

Hartington Lodge No 1021

The Early Days Of Masonry in Barrow.

The Formation of The First Lodge.

As a pleasant retrospect it may be as well to reprint here, showing as it does, that even in an association with extensive

“MASONRY. To The Craft. If the brethren who are wishful of having a lodge formed in Lonsdale, North of the Sands, will communicate with the undersigned, steps will be taken for that Purpose.

Signed: J. Allison, MD”



Barrow Masonic Hall



Hartington Lodge Banner

Some correspondence took place amongst the brethren, and it was first proposed that a lodge be formed at the Furness

Abbey Hotel, to enrol the whole of those masons in the district, then but a few individuals.

To show the slow progress made in those days, and although frequent recurrence was made to the subject, it was not until August, 1864, that the first lodge in Barrow was formed.

On Tuesday, 9th August, 1864, by command of the Provincial Grand Master, the Hartington Lodge No. 1021 in the register of the Grand Lodge of England, was consecrated in the Royal Hotel, Strand, Barrow

Dr Allison was then installed in the chair and appointed and invested his Wardens.

Extracts taken from the early Minute Books

Regular Lodge, Held At The Royal Hotel, Strand, Barrow, 8th November, 1864 Proposed by brother Allison, and seconded by brother Worrall, that James Ramsden, Esq., Secretary and General Manager of the Furness Railway Co., of Abbots Wood, Barrow, being a fit and proper person, to be initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry.

Regular Lodge, 10th July, 1866

Brother Manclarke proposed and Brother Hunter seconded, that Bro. Henry Cook, secretary to the Furness Railway Co., become a joining member of Hartington Lodge.

Regular Lodge, 10th June 1878

It was resolved that the lodge be closed during the months of July and August, also September, 1878.

4th May, 1879

The Secretary was requested to obtain from Provincial Grand Lodge the correct preparation of a candidate for initiation.

Ramifications as the one under notice, a gathering hand is required to re-assemble those who are scattered over land and water, pursuing their respective avocations and embody them to advantage and usefulness.

In a new and comparatively remote place like Barrow, this was an object of some difficulty, and Dr Allison's advertisement, which is as follows, may be taken as a prelude to the formation of the Lodges of North Lonsdale.