

Carnarvon Chapter No 804

Carnarvon Chapter was consecrated on the 27th January 1873, but its Charter is dated 3rd May 1865. Why there was a delay in the consecration is not known. However we did celebrate our 100th birthday on the 27th January 1973. As can be seen from the name and number we were sponsored by Carnarvon Lodge.

In those days the meetings were held in the Black Dog public house which was in West Street Havant, which unfortunately no longer exists. We now meet at the Havant Masonic Hall Waterloo Road Havant on the 4th Tuesday of February, May, September and November, February being the Installation Meeting.

Looking through the minutes there were a number of interesting facts, such as in August 1915 a letter was received from Supreme Grand Chapter of England stating: At the Quarterly Convocation of Grand Chapter held on Wednesday 4th instant, I have to request you will bring to the notice of your chapter the following:

“That, in order to prevent the peace & harmony of Royal Arch Masonry being disturbed, it is necessary that all companions of German, Austrian, Hungarian or Turkish birth, should not during the continuance of the war attend any meeting of Grand, Provincial or District Chapter”.

However, there was no evidence in the minutes of rescinding this missive.

Also in 1915 it was necessary for the chapter to seek permission from the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent to install the current Joshua, although no reason is noted.

Our chapter is a well supported and vibrant chapter, drawing membership from different lodges in the surrounding area.

In recent years we have been fortunate to have been able to exult a new member at most meetings and welcomed joining and re-joining members. Our Festive Boards are great fun with a relaxed and happy atmosphere.