

Provincial Grand Secretary  
W.Bro. Andrew Bishop

Brethren.

Masonry has so much more to offer that just three degrees and the Installation ceremonies. By exploring this site you will broaden your Masonic knowledge and discover many articles of interest. Who knows it might just inspire you to write and present a paper in your own Lodge.

Brethren I heartily commend this site to you and urge you to make use of this opportunity of advancing your Masonic knowledge.

Andrew.

oOo

We are most grateful for those encouraging words from the Provincial Grand Secretary, W. Br. Andrew Bishop.

Those of you who visit our web site or have received a copy of our Newsletter by e-mail, will already have seen Andrews letter to us and to those few, I apologise for the duplication.

It is reproduced here for those members of the Study Circle who aren't blessed (or cursed) with Internet access.

Subject to your approval, it is the intention to circulate the Newsletter to keep members of the Southchurch Masonic Study Circle up to date with News and Views.

Alec Hall.

## Constitution— Premier Grand Lodge

In the *Post Boy* of February 26<sup>th</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup>, 1722-3, there appeared the following advertisement:- *'This Day is publish'd*

*'THE CONSTITUTIONS OF THE FREEMASONS.*

*Containing the History, Charges, Regulations, etc., of that most Ancient and Right Worshipful Fraternity, for the Use of the Lodges. Dedicated to his Grace the Duke of Montagu the last Grand Master, by Order of his Grace the Duke of Wharton the Present Grand Master, authorized by the Grand Lodge of Masters And Wardens at the Quarterly Communications. Order'd to be Publish'd and recommended to the Brethren by the Grand Master And his Deputy. Printed in the year of Masonry 5723; of our Lord 1723. Sold by J. Senex and J. Hooke, both over against S. Dunstan's Church in Fleetstreet.*

This work was the work that has ever since been known as Anderson's Constitutions of 1723.

About the author himself, Mr. James Anderson, or Dr. Anderson as he afterwards became, the industry of J.T. Thorp, Sir A. Robbins, J. Chetwode Crawley, and others, has brought together a great deal of information, but we still do not know the date of his birth. From the dedication he prefixed to a sermon printed in 1723, we learn that he was a citizen of Aberdeen, and the biographical note on him in the Catalogue of the Advocates Library, Edinburgh, of 1862, states that he was born there.

He was educated at the Marischal College, and would also appear to have been ordained in Aberdeen... Pierre

oOo

We owe a great debt to Dr. Anderson, author of the 1723 and 1738 Constitutions of the Premier Grand Lodge of England, for laying the firm foundations for Freemasonry we know today.

Modern Masonic historians cast some doubt on the accuracy of some of the matters reported by Dr. Anderson. It was Grand Master George Payne (1720-1721) a government official, who instructed Anderson to "digest" the old "Gothic constitution .. In a new and better method." He did as he was instructed and although we regard the 'History' as a fantasy, it is clear that Dr. Anderson and his contemporaries thought it was an accurate account of our origins.

There are some other matters where Dr. Anderson may have reported events inaccurately but it may be worthwhile to remember that by 1738 Anderson was in his early 80's. and may have suffered a few 'Senior Moments' as you and I do or will do.

Remember too that Dr. Andersons work was approved by members of the Grand Lodge before publication and in particular by Dr. Desaguliers who seems to be generally considered reliable.

Thanks Dr. James Anderson.

By Alec Hall

# Southchurch Masonic Study Circle



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You are cordially invited to the **Regular** meeting of the Southchurch Masonic Study Circle to be held at the:-

**Saxon Hall, Aviation Way, Southend on Sea, Essex, on Thursday 15th March 2007 at 8pm.**

We look forward to seeing you and don't forget, guests are welcome.

Secretary : **W.Bro. Pierre Waddoups**

## AGENDA

- 1 **To welcome visitors and prospective new members.**
- 2 **To receive apologies for absence**
- 3 **To read and if approved, confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on the 14th December 2006.**
- 4 **Matters arising from the minutes**
- 5 **To discuss a Constitution.**
- 6 **Objects of Masonic interest.**
- 7 **Speaker. Bro. Clifford Wyatt will present a paper entitled:-Dr. Edward Jenner. 1749-1823**
- 8 **Questions and answers.**
- 9 **Any other Business**

### YOUR WEB SITE.

It would be great to get some feedback on your web site which I have lovingly constructed. The address is:- <http://www.southchurch-masonic.org.uk>  
Feedback and your constructive criticism are essential if I am to make improvements to your site.  
A Forum has been added and has attracted several visitors from the Circle and from Overseas.. Please visit and post your news and views, on any subject.  
You can contact me either through the site 'contact' page or directly by e-mail. My address is:- [alec@tisl.demon.co.uk](mailto:alec@tisl.demon.co.uk)  
**Encourage me please and visit your site and Forum!**

## A SECRETARIES PLEA

I have made reference to these topics elsewhere in this Summons, but it is worth repeating because of its importance, so;

- \* Please look at our wonderful Web Site and feedback to Alec Hall, our Web Master with comments and suggestions, a talent such as his is not easily procured, we don't want to lose him.
- \* There is a wonderful article about one of our members taking part in an unbelievable charity event, on the Web Site, want to know who it is, and what it is? Then visit it, please!
- \* Bring a guest with you at the next Meeting to share the convivial atmosphere in which we make our advancement in Masonic knowledge.

It's a wonderful ploy to increase our numbers.

- \* Also, the same tactic can be employed at our Celebratory Lunch in April, to show respect for guest speaker, apart from all the other advantages.
- \* The next Meeting will, if you so desire, be our first Annual General Meeting, where can discuss the forming a constitution, unless you feel as a body; if it ain't broke, don't fix it!

Pierre.

### THE AUTHOR OF THE PAPER.

Clifford Wyatt was one of the founders of the Study Circle and the Secretary for many years.

He has a wealth of Masonic knowledge which is attested by speaking to anyone in the Southend Masonic area, and beyond.

Cliff is one of a rare breed of Masons, because he not only cares passionately about it, but also because he knows something of it.

His Talk is entitled; Dr. Edward Jenner. All I can remember is that he lived around the 1820s, and discovered the principle of the vaccination. He discovered that inoculation with cowpox gave immunity from smallpox, something to do with milkmaids comes to mind, and that is the extent of my knowledge of this remarkable man.

So, I will have to wait, along with everyone else to see what the Masonic connection is, and more about the man himself.

Please give Cliff plenty of support, it will I know, be an extremely entertaining, and a well delivered Talk.

## From your Secretary

It seems hackneyed by now, but Happy New Year to you and yours all the same.

The tradition at this time of year, apart from the mandatory uttering of the preceding sentiment, is to make a New Years Resolution.

Well, I think an ideal resolution for us all to make, is to resolve to bring along to the next meeting, and indeed the celebratory lunch, at least one guest, or in the case of the lunch, two guests.

If we were all to do this small act, the increase in our membership would be dramatic.

If we were to do this small act at the celebratory lunch, the result would be not only dramatic, but would be a sign of respect for our guest speaker.

Mrs. Diane Clements as you are all aware, is the Director of the Museum and the Library at Great Queen Street.

It would be terribly embarrassing to us as a Study Circle if the number of guests were to be low.

I have been toying with the idea of having a Constitution for our Study Circle, which it seems we do not have, and this would give us, I believe, a certain gravitas as a Study Circle.

At the March Meeting I would like to thrash out a set of rules cum bye-laws for us all to operate under.

If all goes according to plan, we can vote for Officers and have a plan of action and each year at the March Meeting, we can have an Annual General Meeting.

Anyway, to finish up, please give our speaker plenty of support, and bring a friend!

Thank you for your support thus far and...Happy New Year!

Pierre Waddoups Prov. AGDC

## For your Diary.

**The dates for this year are: March 15th, May 17th, September 20th and December 13th.**

**plus**

**Celebrating the 30th Anniversary  
of our Study Circle**

**22nd April 2007**