



## ESSEX PROVINCIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

# NEWSLETTER

### Essex Masonic Library and Museum

2 Station Court  
Station Approach  
Wickford SS11 7AT

#### Patron

R.W. Bro. John Michael Webb  
PGM

#### Vice Patrons

V.W. Bro Peter Holland  
DPGM  
E. Comp. I. B. Gorman  
DGS

#### Chairman

W/Bro Andrew Bishop  
PGS.

#### Librarian and Curator

W/Bro Pierre Waddoups

#### Assistants

W/Bro Peter Smith  
W/Bro Brian Catermole

#### Honorary Librarian and Curator

W/Bro Mark Perkins TD

#### Library and Museum

#### Opening Hours

Every Tuesday  
10.00 - 13.00  
Other times by  
appointment

#### Contact

W/Bro Pierre Waddoups  
pwaddoups.eplam@yahoo.co.uk

## Thomas Harper and his legacy

Among jewel designers, Thomas Harper (1736–1832) is a legend, having produced some of the most exquisite jewels for the Craft and the Royal Arch. Today, a Harper jewel can change hands for several hundred, even thousands of pounds, such is their monetary value, which is equitable to their beauty of design.



The jewels pictured are not Harper jewels, per se, but without him, it can be confidently asserted that design and manufacture, would not have progressed as far as it has today. The jewels in the picture, have been donated by Bro. David Cornell, who is a member of Easterford Lodge, but who now lives and conducts his Freemasonry in Australia and who is a friend of W/Bro. Graham Cannon, who needs no introduction. It was Graham, thankfully, who was instrumental in negotiating with David Cornell, in having these jewels donated to the Library and Museum.

I hope you can see the beauty, in this wonderful array of Australian jewels, which are the result of Thomas Harper's legacy in jewel design.

We are thrilled that our attempts to show; Masonic regalia, jewels, books and ephemera from around the world, have had such an initial boost with this generous donation of the jewels, from David Cornell, to whom we are extremely grateful.

Thomas Harper, was an Athol Mason, but had a foot in both Masonic camps, being a member of the Lodge of Antiquity from 1792 and serving as a Grand Steward in the Moderns' Grand Lodge in 1796. He was expelled from Grand Lodge in 1796. Why?

In September, *The Southchurch Masonic Study Circle* will be hosting a Talk, given by W/Bro. Allan De Luca, dealing with the life and times of Sir Columbine Daniel, Founder of the Royal Masonic Institute for Boys, who, incidentally had acrimonious dealings with Thomas Harper.

W/Bro Pierre Waddoups

Issue 4 June 2011

## News from your Library and Museum

### Stisted Garden Party



The Library and Museum is to hold its second 'Road Show' at Stisted this year.

It proved to be a resounding success last year, not only because visitors were made aware of the work of the Library and Museum, but also several people donated on a permanent Loan Basis, many objects, books, pictures and some written material. We had many requests linked to Family History Research, where we were able to assist in tracing the Masonic Careers of many Essex Masons.



As you can see from the picture taken at last year's Garden Party, the staff worked tirelessly all day...

We shall be having a **book sale** These will be priced very modestly. So you can easily form a library of some of the classic books of reference, as well of those of a more general nature.

### Who was it said 'Freemasons don't read?'

The Library and Museum are periodicals such as; the *Quatuor Coronati Lodge*, the *Bristol Masonic Society*, name just three. Recently, I was in editor of the *Bristol Masonic* arranged that we have large delivered to us, free of charge

This will mean that our Reference Museum will greatly enhanced and have an in depth resource that we will mean a great many topic areas adequately served.



subscribers to many *Transactions of the The Square Magazine* and (*Corona Gladiorum*) to conversation with the Society and he has kindly number of back issues

Section at the Library and will enable researchers to can all be proud of and it will be more than

### Loans and Donations

Loans and donations continue to arrive and they are not restricted to the Craft and the Royal Arch, either.

We now have many items from the Mark, Royal and Select Masters, The Knights Templar, etc.

Regalia is something else that is often donated from the family of a deceased Brother. We have a new facility to enable us to display items of regalia, which incorporates an 'In Memoriam' to departed merit.

Do please try and come along to see some of these innovations.