



Membership Statistics For Period 1st October 2008 To 30th September 2009

The following figures have been arrived at based on the information received at the office by 31st December 2009 for the above period. As there are known to be a number of Registration Forms, Annual Returns and Installation Returns still outstanding the figures are as accurate as possible.

In order to give a more accurate figure a change to the way the statistics are produced has been introduced. As mentioned before, a database is a living object and changes from day to day as information is received. Some of the information received after the end of the period actually refers to the period whilst other information is outside of the period. For example, when counting the number of members of each lodge as at 31st December some resignations, deaths, initiates etc. for the period after 30th September are included in the counts. These have been extracted and the figures used to adjust the number of members to show a 'true' figure based on information received. There may, of course, be information which we have not been advised of and in this case, obviously, no adjustments can be made. Using these principles the actual number of members is 5,886. The same principle applies to the number of members per lodge.

The figures for the year are shown below. Figures for the previous years are shown in brackets.

	08/09	07/08	06/07	05/06
Initiates	181	(188)	(181)	(191)
Joined	102	(114)	(97)	(121)
Rejoined	13	(11)	(11)	(10)
Deceased	122	(123)	(120)	(86)
Resigned	255	(246)	(181)	(223)
Exclusions	65	(59)	(49)	59)
Total Members	5886	(6037)	(6169)	(6254)
Total Memberships	6493	(6668)	(6828)	(6916)

Note that though Deceased is shown as 122, these are Memberships. The actual number of deaths was 99.

Also note that some Joiners are already members of other Lodges and do not therefore add to the number of members. This year there were 46. Joiners from out of Province were 56. Similarly the reverse can be true for Resignations and Exclusions. This year 72 of the resignations remain as members of other Lodges as do 4 of the exclusions.

Honorary Members are not included in the above figures. To date there are 78 on file who were once subscribing members of their lodges. Of these 22 were made Honorary Members of their Lodges during the year. These do not appear on any returns so we are not always informed when they pass away. Those who do not appear in the current Year Book have been investigated and several have passed away. At present only 5 are unaccounted for. Note that UGLE is probably not informed either. Therefore the number of Freemasons in Devonshire could theoretically be increased by 78 above the number shown above.

You may be interested in that a copy of the 2009 Devonshire Mason cost 50p partially thanks to advertising revenue. It is the additional cost of envelopes and posting which increased the overall costs, but time and staff requirement saving in having this job automated is very beneficial to the Province.

I know our editor would be delighted to speak to any company who may be interested in being a Sponsor!

W. Bro. Colin Turner

The WAKE Fund Donates £18,000 To Local Charities

The William Alexander Kneel Endowment (WAKE) Fund held its second disbursement to local Charities this year.

Over 75 people were present at the Masonic Hall Crediton, where the Provincial Grand Master R.W. Bro. Michael Penny accompanied by other Brethren and their wives, hosted and presented 22 locally based charities with cheques totalling £18,000.

The evening also provided an opportunity for Mr Peter Holman representing the Charity SENSE to give thanks for the Grand Charity donation which was presented in June by the Provincial Grand Master at the wonderful Summer Fete held at Ugbrooke House, courtesy of Lord and Lady Clifford.

Two further individual disbursements will be made to the Axminster Heritage Centre and the Friends of Tiverton and District Hospiscare. The WAKE Fund aims to give £50,000 per annum to local Charities and organisations within the county of Devon. The WAKE Fund was the idea of the late Provincial Grand Master Bill Kneel who wanted to create a fund, the interest from which would be applied to local charities and organisations within the County of Devon.

50 Year Certificate

Victory Lodge No. 4189

W. Bro. Kevin Bland was presented with a 50-year certificate to mark his long and distinguished Masonic activity.

Initiated into Freemasonry by his father in 1954 to Lodge Engayne No. 6831, at Upminster, Essex, Kevin progressed through the offices to be installed as Master in 1970.

When employment necessitated a move to Devon in 1977, Kevin joined The Victory Lodge where his hard work, knowledge and commitment to Masonry has been gratefully received.