



*A summary
of
The Origin and History
of
Shanghai Tuscan Lodge No. 1027*

1864 – 2016

*by
Wor. Bro. Graham B. Tarran L.G.R.
Secretary*

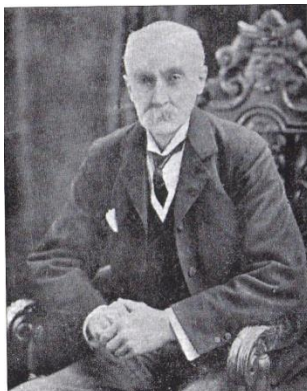
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In March 1864, during the 26th year of Queen Victoria's 64 year reign, when the first step was taken to found the Lodge, there were two Lodges of the English Constitution in Shanghai. They were (1) the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 501, which was founded in 1845 and worked in Hong Kong and Canton before being transferred to Shanghai in 1863, and (2) the Northern Lodge of China, No. 570 which was founded in Shanghai in 1849. They were under the jurisdiction of the provincial Grand Master of China. In 1866, "Provinces" abroad became "Districts" and in 1877, the District of China was divided and became the District of Northern China and the District of Hong Kong and South China. For a map of the foreign settlements in Old Shanghai around this time, and the Treaty Ports and Foreign Annexations in China (see Appendix A and B).

On 1st March 1864, a circular letter was addressed to certain brethren stating that as a new English Lodge was an urgent necessity, they were invited to attend a meeting on the 5th March to consider the question in all its aspects. This meeting was held at the home of Wor. Bro. Robert Freke Gould who was then Worshipful Master of the Northern Lodge of China, No. 570. Wor. Bro. Cornelius Thorn, a Past Master of Northern Lodge of China was elected to the Chair. A Petition to institute and hold a Lodge to be called Tuscan Lodge was then drawn up, signed by sixteen of the brethren in Shanghai and forwarded to the provincial Grand Master of Hong Kong.

Wor. Bro. Gould was the Installing Master at the Inaugural Meeting of Tuscan Lodge, held on the 18th June, 1864 at the Masonic Hall in Canton Road, Shanghai. He was assisted by the Worshipful Master of Royal Sussex Lodge and three Past Masters of Northern Lodge. After the ceremony, Wor. Bro. Cornelius Thorne, who was later to become the first District Grand Master of Northern China and Wor. Bro. Robert Freke Gould, were elected Honorary Members. Wor. Bro. Gould subsequently became famous as the author of that monumental work "The History of Freemasonry" and this Lodge is indeed very privileged to be associated with such an illustrious name in Masonry.



Wor. Bro. Robert Freke Gould
Past Grand Deacon. English Constitution

Past Master Northern Lodge of China No. 570
1864 elected as honorary Member at the
Inaugural Meeting of Tuscan Lodge No. 1027

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There is no record of any Consecration ceremony, as is known today, having taken place, either in June 1864 or when the regular Warrant was received from The United Grand Lodge of England in February, 1865.

Tuscan Lodge was the second of three Lodges founded in Shanghai in 1864, the other two being Ancient Landmark Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, U.S.A., which was inaugurated on

the 9th May, 1864 and Lodge Cosmopolitan, No. 428 of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which was consecrated on 28th December, 1864.

Although it was said the Lodge was an “urgent necessity”, neither of the two Candidates were present at the third meeting in October: the fourth (November) meeting had to be abandoned owing to insufficient number of brethren being present and the fifth (December) meeting was held only with the assistance of visiting brethren. Yet the Minutes record that in the year 1865, there were no fewer than 13 Regular and 7 Emergency meetings, at which 24 Initiations, 22 “Passings” and 23 “Raisings” took place. There were also 12 Joining Members in that year.

In China, an Initiate would enter the Lodge dressed in black Chinese coolie pyjamas. It is not a tradition that continued after the Lodge transferred to London.

In compiling this summary, various examples of splendid penmanship and Minutes of perfect lucidity, whilst others were indifferently written with essential information unaccountably omitted. One of the reasons for this was that the Lodge Secretary’s post in the Far East was a progressive one: the Junior Deacon usually became Secretary and then Junior Warden. Rarely did a Secretary hold office for more than a year. Continuity was absent and whilst this annual change in this post went on for very many years, it is some consolation to know that at long last the lesson has been learned.

In 1865, the Lodge supported the other two English Lodges in a proposal to build a new Masonic Hall (the third) to replace the Northern Lodge Hall in Canton Road at a cost of Taels 40,000. There were to be 40 Shares and it was agreed that these would be taken up in the following proportions:

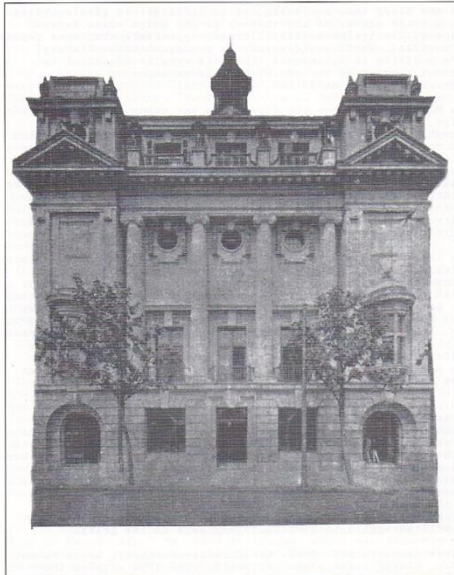
Northern Lodge	...	...	20 Shares
Royal Sussex	...	...	15 Shares
Tuscan	...	...	5 Shares

Thus at a very early stage in its history, The Lodge committed itself to raising a considerable sum for those days. This Hall was erected at 30, The Bund, on a site later occupied by Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ltd.. The needs of the masonic community again outgrew the accommodation and the Hall was sold in 1926.

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After making allowance for the erection of a new Hall, the balance of the proceeds was distributed amongst the three owning Lodges. Tuscan Lodge received its proportion of the money plus 25 Shares in the new Masonic Hall, which was to be erected in Avenue Road. A very good investment judged by any standard.



THE MASONIC HALL The Bund, Shanghai

This was the third masonic Hall in Shanghai and the Ceremony of Laying the Foundation Stone, on the 3rd July 1865 was the last Masonic Function in which Wor. Bro. Robert Freke Gould took part whilst in China. After the ceremony Wor. Bro. Gould was presented with the silver trowel used to lay the stone.

Tuscan Lodge has sponsored the founding of three and assisted in the founding of other Lodges in China. The first was "The Star of Peace Lodge" No. 1217 at Ningpo, which was directly sponsored and founded in 1868. A Past Master of Tuscan Lodge became its first Worshipful Master but unfortunately it surrendered its Warrant after only three years. The second was Doric Lodge No. 1433, founded in Chingkiang in 1873 and, again, a Past Master of Tuscan Lodge became its first Worshipful Master. This Lodge was transferred to Shanghai in 1927 but the Warrant was surrendered in 1955. Another Lodge sponsored the Northern Star of China Lodge No. 2673 in Newchwang, Manchuria. This Lodge survived until 1933 and was about to surrender its Warrant when, instead, steps were taken by the District Grand Lodge to transfer to Tsingtao, where a number of brethren wished to form a Lodge. In the meantime emergency meetings were held in Shanghai with the assistance of Tuscan brethren under the leadership of Wor. Bro. E. Philip Higgs as Acting Master until formalities were completed for the transfer.

Tuscan Lodge also rendered assistance to the China Fleet Lodge of Instruction, which had branches on shore in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Wei Hai Wei. Our senior Past Master, Wor. Bro. J. J. Evans, P.A.G.D.C., was a Preceptor in Shanghai almost from the start (1925) until it ceased to work in 1939. He invariably travelled north to Wei Hai Wei each year to help the naval brethren during the summer.

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Tuscan Lodge was also instrumental in forming the second Royal Arch Chapter in Shanghai under the Supreme Grand Chapter of England. Tuscan Chapter, as it was then known, was consecrated on the 2nd December, 1931. There were 15 Founder Members. After the conclusion of the Consecration and Installation ceremonies, 11 brethren of Tuscan Lodge were proposed as Candidates, thus ensuring sufficient work for the Chapter for some time.

With regard to Benevolence, a Lodge's record of Charity cannot always be measured in terms of the amounts subscribed to the principal masonic Institutions. In a foreign community, thousands of miles from their native land, distress amongst masonic brethren appears to have occurred frequently in the early history of the Lodge and in these circumstances, charity must begin at home. Appeals for assistance were generally met by a subscription list circulated amongst the brethren.

Then came the idea of holding a Masonic Ball to establish a Fund for charitable purposes. This was held every two years and in 1871 the District Grand Lodge took over the organisation of the ball. Three years later, in 1874, the Masonic Charity Fund of Northern China was founded. Thereafter, the main charity efforts of Lodges in Shanghai were devoted to building up and supporting the Fund which was in local currency. These efforts continued up to the cessation of masonic activity in 1942 consequent upon the War and the internment of the brethren.

As to the extent of support given by the Lodge to this Fund, to quote figures in Chinese currency would, at this date, be meaningless, since that currency was never stable and at the end of the Nationalist regime in 1949, had become almost worthless. Nevertheless, in the Annual Report of the Fund in 1939, Tuscan Lodge was shown as the second highest subscriber. So far as the principal Masonic Charities are concerned, the Lodge made its first donation to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in 1869 and to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in 1891. Donations to the Freemasons' War Hospital, later known as the Freemasons' Hospital and Nursing home, were made during the 1914 War and when the Hospital was started on a permanent basis, the Lodge qualified as a Founding Lodge. It must, however, be emphasised that support of the Masonic Charity Fund of Northern China, to make provision for brethren suffering distress and misfortune in a foreign land, was always paramount and looked at in that context, the Lodge's record is not unmeritorious.

The first reference to Charity was made in the Minutes for the meeting of 18th February 1865, which reads as follows:- "The Brethren were then informed by the Worshipful Master that Wor. Bros. Parker and Gould, had informed him that Bro. Grossi who had been left here in distress by the Thorne Troupe had been examined and found worthy of assistance, that he was unwilling however, to come before the Masonic bodies here soliciting charity, but with their assistance he hoped to be enabled to give a concert and it was proposed that the Lodges should take as many tickets for such concert as they could dispose of to the Brethren, under these circumstances the Worshipful Master thought he would be justified

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in taking 25 or 30 tickets and he trusted the members of the Tuscan would relieve him of the majority portion of them". A fine example of the Brethren coming together to assist a fellow mason in a practical way, to relieve his suffering with dignity.

The Craft, by its very nature numbers amongst its members many men of acumen and foresight. Indeed, Shanghai Tuscan can point to one Past Master who demonstrated these qualities in abundance viz:- "the eye of a censorious world is upon us and lips speak plainly against us.... the unenlightened are ever ready to impeach the harmony and improvement which we confess to be the companions of well regulated Lodges. Be therefore.... diligent in discharging your masonic duties, cultivate Brotherly Love, Beneficence and Truth,.... and this supported by wisdom, strength, and beauty,.... and good friendship what have we to fear ? Let the tides of time and chance beat against our walls.... and assail its heights.... our fair structure.... will not cease amongst her sisters here till all alike be summoned to that Great Lodge above where the world's Ruler and our Grand Master lives and reigns forever". These words are as relevant today as when they were first spoken by Wor. Bro. Henry Aeneas Sidford on the 18th June, 1867 at the third anniversary of the founding of Tuscan Lodge.

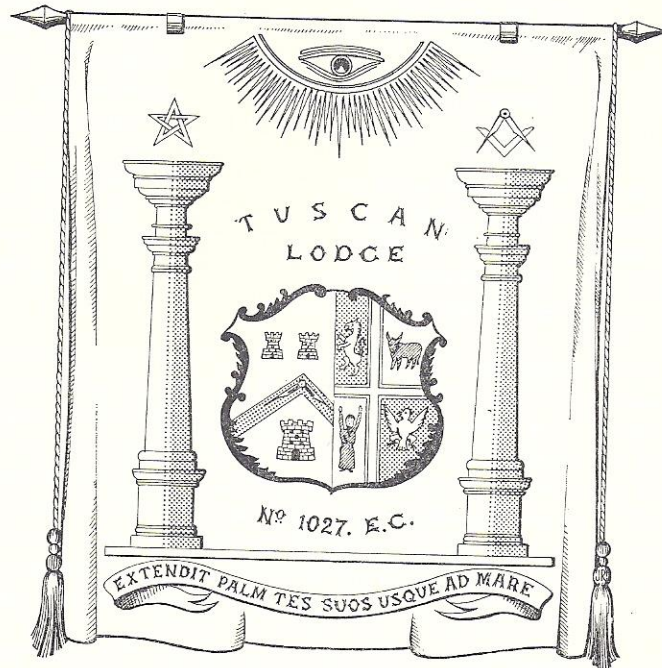
The Master of Tuscan Lodge in 1884 initiated an exercise in practical benevolence when he addressed a letter to the District Grand Master suggesting the founding of a Masonic School. Many brethren could ill afford to send their children home to England for education, whilst others were dependent upon masonic charity. This important project was sponsored by the District Grand Lodge and the school was founded two years later with a Past District Grand Master of Japan as the first Head Master. Some years later, the Shanghai Municipal Council assumed all responsibility for the School, which became known as the Shanghai Public School, but the Subscribers and Patrons of the masonic Fund had the right to nominate, at any time, four boys for free education. In the early years of the 20th Century, there was a local Masonic Scholarship Fund and a School prize fund to which the Lodge contributed until both Funds lapsed and the balances transferred to the Masonic Charity Fund.

There have been several occasions in the past when the Lodge appeared to be lacking in the usual masonic attention to detail. The first occasion was in 1886, when the District Grand Master at one meeting, drew the Lodge's attention to the fact that, alone of all Shanghai Lodges, it had no banner after being in existence for 22 years. The Lodge immediately asked Wor. Bro. F. M. Gratton, a Past Master of Northern lodge and the local masonic historian, to prepare a design. This banner must be the original and is now in the vaults, and in an advanced state of disintegration as a result of undue exposure to the climate during the war years of 1941-1945. The motto on the Lodge crest is EXTENDIT PALM TES SUOS ASQUE AD MARE, a free translation of which is " He extends his shoots even unto the sea".

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Tuscan Lodge Banner



Three years later, in 1889, the 25th Anniversary of the Lodge passed without the slightest reference to it in the Minutes and at the time of the Golden Jubilee of the Lodge in 1914, apart from a decision to order Jubilee jewels and the election of the senior Past Master to fill the Chair in Jubilee year, no other action was taken by way of commemoration.

The award of jewels to Past Masters was also haphazard. Again and again it is recorded the Wor. Bro. A, B or C had not been presented with a Past Master's jewel although he had left the Chair some years before. It would seem that the Lodge expected a Past Master to be active for several years after leaving the Chair, before the award could be considered. There was no regular annual routine about the matter and, generally, the impression is that as modesty precluded those concerned from mentioning the subject, it was overlooked indefinitely. Even worse was when a Past Master had been awarded a jewel by Resolution but the Resolution was never implemented. Intervals of 5 to 10 years were common. In 1930, Past Master's jewels were presented to Wor. Bros. J. Macbeth, A. Jones, J. J. Evans and J. W. Morcher, none of whom had received them when leaving the Chair. One of the last instances of this was in 1939, when Wor. Bro. F. H. Gearey was presented with a Past Master's jewel. He was Worshipful Master in 1924 – 15 years before. Happily, this state of affairs has been regularised since the transfer to London.

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The Lodge records in the latter part of the 19th Century reveal evidence of tremendous masonic activity judged by present-day standards. For instance, in 1891 there were 9 Regular and 6 Emergency meetings. One meeting must have been a marathon for it consisted of one Initiation, two Passings and two Raisings.

Between 1897 and 1904, 50 Initiates and 21 Joining members were accepted, the busiest year being 1897 when there were 14 Initiates. About this period some of the meetings went on for hours. Reference has already been made to one meeting at which all three ceremonies were performed but the time of closing was not recorded. There is however, a record of a meeting which opened at 5:30p.m. and continued until 11:50 p.m., with two intervals for refreshment. Another was called for 9p.m., opened at 9:45 p.m., and closed at 12:50a.m..

1914: 75th Anniversary Jewel



Steady progress was maintained from the turn of the Century up to 1914 with an average of seven Initiates a year and over the war period the average was five a year. At the meeting held in October 1915, the Grand Lodge Resolution was read concerning the exclusion from English Lodges for the period of the war of brethren of German, Austrian, Hungarian or Turkish nationality.

The first member of the Lodge to volunteer for war service was Bro. Walter Smart, who was, unfortunately, the only member to lose his life, being killed in France in September, 1918.

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One of the most respected members of the British community was Wor. Bro. Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, Dean of Shanghai Cathedral, an Initiate and a P.M. of Tuscan Lodge. At the meeting in November, 1916, the brethren stood to order as a mark of sympathy to him on the loss of one of his sons in the war. Within a year, the brethren again extended their sympathy to him on the loss of his second son. Wor. Bro. Symons had previously instituted, with the approval of the Lodge, prayers for the members of the Lodge who were on war service.

At the end of 1917, a resolution, which afterwards achieved some notice and, indeed, comment amongst other Shanghai Lodges, was passed, making the Lodge teetotal for the rest of the War. The primary object was to benefit the Fund for those masonic brethren who were prisoners or interned in Germany but the Resolution was not fully rescinded until December, 1928, although it was annually waived by special resolution for the Installation Dinner.

Apart from the regular donations to the Masonic Charities in England, the Lodge raised about £250 for war charities between 1915 and 1919.

After the war years, the Lodge settled down to a quiet but steady routine without the emergency meetings typical of the early part of the 20th Century. The intake was about five or six initiates a year during the 1920's and in the following decade, rarely more than three.

Donations to the Masonic Million Memorial Fund were made between 1921 and 1926 but it is a matter of regret that the Lodge did not qualify as a Hall Stone Lodge. A Committee was formed to investigate the possibility but the conclusion was that owing to the high proportion of Absent Members at that time, the objective could not be achieved.

As a result of war-like activities in China, British troops arrived for the defence of Shanghai in 1927. One of the Chaplains of the Defence Force was Bro. the Reverend William Robert Fountaine Addison, V.C., who became a member of the Lodge (see Appendix C).

Up to 1931, it had been the custom for the District Grand Master or his Deputy, to install the Master of the Lodge each year but in 1932, Wor. Bro. Ernest Jacobs installed his successor, Wor. Bro. Ernest Philip Higgs, since when, the Installation ceremony has been conducted by the retiring Master.

In January, 1932, another period of emergency was experienced following the outbreak of hostilities between the Chinese and Japanese forces around Shanghai. The Summons for the next two meetings was issued with the endorsement "CURFEW AND OTHER CONDITIONS PERMITTING".

The 75th Anniversary of the Lodge was celebrated at the meeting on 18th June, 1939 by an Address by the Deputy District Grand Master, Wor. Bro. H. E. Middleton and a paper read by Wor. Bro. E. Philip Higgs.

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This was followed by a Reception and Dinner for the brethren and their ladies and afterwards they danced until midnight. The Meeting, Reception, Dinner and Dance all took place in the Masonic Hall at Avenue Road, Shanghai.

Hostilities between the Chinese and Japanese had broken out in the Shanghai area in August, 1937 and the Japanese were soon in control. Restrictions of all kinds were imposed upon the residents, especially access to the surrounding districts, but masonic activity was undisturbed until December, 1941, when war was declared against Japan. For a time, ordinary residents were unmolested but towards the end of 1942, the leaders of the British community, together with prominent masons, were interrogated by the Japanese and this was followed by the internment of all British residents, male and female. It will no doubt be of interest to the brethren to learn that the Japanese Gendarmerie had the assistance of Mrs. Nogami, the widow of a Japanese Officer, who could endorse or refute the statements made by masons when questioned.

In the opinion of one of our members, this woman knew more about masonry than most knowledgeable masons in Shanghai at that time (1942) which is saying a great deal, but how she acquired that knowledge will probably never be known, though the subject is most intriguing. So far as is known, no masonic activity, as such, took place in the various Shanghai camps but one member had advised that in his camp, a Grand Lodge could have been held with the presence of so many high ranking masons of different Constitutions.

It is known that a Ritual was smuggled into one camp by a friendly Dentist under the eyes of a Japanese sentry and this was useful when ceremonies were rehearsed as if playing a game of cards.

It is also known that a Masonic Club was formed at the River Valley Road Prisoners of War camp in Singapore. Although none of our members are on the Roll of Foundation Members at the Inaugural Meeting on 16th July 1942 (see Appendix D), it is not inconceivable that some may have been at the camp and even joined this Masonic Club.

Lodge members were very reluctant to talk of their experiences during the internment, but we know that our former District Grand Secretary Wor.Bro. E. P. Higgs, was a victim of Japanese cruelty and his untimely death was undoubtedly hastened by this ill-treatment.

Liberation came to Shanghai in 1945 and those that could do so, returned home to recuperate. In the event, no Lodge meeting was held until June, 1946 and in the meantime the Master, who had been installed in 1941, had died in November 1945. This meeting was followed by others in October, November and December, 1946 and the first post-war Installation meeting was held in January, 1947. The membership had by that time dropped from 113 at the end of the 1941 to 77, due to death and other reasons.

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During the War, The Great Powers had surrendered their extraterritorial rights in China and after the War, with the Nationalist Government in control, there was little evidence of political stability and the Communists were soon on the way to achieving complete power. This was accomplished in 1949 and thereafter a general exodus of the foreign population began. No direct interference with masonry occurred but circumspection was, of course, necessary. The Masonic Hall had been let to a Jewish organisation during the War period, more or less as custodians, but it was never again occupied for masonic purposes and, with the advent of the Communists, was requisitioned for the use of a Trade Union.

Regular meetings of the Lodge continued to be held but by 1951 the membership had dwindled so much that it could function only with the assistance of members of other Shanghai Lodges. In 1954, when the end of the Lodge seemed inevitable, Wor.Bro. Dean Barrett, the Worshipful Master, took the necessary steps to pave the way for Wor.Bro. E. Philip Higgs in London, to arrange the transfer of the Charter. With the valuable assistance and co-operation of the Grand Secretary, the first Regular meeting of the Lodge in London took place on 8th December, 1954. In this connection, the Lodge is particularly indebted to the late Sir Sydney White, K.C.V.O., the former Grand Secretary, without whose personal interest we should not have been privileged to meet on a regular basis at Freemasons' Hall in Great Queen Street, London.

As two Lodges with the same name cannot function in the same town or place and as the existing Tuscan Lodge in London had overwhelming seniority, No. 14 in fact, it became necessary for the Lodge to change its name to "SHANGHAI TUSCAN LODGE". At the following meeting in February, 1955, there were five Members, one Honorary member and twenty three Visiting Brethren present. The Acting Master, W.Bro. E.P. Higgs produced the Warrant but explained that he was unable to open it on account of its deteriorated condition. During the meeting, no less than 34 brethren from other Shanghai Lodges were elected as Joining Members, including our former District Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother, William Nation, P.G.D., who relinquished his Honorary Membership and became a subscribing Member. A Warrant of Confirmation was applied for and this was formally presented to the Worshipful Master, Wor. Bro. Ernest Arthur Mills, at the meeting on 12th October, 1955 (see Appendix E). The present banner is a painted replica of the original and is the work of Bro. James Robinson, the second Initiate in London.

The Lodge Jewels in use today pre-date our transfer to London, and bear the inscription "Tuscan Lodge No. 1027" on the reverse.

The transfer of the Warrant from Shanghai to London was favoured because it was hoped that the Lodge would become a focal point for Shanghai or China masons, irrespective of their original Constitution or allegiance. This hope was more than amply fulfilled at the time of the Lodge's Centenary in 1964.

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From the list of members at that time, the number of our Country and Overseas members combined was greater than that of Resident members – 57 against 45. Why should that have been so? It could have been that those outside London retained their membership for sentimental reasons but it can, in part, be attributed to the news-letter “NEWS AND NOTES” inaugurated by Wor. Bro. E. Philip Higgs and continued after his death on a half-yearly basis, which had kept those members unable to attend Regular meetings, fully informed of what was happening in London. The letters received from brethren overseas testified to its usefulness in keeping absent brethren in touch with events. With the passage of time, we no longer have any “China Hands”, members who were in the Lodge when it met in Shanghai.

As regards the Lodge’s efforts for Charity, it should be explained that it was not customary in China Lodges for the Worshipful Master to make an annual appeal to the brethren in aid of one of the principal Charities, as was done in London and the Provinces. In 1957, however, the Worshipful Master conformed to established custom in England and made an appeal on behalf of the Royal Masonic Hospital. The brethren’s response was most gratifying and the appeal must be regarded as an outstanding success. Three subsequent appeals had been made for other Charities and in 1961 the Masonic Benevolent Association was founded by the efforts and organising ability of Wor. Bro. Tom Haggard, L.G.R.. Having succeeded Wor. Bro. Haggard as Charity Steward upon his retirement, Wor. Bro. G.F. Bristow immediately determined to maintain and improve upon the standards of his predecessor.

The extent of his success can be judged by the fact that this Lodge was amongst the first 20 Lodges to qualify for a Gold Jewel marking their support for the New Masonic Samaritan Fund.

This Jewel was presented to Shanghai Tuscan Lodge by the R.Wor. The Assistant Grand Master at the Commonwealth Lodges Association Festival on the 26th June, 1996 at Mark Masons Hall.

It will be recalled that three Lodges were founded in Shanghai in 1864 – one American, one Scottish and one English. Of these, the Ancient Landmark Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is inactive. This Lodge elected to go into “recess” in 1950 and while it is, for practical purposes defunct, it is still on the Register. Lodge Cosmopolitan of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was transferred to Hong Kong in 1962 and is still in existence today.

Of the three English Lodges in 1864, the first, Northern Lodge of China. No. 570, surrendered its Warrant in 1960 after 111 years; the second, Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 501, was transferred to Hong Kong in 1952 and so returned to the place of its foundation in 1845. The third is Tuscan Lodge, now known as Shanghai Tuscan Lodge and is thus the only Shanghai Lodge to find a refuge in London.

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By the Centenary Meeting in 1964 (see Appendix F), the Lodge had admitted 501 Initiates and 348 Joining members. The membership at that time was 102, consisting of 45 Resident, 24 Country and 33 Overseas Members with one Honorary member. The membership at the 75th Anniversary in June 1939 numbered 110.

Taking into consideration that the years 1942-1946 were disastrous for masonry in the Far East, the Lodge has recovered well. It celebrated its Centenary less than 10 years after moving to a new home in London, and during that period had admitted 11 Initiates and 67 Joining members. We are proud to have numbered amongst our members 6 District, Deputy Provincial or Deputy District Grand Masters in China, as well as our own Grand Officers and brethren of London and Senior London Grand Rank.

From the 1920`s it was the custom for Lodges with Commonwealth connections to exchange visits with each other. In 1972 this was put on a more formal basis with the formation of the Commonwealth Lodges Association (CLA) to promote the interests of Freemasonry amongst members of Commonwealth Lodges, a closer fraternity among Brethren having similar interests and encourage Masonic contacts between members of Commonwealth Lodges for the organising of the Commonwealth Lodges festival to be held in 1976 and biennially there after.

The early Lodges were formed from members of the Royal Colonial Institute, various High Commission Offices, Clubs such as the West Indies Club, and groups of returning expatriates. One was formed to give a Masonic home for overseas Brethren, who had come to fight in the First World War. The next group, some of them old Lodges that had relocated to this country included Shanghai Tuscan.

Some of the CLA Lodges enjoy more success in recruiting Initiates than others, so a co-operation scheme was established to accommodate Lodges with limited work (ceremonies), enabling them to undertake ceremonies on behalf of the more fortunate ones that have more work than they can cope with. This scheme proved very beneficial to the Lodge during the first decade of this century when we had no new initiates of our own.

On Wednesday 26th June 1996, by Dispensation of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, at Mark Masons Hall, St. James's, London, the Lodge was host to the 13th Combined Commonwealth Lodges Festival. A prestigious honour indeed. The Lodge gave a presentation during the meeting of our history, and linking it to world events which were happening at that time.

From the period of our centenary to 1996, the Lodge was averaging at least one Initiate per year with 38 Initiates during the 34 year period. However, the Lodge was then to suffer a lean period for new members in the 16 years up to 2012 with only 2 Initiates. The workings of the Lodge during this period saw a steady flow of lectures, and degree workings conferred on behalf of other Commonwealth Lodge Association member Lodges.

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In the following 3 years (2012 to 2015) , we have Initiated 5 new members, and it is hoped that we will continue to increase our membership by at least 1 per year.

During our period in London, and indeed prior to 1955, there had been many discussions about the administration of London Lodges by the Grand Secretary's office, and it was only in the late 1990s that the Grand Master, H.R.H. Duke of Kent set up a formal review. The outcome of that review was the formation of Metropolitan Grand Lodge (MetGL) on 1st October 2003, as an independent administrative body under a Metropolitan Grand Master. Shanghai Tuscan Lodge was very proud to be a Founding Lodge in MetGL.

In 2014, the Lodge celebrated 150 years. A Chinese meal for brethren and guests was held in a Chinese restaurant in London's Chinatown to celebrate the event. The Secretary, Wor. Bro. G. B. Tarran gave a brief history of the Lodge, and this was followed by the Worshipful Master, Wor. Bro. A. P. Mayes who proposed a toast to "The Lodge". The Lodge has continued to organise a Chinese meal in London's Chinatown every June to remember our past, and our historic links with Shanghai and the Far East.

It has been said "happy is the Lodge that has no history". This Lodge has a history and we are proud of it. The Lodge does not claim to be distinguished but it has been hard working and that continues to this day. It has had many enthusiastic masons as members in its time and it was always well represented in the District Grand Lodge. Now that it is domiciled in London, there is no reason why its past history should be forgotten. Although we no longer have any members with a connection to China, it is our hope that all members will carry the torch of Shanghai masonry in London and endeavour to uphold the best traditions of the Craft in the years to come. After 152 years we feel justified in saying that Shanghai Tuscan Lodge is a prime example of "HANDS ACROSS THE SEA" (see Appendix G).

End.

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Acknowledgements:

The late Wor. Bro. William C. Tice and all the brethren who contributed to the production of the Lodge Centenary Booklet in 1964 from which the majority of the Lodge history has been drawn. Works consulted in that production were:

“The History of Freemasonry in Shanghai and Northern China”
By Wor. Bro. F. M. Gratton, P.D.G.W. (1894) and revised
by Rt. Wor. Bro. R. S. Ivy, D.G.M. (N. China) in 1913.

“The History of Freemasonry in Northern China 1913-1937”
By Rt. Wor. Bro. W. Nation, D.G.M. (N. China), 1938

The brethren who contributed to the production of “The Story of Shanghai Tuscan No. 1027” which was presented at The Commonwealth Lodges Association Festival Meeting in 1996.

Wor. Bro. G. M. Howard, SLGR, PProvSGW, PProvGStwd (Herts) , Secretary of the Commonwealth Lodges Association.

Wor. Bro. C. E. Pascoe PPGJW (West Kent) for details about masonic activity in Singapore POW camps.

R.Wor. Bro. W.H. Hunt, Librarian, Samuel Crocker Lawrence Library, Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts.

Wor. Bro. G. B. Tarran L.G.R.
Secretary

September 2016

A summary of The Origin and History of Shanghai Tuscan Lodge No.1027

1864 – 2016

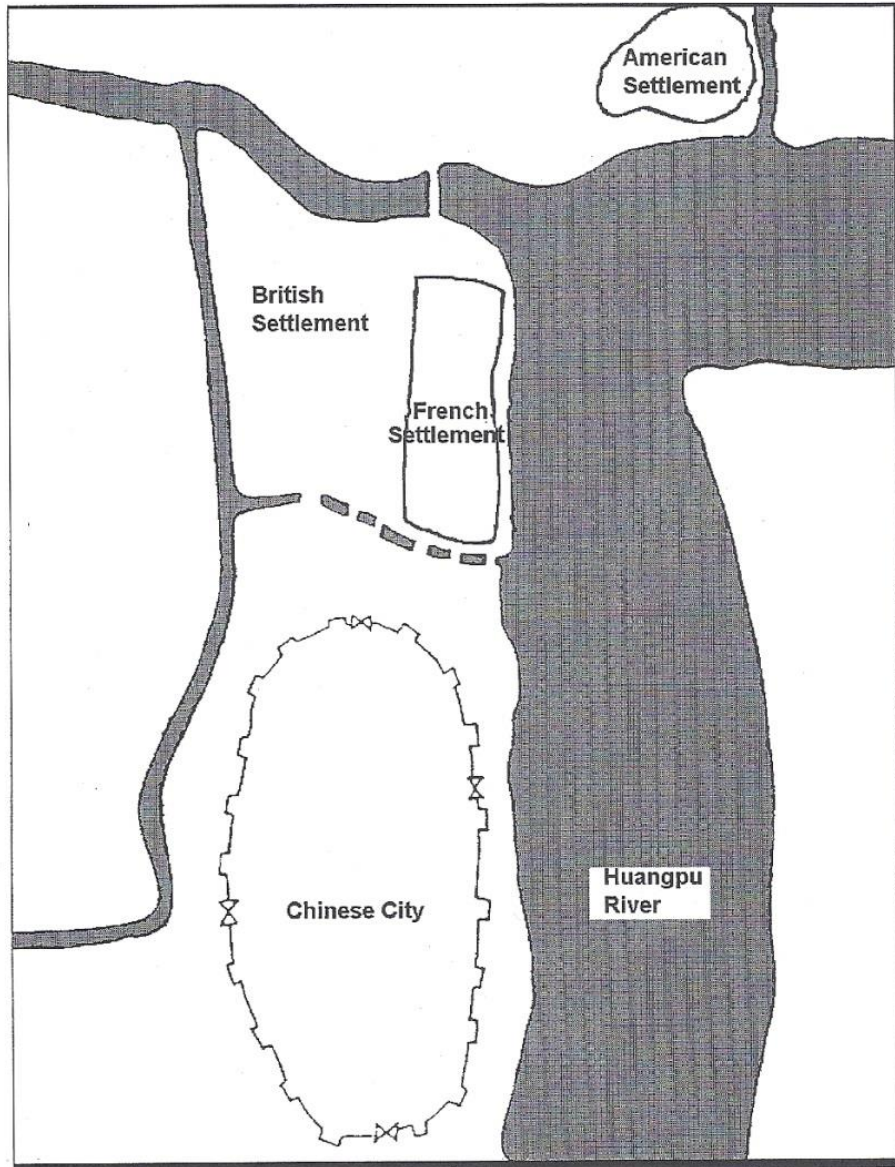
THE ROLL OF MASTERS

1864	A R Tilby	1904	T W McIlwraith	1944	G J Day	1984	G W Creamer
1865	H A Sidford	1905	W F Harris	1945	G J Day	1985	G W Creamer
1866	R A Guntry	1906	H G Riches	1946	G J Day	1986	P F Edgar
1867	E Oppert	1907	J H Worth	1947	H Standring	1987	T W Ranson
1868	P C Winchurst	1908	M E H Wells	1948	H Standring	1988	P F Edgar
1869	T A Cowderoy	1909	F Hopkins	1949	S E Feasey	1989	R E Faulkner
1870	E Holdsworth	1910	E Page	1950	J G Forbes	1990	R J Blackmore
1871	J I Miller	1911	C J F Symons	1951	W C Rose	1991	A R Godfrey
1872	P Orme	1912	C E Pearson	1952	S S Cornish	1992	S G Creamer
1873	C Gombert	1913	C Matthews	1953	D Barratt	1993	D J Pearson
1874	T W Eckfeldt	1914	J H Osbourne	1954	D Barratt	1994	A M Wass
1875	J I Miller	1915	E M Van Bergen	1955	E A Mills	1995	J V Creamer
1876	L More	1916	R K Hamilton	1956	J G Forbes	1996	P A Creamer
1877	L More	1917	S Hore	1957	W C Tice	1997	R J Torode
1878	J C Hughs	1918	R H Coveney	1958	W M Venn	1998	D Bale
1879	W H Short	1919	W King	1959	G J Wells	1999	I P Cheek
1880	H J Fisher	1920	W J Williams	1960	L B Francis	2000	G B Tarran
1881	J I Miller	1921	W J Davey	1961	J Drummond	2001	A P Mayes
1882	C H King	1922	J Macbeth	1962	T Haggard	2002	D J Pearson
1883	J Morris	1923	H Chatley	1963	A M Bryden	2003	G B Tarran
1884	O Middleton	1924	F H Geary	1964	J E Casselle	2004	R J Blackmore
1885	R A Gubbay	1925	A Jones	1965	H C F Aris	2005	R J Torode
1886	O Middleton	1926	J J Evans	1966	W J White	2006	S G Creamer
1887	T F Hough	1927	J G Chambers	1967	A M ^{dc} Leay	2007	A P Mayes
1888	J Baird	1928	J W Morcher	1968	J F J Faulkner	2008	R Gibbs
1889	S Moutrie	1929	L G Day	1969	R E Faulkner	2009	J J D Shields
1890	J H Osbourne	1930	F Hornbrook	1970	D H Swain	2010	R J Blackmore
1891	S A Levy	1931	E Jacobs	1971	D G Forbes	2011	R J Blackmore
1892	E P Wickham	1932	E P Higgs	1972	P S Gleed	2012	A M Wass
1893	G Lanning	1933	H Standring	1973	H W Buttell	2013	M R Newman
1894	G Lanning	1934	M E H Wells	1974	W C Tice	2014	A P Mayes
1895	L More	1935	E C Muir	1975	R E Faulkner	2015	D J Pearson
1896	J Northey	1936	R N Bryson	1976	G F Bristow	2016	S G Creamer
1897	J H Osbourne	1937	A G Jacobs	1977	E G Hodges		
1898	S A Levy	1938	T G Baillie	1978	W A G Waters		
1899	H W Cave	1939	V O Riley	1979	W C L Andrews		
1900	J Ford	1940	A E P Grimmo	1980	W C L Andrews		
1901	E Page	1941	G J Day	1981	R W Fountaine		
1902	E Page	1942	G J Day	1982	P R Newson		
1903	C E Pearson	1943	G J Day	1983	P R Newson		

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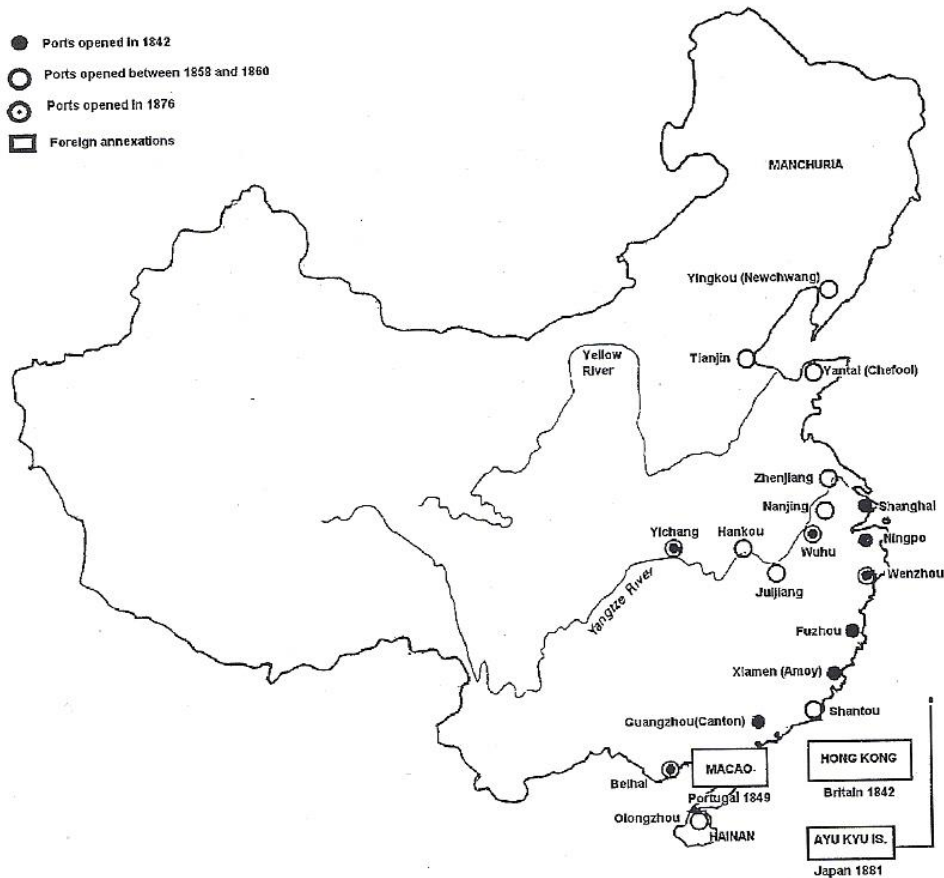
Appendix : A

Map of the Foreign Settlements in Old Shanghai circa 1864



Appendix : B

TREATY PORTS AND FOREIGN ANNEXATIONS



Treaty Ports

In the years that followed the Opium Wars 1839-42 and 1856-60, the intruding foreigners strengthened their position by establishing settlements or concessions in the so-called Treaty Ports.

In 1860 there were 14 of these privileged enclaves where foreigners could live, own property and engage in business under the jurisdiction of their own consuls. Local laws and administration (Police, roads, sanitation, and so on) were also in their hands. Four more such ports were opened in 1876. Other areas were taken totally under foreign control. The island of Hong Kong, for example, was ceded to the British in the treaty of Nanjing in 1842 as part of the spoils of war.

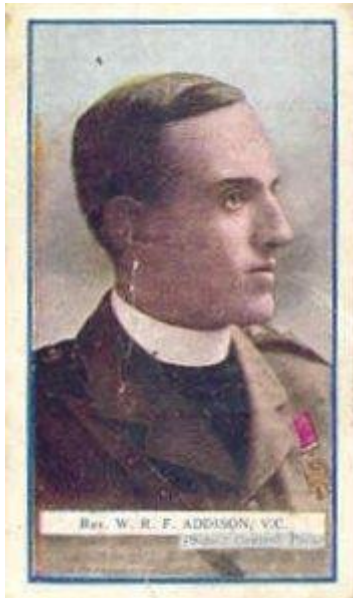
A summary of The Origin and History of Shanghai Tuscan Lodge No.1027

1864 – 2016

Appendix : C

William Robert Fountaine Addison VC

(18 September 1883 – 7 January 1962)



William Robert Fountaine Addison was an English recipient of the Victoria Cross, the highest and most prestigious award for gallantry in the face of the enemy that can be awarded to British and Commonwealth forces.

The Reverend William Addison attended Sarum College, was ordained in 1913 and became curate of St Edmund's Church, Salisbury (now closed). During the First World War he was a Temporary Chaplain of the Forces, 4th Class in the Army Chaplain's Department, British Army, when the following deed took place on 9 April 1916 at Sanna-i-Yat, Mesopotamia, for which he was awarded the VC "for most conspicuous bravery":

A member of Tuscan Lodge No. 1027

Citation:

"He carried a wounded man to the cover of a trench, and assisted several others to the same cover, after binding up their wounds under heavy rifle and machine gun fire. In addition to these unaided efforts, by his splendid example and utter disregard of personal danger, he encouraged the stretcher-bearers to go forward under heavy fire and collect the wounded".

After the war Addison continued as an army chaplain and served at Malta, Khartoum, and Shanghai and at army bases in England. While in Shanghai, he became a member of the Lodge. He was Senior Chaplain to the Forces from 1934 to 1938 when he left the army and became a parish priest. He was Rector of Coltishall with Great Hautbois in Norfolk from 1938 to 1958. However, on the outbreak of World War II he returned to the army and again served as Senior Chaplain to the Forces.

A replica set of Addison's medals is on display at the Museum of Army Chaplaincy.

A summary of The Origin and History of Shanghai Tuscan Lodge No.1027

1864 – 2016

Appendix : E

Text of the Warrant of Confirmation

(1st June, 1955)

(Sgd.) Scarbrough G.M.



To all and every our Right Worshipful and Loving Brethren

We, Lawrence Roger Earl of Scarbrough

Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter
&c., &c., &c., &c.,

Grand Master

of the Most Antient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted
Masons of England

Send Greeting

Whereas it appears by the Records of the Grand Lodge that a Warrant of Constitution bearing date 18th August 1864, was granted to certain Brethren therein named authorising them to open and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons at Shanghai, China and which was then registered in the Books of the Grand Lodge as No. 1027 under the title or Denomination of The Tuscan Lodge and whereas on the 3rd November, 1954 it having been found impossible to continue to hold meetings in Shanghai owing to the rapidly decreasing number of resident members, the M.W. The Grand Master was pleased to sanction the removal of the said Lodge to London and whereas on the 1st December, 1954 there already being a Tuscan Lodge No. 14 meeting in London, the M.W. The Grand Master was pleased to sanction and approve that the said Tuscan Lodge No. 1027 be hereafter known as No. 1027 The Shanghai Tuscan Lodge and whereas the Brethren composing the said Lodge have by their Memorial represented to us that their Warrant has been damaged during storage and they have prayed us to grant them a Warrant of Confirmation in lieu thereof, now know We that We being satisfied of the reasonableness of the said request and from the confidence reposed in the Brethren do hereby grant this our Warrant of Confirmation unto our Right Trusty and Well Beloved Brethren, ERNEST ARTHUR MILLS, JAMES GILL FORBES, WILLIAM CHARLES TICE, ERNEST PHILIP HIGGS, P.G.D., WALTER MANFRED VENN, LESLIE BEESON FRANCIS, AUBREY EDWARD PETER GRIMMO and Others composing the said Lodge authorising and empowering them and their Successors to continue to assemble and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, on the second Wednesday in February, May, October and December and to make pass and raise Free Masons according to the Ancient Custom of the Craft in all Ages and Nations throughout the known World and further at their said Petition and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the above named Brethren We Do Appoint the said ERNEST ARTHUR MILLS to be the MASTER the said JAMES GILL FORBES to be the SENIOR WARDEN and the said WILLIAM CHARLES TICE to be the JUNIOR WARDEN for opening and holding the said Lodge and until such time as another Master shall be regularly elected and installed, strictly charging that every member who shall be elected to preside over the said Lodge and who must previously have duly served as Warden in a Warranted Lodge shall be installed in Ancient Form and according to the Laws of the Grand Lodge that he must thereby be fully invested with the dignities and Powers of his Office and we do require you, the said ERNEST ARTHUR MILLS to take special care that all and every the said Brethren are or have been regularly made Masons and that you and they and all other the Members of the said Lodge do observe perform and keep the Laws Rules and Orders contained in the Book of Constitutions and all others which may from time to time be made by our Grand Lodge or transmitted by us our Successors Grand Masters or by our Deputy Grand Master for the time being and we do enjoin you to make such By Laws for the government of your Lodge as shall to the majority of the Members appear proper and necessary the same not being contrary to or inconsistent with the General Laws and Regulations of the Craft, a copy whereof you are to transmit to us and we do require you to cause all such By Laws and Regulations and also an Account of the proceedings in your Lodge to be entered in a Book to be kept for that purpose AND you are in nowise to omit to send to us or our Successors, Grand Masters or to our Deputy Grand Master for the time being at least once in every year a List of the Members of your Lodge and the names and descriptions of all Masons initiated therein and Brethren who shall have joined the same with the fees and monies payable thereon It being our will and intention that this our Warrant of Confirmation shall continue in force so long only as you shall conform to the Laws and Regulations of our Grand Lodge

GIVEN under our Hand and the Seal of the Grand Lodge at London, this 1st day of June A.L. 5955
A.D. 1955

By Command of the Most Worshipful Grand Master

Sydney A. White

Derby

G.S.

D.G.M.

A summary of The Origin and History of Shanghai Tuscan Lodge No.1027

1864 – 2016

Appendix : F

The Centenary Meeting

The Centenary Meeting of the Lodge was held, by Dispensation of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, at Freemasons' Hall, London. WC2 on Wednesday the 30th September, 1964.

The Lodge was opened at 5pm, in the presence of 37 members and 80 Visiting brethren.

The Secretary read the Dispensation convening the Meeting.

The Worshipful Master announced that owing to ill-health, Rt. Wor. Bro. Sir Frank Newson-Smith, Bt., O.S.M., P.G.W., was unable to be present and that his place would be taken, at very short notice, by V. Wor. Bro. Sir Gilbert Davis, Bt., P.G. Treasurer, as the Representative of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master.

The Worshipful Master announced with regret that the Treasurer, Wor. Bro. J.G. Forbes, P.D.G.D.(N.China) had recently undergone a serious operation and that he would be absent for some months. A letter of sympathy had been sent to Wor. Bro. Forbes in his misfortune and expressing the Lodge's best wishes for his early restoration to health.

Wor. Bro. A. E. I. Pickford, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, was announced and on being admitted, a deputation was formed to conduct the Grand Master's Representative and other Grand Officers into the Lodge.

The Worshipful Master welcomed V.Wor. Bro. Sir Gilbert Davis and tendered him the gavel which was returned. V.Wor. Bro. Sir Gilbert Davis and the Grand Officers were saluted in the customary manner.

Wor. Bro. A. N. Bryden, Immediate Past Master, read the Warrant of Confirmation of the Lodge, granted by the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master, on 1st June, 1955, upon the transfer of the Lodge to London.

The Brethren stood to order whilst the Deputy Grand Secretary, Wor. Bro. A. R. Jole, read the Centenary Warrant.

V.Wor. Bro. Sir Gilbert Davis, Bt., P.G.Treasurer, received the Centenary Warrant from the hands of the Deputy Grand Secretary and then addressed the Lodge. He reminded the Brethren that for a hundred years, the work and advancement of their Lodge had proceeded apace and that the Charter had been handed down to a succession of Masters. To mark the occasion, the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master, had granted the Lodge a Centenary Warrant recording its historical achievement. The Warrant was then handed into the safe keeping of the Worshipful Master.

A summary of The Origin and History of Shanghai Tuscan Lodge No.1027

1864 – 2016

The Worshipful Master said that this was a proud moment for the Brethren of the Lodge. The Warrant was a token representing a century of service to Freemasonry, mainly in a foreign land, during which the brethren had to overcome all kinds of trials and tribulations from time to time. On behalf of the Lodge, he expressed his thanks to Bro. Davis for presenting the Centenary Warrant.

Wor. Bro. W. C. Trice, L.G.R., read a paper on the origin and history of the Lodge. He was afterwards thanked by the Worshipful Master for his interesting and instructive Address and was congratulated on his literary contribution to the Centenary celebrations.

The Worship Master announced that among the Grand Officers present was Wor. Bro. G. E. Glazebrook, P.A.G.D.C., a member of the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, who would be asked to receive on behalf of the Institution, donations from the Lodge and the Chapter.

Wor. Bro. G. James Wells, the First Principal of Shanghai Tuscan Chapter said that he had much pleasure in presenting a cheque for 200 Guineas from the funds of the Chapter and also a voucher and cheques to the value of £70, being the proceeds of the First principals list. Wor. Bro. Wells said that he made these presentations on behalf of the Royal Arch members of the Chapter and as a token of support to the Lodge to which they are attached, on the occasion of its centenary. By virtue of these donations, the Chapter would become a Vice Patron of the Institution.

Wor. Bro. Tom Haggard, L.G.R., addressed the Brethren and said that his only regret was that the total contributions to Charity in the Lodge's Centenary Year, were less than £10 a head, either for the number of members or for the number of years the Lodge had been in existence.

Nevertheless, the total sum of £904 2s. 6d. (for Lodge and Chapter) was, he thought, very creditable. On behalf of Wor. Bro. J. G. Forbes, the Treasurer, who was unable to be present, he asked Wor. Bro. Glazebrook to accept donations of £199 10s 0d., being a Lodge donation of £102 5s. 0d. and sundry other members' donations of £97 5s. 0d. In addition, he presented donations of £284 11s 0d. from the 24 members of the Shanghai Tuscan Masonic Benevolent Association, which he had founded three and a half years ago. Each member had agreed to a minimum donation of Ten Guineas being made in his name. The total Chapter, Lodge, and Masonic Benevolent Association donations to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys thus came to £764 1s. 0d. The difference between this figure and the Grand Total of £904 2s. 6d., was made up by the sum of £83 0s. 6d., being the amount of Wor. Bro. L. B. Francis's list for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution when he was Worshipful Master in 1960 and a sum of £57 1s 0d., being the total covenanted amount for the Royal Masonic Hospital by a member of the Masonic Benevolent Association, both these donations having been earmarked for our centenary Year.

A summary of The Origin and History of Shanghai Tuscan Lodge No.1027

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The donations summarised are as follows:

				£	s.	d.
Royal Masonic Institution for Boys	764	1	0
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	...	...	...	83	0	6
Royal Masonic Hospital	...	...	...	57	1	0
...						
			Grand Total	<u>904</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

Wor. Bro. Glazebrook expressed his most grateful thanks, on behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, for such a magnificent donation, which had completely exceeded his expectations. He said that the School was very much in need of the money in view of the modernisation programme which was being undertaken.

The Secretary reported the receipt of numerous letters and telegrams of congratulation. Many visiting Brethren gave greetings and tendered congratulations on behalf of their Lodges.

The proceedings of the Meeting were concluded with the singing of the National Anthem, followed by the Closing Ode, "o God our help in ages past".

The Lodge was closed at 6.20 p.m.

The Centenary Jewel



The Centenary Warrant



(Sgd.) Scarbrough G.M.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, other Officers and Members
of the Shanghai Tuscan Lodge No. 1027 and all others whom
it may concern

Greeting

Whereas it appears by the Records of the Grand Lodge that the first meeting of the within named Lodge was held at Shanghai, China on the 18th day of June, 1864 under the authority of a dispensation granted by the Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of China, and whereas the existence of the said Lodge was regularised by the Grand Lodge by the issue of a Warrant of Constitution dated the 18th day of August, 1864 authorising and empowering them and their regular Successors to hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons at Shanghai, China, which Lodge was named the Tuscan Lodge and numbered 1027 on the Register of the United Grand Lodge of England, and whereas on the 31st day of December, 1954 the said Lodge removed to London and changed its name to the Shanghai Tuscan Lodge, and whereas the original Warrant having become damaged during storage a Warrant of Confirmation was issued on the 1st day of June, 1955, and whereas the said Lodge now meets at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, under the title or denomination of the

Shanghai Tuscan Lodge

And whereas satisfactory proof has been produced of the uninterrupted existence of the said Lodge for One Hundred Years dating from the 18th day of June, 1864, and whereas the Brethren composing the said Lodge desire to be permitted to wear a commemorative Jewel and have prayed our sanction for that purpose

Now know Ye that we having taken the petition into our consideration having acceded to their request and in virtue of our prerogative do hereby give and grant to all and each of the subscribing members of the said Lodge being Master Masons permission to wear in all our Masonic Meetings suspended to the left breast by a Sky Blue Ribbon not exceeding one inch and a half in breadth a Jewel or Medal of the pattern or device that we have already approved as a Centenary Jewel but such Jewel shall be worn only by those Brethren who are bona fide Subscribing Members of the said Lodge only as they shall pay the stipulated Subscription to the funds thereof and be duly returned as such to the United Grand Lodge of England.

Given at London this 18th Day of June A.L. 5964 A.D. 1964

By Command of the Most Worshipful Grand Master
The Right Hon. The Earl of Scarbrough, K.G., &c., &c., &c., &c.,

(Signed) James W. Stubbs, G.S.

A summary of The Origin and History of Shanghai Tuscan Lodge No.1027

1864 – 2016

The Centenary Dinner

The Centenary Dinner was held at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, WC2.

After Dinner, the loyal toast was duly honoured, followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

The second toast, that to the Most worshipful, the Grand Master, was proposed and honoured in the customary manner.

The toast to the Right Worshipful, the Deputy Grand Master, the Right Worshipful, the Assistant Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers present and past, was proposed by the Worshipful Master who welcomed the opportunity to express the thanks of the Lodge to the distinguished Grand Officers who had honoured the Lodge with their presence. He was delighted when he learned that Rt. Wor. Bro. Sir Frank Newson-Smith was to present the Grand Master at the Meeting and it was a great disappointment when the news came of his serious indisposition. He spoke for everyone in wishing him a speedy and complete recovery.

As the brethren were already aware, in his place, The Lodge was honoured by the presence of V. Wor. Bro. Sir Gilbert Davis, P.G.Treasurer, who was not only a distinguished Grand Officer but one who had attained high civic eminence in the City of London. He is also a great friend of Sir Frank Newson-Smith. Many old Tuscan Lodge brethren were commercially associated with the City of London and it was therefore fitting that a prominent citizen should be the Grand Master's Representative in making the presentation of the Centenary Warrant. He expressed the thanks of all the brethren to Bro. Davis and the Grand Officers present.

One distinguished Grand Officer whose absence was much regretted was Rt. Wor. Bro. William Nation, P.G.D., our former District Grand Master. There was no person alive today who had done so much for Shanghai masonry and the Lodge would always be grateful for his keen interest and encouragement since the transfer to London.

Replying to the toast, V. Wor. Bro. Sir Gilbert Davis reminded the brethren that the Deputy Grand Master and the Assistant Grand Master were very eminent but hard-working Officers. Only by working with them was it possible to appreciate their devotion to the Craft. As regards the other Grand Officers, Bro. Davis referred to some of the many and varied duties carried out by the members of the two main Boards of Grand Lodge and by the permanent staff of the Hall. He praised them for the generous and practical assistance so readily given and for their high masonic principles which were always in evidence.

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V. Wor. Bro. Sir Gilbert Davis said that it was his duty to propose the next toast, that of “The Lodge”, which he did in felicitous terms. As a member of Tuscan Lodge, No. 14, which was founded in 1722, he was delighted to present another Lodge, originally a “Tuscan” but now “Shanghai Tuscan” with its Centenary Warrant and to be associated with a Lodge which had its origins in Shanghai. He said that he had been a very interested listener to the outline of the Lodge’s history as presented by Wor. Bro. Trice and congratulated the Lodge on its meritorious record of masonic work and charity over a century. He wished the Lodge every success and good fortune in the future.

The reply to the toast of “The Lodge” was made by Wor. Bro. L. B. Francis, P.P.G.D. (Bucks) who said that he was doing so in the regrettable absence of Wor. Bro. J. G. Forbes, he was sure that the brethren would first be interested in what Bro. Forbes would have said had he been present.

In his notes, Bro. Forbes recalled his initiation 34 years before in the company of the late Bro. the Comte Maurice Marulli de Barletta and the contretemps that followed when they were called upon to reply to the toast of “The Initiates”. Bro. de Barletta replied first in his native French which took Bro. Forbes completely by surprise and he thereupon made his first, but by no means last, impromptu masonic speech. Bro. Forbes also recalled the 75th Anniversary in 1939 when the Lodge was visited by the brethren of Lodge Cosmopolitan of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and Ancient Landmark Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, both of which were founded in the same year as Tuscan Lodge. The war years, when all masons in Shanghai were interred as “political suspects” were recalled with a tinge of sadness that the masonic light had gone out temporarily in the Far East. When the suggestion was made, 10 years ago, to transfer the Lodge to London, the late Wor. Bro. Philip Higgs, Wor. Bro. Trice and himself acted promptly and negotiations took place with the Grand Secretary, with the happy result that the Lodge is now firmly established in a new home in London.

Wor. Bro. Francis, having read the notes of Bro. Forbes, then referred to the historical record as related by Bro. Trice and posed the question : “What of the future” ? In his opinion, as the Lodge was the only solitary Northern China Lodge to find a refuge in London, it was natural that it should become known as a Lodge where brethren from the Far East met. For this reason, the Lodge warmly welcomed ex-China brethren, irrespective of their Constitution, should they evince a desire to become Joining Members. In conclusion, he thanked the distinguished Grand Officer who had proposed the toast of “The Lodge” and the numerous brethren who had joined with us in celebrating our Centenary Year.

The toast of “The Guests” was entrusted to Wor. Bro. W. M. Venn, who expressed the Lodge’s pleasure at entertaining so many guests on so memorable an occasion.

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Wor. Bro. Venn said that he was a member of the old Tuscan Lodge in Shanghai before the last War and one of the features of masonic life in those days was the annual visit of the brethren of one Lodge to another. Visits were exchanged and consequently brethren of a Lodge became well acquainted with the brethren of other Lodges and, indeed other Constitutions. This policy paid dividends for many of our former guests of those days are now members of the Lodge, without whose assistance we should not be celebrating this happy occasion.

He was glad to welcome V. Wor. Bro. Sir Gilbert Davis and the other Grand Officers and among the guests he was pleased to see Wor. Bro. G. E. Marden, and Wor. Bro. W. J. Richards, both of Lodge Cosmopolitan, No. 428, S.C.. There were also two brethren belonging to other Lodges which had already celebrated their Centenary and no less than five Masters of other Lodges. To these brethren and all the guests, he gave the warmest of welcomes and he hoped that the Lodge would have the pleasure of their company on a future occasion.

Replies to the toast of "The Guests" were made by Wor. Bro. J. W. Panton, P.A.G.D.C., who entertained the brethren with a speech in lighter vein which was much appreciated. Wor. Bro. G. E. Marden, P.D.G.W. (Hong Kong and Far East, S.C.) followed with reminiscences of those on the Roll of Masters whom he knew in his early days in Shanghai, thus bridging a wide gap over the present century. He mentioned that Lodge Cosmopolitan No. 428 of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, was also celebrating its Centenary in Hong Kong at the end of the year and that the Lodge had greatly honoured him by inviting him to occupy the Chair for the Centenary Year. Wor. Bro. Marden concluded by wishing the Lodge good fortune in the years to come.

The Centenary Dinner Menu

Menu

Saumon Fumé au Citron

Vol au Vents aux Champignons

Rump Steak Grillé Vert Pré
Pommes Frites
Coeurs du Céleris Braisés

Pêche au Cognac
Bombe Glacé Pralinée
Gaufrettes

Café

Wines

Chablis, 1961

Château Playnac, *Bégadan* 1959

Appendix : G

Hands Across The Sea

Here's "Hands across the sea," good sirs,
Here's "Hands across the sea."
To every isle and continent
where'er our brethren be;
For we are one in sympathy,
as we are one in name;
The self-same tools are bright with use
And mystic lights aflame;

Though aeons upon aeons break
Upon the shores of time,
This is the grand fulfilment,
And the prophesy sublime;
This is the work of trestle-board
for brethren everywhere,
For never was there greater need
For level, plumb and square.

For trowel with cement of love
To strengthen and unite
The Human race in brotherhood,
And usher in the light.
To all who aid this glorious work,
Wherever they may be,
Here's to the Craft in homeland,
And here's "Hands across the sea."