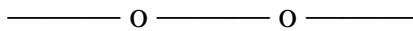




Formation and History of The Lentune Lodge No. 8743



Before explaining a little of the history of the forming of The Lentune Lodge it may be necessary to explain the reasons why new lodges are formed by brethren from existing lodges.

Many years ago, there were far fewer lodges and many of them had memberships of between 200 to 300 brethren. As only one member each year could attain the highest honour of Master of the Lodge, it is obvious that brethren that had joined, or had been initiated into the lodge in their later years, could never achieve that office.

In the knowledge that they are neither being unfaithful nor injuring their 'Mother' Lodge, certain brethren, known as 'Founders' expressed the need for the formation of 'Daughter' Lodges. This need arose from the Lymington Lodge and the idea of a Daughter Lodge was discussed among its brethren for the following reasons.

THE SPONSORING LODGE – THE LYMINGTON LODGE No. 7984



There were three existing lodges meeting at Lymington at that time; namely the New Forest Lodge No. 319, the Powney Lodge No. 3099 and the Lymington Lodge No. 7984. Each of these lodges had a long list of candidates, which meant that a wait of five years or more was required before their initiation. Also, many Masons had retired to the Lymington area and wished to continue their Masonic careers by joining a local lodge but had had trouble in finding a suitable proposer and seconder.

At a committee meeting of the Lymington Lodge on 25 September 1974, the Secretary W. Bro. Ernie Smith PPAGDC informed the General Purposes Committee that there were five prospective candidates waiting for initiation and he suggested that the agreed number of initiations within a Masters year be increased from two to three. A vote was taken and the proposal was carried to do this.

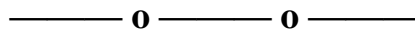
At a further committee meeting of the Lymington Lodge held on the 6 October 1975, W. Bro. Ernie Smith informed the General Purposes Committee that with a further three prospective candidates waiting to be interviewed this now brought the waiting list up to six. He further suggested that, following a discussion with other interested brethren, there might be a need for the founding of a new lodge to accommodate this welcome influx of prospective candidates. The Grand Officer present at that meeting, W. Bro. F. G. Hayward PJGD, volunteered to explore the possibility and to seek consent from the Provincial Grand Lodge.

At the next committee meeting of the Lymington Lodge on the 12 January 1976, W. Bro. Ernie Smith gave details of a further number of candidates for initiation into the Lymington Lodge and suggested that the time might now be appropriate to form the new lodge to meet at the Masonic Hall at Lymington. W. Bro. D. C. Marsh proposed and W. Bro. H. B. Longman PPJGW seconded the proposition to form a new Lodge should be put to all members of both the resident lodges meeting at Lymington, other local lodges, and their visitors.

W. Bro. Ernie Smith convened a meeting on the 4 March 1976 of all the interested brethren. This meeting was well attended and the interest in forming a new Lodge was apparent with many of those present indicating that they would wish to be Founders. W. Bro. Ernie Smith promised to keep everyone informed of further developments after referral to the Lymington Lodge.

Further meetings followed on the 9 August and on the 3 September 1976. At this latter meeting, following a request from W. Bro. Ernie Smith; W. Bro. Ted Young put forward the proposal that a new lodge be formed and that the name of Lentune be the name of the new lodge (Lentune being an old name for Lymington). These proposals were seconded and brethren at the meeting unanimously agreed.

THE PETITION AND THE FOUNDERS



At a regular meeting of the Lymington Lodge on the 28 September 1976, W. Bro. F. G. Hayward proposed and W. Bro. Ben Longman seconded, that the current Worshipful Master and the Senior and Junior Wardens of the Lymington Lodge, sign the petition for the formation of a new lodge to meet at the Masonic Hall at Lymington under the suggested name of the Lentune Lodge. The proposition being carried the petition was signed at that meeting.

A 'Steering Committee' was formed made up of both Past Masters and other brethren, and the idea was pursued further becoming a definite possibility. A 'Possibility' only because the consent of Grand Lodge still had to be sought for the granting of a warrant. In addition, the drafting of bylaws and meeting dates still had to be approved.

The Most Worshipful, The Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent granted permission for both the formation of the lodge and the ritual, which the Founders would lay down.

As a result of this joyous occasion, W. Bro. Ernie Smith said, "*he would report back to the Lymington Lodge as the Lymington Lodge would be the 'Mother' Lodge and that he had no doubt that formal proceedings in the form of a petition to form the new Lodge would now be instigated.*"

More brethren from both the Lymington Lodge and other local lodges then came forward with the wish that they also become Founder Members. A list of those brethren is at the back of this booklet.

The fee paid to become a Founder member at that time was £25.

The first meeting of the Founder Members of the proposed Lentune Lodge was held on the 12 January 1977 to discuss the order of the first four initiates, and to consider the arrangements for the forthcoming consecration. The Master Designate, W. Bro. Bob Cook PPG.Org., also tendered proofs of the 'Lodge Crest', which had been drawn by his son, Mr. Robert Cook Jnr, for consideration and approval of Grand Lodge.

Just prior to the consecration, another meeting of the Founders of the proposed Lentune Lodge convened on the 1 February 1977. At this meeting, four prospective candidates were interviewed and the list of officers for the first year was put forward and accepted by all. W. Bro. Ben Longman drafted and then printed an agenda for the 'Ceremony of Consecration'.

THE CONSECRATION OF THE LENTUNE LODGE No. 8743



At 10:30 am on the 25 April 1977, forty-one Founder Members attended the Masonic Hall at Lymington in full regalia for a consecration rehearsal conducted by the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. At midday, the Founders left for luncheon at the Ship Inn on the quay, because in those years, while the Masonic Hall had a modest kitchen all evening dinners were supplied by an outside caterer.

At 2:00 pm the doors were opened for the admittance of all brethren. As the 'Consecration Ceremony' was to take place in the main dining room, all doors were locked and the Masonic Hall was closed by the Tyler W. Bro. R. C. Hazel at 2:45 pm. During the ceremony, the Provincial Choir sang from the gallery.

Following the 'Consecration Ceremony' the lodge was 'Called Off' and tea was served in the small hall adjoining the kitchen. After the break, all brethren were hailed to reconvene. The lodge was 'Called On', W. Bro. Edward Young was installed as the Immediate Past Master, and the investiture of the officers of the newly consecrated Lentune Lodge then took place.

After the 'Closing Ode' the brethren made their way along the outside alley to the bar area to enable a team, formed of Founder members, to clear the dining room floor of the lodge furniture and ready it for the evening dinner.

All the Founder members confirm that the day went without a hitch and was a most enjoyable, and memorable occasion for all that attended.

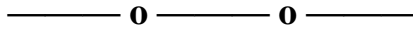
FOUNDERS OF LENTUNE LODGE No. 8743

DATE OF WARRANT: 10 November 1976 - CONSECRATED: 25 April 1977

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W. Bro. FREDERICK G. HAYWARD PJGD. Died 1991
W. Bro. EDMUND F. BRADLEY PAGDC. Died 1991
W. Bro. GARNIER D. PILKINGTON PPAGDC. (Berks) H 1993
W. Bro. EDWARD E. YOUNG
W. Bro. DOUGLAS BARNARD
W. Bro. HENRY B. LONGMAN PPJGW. Died 1996
W. Bro. BEN S. BAKER
W. Bro. JOHN H. WARD died 1984
W. Bro. ARTHUR C. RENOUF died 1992
W. Bro. JOHN A. RENOUF died 1985
W. Bro. ROBERT W. BATEMAN PPSGD. R 1981
W. Bro. LESTER W. BARR PPSGD (West Kent)
W. Bro. JACK D. SYM PPAGDC.(Berks) died 1993
W. Bro. CHARLES A. BRIDLE R 1980
W. Bro. Dr. VICTOR H. TOMPKINS died 1984
W. Bro. DOUGLAS C. MARSH died 1989
W. Bro. ERNEST G. RUNNICLES PPG.Org (Middlesex) LGR. Died 1996
W. Bro. ERNEST E. SMITH PPSGD. H 1991
W. Bro. ROBERT W. COOK
Bro. Revd JOHN H. ELKERTON died 1977
Bro. KEITH J. TYDEMAN
Bro. NORMAN V. PROW died 1983
Bro. WILLIAM G. SMITH
Bro. LEWIS B. BURGESS

The Ritual of The Lentune Lodge No. 8743



Prior to the consecration of the Lentune Lodge No. 8743 on the 25 April 1977, the Founders decided that the lodge would follow the workings of The Emulation Lodge of Improvement as published at that time. In addition to this, the Founders all agreed, in view of the limited floor space within the Temple at Lymington that some alterations were necessary to the perambulations.

W. Bro. Ben Longman PPJGW became the principal author of the ritual and introduced some pleasant differences with regard to the floor workings, which set it apart from the other lodges that met within the same building.

W. Bro. Ben Longman was most anxious that, without detriment to the ceremony or to the solemnity of the proceedings, no unnecessary perambulation, movement or actions should take place. These many and varied differences are too numerous to mention here, but perhaps one of the best examples is in the opening 'Candle Lighting Ceremony'. Although other lodges have incorporated minor ritual changes that set them apart, the constant and complimentary comments evoked from our numerous visitors does seem to prove that our Founders 'got it right'.

In 1986, the Grand Lodge approved the publication of the eighth and revised edition of the emulation workings, which The Lentune Lodge adapted their ritual as did their sponsoring lodge, the Lymington Lodge.

As with any lodge, joining members, more particularly Past Masters, with their best intentions, tend to introduce minor changes in both the floor working and the ritual. Many suggested changes appear to be beneficial but in deference to the Founders of the Lentune Lodge, the majority of members wish to keep the workings in their original form.

In order that all new initiates or joining members be assisted in learning the ritual in the Lentune format, a decision was taken in 1995 that the complete ritual, as originally laid down by the Founders, along with all the associated 'bits and pieces' be written down.

Printed and handwritten notes of some of the original workings were collated and with the assistance of a working party of the original Founders, a draft of all the workings was printed. These Founders consisted of W. Bro. Bob Cook PPJGW, W. Bro. Ben Baker PG.Std.B., W. Bro. Ted Young PPSGD., W. Bro. Bill Smith PPJGW., and W. Bro. Lester Barr PPJGW. (West Kent).

These Founders are:

W. Bro. Bob Cook PPJGW.

W. Bro. Ben Baker PG.Std.B.

W. Bro. Ted Young PPSGD.

W. Bro. Bill Smith PPJGW.

W. Bro. Lester Barr PPJGW. (West Kent).

At a meeting held on Thursday 30 October 1997, which comprised the above Founders and the compiler, W. Bro. John Scardifield, the last few items of uncertainty were clarified and the Lentune ritual as presented at that meeting was accepted.

With the assistance of the then Director of Ceremonies, W. Bro. Ivan Hillyar, a format was devised and adopted which allowed the complete workings to be broken down by sections into smaller booklets for ease of learning and use. As soon as these booklets became readily available, the purchase of the 'Blue Emulation Book' became unnecessary. However, the book is supplied upon request.

Gifts and Dedications to The Lentune Lodge No.8743



Bro. Keith Tydeman, the Founder Junior Warden, presented the Bible to the newly formed lodge.

W. Bro. Ben Longman, the Founder Director of Ceremonies, presented the 'Lodge Banner' to the Lentune Lodge and the Bro. Revd Thomas K. Colledge, Past Provincial Grand Chaplain, carried out the dedication of the banner on 10 October 1978.

From a design submitted by W. Bro. Ben Longman, Bro. J. R. Thompson created the frame for the Tracing Boards and the containing cabinet from Austrian oak supplied by W. Bro. Ted Young. The Lymington Lodge Tracing Boards were then photographed by a Mr. Brian Manby, a marine photographer. These photos were then varnished, mounted in the frames and W. Bro. Ted Young and Bro. J. R. Thompson presented the whole to the lodge.

Bro. David Hutton presented the Gavels & Blocks as a gift from his lodge in Kuala Lumpur.

W. Bro. Dick Hayman donated the Bible Place Marker Ribbons during his period as Secretary.

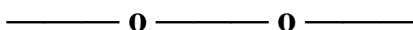
W. Bro. J. W. T. Saunders Director of Ceremonies 1981/2 – 1985/6 and W. Bro. W. G. Smith Director of Ceremonies 1986/7 – 1993/4, presented the Director of Ceremonies Baton to the lodge.

W. Bro. E. E. Young Assistant Director of Ceremonies 1978/9 1989/90 and Bro. G. Aylward Assistant Secretary 1980-1982 presented the Assistant Director of Ceremonies Baton to the lodge.

W. Bro. David Kemp, Worshipful Master 1994–1995 presented the Silver Toast List Holder.

The Pedestal Drop was commissioned in honour of Bro. George Aylward, a Founder, who died in 1996.

The Consecrating Team



V.W. Bro. P. H. R. Evans *OBE*, PGSuptWks, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Assisted by

W. Bro. A. L. E. Ormond PSGD. APGM.

W. Bro. J. F. Freeston PSGD. APG.M.

W. Bro. A. J. Phillips PSGD. APGM.

W. Bro. F. J. B. Long, *OBE* PSGD. APGM.

W. Bro. K. F. Young PAGDC. APGM.

W. Bro. D. A. Holmes Prov.SGW.

W. Bro. A. D. Chun, *MBE*, Prov. JGW.

Bro. Revd H .E. Gibson, *MA*, Prov.G.Chap.

W. Bro. J. E. Bullen PAGD. C. Prov. G. Sec.

W. Bro. A. C. L. Callaway, *OBE* PAGSwd.Br. Prov.GDC.

W. Bro. R. C. Grimwood Prov.SGD.

W. Bro. D. C. Blatchley Prov.JGD.

W. Bro. R. E. H. Carter PPJ.GW. Prov.G.Org.

W. Bro. R. F. Tingley, Prov.G.Purs. Inner Guard.

Musical Arrangements by W. Bro. R. E. H. Carter, PPJGW. Prov. Grand Organist

First Officers Installed and Invested.

Worshipful Master - W. Bro. Robert W. Cook

Senior Warden - Bro. Revd J. H. Elkerton

Junior Warden - Bro. Keith J. Tydeman

Chaplain - W. Bro. Charles A. Bridle

Treasurer - W. Bro. Dr. Victor H. Tompkins

Secretary - W. Bro. Ernest E. Smith PPSGD.

Director of Ceremonies - W. Bro. Henry B. Longman PPJGW.

Almoner - W.Bro. G. D. Pilkington PPAGDC. (Berks)

Charity Steward - W. Bro. E. F. Bradley PAGDC.

Senior Deacon - Bro. R. E. Hayman

Junior Deacon - Bro. William G. Smith

Assistant DC - W. Bro. Ben S. Baker

Organist - W.Bro. Ernest E. Runnicles PPG.Org. (Middlesex), LGR.

Assistant Secretary - W. Bro. Arthur C. Renouf

Inner Guard - Bro. Norman V. Prow

Tyler - W. Bro. R. C. Hazel

Stewards

W. Bro. J. A. Renouf - Bros. S.C. Ramsden, J. F. English, G.R. May, E. W. Budd, J.R. Thompson

Information supplied by W. Bro. Barry Hills – July 2015

Edited by W. Bro. B.F. Crane, PPAGDC to Oxford and Ars Quatuor Coronatorum Style Guides – July 2015.