

LODGE OF FAITH AND HOPE NO. 4772

600TH MEETING



FAITH IN OUR CAUSE AND HOPE IN OUR DESTINY

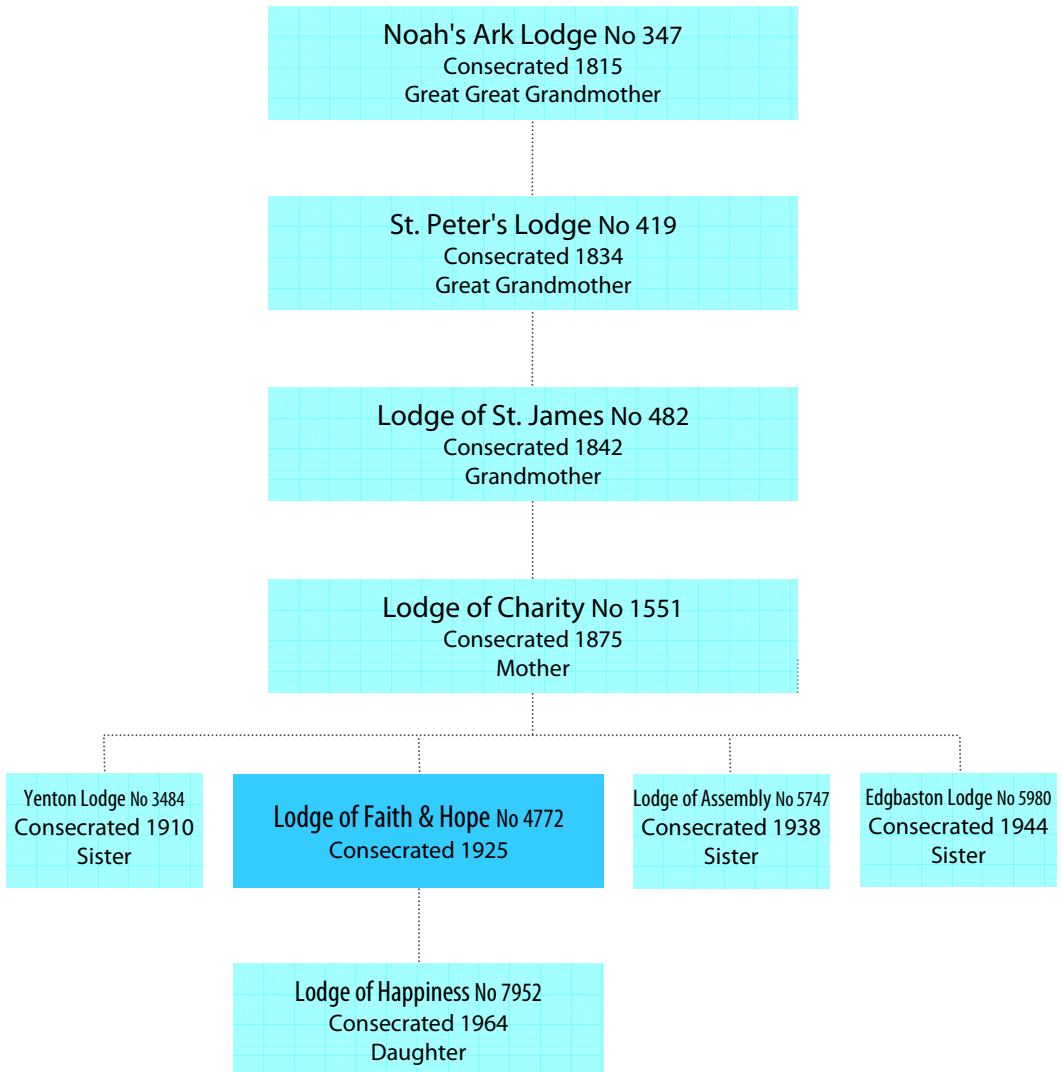
Tuesday 23rd October 2012

The Warwickshire Masonic Temple, Stirling Road, Edgbaston B16 9SB

Grand Patron of the Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys
Grand Patron of the Royal Masonic Hospital

Grand Patron of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution
Grand Patron of the Masonic Samaritan Fund

OUR FAMILY TREE



Foreword . . .

This document is intended to introduce our history over the last 600 meetings, or 87 years, whichever way you prefer to view a Lodge which is surviving well and even flourishing despite difficulties and the turbulent times in which we find ourselves coping with life, circumstances and economics.

It would be impossible to try to summarise everything that our Lodge both stands for, and has achieved over 600 meetings. We have had primarily good times, and like every Lodge a few not so good, but the good times triumph. We have seen great personalities come and go, and we have wonderful memories of all that has taken place. Our Founders have long since departed, but the members who remain are doing their level best to maintain the integrity of the Lodge and to promote the ideals that their predecessors set back in 1925, whilst keeping up to date and attracting new members.

Much of this souvenir presentation is taken from our 75th Anniversary booklet produced in 2000, and has been updated where appropriate.

We have a proud record, and as has been said before, this relies not on numbers but in the standard and quality of the members who constitute the Lodge. The Lodge is progressing towards its Centenary in 2025, and we look forward to celebrating that event with all the confidence the name of Faith and Hope portrays. May those who guide the Lodge through the next thirteen years be inspired by all that has gone before them and the knowledge that this Lodge has the ability and determination to continue to progress for many years after the centenary celebrations.

Our last Anniversary Booklet was published to coincide with the 75th Anniversary meeting on Tuesday 28th November 2000. That was our 529th meeting, and was in the presence of the late R W Bro Stanley Lates, Provincial Grand Master. So large was the attendance that the meeting was held in the Main Temple at Stirling Road, with 23 of our members present, and over 80 visitors. Members of our Daughter Lodge, the Lodge of Happiness No 7952 joined us in abundance, together with our Mother Lodge, the Lodge of Charity No 1551, our Grandmother Lodge, St James Lodge No 482, and even our Great Grandmother Lodge, Noah's Ark Lodge No 374. Sadly, our Grandmother Lodge has since surrendered its Warrant and amalgamated with another Staffordshire Lodge.

In 2000, the Lodge had 34 members, and in common with many other Lodges, has experienced more losses than gains in the last twelve years. Our membership now stands at 21, but we are fortunate in having at least two further candidates after the Initiation which will take place on our 600th meeting. Sadly, we have lost a number of our Past Masters in that time, who have passed to the Grand Lodge above:

W Bro Jack Kriss, PProvGSuptWks.

W Bro Harry Mottram, PProvGSwdB.

W Bro Arthur R Edwards, PProvGReg.

W Bro Maurice G Cowen, PAGDC

W Bro James Benwell, PProvJGD.

W Bro Rodney J Robinson, PProvGStdB.

W Bro George F Hayward, PProvSGW.

W Bro Bryan C Smith, PProvJGW

W Bro George Hayward was a long serving Secretary of the Lodge, having held that Office for at least fifteen years. By coincidence, his son John appears to be coming close to that record, having been Secretary since 2000, with the exception of 2008 & 2009, when he was 'recycled' as Worshipful Master.

On a happier note, in the last twelve years, we have initiated ten Candidates and welcomed a Joining Member, of whom only three have since left the Lodge. W Bro Jason Spittle was initiated in 2001, and has since been instrumental in bringing into the Lodge his father, uncle and cousin, and is about to introduce a work colleague.

The Lodge has many family traditions, and we were delighted to be able to initiate Bro James Morley, son of Bro Graham Morley, although due to their move to Yorkshire, their attendance at our meetings is now much reduced.

W Bro Philip Wills received Grand Rank recognition this year, which was a great honour for the Lodge, having served as Junior Warden of the Province in 2008. November 2005 saw the initiation of Bro Adam Wills. Adam was initiated by dispensation at the age of just nineteen, by his father, W Bro Philip, who was at that time Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Lodge was nearing capacity for that Initiation, which coincided with the 80th Anniversary.

The Lodge has enjoyed many memorable evenings since our 75th Anniversary, and has welcomed many members of the Provincial Team including the present Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro David F Macey, and his predecessor, R W Bro Michael J Price.

A very memorable evening occurred in January 2004, when W Bro James McGhie was due to be installed, but was delayed by essential business commitments, and missed his own Installation! The late W Bro Rodney Pitham, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, saved the day by presenting a stirring lecture entitled 'Freemasonry and Discrimination'. W Bro James McGhie was successfully installed by the same team at the February meeting, but has never been allowed to forget the event.

In October 2010 the Lodge Banner was re-dedicated by R W Bro David F Macey, with an attendance of over 80 to see this rare event. The Banner has been preserved in its original form, and now hangs once again in splendour at every meeting.

The Lodge collars and jewels have been refurbished. The Lodge possesses its own columns, having been presented in memory of W Bro George Hayward. Individual Wands of Office used by the Director and Assistant Director of Ceremonies were presented in memory of W Bro Rod Robinson.

We are also very pleased to have been presented in 2009 with a commemorative '2012 Festival Maul' to mark the achievement of our Lodge target – this has now been exceeded by a considerable amount.

In conclusion, after 600 meetings, the Lodge continues to prosper and looks forward to continued success in accordance with the motto:

FAITH IN OUR CAUSE AND HOPE IN OUR DESTINY

THE FIRST SEVENTY FIVE YEARS

The Lodge of Faith and Hope No 4772 is a Daughter Lodge of the Lodge of Charity No 1551, which was its major sponsor and from where most of the Founders originated.

It was consecrated at the Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham on the 17th November 1925 by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Colonel W F Wyley, D.L., assisted by W Bro J S Pritchett M.A., Assistant Provincial Grand Master.

The First Master was W Bro Alfred Grove.

The First Senior Warden was W Bro R Harry Uren.

The First Junior Warden was W Bro Harold C Lewis.

The First Initiate was W Bro Neville W Gilbert.

The Lodge held its first meeting at the Imperial Hotel in Temple Street, Birmingham where it remained for two years before moving to the newly erected Masonic Memorial Temple in Broad Street, Birmingham in September 1927.

The next change of venue occurred soon after the outbreak of World War II in January 1940 when the Lodge first met at the Edgbaston Assembly Rooms, Francis Road, Edgbaston. On September 28th 1971 it finally moved to its current home at the then named Warwickshire Peace Memorial Temple, Stirling Road, Edgbaston.

During the first ten years no less than ten Brethren died and three resignations were recorded. This was a great strain on a young Lodge, but it did not deter those who were left in their efforts to build it up again and a steady and regular influx of Candidates ultimately restored the Lodge to a strong position.

A tragic loss occurred when W Bro A. Norman Jones who was installed as Fourth Master on the January 22nd 1929, collapsed at the Festive Board and was carried out. He died the following day.

W Bro F John Hook was the Master of the Lodge of Faith and Hope in 1971, and by special dispensation was also Master of the Lodge of Happiness in the same year. Sadly he died suddenly whilst he was Master of both Lodges.

The Uren Upton Benevolent Fund was founded by W Bro Harry Uren and it is interesting to recall that the name Upton was added by unanimous consent of the Brethren at the meeting in September 1938 when it was announced that W Bro G H Upton had died and left a legacy to the Fund. W Bro Upton became a joining member some years before, being also a member of our Mother Lodge, the Lodge of Charity No 1551. Thus our Benevolent Fund title serves to preserve the memory of two of our most admirable characters.

The Loving Cup was presented to the Lodge in 1973 by the Master, W Bro John Saville, and his Wardens Bro E Derek Hateley, and Bro Jeffrey Wilkinson. The Ceremony of the Loving Cup is taken at the Festive Board at all Installation meetings, Initiations and at other special occasions. The historical significance of the use of the cup is always explained with warmth and humour.

The Lodge Goblets were presented in the Golden Jubilee year 1975 by the WM W Bro Jeffrey Wilkinson, and his Wardens, Bro George Hayward and Bro Bryan Smith. The goblets remain in use today.

The Lodge was greatly honoured in 1989 when V W Bro John D Saville was appointed as Assistant Provincial Grand Master by the Provincial Grand Master R W Bro The Rev Vernon S Nicholls, former Bishop of

Sodor and Man. Further promotion occurred in 1990 when he was appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master, continuing in that office until 1992.

The Initiates Clock was presented to the Lodge by W Bro Edwin Cutts to commemorate his 90th birthday on 6th June 1993 on the Past Masters Night that same year. This clock is a continual reminder to all the Brethren of this warm and sincere Brother.

The Chapter of Faith and Hope No 4772 was founded as part of the 25th Anniversary celebrations. The number of Lodge members wearing the jewel of the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch continues to increase.

Charities have always been of great concern and importance to the Lodge members who have consistently and generously supported all Masonic Charities. Support for the 2012 Festival exceeded its target three years before its conclusion and continued with its contributions to assist other smaller Lodges to achieve their targets. The Lodge continues to support the Wilson Stuart Cub Pack, whose members are either physically handicapped or have learning difficulties. Generous support is received from the Province for this deserving pack.

The Master's Collar was presented to the Lodge by W Bro John Elbro to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Lodge in the year 2000.

ORIGINS OF THE FAITH AND HOPE BANNER

The Lodge of Faith and Hope No 4772 was consecrated on November 17th 1925 at the Masonic Hall in New Street Birmingham by the Provincial Grand Master R W Bro Colonel W F Wyley, who was later to become Sir William Wyley.

Sadly, the first Minute Book and Tyler's Register were lost, it is believed in the course of one of the moves from the former sites of either Broad Street or Francis Road. This means that the Lodge record of the Consecration and first meetings are not available to provide a fuller picture of those early days.

However as can be seen from the Banner, the centre-piece is a Phoenix rising from its funeral pyre, and it is assumed that this was chosen to mark the re-emergence of the Craft in Warwickshire following the First World War.

Most of the Founders of the Lodge were members of the Lodge of Charity, our Mother and Sponsoring Lodge, with whom we still have close links and who are represented here tonight. At the time the Lodge was formed, the Lodge of Charity had many members and it was decided that a new Lodge should be created to allow members to progress at a faster rate. There were fifteen Founders of the Lodge, of whom only five were Past Masters.

Thirteen of the Founders were members of the Lodge of Charity, one from Noah's Ark Lodge and one from Masefield Lodge. The first Master of the Lodge was W Bro Alfred Grove, who was an Architect and had been Master of the Lodge of Charity in 1922.

W Bro James Pratt, one of the Founders and Master of the Lodge of Charity in 1909, presented the Lodge Banner by which he will always be remembered as there is a commemorative tribute on the reverse of the original Banner. Sadly W Bro Pratt, who held the unusual rank of Past Provincial Assistant Grand Pursuivant, died just four days after the Consecration.

To enlarge a little upon the centrepiece of the Banner, the phoenix is said to live for 500 years. When it grows tired, it builds a nest of aromatic twigs and then sets fire to itself to be consumed in the funeral pyre of its own making. After three days the phoenix would rise from the ashes, reborn. According to Egyptian legend, it carries the embalmed ashes of its previous incarnation to Heliopolis, the city of the Sun.

The Egyptian phoenix was said to sing sweetly and to dazzle with its plumage of gold, scarlet and purple. Tales of the phoenix appear in ancient Arabian, Greek, Roman and Far Eastern mythology. In both Greek and Egyptian tales, the phoenix represented the Sun dying in flames at the end of each day and rising again each morning.

Early Christians came to view the flight of the Phoenix as a symbol of re-birth and the resurrection, leaving the old world for the new world of the spirit, dying and rising again, reborn. It symbolized the victory of life over death, immortality and Christ's resurrection.

Jewish legend describes the phoenix as the one creature that did not leave paradise with Adam and that its legendary longevity is due to abstaining from the forbidden fruit that tempted the first man. On Roman coins, the phoenix represented an undying empire. According to Chinese mythology, the phoenix is the symbol of grace and virtue, and is second only in importance to the Dragon. It represents the

union of yin and yang and was a gentle creature associated with the Empress who alone could wear its symbol. The feathers of the Chinese Phoenix were black, white, red, green and yellow, the five primary colours.

In Japan the phoenix is found carved into sword hilts and the image of the bird is seen as embroidery on kimonos. Along with the Sun, the phoenix is one of the emblems of the Japanese Empire.

The representation on our Banner is both a fitting Masonic allegory and a Symbol of the Faith in the past and Hope for the future that must have presented itself to our founders after seeing the world rise from the ashes of conflagration.

Although the Lodge membership is not as great as it has been in the past, the members are determined that the Lodge will continue from strength to strength and our refurbished banner will continue to be an inspiration for the Lodge for the future and will thus enable the theme of the Lodge to continue:

Faith in our cause 
Hope in our destiny.

HONORARY MEMBERS 1925 - 2012

W Bro Walter A Grist, MBE, PProvGStdB	October 1927
W Bro Harry Uren, PProvGD	January 1934
W Bro James E Rowley, PProvGD (Staffs)	February 1937
W Bro Walter Bucks, PProvGSwdB	October 1949
W Bro Raymond E Otter	February 1955
W Bro Harry Mottram, PProvGSwdB	February 1985
W Bro Donald W Gardner, PProvGSuptWks	November 1986
W Bro George F Hayward, PProvSGW	February 2000
W Bro John Anson, PProvGOrg (Worcs)	April 2000
W Bro James Benwell, PProvJGD	March 2001
W Bro Bryan C Smith, PProvJGW	March 2003
V W Bro John D Saville, PGSwdB, Past DPGM	February 2007

W Bro John Anson, our Organist until 2000, is in very poor health in a nursing home at the age of 98.

W Bro Don Gardner at the age of 92 keeps in regular touch with the Lodge Secretary from his Somerset home.

V W Bro John Saville, resident in Monaco for many years, is happily living on the sea front at the youthful age of 80, with his wife Josephine, and also keeps in touch with the Secretary of the Lodge.

FAMILY CONNECTIONS: Fathers and Sons within the Lodge

		Initiated	Installed
Father	W Bro James Griffiths	Founder	1931
Son	W Bro Arthur Griffiths	March 1944	1960
Father	W Bro Fred Shum	Founder	1935
Son	W Bro Jeffrey Shum	February 1946	1959
Father	W Bro Myer Cowen	September 1929	1944
Son	W Bro Maurice G Cowen	February 1952	1967/81/92
Father	W Bro Frank Docker	February 1948	1963
Son	Bro Gordon F Docker	February 1957	
Father	W Bro Maurice Burnard	February 1937	1951
Son	Bro Michael Burnard	March 1950	
Father	Bro Arthur Hollins	March 1955	
Son	Bro John Hollins	October 1956	
Father	Bro Walter Cox	May 1930	
Son	Bro Maurice Cox	November 1952	
Father	W Bro Jeffrey Wilkinson	February 1962	1975
Son	Bro Christopher Wilkinson	November 1975	
Father	W Bro H Kenneth Simmonds	November 1959	1978
Son	W Bro John K Simmonds	November 1967	1980
Son	Bro David S Simmonds	February 1980	
Father	W Bro George F Hayward	February 1963	1976/84
Son	W Bro John B Hayward	February 1976	1986/96 2008-09
Father	Bro Harry Robinson	March 1974	
Son	W Bro Rodney J Robinson	February 1979	1989
Father	Bro Keith E Haynes	March 1977	
Son	Bro Richard D Haynes	November 1988	
Son	Bro Stephen P Haynes	February 1989	
Father	W Bro Philip Wills	February 1992	2001/06
Son	Bro Adam Wills	November 2005	
Father	Bro Graham Morley	April 1999	
Son	Bro James R Morley	February 2002	
Father	Bro Paul R Spittle	April 2005	
Son	W Bro Jason Spittle	November 2001	2010-11

W Bro Jeffrey Wilkinson, W Bro George Hayward and W Bro Philip Wills Initiated their respective sons. W Bro George Hayward Installed his son in 1986.

The Founders and first Joining Members in 1925



Back Row: Bros. S.H. Hill, W.J. Wilder, A.N. Jones, W. Bucks, S.J. Cohen, C.F. Green, W.E. Wright, W.B. Bond, J. Plant, W.F. Shum, H.B. Binks, S. Booth, T. Gardiner, S.N. Jones, J. Griffiths.

Front Row: Bro. R.W. Wilkinson, W.Bros. J. Copping, J.E. Rowley, R.H. Uren, A. Grove, H.C. Lewis, Bro. W.H. Maryan.

The Brethren in 1950 *Founder



Back Row: Bros. P.Deeley, W.H. Cox, F.L. Docker, J.H. Gardner, F.T. Partridge, L. Walton, C.S. Buckingham, W.T. Hudson, S.A. Griffiths, T. Jarrom, C.W. Jennens, H.A. Harrison, H. Mottram.

Centre Row: Bros. G. Collins, H. Glover, F.C. Newland, W.L. Wilson, J.F. Binks, W.Bro. L.H. Martin, Bros. E.A. Powell, H.J. Stevens, R. Bloomer, W.Bro. H.V. Godsall, Bros. H.A.D. Wyles, A.E. Brooks, G.F. Day, J. Dallas, R.A. Richards, T.E. Smith.

Front Row: W.Bros. E.A. Lawmon, R.E. Otter, J. Gray, H.B. Binks*, Bros. M. Burnard, J.C. Hathaway, H. Aaron, W.Bros. S.J. Cohen*, N.W. Gilbert, A.T. Thurman, G.H. Roots.

The Lodge Golden Jubilee in 1975



Back Row: W.Bro. J.D. Saville, W.Bro. P.W. Hornsey, W.Bro. M.G. Cowen, Bro. J.K.B. Meakin, Bro. S. Phillips, Bro. J.K. Simmonds, Bro. G.V. Fenton, W.Bro. T.F. Mitchell, Bro. A.R. Edwards, Bro. T.C. Hadley, Bro. D.J. Lake, Bro. L.H. Fryman, Bro. C.S. Buckingham, Bro. H.J. Robinson, Bro. J. Marles.

Centre Row: W.Bro. C.W. Jennens, W.Bro. J.C. Hathaway, W.Bro. G. Hosking, W.Bro. F.C. Newland, W.Bro. S.H. Davis, W.Bro. D.W. Gardner, Bro. J. Kriss, W.Bro. J.S. MacDowall, W.Bro. E.H. Cutts, W.Bro. W.T. Hudson, W.Bro. G. Hart, Bro. H.K. Simmonds.

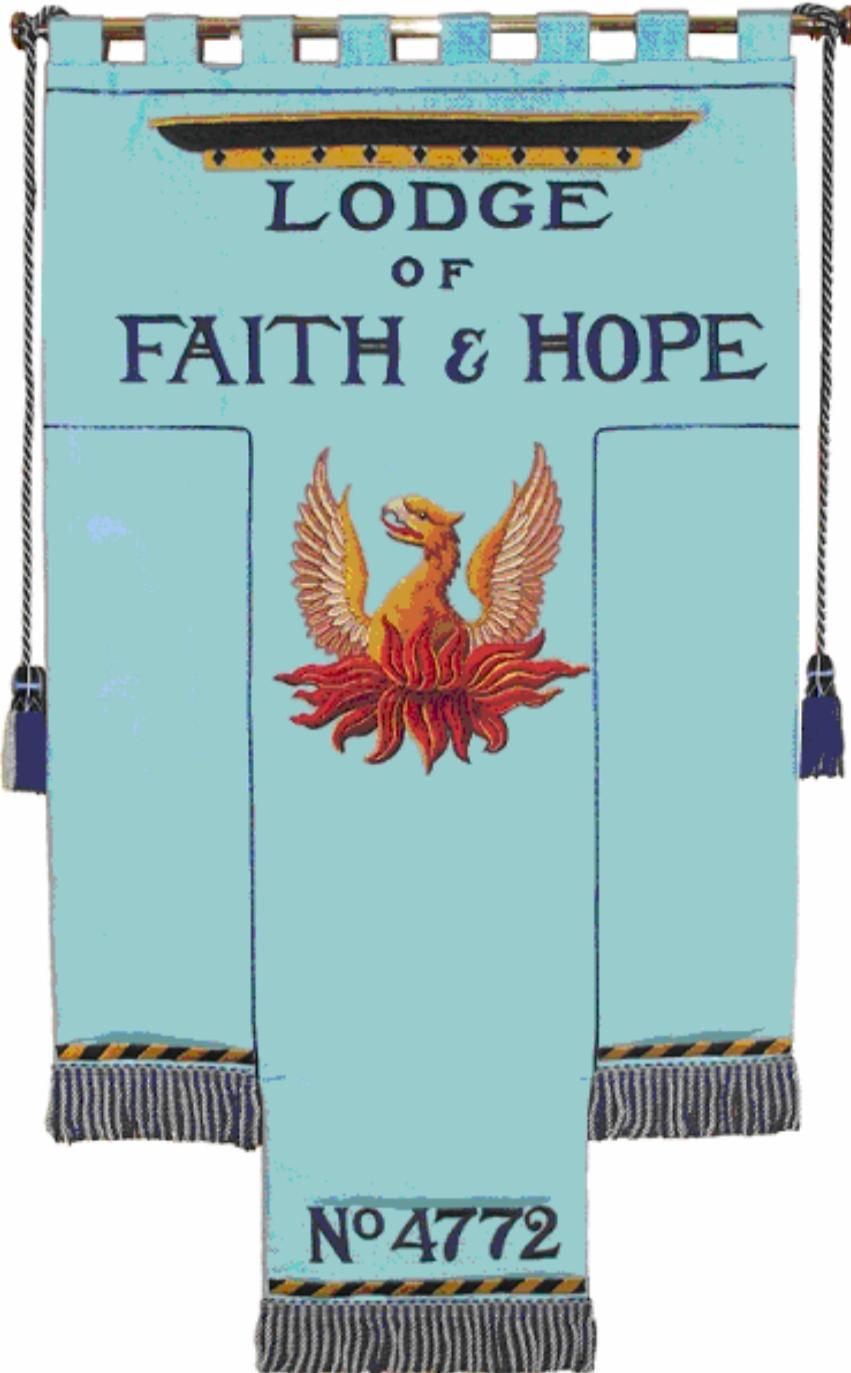
Front Row: W.Bro. H. Mottram, W.Bro. M.H. Cowen, W.Bro. J. Cohen, Bro. G. Hayward, W.Bro. J. Wilkinson, Bro. B.C. Smith, W.Bro. E.D. Hateley, W.Bro. G.H. Roots, W.Bro. F.L. Docker.

The Brethren in 2000



Back Row: W.Bro. Rodney Robinson, Bro. Tony Smith, Bro. Graham Morley, Bro. Antony J. Walters, Bro. Colin Hales, Bro. Paul Ingram, W.Bro. Martin Walsh, W.Bro. Philip Wills, W.Bro. Bryan Eden, Bro. Jim Redmond, Bro. Paul Wilkes, Bro. Trevor Stevenson-Platt, W.Bro. Roger Chapman.

Front Row: W.Bros: Ralph Eskinazi, John Hayward, Arthur Edwards, George F. Hayward, John Elbro, Jack Kriss, Brian C. Smith, John Simmonds.



LODGE
OF
FAITH & HOPE



Nº 4772