

# Daily Advancement

## *January Meeting*

Your attendance is requested in performance of your Masonic duty for the next regular meeting of Lodge Pembroke to be held at the Masonic Hall, 3 Forcett Street, Sorell on **Thursday 24th 2007** to be tyled at **7.30pm** sharp.

### **Agenda**

1. Confirmation of Minutes
2. Business Arising
3. Correspondence & General Business
4. Financial Report
5. Almoner's Report
6. Receive Visitors
7. Simulated First Degree
8. Close Meeting

Obligation  
 Lesser Lights  
 Secrets & Investiture  
 Apron Extension  
 Northeast  
 Reasons for Preparation  
 Working Tools  
 Final Charge

Wor Master  
 Wor Bro George Sanders  
 Senior Warden  
 Bro Graham Alomes  
 Wor Master  
 V Wor Bro John Millington  
 Junior Warden  
 Wor Master

## *Pembroke Propositions*

Christopher John HEALY

*Public Servant*

85 Main Road, Sorell

Prop/Sec: V Wor Bro Page, V Wor Bro Curtain

Andrew Robert MONTGOMERY

*Security Technician*

14 Maluka Street, Bellerive

Prop/Sec: V Wor Bro Curtain, Wor Bro Kregor

## FOUNDATION OF PEMBROKE LODGE

A cold day in September 1959 saw the official laying of the Foundation Stone for the Pembroke Lodge Rooms at Sorell by the Grand Master, Most Wor Bro Vernon Jones.

Among those pictured at the ceremony are, from left to right, the Rev Ralph, Bro Lorrie Mitchell, Wor Bro Harry Cooper ( the first Worshipful Master), the Grand Master, R.Wor Bro HA Wilkinson (the Grand Secretary), a relaxed looking Bro Alan Coppleman, Bro Alan Oshea and two other Brethren, whose identities are carefully obscured beneath stylish chapeaux. Please let me know if you have any photos or memorabilia from the earlier days of the Lodge. It would be great to get copies for the Lodge Archives.  
WM



## THE JOHN GULLY STORY

*[This was compiled the following from a variety of sources]*

John Gully was born on 21<sup>st</sup> August 1783 in the Rose & Crown Inn near Bristol, where his father was the landlord, later becoming a butcher in Bath.

A story existed of an occasion at Lansdown Fair when ‘Sixteen String’ Jack, who apparently weighed around 18st, beat a man called only the ‘Flying Tinman of Bath’, and then boasted that he would send anyone else from Bath home in a cart if they so much as had courage to challenge him. Gully threw his hat into the ring. It was ‘Sixteen String’ Jack who had to be ferried away in a cart ‘an almost unrecognisable lump of battered humanity’.

John worked for his father and inherited the business on his father’s death. He soon owed hundreds of pounds and, after being pursued by creditors to Bath and then to London, he was installed in the Kings Bench prison at Fleet (later Fleet Street).

It was a strange jail, not especially miserable in its day-to-day life, but simply a place that no-one had the freedom to leave, and therefore a hell in disguise. Whilst in prison he was visited by a friend, Henry Pearce, a well-known prize fighter who was nicknamed the ‘Game Chicken’ and who remembered him from the Bristol Fairgrounds. An informal match was arranged between them in

the prison with the result that Gully’s debts were settled.

On his release he was taken to a training camp in Surrey and conditioned for what turned out to be a losing fight on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1805. The future King William IV (then Duke of Clarence) was present. After 64 rounds, Gully lost the match.

Those were the days of bare-fist boxing when a man could be knocked down time and time again, no matter how long he lay on the ground, so long as he could stagger upright to take more punishment. Eventually “mufflers” were introduced by some organisers of the boxing academies. It was not until 1869 that the Marquis of Queensberry rules were originated.

## THE JOHN GULLY STORY

After Pearce retired from the ring due to illness, Gully fought two successful fights with Bob Gregson. He was 29 years old (Gully was 24) and a giant of a man (6'1" and 216lbs to Gully's 6' and 192lbs). He was another of those crazy, larger-than-life characters that boxing seemed to attract. He was described as "*a rough and tumble fighter, steamboat captain, infantry officer, inn-keeper, poet laureate of the ring and even in the company of laureates, where the standard of badness is high, probably the worst poet that ever lived*".

The first fight was at Six Mile Bottom near Newmarket on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1807 when Gully won 200 pounds in 36 rounds. It was a vicious fight with Gully's face swollen and blackened, his eye and ear cut, and Gregson's face a grotesque, rainbow coloured mess of bumps and bruises. Eventually Gully's right eye closed and neither seemed capable of rising above their own exhaustion. In the 36<sup>th</sup> round Gully dragged up one final punch to the throat and Gregson fell for the last time. At the end, Gully also collapsed and for some hours seemed in danger of dying. Gregson recovered more quickly and demanded a rematch. Gully's left arm had been permanently damaged and it was thought that he would lose the return.

The second fight was staged in Herefordshire, on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1808, and lasted for 1 hour 15 minutes and 28 rounds. Once again the prize money amounted to 200 pounds. A crowd of 20,000 turned out in spite of decoy attempts designed to throw peacekeepers off the scent. A local landlord charged two guineas a head for sleeping space on his floor and the crowd which poured in from London and the surrounding districts so alarmed the locals that it was rumoured a French invasion had occurred. The Dunstable Volunteers turned out, bayonets fixed, to fight for England's honour!

The local newspaper recorded the chaotic scene along the roads and tracks to the fight: "*Broken down carriages obstructed the road; knocked up horses fell and could not be got any further; a guinea a mile was offered for conveyance, and many hundred of gentlemen were jolted in brick carts for a shilling a mile*".

At the end of the 6th round, after Gregson had shouldered Gully in the eye, only a sharp draught of brandy brought Gully around and to the scratch mark with two seconds to spare. Gregson was on top for 20 rounds but Gully lasted better and after 28 rounds spread over an hour and a quarter, Gregson was beaten. Gully collapsed again and Gregson was carried across to him barely conscious, to shake hands. This was a normal precaution when a death was feared, a sort of prize fighter's last rites, a gesture that could be offered in evidence, should a manslaughter trial occur.

Gully came round, thanked the crowd for their applause and, shortly afterwards, announced his retirement. The following day he was serving drinks in his pub, the Plough in Carey Street. He is still one of the few champions who have known enough about their own limits to stop at the right time.

Gregson lapsed into unconsciousness, was carried to a nearby pub, and it was three days before he could leave for London, where he lay at the Bowling Green in Highgate for some further time recovering. Incredibly, he returned to fight Tom Cribb for the championship five months later. Several sizeable offers were made for Gully to make the proverbial 'just one more', but at 25 he restarted his business life by running the Plough Inn, became a shady bookmaker – the Prince of Wales was rumoured to be among his customers – and made enough to become respectable.

*[To be continued]*

## ANNUAL LODGE DUES

Brethren are reminded that annual dues for 2008 are now due \$180 (+\$10 Voluntary Homes Donation)

## CHRISTMAS CONVERSATIONS

Some thirty Brethren, ladies and friends enjoyed a social Christmas gathering at the home of Mrs Barbara Kregor and the Worshipful Master on evening of the 23rd December 2007.

Amongst the guests were Mr Michael Bailey and Mr Rodney Thompson, both of whom would make excellent members of the Lodge should they seek to join. It was particular pleasing to welcome Mrs Val Quinn and I'm sure she enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with old friends.

The Master was grateful for the assistance of Mrs Sue Birch with the BBQ and to those ladies who brought salads and sweet dishes.

The Christmas raffle was shared by Graham Hawkins, Mrs Gwen Reynolds and Mrs Mary Hanslow.



## RETURN OF THE HARLEY

Proceedings at the Christmas gathering were briefly interrupted by the deep throaty beat which marked the arrival of Wor Bro Tony Bruce-Mullins and his wife, Rosemary, on their Harley Davidson motorbike.

Tony & Rosemary arrived back safely in early December from a six-week marathon through Central Australia and the Northern Territory on the back of their trusty two-wheeled steed.

They encountered some rather damp conditions at times, in one case riding through a torrential downpour in outback Queensland, and witnessing the rare sight of rain at Ayres Rock.

What we wouldn't give for a decent rainstorm around Sorell at the moment. Local rainfall is again well down on what used to be normal, with little relief in sight.

We look forward to hearing more details of their travels in the months ahead.

## Calendar

**Tuesday January 22nd 2008**  
Rehearsal

**Thursday January 24th 2008**  
Pembroke Regular Meeting  
(Simulated First Degree)

**Tuesday February 6th 2008**  
Instruction: Second Degree

**Saturday February 9th 2008**  
Kingston Installation

**Friday February 22nd 2008**  
Grand Lodge Installation

**Wednesday February 20th 2008**  
Derwent Valley Installation

**Thursday February 26th 2008**  
Committee of Management

**Thursday February 28th 2008**  
Pembroke Regular Meeting  
(Community Forum)

**Wednesday March 5th 2008**  
Instruction: Second Degree

**Tuesday March 25th 2008**  
Rehearsal: First Degree

**Thursday March 27th 2008**  
Pembroke Regular Meeting  
(First Degree)

## Addresses

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## CARETAKER

Wor Bro George Sanders  
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## ALMONER

Bro David Arnott  
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