THE GLENLYON LODGE NO. 346 S.C.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Bro Whitsun
 McDonald celebrates 70 years
- Interview with
 Whitsun McDon-
- Family Fun Day

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The Almoner

The Quarterly Newsletter of The Glenlyon Lodge no. 346 S.C.



VOLUUME IV ISSUE II

JULY 2012

BRO. WHITSUN A. MCDONALD CELEBRATES 70 YEARS AS A FREEMASON!!

Saintly in character, liberal in spirit, vigorous in mind, with a heart imbued with a passion for justice, Bro. Whitsun Albert McDonald C.D., J.P., has served Freemasonry in general and The Glenlyon Lodge in particular for seventy years with loyalty, honour and distinction. Blessed with courage, understanding, initiative, vision and a strong sense of humor, he has lived a life full of accomplishments that few can match. The honour and respect associated with his name, his willingness to assist young brethren and fellows in their hour of need, has gained and maintained for him, the admiration, esteem and affection of the fraternity. He was initiated in the Glenlyon Lodge on the 8th of July, 1942 and became Right Worshipful Master in the administrative year 1950—1951. He served the Lodge as Treasurer for twenty six years, and was awarded the honour of Distinguished Service Member. As a devoted member of the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica, he held many offices rising to the rank of District Senior Grand Warden. His meritorious service to the District Grand Lodge did not go unnoticed and he was awarded with the Grand Rank of Hon. Grand Jeweller by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. In recognition of his service to The Glenlyon Lodge, an agenda item on the July meeting of the



BRO. WHITSUN ALBERT MCDONALD C.D., J.P., Hon D.S.G.W, P.D.S.G.W., Hon G. Jeweler, P.M OF THE GLENLYON LODGE

calendar of the Lodge since 2005 has been designated as the Annual Whitsun McDonald Lecture. In further recognition of his service, a booklet entitled "The Whitsun McDonald Lectures", (the formative years 2005—2011) was published in July of 2012. All the lectures were given by distinguished and erudite Brethren of the Craft, beginning with the lecture "So Mote it Be", by Bro. Hugh Hastings Wynter in July 2005. We the Brethren of The Glenlyon Lodge, salute this icon on this significant milestone, and trust that T.G.A.O.T.U. will enable him to continue his life of service to the Craft for many years to come. We congratulate and pay homage to an exemplar of Freemasonry in Jamaica.

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OLD SCHOOL TIES AND FREEMASONRY (PART II)

By W. Bro. James Moss-Solomon P.P.G.M. of Jamaica and Bahamas

Presented at the Annual Whitsun McDonald Lecture July 13, 2011

Cornwall College

Cornwall started in 1896 (incidentally, two years after my father was born), initially as the Montego Bay Government Secondary School. The school started at Barracks Road and was later moved to its current location. In 1911 and in 1922 it was re-named Cornwall College.

This school is certainly worth mentioning for two very important reasons. Firstly, as the first Government School at that secondary level, it served to mark a change of thinking on the methodology of the need for Government involvement in education, at a time when Britain was involved in the Boer War.

The first Boer War 1880-81, was really a rebellion of the fanners in Southern Africa (Orange Free State and Transvaal), which saw a successful revolt against British rule. The second Boer War of 1899- 1902 resulted in the granting of a promise of limited self-rule, which must have been a mind opener for those running the Empire at that time.

The Wars saw the brutality of the "scorched Earth" policy, of laying waste to agricultural lands to deny the rebels any source of food, and the introduction of concentration camps of such a horrible nature as to arouse international condemnation. The wars extracted a large toll on the number of soldiers killed, and drew attention to the poor health of the replacements for the decimated army. So some reform towards ensuring continuity probably entered policy in the colonies.

Secondly, Cornwall College was the first government school in the West Indies to offer Physics and Chemistry on its regular curriculum. So I deduce that the nature of the school was for a planned purpose towards science and medicine in a larger British policy initiative to strengthen the knowledge base of the Empire in essential and practical areas for economic development.

Through the efforts of Presbyterian Minister Rev. Adam Thompson and government representative Hon. John Kerr they obtained 500 pounds from the government to start the school. Therefore this school was not formed by any generous benefactor and its website does not herald any esoteric goal except for "Disce aut Discede" that is Learn or leave".





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Calabar High School

Established by the Jamaica Baptist Union in 1912 on Slipe Pen Road in Kingston the original intention was to "be for the children of Baptist Ministers, and to educate the children of freed black slaves". It was expanded by the donation of Mrs. Purcell of adjoining premises on Studley Park Road, and in 1952 was moved to its current location.

In many ways its origin's suggest that a theological college was intended but in 1952, saw the separation of that aspect to Mona, but it stuck to its historical tradition of a noted abolitionist position, and a strong Ministry to black people on the plantations of slavery, and colonialism.

The name itself was derived from the former slave port of Calabar in what is today Nigeria. The act ions follow a consistent focus on Black pride and resilience to oppression over several centuries. Also the motto is not expressed in the language of the predecessor Roman Empire, but simply says "the utmost for the highest". There can be no doubt about the worth of such an institution to Jamaica, and the empowerment of the most disenfranchised racial grouping in our society, but it does not boast the British colonial heritage, and brings a closer focus on the struggle associated with an about turn from Britain to Independence.

The roaring lion on its emblem, the "tree of knowledge", and the open Bible suggest a firmly rooted belief, but perhaps not obviously allied with a Masonic intent.

Kingston College

The school was founded by the Rt. Reverend Percival Gibson and opened its doors in 1925 with 49 students. The stated purpose was "to produce well-balanced men of integrity and character who would become leaders and set an example in public life and other pursuits".

The motto of the school "Fortis Cadere Cedere non protest", "the brave may fall but never yield" has been so heralded throughout Jamaica as to become an identifier of the determination of its students, past and present. The intensity of its appeal must be considered to be amazing even to its Founder, affectionately known

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OLD SCHOOL TIES AND FREEMASONRY (PART II)

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remembered as "Priest". The influence of the Anglican Church while obvious, reflects the antiquity that is represented in the Latin basis and the possibly grammar school concept. This is unusual when one looks at the intent of providing a first class education to the middle, and lower middle income families that constituted its early pool of students.

Much of that homogeneity of its students has resulted in a loyalty not usually seen in Alumni organizations, but which I admiringly describe as a cult. As I describe my usage of that word I mean "a grouping that revere and are devoted to a person or thing".

Percival Gibson's memory and the institution that he founded, although being the youngest of the six comparisons, continues to bring out an intense fervour not found to that degree elsewhere.

Observations on the School Ties

- Three of the six schools have Lodges attached in name and these are Wolmer's, Jamaica College, and Kingston College.
- · Two are English and one is Scottish.
- Two spring from old Trusts, and of those two, one is Scottish (Wolmer's'), and one is English (Jamaica College).
- One has grown from Anglican roots (Kingston College).
- Three schools have no named Lodges (Munro, Cornwall, and Calabar).
- Of these three one is a Trust School (Munro), one was a government creation (Cornwall), and one was founded by the Baptist Church (Calabar).
- Those founded with a religious, scientific, or government background (Calabar, Cornwall) seem to be removed in regard to a general acceptance of Lodges. Strangely, Munro falls in a somewhat undefined position as a Trust to be originally overseen by the Anglican Church, and this may stem from the hiatus and incorrect use of fund s for some time before the conditions of the will were enforced by Magistrates.
- None of these Lodges are exclusive to Alumni, and all welcome worthy potential members with equally open arms.

The trappings of antiquity, discrimination, elitism, and other divisive



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characteristics of origin, seem to melt under the microscope of the observation of freemasonry, and our goal "to make good men better". The rivalry of the sporting and academic arena of school days seems to pale before the chisel that reminds and admonishes us to sharpen our minds and consciences, as we remember our duty to God, our families, brethren, and our native land. Strangely in spite of the potential for greatness in our combined efforts we seem to be struggling to grow in reputation or numbers. The view of our Order is generally lukewarm Except within our own mirrors. We pride ourselves for maintaining our so-called "secrecy" in a world dominated by information sources that can accurately describe our rituals, and like the proverbial ostrich we hide our heads in the sands of time.

Gone are the days that ritual memory without understanding the true meanings can continue to hold the attention of a generation uneducated in literature or recitation. Today the simple ability to be a superior ritualist is not a logical extension of our school experience, certainly not in the same sentence that recognizes the reduction in books to be explored in the curriculum of schools. The tendency towards early specialization robs our fraternity of the potential of having widely educated members in the tradition of the "old school ties".

Today there will be few young dentists or engineers who will have as broad a literary repertoire as our own RW Bros. the late Aubrey Jacobs, Jackson McLaren Wint, or Barrington Miller. This is not the fault of freemasonry in general, but a situation to which we should hone our senses and find ways of providing ourselves with better "rough stones" to polish into our fine Ashlars. Here is the latent value of the "old school ties", and the challenge to their high civil ideals to set a bright and appealing lustre that will adorn the face of our Order, and that will attract those young men that will be enabled to serve their country as good citizens and exemplars regardless of their original status in life, and uninfluenced by the many unworthy ambitions that abound in the society around them.

Just like the schools we must focus in these difficult times on building a solid



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foundation in the face of tremendous odds. The different origins mentioned here tonight do not seem to constitute an impediment for those of us who are involved in school development. Certainly in transferring those skills to a nation is an increased level of difficulty, as it concerns social changes not easily influenced by money only.

Freemasonry is by design and nature a builder of enormous potential, but it has tended to resist joining the mass production of housing, opting rather for the methodology of building one stone at a time and not risking the entire edifice. So what I am speaking to is not a change in a proven technology.

I am speaking to a need to have skilled workmen at every level who have an interest in pursuing the work while at the same time ensuring that the workforce remains vibrant and interested in their jobs. In a different forum I would describe this as "management and strategic planning". The essential goal is the same. It is to provide the necessary skills that will ensure growth, adaptation, and continuity for the organization, in our case the Fraternity.

Brethren, it is not a casual responsibility but it is an admonition that remains in my memory, implanted there long before I became a freemason, written by an unknown author, but repeated every weekday for seven years at my alma mater, that was one of the six schools I mentioned here.

I wondered about it as a teenager and as a young man as it simultaneously admonishes, teaches, and restrains in a peculiar way only revealed in freemasonry. I suppose that there are elements of this seemingly mystical calling that abound in the other schools, and perhaps an examination of that will reveal some deeper meaning and direction beyond the boundaries of sports rivalry.

Therefore I will close with the School Prayer of Jamaica College that has influenced my life in so many ways and situations without further comment, as I prefer to ask thinking men "homo sapiens" to bring their individual and collective minds to where the nextstone should be laid.





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School prayer

Bless 0 Lord this College,

Create among us a spirit of comradeship and loyalty to one another.

When we are called obey, let us obey with willingness,

When we are called to serve, let us serve with gladness,

When we are called to rule make us rule with justice.

Drive away from us all ignorance and hardness of heart,

All things dishonourable and unclean,

Build us up in body, mind and spirit,

Until we come to the full stature of the Perfect Man,

Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

"THE MASON'S MASON" AN INTERVIEW WITH BRO. WHITSUN MCDONALD P.M. By Bro. Craig Foreman

I had the distinct privilege of interviewing Bro. Whitsun McDonald at his home on the eve of his seventieth anniversary as a Freemason. It was no doubt an interesting conversation that spanned a range of topics. The excerpts will however focus on the topics related to Freemasonry in Jamaica. He reflected on his masonic experience over the past seventy years and gave his assessment on the strength and weaknesses of Freemasonry as it is practised in Jamaica.

C.F.: Bro. Whitsun thank you for agreeing to this interview. Could you tell me how you became interested in Freemasonry?

W.M.: I initially was not interested. I became more interested as some of the persons I respected at work and socially were masons. I used to see small groups of men congregating and giving each other some unusual lectures, which at the time I found a bit curious. It was only after I became a mason I realised that they were practicing their ritual work. I was also influenced by Aston Tucker (father of Bro. Michael Tucker) who encouraged me to apply with him as well. We were initiated together on the 8th of July, 1942.





AN INTERVIEW WITH BRO. WHITSUN MCDONALD P.M. By Bro. Craig Foreman (cntd)

C.F.: What was your first few years as a Freemason like?

W.M.: It was very interesting and we were always on the move so to speak. We were initiated, passed and raised in three months We were totally immersed and brought into the activities of the Lodge.

C.F.: What was Scottish Freemasonry like in your early days as a Freemason as compared to the present day?

W.M.: It was not very different than it is now in terms of the day to day practice of Freemasonry so to speak. The Lodges today operate in similar ways as they did when I was a young mason. We of course used to meet at Hanover Street with all the other Lodges in Kingston at the time until the Scottish Masons decided that they needed a temple of their own It is amazing to see how the craft has flourished and grown over the years. When I became a mason there were only five or six Scottish Lodges in Jamaica now there are over twenty

C.F.: Your son Bro Warren McDonald is also a very outstanding mason. That must make you very proud as a father?

W.M.: Yes I am very proud when he took his first step and even more proud of his ascension to RWM. He has made many outstanding contributions to the Lodge and to the District Grand Lodge.

C.F.: There are many facets to Freemasonry in Jamaica, what aspects do you think are not being practiced the most?

W.M.: In my view its benevolence. To our fellow man but more especially between Brethren. It is an area of which I have some serious concern. It is a hallmark of Freemasonry and I don't believe it is being practiced enough.

C.F.: What are your impressions of The Glenlyon Lodge, in terms of its development?

W.M.: The Lodge has grown from strength to strength every year. I have taken notice of the many young masons that have been initiated by the Lodge. I think now especially the Lodge has the right blend of experienced Brethren and young and active masons. I think the future is bright for Glenlyon.

C.F.: Thank you Bro. Whitty for agreeing to impart your wisdom to us.

W.M.: You are most welcome my Brother.





"THE GLENLYON LODGE ANNUAL FAMILY FUNDAY RETURNS"

After a few years absence the Glenlyon Lodge Family Funday was resurrected much to the pleasure of the Brethren who were present. The event which was held on Sunday, the 27th of May, 2012 at the Somerset Falls, began with a scenic and relaxing ride on "The Portland Express". "The Portland Express", was properly stocked with requisite spirits, liquid refreshment and music to provide the appropriate "ambiance" for the enjoyable day ahead. Upon arriving to the beautiful and serene location of Somerset Falls and Nature Park, the group which consisted of well over forty persons and their



families and friends nestled in a rustic but comfortable section of the venue to sound of great music great food and great company. Some guests proceeded to tour the venue to observe Jamaica's nature and beauty and others proceeded to enjoy the aquatic features of the venue. All expressed great pleasure with all

(at left) Attendees of the Family Funday engaged in a game of dominoes.

aspects of the event. Congratulations must be given to the committee headed by the W.J.W., Bro. Norman Wright P.M. and Bro. Howard Ennis P.M. and their team for the planning, execution and roaring success of the Glenyon Family Fun Day.

(at right) W.J.W. Bro. Noman Wright with his arms around the lovely ladies of his life at the Family Fun Day.



Obituaries (March 2012 - May 2012)

NAME LODGE	MONTH
Bro. John Burke P.M. Lodge Wolmers no. 1506 S.C	Mar 2012
Bro. Basil Burrell P.M. Middesex Lodge no. 1628 S.C	Mar 2012
Bro. Dayton Henry Arawak Lodge no. 6902 E.C.	May 2012
Bro. Andre Manning Irish Masters no. 907 I.C.	May 2012
W. Bro. Derrick Fuller South Carolina Lodge no. 390 I.C.	May 2012
Bro. Keith Gardner . Liguanea Lodge no. 1479 S.C.	May 2012

Newly Installed Masters (March 2012 - July 2012)

NAME	LODGE	DATE OF INSTALLATION
Bro. Everton G. Cassie	Lodge St. Andrew no. 1684 S.C.	9th of March 2012
Bro. Basil J. Gordon	Seville Lodge no. 530 S.C.	24h of March, 2012
Bro. Stephan P. Lazarus	Lodge Semper Fidelis no. 1530 S.C.	10th of April ,2012
Bro. Gregory L. Pullen	True Craftsman Lodge no. 921 I.C.	2nd of May, 2012
Bro. Michael A. Williams	Hamilton Lodge no. 1440 E.C.	3rd of May, 2012
Bro. Rev. Peter D. Clarke	Lodge Barrington Miller no 1829 S.C	2nd of June, 2012
Bro. Gladstone A. Barrett	Imperial Service no.978 S.C.	7th of June, 2012
Bro. Alva A. Anderson	Lodge Portmore no. 1834 S.C.	23rd of June, 2012
Bro. Earl C. Finnikin	Lodge Stony Hill no. 1820 S.C.	12th of July, 2012

What's Going On

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE

District Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication August 25, 2012

LODGE	ACTIVITY	DATE
Lodge John J Mills no 1657 S.C.	Lodge of Sorrow	September 3, 2012
Lodge Imp. Service no. 623 S.C.	Isaac Henry Memorial Lecture	September 6, 2012
Lodge Elgin no. 1562 S.C.	Installation Meeting	September 8, 2012
Lodge Semper Fidelis 1530 S.C.	Initiation of a "Lewis"	September 10, 2012
Glenlyon Lodge no. 346 S.C.	Second Degree	September 12, 2012
F. H.Bowen Lodge no. 9238 E.C.	Installation Meeting	September 15, 2012
Lodge Middlesex no. 1628 S.C.	Third Degree	September 20, 2012
Kingston Coll. Lodge no.9469 E.C.	Installation	September 21, 2012
Lodge Wolmers no 1506 S.C.	Installation	September 25, 2012





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"A Pictorial of The Glenlyon Lodge Family Funday"



The R.W.M. Bro. Christopher Robinson and W.S.W. Bro. Charles O'Connor engaged in mental combat via a Chess Match

Family and Friends of the Brethren of Glenlyon Lodge in a festive mood at the Family Fun Day.



Bro. Howard Ennis P.M. at his best entertaining some of the guests at the Family Fun Day.



Mrs. Pamela Reese and young Christian Foreman engaged in a spirited conversation at the Family Fun Day.





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W.J.W. Bro. Norman Wright P.M. and his Family at the Family Funday





THE GLENLYON LODGE No. 346 S.C.

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ADMINISTRATION 2011—2012

Bro Christopher Robinson, P.M, Asst. D.G.T.	R.W.M.
Bro. Wilson K. Look Kin, P.M.	I.P.M.
Bro. Wilson K. Look Kin, P.M. Bro. Dr. Frank Villiers P.M, P.D.J.G.W., H.D.S.G.W.	Dep.M.
Bro. Samuel Stewart, J.P.,P.M	
Bro. Charles O'Connor	W.SW.
Bro. Norman D. Wright P.M., D.G. STWD	W.J.W.
Bro. Martin A. Williamson	
Bro. Michael Tucker	Treasurer
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Bro. A.G. Leon Robertson P.M, H.D.G Std B.	Director of Ceremonies
Bro. Craig F. Foreman.	Chaplain
Bro. Neville Wallace	
Bro. Neville Jackson	J.D.
Bro. Heron Dale	Bible Bearer
Bro. Godfrey. Perkins CD P.M.	Assistant Secretary
Bro. Howard C. Ennis P.M. D.S.G. Warden	
Bro. Dean Holness	Inner Guard
Bro. Carl Domville P.M.	President of Stewards
Bro. Gregory Khan P.M., P.D.G. Steward, .	Steward
Bro. Collin Henry	Steward
Bro. Warren McDonald J.P.,P.M.,H.D.J.G.W.	Steward
Bro. Hopeton Nembhard.	Steward
Bro. Bruce Taylor P.M., P.D.J.G.W., H.D.S.G.W.	Steward
Bro. John A. Pickersgill, P.M.	Tyler