

100 Years of Taurus Lodge No. 3981

1st December 1919 to 1st December 2019

**Written by
W Bro John R. Mabb, *PM, LGR***

Preface

When starting out to write the history of Taurus Lodge, I was unsure if I would have enough material to make it factual and interesting. But when I discovered that every Summons from the Consecration onwards was still in the Minute Books along with the Minutes of every meeting, I was delighted.

One of the biggest challenges has been what to include and what to exclude. After all, the total thickness of the Minute Books, Attendance Books and Declaration Books is some twenty four inches when piled one on another!

But it has not been only poring over the Taurus written words. I am also extremely grateful for the conversations with John Tuckwell, Geoff Gillo and Roy Anderson which added colour to the characters and events. Like government secrets, though, some of the content of those conversations must be sealed for a few decades to come for fear of a visit from m'learned friends!

I have also been inspired by the centenary and bi-centenary publications of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 959, Derwent Lodge No. 40, Lodge of Sincerity No. 174 and Willem Van Oranje No. 3976 which were diverse in their content and layout, but hugely valuable examples of what to include in our publication. Thanks also go to the London Metropolitan Archives, the Guildhall Library, British Newspaper Archives, Ancestry.co.uk and the office of the Worshipful Company of Butchers, all of which have been used to confirm many facts. My final thanks must go to my wife who has endured mountains of papers for many months whilst always bringing me encouragement and countless cups of tea.

It is an oft used cliché but it has been truly an honour and a privilege to write a summary of the first hundred years of Taurus Lodge. I hope this record will make the job slightly easier for the author of our next anniversary publication.

John Mabb
October 2019

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Before The Beginning

To plan a new City Livery Lodge would have taken some effort in 1919, particularly with the Great War only ending in November 1918. We are fortunate to have the handwritten minutes of three Founders' meetings held prior to the Consecration, but there is very little record of how the new Taurus Lodge would interact with the Worshipful Company of Butchers. We know from later records, however, that the relationship would grow in strength, particularly as three Founders and over twenty members became Masters of the Livery Company.

United Smithfield Lodge No. 3176 (Consecrated 9th October 1906) had immediately agreed to sponsor the new lodge and the chair of Founders, W Bro W. Fred Bonser, *MBE, LR* was one of their Past Masters and on the Court of the Company. All seventeen Founders had connections with Smithfield, too, which made the sponsorship even more logical.

Summaries of the three meetings for which we have minutes reveal a lot of decision making and speedy progress.

13th May 1919¹ A Founders' meeting was chaired by W Bro Bonser where it was confirmed that he would be the first Master; that W Bro F. W. Spellacy would be IPM and the second Master; that W Bro F. Lloyd would be DC and the fourth Master; that W Bro T. W. Hall would be Treasurer; and that W Bro G. J. Ariss, *LR* would be Secretary.

It was agreed after further discussion that Bro W. Goldstein would be the first SW and the third Master; and that W Bro A. H. Hartshorn, *PGSD (Surrey)* would be the first JW and the fifth Master. Then a ballot was taken to agree the other Officers.

It was unanimously resolved that Bro. Ernest J. Dewey² be appointed Tyler. He later became W Bro E. J. Dewey, *PPrAGDC (Surrey)* and served for 18 years until his last meeting in April 1937.

It was suggested that the meeting dates would be the first Tuesday in September (Installation), December, February and April. (There are no notes to explain why they actually settled on the second Tuesday instead).

It was agreed that the annual subscription should be four guineas, the Initiation fee* fifteen guineas, the Joining fee ten guineas and the Re-joining fee five guineas. The Visitors fee would be one guinea. These figures were later altered by the committee formed to draft the By-Laws '*on carefully considering the enhanced cost of commodities*'. The By-Laws published on 19th January 1920 had certainly been subjected to some inflation with an Initiation fee of 20 guineas, a Joining fee of 15 guineas and an annual subscription of 5 guineas. The Re-joining fee of 5 guineas remained untouched. Furthermore, the WM was entitled to invite one visitor without fee for each meeting and could have a grant for 15 guineas annually for music.

** The Initiation fee would have been the equivalent of £810 in 2018.*

A subcommittee was set up to consider the cost of the Founders' fees, operational matters and to plan the Consecration.

7th November 1919³ The Founders inspected the new furniture and were completely satisfied. There is no record of supplier or cost, but in later Minutes, the source is revealed. It was agreed that the subcommittee would purchase additional furniture, tools, etc., as required.

W Bro Ariss reported on the arrangements for the Consecration and the Grand Officers who would be performing the Consecration Ceremony.

For the Consecration Banquet, it was decided to accept the menu presented by the Chairman and submitted by Messrs. Harding at 10/6 per head. Furthermore, wines would be arranged with Mr Gardner with also some for stock. Unfortunately, we have no record about either Messrs. Harding or Mr Gardner.

Invitations were to be sent to the Master Butcher, Bro J. Garner and two Press representatives. The latter certainly paid off with a long and very detailed report appearing in The Freemason's Chronicle dated 13th December 1919.

It was decided that each Founder would immediately pay £15 to the Treasurer, the sums of which would be treated as loans, to pay for the furniture and other items. The monies would be repaid from accumulated lodge funds, subject to the result of a ballot.

Lastly, full particulars of the Founders and their guests were to be given to W Bro Ariss before 24th November to enable a proper plan of tables to be prepared.

25th November 1919⁴ W Bro Bonser reported on the arrangements for dinner and the purchase of wines.

W Bro Lloyd reported the purchase of cigars and W Bro Ariss reported that the Founders' Jewels had been delivered as well as other accessories.

Bros Sturgess and Oppenheimer agreed to act as wine stewards, and W Bro Lloyd was to produce a plan of tables, of which there would be five. Those presiding over tables would be 1. Bro Goldstein, 2. W Bro Wilcox, 3. W Bro Ariss, 4. W Bro Hall and 5. W Bro Lloyd.

Everything being in order, the preliminary meetings of the Founders were closed with a vote of thanks to the subcommittee.

We do not seem to have a record of how the name of the lodge was chosen. Indeed, there is a faint, pencil note on the rear of a Consecration Dinner menu card which says '*Who suggested the name Taurus?*'

The Worshipful Company of Butchers crest on the first Charter granted by King James in 1605 was adopted for the lodge, the motto being *Omnia Subjecisti Sub Pedibus, oves et boves* (Thou has put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen). Taurus is the second astrological sign in the zodiac and its sign is the bull. Also, cattle are the most common type of large domesticated ungulates, and they are a prominent member of the subfamily *Bovinae*. Within the genus *Bos*, the most commonly classified species is *Bos taurus*. So whether the Founders were keen followers of astrology, or were Latin scholars of species classification, we may never know, but the decision was to call the new lodge, Taurus Lodge.

Discussions with the Company were seemingly pretty scant considering that a new Masonic lodge would have been an important issue. There are three very brief records in the Court of Assistants' Minute Book⁵ which are reproduced verbatim.

6th February 1919 *Mr W. F. Bonsor applied for permission to found a Masonic Lodge in connection with the Company when it was moved by Mr J. Ashbridge, seconded by Mr J. Gurney Randall and resolved that permission be granted to Mr Bonsor.*

7th August 1919 *Mr W. F. Bonsor applied by way of motion for permission to use the Coat of Arms of the Company in connection with a Masonic Lodge that was being founded and also permission to hold the Lodge Meetings and other functions connected therewith at the Hall of the Company. The Motion was seconded by Mr J. Ashbridge and it was resolved that permission be given.*

4th December 1919 *Mr W. F. Bonsor applied that permission be given to be given to the Taurus Lodge of Freemasons to use the Hall for their Banquets in February, April, September and December each year. Moved by Mr J. Ashbridge, seconded by Mr. F. Clayton and Resolved that permission be given on the usual terms.*

The 4th December application is surprisingly late considering that the Consecration had taken place three days earlier! Furthermore, there was no reference to the Consecration itself or Taurus Lodge in general in any of the Court of Assistants' Minutes until an application was made on 2nd November 1922 to hold a Lodge of Instruction in the Hall.

¹ 1919-1934 Taurus Lodge Minute Book

² Ernest J. Dewey (1873-1937) was the Beadle of the Butchers' Company for many years and also its housekeeper along with his wife, Florence. They lived at the Hall and brought up two sons there. He joined the City of London Special Police Reserve in 1914 having been given permission to do so by the Company. He must have given valuable service for on 4th March 1920, Mr and Mrs Dewey's salary was raised from £90 to £120. Furthermore, the Court of Assistants' Minute Book 1913-22 for the meeting on 4th November 1920 records that '*It was moved by the Master, William West, seconded by Mr H. J. Pitt that Ernest James Dewey be admitted to the Freedom of the Company by Presentation.*' On 2nd December 1920 he was admitted by Presentation without fee.

³ 1919-1934 Taurus Lodge Minute Book

⁴ *ibid.*

⁵ Court of Assistants' Minute Book 1913-22, London Metropolitan Archives ref. CLC/L/BI/B/002/MS06443/024.

The Consecration

In November 1898, The Freemason¹ publication reported that *'The number of "class" lodges has for some time past been steadily increasing, and an innovation was made a short time ago by the formation of a lodge in connection with the Skinners' Company, called the Pellipar Lodge. In a worthy spirit of emulation, the Cutlers' Company can now boast of the Cutlers' Lodge No. 2730, which was consecrated at the Cutlers' Hall, Warwick-lane, E.C., on the 10th inst.'* Thus, 21 years later, Taurus Lodge became the second Livery Company lodge to be Consecrated in its own Hall.

The Consecration of Taurus Lodge on 1st December 1919 at Butchers' Hall was a splendid affair with fifteen of the seventeen Founders present along with seven Consecrating Officers and seventy six visitors. Of the visitors, fifteen were from the sponsoring lodge, United Smithfield No. 3176. The Tyler was Bro Ernest Dewey who was assisted by Bro R. Ede.

Consecrating Officers

VW Bro Philip Colville Smith, MA, Grand Secretary

assisted by

RW Bro The Rt. Hon. Sir Horace B. Marshall, J.G.W.	as SW
VW Bro James Stephens, Pres. Board of Benevolence	as JW
VW Bro The Rev. W.P. Besley, MA, P.G.Chap.	as Chaplain
VW Bro J.S. Granville Grenfell, G.D.C.	as DC
W Bro A. Ransford Collett, Dep.G.D.C.	as ADC
W Bro Frederick Arnold, P.A.G.D.C.	as IG

Founders

W Bro W. Fred Bonser, MBE ² , L.R.	WM
Bro William Goldstein	SW
W Bro Albert H. Hartshorn, P.G.S.D. Surrey	JW
W Bro Frederick W. Spellacy, L.R.	IPM
W Bro Thomas W. Hall, P.P.G.Reg. Surrey	Treasurer
W Bro George J. Ariss, L.R.	Secretary
W Bro Frederick Lloyd	DC
W Bro Henry M. Wilcox	SD
Bro Thomas C. Price	JD
Bro Henry W. J. Sturgess	ADC
W Bro John W.G. Randall ³ , P.G.Std.Br. Bucks	IG
Bro Michel Oppenheimer	Steward
Bro Carl Kirsch	Steward

Bro Gordon A. Pool
Bro Guy Warwick
Bro Howard J. Bonser
Bro Harold Hart

The Consecration music was under the direction of Bro Vivian Bennetts, P.P.G.O. (Middx) assisted by W Bro Charles J. Winter, Bros T. H. Oakley, George Stubbs and Frederick Arthur.

After the ceremony, each of the Consecrating Officers was presented with a small, silver rose bowl bearing the Taurus Lodge crest as a souvenir of the occasion and they were also invited to become Honorary Members of the Lodge.

The Lodge business that followed the Consecration was:

- Installation of Worshipful Master*
- Election of Treasurer*
- Election of Tyler*
- Appointment and Investiture of Officers*
- Appointment of Committee to Frame Bye-Laws*
- Propositions for Initiation and Joining*
- General Business*

There were proposals for six Candidates for Initiation and for two Joining members.

The Consecration was recorded in great detail in *The Freemason's Chronicle*⁴ which gives a clear insight into the importance of the event. It particularly reported that the Lodge would meet on the 2nd Tuesday of February, April, September and November at Butchers' Hall, although the first By-Laws dated 19th January 1920 give the last meeting date as the 2nd Tuesday of December, not November.

The Consecration Banquet

The banquet had been discussed at the planning meetings when the menu quotation '*submitted by Messrs. Harding at 10/6 per head*' had been accepted. We have no record of the price paid by each person but the wines and beverages supplied for each course would have added greatly to the final cost.

Menu

Clear Turtle	Fino Amontillado Sherry

Boiled Turbot, Hollandaise Sauce	Hock: Rhine Pride~

Saddle of Mutton	Claret: Mouton Cadet~
Braised Celery	

Sorbet	

Pheasant	Burgundy: Le Corton Grand Cru~
Tomatoes Potato Chips	

Liqueur Jellies	Champagne Bollinger
Maids of Honour	

Cheeses, etc.	Vintage Port

Dessert Coffee	Brandy, Liqueurs

~It is unlikely that these exact wines were drunk at the Consecration dinner, although they were available at the Jubilee Meeting on 1st December 1969. But certainly a hock, claret and burgundy were drunk at the 1919 dinner.

To complete a splendid occasion, the diners enjoyed some high quality, professional entertainment.

Artistes

Marion Beeley⁵, contralto Miss Alma Goatley⁶, entertainer at the piano
Bro Walter Montague, comedian Bro Richard Ripley, tenor

Bro Frederick Arthur⁷ was Musical Director

Of the Founders, eight became Worshipful Master including the Primus WM. Two Founders were Installed twice, viz. Bro Goldstein (1921 and 1941) and Bro Oppenheimer (1925 and 1944).

¹The Freemason, 19th November 1898, p. 548.

² Although the Consecration Summons and Minutes listed W Bro. W. Fred Bonser only as *L.R.*, in fact he was awarded the MBE in HM The King's 1918 Birthday Honours in June *for services as Chairman of the Central Sub-Advisory Committee (Recruiting), City of London*. However, he is frequently recorded as OBE and despite extensive research, there is no record of him receiving such an honour.

³ Although the minutes record that W Bro Randall was invested as IG, he was not recorded as present and neither was Bro Hart. W Bro Randall does not appear to have ever been invested as IG. Furthermore, he does not appear to have attended a single meeting, became a non-dining member by 8th February 1921 and resigned on 9th September 1924. Born in 1877, John William Gurney Randall was a successful retail butcher who was admitted into the Freedom of the City of London by patrimony in June 1898. He died in 1939 aged 62.

⁴The Freemason's Chronicle, 13th December 1919, p.285.

⁵ Marion Beeley (1887-1954) had married the British musician Aubrey Brain in 1914 and their son Dennis became a very famous French horn player, whilst their other son, Leonard played oboe and cor anglais for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for 28 years.

⁶ Alma Goatley (1889-1968) was a well-known composer, entertainer and accompanist who wrote the music and collaborated with many lyricists for songs such as *Lovelight (1919)*, *Nesting-time (1919)*, *Can't Remember (1922)*, and *Life anew (1923)*.

⁷ Bro Frederick Arthur was a well-known pianist and musical director in and around London and was acting Organist for Taurus up to 1955. He died on 13th February 1956.

1920 to 1929

In the first decade of Taurus Lodge, many events happened which shaped the future direction and set the tone of meetings and the membership. This chapter will therefore reveal far more detail than some later chapters.

The first Regular Meeting was on 8th February, 1920 and was attended by 13 officers, 7 members and 18 visitors. After reading the Minutes of the Consecration Meeting, a ballot was taken for six Candidates for Initiation which proved in their favour and then Mr Henry Richard ‘Harry’ Reading and Mr Douglas Cooper were *‘well and truly made Entered Apprentices, according to Ancient Custom. The charge was given by W Bro Lloyd in a most impressive manner’*.

A ballot was then taken for two Joining members - Bros Collis and Hammett – and proved in their favour.

Then, at the request of W Bro H. A. Shillitoe, WM of United Smithfield Lodge No. 3176, Bros W. T. Johnson and D. Hartog were Passed to the Second Degree.

Under the Second Rising, four Candidates were proposed for Initiation and three Masons for Joining membership. One of the Candidates was Percy Charles Vestey who later appeared on two further Summons’ but was never Initiated. He had received the Freedom of the City Of London on 9th December 1919 so would have been a very new liveryman at this February meeting. Of the other three Candidates, Mr George William Wheeler and Mr Thomas Throup went on to be WM twice each.

After starting at 4.30pm, dinner was served at 7.00pm.

The next four meetings saw the Lodge grow rapidly and each meeting was extremely busy as the table below confirms.

13 th April	Double 1 st , double 2 nd , ballot for 3 Joining members	Election of WM, Treasurer and Tyler
10 th August Emergency Meeting	Double 1 st , double 2 nd and double 3 rd	Started at 4.00pm instead of the usual 4.30pm, dinner at 7.00pm.
14 th September	Installation Meeting for W Bro F. W. Spellacy, LR. Planned double 1 st but Percy Charles Vestey was not available; ballot for 2 Joining members; ballot for 3 Candidates for Initiation	Started at 3.45pm, dinner at 7.00pm
14 th December	Ballot for 1 Candidate for Initiation; double 1 st ; double 2 nd ; double 3 rd	Started at 3.45pm, dinner at 7.00pm

By the end of December 1920, membership had grown to 32 with a steady supply of Candidates for Initiation.

1921

This was another very busy year.

8 th February	Double 1 st , double 2 nd , double 3 rd , ballot for 3 Candidates for Initiation	Started at 3.45pm, dinner at 7.00pm. The first Ladies Night was to take place in the Hall in May.
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12 th April	A 1 st , double 2 nd , double 3 rd	Started at 4.00pm, dinner at 7.00pm.
13 th September	Installation Meeting for Bro William Goldstein. Double 1 st , ballot for a Candidate for Initiation	Started at 4.00pm, dinner at 7.00pm.
13 th December	A 1 st , double 2 nd , double 3 rd , ballot for a Candidate for Initiation, ballot for a Joining member	Started at 4.00pm, dinner at 7.00pm. Agreed to hold a Ladies Night early in the New Year.

Consecration Honorary member, RW Bro The Rt. Hon. Sir Horace B. Marshall, JGW became the 1st Baron Marshall of Chipstead (Kent).

At the December meeting, Notice of Motion was given *'that in appreciation of the Compliment passed by the Painters & Stainers Lodge that the WM's of the City Companies' Lodges should be elected honorary Members for the year of their office. This Lodge should do the same'*.

By the end of 1921, membership had grown to 39. The pressure to progress Candidates had slowed to some extent but there were still plenty wishing to join.

1922

The first meeting of the year was expected to be busy necessitating a 3.30pm start. *'The Notice of Motion by the WM viz. that the successive reigning Masters of the following City Company Lodges, the Pellipas (sic), Cutlers', St. Catherine's, Feltmakers' and Paynters' Stainers' be elected Honorary Members'* was carried unanimously.

14 th February	A 1 st , a 2 nd and a double 3 rd . Becoming a Hall Stone Lodge was discussed	Ladies Festival to be at the Hyde Park Hotel on Monday, 27 th March
11 th April	A 1 st , a 2 nd and a double 3 rd .	Start at 3.30pm. The WM's Ladies Festival was recorded as a success.
12 th September	Installation of W Bro Frederick Lloyd. A ballot for a Joining member	Start at 4.30pm, dinner at 6.45pm
12 th December	Double 1 st , a 2 nd and a double 3 rd .	Start at 3.30pm, dinner at 7.00pm. Proposed that a Ladies Festival is held in early 1923.

1922 ended with a total of 44 members and for the first time on the Summons, Bro Frederick Arthur was recorded as Acting Organist.

1923

The year as a whole had a far less frantic feel to its meetings that never started earlier than 4.00pm and advanced from dinner at 7.00pm in February and April to as early as 6.30pm in December. Over the year there was one Initiation, three Passings, three Raisings and the admission of one Joining member. Thus, the year ended with a membership of 46.

The Menu Card for the Regular meeting on 10th April remains in our archive and gives an excellent feel for the splendid nature of Festive Boards in those days. The menu was tomato soup, fried soles with

tartare sauce, saddle of mutton with cauliflower and baked potatoes, roast chicken with salad, pineapple jellies and meringues, cheese and coffee. Entertainment was provided by three very busy and accomplished singers: Miss Alice Coombe (soprano), Miss Dorothy Webster (contralto) and Mr Lawrence Folker (baritone) with accompaniment by Bro Frederick Arthur.

The Ladies Festival was on Monday, 16th April at the Victoria Hotel, Northumberland Avenue but there are no records of the event.

Honorary member RW Bro P. Colville Smith, Grand Secretary, was made a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order in HM The King's Birthday Honours on 2nd June.

1924

The 12th February meeting took the decision that only Liverymen (as opposed to Freemen) of the Butchers' Company would be eligible to become members of Taurus Lodge, and the By-Laws were to be framed accordingly. Bro Edwin James Baldwin was Raised.

Very unusually, the 8th April meeting had no ceremony to perform and WM, W Bro Albert Hartshorn opened the Lodge in the three degrees, resumed in the 2nd degree and gave the Lecture of the 2nd Degree Tracing Board. It was announced that W Bro Frederick Lloyd, *PM* had been awarded London Rank and the Lodge voted to present him with his regalia. The lack of work saw the Lodge open at 5.00pm and proceed to dinner at 6.30pm.

The Installation meeting on 9th September for W Bro Henry M. Wilcox began at 4.45pm with dinner at 6.45pm. *PM*, W.Bro. W. Fred Bonsor, *MBE, LR* was congratulated on being appointed AGDC and was saluted as a Grand Officer. Founder, W Bro John W.G. Randall's letter of resignation was accepted with regret.

The WM Initiated his son, Mr Alec E. M. Baldwin and the year ended with a static membership of 46.

1925

In January, the Secretary wrote to each member asking them to contribute one guinea towards the cost of a Lodge Banner. The Treasurer deemed that Lodge funds were too low to purchase a banner at the time. It was agreed to order a banner at an estimated cost of £48.

The resignation of Founder, W Bro Frederick Spellacy¹ was received with much regret. It was recorded that he was taking up residence in Australia.

Two new City Livery Lodges were added to the list of Honorary Members viz. Needlemakers' and Tekton (Carpenters).

Honorary member VW Bro P. Colville Smith, *CVO*, Grand Secretary, was knighted in HM The King's Birthday Honours on 3rd June.

Bro Michel Oppenheimer was Installed as the 7th WM and the new Banner was unveiled. *PM*, W Bro Albert H. Hartshorn took the Chair to Initiate his nephew, Mr Arthur F. Hartshorn and membership remained at 46.

1926

Bro Carl Kirch became the 8th WM and the last Founder to be Installed. In his year he Initiated his son, Paul, by Dispensation as he was under 21 years of age. There was another Initiation, one Passing, one Raising, and three Joining members.

It was proposed that the reigning Master of the newly Consecrated Laus Deo Lodge become an Honorary member. The Minute is incorrect because it refers to the lodge belonging to the Basketmakers' rather than the Bakers'.

It was agreed – but no explanation recorded - that the By-Laws be amended to move the Regular meetings from the 2nd Tuesday of September, December, February and April to the 4th Tuesday of September, November, January and March as they remained for the next 90 years.

1927

In January the Lodge took the decision to complete the subscriptions to the Masonic Million Memorial Fund to become a Hall Stone Lodge.

The Installation meeting was moved by Dispensation to Monday, 3rd October when Bro George Wheeler was Installed. In a quiet year, there was only one Initiation, one Passing, one Raising and no Joining members. The death of Bro Arthur Pearce, Initiated 1920, and Clerk of the Butchers' Company since 1910, left the end of year membership unchanged at 50.

Secretary, W Bro George Ariss was presented with his regalia on becoming AGStB and the reigning WM of United Smithfield Lodge was added to the list of Honorary members.

1928

The January meeting was moved by Dispensation to Tuesday, 7th February and a regular pattern of starting at 4.30pm with dinner at 6.30/45pm had become established.

The Ladies' Festival was deemed to be a great success but there is no record of the venue or date. Similarly, the Summons of the September meeting had an agenda item '*To Sign a Petition for a Proposed Lodge*' for which there is no mention in the Minutes, although it was almost certainly for Aries Lodge No. 5086 which became Lora et Aries in 1996.

Bro William West became the 10th WM and another relatively quiet year saw one Initiation, one Passing, one Raising and one Joining member taking membership to 52.

The November meeting Summons declared for the first time that '*The City Liveries' Lodge of Instruction meets at Painters' Hall at 5.30pm every Tuesday, October to April inclusive*'.

1929

In January, the Lodge had unanimously supported a Petition for a new lodge in connection with the Worshipful Company of Innholders' which was Consecrated in June as Lodge of St Julian No. 5107. In September, it was carried unanimously that '*the successive reigning Masters of the St. Julian Lodge "The Innholders" be elected as honorary members...*'

Founder and PM, W Bro Carl Kirch died on 30th May. Consecration Honorary member, VW Bro James Stephens, PGW, President of the Board of Benevolence also passed away around the same time, but surprisingly whilst his name was removed from all future Summons, there is no Minute of his passing.

Bro Thomas Throup was Installed as WM and in terms of ceremonies, the last year of the decade was very quiet with only the Passing and Raising of Bro Frederick George Jenkins in January and March, and a Joining member keeping the year end membership at 52.

¹ Frederick William Spellacy (1872 to 1954) sailed first class from London to Sydney on the Aberdeen Line's SS Euripides on 4th January 1924 with his son Frederick. He returned and then sailed first class with his wife, Grace on 27th March 1925 from London to Sydney on P&O's SS Cathay. He died in Macarthur, New South Wales described as '*gentleman*' in 1954.

1930 to 1939

1930-35

The frantic pace of change in the first decade was almost the exact opposite in the first five years of the second decade.

At the 28th January 1930 meeting, W Bro William Goldstein received his London Rank from the RW Deputy Grand Master, Lord Cornwallis who was visiting. As had become customary, the requisite regalia was supplied by the Lodge. The meeting was well attended with 41 visitors and a total of 69 dined in the Great Hall.

At the March 1930 meeting, W Bro Felix Figheria, *PGD* consecrated the Banner which had been presented by PM, W Bro Thomas Throup and recorded as '*a most generous gift*'. There was no mention of the original appeal to fund it by members each giving 1 guinea. Having sought his acceptance after the January meeting, the RW Deputy Grand Master was elected as an Honorary member.

At the 30th September 1930 meeting, WM, W Bro Arthur Franks Initiated his brother, Mr Samuel H.E. Franks who went on to become Master Butcher in 1965.

In 1931, the City Liveries' Lodge of Instruction moved to St. James's Hall, Huggin Lane E.C.4 and the Ladies' Festival took place on 9th March. We have no record of its venue or attendance.

Founder member, W Bro Albert Hartshorn resigned but no reason was recorded in the Minutes. Founder member, Bro Henry Sturgess passed away as did Bro H. Gowlett who had joined in 1920.

Honorary member, VW Bro The Rev. Besley, *PGChap* who had stood in as acting Chaplain from time to time agreed to be invested as Chaplain for 1931-32.

Founder member, W Bro Thomas Hall was awarded the Grand Rank of PAGDC and his regalia was purchased by the Lodge.

In 1932, a very early Joining member from 1920, Bro J. C. Chalk passed away and an Emergency Meeting was held on 30th August as Master Elect, W Bro Henry Shillitoe '*owing to unforeseen circumstances*' was unable to be Installed as WM in September. W Bro Richard C. Hammett was elected as ME.

W Bro Frederick Van Zwanenberg took the Chair to Initiate his son, Arnold, who became WM in 1940 and 1950, and Master Butcher in 1965.

In 1933, W Bro Frederick Van Zwanenberg took the Chair to Pass and then Raise, Bro Arnold.

At the Installation meeting on 26th September, PM, W Bro Alexander Scott was invested as Almoner, the first time such an office was available. Similarly, Bro F. G. Jenkins was appointed the Lodge's first Assistant Secretary.

The menu card for W Bro Edwin Baldwin's Installation remains in our archives and details appear in Appendix 1. It was a splendid affair.

In 1935, PM, W Bro George Wheeler was awarded LR and his regalia was purchased by the Lodge. In the same year, Honorary member VW Bro The Rev. W.P. Besley, *PGChap* 'disappeared' from the 26th March Summons, but no Minute was made to explain his removal. In fact, he had died on 23rd November 1934 soon after a hospital operation at the comparatively young age of 64.

On 24th September, W Bro Leopold Van Zwanenberg stepped down from JW and never progressed to become WM although he remained a member for many more years. Two days later on 26th September, the RW Deputy Grand Master died at Linton in Kent reducing the number of Honorary members to four.

The five calendar years of 1930 to 1935 saw just four Candidates Initiated, and three Passed and Raised, and the admission of three Joining members. Thus, 1935 ended with 53 members and Honorary membership of eleven reigning Masters of City Livery lodges.

1936-39

Two of the most influential Founder members resigned at the meeting on 24th March 1936. W Bro W. Fred Bonsor, *MBE, PAGDC*, the first WM, and W Bro George J. Ariss, *PAGStdB*, the first and only Secretary up to that time, had both given immense service to the Lodge. Assistant Secretary, Bro Frederick Jenkins became Secretary but no Assistant was appointed until 1943 when the by now PM, W Bro Frederick Jenkins resumed the office.

Two Consecration Honorary members, W Bro A. Ransford Collett, *PDepGDC* and W Bro Frederick Arnold, *PAGDC* died in February 1936, but as with previous deaths, no record appears in the Minutes. Then a month later on 29th March 1936, RW Bro The Rt. Hon. Lord Marshall of Chipstead died leaving the Lodge with just one remaining Consecration Honorary member. His death also went unrecorded.

In 1937, there were five important deaths. Founder member, W Bro Thomas Hall, *PM, PAGDC* died on 12th June 1937. He had been the first and only Treasurer and highly respected. The first and only Tyler, W Bro Ernest Dewey, *PPrAGDC* also died three weeks later on 3rd July 1937 having given huge service to the Lodge. Founder member, W Bro Henry Wilcox, *PM, LR, PPrGD* died on 20th October 1937 and Founder member W Bro Frederick Lloyd, *PM, LR* died on 3rd November 1937 having served as DC since September 1925. The last of the original six Consecration Honorary members, RW Bro Sir Philip Colville Smith, *CVO, PGW*, Grand Secretary died on 6th November 1937 and this time for an Honorary member, it was reported in the Minutes. This left no Honorary members other than the reigning Masters of the eleven City Livery Lodges.

In terms of influential members, 1937 saw the appointment of W Bro Lancelot 'Lance' Hall, *PM* as Secretary. Indeed, he doubled up as IPM in his first year. Lance was a very able administrator having been Clerk of the Butchers' Company since 1927 and his written Minutes are things of information, order and beauty!

Meetings were now often starting at 5.00pm and finishing by 5.45/6.00pm when little work was necessary, and on 23rd November 1937, Bro William R. Long¹ was elected as Tyler starting an association lasting a remarkable 33 years.

1938 saw the addition of the reigning WM's of Paviers' Lodge and Basketmakers' Lodge to the list of Honorary members, and PM, W Bro William West's LR regalia was presented to him by the Lodge.

The Installation meeting required a short notice change when the WM, W Bro S.H.E. Franks sent a telegram to the Secretary which said '*Please convey to the Worshipful Master Elect and Brethren my*

very deepest regrets unable to be with you tonight owing to present crisis. It is imperative and essential that I complete my ARP duties today. S Franks'. The Minutes also referred to '*...the Political Crisis²...*'

The 22nd November meeting was a very speedy 45 minutes, opening at 5.15pm and closing at 6.00pm!

1939 was very much a milestone year for more than obvious reasons.

On 24th January 1939, the business on the Summons at 5.30pm was *'To ballot for as a Candidate for initiation and if elected, to initiate Mr Harold Austin Malcolm Stuart Kingwell of 'Framcross,' Marine Parade, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, and of 236, Central Market, London E.C.1. Aged 22, Meat Importer and Salesman'*. As will become apparent, this was the beginning of Austin's contribution to, and influence over the Lodge, which was immense.

At the same meeting, Bro Henry 'Harry' Reading resigned (no reason given although he had been a Country member for some years and was now 65 and living in Hove), and Bro Charles Forwood, the accompanist for many musical artistes performing at post-meeting dinners, was acting organist covering for Bro Frederick Arthur as he had done on many occasions.

W Bro Lance Hall missed his first meeting since becoming a Joining member in 1928. He did so because of his appointment as AGDC for which the Lodge was prepared to purchase his regalia. However, he wished to use his late father's (W Bro Thomas Hall, *PM, PAGDC*) regalia. The Lodge decided to give him a gift instead and at the November meeting, he was presented with *'a massive silver coffee tray duly engraved'*.

With the outbreak of war on 3rd September, Grand Lodge ordered the closure of all Masonic meetings, so the 26th September meeting was cancelled.

Grand Lodge soon issued more detailed guidance later in September which said that *'Lodges should meet in Morning Dress or uniform; meetings should be arranged to take place as early in the day as possible; and, the after-proceedings, where held, should be brief and simple'*. Therefore, the last meeting of 1939 on 28th November opened at 2.15pm, closed at 3.45pm and had tea at 4.00pm. During the meeting, the Lodge agreed to reduce the annual subscription to 1 guinea per annum and to dispense with post-meeting dinners.

The four years of 1936 to 1939 saw only two new Candidates and no Joining members. Thus, with resignations and deaths, the year ended with 44 members and an Honorary membership of 13 City Livery Lodges.

¹ Like W Bro Ernest J. Dewey, Bro William R. Long (1891-1971) was the Beadle of the Butchers' Company living with his wife, Nellie and three children Christine, Jacqueline and William at Butchers' Hall. He had joined the 15th The King's Hussars in 1911 being eventually discharged in 1920. He married in December of that year. He was awarded the Mark of Distinction to the 1914 Star given to recipients of the 1914 Star who operated within range of the German artillery between 5th August and 22nd November 1914. In 1952-59 he was living at 5 Charterhouse Square due to his flat in Butchers' Hall not being habitable.

² Hitler's ambitions for German expansion became increasingly evident throughout 1938. German troops marched into Austria on 12th March and the country was annexed to Germany the next day. There was little international resistance to this *Anschluss*, which many viewed as a natural union. However, Hitler's further demands for the German-speaking areas of Czechoslovakia created a crisis – the Sudetenland Crisis - that brought Europe to the brink of war in September 1938.

The War Years

With the outbreak of the Second World War, there was a marked change in the way that Taurus Lodge operated and more changes were to follow. Up until the cancelled September 1939 meeting, dress was always stipulated as Evening Dress but after Grand Lodge ordered dress to be Morning Dress or uniform, Taurus obeyed the order and officers have worn morning dress ever since.

The 23rd January 1940 meeting began *'precisely'* at 2.15pm, Raised Bro H. Austin M. S. Kingwell (he was ever to be known as Austin Kingwell) and had tea at 4.00pm. There were 21 attendees including 5 visitors, the acting organist and the Tyler.

W Bros Throup and Ashbridge had been awarded London Grand Rank (the first time this honour had been conferred on Taurus members), the former being recommended by Taurus Lodge and the latter by the London Irish Rifles Lodge. W Bro Throup was presented with his undress regalia.

The 26th March 1940 meeting began at 3.00pm, elected a Master, Treasurer and Tyler and closed for tea by 4.00pm. Only 15 attended including the acting organist and Tyler.

For the first time, a meeting (24th September 1940) was cancelled by the WM, W Bro Frederick Jenkins under the emergency powers outlined by Grand Lodge. However, the Attendance Book has a number of signatures for that afternoon so it is probable that enemy action¹ forced the cessation of the meeting in Butchers' Hall.

The 1940 Installation meeting finally took place on 26th November, the second year running that the normal September Installation had been postponed. Only 14 attended and the earlier start of 2.00pm enabled tea to be taken at 4.00pm.

Despite a communication from the Grand Secretary on 6th June 1940 expressing the wish of the MW The Grand Master *'...that the refreshments provided after lodge Meetings should be as simple as possible to conform with the need for national economy'*, the meeting on 28th January 1941 opened at 12.45pm and finished in time for lunch at 1.30pm. The business of the meeting lasted 35 minutes and a footnote on the Summons stated that **'Lunch will be provided at an inclusive cost of 10/6.'** The WM was absent and only 11 attended. The three visitors helped to fill the vacant offices and at the end of the meeting, it was recorded in the Minutes that *'The Meeting which should have been held on March 25th 1941 was cancelled by the Worshipful Master under the Emergency powers'*.

The confidence to attend a meeting in London must have improved later in the year although the 23rd September meeting was moved by Dispensation to Saturday, 25th October opening at 12 noon. Saturdays then became a regular feature for some years. 46 attended of which 25 were visitors. Once again WM, W Bro Arnold Van Zwanenberg was not present and the IPM took the Chair. The Summons for this meeting was a single sheet of paper outlining the date and place on one side and the business on the other. This continued for over a year, probably to save paper. Founder and PM, W Bro William Goldstein was Installed for the second time (firstly in 1921). The accounts for the year ending July 1941 were approved and apart from fire insurance that had been running at 14 shillings per annum, for the first time, War Damage Insurance was declared for the comparatively hefty sum of £4-10-0. Under the Third Rising, the WM cancelled the 25th November 1941 meeting under the Emergency provisions.

The January meeting in 1942 was held on Saturday, 31st with 21 visitors out of a total of 35 attending. The Lodge meeting opened at 11.30am (the earliest yet) and Initiated Mr Josiah Burkett Swain aged 58. It was then announced that W Bro Arthur Franks had been awarded LGR and *'members of the*

Taurus Lodge desired to present him the undress Regalia of this rank'. A telegram was read out from IPM, W Bro Arnold Van Zwanenberg apologising for his absence but explaining that he was now on active service '*...with H.M.'s Forces..*'. The brethren sat down to lunch in the Court Room at 1.15pm at an inclusive cost of 15 shillings each. Soon after the meeting, the Past Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Connaught & Strathearn died on 16th February and to conserve materials and labour, it was directed '*...that all Lodge Summonses shall be printed with a black edging...*' for six months of mourning.

The pattern of Saturday meetings continued on 28th March 1942 when Bro Swain was Passed and this was followed by an Emergency Meeting on 6th June when he was Raised.

On 25th August 1942, the MW The Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent died in a flying boat crash and the black edged Summonses still in use since the death of HRH The Duke of Connaught & Strathearn continued into 1943.

W Bro George Wheeler, *LGR* was Installed for the second time (firstly in 1927) on Saturday, 26th September, the meeting opening at 11.30am. The year ending July 1942 accounts were approved and must have pleased the Treasurer, W Bro Frederick Jenkins, with a near 25% reduction in War Damage Insurance from £4-10-0 per annum to £3 exactly!

By the end of 1942, membership stood at 37 so the 30th January 1943 meeting which Initiated Mr Francis Charles Henry Cornell gave a welcome addition. The brethren were further delighted to note that Bro Henry Ridpath² who was a Joining member in December 1921 from United Smithfield Lodge had been knighted by HM The King.

The March meeting Passed Bro Cornell and then another Emergency Meeting on Tuesday, 8th June was arranged to Raise him.

Saturday, 25th September 1943 saw the earliest opening of the Lodge yet at 11.00am and a greater optimism about travel must have been felt because there were 22 members and Honorary members present as well as 47 visitors. For the first time, the Summons described Secretary, W Bro Lance Hall, *PM, PAGDC* as also being Provincial Grand Secretary of Middlesex although there had been no mention of his appointment in the Minutes. W Bro Henry Shillitoe, *LGR, PPrGD (Surrey)* became the 25th Master and a very extensive report of the meeting appeared in *The Freemasons' Chronicle*, a copy of which was filed with the Minutes.

For the same meeting, a small, printed letter from the Secretary had been appended to the Summons. It pointed out that under the Emergency Regulations, the annual subscription had been reduced from 5 guineas to 1 guinea, '*the proportionate cost of lunches and dinners being charged in addition to those partaking*'. Because this had '*involved a considerable amount of accountancy and correspondence*' the Permanent Committee was recommending the reversion to an inclusive subscription for full members of 3 guineas, the visitors' fee to be 10/6. This change was approved.

Founder, Bro Guy Warwick died in December 1943 which was acknowledged at the January 1944 meeting. This reduced membership to 36 so it must have been a relief when a Candidate for Initiation was proposed: Mr. Stanley Albert Woodward. Again the meeting was on Saturday opening at 11.30am and attended by 29 brethren, of which 13 were visitors. It had been deemed prudent to sell the small stock of wines and spirits and deposit the money to restock after the war. At auction the stock realised £105-16-10.

The 98th Regular Meeting was held on Tuesday, 28th March 1944 opening at 3.00pm. It is unclear why the meeting had reverted to its proper date but the first duty of the WM was to report the death of

Bro John Thomas Collis. He was described as a Founder of the Lodge in the Minutes but in fact he was the very first Joining member (from United Smithfield) in January 1920. He had been a Steward for many years. Mr Stanley Albert Woodward was then Initiated.

Meetings at Butchers' Hall were abruptly ended when a V-1 flying bomb struck the roof of the building on the evening of 31st July 1944. Fortunately Beadle, Bro William Long and his family who lived in the Hall were unharmed. Probably due to wartime censorship, the damage was not publicised until 17th and 18th August, albeit very widely in national and regional newspapers³.

Due to the extensive damage, a new meeting place was sought whilst the September and November meetings were cancelled. A Dispensation dated 21st August gave permission to hold meetings on 9th December and 3rd February 1945, and the 99th Regular Meeting was held at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane to Install Founder member and PM, W Bro Michel Oppenheimer, *LGR*. The attendance totalled 78 of which 56 were visitors. In lieu of a PM's jewel, IPM W Bro Henry Shillitoe was granted 10 guineas to give to a Masonic charity of his choice. He placed it on the WM's List which was being taken up for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. It was also agreed that the subscription for full members for 1944/45 would increase by 1 guinea to 4 guineas.

The February 1945 meeting recognised the death in October of Bro William Penton (Initiated 1927) but this loss was repaired by the Initiation of Mr. Richard Norman Hammett, son of W Bro Richard C. Hammett, *PM, PAGDC*. In another business packed meeting, Bro Stanley Woodward was Passed.

The 4th Tuesday in March was re-established with the 101st Regular Meeting held at the Grosvenor House opening at 11.00am. Bro Stanley Woodward was Raised and Bro Richard N. Hammett was Passed. The Almoner recorded that the WM's List totalled £150 and that every member bar one on active service in the Far East had contributed.

There is no record of why the meeting place of the Lodge moved to The City Livery Club⁴, Sion College, Victoria Embankment, EC4 for September 1945 although it was actually held on Monday, 1st October. The Chaplain opened the meeting with thanks for the end of six years of war. It was then moved that the full subscription for 1945/46 be returned to the 5 guineas laid down in the By-Laws. W Bro Thomas Throup, *PM, LGR* was Installed as the 27th Master. He had been elected Master Butcher in 1943.

The War service⁵ of the members was extensive (reproduced in Appendix 2). One member, Bro Bernard H. Cox, son of W Bro Thomas Cox, *PM, LGR* and brother of Bro Thomas M. Cox, lost his life in 1943 indirectly whilst serving as a sergeant in the Home Guard. He died from heart failure aged 40 after returning home from a strenuous exercise and had been a Joining member since 1933.

¹ From Saturday, 7th September 1940, London was systematically bombed by the Luftwaffe for 56 out of the following 57 days and nights. The *Blitz* began when the Luftwaffe shifted its focus from bombing British airfields and aircraft factories to conducting terror raids on London and other major cities in an effort to break the morale of the British people.

² Bro Sir Henry Ridpath was chairman of Ridpath Brothers Ltd. of North John Street, Liverpool and was knighted in HM The King's 1943 New Year's Honours for his services as general trade adviser to the Ministry of Food. For 30 years he had been chiefly involved in the import trade in meat and provisions and at the outbreak of war was the chairman of the New Zealand and Australian Agents' Association.

³ The British Newspaper Archive is owned and run by Findmypast Newspaper Archive Limited. It is a commercial partnership with the British Library. It has over 40 cuttings detailing the damage to Butchers' Hall.

⁴ The City Livery Club had its meetings at Butchers' Hall at the time it was hit by the V-1 flying bomb.

⁵ War services are appended to Taurus Lodge Minutes of 28th January, 1947.

Post War to 1959

On the cessation of war, the Lodge membership stood at 37 as it had done for some time. The 103rd Regular Meeting in November 1945 saw the Passing of Bro Peter C. M. Shillitoe¹ at the request of the WM of Lodge Baghdad No. 4022. The Minute does not say but he must have been related to PM, W Bro Henry Shillitoe, *LGR, PPrGD*.

Attendances were in the low to mid 40's for most meetings held at Sion College and membership was starting to increase. January 1946 saw two Joining members and the Initiation of Mr Leonard Ward, and the March meeting (held on 9th April by Dispensation) had the excellent attendance of 51 which saw the Passing of Bro Ward and the Initiation of Mr Stanley Martin Wilcox. Congratulations were given to Secretary, W Bro Lance Hall who had been appointed APGM of Middlesex.

In September 1946, 71 attended the Installation meeting which saw Bro H. Austin Kingwell become the 28th Master. At the age of 28, he became the youngest ever Master of Taurus, or since. Expansion of the Lodge continued with two more Joining members but the Summons was missing the name of Honorary member, Tekton Lodge No.4696 which had been erased on 4th March 1946 *due to decreased membership*².

By the January 1947 meeting, membership had risen to 45. It was recorded that Founder, W Bro George Ariss, *PAGStB* had died. He had been Secretary from the Consecration until his resignation in 1936.

Mr Robert Slayton was Initiated in March.

The 110th Regular Meeting in September 1947 had 27 visitors to witness the Installation of PM, W Bro Frederick Jenkins for the second time. He is one of only a very few WM's of Taurus Lodge to take the Chair twice. A ballot proved in favour of Bro Frederick Walter Oxley as a Joining member, and a notice of motion was proposed to move the meetings to Armourers' and Braziers' Hall, Coleman Street, E.C.2. Congratulations were given to PM, W Bro Richard C. Hammett, *PAGDC* on his election to Sheriff of the City of London.

The last meeting in 1947 recorded a new Honorary member, VW Bro Sydney A. White, *MVO*, Grand Secretary, and a full subscription increase to 7 guineas whilst the visitors' fee would be £1-5-0.

The move to Armourers' Hall for the January 1948 meeting was obviously popular with a total attendance of 62, of which 34 were visitors. Sadly it was recorded that Bro Marcus Henry who had only joined in September 1946 had died in December 1947. Two Joining members were admitted and W Bro Eric Kirch was presented with his LGR undress regalia.

The September 1948 Installation meeting was the largest attendance to date for the Lodge. 85 were present of which 49 were visitors, and Bro T. Morris Cox became the 30th Master.

The Lodge suffered a huge blow 10 days later because an Emergency Meeting was held on 3rd November 1948 to hold a memorial service 'to the affectionate memory of W. Bro. Lance E. Hall, LLD, PGD, DepPGM (Middlesex)' who died in harness as Secretary on 8th October. He had given twenty years of excellent service since joining in 1928 and he had also been Clerk of the Butchers' Company since 1927 having taken over from Bro Arthur Pearce. 65 brethren were present to pay their respects.

W Bro Alec Wilcox, *PM* who was ADC became Acting Secretary for the 115th Regular Meeting in November whilst *PM*, W Bro Henry Shillitoe was invested as ADC. Two Joining members were welcomed and Mr Norman James Wolsey was Initiated.

Membership by January 1949 had risen to 49, and the January meeting welcomed W Bro Robert Connell as a Joining member and Initiated Mr David Francis Cornell. Also, a new Honorary member was elected, VW Bro Rev. Joseph Moffett, *DD, PGChap, APMG (Herts)*. He had been a frequent visitor to the Lodge often acting as Chaplain and he had given an excellent oration at the Memorial Service for the late W Bro Lance Hall.

The 1949 meetings in January, March, September and November were very well attended with brethren totalling 63, 68, 71 and 51. Two members died within 6 weeks of each other – *PM*, W Bro Henry Shillitoe, *LGR, PPrGD (Surrey)* on 21st July and W. Bro. Thomas Cox, *LGR* on 30th August. After the November meeting was opened, the following remarkable fact was recorded, viz. *'It was proposed by W Bro Throup seconded by W Bro A. E. M. Wilcox that W Bro W. Goldstein's absence be recorded in the Minutes, this being the first time he had been absent from a meeting since the Consecration of the Lodge'*.

The Summons for the September meeting saw a change of terminology for the WM's of City Livery Lodges who heretofore were called Honorary Members. They were now referred to as Honoured Guests of the Lodge, and later just Honoured Guests as they are today.

By January 1950, membership had fallen back to 48, but the Initiation of Mr Henry Collin Franks by his father W Bro Arthur Franks, *PM, LGR* – the Charge was given by his uncle, W Bro Samuel H. E. Franks, *PM* – was a welcome addition.

In March 1950, W Bro Thomas Throup, *PM, LGR* was appointed AGStB and W Bro Alec Wilcox, *PM* was appointed LGR and elected to wear his late father's regalia.

The death of Bro Sir Henry Ridpath on 3rd May was recorded in the September 1950 Minutes as was the resignation of Founder member, Bro Thomas Price.

By now, meetings were regularly beginning at 5.00pm with dinner at 6.30pm although 66 brethren who attended the double Raising in November did not see the Lodge close until 7.00pm.

A number of attempts to Initiate Mr Leslie Joseph Cotton during 1951 failed due to his on-going illness and he died on 10th January 1958 at the comparatively young age of 55.

The 125th Regular Meeting was held by Dispensation on 3rd April 1951 during which it recorded that the WM, W Bro Arnold van Zwanenberg be presented with a *PM's* jewel with Bar *'in appreciation of his services as Master during the years 1940/41 and 1950/51'*. He had been away on active service hence not receiving his *PM* jewel in 1941.

During these years, every Summons was still reflecting the on-going food rationing and said *'Owing to difficulties of catering, Dinner can only be provided for those Brethren who complete and return the enclosed Post-card by*'

Farriers' Lodge No. 6305 was added to the list of Honoured Guests in November 1951.

Mr Barrie Richard Martin Wilcox, son of Secretary, W Bro Alec Wilcox, *PM, LGR* was Initiated by him in January 1952, and one of our Honorary members had been knighted to become RW Bro Sir Sydney A. White, *KCVO, PGW*, Grand Secretary.

In 1952 it was common to have over 50 at a meeting and unusually in November, the Lodge balloted for a new Joining member, W Bro Robert Compton of Cowes, Isle of Wight who was 73! At the same meeting, a Grand Officer from the Grand Lodge of Australia, W Bro Allan Bodycombe, *PSGD* was included in the salutes. W Bro Richard C. Hammett, *PM, PAGDC* sent his apologies after his very serious illness, but on 19th Dec 1952, he passed away.

By March 1953, membership had returned to 48 after receiving a new Joining member and the Initiation of Mr. Denis John Laughlin. Also, W Bro John Ashbridge, *JP, PM, LGR* had been appointed *PAGDC* and *PM*, W Bro Frederick Jenkins had been appointed *LGR* for which the Lodge presented him with his undress regalia.

An Emergency Meeting on 30th June 1953 was held to Raise Bro Laughlin. A large attendance of 64 included several overseas visitors, one of which was the District GM of Malta, RW Bro Brigadier E. S. de Wolff, *CB, CBE, LLB, PGW*. This was the last meeting to be held at Armourers' Hall.

After much restoration of Butchers' Hall, the 134th Regular Meeting in September was held there once again. W Bro F. J. Dove, *PAGChap* gave an address '*in connection with this memorable event*'. 86 brethren (topping the largest meeting so far by one!), of which 56 were visitors, saw the Installation of the 35th Master, W Bro Thomas Davis, *PGD, PPrAGDC (Essex)*. There was some sadness with the resignation of Bro Leo van Zwanenberg³ who was residing in California '*and who regrets will never visit this country again owing to ill health*'. The brethren dined in the Great Hall at 7.30pm.

The Summons for the meeting on 24th Nov 1953 mysteriously said '*The Lodge will be opened at 5 p.m. precisely and you will see from the agenda that the work is of an unusual character and of great interest to the Brethren*'. The work was an Explanation of the 1st Degree Tracing Board, the working of the 2nd section of the Second Lecture, and the working of the 7th section of the First Lecture. 63 brethren were intrigued enough to attend!

1954 was relatively speaking a fairly quiet year. The January meeting was mostly an Address by W Bro R. M. Handfield-Jones, *MS, FRCS, PGD* on *The Mason-Word*, and a well-attended March meeting (66 present, 28 visitors) saw 3 Joining members admitted. Interestingly, among the Grand Officers saluted was W Bro A. L. Dolomere, Past Grand Lecturer of New Zealand.

At the September Installation meeting, W Bro Thomas Cox, *PM* was appointed Secretary by WM, W Bro Richard Bridger, and in November, the Summons changed in appearance to look very similar to the style used today. In an important milestone both for him and the Lodge, W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM* became Assistant Secretary.

Things were picking up in 1955. Food rationing, particularly meat, was over and the Lodge was growing stronger. At the start of the year, membership had risen to 51. The Lodge was visited in January for the second time by an Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Maj. Gen. Sir Allan Adair, *CB, DSO, MC*. At the same meeting Mr Herman van Vlyman (later of Scots of Bletchley) was Initiated. It was also recognised that DC, W Bro Arthur Franks, *PM, LGR* (or more correctly Isaac Arthur Franks) had received the OBE³ in HM The Queen's 1955 New Year's Honours List. At the March meeting the *AGM* was made an Honorary member and it was recorded that member for 34 years, Bro Isaac Levy had died.

As had become the custom, in September, in front of 70 brethren (including 40 visitors), W Bro Samuel H. E. Franks, *PM*, who had been appointed LGR, received his undress regalia from the Lodge.

Overseas visitors may have been a sign of the meat trade expanding again because in November, there was one visitor from Australia and one from South Africa. Related lodge, Aries No. 5086 wished to invite the WM to attend their meetings and Taurus resolved to invite their WM for 1955/56 meetings. However, this prompted the Lodge Committee to be charged with considering the whole question of Honoured Guests.

Jan 1956 saw one Joining member and one Initiation, Mr Alan Godfrey Cross.

The 146th Regular Meeting to Install W. Bro. G. Ralph Montague *MC, LGR* appears to be very much a return to pre-war standards where the dinner menu was ox tail, vol au vent sweetbreads, roast saddle of lamb with peas and new potatoes, Dutch apple tart, dessert peaches, cheese and biscuits, and coffee. The Minutes reveal something of his dry humour when the newly invested Secretary, W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM* inserted a small typed addendum which said '*36 visitors whose names and numbers of their Lodges are here fully recorded, but I am afraid W. Master that any similarity between some of the names of our guests in the attendance book and those recorded in the Minute Book is purely coincidental, due to so many indecipherable signatures*'.

In November 1956 due to increased costs, the fee for visitors was raised to 2 guineas. A Notice of Motion from the Chaplain to propose '*that W Bro William Goldstein, LGR, Founder & PM be elected an Honorary Member*' was recorded in the Minutes with the cryptic addition '*this Notice of Motion has since been deferred for the moment & for a very good reason*'. No mention was ever made about this matter in the Minutes again and he was never made an Honorary member.

1957 began with 50 members and in January, a new Joining member was balloted for at a meeting attended by 52 brethren. The year continued with strong attendances with March, September and November recording 63, 61 and 50 brethren respectively.

In March, SW, Bro David F. Cornell asked to stand down temporarily and W Bro Fred Terry *PPrGD (Kent)* was unanimously elected ME. Bro Cornell was never to reach the Chair and by September 1961, went onto the Country List never to attend another meeting.

The 151st Regular Meeting on 26th November 1957 saw LGR regalia presented to W Bro Arnold Van Zwanenberg, *PM* and the Initiation of Mr Jacques Van Vlymen increased membership to 51.

1958 was a very active year with 50, 65, 79 and 48 brethren attending the four Regular Meetings. It also saw another change of venue to Innholders' Hall for the September meeting onwards when more refurbishment works began at Butchers' Hall. Blacksmiths' Lodge No. 7175 was elected to become an Honoured Guest taking the total up to 16 City Lodges.

In September 1958, PM and DC, W Bro Arthur Franks took the Chair to Install his son, Bro Henry 'Harry' Colin Franks as the 40th Master of the Lodge. At the end of the meeting, the new WM welcomed back to the Lodge after many years of absence Bro William J. J. Byrne (initiated December 1922 and aged 91). He also welcomed Bro Levy (aged 87) after many years of absence who was possibly the father of the late Bro Isaac Edwin Levy who passed away on 30th March 1955.

The 155th Regular Meeting on 25th November saw the Lodge mourn twice-WM, W Bro Frederick Jenkins *FCA, LGR* Initiated in November 1928 and who passed away on 9th October aged 69. He was a

very active ritualist without holding many offices. His loss was countered by the Initiation of Mr Charles Leslie Tuckwell.

As the 1950's were coming to a close, there were 52 members at the end of 1959. Throughout that year, meetings were well attended with 43, 51, 57 and 58 brethren respectively. Performing ritual at its best was very much a Taurus trait and there was recorded in the Minutes of 27th January 1959 '*The Worshipful Master called on W. Bro. G. W. Wheeler L.G.R. Aged 83 to work the Second Section of the Second Lecture, assisted by W. Bro. Thomas Throup P.A.G.St.B. aged 80, & the Lodge was stilled whilst these two great exponents of Masonic Ritual completed the Lecture. The feelings of all the Brethren was amply expressed by the Master when thanking these two greatly loved Past Masters for the perfection of their rendering*'.

On 9th February 1959, '*the Lodge sustained the severe & very sad loss in the death of W. Bro. John Ashbridge P.A.G.D.C.*' He had been a great supporter on the Court when the new Lodge was being planned and became WM in 1938. Then, one of only two surviving Founders, W Bro William Goldstein, PM, LGR passed away on 2nd November 1959. Once more his death was recorded as '*a very severe loss*'.

In HM The Queen's 1959 Birthday Honours, Steward, Bro Francis 'Frank' Gerrard was awarded the MBE for services as Head of Regional Department at the National College of Food Technology.

The last meeting of 1959 saw the WM, W Bro John A. Pike, PPrGD (Middx) Initiate his son Mr John Henry Pike.

¹ In Ancestry.co.uk records, a Peter Christie Mauldon Shillitoe, born 1917, appears but no relationship has yet been found between him and PM, W Bro Henry Archibald Shillitoe (1876-1949). It might have been uncle and nephew.

² Lane's Masonic Records.

³ Bro Leopold van Zwanenberg became a US citizen in November 1944 and died in Los Angeles in November 1960 aged 80.

⁴ W Bro Arthur Franks, PM, LGR received his OBE for serving as a member of the Licensed Non-Residential Establishment Wages Board which was set up in 1945. Under the Catering Wages Act, 1943, a Report by the Catering Wages Commission had recommended the establishment of a Wages Board for licensed non-residential establishments.

1960 to 1979

1960 began with the Initiation of Mr Alois Hamperl, a 31 year old master butcher working at Golborne Road, W10. It would appear from the Minutes that he was always known as Peter and later Summonses for his Passing and Raising refer to him as such.

The 161st Regular Meeting on 22nd March 1960 took place at Innholders' Hall attended by 51 brethren. But the Installation meeting on 27th September was at Butchers' Hall where 74 brethren saw Bro Arthur Cannon take the Chair. Guests included the Grand Secretary, VW Bro James Stubbs as well as Honorary member, RW Bro Rev. Joseph Moffett, *OBE, DD, PGM (Herts)*. Before the meeting began, the death of PM, W Bro Frank Wright, *PPrAGDC (Essex)* in April was recorded.

The first mention of a Charity Box at a meeting was on 22nd November 1960 when £21-5-7 was collected. That sum became £25-0-0 in January 1961 and from then on, the Minutes have recorded the Charity Box, Charity Plate or Alms collection.

In March 1961, Mr Howard Kelly, a chartered architect was Initiated and in September, 64 brethren saw Bro Barrie R. M. Wilcox Installed as the 43rd Master. His father, Alec, gave the Address to the WM, and in November having resigned from the Lodge in September 1954, he re-joined to be welcomed by – his son! Lodge membership was now up to 53.

The early 1960's saw very strong levels of attendance at every meeting. For instance, the 170th Regular Meeting was attended by 76 brethren of which 46 were visitors. At that meeting, the brethren stood to order in memory of Honorary member since 1948, RW Bro Rev. Joseph Moffett *OBE, DD, PGM (Herts)* who had passed away on 20th May 1962. He had been a very regular and active attendee.

In November 1962 it was reported that the original key attached to the first Treasurer's collar in 1919 had been found at Grand Lodge after having been lost for 41 years. On being presented to the then Treasurer, W Bro Eric Kirch, *LGR*, he '*promised to look after it better!*'

In March 1963, it was reported that W Bro Robert Connell, *PM, LGR* had been appointed active Grand Pursuivant, a great honour to him and the Lodge.

The end of an era happened at the September Installation meeting when PM, W Bro Arthur Franks, *OBE, LGR* stood down as DC after 26 years. At the November meeting, he was presented with a gold fountain pen in appreciation of his service. At the same meeting, a future WM was Initiated – Mr Peter John Lane – and two Joining members admitted bringing total membership to 53. The Charity Box was now being reported as the Charity Plate!

The 179th Regular Meeting on 24th November 1964 was a landmark moment, although possibly not recognised at the time. The 46th WM, W Bro Horace Huckle, *LGR* oversaw the ballot to admit two Joining members and then the ballot to approve a Candidate, Mr Robin Pooley, a 28 year old company sales manager. 79 brethren including 51 visitors enjoyed the meeting, and a stellar Masonic career had started, more of which will be revealed later on. The Charity Plate raised a very generous £38-2-0.

At the beginning of 1965, membership had risen to 57 and in April, W Bro Arthur Franks, *OBE, PM, LGR* was appointed PAGDC. As the Lodge was in possession of the dress and undress regalia of the late W Bro Richard Hammett, *PM, PAGDC* it was resolved that the regalia be presented to W Bro Franks.

A massive 84 brethren (51 visitors) attended the 182nd Regular Meeting to Install the 47th Master, W Bro Percy Salt and a further three Joining members were admitted. There is an unusual Minute for this meeting viz. *'Due to the untimely disappearance of the ballot balls the members of the Lodge signified their acceptance of the Joining Members by using silver coins which amounted to £1-12-6.'* During the Third Rising, the WM suggested *'that this could be the year of the Franks'*. W Bro Arthur had been appointed PAGDC, W Bro Harry had received LGR and W Bro Sam, LGR *'had become the new & very popular Master of the Worshipful Company of Butchers'*. The WM also made it known that there were no less than ten members of the Lodge on the Court or were Past Masters of the Company. A record £45-0-0 was realised from the Charity Plate – with the added note *'including of course the cash delivered from the ballot!'*

At the 185th Regular Meeting in March 1966 the brethren learned that W Bro George W. Wheeler, PM, LGR had very recently passed away. He had been the Lodge's 7th Initiate in 1920, had been WM twice, was Chaplain since 1944 and had been Master Butcher in 1950. He had also reached the grand age of 90 years old.

On 22nd November 1966, Mr. Hector Tidd (Jnr) described as a works manager (coachbuilder) and proposed by his father, was Initiated by WM, W Bro J. George Daultry. Also, a commemorative jewel marking the 250th Anniversary of Grand Lodge was presented to the WM by W. Bro. Robert Connell, PM, PGPurs and affixed to the Masters' Collar.

Brethren at the January 1967 meeting were told of the proposal to form a Lodge of Installed Masters for Livery Lodges¹ and PM's were invited to support the idea if they so desired.

The 189th Regular Meeting in March saw more significant changes. W Bro Thomas Davis, PM, PGD, PDepPGM (Surrey) was elected ME for the second time. He had been WM in 1953. Also, W Bro Eric Kirch, LGR who had been Treasurer since 1956 – and a member for 44 years - declined to accept office *'for the coming year'* due to ill health. In fact, he died only five weeks later and W Bro Arthur Cannon, PM took his place to begin a long stint as Treasurer. The meeting unanimously agreed to amend By-Law No. 4 to increase the annual subscription to 10 guineas; leave the Initiation fee unchanged at 20 guineas; increase the Joining fee to 20 guineas; increase the Country members' fee to 3 guineas; and increase the dining fee for guests to £2-17-6.

The 191st Regular Meeting on 28th November 1967 was the start of another important milestone with the admittance two Joining members, Bro Edwin 'Eddie' Anderson and Bro Henry Maulkin, both of whom would go on to become WM, and the Initiation of Mr Kenneth James Baldwin, a consulting ophthalmic optician who several years later became ME but not WM due to illness.

For modern researchers, 1968 saw a major advance when the Lodge Minutes began to be typed on foolscap paper for the first time. Furthermore, the year began with 60 members and attendances were strong with 44 (24 visitors), 63 (38), 58 (34) and 60 (32) respectively.

At the 194th Regular Meeting, PM, W Bro Arthur Franks OBE, PAGDC was Installed as the 50th Master and on 26th November he Initiated Mr Ivor Ronald Bramley and presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro Kenneth Baldwin who had recently become a JP.

In January 1969, a letter from Mrs Edna Throup thanked the brethren *'for the bowl of spring flowers which were sent to Past Master Tommy Throup on the occasion of his 90th birthday'*. He had been WM twice, Master Butcher in 1943, appointed PAGStB and passed away six months later.

In March it was reported that W Bro Henry Huckle, *PM, LGR* was to be appointed active AGSuptWks on 30th April and Bro John Curran became ME.

The September meeting was moved by Dispensation to 28th October 1969 during which the annual subscription was increased to 12 guineas and the visitors' dining fee to 3 guineas.

The Jubilee meeting took place on Monday, 1st December 1969 where dress was dinner jacket and evening dress for Officers. It was 50 years to the day since the Consecration of Taurus Lodge. 87 brethren including 57 visitors received RW Bro Frank William Radford Douglas, the Assistant Grand Secretary and recollections² of the first 50 years were given by PM, W Bro Arthur Franks. An oration was given by VW Bro The Rev. Canon Richard Tydeman, *PGChap*. A certain amount of hyperbole must have been used by the Secretary but the Minutes read *'It is quite impossible to express the feelings of Canon Tydeman, as undoubtedly this oration was the best ever heard in English Freemasonry'*.

The menu was an exact replica of the Consecration Dinner and the Charity Plate realised £62-10-0 later to be raised to 100 guineas and given to the AGM's Appeal for the Redevelopment and Modernisation Fund of the Royal Masonic Hospital.

At the 200th Regular Meeting in January 1970, a ballot proved in favour of Honorary membership for RW Bro Frank Douglas, *AGM* and VW Bro The Rev. Canon Richard Tydeman, *PGChap*. By this same meeting, Honorary member RW Bro Maj Gen Sir Allan Adair had become Deputy Grand Master but no mention was made in the Minutes.

In March, it was announced that Secretary, W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM, LGR* was to be appointed active AGDC. Also, *'The Secretary read a letter from Bro. Colonel Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin the Second Astronaut to land on the Moon³, thanking the Brethren for their congratulations and expressing his hope to attend Taurus Lodge at some time in the future.'*

The Installation of the 52nd Master, Bro Charles Tuckwell, in September 1970 was attended by 70 brethren (45 visitors). He later announced that VW Bro The Rev. Canon Richard Tydeman was to be the Prestonian Lecturer for 1971. Also, Tyler, Bro. William Long was absent being *'most unwell'*. Sadly, he was not to return to the Lodge. The Festive Board was still a sumptuous affair with a menu of pâté with Melba toast; minestrone soup with Parmesan cheese; poached turbot with lobster sauce; roast Aylesbury duckling with garden peas and duchess potatoes; English, Continental cheeses with celery; and coffee.

The January 1971 meeting saw the Initiation of Mr John Tuckwell carried out by his father W Bro Charles Tuckwell. Bro John was to go on to be both WM of Taurus Lodge and Master Butcher of the Livery.

The 207th Regular Meeting in November 1971 Initiated Mr Roy Edward Seeman who like Bro Tuckwell just 10 months before would go on to be both WM of Taurus Lodge and Master Butcher of the Livery, too. At the same meeting, the WM's of Corium Lodge No. 4041⁴ and Plaisterers' Lodge No. 7390 were added to the list of Honoured Guests.

By the beginning of 1972, the membership stood at a very strong 59 of which only 12 were on the Country List, and the September Installation meeting was attended by 64 brethren of which 35 were visitors. The largest Charity Plate so far was recorded as £65.

In November 1972, the 24 years old Mr Noel Charles Bramley was Initiated and this began a very regular pattern for the Lodge over many years where November, January and March would see an

Initiation, a Passing and a Raising respectively. A Notice of Motion was also made that Lodge dues be increased to an annual subscription of £20, Country members £7.50, guests £5 and Initiates/Joining members £40, which was agreed unanimously.

The 214th Regular Meeting in September 1973 when Bro Robin Pooley was Installed was attended by 81 brethren of which 52 were visitors. Unsurprisingly, the Charity Plate totalled £106.00 (recorded in the Minutes by hand as £106-0-0 as per pre-decimalisation days). At the same meeting, it was *'moved in pursuance of Notice:- 'That W. Bro. M. Oppenheimer, L.G.R., a Founder of the Lodge....be elected an Honorary Member...'* The ballot was unanimous. Tyler, W Bro Frank Pike had passed away on 2nd August 1973 so W Bro Sam Taggart, PPrAGDC (Middx) took his place but was not invested until the next Installation meeting.

The next meeting in November saw W Bro Pooley Initiate W Bro Eddie Anderson's son, Mr Keith Edwin Anderson. By now, Eddie was JW and delivered the Charge after Robin had completed the rest of the ceremony.

In January 1974, Lodge dues were again adjusted to increase the annual subscription to £30 and guests to £6.50. No reason was given for such a large increase within two years.

At the 218th Regular (Installation) Meeting, the brethren stood to order in remembrance of PM, W Bro Tom Davis, PGD, PDepPGM (Surrey) who had been a very active member for 28 years (died 10th May 1974), and also for PM, W Bro T. Morris Cox, LGR (died 25th August 1974).

In November 1974, an unusual situation arose when Bro Lewis Watts was elected as a Joining member and his son, Mr Roger Lewis Watts was Initiated (later to become WM twice).

The 68 brethren (40 visitors) that attended the 221st Regular Meeting congratulated PM, W Bro Sidney Emus, LGR who had been appointed PGStB. The Charity Plate realised a record £123.

In September 1975, Bro Eddie Anderson became the 57th Master at a packed meeting of 84 brethren, but not before the death on 26th March of PM, W Bro Edwin Baldwin, OBE, LGR was recorded. He was Initiated in April 1923, was WM in 1933, Master Butcher in 1952 and had been a member for 52 years. The members also agreed to add the WM of Per Caelum Lodge No. 8602 (the private lodge of the Honourable Company of Air Pilots) to the list of Honoured Guests.

In November 1975, the WM Initiated his younger son, Mr Roy Martin Anderson in front of the largest attendance so far of 93 brethren (58 visitors). Not surprisingly, the Charity Plate realised a record £165.00.

An Emergency Meeting had to be called for 2nd September 1976 after Master Elect Bro Kenneth Baldwin, JP was *'advised by his doctor to refrain from taking on any further responsibilities'*. The JW, W Bro Kenneth Hurren became Master Elect.

The November pattern was continued in 1976 when Mr Stanley Rickett was Initiated.

The 231st Regular Meeting in November 1977 saw WM, W Bro Ivor Bramley Initiate Mr Michael Rudolph Katz who was later to become WM and then Master Butcher in 1996. At the same meeting, PM, W Bro Arthur Franks, OBE, PAGDC was elected as an Honorary member for his great services to Taurus. He had been a member for 56 years having been Initiated in April 1921, was WM in 1930 and

1968, and had been DC from 1937 to 1963. His election is recorded as having been received with acclamation! At that point, he was only the second member to be elected as an Honorary member. The 235th Regular Meeting in November 1978 saw W Bro Henry Maulkin, *PM* take the Chair from WM, W Bro George Pethers to Initiate Mr Arthur Rickett who had been proposed by his brother, Bro Stanley Rickett. It was also reported in November that a visit had been made to Founder W Bro Michel Oppenheimer, *LGR* who was now '*a sprightly 93 years of age*' and very well.

The 237th Regular Meeting in March 1979 recorded the death on 27th February of W Bro Richard Bridger, *PM*, *LGR*. He had joined in 1948 and was WM in 1954. The Charity Plate realised £250 having been recognised as a special collection which was sent to Mrs Kay Bridger '*as a token of affection from the sixty members and guests present*'. The Lodge was also delighted to learn that PM, W Bro Percy Salt, *PPrAGDC (Warks)* was to be appointed PAGDC in April.

61 brethren were present at the September 1979 meeting to see Bro John Tuckwell become the 61st Master. Congratulations were given to PM, W Bro John Curran who was to be invested with LGR in October.

The very last meeting of 1979 was the Diamond Jubilee Meeting held on 27th November. Mr Albert Francis Ensor was Initiated and afterwards, 95 brethren dined in the Great Hall, and in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee, the menu was precisely the same as that at the Consecration in 1919. The Charity Plate realised £225.

1979 ended with 59 members and 4 Honorary members. Notable Joining members from the meat trade in the 1970's included Bro Leonard 'Lennie' Lawrence, W Bro John Silver, *LGR* (Master Butcher 1972), Bro Ronald Burgess, W Bro David Andrade, *LGR* and Bro Kenneth Clements.

¹ City of London Lodge of Installed Masters No. 8220.

² The recollections are on 4 typed pages of foolscap paper filed in the Minute Book.

³ The Apollo 11 mission enabled firstly Neil Armstrong then Buzz Aldrin to set foot on the Moon on 21st July 1969.

⁴ Private Lodge of the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers.

1980 to 1999

The January 1980 meeting included the presentation of a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro Arthur Rickett by W Bro Sir Edward Tuckwell¹, *PSGD*. Sir Edward was a guest of PM, W Bro Charles Tuckwell but they were unrelated.

The attendances of meetings in 1980 were still reasonably strong with January, March, September and November recording 63 brethren (with 33 visitors), 37 (17), 52 (25) and 60 (36) respectively. In March, the members were delighted to hear that Secretary, W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM, PAGDC* was to be promoted to *PJGD*.

By now, meetings were always opening at 4.30pm and usually closing by 6.30pm in time for dinner by 6.45pm.

At the 242nd Regular Meeting on 23rd September 1980, Bro Leonard Lawrence became the 62nd Master. But beforehand, the brethren stood as a token of respect to remember Founder and Honorary member, W Bro Michel Oppenheimer, *PM, LGR* (WM 1925 and 1944) who died on 29th May. His service and energy had left an indelible mark on the Lodge. Also, W Bro Peter Salt, *PM, PAGDC* (WM 1965) had died on 29th June.

In November 1980, the WM vacated the Chair in favour of W Bro David Andrade, *LGR* who proceeded to Initiate his son, Mr Philip John Andrade. The mood of the meeting was probably dampened by the Treasurer moving a Notice of Motion '*with regret*' to increase the annual subscription to £100, Country members to £25, guests to £15 and the Initiation/Joining fees to £100. These were swingeing increases - +333% for the annual subscription – but there is no record on a future Summons or in the Minutes of this Motion being put to the members.

In January 1981, the Rector of St. Bartholomew the Great, W Bro The Rev. Arthur W. S. Brown was welcomed as a Joining member. He was to become very active within the Lodge.

At the 246th Regular Meeting in September 1981, Bro Roy Seeman became the 63rd Master and at the end of the meeting, W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM, PJGD* was thanked by the DC on behalf of all the members '*for his 25 years of esteemed service as Secretary of Taurus Lodge*'. The office of Secretary passed to W Bro Eddie Anderson, *PM, PPrAGDC (Middx)* and whereas Austin's PA used a typewriter of about a 12pt font plus a blue ribbon, Eddie's used a typewriter with about a 10pt and a black ribbon, and thus a momentous period of service ended and another began.

In November 1981, Mr Herbert Ibbitson² was Initiated by W Bro Ron Burgess and the Charity Plate from the 58 brethren attending realised £190.

In January 1982, the WM '*thanked Bro. Michael Katz for his extreme generosity in presenting a Tyler's Sword, also W. Bro. C. Brooks (a guest of the Secretary) for presenting the Lodge Gavels. The originals were stolen at the time of the burglary³ at the Butchers Hall*'. The Charity plate realised a magnificent £400 from the 72 brethren present.

At the September Installation Meeting when Bro Noel Bramley became the 64th Master, a letter was read out by IPM, W Bro Roy Seeman from Prince Charles and Princess Diana thanking members for the telegram of congratulations on the birth of Prince William.

November 1982 saw another PM, W Bro Ken Hurren, initiate his son Mr Colin David Hurren, whilst W Bro Charles Brooks who had kindly donated the new gavels in January was welcomed as a Joining member.

W Bro Noel Bramley was lucky to be WM when a Taurus tradition was born – Burns Night. The story of its beginnings is explained in the footnote⁴.

At the 253rd Regular Meeting on 22nd March 1983, the brethren remembered W Bro David Andrade, LGR who died on 25th February. The Minutes record that '*W. Bro. John Tuckwell gave a very sincere oration in his memory – he will be sadly missed*'.

In September 1983, Bro Roger Watts became WM for the first time, and it was reported that W Bro Robin Pooley, PM was to receive LGR. Tyler, W Bro Sam Taggart had been absent for at least a couple of meetings, possibly due to ill health, and he was replaced by W Bro H. L. Lawrence, PPrAGDC (Surrey). Strangely, there is not a single mention in the Minutes of an election for W Bro Lawrence in any of the two years he was Tyler. He died on 6th January 1985.

The next three meetings were unremarkable in a business sense and saw Candidate Mr Michael Patrick Aiken, MD of Truman's Ltd (the brewers), progress to become a MM.

At the 259th Regular Meeting on 27th November 1984, the 66th Master, W Bro Roy Anderson initiated Mr Jonathan Wheeler. Remarkably, the WM carried out the whole ceremony including the Charge.

At 262nd Regular (Installation) Meeting in September 1985 Bro Stanley Rickett became the 67th Master and also saw a new Tyler invested – W Bro Arthur Mathews – who was destined to become the second longest holder of the office to date. The members also agreed to purchase and present to the Worshipful Company of Butchers two matching Georgian silver cups and covers made in London in 1770. A letter from Master Butcher David Franks dated 8th October 1985 thanked the Lodge '*for the pair of magnificent Silver Loving Cups*'.

It was not recorded in either the March or September 1985 Minutes, but in April 1985, PM and Treasurer, W Bro J. George Daultry, LGR was promoted to SLGR, the first in the Lodge to receive this honour.

In HM The Queen's 1985 New Year Honours, Bro Ken Clements received the MBE for services to the London Retail Meat Traders' Association Inc., although it was never recorded in the Minute Book.

November through to March 1986 saw the Candidate, Mr Royston Graeme Hine proceed to become a MM and at the end of the November meeting, the very recent deaths of W. Bro. Arthur Cannon, LGR (WM 1960, Treasurer 1967-81) and Bro. Lewis Watts were reported.

In March 1986, a lengthy discussion took place concerning the Treasurer's proposal to increase the annual subscription from £100 to £125. It was certainly a contentious issue and was eventually carried but not unanimously. The Guests' dining fee had already been increased to £20 in September 1985.

In September 1986, Bro Michael Katz became the 68th Master and the Secretary congratulated W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, PM, PJGD on the occasion that he had occupied the Master's Chair exactly 40 years before. The WM then congratulated the Secretary, W Bro Eddie Anderson, PM on his appointment to LGR.

In accordance with the established pattern, a new Candidate, Mr Bernard Raymond Woodhouse proceeded to become a MM from November through to March 1987. During this time, the reported deaths of W Bro Robert Connell, *PGStB* (WM 1955, DC 1963-76), W Bro Sidney Franks (WM 1937), W Bro Arnold Van Zwanenberg (WM 1940 & 1950) and W Bro Arthur Franks, *OBE, PAGDC* (WM 1930 & 1968, DC 1937-63)⁵ saw some Lodge stalwarts depart to be greatly missed.

The 270th Regular Meeting on 22nd September 1987 saw W Bro Rev. Arthur Brown Installed as the 69th Master. Among the apologies there is a Minute saying '*with particular apologies from Eddie Anderson our Secretary, to whom we have given an especial dispensation, but only for one meeting*'.

The 24th November 1987 meeting was the beginning of another long and active career in the Lodge with the Initiation of Mr Ian Kelly.

The Burns Night meeting was starting to get a reputation and in January 1988 of the 78 brethren present, 50 were visitors. The Charity Plate realised an excellent £257.

A double Raising took place in March when Bro Ian Kelly was joined by Bro Robert Sherwin-Smith at the request of the WM of Per Caelum Lodge. It was not recorded in the Minute Book but the WM had been appointed to Grand Rank as Deputy Grand Chaplain.

At the September 1988 meeting, 39 brethren (14 visitors) saw Bro Albert 'Bob' Ensor become the 70th Master. Most notably, another increase in Lodge dues was proposed, viz. annual subscription up to £175 and guest dining fee to £30. These were large increases following large increases just two years before, and whilst they were carried, W Bro John Curran, *LGR* '*refrained from voting to avoid embarrassing any guest present and suggested that a further meeting of PMs should be held in the very near future*'. The full subscription had risen at an alarming rate and again had caused unrest among the members. No reasons for this increase were recorded in the Minute Book.

In August 1988, Honorary member, RW Bro Maj Gen Sir Allan Adair, *PDepGM*, passed away but it was not recognised in the Lodge until the news was printed on the Summons for the January 1989 meeting. That meeting was also notable by the congratulations given to W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM, PJGD* on achieving 50 years in Masonry. Furthermore, Secretary W. Bro. Eddie Anderson, *LGR, PPrGD (Middx)* was congratulated on being appointed *PAGDC*.

The beginning of 1989 saw Lodge membership standing at 46 plus one Honorary Member. Deaths and the odd resignation had taken their toll, but attendance at meetings was still averaging just over 48 although March meetings were now generally below 40.

At the 277th Regular Meeting in March 1989, although the Summons indicated a proposal to elect W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM, PJGD* as an Honorary member, there is no mention of an election in the Minute Book. However, by the Summons for the Installation meeting, he was clearly categorised as an Honorary member.

The 71st Master, W Bro Arthur Smith, was Installed in September and Bro Hyman Arnold, who was to become Master Butcher in 1993, was elected as a Joining member. In September 1987, W Bro Robin Pooley, *PM, LGR* had become Master Butcher and to mark his year, he donated a full set of wands to the Lodge. He was also invested as Secretary after W Bro Eddie Anderson, *PM, PAGDC* stepped down after 8 years.

The 279th Regular Meeting in November was busy not only for Initiating Mr Alan Hedley Woodward, but also for electing as Joining members the WM's son, W Bro Peter Smith; a soon to be stalwart of the Lodge, Bro Peter Treble; and Bro Joseph Natrass.

In September 1990, Bro Fred Lingham became the 72nd Master, but before the Installation, W Bro Geoffrey Gillo was elected as a Joining member. For two meetings he was recorded as Gillow but we know that he was not a furniture maker. More of him later! It was also recorded that W Bro John Tuckwell had been appointed LGR.

In November 1990, Mr Lewis Fitzgerald Watts was Initiated with the Charge being given by his father, PM, W Bro Roger Watts. It was also recorded that Tyler, W Bro Arthur Mathews had been appointed LGR. When the Minutes of the meeting were signed, they included amongst the PM's, Bro Illegible and Bro Unreadable. Likewise, amongst five members, there was Bro Indecipherable who was also present at the January 1991 meeting. Seemingly, the Secretary was trying to make a point!

The 286th Regular Meeting of 24th September 1991 saw W Bro Ron Burgess, LGR become the 73rd Master with only 37 brethren in attendance. A standing ovation took place under the 2nd Rising when the Lodge was informed that PM, W Bro Eddie Anderson, PAGDC was to be appointed APGM (Middx). Also, PM, W Bro Roy Seeman was to be appointed LGR.

As per the usual custom, a Candidate, Mr Andrew Ian Stobart, was Initiated in November and a Joining member, Bro Roy Hibbin of United Smithfield Lodge No.3176, was welcomed.

In January 1992, W Bro John Kenneth Curran, PM, LGR was elected as an Honorary Member of the Lodge. He joined the Lodge in November 1963, became WM in 1969 and was DC 1976-83.

In April 1992, W Bro Eddie Anderson, PM, PAGDC, APGM (Middx) was promoted to PSGD, whilst in September, Secretary, W Bro Robin Pooley, PM, LGR was appointed PAGDC.

At the 290th Regular Meeting on 22nd September 1992, W Bro A. Geoffrey Nicholson, PPrJGW (Yorks), who joined the Lodge in January 1985, became the 74th Master. IPM, W Bro Ron Burgess, LGR presented the Lodge with a new Master's Collar which remains in use to this day.

Mr Peter Christopher Frederick Imison was the November Initiate and was Passed in January 1993 at a very full meeting of 76 brethren, of which 49 were visitors. The Charity Plate realised a generous £348.85. Also, for the first time recorded in the Minute Book, the Secretary '*gave an Explanation of the Burns Night and Haggis Board*'. No doubt it was extremely amusing!

In September 1993, Bro B. Raymond Woodhouse became the 75th Master and in November, he Initiated Mr Raymond Arthur Burton Smith, a retired accountant.

The 296th Regular Meeting in January 1994 was well attended and the Secretary, once again, '*gave an Explanation of the Burns Night and Haggis Board or, as he put it, the "Taurus Fourth Degree"*'. The immortal phrase '*in the interests of economy, d'y'ken?*' was born and *The Taurus Fourth Degree* delivered is filed in the Minute Book.

At the beginning of the 297th Regular Meeting in March, a very unusual occurrence took place when a eulogy was given by the Secretary for Mrs Gladys James who had sadly died, and who had worked for W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, PM, PJGD. She had done much clerical work for the Lodge, and if she hadn't been the wrong sex, she would have been a magnificent Lodge Secretary! The brethren all stood in

silence. It was also noted that in April 1994, Tyler, W Bro Arthur Mathews was to be appointed PPrJGD in Surrey.

Bro Peter Treble became the 76th Master in September 1994 and on 1st December at the 75th Jubilee Meeting, attended by a massive 108 brethren (77 visitors), he had the great pleasure of Initiating his good friend Mr Michael Charles Drew Patterson. The 75th Jubilee Lecture entitled *Nil Posse Creari De Nilo* (Nothing can be created out of nothing) was given by W Bro Robin Pooley PAGDC assisted by W Bro John Tuckwell, LGR and W Bro Roy Seeman, LGR. A vote of thanks was proposed by RW Bro Col. Geoffrey Dicker, CBE, TD, DL, PGM (Norfolk). There were 22 Grand Officers present and the Charity Plate realised a massive £829.40. At the Festive Board a very funny poem written by Honorary member, RW Bro Rev. Canon Richard Tydeman, PJGW, OSM was delivered by him, the last verse being:

*It's seldom we'll find a Lodge that's so kind,
So grand – yet thoroughly matey.
We've enjoyed it you chaps. Many thanks – and perhaps
We'll all come again when you're eighty!*

In March 1995, W Bro Arthur Smith was congratulated on being appointed PPrADC (Yorks).

The 77th Master was Bro Jonathan Wheeler who was Installed in September 1995. At that meeting, W Bro Roy Seeman, LGR was greeted with acclamation as the new Master Butcher, and W Bro John Tuckwell was similarly recognised as becoming a new member of the Court.

In November, the WM Initiated Mr John Richard Mabb, the Minutes for this meeting being ultra-thin!

At the 304th Regular Meeting in January 1996, it was reported that the Worshipful Company of Loriners' Lodge was to merge with Aries Lodge No.5086, the new lodge to '*be known as Laura (sic) et Aries*'. In fact there was no Loriners' Lodge, just keen liverymen intending to save the struggling Aries Lodge. Once the new arrangement was formalised, the new lodge would be added to the list of Honoured Guests. 72 brethren enjoyed the Burns Night festivities and a modified *Taurus Fourth Degree* was delivered by the Secretary to great applause.

In March it was announced that Tyler, W Bro Arthur Mathews, LGR, PPrJGD was to be appointed PGStB.

The 78th Master was W Bro Roger Watts, PM who took the place of SW, Bro Alan Woodward who had to step down for personal reasons. W Bro Watts had been the 65th Master in 1983. The meeting venue on 24th September 1996 was by Dispensation at Bakers Hall, due to Butchers Hall being unavailable. A major change of roles saw W Bro John Tuckwell, PM, LGR invested as Secretary whilst W Bro Robin Pooley became Almoner. W Bro Ray Woodhouse was invested as DC.

The 307th Regular Meeting in November 1996 saw the Initiation of Mr Martyn John Saines and PM, W Bro Noel Bramley was congratulated on being appointed LGR. For the first time in ten years, a Notice of Motion was given to increase Lodge dues from September 1997 to full member subscription £200, Country member £40, guest fee £35 except in January when it would be £40.

By the end of 1996, total membership stood at 57 including 3 Honorary Members, and of those, 15 were Country members.

94 brethren (63 visitors) enjoyed another excellent Burns Night at the 308th Regular Meeting. Nine Grand Officers were saluted and the Charity Plate realised a handsome £416.81.

In September 1997, W Bro Peter Smith became the 79th Master. When the Grand Officers were saluted, W Bro Robin Pooley, *PM, PAGDC* was congratulated on being awarded the OBE in HM The Queen's 1997 Birthday Honours *for services to Agricultural Marketing*. The Secretary also drew attention to the generosity of W Bros Pooley and Katz with the good offices of the Tyler in providing a new organ for which the Lodge was very appreciative.

The November 1997 meeting was saddened by the death on 19th October of W Bro Charles Tuckwell, *PM, LGR*, the father of the Secretary. He had been Initiated in November 1958, was WM in 1970 and had reached 90 years of age. A moving eulogy was given by the Almoner which is retained in the Minute Book. The WM then Initiated Mr Kevin Crook and later congratulated W Bro Roger Watts, *PM* on being appointed LGR. As has become a regular occurrence, the Master Butcher, Mr George Adams accompanied by his Clerk, Mr Graham Sharp were entertained at the Festive Board and accepted a donation for the Building Appeal Fund.

Before Bro Lewis Watts became the 80th Master at the 314th Regular Meeting, Bro John Wood of St. Peter's Lodge No. 8493 was elected as a Joining member. More of him later! The Secretary congratulated W Bro Gillo on his promotion to PPrJGD (Glos) and PM, W Bro Roy Anderson on receiving LGR. W Bro Peter Treble, *PM* became ADC which began his influence over mentoring and quality ritual.

In November 1998, the Candidate for the season was Mr Gordon Peter David Craig.

The Burns Night meeting on 26th January 1999 was as usual, attended by a large number of Brethren; 91 in total of which 66 were visitors. Rather surprisingly, only nine Grand Officers were saluted. PM, W Bro Robin Pooley, *OBE, PAGDC* gave an exceptional explanation of the Grand Lodge Certificate based around the work of Robbie Burns to Bro Crook. The Secretary then informed the meeting that it was the 60th anniversary of the Initiation of PM, Past Secretary and Honorary member W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PJGD*. The brethren were reminded of his great contribution to Freemasonry and Taurus Lodge *'and proposed that a Message of Congratulation, Good Wishes and Gratitude be sent'* to him. The suggestion was carried unanimously with acclamation. Before the meeting was closed, W Bro John Tuckwell, *PM, LGR* delivered the *Taurus Fourth Degree* whose footnote said *'Principally the work of W Bro R Pooley OBE PAGDC, with a few touches by W Bro J Tuckwell LGR'*. The Charity Plate realised £472.

It is not recorded in the Minute Book, but in April 1999, W Bro Geoff Nicholson, *PM, PPrSGW* was appointed to the Grand Rank of AGStB.

At the 318th Regular Meeting in September 1999, W. Bro. Geoff Gillo, *PPrJGD* became the 81st Master and Cito Lodge No.9650 was added to the list of Honoured Guests. Extra costs for dining caused the dining fee to be increased to £40 (£50 for Burns Night).

The November 1999 meeting was notable for the election of Joining members W Bro Peter Denhard, *PAGDC* and W Bro George Edkins, *SLGR*. But even more notable for the double Initiation of Mr Michael Patrick Joseph Cahill and Mr Thomas Albert Green. A double ceremony of any degree had not been carried out within Taurus Lodge for years. Also not mentioned in the Minute Book was the award of LGR to PM, W Bro Michael Katz. At the Festive Board, another witty poem was recited by Honorary member, RW Bro Rev Canon Richard Tydeman, *PSGW, OSM* to celebrate the Lodge's 80th anniversary. It is reproduced in its entirety in Appendix 3.

¹ Sir Edward Tuckwell was an eminent surgeon based at Bart's Hospital and also HM The Queen's Serjeant General. He met PM Tuckwell when they were both interested in a scroll from the housekeeping accounts at St. James's Palace of 1712 detailing meat and fish supplied by a Mr Tuckwell. Sir Edward got there first but on understanding PM Tuckwell's especial interest, let him purchase the scroll. A copy was made for Sir Edward and they became good friends. PM, W Bro John Tuckwell, *PAGDC* still has the scroll.

² At the end of the war, Herbert Ibbitson – a marine engineer – returned from sea to Sunderland and purchased a meat permit which entitled him to sell £8 of meat per week, as meat was still rationed. From these very small beginnings his company grew to be one of the largest independent meat companies in the country with 14 shops, two factories – supplying many leading supermarkets, local schools and hospitals – and a work force of over 400 people. He sold the wholesale business in the early 1980's, and the shops at the end of the 1990's. But he retained the market stall, where his business first started, to give him an interest until the end of his life. It is now run by his daughter.

³ Butchers' Hall was burgled over the Easter weekend of 1981 and most of its silver and gold collection was stolen never to be recovered. Neither were the thieves apprehended.

⁴ As described in a letter dated 31st March 2003 from Honorary member, W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM, PJGD*, it was all due to a flippant conversation between Gladys James and Pat Hastie, the two female secretaries of the current and former Taurus Lodge secretaries of that time, Eddie Anderson and Austin Kingwell.

Pat Hastie visited Gladys James to discuss the next Taurus meeting due to be held on 25th January 1983. During the course of their conversation Pat mentioned that date was Burns Night which her husband, Bill, who was a Piper, always celebrated. She then wondered if Robert Burns was a Freemason. Gladys said that she had a book entitled *Masonic Queries and Answers* which she consulted to discover that sure enough he was Initiated on 4th July 1781. "As the January meeting is always such a small affair perhaps Eddie will invite Bill along as his guest to commemorate the occasion", said Gladys and Pat agreed to mention it when she went back to the office. "If he goes along to Taurus I'll get him to wear his kilt, which will give them all a thrill", said Pat. Gladys then facetiously suggested perhaps he should also take his bagpipes along to brighten up the proceedings, and this is precisely what happened.

Eddie Anderson liked the idea, possibly as a gimmick, invited Bill Hastie along as his guest and altered the proposed menu to Haggis, whilst more suggestions followed. Bill Hastie agreed to render the Traditional Ode to the Haggis after ascending the winding staircase. Before reaching the door which led to the Great Hall, he was followed by the catering manager's wife, Pauline, attired in a tartan skirt with forage cap to match, who carried the Haggis high for all to see, before placing it in front of the WM. It has continued as a Taurus tradition ever since.

It was therefore Eddie Anderson who deserves all the credit for this boost to City Freemasonry, all brought about by the flippant conversation between two very efficient female secretaries!

⁵ A most moving eulogy given by PM, W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PJGD* remains in the Minute Book.

2000 to 2019

The new millennium began for the Lodge with 57 members including three Honorary members, so membership was strong and reasonably stable.

In HM The Queen's 2000 New Year Honours, W Bro Michael Katz, *PM, LGR* received the OBE *for charitable services to the community in Dorset*. When announced at the 320th Regular Meeting in January, this was greeted with loud acclamation. He had been Master Butcher in 1996 and his generosity to the Livery Company, Taurus Lodge and the wider community¹ was well known. 102 brethren (65 visitors) enjoyed a packed meeting (both in seating and for the agenda!) when two Joining members were elected viz. W Bro John Cooper, *PPrAGReg (Middx)* and W Bro Len Ruff, *SLGR*, and quite unusually for a January meeting in modern times, a new Candidate Mr David John Westgate was Initiated by PM, W Bro Robin Pooley, *OBE, PAGDC*. Grand Officers saluted included two PGM's (Berks and Glos), a DepPGM (Dorset) and ten others. The Charity Plate realised a generous £550.

The 321st Regular Meeting in March 2000 was almost like old times when Bro Westgate was Passed and Bro. Cahill was Raised. W Bro George Daultry, *PM, SLGR* was still a very skilled and active ritualist, and was invited to take the Chair to Pass Bro Westgate.

Bro Peter Imison became the 82nd Master in September and a very well-known meat trade personality, W Bro Alan Dann was welcomed as a Joining member. W Bro Ron Burgess, *PM, LGR* was congratulated on his promotion to SLGR and W Bro Ray Woodhouse, *PM* on his appointment to LGR. Interestingly, the Secretary reported on the new Sister City Livery Lodges Visiting Scheme.

There was no Candidate for the November meeting, however, Bro Green and Bro Westgate were both Raised in a double ceremony. The WM vacated the Chair enabling a trio of PM's – W Bros Roger Watts, Robin Pooley and John Tuckwell – to perform the ceremony.

The 324th Regular Meeting in January 2001 once again saw an Initiation that of Mr Michael Anthony Nelson which was carried out by W Bro John Cooper, now promoted to PPrDepGReg. A new Joining member was also elected, W Bro Ovlan Clement 'Jim' Redmond, *LGR, PPrSGD* who was destined to become WM. W Bro Robin Pooley, *OBE, PM, PAGDC* presented the Lodge with a new set of Working Tools housed in purpose made drawers which are still much appreciated today. 106 brethren enjoyed the usual Burns Night festivities and the Charity Plate realised £548.48.

Yet again the past practice of introducing a Candidate in November was changed when Mr Douglas John Ward was Initiated on 27th March 2001. The ceremony was completed in fine style by W Bro Len Ruff, *SLGR*. Attention was drawn to the Secretary's impending appointment to PAGDC which was greeted with acclamation.

Bro Michael Patterson became the 83rd Master in September and he was Obligated by his good friend W Bro Peter Treble, *PM* who had also Initiated, Passed and Raised him. The Secretary also congratulated W Bro Roy Seeman, *PM, LGR*, on his promotion to SLGR. He had stood down as Treasurer after 10 years and W Bro Geoff Gillo, *PM, PPrJGD* took on the office.

The 327th Regular meeting on 27th November 2001 welcomed W Bro David Harrison, *PrGStwd* as a Joining member – later to play a very active role in the Lodge – and then the Officers truly earned their corn by carrying out a double Passing for Bros Nelson and Ward followed by the Initiation of Mr Peter Edward Ford, for which the WM vacated the Chair in favour of W. Bro. Alan Dann. Before the meeting began, the brethren stood to order in memory of PM and Honorary member, W Bro John Curran, *LGR* who had died on 4th November.

Another very large January 2002 meeting (102 brethren present) enjoyed the Raising of Bro Nelson when the WM was assisted by a trio of PM's viz. W Bros Roger Watts, Ray Woodhouse and Robin Pooley. When the Secretary announced that W Bro Barrie R. M. Wilcox, *LGR* (WM 1961) had been Initiated exactly 50 years before on 22nd January 1952, he was congratulated with acclamation. Also, W Bro Jim Redmond, *LGR* was congratulated on being promoted to *SLGR*.

The 329th Regular Meeting in March 2002 was very busy. Before the meeting began, PM, W Bro Peter Smith gave a eulogy for his father, W Bro Arthur Smith, *PM*, *PPrAGDC* (WM 1989) who had died on 28th January. The late wife of the Tyler, Mrs Jo Mathews was also remembered. The business included W Bro Colin Taylor, *SLGR* being admitted as a Joining member followed by two ceremonies - the Passing of Bro Ford and the Raising of Bro Doug Ward. At the 1st Rising, *'the Secretary informed the Lodge that he would report on any information he had on the proposed changes to London Freemasonry at the next Meeting'*.

Bro Raymond Smith became the 84th Master in September and during the meeting, in the absence of W Bro G. Neville-Smith, *AGSwdB*, the Visiting Grand Officer, the Secretary presented a paper on the reorganisation of London Freemasonry. W Bro Taylor and Bro Kelly were congratulated on their election to the Court of the Butchers Company, and W Bro Noel Bramley, *PM*, *LGR* and Bro Saines were both congratulated for their dedication to the Lodge by attending on the day of their Silver Wedding anniversaries!

At the 331st Regular Meeting on 26th November 2002, the WM Initiated Mr Stanley Siu Tai Liu, and W Bro Alan Dann was congratulated on being appointed *PPrJGD*. W Bro Geoff Gillo, *PM*, *PPrJGD* had kindly brought up-to-date the names of PM's on the Lodge Banner.

In January 2003, membership of the Lodge stood at 63, of which two were Honorary members. That number was further enhanced when the Master Butcher, Bro Michael Richardson, *MBE* was welcomed as a Joining member. That 332nd Regular Meeting was the highest attended in the Lodge's history at that point with 120 brethren present of which 75 were visitors. 24 Grand Officers were saluted, again a record. Not surprisingly, the Charity Plate realised a very generous £762.65.

Notably in March, it was unanimously agreed to raise the full annual subscription to £225 and that of Country members to £50. Dining fees were raised to £45 (£55 for Burns Night).

When Bro Alan Woodward became the 85th Master, the members also elected W Bro Frederick Tottmann as a Joining member. The WM was congratulated on his election to the Court of the Butchers Company and W Bro Mike Patterson, *PM* was thanked for refurbishing the Lodge Officers' Collar Jewels.

At the 335th Regular Meeting in September, Mr John Richardson was Initiated by the WM assisted by W Bro Peter Treble, *PM* and W Bro Geoff Gillo, *PM*, *PPrJGD*. The Secretary reported on the Constitution of the Metropolitan Grand Lodge of London at the Royal Albert Hall on 1st October 2003.

The second highest attendance in the Lodge's history to that point occurred at the January 2004 meeting when 118 brethren, of which 80 were visitors, saw the Raising of Bro Liu. At the beginning of the meeting, the RW Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro David Kenneth Williamson, *AGM* was admitted. Before the Risings, W Bro George Daultry, *PM*, *SLGR* was presented with a 50 Years Long Service Certificate which was warmly acclaimed by the brethren.

On 28th April 2004, PM, W Bro Robin Pooley, *OBE*, *PAGDC* was promoted to the active rank of *JGD*.

At the 338th Regular (Installation) Meeting on 28th September 2004, Bro Martyn Saines became the 86th Master. Among the Officers, there was a change of DC when W Bro Peter Treble, *PM* was invested and W Bro Mike Patterson was invested as ADC. W Bro Treble was further congratulated on his appointment to LGR and W Bro Peter Imison, *PM* was congratulated on his election to the Court of the Butchers Company.

At the November meeting, the Lodge was saddened to hear of the death of W Bro Eddie Anderson, *PM, PSGD, PAPGM (Middx)* who died on 26th October 2004. He had played a hugely influential role in both Taurus Lodge and Freemasonry in general, and had been a member for 37 years (WM 1975, Secretary 1981-89). A very full eulogy was given by the Secretary. Bro Peter Ferner was welcomed as a Joining member and Mr George Rainey Pollock was Initiated.

The 340th Regular Meeting in January 2005 was massively attended. The highest ever attendance of 126 brethren (83 visitors) squeezed into the Taurus Suite to see the Raising of Bro Richardson and 26 Grand Officers were saluted – the largest number ever. The Charity Plate realised a massive £809.

In March after the Passing of Bro Pollock, congratulations were given to W Bro David Harrison on his active rank promotion to PrAGDC, and to the IPM (W Bro Alan Woodward) on his recent marriage and to the Tyler on his impending marriage.

At the 342nd Regular Meeting in September 2005, Bro John Mabb became the 87th Master. Before the meeting began, a moving eulogy was given by W Bro Robin Pooley, *OBE, PM, PJGD* for W Bro George Daultry, *PM, SLGR* who had died on 19th June 2005. He had been a member for 44 years, WM in 1966, Treasurer 1981-91 and had been a superb ritualist. Two major changes took place with the investiture of W Bro Geoff Gillo, *PM, PPrJGD* as Secretary and Bro Ian Kelly as Treasurer. W Bro Gillo was also congratulated on being appointed LGR.

In November, a double Initiation was performed for Mr Paul Kelly and Mr David Edward John Eveniss. For the first time, the use of Grand Charity envelopes to enable the recovery of tax under Gift Aid were mentioned by the Secretary. The WM presented W Bro John Tuckwell, *PM, PAGDC* with an inscribed decanter as a mark of his services as Secretary.

In HM The Queen's 2006 New Year Honours, Bro Doug Ward received the CBE *for services to agriculture in Scotland*.

The 344th Regular Meeting in January 2006 became the equal second highest attendance in the Lodge's history to that point with 120 brethren (72 visitors). Bro Pollock was Raised and the Charity Plate realised £895.35 of which £725.55 was by Gift Aid. For the first time, by courtesy of the Chancellor, over £1,000 was netted in a single meeting for charity.

In March a double Passing took place for Bro Paul Kelly and Bro Eveniss. At the Festive Board, VW Bro John Hamill, *PGSwdB* gave the first '10 Minute Talk', a new brainchild of the Secretary to encourage a larger attendance for March meetings. He also dubbed the menu the Sassenach's Revenge which was to be typical English fayre (for this meeting, mushroom soup, steak and kidney pudding, and spotted dick with custard) providing a complete contrast to the January Burns Night menu.

W Bro John Wood became the 88th Master in September when RW Bro Russell Race, *PJGW, Deputy MetGM* was present to collect a cheque for £2,500 in support of the London Appeal for the RMBI. This donation moved the Lodge to Grand Patron status. A new Joining member – W Bro Bryan Lund, *LGR, PPrJGW (Middx)* – was welcomed, and *PM*, W Bro Martyn Saines was invested as ADC.

At the 345th Regular Meeting in November, 72 brethren (30 visitors) saw a double Raising for Bro Paul Kelly and Bro Eveniss and another Joining member was elected, W Bro Peter Robinson. A very generous Charity Plate realised £544 (worth £677 with Gift Aid). Four days before the meeting, Honorary member, W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM, PJGD* celebrated his 90th birthday and was reported to be in excellent health.

The January 2007 meeting was another massive Burns Night occasion. 109 brethren including 61 visitors and 14 Grand Officers saw two new Joining members elected – W Bro John O’Connell and W Bro Peter Murcott. The Candidate for Initiation could not be present and W Bro Robin Pooley, *OBE, PM, PJGD*, at very short notice, gave a lecture entitled *Am I My Brother’s Keeper?* which was very well received. With Gift Aid, the Charity Plate realised £1,130, which was a record.

Having settled on a number of double ceremonies over the past couple of years, another was performed in March 2007 when Mr Robert Eric Wilson and Mr Barry John Croft were Initiated by W Bro Peter Robinson. Congratulations were given to W Bro Patterson, *PM* on being invested as Chaplain of the City of London Lodge of Installed Masters; W Bro Murcott on becoming a PrGStwd (Berks); and W Bro Cooper on being promoted to PPrJGW (Middx). The ‘10 Minute Talk’ by W Bro Yasha Beresiner, *PGStB* was entitled intriguingly *Memoirs of an Erotic Book Seller!*

At the request of the WM, Bro Robert Wilson was Passed by Plaisterers’ Lodge on 26th April.

The 350th Regular Meeting in September 2007 saw Bro David Craig become the 89th Master and W Bro Ernest Farmer, *PPrJGD (Sussex)* was welcomed as a Joining member. W Bro Martyn Saines, *PM* was invested as only the 10th DC in the Lodge’s history. W Bro John Tuckwell, *PM, PAGDC* was congratulated on becoming Master Butcher and W Bro John Jeffs, *LGR*, who had been Charity Steward for 14 years in two stints (1991-96 and 1998-2007), resigned from the Lodge because he was retiring to Stornoway – and as he said, ‘*slightly too far to travel to meetings*’.

Another member, Bro Croft was Passed at Plaisterers’ Lodge on 19th November and on 27th November, at the 351st Regular Meeting, Mr Timothy John Stone was Initiated by W Bro Peter Robinson.

At the beginning of 2008, the membership had risen to 74, including two Honorary members, the highest in the Lodge’s history.

The January 2008 Burns Night meeting was a slightly more restrained affair compared to recent times when ‘only’ 86 brethren (44 visitors) and 16 Grand Officers including W Bro Richard Regan, *PSGD, MetGInsp*, enjoyed the Raising of Bro Wilson.

In March, the Lodge was greatly saddened by the death of two PM’s viz. W Bro Stanley Rickett (WM 1985) and W Bro Jonathan Wheeler, *LGR* (WM 1995). Chaplain, W Bro Ray Woodhouse, *PM, LGR* gave a moving eulogy for W Bro Rickett including his long service with the Royal Smithfield Society. Master Butcher, W Bro John Tuckwell, *PM, PAGDC* spoke of W Bro. Wheeler’s long family association with the Lodge and the Livery (his grandfather was WM in 1927 and 1942, and Master Butcher in 1950). In the Livery, he was Providitor on his death at the age of 65 years. Later, the third annual ‘10 Minute Talk’ was given by W Bro Patrick Wilkins, *PAGDC* and entitled *What did Hegel know?*

From 1st August 2008, the full annual subscription rose to £325, the Country fee to £85 with the dining fee at £60 (Burns Night £70).

Bro Michael Cahill became the 90th Master in September and W Bro John Mabb, *PM* took over as Lodge Mentor from W Bro Peter Treble, *PM, LGR*. Lodge Mentor was still an ‘extra’ role within the

Lodge and therefore not an invested office. PM, W. Bro. John Wood had been appointed PPrGStB (Notts) on 2nd May.

The January 2009 Burns Night meeting was attended by 89 brethren (49 visitors) including 19 Grand Officers. Once again, W Bro Richard Regan, *PSGD, MetGInsp* demanded admission, his DC being W Bro Patrick Penny, *SLGR, MetDepGDC*. Bro. Croft was Raised by the WM who delivered all the ritual except the Working Tools of a MM. Congratulations were given to W Bro Regan on his promotion to AMetGM in February, and to W Bro David Harrison, *PPrAGDC* on his promotion to PPrDepGSwdB (Essex). The Secretary had visited on the day before the meeting, Honorary member, W. Bro. H. Austin Kingwell, *PM, PJGD*, who he had presented with a 70 Years' Service to Freemasonry certificate.

The 357th Regular Meeting on 24th March 2009 firstly elected W Bro Philip Splett, *PPrGSwdB (Essex)* as a Joining member then the WM Initiated Mr Christopher John Hogg. The Secretary congratulated W Bro Mike Patterson, *PM* who had been appointed PPrAGDC (Hants & IoW) and then informed the meeting that the fourth annual '*10 Minute Talk*' would be given by VW Bro Derrick Silver, *PGSwdB, AMetGM* entitled *Why Join the Royal Arch?*

W Bro John Cooper, *PPrJGW (Middx)* was Installed as the 91st Master in September and among the nine Grand Officers present, MW Bro John R. 'Bo' Cline, Grand Master of Alaska (a guest of Bro Ferner) was saluted with eleven – the most salutes ever given in the Lodge. W Bro John Mabb, *PM* was invested as Assistant Secretary but continued as Lodge Mentor. Eulogies for W Bro Barrie 'George' Wilcox, *LGR* (WM 1961) and W Bro Gert 'Gerry' Orlik, *LGR* were given by W Bro Roy Seeman, *PM, SLGR*. W Bro Wilcox's grandfather was a Founder Member and his father was WM in 1935 and Secretary 1948-53. The Secretary thanked those members who acted as ushers at Common Hall and noted that it was the 30th consecutive year for Bro Arthur Rickett. He also congratulated W Bro Alan Dann, *PPrJGD* on being promoted to PPrGSuptWks (Herts).

The 24th November 2009 meeting welcomed two Joining members – Bro L. David Walker, *MBE, TD* and W Bro Edward 'Ted' Hoefling, *PrAGDC (Surrey)* – and then proceeded to Pass Bro Hogg. It was revealed that the new Met Information Officer was, indeed, our very own Secretary who then reported that a small party had attended Lodge St John Kilwinning Kilmarnock No.22 for their 275th Anniversary and Re-dedication celebrations. This was the first visit under the agreed 'twinning' relationship.

The 360th Regular Meeting on 26th January 2010 was another large affair with 111 brethren (67 visitors) including 19 Grand Officers. On being opened, the lodge was informed about the death of Honorary member, W Bro H. Austin Kingwell, *PM, PJGD* on 3rd January at the great age of 93 years. To commemorate the Fraternal Amity between Taurus Lodge and Lodge St. John Kilwinning Kilmarnock No.22 (SC), the bonds were read to the respective WM's and sealed with the hand of friendship. So began the relationship between both lodges. Bro Hogg was then Raised by the WM. The active appointment of W Bro Mike Cahill, *PM* as a MetGSwd and the active promotion of W Bro Geoff Gillo, *PM, LGR* to MetGSuptWks were acknowledged with acclamation.

The WM had a very busy March meeting when there was a double Initiation of Mr Stuart Frederick Alan Thornton and Mr William Thurston. Sadly, Corium Lodge was removed as an Honoured Guest for reasons explained by the Secretary. The promotions of two members viz. W Bro Peter Murcott, *PPrGStwd* to PPrSGD and W Bro Ted Hoefling, *PPrAGSwdB* to PPrAGReg were welcomed. The fifth annual '*10 Minute Talk*' was delivered by W Bro Peter Thorogood and entitled *Kipling – the Masonic Bard*.

Several major changes took place in September 2010 when W Bro David Harrison, *PPrDepGSwdB (Essex)* became the 92nd Master. W Bro John Mabb, *PM, LGR* became Secretary and the newly invested SW was now Bro Dr Doug Ward, *CBE*, he having received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from Edinburgh Napier University. The beginning of the meeting was unusual because PM, W Bro John Tuckwell, *PAGDC* gave three eulogies for Bro L. David Walker, *MBE, TD*, Bro Joe Nattrass and W Bro Michael Katz, *OBE, PM, LGR* (an obituary is reproduced in Appendix 4). After 12 Grand Officers were saluted, the Secretary proposed that RW Bro Russell Race, *DL, MetGM*; VW Bro Richard Regan, *PGSwdB, AMetGM*; and W Bro Robin Pooley, *OBE, PM, PJGD* be elected as Honorary members which proved unanimous in their favour. The three brethren were then admitted and welcomed.

At the 363rd Regular Meeting in November 2010, Bros Thornton and Thurston were Passed and W Bro Derek Howard-Budd, *LGR* was welcomed as a Joining member.

The January 2011 Burns Night meeting was attended by 84 brethren (45 visitors) and of the 11 Grand Officers saluted, one was Bro' Willy Raeside, *SubPrGM (Ayrshire)* who led the contingent from Lodge St John Kilwinning Kilmarnock No. 22(SC). The Lodge was then honoured to receive RW Bro David K. Williamson, *AGM* and Bro Thurston was Raised by the WM assisted by W Bro Geoff Gillo, *PM, MetGSuptWks, SLGR*.

On 19th February, four members including the WM and IPM plus two friends of Taurus attended the Lodge of St John Kilwinning Kilmarnock Installation meeting and received excellent hospitality. The silver quaich filled with whisky that passed among the brethren was particularly well received!

Bro Thornton was Raised in March 2011 and tribute was paid to Bro I. Kelly who was standing down after 6 years as Treasurer. Congratulations were also given to him on becoming Master of the City of York Company of Butchers earlier in March.

The 366th Regular Meeting in September saw Bro Dr Doug Ward, *CBE* become the 93rd Master and W Bro David Craig, *PM* become Treasurer. The Secretary gave a eulogy for RW Bro Rev. Canon Richard Tydeman, *PSGW, OSM* and an Honorary member of the Lodge who passed away on 1st April 2011. The promotion of W Bro Jim Redmond, *SLGR* to active PrSGW in the Province of Buckinghamshire, and the appointments of W Bro Peter Robinson to PPrJGD in the Province of Essex and W Bro Martyn Saines, *PM* to LGR were all greeted with acclamation. Over the summer, the Secretary had arranged for the furniture and square pavement to be restored thus prolonging their life for some years to come. Also, thanks were given to PM's W Bro Peter Treble, *LGR* and W Bro Mike Patterson, *PPrAGDC* for their huge generosity in funding replacement candlesticks in the Temple.

In November, Mr Andrew Fitzgerald Watts was Initiated and the Almoner reported the death at the grand age of 102 years of Mrs Kathleen Clements, widow of the late Bro Ken Clements, *MBE*.

The meeting in January 2012 was very well attended by 100 brethren (59 visitors) including 8 from Lodge St John. Bro Ian Kelly gave a eulogy for W Bro Derek Howard-Budd (aka 'HB') who passed away on 1st January 2012 after a short illness bravely fought. Sadly he had barely been a member for two years. 17 Grand Officers were saluted before Bro Andrew Watts was Passed.

The March meeting began with noting the unexpected death of PM, W Bro Peter Treble, *LGR*. W Bro Mike Patterson, *PM, PPrAGDC* gave a fitting eulogy. It was reported that W Bros Harrison and Saines had attended the MetGL Annual Meeting on 1st March to be thanked by the MetGM for the effort Taurus had put into the MMC Cyberknife Appeal resulting in the Lodge being awarded the *Metropolitan Grand Master's Award for Outstanding Achievement* for donating over £10,000.

W Bro David Craig, *PM* had been appointed to *PPrJGD* (Worc), W Bro John Mabb had been appointed *LGR* as well as receiving active rank as *MetGD*, and Tyler, W Bro Arthur Mathews, *PGStB* had been promoted to *PJGD* much to his complete but happy surprise. All were greeted with acclamation. Before the Festive Board, the '10 Minute Talk' about the Cyberknife was given by Dr Amen Sibtain, Consultant Clinical Oncologist at Barts Hospital.

W Bro Peter Robinson, *PPrJGD* became the 94th Master in September 2012 and the meeting was pleased to hear that W Bro Peter Imison, *PM* would be appointed to *LGR*, and Bro Ian Kelly to *LR* at the Investiture meeting on 1st November.

At the 371st Regular Meeting in November, W Bro Robert Grant, *PSGD*, *MetGInsp* was received before Mr Christopher John Barkaway was Initiated. Unfortunately, due to family reasons, Bro Barkaway had to resign before being Passed. Afterwards, W Bro Grant presented W Bro Colin Taylor, *SLGR* with a 50 Years of Service to Freemasonry certificate. The Minutes record that *'In a light-hearted presentation, W Bro Grant recalled that Frank Ifield was No.1 in the charts when W Bro Taylor was Initiated by his father on 13th November 1962. He was congratulated for the extensive charity work he has undertaken over many years, and the Brethren concluded the presentation with deserved acclamation.'*

By the beginning of 2013, the membership now stood at 66 including 3 Honorary members. However, the trend towards older members going onto the Country List had seen that number climb to 18.

The Burns Night meeting in January 2013 whilst being smaller than in recent years, partly due to adverse weather conditions, was still attended by 72 brethren. Secretary, W Bro John Mabb, *PM*, *LGR*, *MetGD* had been struck down with glandular fever and Assistant Secretary, W Bro Noel Bramley, *PM*, *LGR* did a magnificent, short notice job of running the meeting. Mr Stephen John Chick was Initiated and it was recorded that W Bro Philip Splett, *PPrGSwdB* would be promoted to *PPrJGW* (Essex) in March.

At the 373rd Regular Meeting in March, Bro Chick was Passed and it was reported that *PM*, W Bro Geoff Gillo, *SLGR*, *PPrJGD* (*Glos*) was to be appointed *PAGDC* in April. It was also recorded that the original Taurus Lodge banner had been framed to prevent further damage to the silk, and very grateful thanks were extended to *IPM*, W Bro Dr Doug Ward, *CBE* for his very generous funding.

Bro Stanley Liu became the 95th Master in September and at the beginning of the meeting, the brethren stood to order for departed merit in remembrance of W Bro John Jeffs, *LGR* who had resigned in 2007 to retire to Stornoway, but who before that had been a member for 21 years. Bro Ian Kelly, *LR* was congratulated on becoming Master Butcher and Tyler, W Bro Arthur Mathews, *PJGD* who had held the role for 23 years had resigned as a consequence of a broken ankle and his doctor's advice. In the Risings, the brethren were informed about the procedural steps necessary to move meetings to Charterhouse caused by the forthcoming closure of Butchers' Hall in December 2014.

Mr Mark Duncan Roberts was Initiated during the 375th Regular Meeting in November and the removal of the Lodge from Butchers Hall to Charterhouse, Sutton's Hospital, London EC1M 6AN was unanimously approved. The new Tyler was W Bro Nick Walker, *SLGR* who took over in a seamless manner.

The last Burns Night meeting for what was likely to be six years took place in January 2014 and was attended by 88 brethren (58 visitors). Thirteen Grand Officers were saluted before Mr Julien Douglas Pursglove was Initiated. The revised By-Laws enabling the move to Charterhouse had been approved. Sadly, the brethren were then informed that United Smithfield Lodge No. 3176 had declined in membership to such an extent that it would be returning its Warrant at its final meeting on Tuesday,

11th March 2014. United Smithfield was the mother Lodge of Taurus. The Charity Plate realised a very generous £910 including Gift Aid.

In February 2014, the Lodge furniture and regalia was moved to Charterhouse such that the 377th Regular Meeting in March could be held there. In saluting the Grand Officers, Honorary member W Bro Robin Pooley *OBE, PM, PJGD* was welcomed back after a long recuperation from illness. Bro Chick was Raised and congratulations given to W Bro Roy Hibbin, *LGR* who was to be promoted to SLGR.

At the September meeting, eulogies were given for W Bro Ray Smith, *PM* and W Bro Bryan Lund, *LGR, PPrSGW (Middx)*. Bro George Pollock was then Installed as the 96th Master. W Bro Martyn Saines, *PM, LGR* replaced the late W Bro Lund as Chaplain, and W Bro Michael Cahill, *PM, LGR* became DC.

The 379th Regular Meeting was very much a blue ribbon day for the Lodge when the Metropolitan Grand Master, RW Bro Russell Race, *DL, MetGM* was received. He was in attendance to present a 50 Years' Service to Freemasonry certificate to Honorary member, W Bro Robin Pooley, *OBE, PM, PJGD*. This was the first time that a photograph of an event had ever been included in the Minute Book.

The Burns Night meeting in January 2015 was a much subdued affair in terms of attendance – 66 brethren (36 visitors) - due to the dining facilities in the Old Library at Charterhouse that could only serve 68 covers. This was the smallest January meeting attendance since the pre-Burns Night meeting of 1980. An informative and often amusing eulogy was given by Bro Ian Kelly, *LR* for W Bro Colin Taylor, *SLGR* who had died after a long illness borne with his characteristic humour and bravery. He had been a member since March 2002 and had been awarded the 50 Years' Service to Freemasonry certificate in November 2012. A ballot to elect RW Bro Sir David Hugh Wootton, *AGM* as an Honorary member proved unanimous.

The 381st Regular Meeting in March started in a very sombre mood. The WM, W Bro George Pollock had passed away very suddenly on 13th February and a very touching eulogy was given by Bro David Westgate. In the history of the Lodge, W Bro Pollock is the only Master to die 'in harness'. On behalf of the Lodge, W Bro Stanley Liu, *IPM* welcomed new Honorary member RW Bro Sir David Wootton, *AGM* and presented him with a cheque for his preferred charity.

W Bro Ted Hoefling, *PPrAGReg (Surrey)* became the 97th Master in September 2015 and in a shuffle of officers, W Bro Martyn Saines, *PM, LGR* became ADC and W Bro David Harrison, *PM, PPrDepGSwdB* became DC. During the Festive Board, another Taurus 'first' was recorded when Mrs Susan Hoefling, the WM's wife, was literally smuggled in to assist W Bro John Sawdon, *PAGDC* to sing The Master's Song. A few chins hit the table when she appeared but it was a triumph over tradition!

At the November meeting, W Bro Iain Wilson was elected as a Joining member. He was a PM of the erased United Smithfield Lodge – the Taurus mother lodge - and its last Treasurer. Mr Martin Richard McIntyre was Initiated.

As 2016 began, Taurus Lodge still had a healthy 65 members including four Honorary members. However, there were now 25 Country members.

Burns Night 2016 was attended by 59 brethren (33 visitors) and just short of maximum capacity at Charterhouse. Actually, more diners could have been accommodated by using the Great Hall but the extra £1,000 required to hire it was considered far beyond our means! During the presentation of the traditional 'Taurus Fourth Degree', it was remarked that when Burns was made an honorary member of Lodge St John in October 1786, he wrote *Ye Sons of Old Killie* in their honour and that of their RWM William 'Willie' Parker. At the Festive Board, the Haggis was piped in by Pipe Major Graham Waller

who had become the regular piper, and was Addressed in most excellent manner by Bro' David Ramsey, *PM*, Lodge St Andrew No 126 (SC) and Hon Member Lodge St John Kilwinning Kilmarnock No. 22 (SC).

At the 385th Regular Meeting in March 2016, the full annual subscription was raised to £350 and the Country List subscription to £115. Both increases necessary due to the much higher cost of Charterhouse meetings, the rooms alone costing an extra 250% compared to Butchers' Hall.

W Bro Philip Splett, *PPrJGW (Essex)* became the 98th Master in September but as the meeting opened, a eulogy was given for Bro Peter Ferner, a member for 12 years, who had died in April. There was a change of Treasurer with IPM, W Bro Ted Hoefling, *PPrAGReg* taking the office. During the 2nd Rising, it was noted that W Bro David Harrison, *PM*, *PPrDepGSwdB* had been appointed LGR which was very well received.

60 brethren (37 visitors) attended the January 2017 Burns Night meeting. At the beginning, a eulogy was given by Bro Ian Kelly, *LR* for the late W Bro Roy Seeman, *PM*, *SLGR* who had died in July. He had been a member for 46 years (WM 1981) and had held several important offices. Afterwards, the MetGInsp, W Bro Robert Grant, *PSGD* was received. Rather than perform a ceremony, for the first time in many years, a talk about Robert Burns had been arranged from Mr Hector Davidson of The Burns Club of London.

At the 389th Regular Meeting in March 2017, yet another eulogy was given by the Secretary for past Tyler, W Bro Arthur Mathews, *PJGD* who had died on 24th March. He had been the Lodge's second longest serving Tyler covering 28 years. Mr Philip Eric Hambling was Initiated by the WM and amongst the visitors, a special welcome was given to the WM of Acacia Lodge No. 3436 known as the Funeral Directors' Lodge. He promised that he would not be touting for business during the evening!

Bro Barry Croft became the 99th Master in September 2017 and to satisfy recent changes to Data Protection laws, the Secretary was officially designated as Data Protection Controller (no collar or jewel!). In a plethora of appointments and promotions, W Bro Ted Hoefling, *PM*, *PPrAGReg* had been promoted to *PPrSGD* (Surrey); W Bro Peter Murcott, *PPrSGD* to *PPrGSwdB* (Berks); W Bro Alan Dann, *PPrGSuptWks* to *PPrGReg* (Herts); W Bro David Harrison, *PM*, *LGR*, *PPrDepGSwdB* to *PPrJGW* (Essex); and W Bro John Cooper, *PM*, *PPrJGW (Middx)* to LGR.

At the 391st Regular Meeting in November, W Bro John Harrison, *PPrGSwdB (Derby)* was elected as a Joining member, and the WM participated in the Initiation of his son, Mr James Barry Croft assisted by the IPM and the newly Joined member. W Bro Mike Patterson, *PM*, *PPrAGDC* was congratulated for having been promoted to *PPrDepGSuptWks* (Hants&IoW).

The March 2018 meeting attended by 52 brethren (26 visitors) welcomed the Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Jonathan Spence, who was attending without an escort as WM of the City of London Lodge of Installed Masters No. 8220. The brethren saluted a further ten Grand Officers. Bro Hambling was Raised and later on, it was announced that SW, W Bro Jim Redmond, *SLGR*, *PPrSGW (Bucks)*, *PPrSGW (Northants)* was to be appointed *PGStB* on 25th April. This was warmly applauded. Furthermore, W Bro David Craig, *PM*, *LGR*, *PPrJGD* had been promoted to *PPrGSwdB* (Worc). For only the second time, photographs appeared in the Minute Book, those of the WM and SW with the Deputy Grand Master.

W Bro Jim Redmond, *PGStB* became the 100th Master in September 2018 and later, it was agreed that from 1st August 2018 the full annual subscription would be £370 and Country List subscription would be £125. Remarkably, and after 99 years of inflation, the subscription was still within the 'value' bounds of the original 5 guineas in 1919. Two major changes took place when Secretary, W Bro John

Mabb, *PM*, *LGR* stood down to be invested as Mentor, and Treasurer, W Bro Ted Hoefling, *PM*, *PPrSGD* was invested as Secretary. Mentor, W Bro John Cooper, *PM*, *LGR*, *PPrJGW* was invested as Treasurer.

At the 395th Regular Meeting in November 2018, the brethren saluted the Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Sir David Wootton who was attending as WM of the City of London Lodge of Installed Masters No. 8220. Bro Hambling was honoured to be presented with his Grand Lodge certificate by the AGM. It was agreed to add another Honoured Guest that of the WM of the Wellington Livery Masters Lodge No. 6991 which had been formed for brethren of all Liveries who had served as Master of a Livery Company.

The last meeting at Charterhouse took place on 22nd January 2019 with 51 brethren (30 visitors) attending. Major renovations necessitated moving the lodge to another venue as Butchers' Hall was still closed, and it was decided to meet elsewhere under Dispensation until the Hall had reopened. Bro James Croft was Raised and during the ceremony, W Bro John Tuckwell, *PM*, *PAGDC* demonstrated his flawless ritual when he delivered the Traditional History. In a double celebration, it was reported that member for 19 years, Bro David Westgate had become WM of Old Norvicensian Lodge No. 9583 and that IPM, W Bro Barry Croft had become WM of Royal Sussex Lodge No.353.

In February, the Lodge regalia was transported to Wax Chandlers' Hall and placed in a large trunk kindly donated by the WM. He also donated a lectern for use by the Secretary which will be a great asset at meetings. The Clerk of the Butchers' Company had stated that the Hall would be completed and open for Common Hall in September, so Wax Chandlers' Hall was to be a temporary venue kindly facilitated by W Bro Stanley Liu, *PM*, Beadle of the Wax Chandlers' Company.

The 397th Regular Meeting in March 2019 took place under Dispensation at Wax Chandlers' Hall. Mr Ian Rigley was Initiated by a team of largely acting Officers that had been necessitated by illness and business commitments. The brethren enjoyed a superb Festive Board held in an excellent atmosphere.

Despite Butchers' Hall re-opening for its first Court Lunch on 6th September, issues with the storage of Taurus Lodge furniture and its movement back to the Hall ensured that the 398th Regular Meeting on 24th September 2019 was again held under Dispensation at Wax Chandlers' Hall. Before the meeting began, a eulogy was read for Bro Andrew Fitzgerald Watts who had passed away in July. Then, W Bro John Wood, *PM*, *PPrGSwdB (Notts)* was Installed as the 101st and therefore, Centenary Master. 47 brethren including 30 visitors (many from Nottinghamshire) attended the meeting including the PGM of Nottinghamshire and the PPGM of Buckinghamshire. During the ceremony, the EA Tools were presented by the WM's son, Bro Nick Wood in a faultless manner, which was remarkable as it was only his third Masonic meeting! The new Master had been WM in 2006 and under the Risings, proposals were read to Initiate his son, Mr Peter Geoffrey Wood within the 399th Regular meeting in November and his brother, Mr Christopher Frank Wood in January 2020. It was further announced that W Bro Stanley Liu, *PM* was to be appointed to well-deserved LGR in November.

The 402nd Regular Meeting on 23rd March 2020 will celebrate the Centenary of the Lodge in Butchers' Hall where it all began.

¹The Michael and Ilse Katz Foundation (registered charity number 263726) remains very active today giving over £500,000 to good causes in the last 5 years alone.

Some Influential Members

When writing the history of the Lodge and reviewing the Minute Books, it became apparent that some members stood out as giving great service not only to Taurus Lodge but to Freemasonry in general. But like debating your football team's greatest players, determining who makes the cut is a matter of personal choice, and in like manner, a few Taurus names will be put in the spotlight.

George James Ariss, PAGStB (1874-1947) was a butcher with his own shop on the Edgeware Road who was Initiated into Maida Vale Lodge No. 2743 in November 1900. He was a Founder Member of United Smithfield Lodge No. 3176 which was Consecrated on 9th October 1906. He was admitted to the Freedom of the City of London on 3rd February 1920, two months after the Consecration of Taurus. He was WM of United Smithfield at the same time that he became Taurus Founder Secretary serving for 17 years whilst helping to build very firm foundations for the Lodge. His son George Donald Ariss, LGR (1899-1992), a wholesale meat salesman, was Initiated into United Smithfield Lodge in October 1921 and became WM in 1936. But never joined Taurus although he did visit 4 times, once as PM.

William Goldstein, PM, LGR (1881-1959) was of Russian heritage, born in London and naturalised with his family in 1894. The Minister of State signing the naturalisation papers was the Rt Hon Herbert Asquith later to become Prime Minister in 1908. He was Initiated into Horus Lodge No. 3155 on 8th October 1913 when he was described as a meat salesman. He was Founder SW of Taurus and became WM in 1921 and again in 1941. He completed 19 years as Treasurer (1937-56), a period only exceeded by W Bro Arthur Cannon (see below). In 1939, the census described him as Secretary London Counties Wholesale Association. Despite a proposal being made in open lodge in November 1956, he was never elected as an Honorary member and there is no record of why it did not happen. He was very active professionally and even in his 75th year he made a sea voyage to visit South American meat factories with his daughter, Betty who was described as a secretary.

Michel 'Mitch' Oppenheimer, PM, LGR (1884-1980) was of Dutch origin and he and his family were naturalised in 1886. Initiated in United Smithfield No. 3176 in 1907, he was admitted to the Freedom of the City of London in June 1919. He was WM of United Smithfield in 1921 and for Taurus was a Founder Steward, WM in 1925 and 1944, and in 1973 was elected as an Honorary member. He was a man of great charm and remained active within the Lodge and out of it right into his 90's. At the 60th Anniversary of the Lodge, WM, W Bro John Tuckwell and PM, W Bro Roger Watts visited him in his nursing home and recorded a greeting from him to the Lodge. Thus, when a reply was required for the toast to the Founders, Mitch's recording was played to the delight of the brethren present. Outside of the meat industry, he became a director of the board of the *Jewish Chronicle* in 1936, then chairman in 1944 until his retirement in 1958. He gave it both his time and financial support which was vital during the war years to maintain publication.

Isaac Arthur Franks, OBE, PM, PAGDC (1898-1987) was admitted into the Freedom of the City of London in February 1921, became a Liveryman and in September 1921 he was Initiated into Taurus. Within 9 years (1930) he became WM and he went into the Chair again in 1968. But his most outstanding service was as DC for which he was in office for 26 years - 1937 to 1963. He became an Honorary member in 1977 after being a member for 56 years. At his death, he was described as '*a quiet unassuming good man, courteous and charming, a brilliant after Dinner Speaker, with a most dynamic personality...*' He was Master Butcher in 1953 and gave very generously to charity, one example being to the 850th Anniversary Appeal for St Bartholomew the Great. The very tone of W Bro Austin Kingwell's eulogy for Arthur makes one sorry not to have met him!

Lancelot 'Lance' Edey Hall, LLD, PM, PGD, DepPGM (Middx) (1889-1948) at the age of 27 was conferred with Doctor of Laws by '*Private study*' i.e. as an external student, from the University of

London. His thesis *Possessory Liens in English Law* was published in 1917. It is still published by Cornell University Library today. He became a Joining member in November 1928, proposed by his father, Founder Treasurer, W Bro Thomas W. Hall, then *PPrGReg (Surrey)*. Lance was a solicitor by profession and had just been appointed Clerk of the Butchers' Company in 1927, a position he held until his sudden death in October 1948. He died just four months after the death of his wife. He was very active within the Province of Middlesex where he was Provincial Grand Secretary 1940-46 and promoted to DepPGM. He served as Taurus Secretary for 11 years and in terms of his sheer proficiency, he stands out as probably the Secretary's Secretary!

Arthur Robert Cannon, PM, LGR (1901-85) joined in March 1954 and became WM in 1960. He was a wholesale salesman of sausage casings and gave service as an ARP warden during the war. But he gave two great services to the Lodge, the first being his very long stint as Treasurer from 1967 to 1981. As such, he was very active in all aspects of the Lodge and only ceased being Treasurer when he was 80 years old. He and Austin Kingwell were really like chalk and cheese but nevertheless, their relationship worked. His other service was with the organisation of Ladies' Nights. Very little if anything about these events was recorded in the Minute Books, but we are lucky to still have some first-hand memories upon which to call. Arthur had a huge circle of friends and acquaintances and was able to get them to buy whole tables for the events held in the River Room at The Savoy. These were big events with even the Band of the Welsh Guards appearing in one year. He could easily get 300 attendees but when the President asked the Taurus members to rise and drink a toast, there were often less than 20 members present! When he ceased to run them in 1979, numbers could not be maintained at The Savoy and after a couple of years, Ladies Nights moved elsewhere.

Harold Austin Malcolm Stuart Kingwell, PM, PJGD (1916-2010) was Initiated on 24th January 1939 and became the youngest WM to date in 1946 whilst still 29 years old. Known always as Austin, he became Secretary in 1956 and held the post for 25 years until 1981. He was described as the iron fist in the velvet glove whilst exuding immense charm, and you knew you had been noticed – probably for some infringement of ritual or protocol - when you received your first 'fizzer' from him in the form of a note or letter. Whilst still Secretary, he became Master Butcher in 1975. He served on the Board of General Purposes for which he received Grand Rank. He was a great letter writer and long after his retirement, he was always keen to follow the Lodge and provide words of encouragement. He was made an Honorary member in March 1989 and was awarded a 70 Years' Service to Freemasonry certificate shortly before he died.

Edwin Arthur 'Eddie' Anderson, PM, PSGD, PAPGM (Middx) (1924-2004) joined Taurus in November 1967 and became the 57th WM in 1975. He was invested as Secretary in 1981 on the retirement of Austin Kingwell: a very hard act to follow! But he was a charming and astute businessman and brought those special qualities to bear on the Lodge. He was Secretary for 8 years before handing on the role to another leading light. Outside of London Freemasonry, he was very active in the Province of Middlesex where he became Assistant Provincial Grand Master in 1991 and then promoted to PSGD in April 1992. Eddie's stroke of genius was to start the now famous and annual Taurus Burns Night meeting in January. It remains the most highly attended meeting of the season.

Robin Pooley, OBE, PM, PJGD (1936-) was Initiated into the Lodge on 24th November 1964 and became its 55th WM in 1973. He was then Almoner 1976-78, ADC 1978-83 and DC until 1987, always setting the highest standards. Robin has always been a witty speaker whilst also being an astute businessman. It was no surprise, therefore, when he followed Eddie Anderson as Secretary in 1989. Before that, he had been appointed LGR and in 1987 became Master Butcher. In 1992, half way through his term as Secretary, he was appointed PAGDC. Being busy within London Freemasonry, one of his roles being VGO for United Smithfield, he was promoted to the active rank of JGD in 2004 then to PJGD a year later. Elected an Honorary member in September 2010, he received a 50 Years' Service

to Freemasonry certificate from the then MetGM in November 2014. Robin's thoughtful presentations of Grand Lodge certificates and the Hall Stone Jewel have made an impression on many listeners. His lectures have shown extensive research and serious academic prowess, in contrast, it has to be said, to his first and then successive '*Taurus Fourth Degrees*' which have gently poked fun at our Scottish brethren and made the Burns Night meetings so much fun.

John Tuckwell, PM, PAGDC (1940-) was Initiated into Taurus in January 1971 by his father, the then WM, W Bro Charles Tuckwell. He became the 61st WM in 1979, was appointed LGR in 1990 and appointed to Grand Rank – PAGDC – in 2001. For 9 years from 1987, he was DC, working very much hand in glove with the Secretary, W Bro Robin Pooley. Between them, they saw that the Lodge operated to the very highest standards. He took over as Secretary in 1996 and was very much a continuing collaborator with his predecessor with the '*Taurus Fourth Degree*' which he delivered with great timing and aplomb. As Secretary, he certainly continued to set the standards and combined serious ritual with kind words and humour. After he retired as Secretary in 2005, he continued to demonstrate his superb ritual skills in many meetings as he does to this day. In 2007, he became Master Butcher of the Livery having been elected to the Court in 1995. He remains a fund of knowledge and advice.

Geoffrey Michael Gillo, PM, PAGDC (1952-) joined the Lodge in September 1990 as a PM of Royal Forest of Dean No. 1067 having been proposed by W Bro Ron Burgess, PM, SLGR. In September 1991 he began a 4 year period as a Steward before becoming JD in 1995 and then moving through all the offices to become Millennium WM in 1999. Before becoming WM, he had been appointed PPrJGD (Glos) in 1998. In a series of appointments and promotions, he became LGR in 2005, MetGStwd in 2007, MetGSuptWks and SLGR in 2009 and finally PAGDC in 2013. He became the Met Information Officer in 2009 which he held for two years. His professional financial skills came into good use when he was invested as Treasurer in 2001 before becoming Secretary in 2005. As Secretary, he introduced a whole list of innovations to make Taurus different such as the '*10 Minute Talks*', Taurus beer at the Festive Board, the website, written reports of accounts, etc., and the twinning with Lodge St John Kilwinning Kilmarnock No. 22(SC). He also took to circulating Minutes in advance and offering a bottle of champagne for spotting mistakes. Unfortunately 'eagle-eyed' W Bro Bryan Lund won it on the first two occasions so he stopped the offer! He stood down as Secretary in 2010 and in 2017 became Master Butcher of the Livery.

It would be remiss to not mention once more three Tylers, who although not members, gave tremendous service to the Lodge.

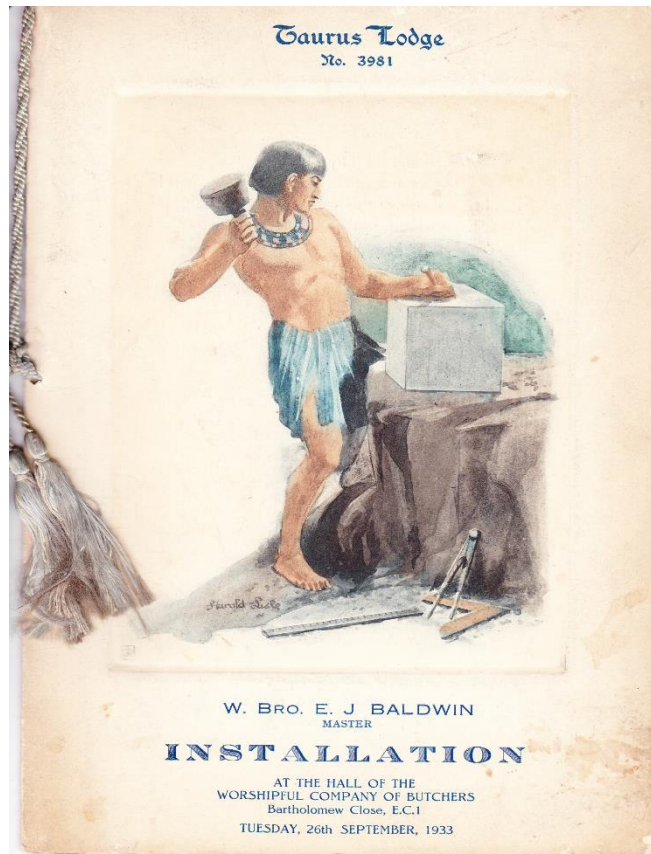
Ernest James Dewey, PPrAGDC (Surrey) (1873-1937) was Beadle of the Worshipful Company of Butchers and was the first Tyler serving for 18 years. He became a Freeman of the City of London in September 1920 and a liveryman on 2nd December 1920. He died in post on 3rd July 1937.

William Richard Long, MM (1891 -1971) was also Beadle of the Worshipful Company of Butchers and was the second Tyler serving for 33 years. He died in post on 2nd June 1971.

Arthur John Mathews, PJGD (1938-2017) was a Surrey mason who was the second longest serving Tyler with 28 years. His support of the Lodge in many ways was immense and he was much missed when he retired in 2013.

The combined 79 years' service of the three Tylers has resulted in the Lodge only having a total of 7 Tylers in its hundred years history!

Appendix 1



<p style="text-align: center;">THE THANKSGIVING</p> <p>For these and all Thy mercies given We bless and praise Thy Name, O Lord! May we receive them with thanksgiving, Ever trusting in Thy Word! To Thee alone be honour, glory, Now and henceforth for evermore. Amen.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☪ ☪</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ANTHEM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"THE KING AND THE CRAFT."</p> <p>God save our gracious King, Long live our noble King, God bless King George. Send him victorious, Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us, God bless King George.</p> <p>Long may our gracious King Shelter beneath his wing, Our Ancient Laws; And may Freemasonry As now for ever be, Honour'd with Royalty To plead its cause.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Menu</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Oysters.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">⋄</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ox-tail Soup.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">⋄</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fried Filet of Sole. Sauce Tartare.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">⋄</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saddle of Mutton. Beans. Potatoes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">⋄</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Roast Partridge. Grilled Tomatoes. Potato Chips.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">⋄</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Coffee Gateaux. Petit Fours.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">⋄</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Savoury Mushroom.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">⋄</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dessert. Coffee.</p> <hr/>	<p>☩</p> <p>M E N U</p> <p>☩</p>	<p>⋄</p> <p>T O A S T S</p> <p>☩</p>	<p>☪</p> <p>M U S I C</p> <p>☪</p>	<p>☪</p> <p>O F F I C E R S</p> <p>☪</p>
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Appendix 1 continued

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Music

Musical Items will be rendered during the evening by

Miss DOROTHY CLARK
Contralto

and

Bro. STUART ROBERTSON
Bass

◆

At the Piano

Bro. FREDERICK ARTHUR

MUSIC

OFFICERS

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Officers, 1933-34

W. Bro. E. J. BALDWIN	W.M.
* R. C. HAMMETT, P.P.G.D.Middx.	L.P.M.
* E. KIRCH	S.W.
* A. WILCOX	J.W.
* T. W. HALL, P.A.G.D.C.	...	...	Treasurer
* G. J. ARISS, P.A.G.Sol.Br.	...	...	Secretary
* F. LLOYD, L.R.	...	...	D.C.
* L. VAN ZWANENBERG	...	...	S.D.
* L. E. HALL	...	...	J.D.
* A. J. SCOTT	...	...	Almoner
* F. G. JENKINS	...	...	Asst. Sec.
* S. H. K. FRANKS	...	...	L.G.
* G. J. COLLIS	...	...	Steward
* S. KIMBELL	...	...	Steward
* A. F. HARTSHORN	...	...	Steward
* E. J. DEWEY, P.P.A.G.D.C.(Surrey)	...	...	Tyler

MUSIC

OFFICERS

Appendix 2

This is a reproduction of the actual record appended to the Minute Book.

SCHEDULE OF WAR SERVICES of MEMBERS

W. Bro. Wm. Goldstein, L.G.R., Founder	Civil Defence Duties
W. Bro. Michel Oppenheimer, L.G.R., Founder	Air Raid Warden, June 1940 to May 1945
W. Bro. R.C. Hammett, P.A.G.D.C.	Duties in connection with distribution of meat in London throughout the War.
Bro. S.B. Kimbell	October 1939 to May 1940: L.C.C. Ambulance Driver. A.R.P. Warden, May 1940 to end of War
W. Bro. G.W. Wheeler, L.G.R.	Air Raid Warden, January 1939 to May 1943. Home Guard with rank of Lieutenant, May 1943 until stand down. Duty as Liaison Officer.
W. Bro. T. Throup, L.G.R.	Fire Guard, Stanmore.
W. Bro. Arthur Franks, L.G.R.	Air Raid Warden, May 1940 to May 1942. Home Guard, May 1942 to December 1944.
W. Bro. I.E. Levy	Home Guard, Marylebone Division. Fire Guard, Borough of Marylebone.
Bro. Sir Henry Ridpath	Important duties under Ministry of Food in connection with meat control, for which he received the honour of Knighthood.
Bro. A.F. Hartshorn	Home Guard, March 1941 to December 1944. Posted to 71st Middlesex Home Guard H.A.A. Battery, Gunners-Bury Park, Ealing. Believed to be first Home Guard south of Thames to be posted to regular H.A.A. Battery.
Bro. Paul J. Kirch	September 1938 to August 1941 Post Air Raid Warden, Beckenham. Joined R.A.F. August 1941, Commission 1943 and attached to U.S.A.F. 1943/45. Senior Equipment Officer R.A.F. Benghazi June/December 1945, Staff Officer Cairo 1945/46.
W. Bro. L.E. Hall, P.A.G.Reg.	Fire Guard, Northwood (Party Leader) January 1941 to end of War. Fire Guard, City of London, October 1941 to end of War.

W. Bro. F.G. Jenkins	Home Guard, May 1941 to June 1943. Block Leader, City of London Fire Guard June 1943 to end of War.
W. Bro. S.H.E. Franks	Captain, Army Catering Corps, July 1940 to September 1945.
W. Bro. Arnold A. van Zwanenberg	Six years to the day in the Army. Captain, R.E. Three years in Persian Gulf Area (aid To Russia).
Bro. T.M. Cox	January 1941 joined VI Queen's Own Hussars. March 1941, Overseas, M.E.F., attached 7th Armoured Division. Returned December 1945. Regraded posted to R.A.S.C. until demobilised January 1946.
Bro. Gordon A. Wolsey	Commissioned R.A.F. January 1939. June 1940 to March 1942 operational Flying duties Middle East. On Fighter operations in the Sudan, Eritrea, Albania, Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Egypt and Western Desert. May 1942 to 1944 Flying instructor. June 1944 to March 1946 Pilot, Transport Command Convoy. Sub- stantive Flight Lieutenant. 1939/45 Medal, Africa Star and Defence Medal.
Bro. Brian A. van Zwanenberg	Joined R.A.F. June 1940. Commissioned Pilot Officer. Served in India January 1943 to December 1945. Rank on demobilisation Squadron Leader.
W. Bro. H. Austin Kingwell	1935/40, Member R.N.V.S.R. Dis- charged unfit March 1940. Civil Defence and Fire Guard duties 1940/45.
Bro. F.C.H. Cornell	Leading Fireman, National Fire Service, 1939 to 1946.
W. Bro. G. Ralph Montague, M.C. (& Bar) <i>(He joined Taurus in November 1945)</i>	Lieutenant, 52nd Battalion Surrey Home Guard, July 1940 to stand down 1945.
W. Bro. F. Wright <i>(He joined Taurus in January 1946)</i>	2nd Lieutenant, 102nd Essex (196th R.R. Rockets Battery) Home Guard.
W. Bro. F.J. Terry <i>(He joined Taurus in January 1946)</i>	Head Special Constable for Faversham & Oare in Kent County Special Constabulary throughout whole war Period. Deputy Area Meat Agent, Ministry of Food, South East Area 1939 to 1946. Member of a large number of wartime organisations.

W. Bro. W.R. Long

Tyler, Deputy District Warden, City of
London Air Raid Service, September
1939 to 30th June 1945.
In attendance at practically all
incidents in City Area.

In 2007, the following note was made on an auctioneer's website:

A fine Great War M.C. and Bar group of four awarded to Captain G. R. Montague, Cheshire Regiment, late 2nd County of London Yeomanry Military Cross, G.V.R., with Second Award Bar, unnamed as issued; 1914-15 Star (1833 Pte., 2-Co. of Lond. Y.); British War and Victory Medals (Capt.), good very fine (4. Sold for £4,200 in March 2007.

Appendix 3

(Reproduced exactly as it appears in the Minute Book)

EIGHTIETH ANNIVERSARY 23rd November 1999

Composed and delivered by R.W.Bro.The Reverend Canon Richard Tydeman P.S.G.W. O.S.M.

In the year nineteen nineteen
First appeared upon the scene
The Founders of the Lodge we see before us.
Of topside they were full,
And they talked a lot of bull,
So, appropriately, chose the name of Taurus.

They couldn't start before,
'Cos the country was at war,
They began as soon as peace was on the throne.
The Taurus consecration
Was a time of celebration
And for serving British beef – upon the bone.

The Lodge was doing fine
When in Nineteen-sixty nine
They held a glorious Golden Jubilee:
Though it caused some consternation
When they heard that the Oration
Would be given by the then Grand Chaplain – me.

But it seems their fears were groundless:
With enthusiasm boundless
They gave an ear to what I had to say,
And made me that December,
An Honorary Member, -
A privilege I still enjoy today.

Though it must have been a strain
To hear me speak again
And this time, too, the whole thing was in rhyme.
For the Lodge's sixtieth year,
And once again we had a splendid time,
Ten years later we were here.

But they never had enough
Of this atrocious stuff
And demanded when the Lodge was seventy-five,
For better or for worse,
Another speech in verse,
I wonder that I left the Hall alive!

But I said on that occasion
We should all need no persuasion
To return when you had reached a full four-score.
So give a hearty cheer
For the Lodge's eightieth year,
And here we are to celebrate once more.

So, Master, Wardens, all
In this super-splendid Hall.
Your guests tonight are really very grateful.
We've not allowed to pass
A single wine-filled glass
And, as you see, we've polished off each plateful.

So, as we nearer come
To the great Millennium,
Prosper the Lodge and let's join in the chorus
With "Thank you" once again
And sing with might and main
"God Bless you, and a Happy Birthday, Taurus!"

Appendix 4

Reproduced from the Bournemouth Echo website published on 16th April 2010

TRIBUTES have been paid to a former refugee from Nazi Germany who shared his success by giving away millions to charity.

Michael Katz, 91, died peacefully at his home in Canford Cliffs, Poole, on Monday morning. He leaves a daughter Ann, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He was born in 1918 and joined the family's butchery business. He and his future wife Ilse – who both arrived in Britain in 1939 with the equivalent of just 50p each – lost many family members in the Holocaust.

The pair married in 1940, and although they had to scrimp and save, they made a pledge. "We decided that if our fortunes changed and we ever became wealthy, or even well off, we would always share what we had," Ilse later recalled.

In the late 1950s, Michael started Scot Meat Products, which became one of the biggest meat product manufacturers in the country. When the company went public in 1971, he and his wife put a third of their shares into a charitable trust.

Both Michael and Ilse – a former nurse – were interested in medicine, and after moving permanently to their holiday home in Poole, they made several substantial donations to local hospitals, benefiting countless patients.

The couple also regularly sponsored Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra concerts. Michael regarded his 1999 OBE for charitable work as a joint award.

Following his wife's death in 2004, Mr Katz said simply: "I have lost my heart. She has been my life for 65 years." He found companionship again with Monique Jaku-bowicz, who said: "He was unique. To me he was the world."

Martin Smits, director of nursing and patient services at Poole Hospital, said: "Mr Katz and his late wife were extremely generous benefactors. They funded work across the trust and leave a lasting legacy in the form of our Health Information Centre, which has provided vital support and information to our patients for the last twelve years."

Claire Mills, general manager of ophthalmology at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital, said: "The Eye Unit was touched to receive donations from Michael and his wife. We have a plaque on display which will always remind people of their kindness and generosity."

A spokesperson for the BSO said: "Each year Michael took particular pleasure in choosing which concerts he wished to support as part of the orchestra's season and enjoyed them to the full surrounded by his family and friends.

"On his 90th birthday the orchestra dedicated a Cello Chair to him, having discovered it was his favourite instrument. The orchestra will now dedicate one of its forthcoming concerts to the memory of this generous man."

Conductor Emeritus Marin Alsop said: "Michael was a true philanthropist. His support of the BSO was a way of ensuring that its music would continue to inspire and reach the classical music lovers of the future. His great sense of humour and appreciation of the orchestra will be greatly missed by us all. I always remember his enduring love for the music of Mahler and our wonderful discussions about life and art."

Worshipful Masters

1919	^{F, M} W. Fred Bonser, <i>MBE</i>	1972	Henry J. Thacker
1920	^F Frederick W. Spellacy	1973	^M Robin Pooley, <i>OBE</i>
1921	^{F, M} William Goldstein	1974	Henry R. Maulkin
1922	^F Frederick Lloyd	1975	Edwin A. Anderson
1923	^F Albert H. Hartshorn	1976	Kenneth G. Hurren <i>Kenneth Baldwin</i> <i>withdrew ill</i>
1924	^F Henry M. Wilcox	1977	Ivor R. Bramley
1925	^F Michel Oppenheimer	1978	George F. Pethers
1926	^F Carl Kirch	1979	^M John Tuckwell
1927	^M George W. Wheeler	1980	Leonard G. Lawrence
1928	^M William West	1981	^M Roy E. Seeman
1929	^M Thomas Throup	1982	Noel C. Bramley
1930	^M I. Arthur Franks, <i>OBE</i>	1983	Roger L. Watts
1931	Alexander J. Scott	1984	Roy M. Anderson
1932	^M Richard C. Hammett	1985	Stanley Rickett
1933	^M Edwin J. Baldwin, <i>OBE</i>	1986	^M Michael R. Katz, <i>OBE</i>
1934	Eric Kirch	1987	Rev. Arthur W. S. Brown
1935	Alec E. M. Wilcox	1988	Albert F. Ensor
1936	Lancelot E. Hall	1989	Arthur Smith
1937	Sidney H. E. Franks	1990	Frederick J. Lingham
1938	^M John P. Ashbridge	1991	Ronald J. Burgess
1939	^M Frederick G. Jenkins	1992	A. Geoffrey Nicholson
1940	^M Arnold A. Van Zwanenberg	1993	^M B. Raymond Woodhouse
1941	^{F, M} William Goldstein	1994	Peter Treble
1942	^M George W. Wheeler	1995	Jonathan Wheeler
1943	Henry A. Shillitoe	1996	Roger L. Watts
1944	^{F, M} Michel Oppenheimer	1997	Peter D. Smith
1945	^M Thomas Throup	1998	Lewis F. Watts
1946	^M H. Austin M. S. Kingwell	1999	^M Geoffrey M. Gillo
1947	^M Frederick G. Jenkins	2000	Peter C. F. Imison
1948	T. Morris Cox	2001	Michael C. D. Patterson
1949	Frederick F. Barrett	2002	Raymond A. B. Smith
1950	^M Arnold A. Van Zwanenberg	2003	Alan H. Woodward
1951	Gordon A. Wolsey	2004	Martyn J. Saines
1952	Frank Wright	2005	John R. Mabb
1953	Thomas F. Davis	2006	John H. Wood
1954	Richard Bridger	2007	G. P. David Craig
1955	^M Robert H. A. Connell	2008	Michael P. J. Cahill
1956	^M G. Ralph Montague, <i>MC</i>	2009	John M. P. Cooper
1957	Frederick J. Terry	2010	David V. Harrison
1958	Henry C. Franks	2011	Douglas J. Ward, <i>CBE</i>
1959	John A. Pike	2012	Peter D. Robinson
1960	Arthur R. Cannon	2013	Stanley S. T. Liu
1961	Barrie R. M. Wilcox	2014	George R. Pollock <i>d. 13th Feb 2015</i>
1962	Sidney H. B. Emus	2015	Edward F. Hoefling
1963	Gordon J. M. Cradock	2016	Philip R. Splett
1964	Horace G. Huckle	2017	Barry J. Croft
1965	Percy W. Salt	2018	Ovlan C. 'Jim' Redmond
1966	J. George Daultry	2019	John H. Wood
1967	Thomas F. Davis		
1968	^M I. Arthur Franks, <i>OBE</i>		
1969	John K. Curran		
1970	Charles L. Tuckwell		
1971	Peter J. Lane		

^F = Founder

^M = Master Butcher

Secretaries

1919	^F G. J. Ariss	<i>resigned 1936</i>
1936	^M F. G. Jenkins	
1937	L. E. Hall	<i>d. 8th October 1948</i>
1948	A. E. M. Wilcox	
1954	T. M. Cox	
1956	^M H. A. Kingwell	
1981	E. A. Anderson	
1989	^M R. Pooley, <i>OBE</i>	
1996	^M J. Tuckwell	
2005	^M G. M. Gillo	
2010	J. R. Mabb	
2018	E. F. Hoefling	

Treasurers

1919	^F T. W. Hall	<i>d. 12th June 1937</i>
1937	^{F, M} W. Goldstein	
1956	E. Kirch	<i>d. 7th May 1967</i>
1967	A. R. Cannon	
1981	J. G. Daultry	
1991	^M R. E. Seeman	
2001	^M G. M. Gillo	
2005	^M I. Kelly	
2011	G. P. D. Craig	
2016	E. F. Hoefling	
2018	J. M. P. Cooper	

Directors of Ceremonies

1919	^F F. Lloyd	
1922	^F F. W. Spellacy	
1925	^F F. Lloyd	<i>d. 3rd November 1937</i>
1937	^M I. A. Franks, <i>OBE</i>	
1963	^M R. H. A. Connell	
1976	J. K. Curran	
1983	^M R. Pooley, <i>OBE</i>	
1987	^M J. Tuckwell	
1996	^M B. R. Woodhouse	
2004	P. Treble	
2007	M. J. Saines	
2014	M. P. J. Cahill	
2015	D. V. Harrison	
2019	M. J. Saines	

Tylers

1919	E. J. Dewey	<i>d. 3rd July 1937</i>
1937	W. R. Long	<i>d. 2nd June 1971</i>
1971	F. Pike	<i>d. 2nd August 1973</i>
1973	S. Taggart	<i>(first year not elected)</i>
1983	H. L. Lawrence	<i>d. 6th January 1985</i>
1985	A. J. Mathews	
2013	N. Walker	

^F = Founder

^M = Master Butcher

Meeting Venues

1 st Dec 1919 to 25 th Mar 1944	Butchers' Hall
9 th Nov 1944 to 24 th March 1945	Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane
1 st Oct 1945 to 25 th Nov 1947	Sion College, Victoria Embankment
27 th Jan 1948 to 30 th Jun 1953	Armourers' Hall
22 nd Sep 1953 to 28 th Mar 1958	Butchers' Hall
25 th Sep 1958 to 22 nd Mar 1960	Innholders' Hall
27 th Sep 1960 to 28 th January 2014	Butchers' Hall
25 th March 2014 to 22 nd Jan 2019	Old Charterhouse, Sutton's Hospital
26 th March 2019 to 24 th Sep 2019	Wax Chandlers' Hall
25 th Nov 2019 to present	Butchers' Hall

Initiates

1920	Henry R. Reading	1961	Howard L. Kelly
1920	Douglas Cooper	1963	Peter J. Lane
1920	Walter C. Durrant	1964	Robin Pooley
1920	Albert P. Twigg	1965	Kenneth G. Hurren
1920	William West	1966	Hector Tidd
1920	Arthur Pearce	1967	Kenneth J. Baldwin
1920	George W. Wheeler	1968	Ivor R. Bramley
1920	Thomas Throup	1969	Henry T. Kingdon
1921	John Parson	1970	George F. Pethers
1921	Alexander J. Scott	1971	John Tuckwell
1921	Albert Wolsey	1971	Roy E. Seeman
1921	Isaac E. Levy	1972	Noel C. Bramley
1921	I. Arthur Franks	1973	Keith E. Anderson
1921	Raymond Hill	1974	Roger L. Watts
1922	Frank W. Warman	1975	Roy M. Anderson
1922	Samuel Pulham	1976	Stanley Rickett
1922	Maurice Abrahams	1977	Michael R. Katz
1922	William J. J. Byrne	1978	Arthur Rickett
1923	Edwin J. Baldwin	1979	Albert F. Ensor
1924	Alec E. M. Wilcox	1980	Philip J. Andrade
1925	Arthur F. Hartshorn	1981	Herbert B. Ibbitson
1926	Paul J. Kirch	1982	Colin D. Hurren
1927	William A. R. Penton	1983	Michael P. Aiken
1928	Frederick G. Jenkins	1984	Jonathan Wheeler
1930	Samuel H. E. Franks	1985	Royston G. Hine
1932	Arnold A. Van Zwanenberg	1986	B. Raymond Woodhouse
1934	Gordon A. Wolsey	1987	Ian Kelly
1935	Frederick F. Barrett	1988	Gary Lingham
1936	Brian A. Van Zwanenberg	1989	Alan H. Woodward
1939	H. Austin M. S. Kingwell	1990	Lewis F. Watts
1942	Josiah B. Swain	1991	Andrew I. Stobart
1943	Francis C. H. Cornell	1992	Peter C. F. Imison
1944	Stanley A. Woodward	1993	Raymond A. B. Smith
1945	R. Norman Hammett	1994	Michael C. D. Patterson
1946	Leonard Ward	1995	John R. Mabb
1946	Stanley M. Wilcox	1996	Martyn J. Saines
1947	Robert Slayton	1997	Kevin Crook
1948	Norman J. Wolsey	1998	G. P. David Craig
1949	David F. Cornell	1999	Michael P. J. Cahill
1950	Henry C. Franks	1999	Thomas A. Green
1952	Barrie R. M. Wilcox	2000	David J. Westgate
1953	Denis J. Laughlin	2001	Michael A. Nelson
1954	Frank I. R. Gerrard	2001	Douglas J. Ward
1955	Herman Van Vlymen	2001	Peter E. Ford
1956	Alan G. Cross	2002	Stanley S. T. Liu
1957	Jacques Van Vlymen	2003	John Richardson
1958	Charles L. Tuckwell	2004	George R. Pollock
1960	John H. Pike	2005	Paul Kelly
1960	Alois 'Peter' Hamperl	2005	David E. J. Eveniss

2007 Robert E. Wilson
2007 Barry J. Croft
2007 Timothy J. Stone
2009 Christopher J. Hogg
2010 Stuart F. A. Thornton
2010 William Thurston
2011 Andrew F. Watts
2012 Christopher A. Barkaway
2013 Stephen J. Chick
2013 Mark D. Roberts
2014 Julien D. Pursglove
2015 Martin R. McIntyre
2017 Philip C. Hambling
2017 James B. Croft
2019 Ian Rigley
2019 Peter G. Wood