



261 NEWS

Information newsletter for
The Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity Number 261

Issue No 2 March 2015

Exciting breakthrough in medical research funded by Freemasons

With the help of a £400,000 grant from The Freemasons' Grand Charity a team at Imperial College London and their international colleagues have found over 30 new genes that predispose to allergies and asthma. The genes activate the particular white cells that cause the damage in the airways of asthma and allergy sufferers.

Professor Miriam Moffatt, one of the leaders of the research team said, "Asthma affects one child in ten in the UK, and allergies may affect one third of the population. The new findings will lead to new treatments for allergic diseases, and will help to predict who will best respond to currently available treatments".

Professor William Cookson, the other UK leader of the study, said, "This research has taken ten years and used very novel ways to study the genes in the immune system. Because the research was new, it was also risky. Without the generosity of the Grand Charity and their trust in our abilities, the research may never have got off the ground. We cannot thank them enough."

Further information about this study:

[Imperial College London News](#)

[Harvard School of Public Health News](#)

[Daily Mail: Asthma cure a step closer](#)

For forthcoming events already announced at our February meeting see next page:

Sunday 22nd March Provincial Service at St John's Church, Glastonbury 2.30. All welcome to join the PGM for refreshments afterwards.

Monday 30th March Seminar 'Progressing to the Master's chair.' Burnham on Sea Masonic Hall. All Master Masons, their wives and partners are eligible to attend and places should be booked through the Lodge Secretary.

Thursday 2nd April Provincial Grand Lodge Annual Meeting at The Winter Gardens, Weston s Mare. All MM are invited to attend. Lunch at 12.30 Ceremony at 2.30 and places should be booked through the Lodge Secretary by Monday 16th March. Come along and support Simon Leyton who will receive his 1st appointment as Past Provincial Asst Grand Director of Ceremonies, Ron Nurcombe on promotion to Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden and Peter Farmer to Past Provincial Grand Superintendant of Works.

Saturday 9th May Quiz Night 7 for 7.30 in TMH organised by Adrian Halliwell in aid of Teddies for Loving Care. Teams up to 6 £2.50 a head open to all.

Ladies Festival Norton Park Hotel Winchester 9 -11th October. Deposits of £100 per person are requested to Senior Warden W.Bro David Brandhuber by 1st April.

This newsletter is purely experimental but if you enjoy it perhaps you would like to suggest a name for it – '261 News' or something similar perhaps – your ideas and suggestions will be welcome. Any items of news can be passed on to me for distribution at any time.

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