

Brethren the next Item is for me to address you. I don't think it was a good idea for me to allow the District Grand Secretary to be in control of this Zoom Meeting as if he thinks my address is too long or he sees people getting bored he can press the mute button.

Brethren were are, experiencing unprecedented times, I don't think any of us expected this Covid 19 situation would continue to the length that it has nor looks likely to continue for.

In light of which we the executive took the decision to reappoint the District officers of last year so that hopefully they can, when we return to normal meetings experience a full year of their duties.

We had three District Team Visits planned for the year of which we did attend two, one to Goulburn Council last October and one to Shuttleworth Council in early March both were very successful and I would like to thank the District Officers for their support, the two Councils for the warmth of their welcome and the high quality of the ritual demonstrated.

Looking forward we will try to complete the three by visiting Herbert Barrington Slater Council in July.

As an added aid to recruitment the District Grand Secretary has acquired three pop up banner displays which we can use on the Team Visits or at any time there is chance of a large gathering of none Allied Masons present within the District.

Brethren we have one new District Officer joining the team this year, the District Grand Treasurer Jeffrey Huddart, I am sure that you are all aware that Jeff is more that well qualified for the Office and we wish him well. And in doing so I would like on behalf of the Districts to thank W. Bro. John Crawford for his excellent contribution as the long standing Treasurer. John took on the Office eleven years ago and the District is indebted to him for his loyal service. Thank you John.

Brethren it is looking very likely that the Grand Council Meeting in October will be cancelled which is unfortunate for the Brethren of the District who received notification that they are to be appointed to or promoted in Grand Rank. Those Brethren are:-

Promoted to Past Grand Junior Deacon, W. Bros. Graham Newton, Trevor Parvin and Chris Welton. And first appointments to Past Grand Standard Bearer W. Bros. William Pickup and David Thompson. I congratulate all these brethren as the awards are richly deserved.

My thanks to the District Executive for their help with our virtual meetings and in particular the District Grand Secretary W. Bro. Graham Newton for arranging this meeting, and not pressing the mute button.

Brethren thank you all once again for attending, thank you for your patience, and may the Great Disposer of all have you in his keeping.