

The Robert Lomas podcast initiative #RLPI

Synopsis of podcasts offered to Masonic lodges

1. Craft Masonic instruction - first degree

1.1 The secrets of the entered apprentice degree by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: A symbolic overview of the ceremony of initiation. Intended to be given to a new apprentice soon after his initiation in order to help him understand the ritual meaning of the event.

Duration 20 mins

1.2 Ritual lecture of the first degree tracing board by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The full ritual description of the tracing board that is usually delivered in open lodge or a lodge of instruction. This is would normally be given for the new apprentice in front of the lodge's own tracing board, As the lodge board will not be available while lodges cannot meet an image pdf of the standard Lewis first degree tracing board is sent with this podcast. The image is provided with the permission of the copyright holder, Lewis Masonic.

Duration 18 mins

1.3 The three Grand Masters by Graham Chisnell

Synopsis: A description and explanation of the three Grand Masters, introduced during the tracing board with a description of their pillars and roles in the lodge.

Duration 7 mins

1.4 Addressing real Freemasonry by Julian Rees

Synopsis: What is really at the core of our Masonic belief and practice? Is it charitable giving or the search for higher rank? In this podcast we concentrate on our relationship with TGAOTU and the spiritual path we need to follow, in order to complete our search for knowledge of the self.

Duration 14 mins

1.5 Section 1 of the first degree catechistic lectures by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: This is the first in a seven-part series of ritual lectures, couched in the form a catechism, or series of questions and answers, which explains a range of different aspects of the first degree in Freemasonry. Section 1 deals with the question, 'What is Freemasonry?' and where might the Key to it be found?

Duration 10 mins

1.6 Section 2 of the first degree catechistic lectures by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: This is the second in a seven-part series of ritual lectures, couched in the from a catechism, or series of questions and answers, which explains a range of different aspects of the first degree in Freemasonry. Section 2 deals with the mode of preparation and the nature of the obligation.

Duration 20 mins

1.7 A Quest for a grand geometrician by Graham Chisnell

Synopsis: A light-hearted look at the reasons why geometry is so revered in Freemasonry with wide ranging ideas on possible contenders for the role of a Grand Geometrician of the Order. Covering the insights of Pythagoras down to Leonardo da Vinci but ending on a suggestion that the Craft may offer a contender for the role in another degree. Despite its title the podcast is quite suitable for an entered apprentice.

Duration 24 mins

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2. Craft Masonic Instruction - Second Degree

2.1 The secrets of the second degree by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: A symbolic overview of the ceremony of passing. Intended to be given to a newly passed fellow craft soon after their initiation in order to help them understand the ritual meaning of the event.

Duration 27 mins

2.2. Ritual lecture of the second degree tracing board by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The full ritual description of the tracing board that is usually delivered in open lodge or a lodge of instruction. This would normally be given for the new fellow craft in front of the lodge's own tracing board, As the lodge board will not be available while lodges cannot meet an image of the standard Lewis second degree tracing board will be sent with this podcast. The image is provided with the permission of the copyright holder, Lewis Masonic.

Duration 9 mins

3. Craft Masonic Instruction - Third Degree *remove extra space

3.1 The secrets of the third degree by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: A symbolic overview of the ceremony of raising. Intended to be given to a newly raised master Mason soon after their raising in order to help them understand the ritual meaning of the event.

Duration 27 mins

3.2 The traditional history of third degree by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The full ritual description of the third degree that is usually delivered in open lodge or a lodge of instruction soon after their raising.

Duration 15 mins

3.3 Ritual lecture of the third-degree tracing board by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The full ritual description of the tracing board that is usually delivered in open lodge or a lodge of instruction. This would normally be given for the new master Mason in front of the lodge's own tracing board, As the lodge board will not be available while lodges cannot meet an image of the standard Lewis third degree tracing board is sent with this podcast. The image is provided with the permission of the copyright holder, Lewis Masonic.

Duration 5 mins

3.4 The three ruffians by Dr David Harrison

Synopsis: A detailed discussion of the symbolic significance of the ruffians who are introduced in the Traditional History of the ceremony of raising. Intended to be given to a newly passed master Mason soon after their raising in order to help them understand the ritual meaning of the event.

Duration 7 mins

3.5 All the working tools of a master Mason by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: An investigation into the full set of nine working tools of a master Mason and how they can be understood in the context of modern project management techniques.

Duration 19 mins

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4. Royal Arch (Only suitable for members of chapter)

4.1 The Platonic solids in Royal Arch by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The full ritual description of the symbolism Platonic solids in the context of furniture of the chapter and related to the seal of Solomon, banners and W L Wilmshurst's tracing board of the centre. The image of the diagrams of the Platonic solids will be sent with this podcast.

Duration 16 mins

4.2 The chapter jewel part 1 by Graham Chisnell

Synopsis: A description and explanation of symbolism of the obverse aspect of the jewel of a companion of the Royal Arch. The companions should have their jewel to hand when listening to the podcast.

Duration 15 mins

4.3 The chapter jewel part 2 by Graham Chisnell

Synopsis: A description and explanation of symbolism of the reverse aspect of the jewel of a companion of the Royal Arch. The companions should have their jewel to hand when listening to the podcast.

Duration 12 mins

5. General Masonic interest (Podcasts suitable for all degrees)

5.1 A podcast about podcasts by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: This is a sample podcast to demonstrate how the system works and to explain the inspiration behind creating it can be freely distributed to lodges and their members who are interested in joining the podcast initiative #RLPI. It should be accompanied with a copy of the guidance for podcast facilitators which will be found in the same folder. Its function is to demonstrate the system and explain the terms and conditions of use for a lodge to consider before they join the initiative.

Duration 11 mins

5.2 The Suffragettes and Freemasonry by WBro Christine Chapman

Synopsis: A brief history of the beginning of women's Freemasonry and its regular origins, covering the role of our female brethren in the suffragette movement. A personal insight from the current Grand Master of the Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemasons (Freemasonry for Women)

Duration 16 mins

5.3 The nature of a supreme being by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: A live recording of an after-dinner talk delivered at The Warrington Group Dinner in the Province of West Lancs in April 2019. The full title set by the group for Dr Lomas was, A discussion of the nature of a supreme being from the viewpoint of a quantum physicist. As this talk was not delivered in a lodge and it covers some issues of religious belief.

Duration 26 mins

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5.4 The future of Freemasonry by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: A discussion of the history and future of Freemasonry in terms of membership and recruitment. There are a series of graphs referenced in the talk which are supplied in the image of the graphs for the 'Future of Freemasonry' with this podcast. This talk was delivered as a podcast a week before the lockdown occurred and so does not discuss the problem of not being able to meet.

Duration 24 mins

5.5 The Kirkwall scroll by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The Kirkwall scroll, an early Masonic floor cloth owned by Lodge Kirkwall Kilwinning in Orkney, has been radiocarbon dated to circa 1480. Its history is traced back to the very first recorded Masonic lodge in Aberdeen. This podcast explains the history of the scroll, and its origins, as well as looking at how the symbolism has inspired our present Craft. Images of the Kirkwall scroll will be sent with this podcast.

Duration 18 mins

5.6 Working together - HFAF and UGLE by WBro Maxime Priestley

Synopsis: WBro Maxime Priestley is the grand secretary of HFAF The Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemason (Freemasonry for Women) and chair of the HFAF Universities Scheme. In this podcast she explains how HFAF and UGLE are working together with the Universities Scheme to ensure that all potential university candidates for Freemasonry are offered equal opportunities to learn about 'Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth' no matter if they are women or men.

Duration 10 mins

5.7 HFAF's trip to India by WBro Christine Chapman

Synopsis: The story of how the Grand Lodge of the Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemasons set up their first women's lodge in India. Taking the seed of a single Indian female master Mason over a single week the Grand Lodge, under the leadership of WBro Christine took 20 candidates for Freemasonry through all their degrees, taught them the basic offices of the lodge and then consecrated the first HFAF lodge in India.

Duration 16 mins

6. Masonic Heroes (Podcasts suitable for all degrees)

6.1 Elias Ashmole by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The story of Elias Ashmole, warts and all, as written in his own diary entries. Elias Ashmole is the second Mason to be recorded as being made on English soil in Warrington during the English Civil War. His own diary entries shine an interesting light on the man himself, why he became a Mason and some of his more unusual passions, as well as explaining his relationship with Oliver Cromwell's brother-in-law whilst being captain in the King's army.

Duration 27 mins

6.2 Thomas Telford by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The story of Thomas Telford, the famous Scottish civil engineer and Freemason. Among his many achievements Telford built the magnificent Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, near Wrexham, and the A5 road from London to Holyhead, which crossed the Menia Straits on the suspension bridge he designed. He also established The Institution of Civil Engineers. This podcast explores his Masonic

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career and investigates the influence of Masonic philosophy in his work. Images from this podcast will be sent with the podcast

Duration 24 mins

6.3 George Stephenson part 1 by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The story of the early life of George Stephenson, explaining how and where he became a Freemason. It also looks at the influence certain well-connected Freemasons had on helping inspire George's interest in steam engineering.

Duration 20 mins

6.4 George Stephenson part 2 by Robert Lomas

Synopsis: The story of George Stephenson and his son Robert and how they became the leading railway engineers who built most of the National Rail Network we still use today. It tells the story of George's first working locomotive, the Stockton and Darlington line, the Liverpool and Manchester line and the success of The Rocket at the Rainhill trials. It also looks at the Masonic influences in George's life and how it inspired him to found the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

Duration 32 mins