

# The Discoverer

The Monthly Newsletter of The Lodge of Discovery

## In this Issue

Masonic Etiquette 2

Bro. Greg Whitford 8

Objections to Freemasonry 9

Humour 11

## Greetings Brethren,

In this issue the main article concerns Masonic Etiquette—primarily for the benefit of our newer Brethren and secondly for those who need a gentle reminder.

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## When is a Man a Mason?

When he can look out over the rivers, the hills and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith and courage, which is the root of every virtue.

When he knows that down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic and as lonely as himself; and seeks to know, to forgive and to love his fellow man.

When he knows how to sympathise with men in their sorrows, yea even in their sins- knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds.

When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them and above all, how to keep friends with himself.

When he loves flowers, can hunt birds without a gun and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laugh of a little child.

When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life.

When star-crowned trees and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead.

When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response. When he finds good in every faith that helps a man to lay hold of divine things and see the majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be.

When he can look into a wayside puddle and sees something beyond mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin.

When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope.

When he has kept faith with himself, with his God ; in his hand a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song; glad to live, but not to die!!

Such a man has found the only secret of Freemasonry, and the one which it is trying to give to **"All the World"**

*Taken from "The Builders"*

## Membership e-mail address list

A list of current members and their e-mail addresses is available on request.

## **MASONIC ETIQUETTE**

### ***Learn the Do's and Don'ts of Masonic Etiquette***

Masonic Etiquette, for the most part, is merely good manners and respect for your lodge, its members, its Worshipful Master and the convention of Freemasonry, in general.

Unfortunately, Masonic Etiquette ...or Blue Lodge Etiquette, (as it is called in the United States) is largely unpublished as well as unspoken, therefore, up until now, it has been more difficult to learn its rules and nuances. You may study ritual work, degree work, floor work and know all Masonry's glorious history, Masonic symbols, jewels, etc. but there is very little written about how to comport yourself so you do not look foolish or be regarded as disrespectful.

Some are small things, and some are not, but your Lodge conduct is continually on display.

Few Masonic mentors include a list of proper Lodge behavior, as they have learned it, themselves, incident-by-incident, and usually learned by them after their having made an error and being kindly informed by another member as to the correct Masonic etiquette of the situation.

### **CONFORMING TO MASONIC ETIQUETTE**

Over time, and by watching others, members conform themselves to exhibit proper Masonic etiquette behavior to learn lodge customs. As a newly Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or Master Mason, it is expected that you will exhibit the proper decorum and propriety in observance of the formal requirements which govern behavior in polite societies... BEFORE someone takes you aside to explain your errors...or you wouldn't be reading this.

### **RULES OF MASONIC ETIQUETTE**

#### **THE MASTER'S AUTHORITY:**

During his term in office, the brother who has been elected as Master is the most powerful member of the Lodge. He also shoulders all of its many responsibilities.

The Worshipful Master has the authority to:

1. Rule any brother out of order on any subject at any time.
2. Decide what can and cannot be discussed. Should a brother believe that the Master is arbitrary, unjust or unfair or is acting in an illegal manner, he can appeal to the Grand Inspector. If that officer agrees that the appeal is a valid one, he will forward the complaint to UGLE.

If, however, that brother insists on speaking after the Master has ruled that he is out of order, he may be committing a Masonic offence.

Courteous brethren accept the requests made by the Master to serve on various committees such as the examination committee, the investigation committee and other duties, as determined by the Lodge's needs. The following items are not Masonic offences, They are simply a lack of Masonic Etiquette...or in other words, considered to be "bad form" or bad manners.

So... Let's begin:

### 1. SITTING IN THE EAST:

Brethren do not take a seat in the East without an invitation... even if all other seats are full.

**Why?** While all Brethren within a tiled room are equal to one another, and the officers are servants of the brethren, all lodge officers have worked and studied long and hard for their lodge. It is, therefore, the Master's prerogative to recognize this devotion and their loyalty by inviting distinguished visitors or a special member whom the Master wishes to honour to sit with him in the East. In other words, if you were in church, synagogue or mosque and the pews were full, would you go up and sit beside the Pastor, Rabbi or Imam (Muslim Priest)?

### 2. ALWAYS FULLY DRESSED:

Brethren do not enter their Lodge room without signing the register or their apron nor while putting on that apron...not even the tying of its strings.

**Why?** In respect to the formalities of their Lodge, officers expect that the Brethren will have the courtesy to enter it fully dressed and ready for the labour. They should not have to wait for a member to be fully "dressed", even just tying or adjusting their apron, to salute that member. It is expected that you will be properly and entirely dressed when you pass by the Tyler and enter your lodge room.

### 3. STAND WHEN YOU SPEAK:

No man sits while speaking in the lodge room, no matter if he addresses an officer or another brother.

**Why?** All lodge activity is based on each man in the lodge as being a servant of the Brethren. This includes the Worshipful Master and his officers.

While the man, himself, who has been elected Worshipful Master does not gain any special honour, personally, as the Worshipful Master, it is to the Worshipful Master as the Master of the Lodge that a member stands to address. It is simply a form of respect ...and no different than attending a shareholder's meeting or a City Council meeting. It is expected that if you wish to address the audience, you will stand so all may see who is speaking.

### 4. TALKING:

**"Side" talk while a degree is being conferred is considered bad manners.**

**Why?** The lodge room is a Temple of the Great Architect of the Universe. The brethren within are working to make the best ashlar (stones) for His spiritual temple. Just as it is impolite to talk in a church, synagogue or mosque service, so it is improper to distract the officers, the workers in the degree or the candidate.

Talking without asking to do so shows irreverence for the proceedings. God's house is not for social conversation within the lodge room. It is for worship and learning the lesson of the day which is being taught. Unless you have requested of the Master to speak, silence is the rule. This also means no whispering.

**HOW?** If you have something of interest to say, raise your hand. When the Master recognizes you, you must stand up, and be recognised by the Master to speak. To address the brethren, you should say:

"Worshipful Master".

## 5. SPEAKING:

If you wish to offer a predetermined motion or matter for discussion, advise the Master beforehand.

**Why?** Advising the Master before the meeting that you intend to bring up a specific motion or a matter for discussion is an important courtesy. You may, indeed, do it without advising him in advance, but the Master may have plans of his own for that meeting, for which your proposed motion or discussion may not easily fit into the allotted time frame.

As a courtesy to him, his work, and his dedication to the members, it is best to ask him privately, beforehand, if he will be able to recognise you to speak your purpose. This saves "face" for both of you. You will not publicly be refused and he will not have to seem disagreeable or arrogant in his refusal of your motion. If you wish to speak, (see number 5.), above.

## 6. OBEY THE GAVEL:

You must immediately obey the gavel.

**Why?** Failure to immediately obey the gavel is a GRAVE DISCOURTESY and VERY poor Masonic Etiquette. The Master is all powerful in the lodge and his word is final. He can put or refuse to put any motion. He can rule any brother out of order on any subject at any time. He can say what he will, and what he will not, permit to be discussed. Brethren who think him unfair, arbitrary, unjust, or acting illegally have redress.

The Grand Lodge can be appealed to on any such matter. However, in the lodge, the Master's gavel denotes his emblem of authority, is supreme. When a brother is rapped down, he should obey at once, without any further discussion. It is VERY bad manners to do otherwise. In fact, it is perilously close to the line between bad manners and a Masonic offence. Masonic etiquette decries anyone who does not obey the gavel.

## 7. TURNING YOUR BACK:

Never turn one's back on the Master to address the lodge without first receiving permission from the Master to speak.

**Why?** Any debates that are in motion must be conducted using proper Masonic etiquette. One always stands to order when addressing the chair. Customs differ in various jurisdictions as to the method of salute, however some salute should always be given when addressing the Master. Two brethren, both on their feet, simultaneously arguing a motion, who are facing each other and ignoring the Master is unacceptable.

## 8. SALUTE:

Some lodges (not all) offer salutes to the Master. Each of the brethren will salute the Master when they enter and when they leave their Masonic Mother lodge room or any other Masonic lodge room. Some lodges offer salutes to the Senior Warden.

**Why?** The Masonic etiquette of saluting the Master is your renewed pledge of fealty and service. It is your public display of decorum before all other brothers of your obligation. It shows your courteous respect for all that the Master stands for and shows that you acknowledge his authority.

Salutes should reflect your heart-felt respect for all that for which he stands. The salute to the Master is your pledge of honour and service, your publicly shown obligation. A lazy, sloppy or improper salute is to be Masonically impolite and, thus, to exhibit poor Masonic etiquette.

## 9. **BALLOTING:**

Do not enter or leave the lodge room during a ballot.

**Why?** It is discourteous to leave the lodge room during a speech, during a degree, etc. There are several natural periods, such as at the end of one section and before the next begins, or when the Master puts the lodge at ease until the sound of the gavel. Then, and only then, you may leave the lodge without being considered rude. It is Masonic Etiquette that all brethren are expected to vote when requested to do so.

Failure to cast your ballot not only results in your failure to share in your duties, but is in direct disobedience of the Master's request.

## 10. **VOTING IS MANDATORY:**

When an issue is put to a vote, all brethren should vote.

**Why?** A brother who does not vote is discourteous because he skews the ballot. He becomes the weak link in a strong chain. No matter what the reason of his non-vote, he injures the lodge's ballot, its value and its secrecy. Failure to vote can injure a lodge's feeling of brotherhood, and by that injury, can injure the Masonic fraternity. No matter what reason you may privately hold about voting, it is poor Masonic Etiquette to fail to vote when requested to do so by the Master.

## 11. **SMOKING:**

No smoking in the lodge room.

**Why?** While there are lodges who allow smoking during the business meeting (and you must be guided by the customs of your Mother Lodge), the ceremonies you take part in and watch are solemn occasions. In most lodge rooms, it is considered VERY disrespectful to smoke while the ceremonies are taking place. Smoking may take place in other parts of your building or outside and during refreshment.

## 12. **SHOULDERING THE WORK:**

It is good Masonic Etiquette to accept a request made in the name of the lodge if it is within your abilities.

**Why?** A lodge is a working "beehive of industry". A request made of you from your lodge acknowledges that the lodge trusts you to competently fulfill such a request based upon your knowledge.

## 13. **CORRECTION OF VERBAL ERRORS:**

Lodge customs state that no one except for the Worshipful Master or his prearranged designee, may correct any mistake that may occur during the course of a Ceremony, and even he does so only when the error is a serious one.

**Why?** It is discourteous to point out others mistakes in front of the lodge brethren. If you are in possession of a mind which allows you to be able to perform each and every degree and ceremony, perfectly, please advise the Worshipful Master of such that he may take advantage of your services to mentor others.

**14. EXHIBIT GOOD POSTURE:**

**Why?** Good posture is necessary while within the Lodge room. Lounging, leaning and slovenly attitudes should be avoided. Poor posture is considered poor Masonic etiquette.

**15. NO PRACTICAL JOKES OR OFF-COLOUR STORIES:**

**Why?** The great lessons of Masonry, which are taught by our ritual, should never be demeaned by levity or pranks. The lodge room is not a proper location for the telling of practical jokes, pranks, horseplay nor off-colour stories.

**16. USE PROPER MASONIC NAMES:**

**Why?** It is common courtesy to be accurate in speaking a brother's name, so it is proper Masonic etiquette to address officers, members, and visitors by their correct Masonic titles and addresses, e.g. a Director of Ceremonies who is a PM or not shall be addressed as Bro. Director of Ceremonies whereas a Worshipful Brother who is to be addressed by name shall be W. Bro. John.....

**17. ENTERING LODGE AFTER THE MEETING HAS BEGUN:**

If a brother should enter the Lodge after the opening ceremony is under way, he should go to the Lodge door to salute the Master. If he must leave before the meeting is over, the correct Masonic etiquette of his departure is that he should salute the Master at the Lodge door before he departs. The salute should always be given properly and not in a careless or perfunctory manner.

**18. ALL PRAYERS AT LODGE FUNCTIONS ARE NON-SECTARIAN:**

Freemasonry is worldwide and holds no sectarian views. Non-sectarian means not sectioned into one, specific religion. Freemasonry embraces all religions. A Mason may choose the religion of his choice in his private life but should be aware and open to the fact that others among the brethren do not necessarily share nor were they brought up with the religious dogmas and beliefs that you, personally, embrace.

**Why?** Prayers at lodge functions should be scrupulously in keeping with Masonic teachings. The Masonic Etiquette of offered prayers is that they should never be an expression of specific sectarian views or dogmatic creeds. It is a matter of courtesy that all prayers, speeches and discussions at Masonic affairs avoid sectarian, controversial or political tones.

Prayers are best directed to the Creator, the Master Architect of the Universe and not toward specific religious teachings such as Jesus Christ, Mother Mary, Muhammad, Jehovah, Allah etc. To do so omits the religions of others within the brethren, which can cause conflict and therefore not be harmonious to the whole.

In the spirit of non-sectarianism, we must remember that since the day that our Creator found that Man created the Tower of Babel to glorify themselves; it is HE who changed man's language into the many diverse languages now spoken on Earth. In so doing, our Creator has many names across the world.

**19. TURN CELL PHONES OFF:**

All cell phones should be turned off before entering the lodge room so as not to disrupt the proceedings.

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## 20. MENTIONING NAMES FOR MEMBERSHIP:

As an Entered Apprentice (EA) or Fellowcraft (FC) one should be wary of mentioning names for membership as the full extent of the tenets and principles of the Order will not be known. If an EA or FC knows of someone who may be suitable for mentioning it is preferable to discuss the person with a Master Mason (who should be more aware of the requirements of the Craft). Then a Master Mason should mention the person and, if considered a suitable candidate, propose the person. The EA or FC can then second the motion.

**Masonic Etiquette Summary:** Masonic etiquette is simply the rules of good manners which make lodge meetings pleasant for everyone.

The position of Worshipful Master in the East occupies the most exalted position within the lodge.

A lodge which does not honour its Master, no matter how they personally feel about the man, himself, lacks Masonic courtesy. The honour conveyed by the brethren in electing him, ...in other words, the historical traditions and the men who have gone before you must be given the utmost respect, if the traditions of the Fraternity are to be observed and proper Masonic etiquette is to be maintained.

Masonic etiquette comprises lodge courtesies and proprieties.

Good manners imply observance of the formal requirements governing man's behaviour in polite society and a sense of what is appropriate for a person of good breeding with high morals and good taste.

The spirit of brotherly love and affection, by which we are bound together, will be exemplified in our conduct, our carriage and our behaviour at all times.

It is hoped that you will use your trowel to cement the stones of brotherly love for the "More Noble and Glorious Purpose" of exhibiting these rules of Masonic Etiquette toward one and all within the brethren.

### Lodge Birthdays

<b>Geoff Clelland</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Bernie Cain</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Bob Jackson</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Ken Locke</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Shaun Gilchrist</b>	<b>3</b>

### News from the South

Bro. Greg Whitford and wife, Jill, returned to Port Vila for a short, 3-week visit but was unable to fit in a Lodge meeting. They will be back later in the year. Bro. Mark Striker and wife, Sue, have also returned from the USA for a visit.

News from W. Bro. Keith Thomas and his new Lodge can be found on Page 12.

## Meet the Brethren—Bro. Greg Whitford



Greg was born on 27th February 1951 in New Jersey, USA being the third of 5 children - 1 older sister & brother and 1 younger brother & sister. The family moved to Los Angeles, California in 1955. Greg graduated high school in 1969 in Torrance, California and then attended university until having a "draft number" of 66 ( the military drafted up to number 260 that year - due to the Vietnam war ).

Greg enlisted in the Army and became an Air Traffic Controller ending military service in August in 1973. From 1973 to 1975 he worked on construction and automotive engine repairs. In June 1973 he started Private Pilot training and gained a single-engine land (as against sea) aircraft certificate in March 1974.

In 1975 Greg was hired by the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) as an Air Traffic Controller, and worked at Torrance Municipal airport (the 8th busiest airport in the USA) and then moved on to be an approach controller at Coast Approach Control (located on the El Toro Marine base in Orange County). Coast Approach handled the approaches and departures for - Torrance (8th busiest), Long Beach (5th busiest), Fullerton, Los Alamitos, El Toro, and Orange County (now known as John Wayne International -- 1st/2nd busiest).

In 1974 Greg met Jill and their first date was to go flying over southern California. They married in 1975 and have 2 sons - born in 1979 and 1985.

In October 1976 Greg was certified as a Commercial pilot, and experienced 10 hours of helicopter training - "Auto-Rotating" being some of the scariest things that you can do while flying. In June 1978 Greg was certified as an Instrument Pilot. Then on 12 August 1978 he was certified as Multi-Engine and Lear Jet (LR24) Type rating. With a total flying hours of 356.5. During 1978 - 1980 he had Cessna 500 Jet total time to date 8.7 hours (free flying time).

In August 1981 Greg was fired by President Ronald Reagan for a labour dispute (along with thousands of other controllers- PATCO versus US Government). So from 1981 to 1983 Greg worked in a custom cabinet shop, with side jobs in construction. He changed career from 1983 to 1990 to work for United Parcel Service as a delivery driver then was promoted into management and "Time & Motion" studies.

In 1990 they moved to Scotland, United Kingdom which became a stepping stone to Vanuatu. During 1990 in the UK, Greg earned an I.T. Certificate for welding and metallurgy (gas, stick, MIG & TIG).

Then the big life-change because in 1991 they moved to Port Vila, Vanuatu— a safe place for the upbringing of their 2 sons. In 1992, with wife Jill, they opened Jill's Café in the centre of town and it is still open to date.

In October 2003 Greg was initiated into the Freemasonry - Lodge of Discovery (after many months of "dragging" his feet as quote ("*I do not like "clubs"*") progressing to Senior Deacon until they moved back to California in 2010. Finding it hard to find an E.C. lodge in California Greg thinks he may have to side-step into a California constitution. In 2013 Greg found that his Grandfather on his mother's side was initiated on 15 Jan 1914, passed on 19 Jan 1914 and raised on 16 Feb 1914 at the age of 21, in Minnesota. He stayed as a Master Mason and member in good standing until his death in 1980.

## Objections to Freemasonry

This paper by Very W. Bro. Rabbi Raymond Apple, A.M., R.F.D., Past Grand Chaplain of the United Grand Lodge of N.S.W. & A.C.T., is to make you acquainted with the most common objections to Freemasonry, and how to respond to them.

The background and philosophy of Freemasonry are not well known. This is why outsiders sometimes denigrate or deride the movement. Because their objections are predictable and consistent, it is important to try to forestall them in advance.

*Mackey's Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry* lists the principal sins that Freemasonry is generally accused of – its supposed secrecy, exclusivist charity, admission of unworthy members, claim to be a religion, administration of unlawful oaths and puerility. Because any or all of these same objections are liable to crop up at any time, we need to have some of the answers available.

### Is Freemasonry secret?

Though masonry has its secrets, it is not a secret society. Its principles are far from being hidden from view, its members make no secret of their Masonic affiliations and in some cases publicise it, and its meeting places are clearly identified and in many cases open to public inspection when not in use for Masonic meetings.

Those aspects of Masonry which are secret are basically limited to modes of recognition which identify a man as a Mason and indicate the level or rank he has attained within Masonry, and certain rites and ceremonies which ritualise doctrines which themselves are open and available. And even those few things which are Masonic secrets are not locked up within a restricted circle, since new members are continually entering the movement and learning them.

### Is Masonic charity exclusivist?

The many Masonic benevolent institutions never refuse a helping hand to individuals or families in need, but it is true that in some respects priority is accorded to Masons and their families. Like all community groups that foster a special feeling of fellowship, Freemasonry urges mutual responsibility within the group, just as any sibling should be able to rely on another in a family. Mackey says, "It is well that those who are nearer should be dearer", and adds that membership of a family or group should confer a feeling of security.

### Does Freemasonry claim to be a religion?

It does not claim to be, nor is it, a religion. Adherents of many faiths are among its members, and hardly any religious group raises objections to its believers being Freemasons. A Freemason must profess a belief in a Supreme Being, but the movement as such has no theological tenets or sectarian rituals. It is not a religion, a theology or denomination. It stands for an attitude of personal humility and ethical responsibility motivated by belief in God, whatever the way in which an individual understands or celebrates Him. Members are encouraged to involve themselves in the religious denomination of their choice or upbringing. The use of Biblical terminology in Masonic rituals and the references to Biblical personages, especially King Solomon, reflects the Scriptural strand in our general culture and the shared morality of the wider community of believers.

### Does Freemasonry administer unlawful oaths?

Though the exact wording of solemn obligations entered into by Masons is not publicised, there is nothing immoral, criminal, treacherous, or for that matter frivolous in any such obligations. Nor do these obligations in any way compromise a Freemason's duty to his family, profession, religion or country.

On the contrary, they reinforce the loyalties and the commitments to which a person is already legally bound. It cannot be too clearly stated that Freemasons do not consider their Masonic obligations as in any way higher than the laws of the land. The fact that so many eminent leaders in many walks of public life, known for their integrity and patriotism, have been and are Freemasons, is enough evidence that Freemasonry does not and cannot countenance any compromise with the law.

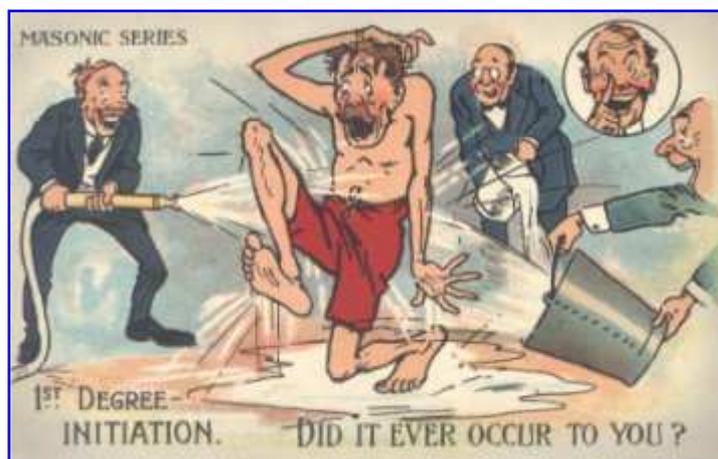
### Is Freemasonry puerile?

Perhaps because its rites and ceremonies are not open to public view, the movement is sometimes ridiculed by outsiders who invent and imagine supposed rituals which they then proceed to attack as childish. Every club, organisation or community has its ways of doing things – running a meeting, addressing the chair, keeping the records. Anything can be criticised as childish or absurd, but the fact is that any tradition or ceremony lends character and even drama to the affairs of the group.

Masonic ceremonies symbolise principles and teachings which might otherwise remain so theoretical and vague as to be in danger of evaporating. True, the best ritual can be performed in sloppy and even absurd fashion, but if those taking part do so with intelligence and dignity and explain the symbolism of the ceremony, it is not puerile but poetic.

The accusations against Freemasonry are fallacious and unfair. The movement deserves a better deal.

The writer did not answer his own question about the admission of unworthy members. This is the responsibility of each Lodge who should leave no stone unturned to ensure that unworthy men are not admitted – we don't need them and we don't want them.



## The Honourable Order of Pig Ribbers

At the May Festive Board the Brethren were dressed in full regalia for  
The Honourable Order of Pig Ribbers



A veritable feast ensued with aprons supplied by the Saloon Bar  
( under the guise of the Waterfront Restaurant).

The full significance of the different-coloured aprons has yet to be determined .

## News from W. Bro. Keith Thomas

At the Installation ceremony for Lodge Sutherland 585, as well as being installed as the Inner Guard, I was presented with my Affiliation Certificate (see below) by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory - Most Worshipful Bro. Derek James Robson AM (picture also below) - a nice bloke, and very curious about our Lodge of Discovery.

The dinner was nowhere near as grand as ours, and there were no ladies or guests. Honestly, these guys down here have a lot to learn about being festive in the Festive Board! I will do my utmost best to re-educate them!



## Humour

A tired old mason whose hair was gray,  
Came to the gates of Heaven one day,  
When asked, what on earth he had done the most,  
He said he had replied to the Visitors Toast.  
St. Peter said, as he tolled the Bell,  
Come inside my Brother you've had enough of Hell.

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A man walks into a church confessional and says to the priest, "Bless me, father, for I have sinned. I was with seven different women last night." The priest is silent for a moment, then says, "Go home and cut seven lemons in half. Squeeze the juice into a glass and drink it down in one gulp." "And I'll be forgiven?" asks the man. "No," replies the priest, "but it will wipe that effing smirk off your face."

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### **N H S IN A NUTSHELL**

**The phone rings and the lady of the house answers, 'Hello.'**

**"Mrs. Brown, please."**

**"Speaking."**

**"Mrs. Brown, this is Doctor Finlay at Saint John's Laboratory. When your husband's doctor sent his biopsy to the lab last week, a biopsy from another Mr. Brown arrived as well.**

**We are now uncertain which one is your husband's. Frankly, either way the results are not too good."**

**"What do you mean?" Mrs. Brown asks nervously.**

**"Well, one of the specimens tested positive for Alzheimer's and the other one tested positive for HIV. We can't tell which is which."**

**"That's dreadful! Can you do the test again?" questioned Mrs. Brown.**

**"Normally we can, but N H S will only pay for these expensive tests one time."**

**"Well, what am I supposed to do now?"**

**"The folks at N H S recommend that you drop your husband off somewhere in the centre of town.**

**If he finds his way home, don't sleep with him."**

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A young policeman is undergoing his initiation and has just taken his obligation, he is asked "What do you most desire?" and before the deacon can prompt him he declares that it is "To be a sergeant!"

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My friend and I, are on the way to the lodge this evening by Metrolink sat next to a man and the smell was terrible. I said to my friend: "we need to say something!" My friend said: "What can we say we will offend him". After a few minutes I turned to him and said BO and he replied AZ. It just goes to show you never know who you are sat next to.

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Q. How are freeways and Freemasonry alike?

A. They both provide a pathway to where you want to go.

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Q. Why is Freemasonry a suspected terrorist organisation?

A. Because the Square and Compasses are weapons of maths instruction.

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