

RICHARD HUISH LODGE 8518 – NEWSLETTER 17 (APRIL 2015)

RICHARD HUISH



As I am sure you know, the Richard Huish Lodge Coat of Arms is: Quarterly, first and fourth, argent, on a bend sable three fishes of the field; second and third argent a fess lozengy sable. And of course, the crest is an elephant's head argent armed and crowned with a ducal coronet, or. The chat at Festive Board is of little else.

Translated into English from heraldic : the coat of arms is quartered into four, the top left and bottom right are silver; a diagonal black line runs from bottom right to top left with three fish in silhouette thereon; the top right and bottom left quarters have a band in the middle with black diamonds across the full length. The crest is an silver elephant's head baring his tusks and with a gold coronet as worn by Dukes.

But why ? Frankly, that's a puzzle. Pupils of the school will know that the portrait of Richard Huish has a similar but different crest – just the diagonal line and the fish. This is a similar portrait held by the Taunton Heritage Trust (whose copyright I herewith acknowledge)



Many heraldic / pseudo-heraldic sources exist and they vary in explanation. Some regard the quartering as linking the Huish and Avenell families. Several aver the fishes to be the humble Roach, in recognition of a marriage between the Huish and De la Roche families in 1311. Others make no marriage reference at all and say the fish are Barbels. Yer pays yer money...

The Lozenge symbolises noble birth; an elephant strength, wisdom and courage. The crescent moon in the middle is the symbol for the second son.

Several sites suggest that the Huish family forebears were part of the army of William, Duke of Normandy, 1066 and all that. Others don't.

Burke's "**A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland, Enjoying Territorial Possessions Or High Official Rank**", published in 1838 (this newsletter isn't just thrown together you know...) has a remarkable family history and lineage of Richard (born date unknown, died 23rd February 1615, 400 years ago just gone) He hypothesises that our coat of arms is that of the Huish's of Leicester, not Taunton! Whilst "**The Gentleman's Magazine, Volume 101, Part 2**" is very certain that the quartered arms ARE our boy, by virtue of their presence on the buildings we now call the Huish Alms Houses.

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OUR NEW INITIATE – Bro Martin Turner



We initiated Bro Martin in February 2015. Martin is born and bred a proud and complete Tauntonian. His first job role took him into the retail sector learning the skills of management, creating a background for more future exploits. He decided that working Sundays and bank holidays was not for a young father, and so he moved company, and across to sales and marketing. For the past few years, he's been travelling the world helping to develop overseas offices and workforces.

Currently he is CEO of Kudos Housewares a company founded by Martin and his wife, Maxine. This entails the full range of selling and manufacturing, import and export and now even their own distribution facility. He continues to travel, most often to and from China.

He enjoys the simple things in life and spending time with family and friends, taking a keen interest in the finer things which on occasion is supported by good wine and food. (Now there's a good Mason!) He is looking forward to meeting new people and developing new friendships whilst progressing within the lodge.

Martin & Maxine have 3 children and several grandchildren.

Great to have you join us Martin, we look forward to supporting you on that progression.

DIARY DATES

Thursday 2nd April - the 2015 Provincial AGM is to be held at the Winter Gardens, Weston super Mare. All are welcome, whether receiving Honours or not. Further details re. timings etc from the Secretary.

Saturday 5th December - Wellington School Lodge 7230 will be hosting the Taunton and Wellington area Federation of School Lodges at their meeting. Put that in your diary now, we had a bumper crowd at our December meeting last year, let's reciprocate!

Saturday 20th June - Cadogan Court summer Fair. Sales of programs generate much of the income topped up with donations from each lodge. Don't forget each year someone wins £500 from the program draw. The Fair is a great day out - lots to do for everyone. The offers of produce for sale are much appreciated and you will find some great value fresh produce so please try to attend. It makes for an enjoyable day for the residents and is better than the weekly trip to the supermarket!

THE TRAVELLING TROWEL

We are receiving the Travelling Trowel at our April meeting. The Somerset Travelling Trowel Scheme was introduced in 2012 as an attempt to foster closer links by encouraging fraternal visits between Lodges. It has proved very popular with Lodge members.

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The aims of the scheme are:

1. To encourage a wider sphere of visiting between Somerset lodges and increase masonic links and friendships.
2. To bring the Province closer together by fostering a spirit of mutual support and fraternity.
3. To encourage less experienced Masons to visit other Lodges.
4. The scheme will also help to support those Lodges that are perhaps small in Membership as well as those who receive relatively low numbers of visitors.

We will be receiving the Trowel from good friends of ours, the Lodge of Fidelity and Sincerity 1966, from Wellington.

CONSOLIDATION OF THE MASONIC CHARITIES

There are proposals to consolidate the work of the four central Masonic Charities (CMCs) into one new charity. The Presidents of the CMCs propose that the work of the charities be consolidated into a single new charity that will:-

- provide the full range of support currently available to Freemasons and their families with scope to expand those services;
- have a new name (yet to be determined);
- support both Masonic and non-Masonic giving;
- become operational in 2016;
- be supported by all Festival appeals concluding in 2022 and beyond;
- Festival appeals concluding prior to 2022 will continue as planned;
- be led by one President, a Deputy President and a Board of Trustees with one Chief Executive and staff; and
- Continue to include members of the Craft within its governance arrangements.

The new charity will be financially stronger, better resourced and able to respond to the changing needs of Freemasons and their dependants more effectively, whilst also promoting Freemasonry as a force for good in society in a more effective manner. The next step is for each of the CMCs to consult their members – details of their consultation processes will be communicated by each charity to their members.

More information is available at www.masoniccharities.org.uk/review.

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PRIDE IN OUR MASONRY

On Monday 16th March, TLC Taunton presented the 5000th TLC Teddy Bear to the Accident and Emergency Department at Musgrove Hospital, Taunton. A bunch of grown men with a 5 ft. tall teddy bear got a few strange looks.

It was interesting to hear comments from the nursing staff who praised the usefulness of the teddies in the way that they put the children at ease and helped them through the difficult times in their treatment, thus helping the staff as well.

W Bro Adrian Halliwell gave a brief history of how the TLC Appeal started and how it has progressed in Taunton, with the PGM giving the national picture. The Freemasons' national Teddy Bear Scheme started in 2001. The scheme that so many of us donate to provides a regular and free supply of teddies to any A&E or children's service that would like to have them. So far over 1 million teddies have been issued. The simple act of providing a Teddy to a child who is anxious and perhaps in pain provides comfort and a means of communication and reassurance. In Somerset we have provided 36,000 teddies so far, and this was the 5000th teddy for Musgrove Park Hospital.

One of the young patients than chose a teddy, a lilac one, and this teddy was duly named Amelia - you can see her in the picture above.



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www.somersetfreemasons.org