

Ross Masonic Club



Supporting Local Freemasons

The Craftsmen

Week Commencing 13th April 2020

Issue Number Two

Welcome to the second edition of the Ross Masonic Club Weekly Round-up. A chance to share what we have been up to, with some light hearted articles during the break in face to face meetings.

Any thoughts on what you would like to see gratefully received and faithfully applied in a future edition. We have had a few suggestions including a weekly Limerick slot - any budding poets out there who would like to continue this next week?

According to Emyr Jones - who came up with the idea.

'A limerick is a humorous poem consisting of five lines. The first, second, and fifth lines must have seven to ten syllables while rhyming and having the same verbal rhythm. The third and fourth lines should only have five to seven syllables; they too must rhyme with each other and have the same rhythm.'

I'm not sure if this counts but here is a starter for 10. Someone please do much better next week!

***There was an old mason from Ross
Who was spending more time with 'The Boss'
He missed the Lodge meetings
And Brotherly greetings
For jobs she had given him lots!***



Any contributions or feedback please email the editor

Social Media Roundup

Facebook



We have set up a Facebook Group for Ross Masonic Club. We currently have 25 members across the Lodges and Chapter. Any members of Lodges or Chapter that meet at Ross Masonic Hall are welcome to join in.

Twitter Roundup

@hfdslightblues



To think it was only two months ago that the Herefordshire Light Blues club 'The Caeruleum Club' launched at Kyrle Street in Hereford.



Caeruleum (Latin for Light Blue) is especially for those members of Herefordshire Lodges who have yet to achieve Provincial rank, with the aim to 'socialise, learn, and represent the views of the future generations of Freemasons.'

Pictured here are club member Billy Russell with Nigel Donovan WM of Vitruvian Lodge. Notice how they naturally stand to form two sides of an equilateral triangle..... I can feel another conspiracy theory book coming on!

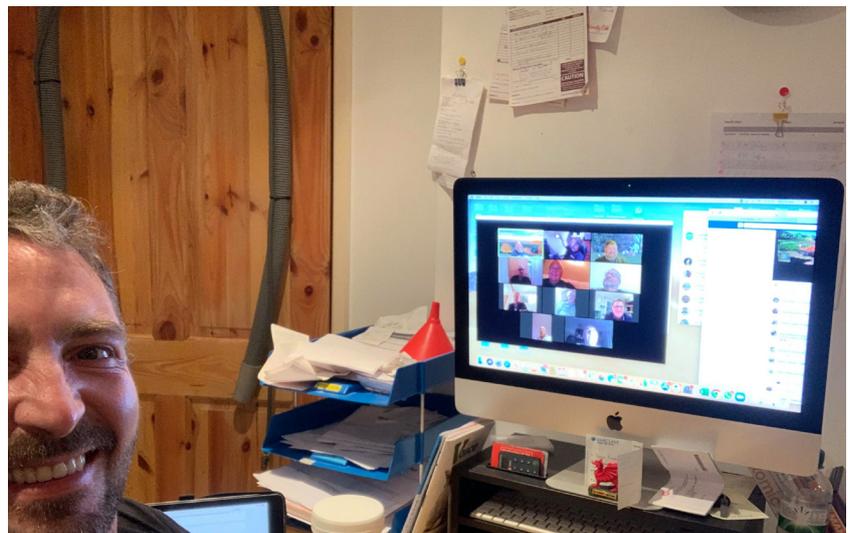
More information on their website here <https://caeruleum.club> or follow them on Twitter here <https://twitter.com/hfdslightblues>

Face to Face

In a virtual way!

Billy Russell has continued his hard work in organising a regular face to face (virtually) get together using the 'Zoom' App for video conferencing.

Twelve of us met again last Friday to Toast Absent Brethren and celebrate Billy's birthday via Zoom.



Any contributions or feedback please email the editor

This Week In My Garden

A Weekly Feature?

Thank you to Martin Thorne for the article and photos below.

Ideas required for next week - please email in to Andrew



In My Garden

Ruminations from a casual gardener (Martin Thorne)

Below are two pictures of our garden here in Chase Road, Ross - the first (prompted by Dennis' article in the first issue of The Craftsmen) to show the extraordinary tulip display that appeared here two years ago - quite where they all came from, I don't know, so I claim no credit, but they were amazing - and the second to give a general impression of our garden here in Chase Road (prompted by a recognition of how lucky we are during the present Covid-19 crisis, when so many families are confined to their homes with no such facility).



This latter thought leads on to what perhaps is one of the main benefits of gardening: while hacking away at those pesky weeds, your mind is left free to wonder and pontificate on all manner of things. This year, of course, we are in the midst of an almighty shutdown which, at least for me, has meant spending more time in the garden than usual which, in turn, has also given me time to dwell on a subject that has bemused me for sometime: that is an apparent imbalance between the three grand principles of Freemasonry, namely Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth and, indeed, to rethink how all of us might lead our lives in a post-Covid-19 world.

We are all well aware of Brotherly Love within our Lodges - even if, at times, it might wear somewhat thin but, after all, that is what happens between true brothers and hopefully this idea extends to the world at large also. It is also exemplified by the noble efforts of those responsible for this newsletter. As for Relief, we see the tangible effects of this in all our efforts to support charitable and other worthy causes, which has always

been such a central part of Freemasonry. But, what of Truth? It sometimes feels as if this third grand principle has been elbowed aside by the constant emphasis given on charitable giving, as is evident by a casual glance at the pages of Freemasonry Today, where charitable giving is stressed more than either of our other two grand principles - as maybe it should as, after all, that is very much our public face.

And what do we mean by Truth? Until 2011, Freemasonry Today included what can only be described as a philosophical introduction by its then editor, with his last contribution saying 'unfortunately, too many masons are rather nervous about truth. It's all too nebulous for them ... They unconsciously focus upon the first two of the Grand Principles, Brotherhood and Charity, but we cannot leave any of the Grand Principles in the Lodge as we depart, to pick them up at the next meeting. It doesn't work that way'. Does that ring any bells, I wonder?

With best wishes to you all, Martin



Any contributions or feedback please email the editor

Coffee Break

Another Potential Weekly Feature?

Here are this week's Easy and Extreme Sudoku and the answers to last weeks

This weeks Sudoku Puzzles

2			1			7		
		6	8	4	3			1
1						3		5
3		8			7			6
		2		5				
	4							9
		7	6	2				
				8				
4								3

This is the 'Easy One'

Sudoku #2, Puzzle No. 4056161
©Sudoku.cool

		9				7		6
				7		3	5	
	6							1
	4				7		9	8
		8	2					
			9	3		2	4	
4	9			1				
		5		9				
		3		2	4			1

This is the 'Extreme One'

Sudoku #2, Puzzle No. 4054754
©Sudoku.cool

Answers to be published next week or visit <https://sudoku.cool> if you really cannot wait!

The Answers to Last Weeks Sudoku Puzzles

Answers to last weeks 'Easy One'

Sudoku #1, Puzzle No. 4055342
©Sudoku.cool

1	8	7	6	9	4	3	2	5
3	9	4	5	2	8	7	6	1
5	2	6	7	3	1	4	9	8
8	7	5	9	1	2	6	4	3
9	6	3	4	8	5	1	7	2
4	1	2	3	6	7	5	8	9
6	5	9	2	7	3	8	1	4
2	3	8	1	4	6	9	5	7
7	4	1	8	5	9	2	3	6

Answers to last weeks 'Extreme One'

Sudoku #1, Puzzle No. 4054716
©Sudoku.cool

8	2	4	6	7	3	1	9	5
9	3	5	2	8	1	6	7	4
7	1	6	9	4	5	2	3	8
5	6	9	3	1	4	7	8	2
1	4	8	7	9	2	3	5	6
3	7	2	5	6	8	9	4	1
2	9	7	8	5	6	4	1	3
6	5	1	4	3	9	8	2	7
4	8	3	1	2	7	5	6	9

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Community Hub

Local Services

Is anyone aware of local suppliers who offer a delivery service or any other community services that may prove useful? If so send them in and we will publish them here for everyone's use.

Local Delivery Services and Community Hubs

Forest of Dean

Anyone living in the Royal Forest of Dean? This is a list of local producers who will provide delivery services <https://www.foresthub.co.uk/covid-19-home-delivery-services>

Llangrove-Llangarron-Llancloudy and Three Ashes Community Hub

Local Community Hub able to help with shopping, prescription collections etc

They are on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/Llangrove-Llangarron-Llancloudy-and-Three-Ashes-Community-104075311144231/>

Email address is communityhub22@gmail.com Telephone number is 01989 770916.

They hope to answer all calls between 9am and 5pm but if they are engaged or you call outside of these hours you can leave a message.

Ross on Wye

Hanks Butchers

45 Broad Street

Ross

01989 562216

www.meatandgame.co.uk

info@meatandgame.co.uk

meat, game, eggs

Pengethley Farm Shop

Pengethley Garden Centre

Peterstow

01989 730430

www.pengethleyfarmshop.com

sale.pfs@btconnect.com

vegetables, dairy, bakery, meat, deli, general groceries

Thank you to David Hudson, Geraint Bevan and Nigel Donovan for the useful information above.

Anyone have anything else for Ross on Wye, Monmouth or surrounding areas we could share next week?

Fun Fact of the Week

Did you see

The Supermoon last week?

This April full moon is the first of the season's three full moons to fall between the March equinox and the June solstice. The April full moon also presents the closest (and thereby largest) supermoon of the year.



Any contributions or feedback please email the editor

.....And Finally

A message from Tim Fycun the WM of Ariconium Lodge



His Master's Voice

Tim Fycun WM of Ariconium Lodge

Brethren, I bring you greetings from Hollymount or Stalag Luft 3 as I have now called it. The Camp Commandant (The Wife) is a hard but fair task master. Myself along with my other camp mates (the kids) have formed an escape committee. The first tunnel was discovered by the camp guards (the dogs) yesterday but we are not deterred.

The good weather means we can get out into the garden and the Camp Commandant has me on gardening duty. She says if I start to behave I can have my clothes back next week.

Stay safe and please do stay at home if you can. Please try and call other members of your Lodge so that we keep in touch, and with a combined effort we can get through. At this time we must also thank all those on the front-line who are working in dangerous times, working today for our tomorrows.

Take care and big hugs and love from Hollymount.

Tim



Editorial Bits

Weekly Deadlines

If you have anything to submit - and we hope you do, can you please send it in by the end of Friday each week.

We will then endeavour to include it in the following Monday's edition. If that is already full we will carry it forward to the next week.

Newsletter to be forwarded to Lodge Secretaries and Chapter Scribe E via email on Mondays for distribution to all members of the Ross Masonic Club. All members of Ariconium Lodge, Vitruvian Lodge and Chapter and Kyrle Lodge of Mark Masons are automatically members of the Club.



Any contributions or feedback please email the editor