

Homewood Herald

Report from the Master

Brethren all, I greet you well.

Another month has passed – where does the time go? Life is busy at Planet Fraser with my sister visiting with her family from London. It is really lovely to see all the cousins playing together – given all the kids get on so well we need to save so we can visit them! Master James has started rugby with Petone and George isn't too far away either...

As most of the brethren will now know Hadyn and Marion are expecting a little one too – a wee brother or sister for Morgan; who gets to be a big brother! On behalf of the Lodge, we congratulate Planet Nicholls and wish Marion the best for a smooth pregnancy.

If Marion has a boy then a name like *Peter Reg John Charles Tim David Murray Fraser Warwick Graeme Nicholls* kind of has a ring to it!

In terms of Lodge activities, we have the upcoming Feds Dinner on the 16th and Callum's initiation at the end of the month, which I am really looking forward too.

I am sure that the brethren also had a great night at Te Puni on 6 April, which as a lovely evening. Special mention must be made of Brother Junior Warden, who struggled through the evening with a flu that looked bigger than Texas. Well done Charles for such a stoic effort, though remember brethren, if you are unwell, let us know and we will sort out something.

We also had a truly outstanding Youth Dinner – I don't think anyone could fail to be inspired by Nicola's experiences at Outward Bound, moved by Kathlyn's joy and zest for living, and the fund and comradely exhibited by Liam, George and Liam of the Northland Scouts.



A thanks to W Bro Hadyn for organising such a successful evening (BTW – this was also the launch of our new tablecloths, which look stunning).

Given family commitments, I won't be able to get out too much this month but do intend to visit Lodge Zetland (please note that this is on the 20th not the 27th as advertised in the dodger) and if any brother wishes to visit elsewhere please let me know.

Ahdut Coah Hi

Peter Fraser
Worshipful Master

Masonic History

An Otaki Freemason

Frederick Horton Bright, born in Otaki in 1874, son of Frederick Bright who arrived in New Zealand in 1877 on the Bach Weathersfield. Frederick joined the Otaki Lodge in 1914 and was a member there for four years, he contracted the Influenza and after only reaching Inner Guard, died in 1918.



He was buried at the Rangiatea Cemetery with a Masonic funeral and full chiefly honours from Ngati Raukawa tribe for his services to Maori. Frederick is also the great grandfather of W Bro Hadyn Nicholls who only found out his Masonic history after joining the Craft.

Charity



Last month saw the culmination of all our efforts towards youth, with the Annual Youth Dinner. We had representatives, from Northland Scouts, Outward Bound, Wellington Early Intervention Trust (WEIT). A very interesting talk was given by Nicola Johns on her experiences on Outward Bound. A short piece was given along with thanks by Fiona Shanahan (WEIT), with an explanation of what they do. The Scouts shared a few small items about what they did on Jamboree also. As well as these people, there was Nicola Brankin who could not be present, we supported her attendance at Turin University. In total, with the support of the Wellington Masonic Youth Trust, we have given away over \$4000 worth of support to youth in the last year. Several of these are a reflection of the widespread help our Lodge gives in the community. This was a fantastic evening and was enjoyed by those who attended, it is a fitting way to top off each year of our Youth Program.

Dinner will be on April 16th 6:30 for a 7:00pm meal. 'Coucou' - French Cuisine. 92 Karori Road. All are welcome to attend. Please let W Bro Secretary know if you will be in attendance.



A brief outline on each of these:

- Scouts - we assisted two boys from the Northland Scout Group to attend Jamboree, in conjunction with WMYT
- Nicola Johns - Outward Bound, funds towards completing this in conjunction with WMYT
- WEIT - funds for curtains for their music room so the children can do activities www.weit.org.nz, -in conjunction with the Freemasons Charity, which was processed in record time.
- Daria Brankin - assistance with courses at Turin University in Italy.



Daria Brankin at Torino

A letter from Nicola Johns - written whilst on Outward Bound

Dear Freemasons

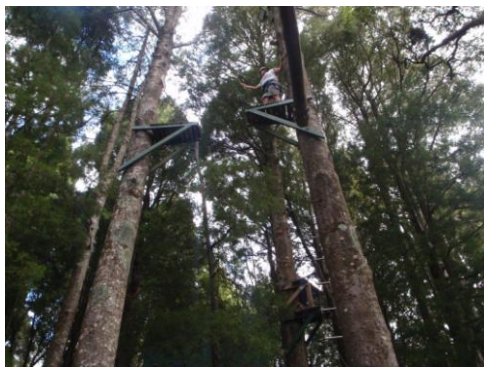
Thank you for your generous financial support, which enabled me to attend Outward Bound.

It is currently Day 15 of the course and I am on my solo experience in the bush. This is where they leave you for three nights and two days by yourself with your bivy sheet, sleeping bag, warm clothes, little food and a pen and paper. Having this time to myself has given me a chance to reflect on the journey and adventures I've had this far.

One of the greatest lessons I have learnt so far is knowing what it is I value. Learning what it is that I believe in, that motivates me and that I hold true to. Knowing these has helped me looking forward to the path and shape I want my life to follow.

Something I truly value is 'Service'. We spent two days doing service, where we helped move gravel back on to the link water pathway that had been damaged due to flooding. We also helped repair a bridge and mad some of the track around Mistletoe Bay on the Queen Charlotte walkway. One of the most rewarding parts of this was knowing no-one knew we had done this. We had made a big difference with no desire for reward, and we got the satisfaction from doing a selfless act.

I was also able to appreciate how much work goes into maintaining a track and how the closeness of the community directly affects whether these things are looked after or not. The importance of active citizenship, where everyone has an interest in their community.



I was also surprised how much I was able to accomplish in the many outdoor pursuits we did. I never thought I could walk a log 7 metres high or jump across a platform that high in the air. But I quickly learnt how easy it is to set limitations and boundaries on yourself which are not real and can be broken.

Outward Bound has taught me the value of adventure, of sailing away from that safe harbour and truly living. It has taught me the satisfaction that comes from living in you challenge zone and not your comfort zone. How discipline and routine play an important part in organisation and how trust, friendship and compassion make all your experiences all the more richer.

Thank you again for giving me this opportunity. I am inspired to get

back home and start achieving both my personal goals giving as much of myself as I can to my community. I look forward to coming along and sharing my experiences with you on my return.

Lastly, I will leave you with a quote I really like.

"At age nine his mother died

At age 22, he lost his job as a store clerk, he wanted to go to law school, but his education wasn't good enough.

At 23, he went into debt to become a partner in a small store

At 26, his business partner died, leaving him a huge debt that took years to repay

At 28, after courting a girl for four years, he asked her to marry him, She said no

At 37, on his third try, he was elected to Congress, but two years later, he failed to be re-elected

At 41, his four year old son died

At 45, he failed as a vice-presidential candidate

At 45, he ran for the senate again, and lost

At 45, he was elected President of the United States



His name?..... Abraham Lincoln – A man considered the greatest leader America has ever had. Amongst his achievements was the abolishment of slavery

Yours sincerely
Nicola Johns

Social Programme 2011

April 16 th	FEDS Dinner – Cou cous, French Cuisine (Please advise W Bro Secretary if you are attending)
May 7 th	Quiz Night 6:00pm – Lodge Rooms
June 18 th	Solstice Dinner
December 3 rd	Christmas Dinner 5:30pm Lodge Rooms

QUIZ NIGHT

Put your knowledge
cap on and join us

Brooklyn Masonic Centre
May 7th 2011
at 6:30pm

Cost: \$40
Catering by Hot Plate
Beverages Supplied

Contact W Bro Hadyn Nicholls to advise
if you are coming along by May 1st
lodge@hadyn.co.nz
973 4244

Lodge Homewood No.447