



The Orsett Times

The Newsletter of Orsett Masonic Hall



ISSUE ONE

AUGUST 2017

Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of Orsett Masonic Hall's Newsletter. The Directors think that it is important that the patrons of Orsett Masonic Hall are kept up-to-date in respect to changes and events taking place there. After all, it is our Hall, we own it, and without the patronage of the Brethren, the Hall would close.

Initially, it is our intention to send out the Newsletter four times a year to all Lodge Secretaries, Scribes, Recorders, Registrars, etc. This is, of course, dependent upon the information we have available to convey to you. So, to make this Newsletter work we would welcome articles, comments, ideas, and advertisements from yourselves to aid to its success.

Please forward the Newsletter to the brethren of your Lodge and to friends.

Summer Shutdown – July / August 2017

During July and August, it is the usual custom for the Hall to shut down for three to four weeks to carry out routine maintenance and other planned works. We will be carrying out the regular jobs which includes a deep clean of the Kitchen, Dining Hall, Offices, Entrance Hall, Bar and Toilet Areas.

This year, in addition to the above, we are carrying out work in the Temple, Tyler and Staircase areas. The Tyler area will be re-vamped with the central storage bench together with the case rack on the south wall being removed. These will be replaced by new cupboards for Lodge and wand / banner pole storage on the south wall. There will also be a new Chapter storage area on the east wall. The Temple, Tyler's Room, and staircase will be re-decorated and all the carpets will be cleaned. A Bluetooth speaker system will be installed in the Temple, plus a number of other modifications and improvements.

Kitchen

In November 2016, we replaced equipment in the Kitchen. We purchased a new 6 burner dual fuel oven, a Rational 10 rack combi oven, and a new two door fridge, all of which have improved the facilities of the kitchen and assisted the Caterer in the preparation and quality of the food served.

OMH Hosts Burma Star Association

The Burma Star Association and the Far East Veterans Association hold an Annual Service of Remembrance for VJ Day at the "Rose Garden" in Orsett Village. The "Rose Garden" was originally situated in the grounds of Orsett Hospital but is now located in the centre of the new housing development which has subsequently taken its place.

The 72nd Anniversary of VJ Day was remembered on the 12th August 2017 and was attended by over 50 people including Mrs G Barton (Deputy Lieutenant of Essex), Stephen Metcalf (MP), The Mayor of Thurrock, Tunde Ojetola, Local Councillors, The Rev. Sue Mann, and representatives of the Burma Star Association.

The service was led by the Rev. Sue Mann with Mrs G Barton giving the prayer of remembrance, followed by an address by The Mayor of Thurrock. The service was concluded with the Last Post, a two minutes silence, and the laying of wreaths.

After the service, all present retired to the Orsett Masonic Hall for refreshments where they were welcomed by the Directors Graham Larke, Brian Smith, and Roy Meleady.

This is a wonderful example of how Orsett Masonic Hall can reach out to the Community by being part of an important event in Thurrock.

Shares

The Board of Directors are continually updating our share register. According to the Memorandum and Articles of the Company, all shareholders must be either a Lodge or a member of a Lodge, who meets at Orsett Masonic Hall.

If you know of any Brethren who are no longer members of your Lodge, please advise them that their shares must either be transferred to a Lodge or a Brother who meets at OMH otherwise the shares will become null and void. Likewise, if you are aware of a widow, or family member who may own shares, the same rule applies.

Cancellation of Lodge of Instruction

Should it become necessary to cancel a Lodge of Instruction, please can you advise the Hall Manager, Jackie Firman on 07758-237726 or e-mail: jfdiver@live.com as soon as possible.

Forthcoming Functions

Moroccan Evening – 29th September 2017

Orsett Masonic Hall will be holding a Moroccan Evening on Friday 29th September. The tickets will be £28.00 per person which includes a special Moroccan meal and entertainment.

Please see the flyer in the bar area or for more information, have a look on our website: www.omhl.co.uk. To purchase your tickets, please contact Jackie, our Hall Manager. Please do try to support the evening and book early to avoid disappointment.

Christmas Lunches

Christmas lunches will again be held at the Hall on Sundays in December leading up to the festive period. The dates for this year are 3rd, 10th, and 17th December. The Hall opens at 12pm with the meals being served at 1pm. There will be the usual traditional Carol singing and after dinner entertainment; a truly family occasion not to be missed.

The cost is £27.00 per adult with children at a reduced price. To book your place, please contact Jackie, our Hall Manager.

Hall Bookings

The hall is available to hire for private or business functions. For more details, visit the OMH website.

All hall bookings must be made through Brian Smith and his contact details are e-mail: b.s.smith@sky.com.

Your booking will be confirmed by Brian and will appear on the Bookings Calendar which can be found on the website: www.omhl.co.uk

Suggestions & Ideas

If you have any suggestions or ideas on ways we can improve the facilities at Orsett Masonic Hall, the Board of Directors would be eager to receive these. Please send your ideas to: orsettmasonichall@gmail.com

Contact Details

Hall Manager - Jackie Firman
Tel: 07758-237726 / E-Mail: jfdiver@live.com

Hall Bookings - Brian Smith
E-Mail: b.s.smith@sky.com

Website: www.omhl.co.uk