



# Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim **NEWSLETTER**

No 26 Summer 2015

## **DOUBLE JEWEL PRESENTATION AT ABBEY LODGE 180**

Wednesday 29 April saw **Abbey Masonic Lodge No 180** celebrate a joint achievement by **W Bro Frank McNiece** and **W Bro Richard Wilson** who together had just passed 110 years in Masonry. W Bro Frank received his first degree in 1955 – the same year as McDonalds came into being and Anthony Eden was Prime minister. W Bro Richard received his first degree in 1964 – the year of the Beatles and Cassius Clay becoming Muhammed Ali.



The Worshipful Master, W Bro Stephen Bell, presented Frank with his 50 year jewel - newly embellished with a 60 year bar – and his certificate. Frank entered Masonry in Corinthians Lodge No 34 and was a member for 49 years, during which time he served in every office. He became WM in 1979. Frank regularly attended the Class of Instruction, led at the time by RW Bro Jack Long, where he learned the skills to see him through his Masonic journey. Following the closing of his mother lodge, Frank affiliated to 180 in 2004 and was awarded his 50 year jewel by 180 in 2005. By his side all this time is his wife Connie, to whom he has been married for 64 years, having met in the choir of St John's on the Shore road. A mutual love of choral music brought them together and that love continues to the present day. An ardent Arsenal fan, Frank always has a quip and a laugh with the brethren in all matters pertaining to football.

W Bro Richard was presented with his 50 year jewel by W Bro Brian Morrison, a long standing friend of over 40 years. The presentation was due last September but as he travels to Goa for six months every year with his wife of 52 years, Kathleen, April was the first opportunity to make the presentation. Richard's mother lodge was 445. He became WM in 1998 and in fact was installed by his son who was WM in the previous year. Unfortunately Lodge 445 closed and he affiliated to 180, also in 2004. Richard has a long standing history with Masonic Charities and was Chairman of the Belfast Masonic Welfare Fund for many years as well holding the office of Steward of Charities in 180. He had a long period playing, and eventually refereeing, in the Old Boys' League and always has a keen interest in the comings and goings of the world of football.



At the evening's communication the lodge room was packed with brethren of the lodge, visitors and Provincial Officers past and present. Afterwards, we retired to a splendid buffet supper supplied by Glen Catering based at the Whiteabbey centre. Trevor and his staff certainly provided a meal fit for a king. A wonderful night was had by all.

***Congratulations to Frank and Richard from all your friends in 180 and from further afield.***

*Original text by W Bro Ian Eachus      Photographs by W Bro Alan Hunter.*

*More photographs from Abbey Lodge 180.....*





## PRESENTATION of 50-YEAR JEWEL at BUSHMILLS LODGE 414



**Bro Dessie Scott** received his 50 year jewel at our stated communication on Friday 01 May. He received his three degrees in 1964:

*Entered Apprentice on 28 April  
Fellowcraft on 07 June  
Master Mason on 23 October*

The photograph shows him receiving his certificate and jewel from the Worshipful Master, W Bro Wesley Hunter.

The following is an extract from an article published in the Ballymoney Times in April of this year and gives some indication of Dessie's interests outside Freemasonry:

*Dessie Scott is a name synonymous with power lifting both at home and further afield and the diminutive strongman continues to go from strength to strength and add to his ever increasing number of World, European and National titles.*

*A member of Ballymoney Power Lifting Club, Dessie has won the British Masters Equipped title for the fifth successive year and he has just been selected to lift for the Great Britain team at the upcoming World Classic Championships in Finland and the European Equipped Championships in the Czech Republic. "I am delighted to win*

*this title again and looking forward to competing in Finland and the Czech Republic," said Dessie who competes in the 74 kg class.*

**Dessie, who does his conditioning work at the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre in Ballymoney and trains at Gerry's Gym in Coleraine, is in his seventies.**

**We congratulate him on his achievements in Freemasonry and in the world of sport.**

*Information furnished by W Bro Trevor Kershaw, Bushmills Masonic Lodge No 414*

### **DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING**

**Five brethren attended the recent Defibrillator Training Course held on Thursday 04 June in the Provincial Masonic Hall, Rosemary Street. With the increase in the number of Defibrillators across the Province, some located in or near Masonic Halls, it is prudent that a percentage of our members is trained to use them for the benefit of the community at large as well as our own membership.**

# 75 YEARS IN FREEMASONRY

## Very Worshipful Bro Thomas (Tommy) Frame



VW Bro Tommy Frame receives his 75-year Certificate from RW Bro Jack Dunlop, Provincial Assistant Grand Master, in a meeting of his Lodge, **Friendly Brothers of St John No 609**, on Thursday 22 May in Arthur Square Masonic Hall. VW Bro Tommy is now in his 98th year and continues to be active in Masonic circles. In fact, he has intimated that had he not been at Lodge 609 to receive his certificate, he would have been at a meeting in Molesworth Street in Dublin!!

VW Bro Tommy Frame joined Freemasonry in St John's Masonic Lodge No 98 in Arthur Square on 20 June 1940. He served as Worshipful Master in 1955 and in 2000. When the warrant of Lodge 98 was returned in 2006, he joined (with a number of other members) **Friendly Brothers of St John No 609**.

He has been an honorary member of Golden Pillar Lodge No156 for approximately 40 years.

### Masonic Achievements

- Made a Life Governor of Masonic Boys' School in 1953
- Made a Life Governor of Masonic Girls' School in 1963
- Vice-President of Belfast Masonic Widows' Fund in 1976
- Served as Senior Deacon in Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim in 1977
- Elected and Installed as a member of Grand Lodge in 1990
- An active member of the Crumlin Road Class of Instruction for 65 years
- Service with distinction in other branches of the Order



Tommy has related the story of one of the few occasions when he missed attending his lodge meeting. The reason? An air raid during the early years of the second world war!!

