

DEVA
LODGE
No. 3447
SEPTEMBER
2024



Patron of the 2027 Festival for the Masonic Charitable Foundation

Worshipful Brother

Ariel Cuevas Margallo was Installed as the 108th Master in the Lodge's 114 years of existence on 3rd April 2024 but the Foundation Stone for this Worthy Brother was laid down some 47 years ago when as a mere 15 year old he became a member of The International Order of DeMolay, Dalisay Chapter, Tagum City, Philippines in 1976, and was installed Marshall of the chapter after a year.



Ariel worked in the Kingdom Saudi Arabia with Dallah Group of Companies under the Air Defence Project, from October 1983 to 1990 as Computer Programmer. As Masonry was not allowed in that country during those times he had to halt his pursuit of Masonry.

Ariel went back to settle in the Philippines at the start of the *Gulf War* in 1990 with his wife Annabelle and their first-born son but was recalled/re-instated to work in Saudi Arabia in October 1992 with Multilingual Computer Systems Company contracted under the Ministry of Defence and Aviation of King Faisal Military City, Southern Region Military Directorate as Systems Analyst / Programmer in charge of the automated bilingual General Ledger System, for another eight more years.

In 2006 Ariel was given the chance to work in the United Kingdom joining the health sector under the government's work permit scheme, with his wife and their son and daughter. The children started their first school in England and both of them are now qualified nurses.

The eagerness of becoming a Mason was still not met and Ariel sent numerous emails to different Masonic Lodges within our area signifying my interest of joining any lodge, but failed to receive any reply to his emails.

It was only in the year 2016, when a group of Filipino friends in Manchester got together to meet a visiting Filipino friend from Canada and Ariel was invited to join them. It was only then that he realised he was the only non-mason present on that occasion so started asking some of them if it is possible to join their lodge in Manchester, only to be told that he would need to wait for a few months to know if he could be accepted.

Worshipful Brother Jed Sindol of Deva Lodge being present and over-hearing the conversation, informed Ariel that he would make some clarifications about the dates that his lodge (Deva) would be accepting potential candidates and as they say, the rest is history.

Ariel was initiated into Freemasonry in Deva Lodge No. 3447 on the 5th of October 2016 and became a Master Mason on the 1st of March 2017. He says, *"those dates will never be forgotten throughout my masonic life – so mote it be"*

Worshipful Brother Ariel was Exalted as a Companion in Royal Arch, Belgrave Chapter on 13th December 2023

Ariel is presently permanently employed as a Nursing Assistant in Coronary Care Unit, Royal Stoke Hospital, NHS Trust of Stoke-on-Trent.



Several Royal Arch Companions, members of Deva Lodge, at the Exaltation of Companion Ariel Margallo at Belgrave Chapter, Queen Stret, Chester 13th December 2023.



A Busy Year in the Royal Arch

The Masonic season 2023-24 was a busy time for Deva Lodge activity within the Royal Arch. Two of our members occupied the 1st Principals Chair in their respective Chapters. W. Bro. Charles McIlwrick (Clarence) and W. Bro. Jed Sindol (Belgrave); Charles also had the support of W. Bro. Vaughan Marks as 3rd Principal in Clarence. Both Charles and Vaughan have agreed to extend their appointments for a further year. I must also add that our Lodge Secretary, W. Bro. Alan Johnson has been appointed as Scribe E. in Clarence Chapter – *he is clearly a workaholic !*

We have seen some more exaltations including Bro. David Lloyd-Williams into Clarence Chapter and one of the highlights of the year took place at Belgrave Chapter when W. Bro. Jed Sindol conducted an excellent exaltation ceremony, of our current Worshipful Master Ariel Margallo; a really pleasing feature of the evening was the attendance of 6 Deva members (and R. A. members) to support Jed and Ariel.

At Provincial level, I should record the well-deserved appointment of Worshipful Brother Michael D. Edwards to be Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies in the Royal Arch.

At the time of writing these notes, we have a total Craft membership of 44 including 2 permanently living overseas and a Fellowcraft which reduces numbers eligible to 41. Our total eligible Royal Arch membership, spread over several Chapters is 21 (including one in North Wales) gives a percentage of 51% Royal Arch members with, I believe, 2 more possible Exaltees in 2024-25 season. Not perfect but not too bad either. We hope for more.

Finally, I would like to record my own pleasure at being promoted to Past Provincial Scribe Nehemiah – the rank held by my father and his brother, both members of Deva Lodge until their deaths. They would be delighted.

W. Bro. Bill Willetts
Royal Arch Representative for Deva Lodge

Brethren of Deva Lodge now passed to the Grand Lodge Above

Brother Adrian Adams 1st November 2023

Worshipful Brother Philip Edward Brookes 2nd January 2024

Worshipful Brother Kenneth Royston Forster 24th June 2024

Forever Remembered

Deva Lodge No. 3447

www.devafreemasons.org.uk

**WBro Ariel Cuevas Margallo
Master**

Ceremony of the Vacant Chair Wednesday 6th November 2024

To be enacted by the Officers of the Lodge at Cheshire View
following a short regular (business meeting) of the Lodge at 6pm

A FREEMASONS ONLY EVENT

Dark Morning Dress (Black Tie) and White Gloves

The Festive Board afterwards will be a two-course meal.

Masons interested in attending the evening should contact the Lodge Dining
Steward, W. Bro. Charles McIlwrick – charles.mcilwrick@gmail.com



60 Years in Freemasonry and a Most Fascinating Story W Bro Stanley Herbert Griffiths, TD., PPSGW.

On Wednesday 6th March 2024 Deva Lodge celebrated the 60 years in Freemasonry of this Worthy Brother. Also in attendance were VWBro Judge Simon Medland, DPGM; Worshipful Brother Christopher Renshaw PSGD APGM (Area 5); and a deputation of Acting Provincial Officers.

The Worshipful Master Worshipful Brother Peter Michael Hughes vacated the Chair of King Solomon and the position was then taken by Worshipful Brother Christopher Renshaw who narrated the story of the life of Worshipful Brother Stanley Herbert Griffiths. Stanley was born on 9th January 1931 in Grassendale, Liverpool and shared his birthday with Les Dawson, Lionel Blair, Diana Dors and the Dutchess of Cambridge. Young Stan's father was in the Merchant Navy, so for the first seven years he was raised by his mother and due to the war they moved home a number of times, finally settling in Aigburth Vale, Liverpool. Stan left school aged 14 and worked in the docks at Birkenhead. When he was called up for National Service, he joined the Royal Artillery (Long Range Snipers) based at Oswestry. On de-mob, he was the first National Serviceman to join the Territorial Army and was required to serve four years at Hoylake Barracks. However, Stan served twelve years in the Wirral Battery based at Chetwynd, Birkenhead and received the princely sum of £20 bounty ! He was in due course awarded the Territorial Decoration for his service.

Following this, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master spoke at length directly to Worshipful Brother Stanley to congratulate him on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master and presented him with his 60 year certificate. The DPGM then surprised Stanley, who had been Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden at the start of the evening, by promoting him there and then, to Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden. This was met with spontaneous applause by all the Brethren present. Worshipful Brother Stanley was almost speechless but was later heard to say on several occasions, "Was I really promoted to Senior Grand Warden." He was also very reluctant to hand back the new collar and jewel loaned for the presentation, by Worshipful Brother Fraser Fowlie, PProvJGW the Acting Deputy Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The Worshipful Master also presented on behalf of the Brethren of Deva Lodge, a suitably engraved whisky glass and later, at the Festive Board also, a bottle of an excellent Single Malt Scotch Whisky most deserving of the occasion.

Stan met Jean, his wife to be in 1961 and they were married on 25th March 1964.

WBro Stanley's Masonic career started when he was Initiated into United Temperance Lodge No. 3107 on 26th November 1963, was Passed on 28th January 1964 and Raised on 24th March 1964. He was Installed as Worshipful Master in 1975 and again in 1985 and 2013. He was appointed PPRovAGDC in 1985, and promoted to PProvGSuptWks in 1993.

WBro Stan was so enthusiastic about joining Freemasonry that he arranged his wedding to take place the day after his 3rd Degree !

Stan extended his Masonic journey when he was Exalted into United Temperance Royal Arch Chapter No. 3107 on 6th December 1968 and remained a member for 42 years until it closed in 2010 and not content with that he went on to join many other Masonic Degrees and Orders here listed:

continued

Sincerity Mark No. 327

Advanced 26.10.1973 and Installed Master 27. 02. 1981.

Appointed PProvSGD in 1987 and promoted to PProvGMO in 1994.

Joppa Royal Ark Mariners No.11

Elevated 01.11.1986 appointed Commander 03.11.1990 and achieved Provincial Grand Rank 29.03.1999

Knights Templar Preceptory of St. David NO. 454 (N Wales)

Installed 19.07.1979 and was E.P. 22.01.1987 and went on to achieve Provincial Grand Rank as Captain of Guards 1989 with further Provincial promotions as Past Provincial Herald 1993; Provincial 2nd Constable 2000; and Past grand Aide de Camp 2007.

Masonic and Military Order Red Cross of Constantine

Wirral Conclave No.337 - Knight Commander 19.05.1981.

Neston Conclave No.382 - Founder Member 1985 and Most Puissant Sovereign 1991.

Order of the Secret Monitor Shield of St. David Conclave No. 345 - Inducted 1989; Supreme Leader 2001; Provincial Grand Bow

Bearer 2010. He was also Vice President of OSM Benevolent Fund.

Royal and Select Masters Birkenhead Council No. 43

Admitted and was select Royal and Excellent Master 1986;

Excellent Master 1987; Installed Thrice Illustrious Master 2012; and Past District Grand Conductor of Works 2013.

Grand Council Order of Allied Masonic Degrees Salem Council No. 28 -

Initiated 01.11.1986; Worshipful Master 1993;

Allied District Rank 1996; District Grand Senior Deacon 2000; and

Past Grand Inner Guard 2007.

Founder Member of Wirral Emeritus Council No. 169

Consecration 2001

Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord

Cheshire View Consistory No, 12 T1 -

Founder member 20.05.2009; Provincial Grand Standard Bearer in 2010.

Mercial Consistory No. 72 - Part of the Consecration Team 13.09.2011.

You may think that the above covers all of Worshipful Brother Stan's Masonic involvement. Owing to the time he spent in Spain he became involved in a number of Orders.

continued

These Orders met at Costa Nova Masonic Centre, Javea, Valencia.

Craft - Javea No. 40; Sprig of Acacia No. 43;

Puerto de Xabia No. 58; and Deportavia No. 83.

The above compiled and written by -

W.Bro Alan Johnson PProvGSuptWks, Secretary Deva Lodge, and W.Bro Charles McIlwrick MBE, PProvGSuptWks.

Other Masonic Honours being conferred on Brethren of Deva Lodge this year

Worshipful Brother Michael David Edwards; promotions to a Deputy Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies in Provincial Grand Chapter, and Past Deputy Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire (effective from September 2024).

Worshipful Brother Eric William Willetts; promotion to Past Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works.

Worshipful Brother David Allan Dalrymple; to an Acting Provincial Grand Steward.

Do keep in touch with these present and past members of Deva Lodge who are not always, for whatever reason, able to be with us in our lodge

Chris Sprake – Neil Collin – Russ Roberts - Alan Mawdsley – Stan Griffiths –

Ernie Symmons – Stewart Cummins – Mark Fortune – Les Bartley – David Kent –

Ashley Williamson and other brethren spread over the four quarters of the globe.

Once again, we enjoyed an excellent ceremony in February this year, followed by the Burns Night Festive Board.

The evening was a great success with 160 in attendance.

Represented were no less than 63 Lodges this year. As well as many members from Cheshire, we had visitors from North Wales. West Lancashire. Shropshire, Cornwall, London and even a guest from South Australia. This proves that Masonry draws together people from all walks of life and not only Lodges from Cheshire but other Provinces. I hope we continue to do so for many years.

Once again, we had our auction. This year it was a decanter of Barbados rum and a wooden garden seat which was made and donated by W Bro James Dandy. The auction raised £250 and the raffle £1000.

***We look forward to welcoming everyone in February 2025.
W. Bro. Charles McIlwrick. MBE., PProvGSuptWks***

The Master and Brethren of Deva Lodge No 3447 Extend a warm invitation to our lodge meeting on Wednesday 5th February 2025 at Cheshire View, Plough Lane, Christleton CH3 7PT

BURNS NIGHT



**The Pipes & Drums of the Scots Guards Association
with address to the haggis and Grand Raffle**

The Festive Board is a special menu fitting for the occasion! Haggis, Neeps & Tatties and a wee bottle of 'gravy' - Roast Pork with all the trimmings - Scottish Oatcakes with a selection of cheeses. Cost to be confirmed.

Lodge commences at 6.00pm.

Masonic Brethren only.

BOOK A TABLE FOR YOUR LODGE NOW

Booking forms with payment by Thursday 16th January 2025 please to

W. Bro Charles McIlwrick, 35, Haymakers Way, Saughall, Chester

CH1 6AR Tel: 01244 880726

email: charles.mcilwrick@gmail.com

Freemasons at the forefront of technology

Freemasons might not realise it, but we have been at the forefront of technology and security for hundreds, if not thousands, of years. These days, many of us will have a security token that we need to use to access our bank or other important accounts. The thinking is that we need something other than just a username and password to prove who we are and keep our valuables safe.

Today, we call this two-factor authentication, and I'm sure all of us will recognise how Freemasons have used this concept for centuries to identify ourselves when required.

So, for full disclosure, I am a 'techie'. In the last 40 years, I have worked with everything from the mighty (sic) Colossus at Bletchley Park, which arguably won us WW2, to today's cloud computing and the Internet of Things, which is making its presence felt in everyone's homes through Amazon Alexa and in other forms.

As a relatively new Mason, I was surprised to hear that many Brethren didn't know that Deva Lodge had a website. The current site was conceived to commemorate our 100th anniversary of Deva Lodge in 2010, which it did with aplomb.

Fourteen years on, it was clear that a refresh was required, but what does a Freemason need with or from a website, as creating a new website that serves no real purpose or need would surely be a fruitless endeavour?

Being a new Mason, I had always hoped to have somewhere to go for insight from our Lodge Mentor, advice on thumb up or thumb down, words to the opening/closing hymns, dealing with our daily superfluous knobs and excrescences(sic) etc. To be honest, until recently, if someone mentioned 'Masonic Fire', I would have probably been looking for a fire extinguisher!

So, to get answers to these questions, I found myself engaging with other lodges and using their resources to answer my questions...

So, I have taken this on board when creating our a new website, It is nothing earthshaking at first, but a platform for the following information:

- About Deva Lodge who we are and our history
- External blog about our charitable works, lots of pictures with our brethren and our new oversized novelty cheque ☺
- Information about events, Burns night Etc some visible just to members and some for public view.
- A secured page that only the Brethren or Deva Lodge can access
- A place for Entered Apprentice/Fellowcraft Freemason to get useful information relative to their degree, where to buy regalia, words to our common hymns etc.
- What are our dues and dining fees and other useful information
- 100 Club members/winners
- Menu requests/dietary requirements
- Suggestions for Solomon readings (whatever these are)
- Concerns or requests to be raised at committee that you might not feel comfortable raising during the Lodge.

The initial revamped site has been created with guidance from Provincial HQ and the UGLE, it just falls to me to get final committee approval before publishing it to all, but it would be great to have any other requests from Brethren as to other features that you would like to see...

Whatever it is please, let me know, as the website is a powerful tool, helping to keep the public and other Masons and Brethren up to date, whilst ensuring that our lodge reputation is maintained, and we have a safe secure space for Deva Lodge.

Bro. Dale Cullum
Deva Lodge

Remember also to view Masonic Websites regularly to keep up to date with what is happening in Freemasonry.

www.devafreemasons.org.uk

www.cheshiremasons.co.uk

www.ugle.org.uk



Visit the new
Province of Cheshire
Website



The Royal Arch
take your next step in
Freemasonry



Cheshire
Freemasons Charity
for online donations



Visit the Solomon Website
for your daily advancement
of Masonic Knowledge

The Tunnah Manuscript

Cheshire Provincial Grand Stewards Chapter No. 3449
Cheshire View Saturday 12th October 2024 at 1100 hrs

Royal Arch Members are invited to embark on a journey back in time with the Province of Cheshire Demonstration Team for an unforgettable experience as we dive into the Royal Arch workings of the 1850s. Numbers are limited so be quick.

Got questions or want to reserve your spot ? Email the Scribe E:
stewardschapter3449@gmail.com or get a form from
<https://forms.gle/kfqC9oshdUKRPgUA9>

ROYAL ARCH MASONS - don't miss out on this incredible opportunity

CHARITY - *the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart*

Charity has always been a priority in Deva Lodge's freemasonry as illustrated by the calibre of brethren who have held office as Charity Steward – W. Bro. Fred Richardson and R. Matthews-Jones, both founder members of the lodge; and more recently, W. Bros. Gordon Glover, Charles McIlwrick, Mike Hogg (for over 20 years) and Bill Willetts who is proud to have followed in his father Eric Willetts who was Charity Steward 1958 - 1972. 2024 sees another stalwart of Deva Lodge, Worshipful Brother Vaughan Marks taking over the reins. Vaughan was Worshipful Master 2006 – 2007 and a long serving Lodge Treasurer between 2007 and 2019.

Due in no small part to the continued success of the Deva 100 Club, as well as other regular raffles etc raising more money at Festive Boards, we have been able to maintain a healthy balance of funds from which the Lodge has been able to support a number of charities as well as making ongoing contributions towards the 2027 Festival for the Masonic Charitable Foundation. We are also mindful to keep funds in reserve with which to make modest offers of 'emergency support' to a brother, or a widow of the lodge in time of need, when called upon.

We are thankful to the brethren who support the 100 Club and continue to donate to the Lodge Charity Fund. We will not however, 'badger' brethren for donations remaining conscious of that important caveat familiar to every Mason of only ever making, "such a claim on his on his charity as his circumstances in life may fairly warrant." Charity must always be a matter for each individuals own conscience.

And from Mark Fleming the Hall Manager at Cheshire View

I am pleased to report that the Cheshire View Masonic has been supported by both the Company, Lodges and other Orders in making donations to local good causes and charities following the pandemic.

The Cheshire View Masonic Benevolent Association continues to seek your support whenever possible, as it is essential that the Association maintains its charitable status.

Any donations that an individual Lodge or Order is looking to award should be channelled through the CVMBA. Please ensure that your Charity Steward and/or Treasurer is aware of any requests.

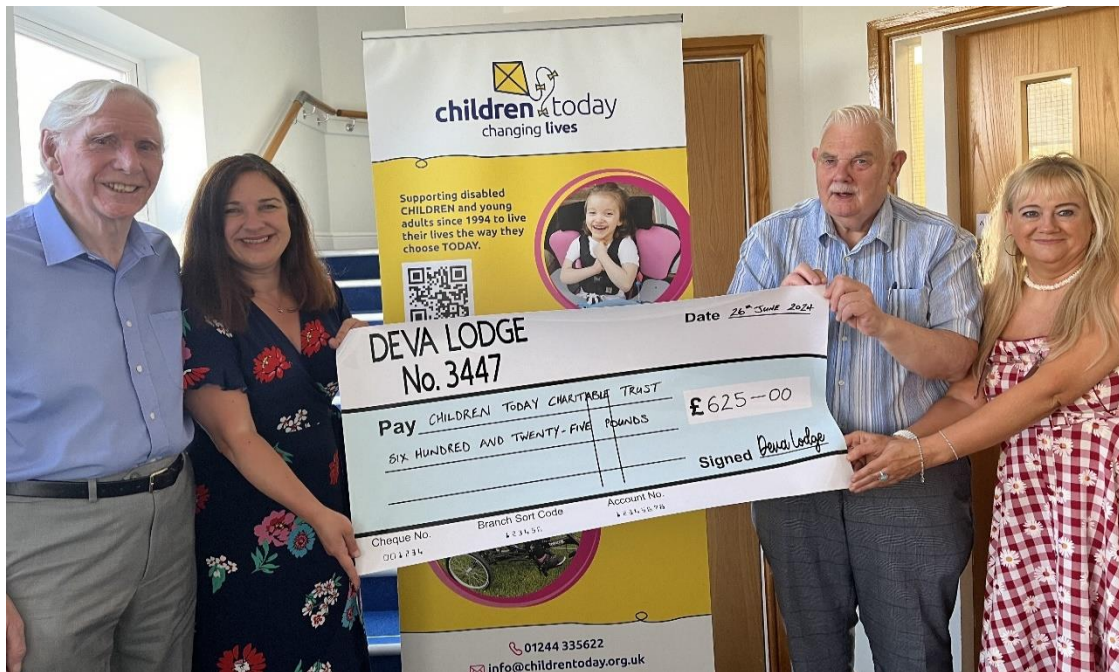
If you are aware of any local good causes or charities which you think would benefit from the CVMBA, then please write to the Hall Secretary, Samantha Platt - samantha.p@chesireview.co.uk with the full details.

In April 2024 Deva Lodge also donated a further £500 towards the 2027 Cheshire Festival fund for the Masonic Charitable Foundation

Deva Lodge this year have presented cheques to three local charities, £625 each including 25% enhancement by Cheshire Freemasons Charity.



Worshipful Brothers Alan Johnson and Martin Owen with Angie Lopez Interim Head of Fundraising, the Countess Charity.



Worshipful Brothers Charles McIlwrick MBE and Alan Johnson with Charity Director Emma Prescott and Laura Boyd Children & Family Manager. CHILDREN TODAY CHARITABLE TRUST

The third charity to receive a similar donation was - ALMOST HOME DOG RESCUE.



Bro. Chris Sprake of Deva Lodge, Vice President of Clarks Retail, America’s and Canada, based in Massachusetts USA arranged for 4 x £100 Clarks vouchers to be sent to us at the lodge. These were in turn donated to the local charities:

- Charles Thompson Mission**
- Children Today**
- SHARE**
- Save the Family.**

Picture left:
Worshipful Brothers Alan Johnson & Graham Woodcock with Centre Manager Bernie Frost, Charles Thompson Mission.



Worshipful Brothers Alan Johnon & Bill Willetts with Viv Devlin, Charity Manager and other members of staff at the SHARE shop in Chester.

Worshipful Brothers Charles McIlwrick & Alan Johnson present a Clarks voucher to Jessie and Orly, Community Engagement Officers for SAVE THE FAMILY.



CHILDREN TODAY Charity Director Emma Prescott receiving a Clarks voucher from Worshipful Brother Alan Johnson, Secretary of Deva Lodge.

Sincere greetings from Worshipful Master Neil Collin, Motherland Lodge No 8861.

A letter of thanks was received from the Charity Steward of same, for the generous donation of £250 from Deva Lodge on the occasion of the Installation of the present Worshipful Brother Neill Collin. The donation was "faithfully applied" towards the two charities declared by him during his year of office namely the Commonwealth Association "School in a Box" initiative, and the Metropolitan Air Ambulance Appeal.



Brother Neil Collin (left) had previously been a regular visitor to Deva Lodge while temporarily working in the Chester area.

That's Entertainment

Clarence Lodge has a great record of arranging of arranging first class social evenings that bring in much needed social and charity funds as several Deva members who support them can vouch for.

James & Richie *Soul Party* on Saturday evening 19th October 2024 7.30 pm for 8 pm. A lively party duo featuring two outstanding singers whose voices blend wonderfully well with close harmonies covering classic hits for Soul and Motown guaranteeing to get you partying on the dance floor.

Tickets are £30 including Mixed Buffet served at your table with tea and coffee. (Licenced Bar too, of course.) Dress Code – Smart Casual. To reserve your tickets contact Mike Holmes on 0151 357098 (W) or 01244 311227 (H) Email: clarencelodge2386@gmail.com

And Finally, the Treasurer. . .

The Deva News, which is issued in September, provides me with the opportunity to update you with regard to the finances of the Lodge.

I am very pleased to confirm that the Lodge finances remain in good shape and this is again because of you, the Brethren. As a Lodge we have managed to maintain income and have kept expenditure under control. It reflects well on Deva Lodge that we were able to pay our Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge dues again on time, well done to all.

Going forward, I will be preparing and presenting a budget to the October Committee meeting, for consideration and once agree, we will present it to the Brethren.

As a reminder, your dues or subscriptions are due on the 1st January each year. There are a number of ways to pay and you can also spread the cost by paying by Standing Order at the bank. The bank account details are as follows:

Bank:	HSBC
Account Name:	Deva Lodge No 3447
Sort Code:	40-17-14
Account Number:	70292435

If you have any questions, please contact me directly on 07973 227704 or 01978 761425 or by email: dadalrymple@btinternet.com

Thank you for your continued support.

WBro David Dalrymple – Treasurer Deva Lodge