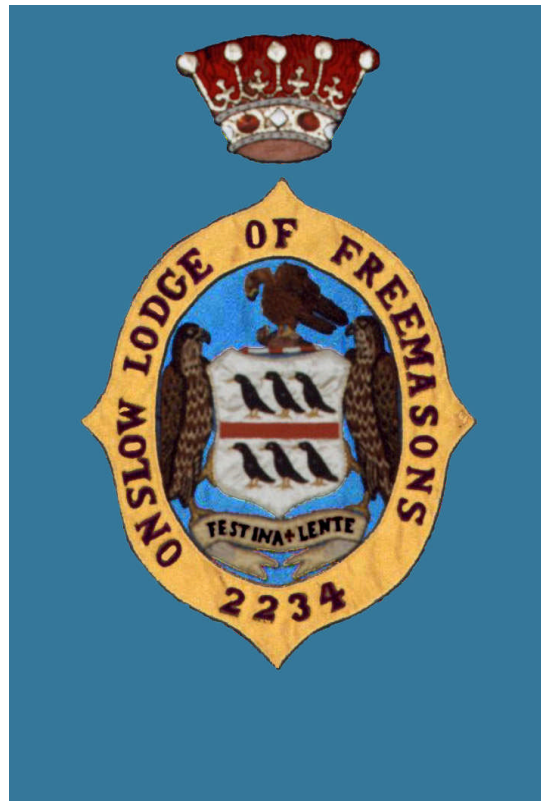


Onslow Lodge Number 2234

Consecrated January, 1888



A copy of the booklet

“Centenary 1888 – 1988”

Produced to Mark the 100th Anniversary of the Lodge



House-of-Lords

ONSLOW LODGE

The celebration of a centenary is a great event in the life of a Lodge, a time of gratitude to the Founders, reflection on their ideals and hopes for the Lodge which they were founding as well as one's own for the Lodge's future.

It is also the time when the Lodge receives the congratulations and felicitations of its friends, so it gives me the greatest pleasure to be able to offer these on behalf of the whole Masonic Province of Surrey together with our best wishes for the good fortune and prosperity of the Onslow Lodge as it enters upon the second century of its existence.

Provincial Grand Master

In Retrospect

To write a History of the Onslow Lodge from the events and activities detailed in the Minute Books does not really give a picture of the daily lives of its members.

It is necessary to consider and relate the living conditions and state of the Country to put these events in perspective, to realise the real effort, dedication, hardship and joys, fellowship and assistance the Members played in the Fraternal and mutual benefits of Freemasonry.

In 1888 when the Lodge was founded, Victorian England was Great with an Empire upon which the sun never set, a hard working, busy population with very different degrees of values and opportunities as we know today.

Queen Victoria was in the 51st year of her reign, after her Jubilee in 1887, Hansom cabs and horse drawn vehicles plied the gas lit streets of London; motor cars, aeroplanes, motion pictures and the radio were unknown.

The population of Guildford was about 10,000, and no doubt most of the Members of Onslow Lodge had to walk to their meetings, unless they could afford a cab or a lift from a passing horse and cart.

The Temple, when only illuminated by candles today, although symbolic of the occasion and appreciated as a restful respite, is no doubt comparable to the usual standard of lighting under which the old Secretaries and Treasurers in the Lodge worked. It was a time when the separate pen, nib and inkwell were in general use, before the advent of fountain and modern ball point pens degraded the standards of penmanship set by our forefathers.

Typewriters were few and expensive, and duplication of letters and documents was not practical, and generally all had to be recorded by hand in a painstaking way.

The monies paid to the Treasurer were in real cash, solid coins of the realm, in the many forms, in all about 12 denominations, from the copper farthing of the poor to the golden guinea of the rich. All amounts were dutifully entered in beautifully bound cash books which have survived the passing years in remarkably good condition, and the rich, black flowing handwriting of the period in no way dimmed by time.

The sense of values must also be appreciated when reviewing the Financial Balance Sheets.

One must realise that about six old pennies in the 1880's were equivalent to the pound coin today. A small donation of 6d. or 1/- then was a respectable proportion of the average weekly wage.

To be an active Mason in those far off hard times meant a considerable financial outlay for the average Member who was largely drawn from the Tradesmen of the period, as well as quite a call on his free time and effort for the duties of the Lodge.

Even at the time of the Lodge Jubilee, 50 years after its formation, just before World War Two, in 1938, the standard of life was very different from that of today.

True, the motor car was well established, but only for the personal use of the privileged few, and television was in its infancy only in London. A far cry from the modern accepted amenities of today, lovely homes, labour saving devices, very wide choice of excellent foods, unlimited freedom of travel and holidays abroad readily available to all.

In the light of these changing conditions and values over the past hundred years, virtually a social revolution of comfort and freedom, we must view the continued efforts of the Lodge and its Members over such a long period to appreciate that the Loyalties and Fraternal Fellowship of Freemasonry continues unchanged.

On Reflection

The Onslow Records do not detail any discussions or meetings on the Formation of the Lodge, but its Founders certainly made an excellent choice for the name of the Lodge.

Sincere, grateful thanks and deep appreciation is duly recorded in the annals of the Lodge to WILLIAM HILLIER ONSLOW the Fourth Earl of Onslow born 1853, for generously allowing the use of his family name and crest by the Lodge.

He was Senior Grand Warden in 1880, Grand Scribe in 1883 and Provincial Grand Master of Surrey 1895 to 1900. In 1875 he was made High Steward of Guildford, and later appointed Under Secretary for the Colonies, Secretary of State for India, President of the Board of Agriculture, Privy Councillor and finally Chairman of Committees in the House of Lords from 1905 until his death in 1911.

The Onslow family dates from Richard Onslow who was speaker in the House of Commons in 1566. The Family derived from the Manor of Onslow in Shropshire where they lived for 400 years before their migration to Surrey. No doubt it was the Fourth Earl's devotion to the restoration of Clandon House in Clandon Park, near Guildford, acquired in 1642, which led his family to favour a Lodge in Guildford with their name and crest. Today, in Clandon House, now in the capable hands of the National Trust, can be seen his Masonic Regalia as Provincial Grand Master of Surrey.

Records show that the Onslow coat of arms originally had six Cornish Choughs proper, and there is an interesting connection between the Onslow coat of arms and that of the old Guildford Rural District Council which bears three Cornish Choughs for three reasons:-

1. They appear on the traditional arms of Thomas a Becket and the City of Canterbury, whither the pilgrims were travelling — Pilgrims Way across the Hogs Back to Canterbury.
2. They refer to the Arms of Cornwall — there was the ancient use of the Pilgrims Way as a road from Cornwall for the Roman metal traders.
3. They appear on the Onslow coat of arms.

The traditional heraldic link between the Onslow family and Borough Council has been maintained in the new Borough's coat of arms by the placing of three Choughs in each corner of the shield.

The Onslow Family coat of arms consists of:-

Argent a Jess Gules, between six Cornish Choughs proper
Crest on Eagle Sable preying on a partridge
Supporters Two Falcons, close proper belled.
Motto — Festa Lente

The distinctiveness of the Onslow Family name and Crest is reflected in the Onslow Lodge as a Family Lodge, with some twenty families of membership during the century of its existence.

The Beginning

In response to a petition Grand Lodge issued on 9th November 1887 a warrant constituting the formation of ONSLOW LODGE and registered as number 2234. The first beautifully written Lodge minutes record the proceedings of the special meeting of Freemasons held at the Constitutional Hall, High Street, Guildford (now Thorpes Bookshop) on Tuesday 24th January 1888 convened by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, General Studholme Brownrigg, CB, for the purpose of consecrating Onslow Lodge No. 2234. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, V.W. Bro. Frederick West, P.G.D. and about fifty brethren attended.

The founders, all of whom have long since passed on, were:-

W. Bro. George Payne, P.P.G.D.C.	Bro. E. Culley
W. Bro. J. Ball P.M. 1564,	Bro. G.R. Cocksedge
W. Bro. S. George, P.M. 813	Bro. G. Burrell
W. Bro. T. Dodd, W.M. 2101	Bro. J.H. Bailey Bro.
W. Bro. R. Hunt, W.M. 45	Bro. C.B. Oxley
W. Bro. W. Longward, P.M.78	Bro. E. Miles
W. Bro. L. Gene P.P.G.St.B. (Dorset)	Bro. E.H. Hitchcock

The Provincial Grand Master took the chair and appointed the following Grand Officers to assist with the ceremony:-

S.W.	W. Bro. Charles Belton
J.W.	W. Bro. A.S. Tomkins Prov. G.Sw.B.
Chaplain	W. Bro. P.G. Merrick Prov. G. Chap.
Secretary	W. Bro. C. Greenwood P.G.S.W. Prov.G. Secy
D.C.	W. Bro. H.E. Frances
I.G.	W. Bro. A.F. Asher Prov. G.P.
Tyler	W. Bro. R.F. Patter Prov. G. Tyler

The minutes record that the Provincial Grand Chaplain gave a very interesting address on the nature of the Order. The Consecration then proceeded with the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, being the Installing Officer, Dedicating the Lodge and giving the Benediction.

The First Master

The first Worshipful Master of Onslow Lodge, W.Bro. George Payne, P.Prov.G.D.C., was inducted into the Chair of King Solomon and he appointed and invested the following officers:-

S.W.	W. Bro. J. Ball
J.W.	W. Bro. S. George
S.D.	Bro. E. Miles
J.D.	Bro. G. Burrell
Treasurer	Bro. E.H. Hitchcock
Secretary	W. Bro. T. Dodd
I.G.	Bro. C.B. Cocksedge
Stewards	Bro. J.H. Bailey
	Bro. C.B. Oxley
Tyler	Bro. Daysh

Brethren who sent telegrams and letters of regret at being unable to be present were the Earl of Onslow; Rt.W.Bro. The Earl Percy, M.P., Prov.G.M. Northumberland; R.W.Bro. W.W. Bramston Beach, M.P., Prov.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight (after whom our Mother Lodge No. 2101 is named); R.W.Bro. J.E. Le Feuvre, D.Prov.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; and V.W.Bro. Col. Shadwell Clerk, Grand Secretary.

The First Candidates

The first Candidates of the new Lodge proposed at this meeting were:-

Mr. Thomas Evans, aged 57, a gilder, residing in Guildford.
Mr. C.W. Boyce, aged 39, landlord of the Prince of Wales Hotel, Guildford.
Mr. Thomas Rees, aged 57, a coal merchant of Guildford.
Mr. G.B. James, aged 44, Secretary to a Building Society, residing in Guildford.

For reasons which are not stated these were not the first initiates.
After the Lodge closed, the brethren "adjourned to the White Hart Hotel to partake of an excellent and sumptuous banquet, provided by Mr. S.J. Tweedale, which merited their entire approval"

The menu consisted of:-

Hors D'oeuvres
Olives a la Creme
Oysters

Soups
Clear Turtle
Soup a la Reine

Fish
Turbot Sweets
Filleted Soles

Entrees
Oyster Patties
Snipe Pudding

Joint
Haunch of Venison
Boiled Turkey
Ox Tongue

Game
Pheasants
Wild Duck

Sweets
Iced Pudding Cream
Jellies Cheese
Fondues Dessert

The White Hart occupied the much altered premises in Guildford High Street which is now Messrs. Sainsbury's shop. The Lodge met again on February 4th 1888, and initiated two gentlemen who had been balloted for at that meeting:-

Mr. W.I.M. Berry, aged 38, Superintendent of Police, residing in Guildford, and
Mr. S.J. Tweedale, aged 37, licensed victualler, White Hart Hotel, Guildford, (who provided the sumptuous banquet which followed the consecration).

Thereafter the Lodge met frequently — but not to the set pattern that we now enjoy — performing multiple ceremonies. In 1888, for instance, they met on 13 occasions with 29 ceremonies not including installation: 1889 10 meetings 26 degrees: 1890 10 meetings 17 degrees. Some of these meetings were long — one lasting from 6pm until 9.50pm -- but on the other hand another in June 1908 occupied only 10 minutes! A far cry from our present gatherings. In those days it was customary for the brethren to dine only after the installation and not on other occasions. But in 1905 a motion was passed that refreshments be provided out of Lodge funds after regular meetings.

The first meetings were held in the Constitutional Hall, High Street, and subsequently at the Masonic Hall in Onslow Street, St. Nicholas Hall, the Borough Hall, St. Saviour's Hall, Bretts Restaurant, the Masonic Rooms at the Lion Hotel, and Abbot's Kitchen, before the opening of the Guildford Masonic Centre, in Portsmouth Road in 1948.

The First By-Laws

The First Booklet of the Onslow Lodge By-Laws, beautifully printed in black and red with blue cover embossed in gold letters, was prepared by W. Bros. G. Payne P.M., P.P.G.D.C., J. Ball S.W., S. George P.M., J.W., in 1888, and the detailed clauses included the following interesting items:-

Initiation Fee	5 Guineas
Joining Member	1 Guinea
Annual Subscription	£1:10s. paid in advance quarterly

The Tyler whose duties included "see to the lighting and heating etc, keep the furniture, jewels etc. clean and good order, paid 5/- per meeting."

The Proposer for a New Member, "at the time of making a proposition deposit the sum of One Guinea which will be returned if the Candidate be rejected." If Candidate accepted the amount will be deducted from the Initiation Fee.

The Secretaries

The Lodge has been most fortunate to have had such dedicated and capable Secretaries, and during the first 72 years of its existence, remarkable as it seems, only four Secretaries undertook the continued successful running of the Lodge. W.Bro. T. Dodd, the first secretary, was W.M. of Lodge No. 2101 when he took office at the consecration meeting. He served until 1891, when he was appointed Senior Warden, and in the following year installed in the Chair. Bro. E. Miles followed and he continued until the end of 1902, when he expressed a wish to retire owing to pressure of business.

Bro. H.S. Higlett was requested by the W.M., W.Bro. T. Hammond, to act as secretary in the interim until he was appointed to that office at the installation Meeting in February 1903. Bro. Higlett's neat and familiar handwriting first appeared on the Minute Book at the meeting held in the Masonic Hall on January 8th 1903., and the secretarial work was efficiently and faithfully discharged by him until February 1938. To him, the Lodge and every one of its members was grateful for his loyal and unstinting service.

A silver loving cup and illuminated book signed by the Lodge Members was presented to W.Bro. Harry S. Higlett, P.P.G.J.W., on 11th February 1926 for 21 years service as Secretary of the Lodge, and a silver rose bowl was presented to Mrs. Higlett as a token of the brethrens' esteem.

This silver cup is regarded as one of the 'Treasures of the Lodge' and is still used occasionally at the discretion of the W.M., usually at the last Meeting of his year. For the next 22 years until 1960, the recording pen was handed over to one of the famous Puttock brothers, W.Bro. A.J. Puttock who was the W.M. of the Lodge in 1919.

In 1960 W.Bro. A.A. Axtell took over the secretarial work and continued until 1972. He was succeeded by W.Bro. A.E. Crosby for the next six years until 1978 when he was unfortunately forced by ill health to retire from the work. W.Bro. W.R. Francis, W.M. of the Lodge in 1964, continued the good work until his death in 1984.

Since 1984 the secretarial duties have been in the capable hands of W.Bro. L.S. Gausden, W.M. of the Onslow Lodge in 1973.

W.Bro. T. Dodd	1888 - 1891	W.Bro. E. Miles	1891 - 1902
W.Bro. H.S. Higlett	1903 - 1938	W.Bro. A.J. Puttock	1938 - 1960
W.Bro. A.A. Axtell	1960 - 1972	W.Bro. A.E. Crosby	1972 - 1978
W.Bro. W.R. Francis	1978 - 1984	W.Bro. L.S. Gausden	1984 - cont.

The Treasurers

It can be argued that the control of the finances of the Lodge is just as important as the secretarial administration. In this respect the Lodge has been fortunate in the dedication, hard work and far sightedness of its Treasurers borne out by the sound finances through the years. The Lodge has regularly supported Masonic Charities and Festivals and is a double patron Lodge of the Royal Masonic Hospital and a vice-patron Lodge of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Bro. E.H. Hitchcock was the Treasurer for the first 3 years and no doubt established the finances on a sound basis, followed by Bro. Yorke for the next 17 years and Bro. Hammond served for the 8 years up to 1917. W.Bro. A.E. Puttock was followed by W.Bro. E.G. Bowyer, P.P.G.D. Herts, who was Treasurer from 1941 - 1948. W.Bro. H. Mills in 1950 to 1958. W.Bro. J. Weller 1959. W.Bro. C.J.K. Boyce gave 20 years sterling service 1960- 1980. W. Bro. A.G. Stafford 1980 and continuing.

The First Balance Sheet

The first recorded balance sheet of the Lodge for the year 24th January 1888 to 23rd January 1889 includes the following items of interest:-

Thirteen Initiations @ 5 guineas	£68. 5s. 0d.
Joining Fees	3. 3s. 0d.

The expenses included:-

Cost of Warrant	£10. 10s. 0d.
Carpet	6. 0s. 0d.
Furniture	53. 17s. 0d.
Tracing Boards	5. 5s. 0d.
Inkstand	10s. 2d.
Bank Charges	2. 13s. 6d
Hire of Harmonium	1. 8s. 0d.
Grand Lodge Dues	8. 16s.6d.

and show a total turnover of £196. 1s. 4d. — quite a considerable sum in those days and reflects the prosperity of the Lodge.

The Tylers of the Lodge

For the first seven years Onslow Lodge had a succession of Tylers, until in 1895 a regular Tyler, Bro. Woolgar, took office.

Bro. Tom Woolgar was born on 7th November 1847, and initiated on 27th December 1876 into Loyalty Lodge No. 358, Ireland Island, Bermuda. He joined Onslow Lodge in 1892, elected Tyler in June 1895, and was Tyler for 44 years. He is pictured in his regalia of M.M. Apron, Tyler's Collar and decorations in both the Jubilee and the 500th. Meeting Onslow History Booklets. His Funeral Service, arranged and financed by the Lodge, was held at Stoke Parish Church, Guildford. What a steady Tyler he was, from June 1895 until his passing to the Grand Lodge above in 1939, aged 92.

After such a great loss it was several years before another name appeared regularly as Tyler in the Lodge Records. For the years 1939 - 1941 Bro. Yend is listed as acting Tyler and for the next two years the Lodge was apparently without a regular Tyler as no name is recorded. Bro. J.A.A. Peters elected in 1943 and held office until 1946. Bro. W. Gibbons took the sword for six years 1954 - 1960, followed by Bro. Rutland who served us until his death in 1971. W.Bro. Alan McKenzie of Astolat Lodge (5848) acted as Tyler until W.Bro. R (Jack) Forbes of Bargate Lodge (5829) took over the sword in 1975 and continues to serve us extremely well.

The ‘Painful Subject’

The minutes for the most part are staid records of Masonic events, set down without much comment or embellishment. There is one exception which, from a distance of nearly a hundred years, takes on a humorous aspect.

It is recorded that in March, 1889, the W.M. rose to address the brethren on what he called a painful subject. The W.M., the Minutes state, said "No doubt the Brethren had heard of the loss that Bro..... had suffered by some malicious person or persons having poisoned a great number of very valuable fowls". It was a very serious loss: and in a few appropriate words he placed the matter before the Lodge.

After some discussion as to what should be granted we are told, "it was determined to grant Bro..... from the Lodge funds the sum of £5, which was at once handed to him", the W.M. remarking that "he trusted Bro..... would yet see better days."

An Interesting Find

The early Lodge Records are confined to Minute and Attendance Books, but an "interesting find" whilst searching through the 'Lodge Archives' housed in two old large trunks was a 'Letter Book'. This well bound volume contains over 250 numbered pages of sheets similar to the old fashioned greaseproof paper with directions in the front giving precise Instructions in the 'Art of copying'. It appears that by pressing original Handwritten ink letters between dampened sheets of this paper a 'perfect' copy could be obtained.

This book contains copies of the letters and correspondence sent out by the secretary in the general course of his work and are all 'perfect' copies in the neat handwriting of Harry S. Higlett, covering

the period from 27th February 1903 to 9th December 1911. These provide an interesting insight into the Lodge 'running conditions;' and from the lists of recorded Lodge Dues collected (and owing), the members of that time have been compiled. This is included below. Quite a number of the letters are addressed to members regarding objections to their proposed candidates, and asking for further references.

The art of most descriptive, tactful and thoughtful letter writing, which appears to have been lost since the ready use of the telephone, is so ably displayed in these letters and reflects again the talents and patience of Brother Harry Higlett.

The book also includes letters and requests to Provincial Grand Lodge, congratulations to Members on receiving Grand Lodge Honours, and even a letter to Bro. Woolgar, the Lodge Tyler, dated 7th July 1904. This letter instructs the Tyler to send the Lodge Banner to the Assembly Rooms, Surbiton, so that it arrives on the 15th inst, and addressed to the 'Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey,' and the Banner Poles should not be sent. One can only imagine for what occasion this was required. Human nature has not changed much when it comes to the collection of Lodge Subscriptions. There are many reminders to Members who were in arrears, which may not be surprising when one considers that in the early 1900's the Dues were £2 per year (not including dinners which were only held at Installations) paid half yearly in advance, and some owed from £3 to £5, quite a sum of money in those days.

The Lodge had a Board of Benevolence and there are records of favourable bequests to Members and Widows in financial difficulties.

The 1914 – 1918 War Years

The war years left their mark upon the Lodge, but there is no record of the active part played by its members - although no doubt several of them saw active service.

In October 1914, it was unanimously decided to forego the usual dinner during the continuance of hostilities, but early in 1915 the dinners were resumed — without music or singing. Among the names of Visitors were many from overseas (including Canadians from Witley Camp), some of whom, doubtless, were fated never to return to their native land.

Various war charities were actively supported by the Lodge and included donations to The Prince of Wales Relief Fund, The Surrey War Relief Fund, The Belgian Relief Fund and The Surrey Relief Fund a special appeal for assistance of Surrey Brethren and their families in distress directly occasioned by the war.

In November 1914 the Military Authorities requisitioned the Masonic Hall for billeting troops, and the secretary was asked to make arrangements to meet at Bretts Restaurant. A report that the Military Authorities had occupied the ground floor of the Hall, and would pay no rent, was made in 1916. It was rumoured that the Officer who commanded the "army of occupation" was also a member of the Lodge.

A Family Meeting

A father and three of his sons taking part in the initiation of a fourth son was one of the most interesting Lodge events of 1924. In March of that year W.Bro. A. Cherry vacated the Chair in favour of W.Bro. A.E. Puttock, who then initiated his son, Mr. Harry Austen Puttock into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The three brothers who assisted him were W.Bro. A.J. Puttock, who recited the Ancient Charge, Bro. H.H. Puttock, Senior Warden and Bro. A.R. Puttock,

Junior Warden.

A Tribute to W.Bro. A.E. Puttock

W.Bro. A.E. Puttock Initiated on 3rd December 1903, Worshipful Master of Onslow Lodge 1912.

On his rather sudden death in 1935 at the age of 69 he was the Chairman and Managing Director of Puttocks Ltd. High Street, the well known firm of Motor Engineers. The columns in the local Guildford Newspaper referred to him as "well known in business and social life of Guildford and a prominent Freemason." He had a wide circle of friends which was increased by his great interest in Freemasonry with which he was connected for many years. He passed through the Chair of both the Onslow and Hindhead Lodges and also received Provincial Honours, being a Past Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies for Surrey. He was also Treasurer of the Onslow Lodge and a member of the Royal Alfred Chapter in which he held the office of P.P.A.G.S. and was Treasurer Elect. He was a Founder and second Master of Hindhead Lodge.

He was also a great golfer, a prominent member of the Town Golf Club, having been Captain and Treasurer, and also a member of the Farnham Club.

He was Founder of the West Surrey and District Inter-Lodge Masonic Golfing Society.

Bro. R. Dowdeswell, Organist of the Onslow Lodge played the organ at the Funeral Service at Christ Church.

The Golden Jubilee Celebration

The Jubilee Celebration meeting was held at Freemasons Hall, London on Wednesday 9th February 1938. The Lodge was honoured by the presence of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Canon J.C. Morris, M.A., the W.Assistant Provincial Grand Master, William Peet, J.P., P.G.D., and many other distinguished Brethren. 12 Past Masters of the Lodge and 111 members and visitors were present. The celebration was overshadowed by the death of W.Bro. H.S. Higlett, P.A.G.P., who had been Secretary of the Lodge since 1903, and played a prominent part in the arrangements for the Jubilee meeting. The W.M., W.Bro. C.W.T. Boyce, made a fitting reference to the great loss suffered by the Onslow Lodge in particular and by Freemasonry in general in W.Bro. Higlett's passing, and the R.W. Provincial Grand Master expressed the sympathy of Provincial Grand Lodge.

The acting secretary, W.Bro. A.J. Puttock, P.P.G.D., read the minutes of the Consecration meeting held at the Constitutional Hall, Guildford, on 24th January 1888. The R.W.Provincial Grand Master congratulated the Brethren on fifty years of Freemasonry, especially their support to Masonic Charities.

W.Bro. the Earl of Onslow who was present, accepted Honorary membership of the Lodge, thus continuing his family connection. In 1893 his father was made an Honorary member in recognition of his kindness in granting the Lodge permission to use the family name and crest.

The Director of Ceremonies announced that owing to the illness of the Master-Elect. W.Bro. A.W. Harvey, it was not possible to carry out the ceremony of installation.

W.Bro. C.H. Noakes, P.G.D., at very short notice gave an impressive explanation of the First Degree Tracing Board.

To mark the Jubilee Celebration the Lodge sent donations of fifty guineas to each of the following institutions:-

The Royal Masonic Institute for Girls
The Royal Masonic Institute for Boys
The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and
The Royal Masonic Hospital

During the after proceedings, the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, on behalf of all the Brethren of Onslow Lodge, handed a loving cup to the Jubilee Master

Officers for the Jubilee Year

W.Bro. C.W.T. Boyce, P.P.G.P., W.M.	W.Bro. A.W. Axtell, I.P.M
W.Bro. A.W. Harvey, S.W.	Bro. E.C. Eborn, J.W.
W.Bro. W. Dyson, Chaplain	W.J. Weller, Treasurer
W.Bro. H.S. Higlett, P.A.G.P. Secretary	W.Bro. A.J. Puttock P.P.G.D., D.C
W.Bro. D.J.C. Priseman, S.D.	Bro. H.D. Sparkes, J.D.
W.Bro. A.E. Hillier, P.P.A.G.D.C., A.D.C.	Bro. R.O. Dowdeswell, Organist
W.Bro. G.R. Wale, P.P.A.G.St.B., Almoner	Bro. K. Gammon, I.G.
Bro. F.H. Ayers, Steward	Bro. E.E. Dowdeswell, Steward
Bro. H.W.J. Froome, Steward	Bro. A.S. Fish, Steward
Bro. T. Woolgar, Tyler	

MENU

Smoked Salmon
Side Dishes
* *
Turtle Soup
Tomato Cream
**
Scotch Salmon, Divine Sauce
Cucumber
**
Lamb Cutlets
New Beans Potatoes
**
Punch Romaine
Surrey Chicken Connaught
Salad
**
Pears and Vanilla Ice Cream
Wafers
**
Coffee

TOASTS

The King and the Craft
The Most Worshipful the Grand Master
HRH the Duke of Connaught at Strathearn, K.G.
etc., etc., etc.
The Most Worshipful Pro. Grand Master
The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Harewood, K.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O.
The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master
Gen. Sir Francis J. Davies, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.
The Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master
Brig. Gen. W.H.V. Darell, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.
and the rest of the Grand Officers present and past
The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master
The Rev. Canon J.C. Morris, M.A.
The Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master
Lieut. Col. H.A. Mann, O.B.E., M.C., P.G.D.
The Worshipful Assistant Provincial Grand Masters
William Peet, J.P., P.G.D. and Sir Robert C. Evans, P.A.G.D.C.
and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers present and past.
The Worshipful Master, Bro. A.W. Harvey
The Onslow Lodge
The Visitors
The Jubilee Master, Bro. C.W.T. Boyce, P.P.G.P.
The Past Masters and Officers of the Lodge
The Tyler's Toast

A Masonic service to mark the Golden Jubilee was held at the Cathedral Church (Holy Trinity) High Street, Guildford on 6th February 1938. Photographs of the procession are to be found in the Onslow Lodge Book of Recollections. In April 1938 the Brethren heard with regret of the death of one of the earliest members, Bro. H.S. Folker, who was initiated in May 1888 and was W:M. in 1897.

Because of the outbreak of the second world war no meetings were held from April 1939 until the following January. In the interval, four old members passed away, among them Bro. Thomas Woolgar, who had been Tyler of the Lodge from 1892 until his death at the age of 92. He was initiated in 1876, in the Loyalty Lodge No. 358, Ireland Island, Bermuda.

W.Bro. J.W. Stevens, who died on November 1st 1939, was initiated in the Lodge in December 1889, was W.M. in 1896: Prov.G.S.Works 1898, and A.G.S. Works 1920. He acted as Charity Representative for many years and was one of the first members of Onslow to receive Grand Lodge Honours.

The 1939 – 1945 War Years

In accordance with a directive from Grand Lodge dated 4th September 1939 no Lodge meetings were to be held until further notice, Hopefully this was to be a temporary measure and so it was

with relief that a further order of 30th September was received permitting resumption of meetings with the following provisions:-

Meetings to be held at the discretion of the Master of the Lodge

No meetings on Sundays

Meetings to be held as early as possible and

Dates could be changed to within seven days of regular meetings without prior dispensation from Grand Lodge.

The war claimed its first casualty among the brethren in November 1940 when it was reported that Bro. H.F. Keysar, was missing on active service in H.M. Submarines.

Twice in this period the Onslow Lodge suffered the death of its Worshipful Master. It sustained a double blow in 1940 when at the November meeting the deaths were reported of Bros. C.E. Eborn, Worshipful Master, and W.Bro. C.W.T. Boyce, P.A.G.D.C., the Treasurer. Among the visitors during the war years were a number of Brethren serving with the Dominion Forces.

Post War

Suitable accommodation for large Masonic Functions had become increasingly difficult to obtain, and for the Installation Meeting in 1946 it had been found necessary to go to Woking. It was therefore with great satisfaction that the members learned at the 469th Regular Meeting in January 1948 of the purchase of the present Masonic Centre, and in October 1948 the Onslow Lodge was able to meet for the first time in Weybourne House, W.Bro. F.G. Braithwaite, being in the Chair.

In October 1948 it was decided to advance the sum of £500 to the Guildford Masonic Centre, as a loan free of interest.

It is pleasing to note that the Secretary of the Onslow Lodge, W.Bro. A.J. Puttock, was appointed the first Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Guildford Masonic Centre.

A Unique Claim

W.Bro. F.G. Braithwaite, W.M. in February 1949, overcoming all the handicaps of blindness, installed in the Chair of King Solomon his successor, Bro. R.C. French in such a manner that the R.W.Prov. Grand Master, Lt. Col. N.A. Mann, O.B.E., M.C., announced that he would appoint W.Bro. Braithwaite to Provincial Grand rank at the next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge.

The 500th Meeting

In January 1953, a few weeks before the 500th Regular Meeting, brethren heard with regret of the death of the then oldest member of the Lodge, W.Bro. Thomas Hammond, who was initiated in 1892, and was W.M. ten years later. He attained the rank of P.P.A.G.Pur.

On 12th February 1953 Onslow Lodge held its 500th Regular Meeting, and it was felt by the Officers and Brethren of the Lodge that such an important milestone should not be allowed to pass without some attempt being made to give members a glimpse into the past.

Accordingly a booklet was produced which was a copy of the Jubilee Booklet brought up to date with the latest Lodge events, together with a list of Officers for 1953-54, subscribing Past Members and list of Members. Also included were details of the Festive Board — Menu and Toast List.

The minutes of that meeting listed an attendance of 112, headed by W.Bro. S.J. Bowers, P.G.D., Assistant Prov.G. Master, W.Bro. E.A. Lane, P.G.St.B., and 62 other visiting Brethren. The W.M., Bro. Chandler then installed Bro. Frederick E. Dowdeswell into the Chair of King Solomon. The W.M. was addressed by the Installing Master, W.Bro. E. Chandler, the Wardens by W.Bro. W. Rollason, and the Brethren by the Assistant Prov.G. Master, W.Bro. S.J. Bowers. W.Bro. A.J. Puttock proposed that W.Bro. H.A. Baucher be elected an Honorary Member of the Lodge in recognition of his long membership from 8th April 1897 until January 1953, which was unanimously approved. It was also recorded that W.Bro. Bowyer was presented with a cheque for £25 compensation for loss of furniture and belongings in recent flooding of Canvey Island.

Presentation Dinner

On 27th July 1962 a Presentation Dinner was held for W.Bro. and Mrs. A.J. Puttock at the Burford Bridge Hotel, Dorking for the double celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary and his 50 years membership of Onslow Lodge. W.Bro. Puttock had served the Lodge in practically every capacity, including many years as Secretary and Charity Representative. He received Provincial Honours (Prov.G.D.C.) in 1928 — P.P.G.D.(S) in 1936 Grand Honours P.G.St.B. in 1943 — P.G.D. in 1953 — Asst.Prov.G. Master in 1954.

They were presented with Arm Chairs and other gifts by members of the Lodge. As a further mark of esteem the Lodge members decided to cover the cost of re-furbishing the committee room at Weybourne House, henceforth to be known as the Albert J. Puttock Room.

Family Tree

The copy of the Lodge Family Tree, reproduced as an appendix, details the Lodge ancestry and shows that Onslow Lodge was the Daughter Lodge of Bramston Beach.

Brampton Beach Lodge No. 2101 was the first Masonic Lodge consecrated in Godalming on 5th June 1885, and among the founders listed, W.Bro. G. Payne, Bro. J. Ball, Bro. J. Dodd, were also Founder Members of Onslow Lodge. Bro. G. Payne was the first W.M., and later became the first W.M. of Onslow.

Onslow Lodge sponsored Hindhead Lodge No. 5183 which was consecrated at Mark Masons' Hall, London on 29th May 1930. 26 Masons in the Hindhead area expressed a wish to become Founders of the Lodge and the Petition to Grand Lodge was prepared by the efforts of W.Bro. A.E. Brayson, W.Bro. W. Rollason, W.Bro. J.F. Hillard and W.Bro. A.E. Puttock.

Among the Founders appear several Onslow Members — W.Bro. A.E. Puttock, W.Bro. A.J. Puttock, W.Bro. E.G. Bowyer and W.Bro. H. Mills.

Onslow Lodge of Instruction

As early as June 1888, the formation of a Lodge of Instruction was mooted. It is recorded in the minute dated 12th July 1888 — "Bro. A.W. Berry proposed that:- Bros. Rees, Hitchcock and Dodd

form a committee to consider the desirability of applying for authority to hold a Lodge of Instruction under the warrant of the Onslow Lodge 2234. Seconded by Bro. Rees and carried unanimously". Nothing more was noted until the summer of 1890, when it was recorded in the August minute that Bro. G.B. Cocksedge was given permission to establish such a Lodge.

No further records of the Lodge of Instruction have been found until 22nd August 1944 which details a meeting of the Onslow Lodge held in the Jubilee Social Club at No. 1a Onslow Street, Guildford to consider the future of the Onslow Lodge of Instruction.

It was reported that owing to the growth of Masonry in Guildford, Onslow Lodge Members felt that the Lodge of Instruction should be reformed.

The Following appointments were made:

W.Bro. A. Axtell	appointed Preceptor
W.Bro. A.J. Puttock	appointed Deputy Preceptor
W.Bro. Froome	appointed Secretary
Bro. E.E. Dowdeswell	elected as Treasurer

The By-Laws were revised to include items such as name — "The Onslow Lodge of Instruction." Meetings to be held on Tuesday evenings from September to April at 6.45 pm. Annual Subscription to be 12/6d.

All Members of the Onslow Lodge were eligible, other Masons could be elected but their numbers should not exceed 20% of the Total Membership.

This meeting marked the Foundation of a most effective Lodge of Instruction and comprehensive Minute and Attendance books have been kept from that date. For the 30 years of firm control dedication and guidance of the Preceptor, W.Bro. Arthur Axtell together with his hard working team, Onslow Lodge established a reputation for an excellent standard of work and its future was assured. In 1958 the Lodge gained recognition from the Emulation Lodge of Improvement and became officially known as the Onslow Lodge of Instruction No. 102., and is still the only officially recognised Lodge of Instruction in the Guildford Area. The Lodge managed to continue its Meetings during the Second World war years in the cellar of Bro. H. Sparks sweetshop at No. 13 Farnham Road.

Bro. Arthur's next door neighbour was Bro. Jock Wilson, Preceptor of Royal Edward's Lodge of Instruction and several joint activities were held including a Masonic Quiz on 1st November 1949 between teams from each of the Royal Edward, Guildford and Onslow lodges. The winning team being the Onslow Lodge.

The Lodge of Instruction continued to meet at the Jubilee Social Club, Onslow Street, Guildford until September 1948 when the new Masonic Centre, Weybourne House, became available. A joint dinner was held with the Archbishop Abbott's Lodge of Instruction on 17th January 1950 and the bill for 35 persons supplied by F. Ayers & Sons Ltd., amounted to £12/5s/0d.

The Annual General meetings and election of Officers were usually held at the last meeting in April, followed by a dinner, but it was not until 1960 that the last Meeting was formulated into a Lodge Festival to which visitors were invited.

The Annual Festival of 17th May 1960 as recorded, details:-

President W.Bro. A.J. Puttock,
Chairman W.Bro. A. Axtell,
Secretary Bro. A.E. Crosby,
Dep. Preceptor W.Bro. C.J.K. Boyce.

THIRD LECTURE

First Section by Bro. A.E. Crosby, assisted by Bro. D.F. Francis

Second Section by W.Bro. J. Goss, assisted by Bro. J. R. Starkie

Third Section by Bro. T. Watts, assisted by Bro. L. Wells.

Cost of Supper 6/6d.

Over the years the Membership of the Lodge of Instruction has increased and gained popularity with other Lodges. Today the membership is about 35 with regular attendance exceeding 20.

A gift of 100 guineas from the Onslow Lodge of Instruction constituted it as a PATRON LODGE of the ROYAL MASONIC HOSPITAL. The Certificate dated 3rd December 1963 is in the Onslow Lodge of Instruction Minute Book.

The Financial status of the Lodge continues to be most healthy, with regular donations of £50 or more to Charity, usually the Master's List, and generous gifts to the Guildford Masonic Centre.

PRESIDENTS

W.Bro. A.J. Puttock

W.Bro. J.C.F. Goss

1957

1984

PRECEPTORS

W.Bro. A.A. Axtell 1944 — 74

W.Bro. J.C.F. Goss 1974 — 84

W.Bro. L.S. Gausden 1984 — cont.

SECRETARIES

W.Bro. Froome 1944 — 53

W.Bro. C.J.K. Boyce 1953 — 57

W. Bro. A.E. Crosby 1957 — 72

W.Bro. L.Nicholas 1972 — 78

W. Bro. R.V. Clark 1978 —

TREASURERS

Bro.E.E. Dowdeswell 1944 — 52

W.Bro. J.C. Goss 1953 — 60

W.Bro. R.G. Jenkins 1960 — 62

W.Bro. I.T. Plowman 1963 — 72

W.Bro. R. Moat 1972 — 76

W.Bro. R.V. Clark 1977 — 78

W.Bro.L. Holdaway 1978 — cont.

The Onslow Banner

The first reference to the Lodge Banner is in the Minute of August 1890, which quotes "that Bro. H.S. Falkner and Bro. T.W. Evans presented the Lodge with a beautiful Banner which had been painted by Bro. Falkner and mounted by Bro. Evans". No doubt this was the first Banner of the Lodge. A photograph of the banner is in the appendices.

The next reference is in the Minute of December 1897 when it was proposed "that this new Banner presented by the Worshipful Master, Bro. H.S. Falkner, be consecrated." It is thought that this reference to the new Banner is to the original one presented by Bro. Falkner in 1890, and it is agreed by older Members of the Lodge that there has only been one Banner in the Lodge before the current (Centenary) one.

This original Banner has been in constant use and kept in good repair recently by the nimble fingers of Mrs. A.E. Crosby, but despite her efforts the ravages of time are now all too evident.

When the Centenary Committee was formed in 1980 one of its first proposals was to organise the making of a new Banner. The original chairman of this committee was W.Bro. Harry Goff, a keen worker who recalled that his mother Lodge No. 3980 had a banner made and offered to ascertain where, when and cost etc.

The Committee later decided to go ahead and Harry Goff made the initial arrangements. Later still Harry and W.Bro. Tom Plowman visited Clewer Embroidery, Convent of St. John the Baptist, Windsor, to discuss the details with Sister Emma Clare. When the new banner was almost ready W. Bro. Douglas Francis made a magnificent donation of the purchase price and this was duly recorded in the Centenary Committee Minutes dated 8th June 1981. Subsequently a crosspole and storage case were provided by W.Bros. Bill White and Hector Goss.

The Fourth Earl of Onslow, William Hillier Onslow, generously allowed the Lodge to use his Coat of Arms and Crest which is the centre piece of our banner and is described elsewhere.



Fathers and Sons

The Family influence in the Lodge is so ably recorded in the following list of Fathers and Sons. Through the 100 years there are no fewer than 21 families, five of whom have Father, Son and Grandsons as listed members. The Puttock family is the largest with father, four sons and grandsons between the years 1913 – 1941.

This Family has a modern rival in the Francis, son, (a most active member and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Guildford Masonic Centre), and three grandsons, initiated into the Lodge in 1986 – 87. Time will tell how many more of the Francis's family will follow their fathers footsteps into the Lodge.

FATHER	I/J	SON	I/J	GRANDSON	I/J
Bro.C.W.Boyce	1888	W.Bro.C.W.T.Boyce	1903	W.Bro.C.J.K.Boyce	1944
				W.Bro.K.R.K.Boyce	1954
Bro.W.Hillier	1889	Bro.A.E.Hillier	1907		
W.Bro.F.N.Keysar	1889	W.Bro.J.J.Keysar	1916	Bro.H.F.Keysar*	1925
				W.Bro.G.S.Keysar*	1951
W.Bro.G.Wale	1890	W.Bro.E.G.R.Wale	1913		
W.Bro.A.E.Puttock	1903	W.Bro.A.J.Puttock*	1913	W.Bro.R.W.Puttock*	1941
		W.Bro.H.H.Puttock*	1919		
		W.Bro.A.R.Puttock*	1919		
		W.Bro.H.A.Puttock*	1924		
Bro.W.Froome	1914	Bro.H.W.J.Froome	1927		
Bro.G.R.Crampton	1921	Bro.G.W.Crampton	1921		
		Bro.R.R.Crampton	1922		
Bro.D.E.W.Wigg	1921	Bro.D.H.Wigg	1941		
W.Bro.E.G.Bowyer	1922	Bro.G.Bowyer*	1928		
W.Bro.W.Dyson	1923	Bro.R.J.Dyson	1935		
Bro.E.E.Dowdeswell	1926	W.Bro.R.O.Dowdeswell	1928		
		W.Bro.F.E.Dowdeswell	1937		
W.Bro.A.S.Fish	1926	W.Bro.C.A.Fish*	1943		
Bro.A.H.Conisbee	1930	W.Bro.P.F.Conisbee	1978	Bro.D.P.Conisbee*	1986
W.Bro.T.W.Ash	1938	Bro.K.T.Ash	1956		
W.Bro.F.W.Francis	1943	W.Bro.D.F.Francis	1953	Bro.G.F.Francis*	1986
				Bro.M.J.Francis*	1986
				Bro.I.D.Francis*	1987
W.Bro.J.C.F.Goss	1949	W.Bro.H.H.Goss	1957		
Bro.G.T.Stafford	1950	W.Bro.A.G.Stafford	1962		
W.Bro.W.Conway	1960	Bro.G.R.Conway	1976		
W.Bro.W.G.White	1965	Bro.D.A.White*	1980		
W.Bro.R.V.Clark	1969	Bro.A.V.J.Clark*	1983		
W.Bro.L.A.Nicholas	1973	Bro.P.Nicholas*	1975		
*Initiated by his father					

Fathers and Sons in Law

W.Bro.W.G.White	1965	Bro.M.J.Kenward	1981
W.Bro.L.W.W.Gunn	1962	Bro.A.E.Clou	1982

Gifts to the Lodge

- 1888 The wife of Brother George Burrell, J.D. : Volume of the Sacred Law.
W.Bro. G.Wale, P.M. Burgoyne Lodge 902 : Four Collar Jewels.
W.Bro. Pitcher, P.M. Bramston Beach 2101 : Emblems of mortality.
Bro. Thomas Evans : Picture of the Most Worshipful Grand Master H.R.H.
The Prince of Wales.
- 1890 Bro. J.T. Holgate, Rio de Janeiro : £1 towards Organ fund.
Bros. H.S. Falkner and T.W.Evans : Lodge Banner.
- 1895 Bro. J.S. Falkner and Mrs. Falkner : Set of Gauntlets.
- 1899 Bro. F.H. Thompson : Music and 20 books of words.
- 1902 W.Bro. Castell : Picture of H.M. the King.
- 1903 Bros. T. Hammond and H.A. Baucher : new Collars.
- 1905 Bro. T.O. Spencer : Lamp for Lodge Entrance.
- 1912 Bro. A.E. Puttock, W.M. : first Past Masters Board, made of old oak from the belfry of Holy Trinity Church, Guildford.
- 1913 Bro. A.E. Gate : Copy of early 18th Century Candle Extinguisher.
- 1928 W.Bros. A.J. Puttock, H.H. Puttock and A.R. Puttock : second Past Masters Board.
Bro. J.I. Blackburn : Oak Easels for P.M. Boards.
- 1933 Bro. J.I. Blackburn : Brass Stands for Wands.
- 1938 Mrs. Higlett : The late Bro. H.S. Higlett's Grand Lodge Clothing.
- 1941 W.Bro. A.S. Fish : Tyler's Sword.
- 1942)
) Nothing recorded
- 1960)
1961 W.Bros. J.C.F. Goss and A.E. Crosby : Set of Lodge Collars.
- 1963 W.Bro. A.J. Puttock : Set of Rosewood Gavel in Case.
- 1964 W.Bro. A.R. Puttock : Third Past Masters Board.
- 1965 W.Bro. R.V. Smith and other brethren : Temple Carpet.
- 1966)
) Nothing recorded
- 1971)
1972 E.Bro. E.C. Turner : Volume of the Sacred Law.
- 1975 W.Bro. I.T. Plowman : Three sets of Working Tools in Oak Case.
- 1976 W.Bro. AG. Stafford : Third Degree Temple Sheet.
- 1977 W.Bro. L.W.W. Gunn : Four Aprons for the Lodge.
- 1980 W.Bro. W.G. White : Pair of Mules, Door Knockers for Lodge of Instruction.
- 1981 W.Bro. D.F. Francis : Cost of New Banner for Lodge Centenary.
W.Bro. P.C.J. Jeanroy : Poinard.
- 1983 Mrs. Axtell, wife of late W.Bro. A.A. Axtell : Framed Picture of Lodge Members. W.Bro.
Axtell's Regalia, Jewels and Mementoes.
W.Bro. R.V. Clark : Masters Leather Portfolio. Set of Collars for Lodge of Instruction.
- 1984 W.Bro. M. Dillon : Set of Gavel for Lodge of Instruction.
W.Bro. J.R. Starkie : Trunk for Lodge of Instruction Books and Regalia.
W.Bro. G. Barker : Set of Jewels for Lodge of Instruction Collars.
(Masters Jewel engraved in Memory of W.Bro. L.Nicholas, Sec. Of L.O.I.)
- 1985 W.Bro. R.C. Moat and L.W.W. Gunn : Small Third Degree Tracing Board.
- 1986 Mrs. Keyzar wife of late W.Bro. G. Keyzar : Regalia, Jewels, Mementoes.
- 1986 Mrs. Elwin wife of the late W.Bro. T.H. Elwin : Jewels, Mementoes and framed signed
photograph of H.R.H. Duke of Kent, Grand Master.
- 1987 W.Bro. A.G. Stafford : Repair and re-silvering of collarchains and jewels.

The Crosby Showcase

W.Bro. A.E. (Peter) Crosby who was initiated into Onslow in 1949, and was W.M. in 1962 was truly a good man who sincerely believed in, and upheld, the tenets of the Craft.

In addition to being Lodge of Instruction secretary for fifteen years, and Lodge secretary 1972 to 1978, he was industrious in many other ways for the good of Onslow Lodge, the Masonic Centre and the Craft in general.

When he was called to the Grand Lodge Above in 1986 we all lost a friend and a brother.

As a token to Peter's memory the members of the Lodge have installed a showcase – in the Albert Puttock room – for Onslow Masonic memorabilia.

Peter's wife, Trudi, who actively supported him during his life, continues to render practical assistance to the Lodge.

Outstanding Dates

1888	February	First Initiates Mr. W.I.M. Berry and Mr. S.J. Tweedale at an emergency meeting.
	February	First Ordinary Meeting, at which the Initiates were Mr. Thomas Evans and Mr. Thomas Rees.
	May	Bro. Wm. Joseph Melbourn invested as first Organist and Almoner.
1889	January	The Earl of Onslow congratulated on his appointment as Governor of New Zealand.
	April	Letter of condolence sent to the widow of the late R.W.Prov. Grand Master, Bro. John Studholme Bronrigg, C.B, who consecrated the Lodge.
1890	July	Notice from Grand Lodge announcing mourning in consequence of the death of the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. Grand Master.
1891	August	Lodge Banner presented to the Lodge by Bros. Falkner and Evans.
	August	Bro.H.S. Higlett initiated. Proposed and agreed that sanction for Lodge of Instruction to be held at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Guildford on every Thursday except 2nd. in each month.
1893	April	The Earl of Onslow made an Honorary Member of the Lodge in recognition of his kindness in granting the Lodge permission to use his family name.
1895	March	Lodge placed in mourning for the late Prov. Grand Master, colonel Money.
1897	December	Proposed that the Lodge Banner be consecrated.
1898	December	Pro.Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, died.
1901	February	Expressions of sympathy to King Edward VII on the death of his mother, Queen Victoria, recorded in the Minutes.
1905	November	Decided to provide refreshments after regular meetings.
1910	May	Deep sorrow expressed at the death of King Edward VII.
1914	October	Circular from Grand Lodge read relative to attendance of Brethren of German, Austrian, Hungarian and Turkish birth at Lodge

		Meetings during continuance of the war.
1915	October	Death of Prov, Grand Master, Sir Thomas Bucknill reported.
1918		Communication from Grand Lodge relative to economising on food so far as possible at Masonic Lodge Dinners.
1919	May	Decided that all Lodge Brethren who had served in the Forces should be relieved from paying any subscription during their period of service.
1920	April	W.Bro. Stevens congratulated on receiving Grand Lodge Honours.
	May	Lodge decided to qualify as Founding Lodge of the Freemasons' Hospital and Sanatorium.
1925	October	Lodge decided to become a Recorded Lodge of the Masonic Million Memorial Fund, Lodge being represented by eleven Stewards.
1926	February	Presentation of Loving Cup to W.Bro. H.S. Higlett, and Silver Rose Bowl to Mrs. Higlett as a token of the Brethren's esteem.
	October	Freemasons Service at Holy Trinity Church, Guildford.
1929	December	Petition from Hindhead Lodge signed. The following Brethren of Onslow Lodge were among the Founders of Hindhead Lodge:- W.Bro. W. Rollanson; W.Bro. E.G. Bowyer; Bro. W.S. Green; Bro. G. Stock; W.Bro. A.E. Puttock; W.Bro. A.J. Puttock; Bro. H. Mills and Bro. G.A. Smith.
1930	May	Masonic Service at Cathedral Church, Guildford.
1931	November	Reported that the Lodge has qualified as Recorded Lodge of New Masonic Temple.
1932	November	Decided to provide equipment for a bed at new Masonic Hospital.
1937	October	W.Bro. Higlett congratulated on receiving Grand Lodge Honours.
1938	February	Fiftieth Jubilee celebration meeting, Freemasons' Hall London. Jubilee Celebration Church Service at Cathedral Church, (Holy Trinity).
	November	Patron Lodge certificate received from Royal Masonic Hospital.
1939	March	R.W.Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Kent, Provincial Grand Master Wiltshire, elected M.W. Grand Master.
	September	Grand Lodge communication suspending all Masonic meetings until further orders.
	September	Order made permitting resumption of meetings subject to special conditions. Standing Committee of Onslow Lodge decided it would not be advisable to hold a Lodge meeting until January 1940.
1940	November	Reference made to severe loss suffered by Lodge by death of W.Bro. Eborn, W.M. and W.Bro. C.W.T. Boyce, Treasurer.
1941	April	W.Bro. A.J. Puttock initiated his son, Mr. R.W. Puttock. The Ancient Charge was recited by W.Bro. A.R. Puttock. Appointment of W.Bro. Lieut-Colonel H.A. Mann as Prov. Grand Master.
1942	January	Craft went into mourning on the death of Past Grand Master, M.W.Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn K.G.
	October	Craft went into mourning for M.W.Bro. Air Commodore H.R.H. The Duke of Kent, K.G. Grand Master, who lost his life in an aircraft crash on active service.
	August	Greetings telegram sent on behalf of Lodge to W.Bro. T.Hammond, who was initiated in August 1892.
1943	April	Lodge congratulated W.Bro. A.J. Puttock P.P.G.D. upon his appointment to P.G.St.B, and presented him with the appropriate clothing and regalia.
1945		Thanks expressed to W.Bro. A.E. Hillier for valuable services for

- many years in connection with Masonic Charities; also Secretary of the Guildford Emulation Lodge of Improvement.
- 1946 February Installation Meeting held at Woking owing to lack of suitable Accommodation in Guildford.
- 1947 September Death of the M.W. Grand Master, the Earl of Harewood, K.G. Duke of Devonshire, K.G. elected Grand Master.
- November Grand Lodge voted 500 Guineas for presentation of wedding gift to H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth.
- 1948 January Purchase of premises for use as Masonic Centre reported by Secretary.
- February W.Bro. A.E. Hillier elected an Honorary Member of the Lodge in appreciation of valuable services during thirty years; Secretary, Guildford Emulation Lodge, 1915 – 1944; Secretary, Onslow Benevolent Association, 1921 – 1946.
- April Reported that Onslow Lodge would be allotted five shares in Guildford Masonic Centre Ltd. – W.Bros. A.J. Puttock, H.D. Sparks, A.W. Actell, H. Mills and R.O. Downdeswell, nominated to hold the shares on behalf of the Onslow Lodge.
- September Grand Lodge expressed fraternal sympathy with M.W.Bro. H.M. the King in his illness
- October Lodge met for the first time at the new Masonic Centre. The Lodge offered its sincere congratulations to W.Bro. W.Rollason upon his appointment to the rank of P.G.St.B., and asked him to accept 25 Guineas towards the cost of the clothing appropriate to his office. In thanking the brethren W.Bro. Rollason announced that he proposed to hand this gift to the Guildford Masonic Centre. Lodge agreed to advance £300 to Guildford Masonic Centre as a loan, free of interest.
- November Reported that Their Majesties the King & Queen had accepted from Grand Lodge an 18th Century French clock and a set of silver gilt dishes as a Silver Wedding Present. Board of General Purposes again thanked Grand Lodges, Lodges and Brethren overseas who continued to send food and parcels to Freemasons and dependents here.
- 1950 April W.Bro. E.G. Bowyer, P.P.G.D. (Surrey & Herts) former treasurer of the Lodge elected and Honorary Member.
- June Grand Lodge felt that “with the end of clothes rationing it is not unreasonable to hope that dark suits, black shoes and ties and white collars will become the general wear with Masonic Clothing.” Grand Lodge left to the discretion of W.Masters whether to request that white gloves be worn.
- November Masonic mourning on the death of the M.W. the Grand Master, the Duke of Devonshire, K.G.
- 1952 February Brethren stood to order as token of respect to the memory of H.M. King George VI, P.G.M. A greetings telegram was sent on behalf of the Lodge to W.Bro. T. Hammond who was installed in 1902.
- October Letters from Grand Lodge, that the name and number of Onslow Lodge is now inscribed on the wall just inside Tower Entrance of Grand Lodge on the R.H. side as recorded. Lodge of Masonic Million Memorial Fund.
- 1953 February Lodge 500th. Meeting. Souvenir Booklet produced.
- 1961 Lodge originated Christmas Gifts to windows of Lodge Members.
- 1964 Garden fete held at the Centre, run by W.Bros. J.C.F. Goss and

- 1965 A.E. Crosby and realized £196 for Guildford Masonic Centre.
Communication from Grand Lodge. Alteration to Ritual suggested, alternate to penalty in obligation, to be adopted or not depending on Lodge. Ballot taken and preferred original.
- 1980 W.Bro. W.G. White initiated, passed and raised his son Bro. D.A. White.
Presentation to W.Bro. C.J.K. Boyce on his retirement as Lodge Treasurer.
- 1986 Communication from Grand Lodge. Alteration to Ritual omitting Penalties from Obligation.

The Centenary Member

W.Bro. Harry Mills, 100 years young on 15th August 1986, was initiated into Onslow Lodge on 9th November 1922, was Worshipful Master in 1933, 55 years ago, and made an Honorary Member of the Lodge in November 1982. He was Lodge Treasurer 1950 - 58, Assistant Secretary 1938 - 39, and is the only surviving founder member of Hindhead — our daughter Lodge No. 5183. He has a remarkable memory particularly of the Lodge and its members, and has contributed to this volume. A lifelong vegetarian he still enjoys his pipe and an occasional pinch of snuff. For the Lodge to have its Centenary with so many details available of its long and most interesting history and distinguished Brethren is marvellous, but to have a living member who was born BEFORE the Lodge was formed, still taking an interest in the Lodge, is undoubtedly unique.

Masters of Onslow Lodge

- 1888 W.Bro. G. Payne, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.
- 1889 W.Bro. J. Ball
- 1890 W.Bro. E. Miles
- 1891 W.Bro. G.B. Cocksedge
- 1892 W.Bro. T. Dodd
- 1893 W.Bro. G. Wale
- 1894 W.Bro. A. Yorke
- 1895 W.Bro. F.N. Keysar
- 1896 W.Bro. J.W. Stevens
- 1897 W.Bro. H.S. Folker
- 1898 W.Bro. H.S. Higlett
- 1899 W.Bro. J.E. Burkmar
- 1900 W.Bro. R. Clemence
- 1901 W.Bro. W.J. Hill
- 1902 W.Bro. T. Hammond
- 1903 W.Bro. P. Dewar
- 1904 W.Bro. G. Wale
- 1905 W.Bro. W. Macklin
- 1906 W.Bro. C. Wort
- 1907 W.Bro. H.A. Baucher
- 1908 W.Bro. H. Everett
- 1909 W.Bro. T.O. Spencer
- 1910 W.Bro. T.N. McWharrie
- 1911 W.Bro. A.W. Hall
- 1912 W.Bro. A.E. Puttock

1913 W.Bro. C.W.T. Boyce
 1914 W.Bro. W.B. Robinson
 1915 W.Bro. G.W. Whiteman
 1953 W.Bro. F.E. Dowdeswell
 1954 W.Bro. T.W. Ash
 1955 W.Bro. R.W. Puttock
 1956 W.Bro. G. Whitelaw
 1957 W.Bro. C.A. Fish
 1958 W.Bro. C.J.K. Boyce
 1959 W.Bro. R.G. Jenkins
 1960 W.Bro. J.C.F. Goss
 1961 W.Bro. A.E. Crosby
 1962 W.Bro. W. Bradley
 1963 W.Bro. G.S. Keysar
 1964 W.Bro. W.R. Francis
 1965 W.Bro. R.V. Smith
 1966 W.Bro. J.R. Starkie
 1967 W.Bro. L.G. Wells
 1968 W.Bro. D.F. Francis
 1969 W.Bro. A.J. Percy
 1970 W.Bro. K.R.K. Boyce
 1971 W.Bro. H.H. Goss
 1972 W.Bro. E.C. Turner
 1973 W.Bro. L.S. Gausden
 1974 W.Bro. W. Conway
 1975 W.Bro. I.T. Plowman
 1976 W.Bro. A.G. Stafford
 1977 W.Bro. L.W.W. Gunn
 1978 W.Bro. L.S. Starkie
 1979 W.Bro. C.W. Fowler
 1980 W.Bro. W.G. White
 1981 W.Bro. R.C. Moat
 1982 W.Bro. P.C.J. Jeanroy
 1983 W.Bro. R.V. Clark
 1984 W.Bro. M. Dillon
 1985 W.Bro. G. Barker
 1986 W.Bro. J.L. Stead
 1987 W.Bro. P.J. Cornford

Other Past Masters of the Lodge

W.Bro. J.M.A Hodges	Lodge of the Morning Star 5428
W.Bro. R.C. Welch	Cripplegate 1613
W.Bro. P.F. Conisbee	Pax Humana 3908
W.Bro. A.L. Grant	Moreford 7097
W.Bro. D.S. Cobbett	Templars 4302
W.Bro. M.J. Whitley	Athene 5422
W.Bro. B.E. O'Connor	Acacia 1314

The Centenary Committee

W. Bros. R.V. Clark
D.F. Francis
L.S. Gausden
H.H. Goss
I.T. Plowman
A.G. Stafford
W.G. White

And each Worshipful Master during his year of office

We are indeed grateful to W.Bro. Tom Plowman and his committee for producing this history of Onslow Lodge.

Mention must be made of the late W.Bro. Ray Moat who had originally agreed to compile the written work. Sadly, at an early stage, due to personal reasons and failing health he had to relinquish that task.

In these circumstances we extend our special thanks to W.Bro. Dick Clark, not only for assuming the mantle of principal author, but also for carrying out most of the research work needed to complete the project.

We also pay tribute to Bro. Paul Cope for his willing efforts in producing the typescript.

How fortunate we are to have been provided with such a valuable and timely addition to the archives of our Lodge in this our centenary year.

W.Bro. Philip Cornford (Worshipful Master 1987).