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## LODGE MEERENSEE CELEBRATES THEIR 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

2025 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of Lodge Meerensee and it was celebrated with a Rededication and Installation ceremony at the Bon Hotel in Richards Bay. As always, the Grand Master performed the



Rededication working with aplomb, after which RW Bro Johan van der Merwe and his PGL team installed Wor Bro Siya Mkhize as the new Master of the Lodge.

After lunch we had RW Bro van der Merwe conduct his Eastern Division Annual Meeting. Once again, this went well and everything was properly attended to. The evening Banquet was extremely enjoyable and much appreciated by everybody who was there.



Siya Mkhize with Bill Murphy and Marais Viljoen

the Royal Master degree. MEC Louis van der Linde was in the chair and conducted the meeting well.



The Principals with Geoff Edwards (far left) and Frank Begot (far right)

### GLSA Southern Division win Cricket

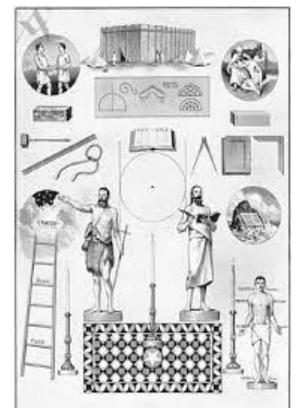
The Southern Division inter-Constitution Olympics sees a different event being held each month. In April 2025 it was the turn of Cricket. We are pleased to be able to advise you that the GLSA were the winners! Well done Brethren – but it doesn't make up for the Golf!?



Our victorious cricketers after the game



Siya Mkhize (6<sup>th</sup> from the left), Godfrey Place (7<sup>th</sup> from the left), Johan van der Merwe (behind Godfrey Place) and the rest of the delegates



### Bellville CC honours 2 Royal Masters

On Tuesday, 29 April 2025, in Cape Town's Phiroze Gorralla Temple, Bellville Cryptic Council honoured MEC Geoff Edwards OSM and EC Frank Begot with

### Sonheuwel initiate Ashley Dahms

On Tuesday, 8 April 2025, Bro Ashley Dahms was initiated as a new member of Sonheuwel in Gqeberha. The well-executed ceremony had Wor



Bro Xavier McLeod in the chair and Brethren from Tolerance assisting with the working.



Ashley Dahms with WM, Brethren and Visitors

### Star of the West Installation

On 12 April 2025, in Klerksdorp, Wor Bro Doug Sansom was reinstalled as Master of Star of the West. His first term was most successful and Installing Officer, VW Bro Marius Mostert, complimented the Lodge on the high standard that they had set.



Doug Sansom (centre), Marius Mostert (3<sup>rd</sup> from the left) with PGL Officers and BB

### Westerford raise Bro MJ Pether to MM

On Thursday, 3 April 2025, Lodge Westerford, with Wor Bro Sean Stuart in the chair, raised Bro Pether to Master Mason. MJ is a young Mason who really gets involved in his Lodge's activities, and it was pleasing that his Lodge gave him a working of a very high standard.



MJ (2<sup>nd</sup> from the left) with WM Sean Stuart (3<sup>rd</sup> from the left) and the BB

### Both Kimberley Lodges are active

The Kimberley Temple is a special place and one of South African Freemasonry's most historic buildings. There are 2 GLSA Lodges working there nowadays and both have dedicated Masters who continually strive to uplift their Lodges - Wor Bro Francois Dauth in Peace and Harmony and Wor Bro Johnny Cambanis in Magersfontein.



Lodge Magersfontein



Lodge Peace & Harmony



### de Goede Hoop raise Luther Delport

On Wednesday, 9 April 2025, Wor Bro Bradley Bordiss and his de Goede Hoop team raised Bro Luther Delport to Master Mason. As always, the working was of a very high standard and even the younger Brethren excelled. Bro Luther is enjoying his Masonry and it shows!



Luther Delport (2<sup>nd</sup> from the left) with his Lodge BB



## Prins Frederik pass Deejay Govender

On Tuesday, 22 April 2025, Bro Deejay Govender was passed to Fellowcraft by RW Bro Reuven Coenen and his Prins Frederik Officers. The Lodge won the 2024 “Most Balanced Lodge” trophy and take trouble to demonstrate just why. They are a happy and successful Lodge and everything is done with pride.



Deejay Govender (4<sup>th</sup> from the left) with Lodge WM Reuven Coenen (5<sup>th</sup> from the left) and the Lodge team

received the visitors. Overall the meeting was a most enjoyable one.



Cosmopolitan Lodge no 1409 (EC) Cosmopolitan Lodge with RW Bro Piet Louw (seated centre), Wor Bro Francois Dauth (seated right) and Wor Bro Bradley Bordiss (standing 2<sup>nd</sup> from right).

## De Vereeniging Install Wor Bro Martin Gierz

On Saturday, 5 April 2025, Wor Bro Martin Gierz was Installed as Worshipful Master of de Vereeniging. The ceremony took place at Gqeberha’s Richmond Hill Temple and Wor Bro Dennis Nienaber was the Installing Officer. The Installation was followed by a Board of Installed Masters.



Martin Gierz (centre), Dennis Nienaber (behind him) with PGL Officers and BB



## Masonic World Conference in Cape Town from 17 to 21 May 2026

As you already know, the GLSA was awarded the hosting rights for the World Conference of Regular Grand Lodges which will be taking place at the CTICC (Cape Town International Convention Centre) from 17 May 2026 culminating on 21 May 2026.

Many believe (incorrectly) that the conference is only open to Grand Lodge officers. It is only the plenary session which is held on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026, which restricts voting to Grand Masters or their appointed representatives.

Everyone is allowed to attend this session as observers. This is also where the Grand Lodges

bidding to host the World Conference in 2028 will pitch their bids. This is part of the plenary session, so it is exciting to see what the bidders present to secure the rights to host the conference.

Work is being done to build on outcomes from the XIX World Conference which was held in Brazil in 2025. The focus will be on the youth who fall into the Gen Z generation definition.

The conference is not a typical conference where papers are delivered, but rather where various topics for discussion are presented on the main theme of the Conference and two or three sub



## GLSA BB visit Cosmopolitan Lodge (EC)

On Monday, 7 April 2025, Cosmopolitan Lodge (EC), held their regular meeting at the Kimberley Masonic Centre. The meeting was attended by a number of visitors, including Wor Bro Francois Dauth, who represented the Central Division PGM, and Wor Bro Bradley Bordiss, the WM of de Goede Hoop. The UGLE's RW Bro Piet Louw



themes. Delegates who are divided up into groups (not all from their Grand Lodges) but in terms of language ability, are given the opportunity to workshop specific ideas and questions, answers of which are captured in real time, and then collated to prepare tools which every delegate can take back from the conference and apply at every level in Freemasonry, from craft lodge, through provincial or divisional structures up to Grand Lodge. This exposes all Masons (delegates) to different experiences of Freemasonry as practiced around the world, and we can all learn from each other.

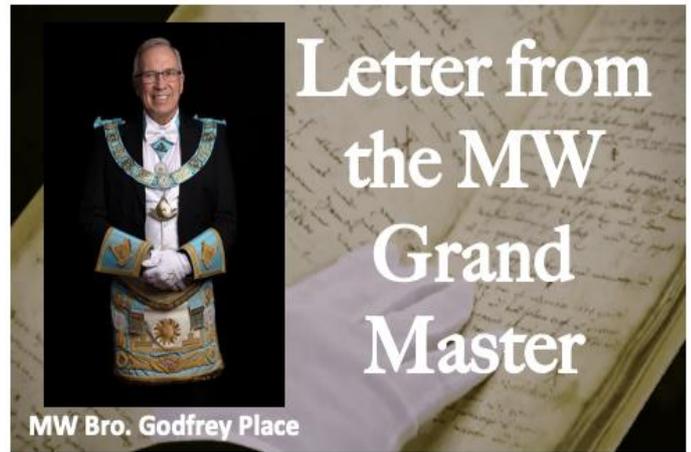
The future of Freemasonry is in the hands of the youth, a generation we cannot afford not to attract to our Order. We need to be attractive to them so they can join our fraternity and continue the age-old legacy which is the foundation of Freemasonry.

We are looking for at least 300 masons who practice Freemasonry in South Africa to attend. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to be part of working towards the future of South Africa, where everyone has input and can shape the path that Freemasonry can follow securing the future for those who come after us.

The website is being updated and will be the communication tool for the whole world. It will contain regular updates and provide the booking platform for delegates. Registration for the conference will open soon. We are testing the various interactive systems to ensure that everything works smoothly to ensure that the first interaction is a positive one. The outline program will be on the website, and as aspects are finalised, the website and program will be updated.

There will be a specific program for wives/partners to enjoy while the conference is underway. If our wives and partners attend, they will be able to make friends of those of our foreign delegates, thereby strengthening relations at all levels.

Be one of the first Masons from not only the GLSA, but Freemasonry in South Africa, who book for the conference as soon as booking opens. Be part of shaping the future, not only for yourself and our Brethren around the world, but part of the worldwide team making a difference for all.



## **The Missing Generations in Freemasonry and how to Draw Them Into Our Order**

### **Part 1: Understanding the missing generation and who make up this group.**

When we look around Freemasons in general, across all Constitutions, we tend to see an average age group of higher than 50 years. We in the GLSA are tending to buck this trend where our average age is around 47 years of age.

To understand the definition of the various generations, we must consider them as follows:

- Traditionalists: born 1925 to 1945,
- Baby Boomers: born 1946 to 1964,
- Generation X: born 1965 to 1980,
- Millennials: born 1981 to 2000, and
- Generation Z: born 2001 to 2020.

The "missing generations" in Freemasonry typically refer to younger men, often Millennials and Gen Z, who are notably underrepresented in our Masonic Lodges compared to Baby Boomers and Gen X. Many Lodges are ageing, with too few new initiates replacing those who pass away or become inactive. To draw these missing generations into our Fraternity and Order, Lodges need to modify both their outreach and internal culture.

We need to understand why they are missing and then work on plans to include them. They are our Order's future and can contribute in a very definite way to the growth and success of achieving our great aims and objectives.

### **Why do the Missing Generations Exist?**

Ever since the beginning of time Society has been a constantly changing and shifting process. No doubt our great-great grandparents felt the same about the "youth" in their day as we do nowadays. Whoever thinks that the generation gap does not



exist, is in for a rude awakening, It is very much there and is shaped by events in the youth and their experiences.

1. **Cultural Shifts:** Younger generations are less inclined toward traditional institutions and secretive organizations. We see traditional religious institutions experiencing a drop in numbers of congregants and other traditional societies suffer a similar trend. With our Order, we need to demystify what we do to show that we are not a secret society but have secrets regarding the what and how we practice our craft. These secrets are in fact easily discovered on the world wide web and internet of things.

2. **Lack of Relevance:** Many perceive Freemasonry as outdated or irrelevant to modern life. In fact the complete opposite is true, Freemasonry is probably more relevant today in our fractured societies and world than it has ever been before. Our basic principles of truth, morality, relief, brotherly love, treating and speaking to all in the way in which we want to be spoken to or treated is vital to peaceful coexistence with each other in society.

3. **Digital Disconnect:** Freemasonry has traditionally emphasized physical presence and analogue communication. Our modern world is now driven by nanosecond reactions. We can communicate with people anywhere in the world at the push of a button. News (fake or real) spreads like wildfire. Many people read and accept whatever is published as being the truth, not taking time out to review and determine if something is true or false. Click bait on websites and posts is a sure way to draw inquisitive minds to start running down paths which suit particular agendas which are often far from the truth.

4. **Time Commitment:** Modern lifestyles are busier and more demanding, especially for young professionals or fathers. Work from home (driven hugely off the back of the Covid pandemic), sees a lack of distance between work and home life. Demands are made on our time, because of the nanosecond mindset which has been developed and inculcated into our lives. Job insecurity due to current economic situations, which are made worse by events of politicians in far off countries, ripple through our world as we are all so entwined and the effects sees countless job losses because of crazy decisions.

5. **Misunderstanding or Lack of Awareness:** Many simply don't know what Freemasonry is or what it offers. Here we can only blame ourselves, because we have allowed society to dictate to us, to retreat and not be visible. In any organisation, success is linked to visibility in the market in which they operate. We allow myths to be spread, we do not defend ourselves, which in itself adds a sense of "truth" to what our detractors are saying. We need to be visible in our communities and be proud of being a Freemason, by living our lives in accordance with our basic tenets and beliefs, being true to ourselves and our neighbours.

### These are our Almoners

If anything is known about a Brother in distress, please share it with your Divisional Almoner.

Southern Wor Bro Llew Lloyd-Jones	072 9653572
Northern Wor Bro Joseph Ngafoua	072 0809682
Central Wor Bro Pieter Kruger	083 7973500
Eastern Wor Bro Craig Engelbrecht	081 7378289
E Cape VW Bro Marius Terblanche	082 7283201

Disclaimer: Although we try to include as many photos as we can, it is often not possible to include all those supplied as the newsletter must be within 40 MB so that it can be easily transmitted to you.

### Do you have ideas or suggestions on how to improve the *Square & Compass*?

Please email us on  
[manny.defreitas111@gmail.com](mailto:manny.defreitas111@gmail.com)

