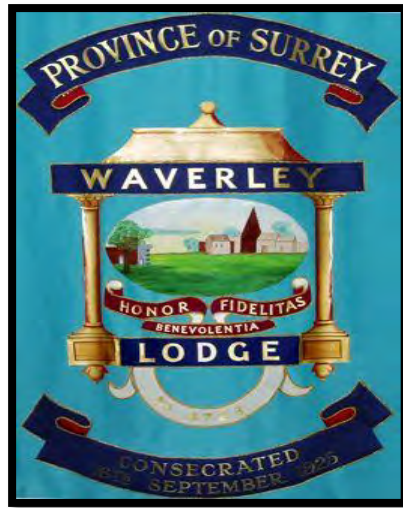


In the Province of Surrey



Waverley Lodge

No. 4723

CONSECRATED JUNE 16TH 1925.

An Introduction & Profile of our Lodge
To the Prospective Member.

Contents

What is Freemasonry at Waverley Lodge all about? 3

 Brotherly Love:..... 3

 Relief: 4

 Truth:..... 4

Farnham Freemasonry Pre 1948..... 4

Our Lodge Badge..... 4

Our Meetings 5

Lodge of Instruction. 5

Help & advice for the Members at Waverley Lodge..... 7

What is the Typical Waverley Lodge member? 7

Extra lodge activities. 8

What’s next? 8



“In a room full of Masons there is no colour, no creed, nor religion; only masons”.

What is Freemasonry at Waverley Lodge all about?

Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest secular fraternal societies. The true origins of Freemasonry are clouded in both history and mystery; historical analysis shows aspects of Masonry date back to thousands of years B.C.

Today modern Freemasonry at Waverley Lodge can be described as a society of men who are concerned with moral, social, and spiritual values. Now that sounds quite "heavy" but it can be summed up in simple terms as "trying to be a good person who adds to society". By using various allegorical symbols (and by the way the word allegory comes from the Greek language and means "to speak in another way" and can be an image, story, or poem which Masonry uses to show you a hidden meaning, moral, or truth) and those simple playsets which you have heard about I am sure on the TV or film. Waverley Lodge 4723 encourages all its members, in simple terms, to ask basic questions about themselves concerning moral and ethical approaches to life. The lodge seeks to encourage thoughtfulness for others, kindness in the wider community, and honesty in business. We encourage courtesy in society and fairness in all things, while having fun and enjoyment doing so. Waverley Lodge's members are urged to regard and care for the less fortunate in society in need of help, and to enjoy the various social activities which the Lodge organises throughout the year so as to raise both awareness and charitable donations to aid the lodges chosen charities. In Freemasonry (and this is very important) there is no religious or political structure allowed. All men are equal, be it race, religion or creed. Waverley Lodge 4723, happily practices these three "grand principles" within Freemasonry and these are described in simple terms as: ***Brotherly Love; Relief; and Truth.***

Brotherly Love: meaning that every Waverley Lodge member should show tolerance and respect for the opinions of others and behave with kindness and understanding to his fellow members.

Relief: meaning that we, as Waverley Masons, are encouraged to practise charity and to care - not only for our own families - but also for the community as a whole, both by charitable giving and by voluntary efforts as a Lodge.

Truth: meaning that Waverley Lodge Freemasons strive for the truth about themselves as men, clear moral standards, and aiming to achieve these standards in their own lives while enjoying that process with good friends.

Farnham Freemasonry Pre 1948.

Prior to 1948, St. Andrews Lodge No.1046 and Waverley Lodge No.4723 were the only Craft Lodges in the Province of Surrey meeting in Farnham. By 1947 however such was the popularity of Farnham Freemasonry that it was felt that other Lodges should be formed. We at Waverley are therefore proud of being right there at the beginning of Farnham Freemasonry and we are looking forward in a few years' time to our 100th birthday.

Our Lodge Badge.

The Waverley Lodge badge, as you may be able to see, embodies the ruins of the famous abbey from which the name of the Lodge is taken, and which lies within the borders of Farnham; namely Waverley Abbey. It is interesting to note from the Lodge point of view that during the 1950's, the surrounding land on which the ruins of Waverley abbey stand had been acquired by a member of the Lodge being one W.J. North, who was a senior Officer and Treasurer of the Lodge.

The badge carries the Lodge motto in Latin, "Honour, Fidelitas, Benevolentia", which means when translated "Honour, Fidelity and Benevolence", and these sentiments we at Waverley are, quite rightly, proud of. In fact, the non-Mason reading this should understand that this simple Latin phrase epitomises all of the spirit of Freemasonry in just this simple Latin phrase.

Our Meetings

Waverley Lodge remains a very friendly and welcoming Lodge which meets six times a year; these dates being **the 2nd Monday of October, November, December, February, March and April**. **Most of our meetings start between 5.30pm and 6.00pm and after each meeting we go for a meal and is what we Masons call a “Festive Board”, the emphasis being the word “festive”. They are always great fun!**

While Waverley Lodge hopes a member (“we call him a Brother”) will be as active as his time allows, the Lodge also make it explicitly clear to them that a Mason must never put his duties and responsibilities to Freemasonry ahead of his duties to his family, to his God, to his work and to his country. Waverley are proud of the way we see Freemasonry collectively as individual lodge members and we follow the view that the duty they owe to their family, friends, and neighbours, to people in distress, and to you as an individual, must come first in your life. Waverley Lodge Masonry is designed to be “fun” and inclusive, while reaching for the best standards that can be achieved realistically given the time allowance you have in your lifestyle and commitments both personal and financial. Membership is open to men of the age of 21 and above, of any race, religion or creed and who can fulfil these essential qualifications and are of “good repute”. Interestingly the sons of Masons can join when they reach the age of 18; Masonry loves the family connections through the generations and encourages it.

Lodge of Instruction.

Waverley Lodge (along with many Lodges) do expect some level in involvement from members of the Lodge (at whatever Masonic level they are at) to attend the “Waverley Lodge of Instruction” (or L.OI’s as they are known).

The purpose of the Lodge of Instruction is to provide an opportunity for the younger Brethren to become versed and practised in the ritual and symbolism of Freemasonry. They are also able to practise the ritual in a relaxed and

friendly atmosphere where they can make mistakes and gain guidance and experience. Its ok to make these mistakes and quite often great banter and encouragement often follow. The meetings are usually overseen by the Master, Wardens and in particular his “Director of Ceremonies” (think of him as a kind of Lodge “teacher”) who is an experienced member of the Lodge, and helps you practice what you may need to know so that you build confidence as an individual in what you are doing for a particular meeting. Freemasonry can act as a huge boost to self-confidence and a real feeling of self-achievement.

We meet on an informal basis (**on a Wednesday in the months that the lodge is active**) and practise the various playlets (we call them rituals) so that at our ‘actual’ meetings we feel confident and well-rehearsed and thus feel pride in our own achievements. There are always experienced brethren there to guide and instruct the newer brethren as necessary. The Lodge of Instruction is key to the guarantee of a good meeting of which the members can be proud and which hopefully gives pleasure to our visitors.

The rehearsal of a ceremony normally takes place with the officers of the regular Lodge occupying the positions they either hold or expect to fill next year. Members who are in other positions within the Lodge will move into that particular role (as part of their next advancement within the Waverley Lodge structure) and are also given the opportunity to practise any of the offices if they so desire. This gives them a chance to practise a ceremony in an office which until then is unfamiliar to them. It’s seen by some as a challenge to do so, and there are also opportunities for any member to practise any additional ritual should they so desire. Although, of course, the ceremonies are always practised in earnest to make sure we give of our best at the actual meetings, Loi’s could not be classified as a totally serious event and there is always a lot of fun and banter to be had. Often after a practice the Waverley Freemason can be found down the local pub laughing and joking with the other members about what has happened in the practice just gone.

Help & advice for the Members at Waverley Lodge

Waverley is proud to have their own “in house” Mentorship scheme as well as those officially provided by Surrey Province and United Grand Lodge. These “booklets” have been created to aid the newer Mason and are designed to back up what he is being shown at Loï’s and Lodge meetings. Designed to be fun, they are written simply and are given out when the next stage has been reached. They are designed to explain what has happened and what meanings are found behind what you have done “in lodge”. We are proud to support each of our members as individuals and it’s important to all of us at the lodge that you enjoy being a member and that you feel free to join in! Personal Mentorship at Waverley is actively encouraged at Waverley at all levels. We pride ourselves on supporting the newer members and older members are more than happy to sit down and discuss any questions raised.

What is the Typical Waverley Lodge member?

Well, the simple answer to this is that there is no typical Waverley Lodge member! Age ranges are from 21 yrs. to 85 + yrs. The average age is about 45yrs old. Each person brings something to the Lodge as a whole; and that’s truly an exciting feeling. Of course, it follows that hobbies and social interests in such a diverse number of people is also large and ready to be explored by a new member. Examples of a shared hobby found at Waverley are golf (often competitions), cricket, rugby even horse-riding. There are a few members who love Gaming and all things board games based, (and go away to gaming conventions raising monies for charities), whereas others like photography and sailing, walking or travelling the roads on a custom motorbike, along with members from other lodges who ride motorbikes.

When it comes to what kind of job members of Waverley have, well again that’s also diverse. We have, of course, retired members who are looking to build and maintain friendships now that they have left the work place. Some others are employed accountants, or surveyors, while others work in the IT industry, or goods transportation. Some of the members of Waverley are train guards,

while others are gardeners or storeman, even military. Many are actively involved with the local community and volunteering. It won't matter in reality what you do, or did, as a job. It's all about you as a person joining in with likeminded people who enjoy sharing their hobby with you.

Extra lodge activities.

From time-to-time Waverley Lodge hold social activates which all members are encouraged to attend. These range from very formal Provincial events to more "home grown" events.

This "extra Lodge activity" is often takes the form of a formal "Ladies night" where all Waverley members are invited to bring along their wives or partners or older children to a slightly formal dinner and dance where everyone can join in, meeting up with the families of their "Brothers in Lodge" and expand their friendship network.

What's next?

I expect you are wondering how you could personally fit into Waverley Lodge Freemasonry? It's Easy!!! No mystery, No Secret, "JUST GET INVOLVED AND HAVE FUN". It really is that simple. You go as far as you want to, go as often as you want to and visit other lodges when you want to. There is no easy way to describe Waverley Masonry, its diverse, interactive, fun and sometimes formal. It truly is all about friendship, shared experiences and being as good a person as you can be with likeminded people who support you all the way.

The Masons at Waverley Lodge 4723 will warmly welcome you into their Lodge and will extend that welcome for a lifelong and enjoyably supported journey through your Masonry, however far on the personal journey you wish to go. Many Masons you meet will become lifelong friends!

It is down to you! Masonry is fun. Never forget that fact!