

Duke of Lancaster Lodge No 1353

The history of the third oldest Lodge in Lancaster began with its consecration as the Duke of Lancaster Lodge No 1353, in the Masonic Lodge Room, Athenaeum on 12 July, 1871.

The lodge was consecrated by WBro Thos Wylie, PrGReg a member of lodges No 56 and 292; The Rev. H.G Vernon, MA, PrGChaplain; James Hamer, PrGTreasurer; G H Hobson, Lodge No 477 and PPrGChap of Cheshire; Joseph Sheaf, PGOrg; Thos Armstrong, PPrGD; WM. Laidlow, PGSW; J D Moore, MD, GStB Eng; together with numerous officers and brethren of the Lodge of Fortitude No 281, the mother lodge of the Duke of Lancaster.

Bro Christopher Hartley was the first Master, Bro John Barrow was Senior Warden, Bro John Bell was Junior Warden and Bro William Heald was Secretary

An emergency meeting was held on 31 March. 1885 when it was proposed and seconded that on and after 18 April 1885 the lodge be removed from the Athenaeum, St. Leonardgate, to the new Masonic Hall, Church Street and that the first bye-law be altered accordingly. This was approved and signed DGM, RWPGM and by W Goodacre, PrGSecretary on 10 April, 1885.

The first meeting of the Duke of Lancaster Lodge to be held in the new Masonic Hall, was on the 15 April, 1885, progressing through the years to the present day.

The lodge meets on the third Wednesday of each month, July and August excepted, at 7:00pm, the Installation taking place during the month of January at 4:00pm.

An Old English night is held in October and following the December, business meeting, the ladies are invited to join the brethren at the festive board which culminates in a relaxed sing-a-long of Christmas carols.

Non-Masons are also made welcome at the Ladies Evening usually held in April and at other social events which take place during each WM's year.

We are a friendly Lodge and welcome any brother as a visitor to share our comradeship.