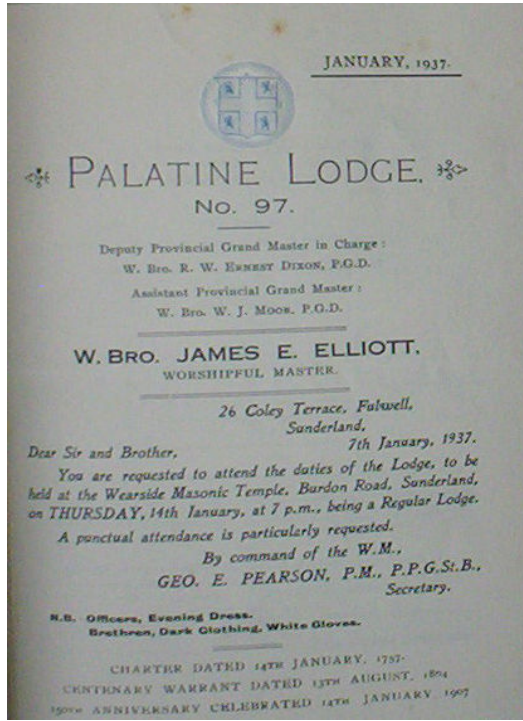
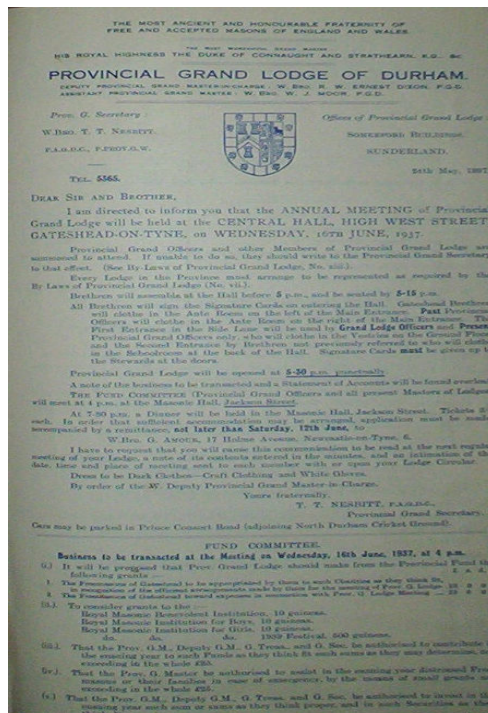


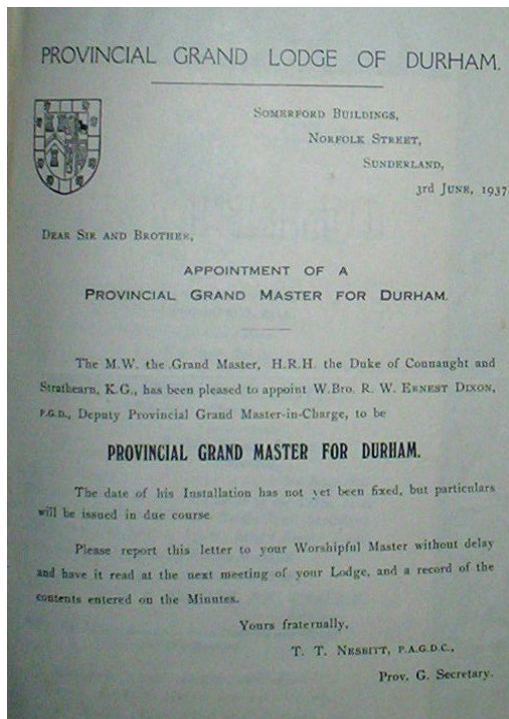
History Period 1937 to 1947



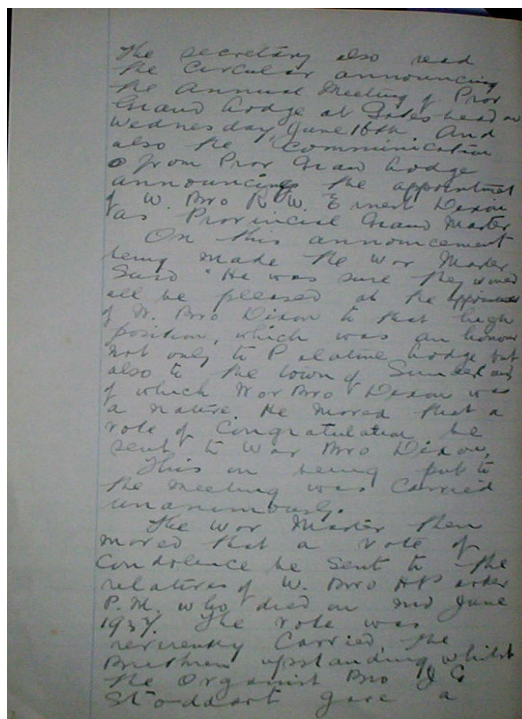
The first summons of 1937
Showing the name of the Master, the PGM and Asst PGM



Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham for 16th June 1937
Deputy Provincial Grand Master in Charge W Bro R W Ernest Dixon, PGD



The lodge Secretary clearly did not delay in reporting this particular piece of correspondence as the minute of 10th June 1937 shows below.



On Thursday, 14th October 1937 Rt W Bro R W Ernest Dixon made an Official Visit to Palatine Lodge No 97, the first to any lodge since his Installation as PGM. After the normal work of the lodge and closing in the Second degree the WM, W Bro J E Elliott announced that a presentation was to be made to Rt W Bro Dixon. W Bro Paul Wayman, PM, PPRSGD the oldest PM in the Lodge and the brother who had proposed Rt W Bro Dixon for initiation into Palatine Lodge had been chosen to make the presentation

He presented a beautiful Cabinet and Table to Rt W Bro Dixon in the words set out below and recorded by the Lodge Secretary. Rt W Bro Dixon made eloquent response to W Bro Wayman and the brethren for their gifts.

W Bro Paul Wayman's presentation speech

Presentation to the Prov Grand
Master, Rt Wor Bro R. W. & Dixie
by the members of Palatine Lodge,
No 94.

Wor Bro Paul Wayman P. M.
P. P. G. D. in making the presentation
said - Wor Master, Officers and
Brethren of Palatine Lodge. This
is a very pleasing duty given me
to-night to come back to my Mother
Lodge to discharge the pleasing
duty which lies before me. The Wor
Master has entrusted me to make
this present alone of this beautiful
Cabinet and Table to our esteemed
and most Wor Mother the Prov
Grand Master, Rt Wor Brother R. W.
& Dixie, P. G. D. who is a son to
Palatine Lodge. It is thirty years
since he was initiated into Free
Masonry, and it was my pleasure
on that occasion to be his sponsor
together with Wor Bro James Hall,
the state of whose health prevents
him being present to night. We
were his sponsors 30 years ago.

It is 30 years ago since I was
installed as Wor Master of the
Lodge and served in the various
posts for several years before I
got that position. In those days
Brethren, Freemasonry was taken
on an earnest and zealous way.
We were always particular as to
the Candidates we admitted into the
Lodge, and of all the Candidates
who were admitted there is none I
can look back upon with such
pride and pleased pleasure as
Wor Brother Dixie, whom I introduced
30 years ago. As a youth he
followed me as an apprentice and
got his Commercial training in the
same office, so you see we were
brought up in the same stable,
that is by the way. We have
marked the progress of W. Bro Dixie
with pride & pleasure, and here we
see the reflected glory of the high
position he has attained. We look
on him with pride and the
Lodge could not let this great
honour which has been conferred upon

in that of being the head of this
and Province of Durham, without
ing something of a laudible nature
express for all time our appreciation
the honour conferred upon him, and
association with him. We really
have great pleasure in handing
to Wm Broo Dixon this handsome
ring and Locket, as a token of
our regard for our Brother the
Provincial Grand Master. We hold
you in love and esteem. Many
are here long to see it, and have
pleasure in using it, and may
the Office of Provincial Grand Master, to
which we are sure you will add
the to held by you for many
years to come. The present presentation
is then made

WAR!!

Palatine Lodge, No. 97.
W. BRO. A. COOK, W. Master.

Dear Sir and Bro,

I am instructed by Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand
Lodge to inform you that, having regard to the Emergency
Orders of H. M. Government, all Masonic Meetings are to be
suspended.

It is hoped that this may only be a temporary measure,
as it is fully appreciated that it is desirable that, when possible,
the Brethren should have the opportunity of meeting.

Further instructions will be issued at an early date, and if
there is anything to report, you will be notified accordingly.

Yours fraternally,
GEO. E. PEARSON, P.M., P.P.G.Std.B.,
Secretary.

26 Coley Terrace,
Fulwell,
Sunderland.

9th September, 1939.

Below it can be seen that the September meeting was cancelled

No meeting of P. A. A. M.
Lodge was held in Sept
1939, in consequence of the
war

A cryptic note!

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DURHAM.

8 The Esplanade,
Sunderland.
October, 1939.

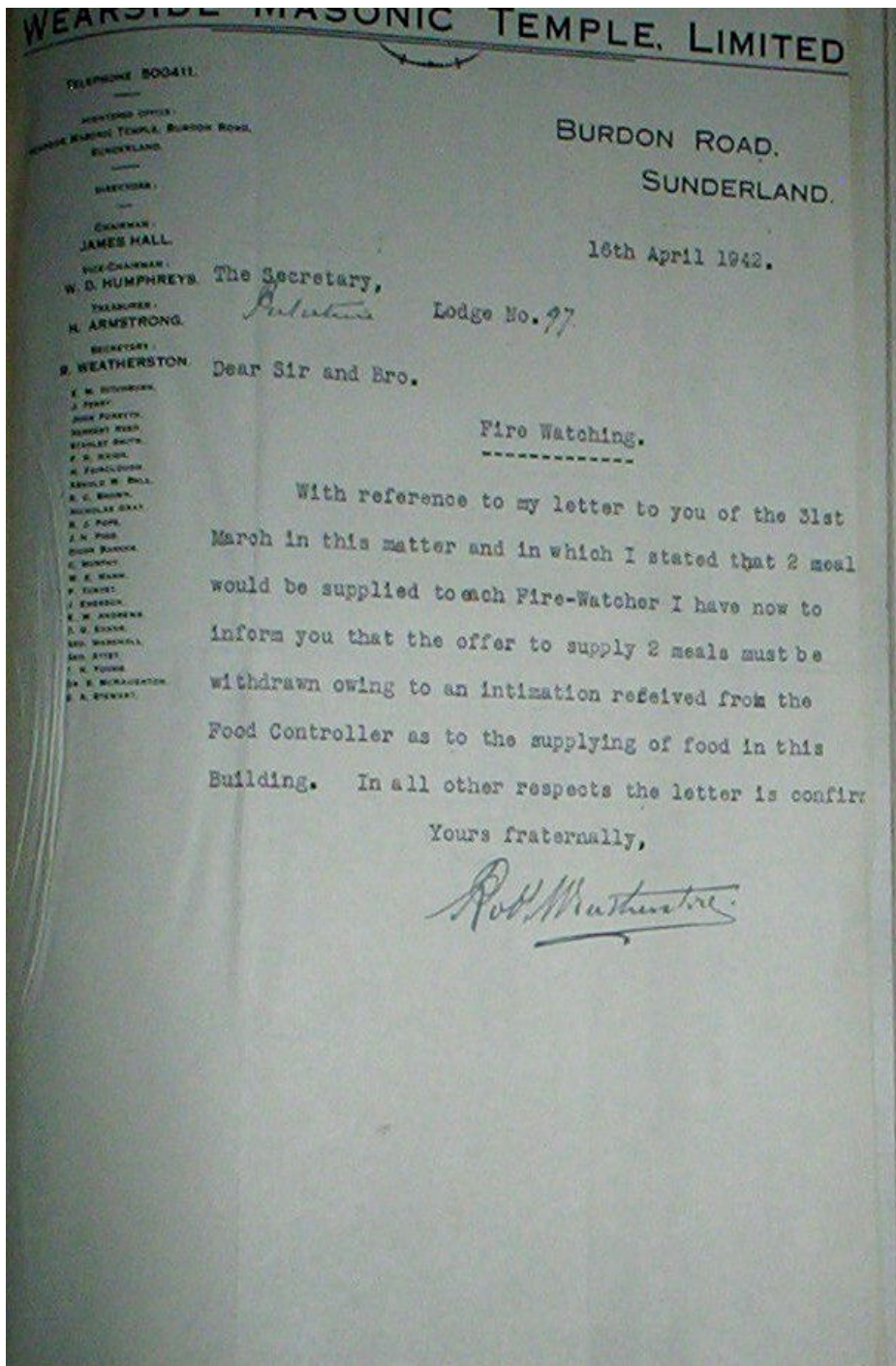
Dear Sir and Brother,

I am pleased to inform you that the Order of Grand Lodge to suspend meetings, as from the 4th September on account of the National Emergency arising on the outbreak of war, has now been followed by a new Order permitting the resumption of masonic activities. The enclosed Circular from the Grand Secretary gives full instructions for setting our machinery in motion again.

Installations which did not take place during the interim should be arranged as speedily as circumstances permit and Elections which were not carried out owing to Lodge meetings being suspended can now be arranged for the first ensuing regular meeting date and the Installation, by Dispensation, may take place on the same day. Applications for Dispensations in this connection should be made as much in advance of the Election and Installation date as possible and no charge will be made where the National Emergency is the cause of the Dispensation being required. It is desirable that meetings should be abbreviated within reason especially Installations and the after proceedings so arranged that the Brethren will disperse at an early hour to enable them to reach their homes without danger.

Should any case of difficulty arise not provided for in the attached circular the Prov.G. Secretary will be glad to give advice and assistance on receiving a full statement of the situation.

The Brethren may be assured of my personal sympathy in their efforts to maintain the prestige and moral influence of the Order during the strenuous days that lie ahead. Resumption of our meetings, I feel sure, will prove a great pleasure to the Brethren in the Province where Masonry plays a vital part in our lives and actions and it will likewise prove a great boon to Brethren attached to the various services who may have an opportunity to visit Lodges and fraternize with their masonic Brethren.



It wasn't!!

At the meeting held October 1939 the W M expressed his pleasure at seeing Bros Herring and Wall restored to their homes and back in the lodge again after being torpedoed by a German submarine. The names, rank etc of all brethren serving in H M Forces had to be noted by the Secretary that time.

Steward Tricked the Gneisenau

By Daily Mail Reporter

THE only weapons left to Chief Steward Thomas Hoggett after the Germans had captured his ship were a dishcloth, a bucket of water, and a bag of flour. With them he cheated the battle-cruiser Gneisenau of its prize, and saved his comrades.

VICAR TO LEAVE

THE Rev. Dr. E. L. Macnaghten, vicar of St. Thomas's Church, Over Monnow, Monmouthshire, who has practised as an osteopath in London, has been deprived of his living by the Bishop of Monmouth, Dr. A. E. Menahan.

The provisional court of the Church in Wales was recently petitioned by the Bishop against Dr. Macnaghten.

The alleged offences were declining to meet the Archdeacon of Monmouth in his official capacity, denial of the right of the archdeacon to speak in St. Thomas's Church, and describing the visit of the archdeacon as a "contemplated outrage."

A third alleged offence was for attempting his intention not to attend the archdeacon's visitation and causing the door of the church to be closed to prevent the archdeacon's entry and the exercise of his jurisdiction.

Dr. Macnaghten was found Not Guilty on the first two charges. On the third charge the court considered that his action was not only regrettable and misguided but calculated to give offence, and he was found Guilty of this charge.



His ship, the 11,000-ton tanker San Casimiro, met the Gneisenau during the warship's brief sortie on the trade routes.

After firing a few rounds the warship came alongside, and the tanker stopped. A prize crew, armed with automatic rifles and grenades, was put aboard with instructions "Take her home to Germany."

When the crew, except Mr. Hoggett and his assistants, had been locked below decks and the captain and two gunners had been taken to the warship, the Gneisenau sailed off.

Caught

Mr. Hoggett settled down to the life of cooking for the 15 Germans and his captive comrades.

Five days later he spotted an R.A.F. reconnaissance plane. Hoggett and his men grabbed tablecloths and handkerchiefs, and waved them from the portholes.

They were seen by the guards, and the portholes firmly locked.

Hoggett knew that the R.A.F. would return, so he mixed a thick paste of flour and water and waited.

When the guards were not looking he ran to the deck and using a dishcloth as his brush "slapped" SOS in huge letters of paste across the boards.

Then he sprinkled the letters with flour and went back to his galley.

Enter Renown

Soon the plane returned, circled the tanker. Hoggett saw the pilot wave in acknowledgment of the SOS. In a few hours the battle-cruiser Renown came up.

"Meantime," Hoggett told me, "the Germans had found my signal and ordered me to scrub it off."

When Renown was sighted the German commander asked how long SOS had been on the deck. I replied "20 minutes."

"You might as well tell me," said the German, "it is all up now." So I told him "Five hours." He shook hands with me, saying "My compliments, you have done a good job for your side."

By this time the German plans for scuttling the San Casimiro had been put into operation. As Renown came alongside the tanker went down.

The 15 Germans are now in a British prison camp.

Very soon Chief Steward Hoggett, 30-years-old, of Drayton-road, Fulwell, Sunderland, now on leave, will go to Buckingham Palace to receive the B.E.M. from the King.

That's the plane that

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DURHAM.

8 The Esplanade,
Sunderland.

24th July 1940.

Dear Sir and Brother (or Companion),

National Emergency.
Preservation of Records.

It is of the greatest importance that the Warrant (or Charter) of a Lodge or Chapter, all Minute Books and other valuables be carefully preserved during the present crisis. It is therefore suggested that these be deposited with a Bank, or stored in a Strong Room, in the name of the Lodge.

At least three type-written lists of the contents should be prepared - one to be retained in the custody of each succeeding Master, a second to be retained by the Secretary and the third transmitted to Prov.G.Lodge. The list should state clearly where the documents are deposited and how they can be reclaimed.

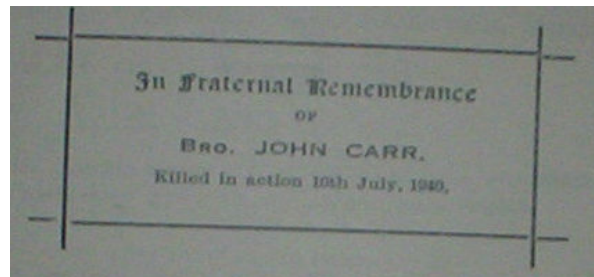
The Secretary of the Lodge must be responsible for seeing that the Current Minute Book is kept in a safe place.

With regard to the Warrant (or Charter) this should be photographed and the copy signed by or on behalf of the Prov.G.Master or Grand Superintendent. Such copy will then be permissible for authoritative use in Lodge or Chapter until the end of hostilities.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. J. Gresham
Prov.G.Secretary.

Preservation of Minute Books etc



The following incident occurred during the ceremony.

Bro Best had just finished delivering the address in the G. E. Corner to the newly made Brethren when the siren was sounded giving warning that the German planes were over.

The W. Master asked the Brethren present if they wished to leave the Lodge or to continue with the ceremony.

It was unanimously agreed to continue.

Bro Laverick and Watson were then placed before the Junior Warden who presented the working tools and delivered the Ancient Charge. During this time the firing of the A.A. Guns and the explosion of bombs could be distinctly heard.

The warning was sounded at 4.55 P.M. and the all clear sounded at 10 P.M.

This extract copied from the minutes of 10th October 1940 meeting

German planes dropping bombs but the meeting continued.
(NB Sunderland was one of the heaviest bombed towns during the war)

UNDER CONSTRUCTION!!!

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