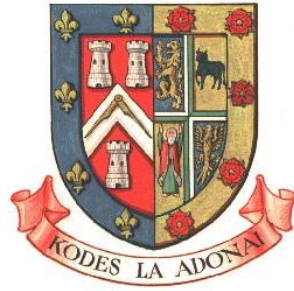


**PROVINCE OF WEST LANCASHIRE**



**50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
OF  
W.BRO. BRYAN FREDERICK MILNER**

**POULTON LE SANDS LODGE NO. 1051,  
AT THE MASONIC HALL < DERBY STREET < MORECAMBE  
ON 23rd OCTOBER 2019**

## 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF W.BRO. BRYAN FREDERICK MILNER

Brethren we are here this evening to celebrate 50 years as a Freemason with Bryan Frederick Milner, Past Provincial Deputy Grand Superintendent of Works of the Province of West Lancashire and both he and I are very grateful for your attendance and your support this evening. You know, brethren, to be a member of any organisation for 50 years is a remarkable achievement and something that many of us, myself included, are very unlikely to achieve. It is, therefore, very appropriate for Bryans friends and colleagues to celebrate this special occasion with him and I know he will be delighted that you are all here tonight.

In order to fully appreciate such length of service it might be helpful to remember some of the things that were happening throughout the world in 1969 when Bryan Frederick Milner took his first steps in Freemasonry:

- Prince Charles was invested with the title 'Prince of Wales' in a televised ceremony, at Caernarfon.
- The British-built prototype of the Anglo-French supersonic airliner 'Concorde 002', made her maiden flight and the Harrier Jump Jet entered service with the RAF.
- The world's largest aeroplane, the Boeing 747, made its first-ever commercial flight.
- Buzz Aldrin, Michael Collins, and Neil Armstrong, flew to the moon in Apollo 11 and Neil Armstrong became the first human being to set foot on the moon and uttered the immortal words "***That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.***"
- Dwight D. Eisenhower, a former United States General and President, died in the Walter Reed Army Medical Centre, after a long illness and Richard Nixon, became the 37th president of the United States of America.

- Robin Knox-Johnston became the first person to sail around the world without stopping and entirely on his own.
- In October 1969, the internet was born when computers at the University of California, Los Angeles, known more familiarly as UCLA and Stanford Research Institute were linked together but it then percolated for years as complex, near-impenetrable masses of data stored in computers around the world. The information was accessible only to scientists and government agencies who knew precisely how and where to look. Online technology would evolve for more than two decades before it would become practical for everyone to use it as we do today.
- And most importantly, as far as this evening is concerned, on the 19th June 1969, at the Masonic Hall, Church Street, Lancaster, Mr. Bryan Frederick Milner was initiated as a Freemason and took his first steps in Rowley Lodge No. 1051.

**Bro Prov Dep Grand DC would you please place our Celebrant before me so that I might address him.**

Bryan, we have known each other for a considerable time and I am sure you will not mind if we now lower the formalities a little and address each other by our christian names.

You were born in Lancaster and in due time you attended Lancaster Road Primary School. You later moved on to Bentham Grammar School between 1954 and 1960 and later still to the Leicester School of Building at Leicester University. You met your lovely wife Patricia, affectionately known as Tricia and you were married in October 1970.

In your business life you were elected a Professional Associate of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in 1967. In 1973 you were invited to become a partner in the firm of Harrison, Willis & Moore, Chartered Surveyors of Lancaster, Morecambe and Barrow in Furness, where you remained until your retirement in 1998. In 1999 you joined the Lancaster City Councils Private Housing Department working on the regeneration of Morecambe and continued in that occupation until 2008.

In other areas of the local community the list of your achievements is extremely impressive. You became a member of the Rotary Club of Morecambe & Heysham and you were elected President in 1982/83. When you were Chairman of the Rotary Clubs Community Service Committee, you were involved in organising a sponsored swim at the Bubbles complex on Morecambe Promenade, just before it's official opening, an event which raised over £4000 for charity. In your own words "a good example of putting into practice the Rotary ethos of Service above Self."

You were a Trustee of Age Concern Morecambe at the Rainbow Centre, Clarence Street, Morecambe until your retirement in 2013.

In 1988 you were appointed a Justice of the Peace when your sponsor was none other than RW Bro. James Anthony Harrison our Provincial Grand Master and I know we are all delighted that he has managed to find time in his crazy schedule to be with us tonight. You served as a Justice of the Peace on the Lancaster Bench and you became an approved Chairman of the Adult Court, the Family Panel and Gaming Committee and you were also a member of the Licensing Committee until it was disbanded.

In 2008 you received a long service award for your work as a Justice of the Peace from Lord Shuttleworth, the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire.

You were a Board member, Chairman and subsequently, Trustee of the Morecambe and Heysham Citizens Advice Bureau, retiring when it merged with the Lancaster Bureau. However, your involvement saw a move from a small and cramped terrace house on Poulton Road, via temporary offices on West Street into the Bureaus present home on Queen Street, which was adapted with the help of Lottery funding to be totally accessible and large enough to house the staff and volunteers.

You are also a former member of the Lancashire County Cricket Club and a Sidesman and Lay Reader at the Morecambe Parish Church.

Your masonic journey began on 19th June 1969 when, poor and penniless, you were initiated into Rowley Lodge No. 1051, meeting at the Masonic Hall, Church Street, Lancaster. You were proposed by a well known brother, who later became both your business partner and an Assistant Provincial Grand Master of this Province, Edward Peter Saunders, PSGD, was an exceptional Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies and a brother that I am extremely grateful to for inspiring me to follow a similar masonic path.

**I would now like to ask our Bro Secretary to read an extract from the minutes of your Initiation.**

I am sure those names mentioned bring back many happy memories and thus began a long and distinguished journey in freemasonry.

Brother Bryan, following your initiation, you progressed through the various offices of Rowley Lodge and you were installed as the WM in 1985, 2000 and 2005. You are the only person to have been the WM of Rowley Lodge on three occasions since its consecration in 1865 but you still managed to find the time in between to be the Assistant Director of Ceremonies and for a brief spell 2003/2004, the Director of Ceremonies. You were a member of the working party set up to pursue the amalgamation of Rowley Lodge with Poulton Hall Lodge No. 6647 and Sandylands Lodge No.5702 and after the settled will was agreed, you became the Assistant Director of Ceremonies at a magnificent amalgamation ceremony which took place at the Dome on Morecambe Promenade on 14th March 2007, in order to accommodate the large numbers that wished to attend. I had the privilege on that occasion to be one of the Deputy Grand Directors of Ceremony on duty.

In November 1990 you became a Founder member of Plantagenet Lodge of Installed Masters No. 9357 and you were the Chaplain of that Lodge from 2007 to 2015.

You are currently a Director of both the Lancaster Masonic Hall Company and the Morecambe Masonic Hall Company.

In Provincial Grand Lodge, you received a first appointment, in May 1998, to the rank of Past Provincial Assistant Grand Superintendent of Works. You were promoted in October 2005 to the rank of Past Provincial Senior Grand Deacon and in October 2012 to Past Provincial Deputy Grand Superintendent of Works.

In the Royal Arch you were exalted into Rowley Chapter No. 1051, on 18th December 1972, also at the Masonic Hall, Church Street, Lancaster. You were installed as Most Excellent Zerubbabel on 20th November 2006 and again on the 21st November 2011. On the 6th March 2007 you became a Joining Member of Vale Chapter of Installed Principals No. 5256 and on 25th August 2010 you were installed as Most Excellent Zerubbabel.

In Provincial Grand Chapter you were appointed to the Acting rank of PrGStdB in 2012 and, subsequently, promoted to the rank of PPrGSoj in 2016.

**IN THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE or ROSE CROIX**

as it is more familiarly known you were perfected into Morecambe Chapter No. 313 in January 2001.

You were Installed as Most Wise Sovereign in 2011 and elected to the 30th degree in 2012 and you are currently the Chapters Director of Ceremonies.

W.Bro. Bryan, having served as a Freemason for 50 years our PGM, James Anthony Harrison, wishes me to convey to you, his heartiest congratulations on this outstanding milestone in your Masonic journey.

As the head of this great Province of West Lancashire, he has issued a Certificate to commemorate this very special day, and I would now ask our Group Chairman Neil McGill to read this Certificate to you and all the Brethren present.

Bryan, it would be usual at this point for me to present you with this 50 year Certificate in order to commemorate this milestone in your Freemasonry. However, as it has been issued by the PGM and he is with us this evening, I am sure he would wish to make the presentation himself.