

Geoffrey Short Lodge No 971

The year started with an excellent Installation Ceremony of our new WM Roger Karn carried out by W Bro Tony Gay and his team with high expectations of new members.

There were none forthcoming at our November Meeting but we did get together with Warminster Lodge who not only provided a 'stand in' candidate but also accompanied him with a number of their members. What a difference this made both inside the Temple and also at the Festive Board. This is to be continued both ways when circumstances arise. Unfortunately there was no candidate at our January Meeting but we did have a "Short Talk on Mark Masonry with both International and Local Interests" given by W Bro Richard Evans. From the discussion which followed, it was obviously this was very well received.

During February we attended the "Mark Awareness Meeting" in Warminster fully intending to take two possible 'advances' who, in the event, had to pull out at the last minute. We were, however, able to subsequently present them with a joining pack endorsed by both the PGM and DPGM and we have high hopes that they may join us during the coming year. This would be most welcome, as our numbers have dropped from 37 to 32 in 3 years

Refurbishment of the building continues including having to replace our four-year-old gas cooker with an electric one due to a change in regulations. This cost us an unexpected £5k which fortunately, we were able to cover with our Contingency Fund.

In Mar 2017 we were delighted to hear that our own DC and Provincial DC had been appointed Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. An award justly deserved.