P.G.Std.Br.</i>	1959 A. H. Geary, <i>L.G.R.</i>
<i>P.P.G.P. Surrey</i>	1921 F. S. Bain	1960 F. S. Noble
1887 H. Carman	1922 Dr. F. W. Turtle	1961 D. I. White
1888 G. H. Kitson	1923 W. Browne, <i>L.R.</i>	1962 E. W. Foreman
1889 W. T. Jones	1924 E. A. O. Clayton	1963 S. C. Merson <i>O.B.E.</i>

## ***Roll of Past Masters - 1848 to 1998 (cont'd) :***

1964 A. G. Warner	1975 P. H. Walters	1986 J. O. Gubbins
1965 D. E. Austen, <i>S.L.G.R.</i>	1976 F. G. Poynter, <i>L.G.R.</i>	1987 R. E. Lloyd
1966 J. J. Gardner	1977 D. A. J. Smith, <i>S.L.G.R.</i>	1988 R. A. Wardley, <i>L.G.R.</i>
1967 J. M. Bishop		1989 M. Goodman, <i>L.G.R.</i>
1968 S. C. Merson <i>O.B.E.</i>	1978 D. H. P. Panton, <i>P.G.Std.Br., L.G.R.</i>	1990 J. D. Finnigan
1969 A. A. Eke, <i>L.G.R.</i>		1991 J. D. Finnigan
1970 D. A. J. Smith, <i>S.L.G.R.</i>	1979 G. H. D. Abbott, <i>L.G.R.</i>	1992 R. A. Wardley, <i>L.G.R.</i>
1971 A. F. Daniels	1980 G. H. D. Abbott, <i>L.G.R.</i>	1993 M. Goodman, <i>L.G.R.</i>
1972 W. C. Bennett	1981 K. G. Nunn, <i>L.G.R.</i>	1994 M. F. Wilson
1973 F. Collett	1982 F. G. Poynter, <i>L.G.R.</i>	1995 A. V. Winter
1974 D. H. P. Panton, <i>P.G.Std.Br., L.G.R.</i>	1983 J. D. Finnigan	1996 G. W. Chandler
	1984 L. Brenton	1997 A. Hammond
	1985 S. J. Howard	1998 D. H. P. Panton, <i>P.G.Std.Br., L.G.R.</i>

### ***Members of the Lodge appointed as Grand Officers***

F. W. Hancock	P.G.D.Eng
J. L. James	P.G.Std Br.
Wm. Manchester	P.G.Std Br.
H. C. Jones	P.G.Std Br.
A. Kilby, <i>M.B.E.</i>	P.G.Std Br.
H. E. Austen	P.G.Std Br.
J. E. Lea	P.G.Std Br.
D. H. P. Panton	P.G.Std Br.

### ***Senior London Grand Rank***

W. A. York	T. C. Waterman
D. E. Austen	D. A. J. Smith

### ***London Rank and London Grand Rank***

C. Atkins	W. Brown
J. Macgregor	H. Darby
H. Groves	H. E Austin
G. J. Freame	D. T. Jones
W. E. Jeanes	G. H. Thompson
J. L. James	R. Foster
G. M. Betser	J. G. Lowless
W. Manchester	E. H. White
W. A York	H. E. Jenkin
J. E. Lea	A. H. Geary
D. E. Austen	A. A. Eke
D. A. J. Smith	D. H. P. Panton
F. G. Poynter	G. H. D. Abbott
K. G. Nunn	R. A. Wardley
M. Goodman	B. A. J. Bone

### ***The Lodge and its Members have supported the following Masonic Institutions***

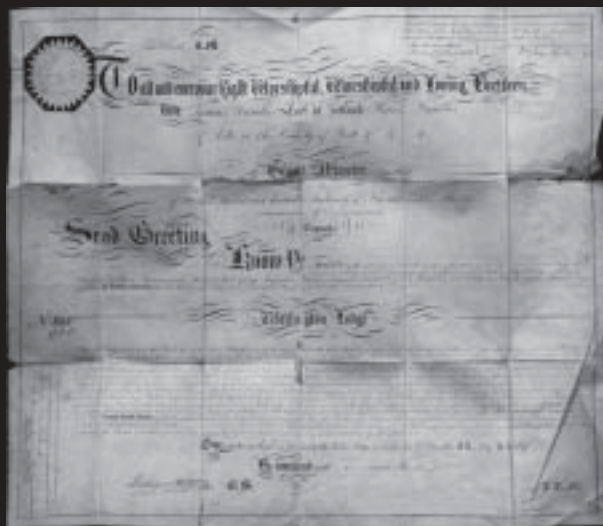
R. Masonic Inst for Girls	(Patron)	Samaritan Fund
R. Masonic Inst for Boys	(Patron)	Masonic Trust for Boys and Girls
R. Masonic Benevolent Inst.	(Patron)	Grand Charity
R. Masonic Hospital	(Patron)	New Masonic Samaritan Fund

## ***Secretaries:***

G. A. Masters	1848
E. A. Collins	1850
A. B. Davies	1851
G. A. Masters	1852
J. D. Watkins	1857
H. Prouse	1858
J. W. Bayley	1860
E. J. B. Bumstead	1862
H. Bagshaw	1865
E. J. B. Bumstead	1867
H. Carman	1889
G. Newell	1890
A. Holmes	1894
H. W. Wybourn	1908
W. E. Jeanes	1917
H. W. Wybourn	1926
A. Kilby	1929
J. E. Lea	1949
D. T. Jones	1953
J. E. Lea	1955
B. J. White	1966
A. H. Geary	1967
J. J. Gardner	1977
D. H. P. Panton	1981

## ***Treasurers:***

J. Bennett	1850
W. Hay	1852
C. Ireland	1854
W. Hay	1857
S. Hobbs	1859
E. Owden	1861
C. Raraty	1862
R. Welsford	1864
J. J. West	1880
W. Jones	1895
F. W. Hancock	1898
J. L. James	1930
H. Darby	1937
E. H. White	1949
D. T. Jones	1950
E. H. White	1952
P. J. A. Turner	1962
B. J. White	1967
J. E. Lea	1970
K. G. Nunn	1982
S. J. Wharton-Howard	1993
M. Goodman	1994



## **THE WARRANT OF WELLINGTON LODGE No. 548**

# Appendix

It is interesting to see that with the continuing growth in communications, computer technology, and the Internet, Grand Lodge now has its own 'Web Site'.

(<http://www.grand-lodge.org/>)

From here can be found other sites giving an abundance of information on Freemasonry in general. One of these sites relates to London Lodges

(<http://www.london-lodges.org/intro.html>)

(<http://www.london-lodges.org/index.html>)

## London Lodge Listing

This section comprises a full list of all London Lodges together with their meeting places and dates. Due to the size of this list it is not possible to create one web page with the full listing so the sections are broken into consecutive lodge numbers.

### London Lodges - Section 1. No's 0 - 975

NO.	NAME	MEETING PLACE & DATES	YEAR OF CONSTITUTION	E MAIL	WEB SITE
	The Grand Stewards'	Freemasons' Hall. 3rd Wed. Jan; 2nd Wed. Mar, . June, Sep, Dec	1735	—	—
1	Grand Master's	Freemasons' Hall. 3rd Mon. Jan, Mar, May, Nov.	1756	—	—
548	Wellington	Freemasons' Hall. 2nd Wed. Jan, Mar, Oct, Dec.	1847	—	—

An investigation of this list shows that with the gradual loss of Lodges over the years, Wellington Lodge No. 548 is at the time of writing the 112th oldest London Lodge under the United Grand Lodge of England.

It will also be noticed that provision has been made in the listing for individual Lodge E-Mail and Web Site references.

*How long will it be before Wellington Lodge No. 548 has its own Web Site?*

