

# FRATERNALLY FEBRUARY 2012 YOURS

## GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

As this is my first Grandmaster's article, it makes me feel somewhat humble to be conveying a message to all MU members from Waipukurau. For those of you who are not sure of the location of Waipukurau, it's approximately 50 Kilometres South of Hastings. Waipukurau's other claim to MU fame is Past Grandmaster Bro Jim Fleming, who was GM 1983 to 1985, is also from this Town of 4008 residents.

With the Christmas/New Year holiday period now behind us, I trust you all had the opportunity to relax and meet family and friends and experience the true meaning of the festive season. Let us hope that the New Year gives a lot of us the chance to dry out after a very wet start to the summer and that all in the Christchurch area experience a lot less earth movement in 2012.

In November I attended my first formal function, a White Star Merit Jewel presentation. What a wonderful occasion. This very prestigious award was made to Sister Shona Mangels of Riccarton Lodge. A thoroughly deserved award. This was more than reinforced by the 180 members and friends in attendance, a quite remarkable evening. With all the Fraternal Council in attendance, it certainly showed all that Fraternity is in great heart and with continued support from all, will thrive and grow.

One of the many new regulation and compliance issues MUFS now has to comply with, is the Insurance (Prudential Supervision) Insurance Act. This act now means that Society must have a credit rating to continue with the insurance component of our business. The cost of this is considerable, not only the direct cost from the Credit rating Agency, but the enormous amount of

## WHAT'S INSIDE

E-MAIL ADDRESS COMPETITION, SECONDARY SCHOOL GRANT AND AWARDS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION WINNERS, 2011 MOVABLE CONFERENCE UPDATE AND MORE...



work that has to be done at society level preparing all the details required. Having been involved with the Credit Union application, I appreciate the huge extra workload involved. With further regulatory changes proposed, these compliance costs will continue.

On a much brighter note, I am really looking forward to the coming Grand Master and Fraternal Council visits. Of special interest is the Napier Lodge welcome to the GM on the 19th February, which will be held in Waipukurau at the Pukeora Estate overlooking the vineyards. This function will also see the presentation of 50-year certificates. In Nelson at Easter, we will celebrate 170 years of MU in New Zealand, this will also be combined with the GM visit.

I look forward to meeting many of you during the coming year. It will be great to catch up with a lot of familiar faces and hopefully a lot of new ones as well. I sincerely wish all members and your families a safe and happy year and that your New Year resolutions are fulfilled.

**Bro John Lowe,  
Grand Master**

## 2012 UPCOMING EVENTS

- 19 February 2012**.....Reception of Grand Master by Napier Lodge. Also presentation of 50yr certificates for Napier and Hastings. See article in this publication.
- 24 March 2012** .....Fraternal Council meeting in Masterton followed by an open meeting with members.
- 7/8 April 2012** .....Nelson Lodge 170th Birthday and Grand Master's Visit. See details in this publication.
- 26 May 2012** .....Ashley District Grand Master's Visit.
- 15 June 2012**.....Fraternal Council meeting in Waipukurau followed by an open meeting with members.
- 26 October 2012**.....Special Conference in Wellington.

If you would like more information on any of the above, please contact the Fraternal Manager

## GREETINGS FROM THE FRATERNAL MANAGER

Welcome to 2012 and what we plan to be a great year. At Movable Conference last year Bro John Lowe from Waipukurau (Napier Lodge) was elected Grand Master. John's first function is an official reception by Napier Lodge. See the article in this newsletter for more information. This will be followed by attending the Nelson Lodge 170th combined with his official visit. In May, he will visit the Ashley District. During the year I plan to visit as many Lodges as possible, so if you have a special meeting coming up you might like to let me know early.

During the year, the Fraternal Council is planning to meet at various locations around the country. Places that they will meet include Masterton and Waipukurau. Keep an eye on the "Coming Events" section for areas and dates. Following the Council meeting, there will be a function with local members and we would like as many members as possible to attend and meet the Council members. It is your chance to hear what they are doing and ask questions.

I would like to challenge Lodges to get more members to come along to their meetings and Fraternal functions. It is time to think outside the box and be prepared to try something new. If you have an idea regarding a function that the Lodge might try, don't be afraid to come forward and tell your Lodge Secretary/Fraternal Administrator

about it. I am sure that they are very keen to hear new ideas.

So far 8 Lodges have voted to consolidate on to Society. I am aware of several others who are currently discussing consolidation at their meetings. If you would like someone to come along to your meeting to answer questions on consolidation or to assist you with the process to follow, please let me know.

Remember that the year to come is totally new and is yours to do with as you wish. I plan to make this a great year and I am looking forward to spending some of it with the members of Manchester Unity.



Free phone:  
0800 MUSO4U  
(0800 68 76 48)

Cell phone:  
021 419 425

Email: [ianf@manchesterunity.org.nz](mailto:ianf@manchesterunity.org.nz)

**Bro Ian Fitchett**  
**Fraternal Manager**

## WAIKATO LODGE UPDATE

On a lovely spring day in November 15 members of Waikato Lodge met at The Olde Creamery in Kaipaki Road for lunch. A most pleasing fact was that we had 2 members travel down from Auckland, as well as 2 members who until they arrived, were only names in the Lodge records.

By the peals of laughter coming from each of the tables, everybody was having a most enjoyable time which

was later illustrated by everyone wanting a repeat get together in the New Year. This will be held on Tuesday 21st February 2012 and this time will be held at the Woodside Estate Cafe at Matangi meeting at midday. To aid the Cafe in meeting our needs, all bookings to Ross Bedwell phone

07 846 0409 by Friday 17th February.

**Bro Ross Bedwell**

## GRANDMASTER'S RECEPTION BY NAPIER LODGE

On Sunday 19th of February, the Loyal Napier Lodge will be hosting the traditional reception of the new Grand Master by his Lodge. This function will be held at the Pukeora Estate just outside Waipukurau. The start time is 11.30am with Lunch at 1.00pm. Speeches and presentations will be before Lunch. The cost will be \$15.00 per person.

Combined with the reception of the Grand Master, will be the presentation of 50yr membership certificates to both Napier and Hastings Lodge members. Eligible recipients for these presentations have been contacted and invited to attend. Grand Master Bro John Lowe will be making the presentations. This is an opportunity to visit a unique venue, welcome our new Grand Master and be present when some of our long serving members are recognised.

Depending on bookings, there maybe transport available to the venue. Tickets for this event will be available from Rose Nicholls, Loyal Napier Lodge, PO Box 587, Napier. Please book by the 10th of February 2012.

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES

One of the most important aspects of the Operational Plan for the Future was increasing the Fraternal aspect of Manchester Unity. Recent discussions have brought to light the problem of members living away from the area where their Lodge is based. These members receive information from their Lodge about functions that are being held away from where they live.

It has been suggested that we ask members, who are interested in attending functions being held by the Lodges in the area that they live, to let Society know so that their contact details can be passed on to these Lodges. This means that these Lodges will be able to contact you when they are holding a function. For

example if you are a member of Napier Lodge who lives in Christchurch and you would like to attend functions in the Christchurch area, you need to let Society know and they will pass your details on to the local Christchurch Lodges.

If you are such a person and want to come along to your local functions, then please email [ianf@manchesterunity.org.nz](mailto:ianf@manchesterunity.org.nz). In the email send your name, address, contact phone number and Manchester Unity membership number. You will not be asked to transfer your membership nor pressured to be involved. You will just be advised what functions are on and given the opportunity to attend.

## LOYAL EGMONT LODGE

Welcome everyone to a fantastic New Year. An incredible response was received from the pilot of our Egmont Lodge Educational and Extra Curricular Grants, with a total of 33 entries being received. Remember these grants are open to the children of Egmont Lodge members who are either at Primary school or Secondary school or involved in Sports, Music or the Arts. So please make sure that you participate in the coming year's draw. The draw opens on 1st November and closes on 30th December.

I have great pleasure in announcing the recipients of this year's draws:

### Secondary School - \$300.00

Kerri-Ann Hedley

Samuel Potroz

Caleb Fitz Patrick

### Primary School - \$100.00

Emma Sleep

Sebastian Wilkins

Tyrone Thomas

### Extra Curricular - \$100.00

Kaya Parker

Marc Sleep

Darius Thomas

**LODGE MEETINGS:** Monthly Lodge meetings resume in February. I hope everyone has had a well deserved break over Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in February:

20th February - 6pm - Beach Street Hall, Fitzroy - Kicking off the New Year with a KFC Dinner

19th March - 6pm - Beach Street Hall, Fitzroy - Guest Speaker and Supper

16th April - 6pm - Beach Street Hall, Fitzroy - Pot luck Dinner to end our summer meeting times.

Please remember to **RSVP to the office (06 758 0949) for catering purposes. Thank You.**

## THE FRATERNAL TEAM GROWS

The Fraternal team of Manchester Unity continues to grow. At Movable Conference in Napier, Fraternal Councillor Bro Bryan Rudd was elected as Deputy Grand Master. This left a vacancy on the Fraternal Council. On the recommendation of the executive of the Fraternal Council, Sis Joyce Oliver was appointed to the vacant position. At the same time the two remaining councillors Bro John Simpson and Sis Sue Meikle were reappointed for the coming 2 years.

Also announced at Movable Conference was the appointment of 3 new Fraternal Administrators. Bro Rex

Oliver, Eastern Lodge Financial Secretary has accepted appointment as Fraternal Administrator for Waikato Lodge. In Palmerston North, Sis Rose Fitchett has been appointed as the Fraternal Administrator for Manawatu, Woodville and Manchester Lodges. In Napier, Sis Rose Nicholls has been appointed as Fraternal Administrator for Napier and Hastings Lodges. If any of these people are in your area, take the opportunity to call in, say hi and maybe pass on some suggestions for future fraternal activities. We wish them all well for the future and look forward to attending their functions.

## YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS - COMPETITION

We would like to establish a data base of members e-mail addresses. This will be used to send you information about Manchester Unity such as this publication and other information. The use of e-mail saves paper, the cost of printing and postage of this material to you. Your information WILL NOT be sold or passed on to any other organisation or business without your express consent.

What is in this for you? For the next 6 months (February to July) we will have a monthly draw from all the e-mail addresses we have on file. The winner will have their Lodge Management Fees (just the Management Fee, not the whole dues account) paid for 12 months. In August, we will have a final draw from all the e-mail addresses that we have on file. The prize for this draw will be a week at one of our Holiday Units.

You have to be in to win, so e-mail **Scott@manchesterunity.org.nz** with your name and Manchester Unity membership number. Scott will add your address to your file and you will be in the draws. Remember if you change your address to let Scott know, so that our files are kept up to date.

If we don't have your e-mail address, you cannot be in the draw.

## LOYAL RICCARTON LODGE HAD A BUSY YEAR

2011 was a busy and memorial year for the Lodge with two members receiving recognition. Sis. Bernadette Cooper was appointed DGM for the North Canterbury District and Sis. Shona Mangels was the recipient of Society's White Star Jewel. Sis. Shona, a past DGM, was one of the first eight women to join Loyal Riccarton Lodge. This was in 1964 and since that time Sis. Shona has served her Lodge, District and Society with loyal dedication. Approximately 180 people from throughout New Zealand attended the function in November that the Lodge organised for the presentation of this most prestigious award. The Lodge is indeed proud of the achievements of these two members.

Last year the Lodge celebrated its 125th Anniversary over two night in September with a Special Lodge meeting and an Anniversary Dinner. Both functions were well attended by members and visitors from around New Zealand.

Each year the Lodge helps out at the Special Children's Christmas Party. 29 members and helpers again this year provided assistance in Santa's Cave, escorting the children through and handing out the wonderful array of gifts donated by various businesses throughout the country.

This year over 1500 children, parents and helpers attended the party at the CBS Arena in Addington. Despite all the problems Christchurch residents had suffered during the past 15 months, the party went ahead and was a great success. Radio Network, who organise the day, really appreciate the assistance MU members provide.

Our meetings have been well attended throughout the year, even when quakes have unsettled many of us, and we will continue to arrange interesting and informative meetings for our many members who enjoy the fellowship that the Lodge provides.

The year for the Lodge finished with a relaxing Christmas meeting in December with entertainment, presentation of 50 Year Certificates and a special supper with strawberries and ice cream. Our two members of whom we are very proud Sis. Bernadette as the District Grand Master and Sis. Shona as the 2011 White Star Jewel recipient, were given the special honour of cutting the Christmas cake.

**Bro John Winsloe**



## CHRISTMAS CHEER FROM THE CENTRAL REGION

To end the year we just want to sit back, relax and look back on the events through the year and wonder where it all went and how fast. It is also a good time to think of others and bring a little cheer to people you may not have seen all year. So that is why this year Manawatu Lodge decided to give some little surprises to members.



*Mr Worthington receiving a Christmas Cake from Sis Rose Fitchett.*

Nominations were sought for members who would deserve a little treat to end the year.

So through the week leading up to Christmas Bro. Ian and I went out delivering the little surprises that gave the members BIG smiles. We travelled to Levin, Feilding, Ashhurst and Palmerston North, handing out either Christmas cakes, puddings, tarts or chocolates. Members chatted about their lodge experiences, told us of their families and Christmas day plans. They were so excited to have received something from an organisation they are members of.

Some of the members had been randomly picked and if the Manawatu gorge is up and going next year we will look at extending the area.

It was great to have contact with members that don't attend lodge meetings and I know from here on this gesture will continue and grow.

**Rose Fitchett,**  
Fraternal Administrator - Central Region

## NEWS FROM ASHLEY DISTRICT

Happy New Year to you all, it's New Year's Eve and I am writing this news – not intending to go partying, but for those that have been out I hope you had a good time. Life changes a lot when you are on your own and going out to see the New Year in seems so unimportant. I remember when I was a little girl about 3 or 4 in my Father's arms (in my PJs and dressing gown) celebrating outside our Fruit Shop in North Beach with 40 odd people in a circle singing Old Lang Syne, what wonderful things memories are, we would then go back and Mum and Dad had put on a spread fit for Kings and Queens in the lounge at the back of the shop. I was put back to bed and slept through all the noise. You could not do this now with the damage from the Earthquakes, another 4.8 today, I don't know when they will end, but we are all getting a little sick of them. I think the hard part is they come with no warning.

The "Christmas Fairy" (Sue Meikle) appeared with a reading at our Christmas Cracker (to see Sue's reading, please cut and paste this link on to your computer's internet page: [http://www.thestorytelling-resource-centre.com/christmas\\_tales\\_christmas\\_tree\\_fairy.html](http://www.thestorytelling-resource-centre.com/christmas_tales_christmas_tree_fairy.html)). This was something new for our District – we hired the Baptist Church Hall, put on an afternoon concert



prizes being donated by Lodge members. 6 of these were boxes of groceries. For those there, a great afternoon and lots of fun. Now waiting for 2012 to crank into gear.

**Sis Janet Sheppard,**  
District Secretary

(\$10) adults and gold coin for children. The concert was 2 hours and in the smaller hall we had 8 craft stalls, one was our own with all items donated, and 7 were outsiders who enjoyed their afternoon very much. Unfortunately the numbers were down for the concert which showed in the sales of crafts, but everything else went off very well. We had 11 draws in the raffle with all

## WELLINGTON DISTRICT

Wellington District and the Lodges have been busy with their fraternal events this last year. Britannia Lodge has instigated holding social nights instead of meetings. These have included fish and chips followed by games, card evening, quiz night, as well as supporting the Johnsonville Club with their activities as we meet at their premises. Petone Lodge holds regular social nights after their meetings which range from guest speakers to suppers out and dinners.

Wellington District has held film afternoons at the Lighthouse Cinema followed by dinner at Dennys. The visit to Times Cinema is always a popular visit with the old time films and cartoons to the playing of the Queen as they did in the "old days". These are always held in conjunction with a meal. This last year we had lunch followed by the shorts then dessert at interval then the feature film "Three coins in the Fountain".

Members again helped out at the Special Children's Christmas Party. It is a very tiring day but very rewarding. Te Rauparaha Arena is a great venue to hold these parties at with plenty of space. As one member put it "I don't want to see another sausage or any tomato sauce for years". He won't for one year when we do it all again.

2011 ended with a bang with the Britannia Christmas Party night at The Pines. 52 people attended as part of our group. A great night was had by all. Thanks to all the other Lodge members in the District who joined with Britannia members in making it a night to remember.

Events coming up include the lawn bowls at Terawhiti Bowling Club on 25 March including a barbeque. In May there will be the indoor bowls competition. We are also hoping to spend a weekend over in the Wairarapa visiting local attractions. More on that later. If you are interested please contact Beth Cowie on 04 235 9800

## SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION GRANTS - 2011 WINNERS

At the December Board meeting, the draw was done for the Secondary School Education Grants. These grants are for year 9 students (2012). Each year up to 10 names are drawn by ballot and they receive a grant of \$500 each. This year there were 46 applicants for a grant. The winners are:

Rhys Dooney	Napier	Alisha Fitzpatrick	New Plymouth
Abigail Hussey	Hastings	Brittany Joblin	Christchurch
Rachel Kime	Christchurch	Eli Labes	Dunedin
Siobhan Lagan	Geraldine	Hannah Mitchell	Palmerston North
Thomas Moore	Napier	Cole Nairn	Hastings

Congratulations to all the winners. Remember if you have a child who will be in Year 9 in 2013, to watch Fraternally Yours in August when there will be notice about applications for the Grants for 2013.

## 2012 AWARDS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION WINNERS

We have pleasure in announcing the Awards winners for 2012. They are:

### Degree Awards:

- John (Jack) McIvor – Napier (Bachelor of Engineering (Hons))
- Vanessa Lowe – Ashburton (Bachelor of Engineering (Hons))

### Likelihood to Succeed:

- Katrina Whittleston – Napier (Majoring in French and Spanish)
- Darren Johnson – Napier (Certificate in pre-trade Carpentry)

Congratulations to Jack, Vanessa, Katrina and Darren. The Awards will re-open end of July for the 2013 year, so please keep an eye on our website!!



## MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Movable Conference 2011 held in the War Memorial Conference Centre Napier 27/28 October was and will always be a very memorable Conference for me. Not only was it a well organised and run event, thanks to the Team from Napier Lodge who did all the planning and organising of the conference, but it also saw my election and Installation to the office of Deputy Grand Master of the Order.

This elevation to the position of Deputy Grand Master has been very humbling to me and I wish to thank all the Districts, Lodges & Delegates who supported my nomination and election and I give you my sincere undertaking that I will support the Grand Master, Bro John Lowe, the Board of Directors, the Fraternal Manager and Fraternal Councillors and you the members in all the work we undertake.

At this point I would like to thank the Senior Members of the Order for their support, advice and encouragement to me when I was considering accepting the nomination to this office. You all know who you are and I trust that your confidence in my abilities will be well founded.

To my wife, Inez and my Family, I again thank them for all their love and support throughout my journey with Manchester Unity for without it, I would not be in the position I am in today.

Lodges and the Membership are beginning to see the fruits of the work of the Fraternal Council and the work it does and it is very encouraging to all on the Fraternal Council to see all the Fraternal Activity that is already taking place around the country. Like a snowball, let's hope it continues to roll and gather stronger momentum along the way. Let us begin to see the return of the good "old" days when and where the Fellowship and Friendships made at Manchester Unity gatherings were always well supported and looked forward to. Together we can make this happen.

At the Egmont Lodge Christmas Function which Councillors attended following their November Council Meeting in New Plymouth, one of the questions asked of Council was "What has the Fraternal Council achieved since its inception and what are its plans for going forward and making the connection with the current membership and getting new members?"

In response, firstly it is not the Council's job to organise events etc to connect with the current membership or to get new members. Council are there to assist, support and encourage Districts & Lodges with planning and suggestions of what needs to happen. The actual responsibility of rejuvenating the membership lies with the Districts & Lodges and the members themselves.

With respect to "What has the Council achieved" -: here

are just a few of the things that have been accomplished since the inception of the Fraternal Council two years ago.

- Introduction of the Year 9 School Education Grants - 10 grants of \$500 each to children of members starting off in their Secondary Schooling – these are drawn by ballot from applications received by end of November each year.
- Increased the Degree and Non Degree Scholarships – Scholarships awarded are now made for the duration of the required Study. As well successful applicants are given free membership with MU as well as a \$5000 Funeral Benefit for the duration of their Scholarship Studies.

Council have and are continuing to review:

- White Star Applications
- Revising the Lodge Ritual
- Re introducing the Lodge Ritual Competition
- Re write of Lodge Funeral Addresses
- Visiting, supporting and encouraging Lodges with their Fraternal Programmes etc
- Making the application form for funds from the SBERF Fund (Society Benevolent & Emergency Relief Fund) easier to access.

And so the work goes on - the membership can be assured that the team that makes up the Fraternal Council is a very dedicated and hard working group of people – working for the benefit of you the member and the organisation as whole.

In conclusion, I hope my brief outline of the work of the Council gives you some small insight of the work that they undertake or are undertaking. Comments, suggestions and support from you the members are always welcome. Councillors are available, when invited, to attend your Lodge for discussions, support and assistance - don't be afraid to call upon their services, for together we can make the positives happen.

Fraternally yours



**Bro Bryan G Rudd,  
Deputy Grand Master**

# NELSON LODGE 170TH ANNIVERSARY

SATURDAY 7TH & SUNDAY 8TH APRIL 2012



## REGISTRATION FORM

(one registration form to be completed per person)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Surname) (Preferred First Name)

Lodge/District: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### FEES:

Registration (all must pay) \$20 per person \$20.00

### Saturday 7th April – 6.15pm Drinks; 7pm Dinner

Anniversary Dinner & NZGM's Official Visit. \$58 per person \_\_\_\_\_  
Rutherford Hotel, Trafalgar Square, Nelson.  
(Buy your own drinks)

### Sunday 8th April – 11am to 3pm:

Bus Tour (includes lunch & attractions admissions) \$25 per person \_\_\_\_\_  
Following the tour tea, coffee & biscuits will be available  
in the Lodge Hall. A historical display will be set up in the Hall. NO CHARGE \_\_\_\_\_

### Sunday 8th April – 7.30pm:

Anniversary meeting and supper \$ 5 per person \_\_\_\_\_  
(Venue dependent on number attending)

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you have any special dietary requirements \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and return (with payment) by 10th March 2012 to:  
The Fraternal Administrator, Nelson Lodge, PO Box 2531, Stoke, Nelson 7041.

**NOTE:** Cheques must be made payable to Manchester Unity.

**ACCOMMODATION** is available at The Rutherford Hotel for \$180 per room per night. We have 50 rooms on hold, and are happy to arrange your booking. However, if you would prefer alternative accommodation, motels are relatively close by. Please check the internet for these and arrange your own booking.

To assist us with bookings at The Rutherford, if you wish to stay there please indicate your day of arrival \_\_\_\_\_ and departure \_\_\_\_\_.

### TRANSPORT:

We will have a vehicle available to collect people from the airport and the Intercity Bus Depot, and to deliver you back to your departure point following the celebrations.

I/we will be arriving in Nelson on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ by plane / bus

I/we will be departing Nelson on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ by plane / bus

Registration confirmation forms will be either emailed or posted to you once the registrations have closed, that is, after 10th March.

