

Almoners report: 15<sup>th</sup> August 2014

Giving an almoners report is difficult because by the time you read it, the in-valid may be better, and one should have mentioned other names.

These are some of the brethren who have been suffering in recent months.

- ✓ Dennis Harvey has had a very rough time recently, culminating in a triple heart bi-pass. He later had a chest infection and was taken on to Papworth Hospital to have two litres of fluid drained from his lungs. Thankfully he is sufficiently recovered to be able to go to Germany with his partner, Iris, earlier in August, returning in early October.
- ✓ Maurice Haynes has had a couple of mini-strokes, and had to spend a day at the Kettering General Hospital Stroke unit. He is feeling better, but taking life carefully.

On some good news, our congratulations go to him and his family on the recent wedding of his son.

- ✓ Dick Patrick is finding life an uphill struggle, but still has the determination to play on occasional 'gig' with his band. He hopes to be with us at our next meeting.
- ✓ Ian Stark had had keyhole surgery on his knee – and all would appear to be well, even if very painful.
- ✓ Brian Lewis is finding out true is the 'adage' that "old age never comes singularly", but he is gritting his teeth and hoping to go on a cruise mid-September.
- ✓ Alan Henley who recently lost his wife has gone into Avery House at Hampton near Peterborough as a full time resident. He is not the Alan of old, but soldiers on manfully. His former neighbours in Tansor are giving him excellent support.
- ✓ Don Anderson is also suffering, but begets wonderful support from his wife Pat.
- ✓ Alex Foster is making every effort to be with us in October by working hard on his exercise equipment.
- ✓ Alex Maxwell, is also suffering, but his Scottish determination still drives him on. You have to take your hat off to him- some mason!
- ✓ Keith Bellamy continuous to have problems, with his health, mainly with his knee. A new knee is required but he has problems at the back of his knee which need to be remedied before a replacement can be affected.

Some other good news- Balbir Lotay's daughter is getting married on August bank holiday weekend. Our congratulations go to him and the family. However, with all the building work he has had done at home as well as organising the wedding, I think he will be a lot less richer! We wish him all the best.

So that we can support "absent brethren" it is necessary that we stay closer to them. Let us find out why a Brother is not attending Lodge meetings? Is he unable to get there, and needs transport? Can he not afford to come? Is he having to care for his wife, or family, who is poorly? Has he lost interest in Masonry? And if so why? There must be numerous other circumstances, but this will do for a start.

So I ask every Brother to take note when another Brother is not attending a meeting and has not sent in his apologies---CONTACT HIM. This way we may be able to carry out the promises we made at our initiation.

And I finish with every Almoners plea "if you know of anyone in the lodge who is suffering, for any or various reasons, please let the Almoner know. He is not a mind reader.

WBro Mike Gorrod.