

Good evening, brethren,

I have had the enjoyment of attending many celebrations over the last 16 years as a member of a Group Executive, but it is certainly one of the special privileges of an Assistant Provincial Grand Master to be invited to take part in the celebration of a brother's special anniversary. Brethren it is said that the greatest happiness a man can have is to you know that he is loved, and the very fact that there are so many brethren here this evening who have made the journey to take part in this evening's celebration only serves to reinforce that statement and shows the high regard that our celebrant is held in.

But to do that I must first tell you (as if you didn't already know!) who that person is; Brother Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies can you please place Eric Edward LLOYD PPrSGD, on the floor of the lodge before me and ensure that he is comfortable.

So let us cast our minds back to the year 1932 and what was happening in the world, King George V was on the throne of the United Kingdom and the Prime Minister of the day was Ramsey MacDonald who led a was National Coalition Government from 1931 to 1935 containing members of the Conservative, Labour, Liberal Nationals and National Labour. Other momentous events of that year included:

- The Archbishop of Canterbury forbids church remarriage of divorcees.
- The first BBC radio broadcast took place from its new Broadcasting House in London.
- Forrest Mars produces the first Mars Bar in his Slough factory.
- Thomas Beecham establishes the London Philharmonic Orchestra.
- Oswald Mosley founds the British Union of fascists.
- The Sydney Harbour Bridge opens in Australia.
- The first Venice Film Festival is held.
- The first experimental television Broadcast is made by the BBC.
- Adolph Hitler obtains German citizenship by naturalisation, opening the opportunity for him to run in the 1932 German presidential election, in which he is defeated by Paul Von Hindenburg who won a second term in office.
- A mine cage at Bickershaw Colliery in the Lancashire Coalfield drowns nine miners.
- In Germany the first Autobahn is opened – Bundesautobahn 555
- The famous 'bodyline' series takes place between the Australia and England cricket teams.
- Britain grants independence to Iraq in exchange for a restrictive long-term military alliance.
- Production of Weetabix breakfast cereal in the United Kingdom begins at Burton Latimer in Northamptonshire.
- Buck Rogers in the 25th Century debuts on American radio.
- Walt Disney's Flowers and Trees, the first animated cartoon to be presented in full Technicolor, premieres in Los Angeles.
- Unemployment in the United States of America reaches thirty-three percent, some fourteen million people, a similar level of unemployment affects Germany.

The Lodge of Harmony No.220 as it is now numbered has had four different numbers in its history as follows:

Lodge Number (1796 on warrant):	302
Lodge Number (1813 on union of two Grand Lodges):	385
Lodge Number (1832 on rearrangement of numbers):	267
Lodge Number (1863 on re-arrangement of numbers):	220
Lodge Number (1923 on Centenary Warrant):	220

The Lodge of harmony No.220 has also met at 35 meeting venues over the last 227 years: -

1. 1796 Brown Cow, Lord Street, Liverpool.
2. 1799 Ferguson's Neptune Coffee House, Old Hall Street, Liverpool.
3. 1800 Kneen's, John Street, Liverpool.
4. 1800 Lewis's, Richmond Street, Liverpool.
5. 1802 Waggon and Horses, College Street, Liverpool.
6. 1806 Mrs Burgess' Coach & Horses, College Street, Liverpool.
7. 1806 Coghlan's, Sir Thomas's Buildings, Liverpool.
8. 1808 Lord Nelson, Lord Nelson Street, Liverpool.
9. 1809 Brown Cow, Lord Street, Liverpool.
10. 1809 Birmingham Tavern, Cross Street, Liverpool.

11. 1811 Quay's Inn, King Street, Liverpool.
12. 1813 Shakespeare Tavern, Liver Street, Liverpool.
13. 1816 Vine Tavern, Pitt Street, Liverpool.
14. 1822 Magpie and Stump, Key Street, Liverpool.
15. 1823 Robin Hood, Great Cross Hall Street, Liverpool.
16. 1823 Mrs Dowker's, Mersey Street, Liverpool
17. 1823 Masonic Rooms, Mercer Street, Liverpool.
18. 1824 Mrs Clough's Vine Tavern, Pitt Street, Liverpool.
19. 1825 Roberts' Punch Bowl, Bachelor Street, Liverpool.
20. 1826 Cunningham's Nag's Head, Cockspur Street, Liverpool.
21. 1830 Private Rooms, Mary Bone [Mary-la-Bonne], Liverpool.
22. 1831 Stewart's Union Tavern, Sir Thomas's Buildings, Liverpool.
23. 1834 Pilling's Travellers' Rest, Scotland Road, Liverpool.
24. 1838 Grimshaw's Haymarket Tavern, Haymarket, Liverpool.
25. 1839 York Hotel, Williamson Square, Liverpool
26. 1842 George and Vulture Hotel, Houghton Street, Liverpool.
27. 1845 The Globe, Cable Street, Liverpool
28. 1847 Francis' Grapes Inn, Milk Street, Liverpool.
29. 1852 Hamer's Woolton Hotel, Much Woolton, Liverpool.
30. 1857 Wood's Wellington Hotel, Wellington Street, Garston, Liverpool.
31. 1872 Garston Hotel, St. Mary's Road, Garston, Liverpool.
32. 1878 Wellington Hotel, Wellington Street, Garston, Liverpool.
33. 1881 Garston Hotel, St. Mary's Road, Garston, Liverpool.
34. 1920 Co-operative Hall, St. Mary's Road, Garston, Liverpool.
35. 1926 Masonic Hall, Island Road South, Garston, Liverpool.

In 1932 some very famous people were born in the persons of John Williams the Pianist and Composer, Peter O'Toole the actor, Little Richard the rock and roll musician, Lorette Lynn the singer, Debbie Reynolds the actress, Elizabeth Taylor the actress, Patsy Cline the singer, Jacques Chirac the 22nd president of France, William Roche the actor and of course maybe the most famous of them all James Eric Edwards Lloyd.

Eric was born in June 1932 to his father Edward Ernest Lloyd who was employed as a chauffeur to a Mr Gibson of the Fruit Exchange in Liverpool, and his mother Alma nee Dargie who was a bobbin worker at Wilsons Bobbins in Garston. Eric was the first born and only child of Edward and Alma, he remembers a happy family life living with his parents at 75 Canterbury Street, Garston.

At the age of five years old Eric attended Banks Road Council Primary School until the age of 11 years of age.



Once Eric had reached 11 years of age, he would attend Heath Road Secondary School and study the usual subjects, before later attending Toxteth Technical College to study engineering. At the age of 11 he also joined the 6th Allerton Scout Troop and his enjoyment and aptitude at scouts would earn him the position of Troop Leader after several years. Eric would maintain his association with the scout troop for many years. As a

youngster Eric was also a competent sportsman in his formative years playing football, cricket, swimming, and Water Polo. Eric in fact played Water Polo for Garston Swimming Club as a teenager.

In 1948 at the age of 16 years of age Eric obtained his first job at the Automatic Telephone and Electric Company situated on Edge Lane Liverpool as an apprentice draughtsman. The Automatic Telephone and Electric Company (originally the Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Company (ATM) was a British telephone exchange manufacturer established in 1911. Who after several name changes and acquisitions, was merged into Plessey in 1961. Eric remembers well his early years at the company and how there was just five main buildings, the drawing office being in the 'Bullnose' as it was affectionally known, near to the main staff entrance.



Whilst working at the Automatic Telephone and Manufacturing Company Eric would meet a lovely young lady by the name of Annie Elizabeth Quale more commonly known as Nancy, who would catch his eye and steal his heart. After a suitable courtship Eric and Nancy would be married on the 6th March 1954 at Holy Trinity Church, Wavertree.

Shortly after being married Eric would receive his call up papers to undertake his National Service, he was assigned to the Royal Corps of Signals based at Catterick. Eric told me that despite his best efforts to persuade the British Army to post him to Germany as the cost of living was cheaper, the pay on an overseas posting was higher and the married accommodation was of a higher standard they would not listen to him, and he had to serve at Catterick for the whole of his two-year's service.



Eric and Nancy would have two children a daughter Jacqueline and a son Peter Edward to complete their family. They family would live in Rathbone Road for over 30 years. Eric and Nancy would be blessed with four grandchildren, three grandsons from Jacqueline's marriage to her husband Andrew, namely Christopher, Jonathon and Philip who are all now in their thirties and a granddaughter from his son Peter. Eric was also quite an accomplished football player and played for several local teams over the years, including one season with South Liverpool FC. However, this would be his only season as he had to attend night school to study Electrical Engineering to progress at work, this required three evenings a week at college and the requirement to study on the other nights. This prevented him from attending football training which was a mandatory part of playing for the club, so football had to come to an end.



Eric continued to work at the Automatic Telephone Company and his several re-incarnations through to its merger with Plessey's in 1961, Eric finally retired from working at Plessey's in 1992 after some forty-four years. A long and loyal service from an employee to his employer, something which is rare in this modern era.





Following his retirement in 1992, Eric and Nancy were enjoying themselves, their family and hobbies, Eric was a keen golfer and took up Crown Green Bowling. Sadly in 1996 Nancy suffered a major stroke and Eric instantly became her full-time carer, and with the help of his family he loved and tended to her every need for eleven years until she passed away in 2007.

Eric currently resides in a flat at Gorselands Court in Aigburth and tells me that his daughter Jacqueline is his rock and that he enjoys time with her and his two great grandchildren, a daughter Trudy Louise from Christopher who is a cheeky young girl and eleven-year-old Amelia from Jonathon who has downs syndrome but has her own lovely character.

Let us now turn to your family connections with freemasonry and your own masonic journey, your father Edward Ernest Lloyd was initiated into Lodge of Harmony No.220 on the 26th May 1954 and remained a member of the Lodge for over thirty-two years until his passing on the 30th December 1986.

Eric you were Initiated into Lodge of Harmony No.220 on the 22nd January 1964. You were passed to the degree of a Fellowcraft on 23rd September 1964 and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on 28th April 1965. Eric served in various offices on the ladder of the lodge and in 1979 took the office of Charity Steward which he held until 1986. Eric was also active in the Garston group serving several Group Chairmen as the group Golf Representative for many years. This group work had to stop when his wife Nancy took ill in 1996 and he became her full-time carer, however, Eric continued to attend Lodge regularly thanks to his daughter and wider family. Having served the Lodge as Chaplain from 2004 until 2010, and on the 25th October 2010, Eric was installed as the WM of Lodge of Harmony No.220 in a memorable evening for himself. Eric continued to attend lodge and his services were recognised by the Province of West Lancashire when he received his first appointment to Provincial Rank as Past Provincial Senior Grand Deacon on the 11th May 2009.

Eric was exalted into the Royal Arch in Chapter of Harmony No.220 on the 18th October 2006 and having progressed through the various offices of the Chapter, he was installed as its Most Excellent Zerubbabel (First Principal) on the 5th December 2012. The following year as well as serving his year as Past First Principal Eric also took the office of Almoner in December 2013 and office he held until December 2017. Eric's services to his Chapter were recognised by the Royal Arch Province of West Lancashire when he received his first appointment to Provincial Rank as Past Provincial Grand Sojourner on the 9th October 2019.

Eric is a member of another Masonic Order and he told me that he has thoroughly enjoyed his Freemasonry in all his Masonic Orders for the last 50 years.

I'm sure I speak on behalf of everybody present that we are absolutely delighted to see you here this evening to celebrate your 60th anniversary as a freemason and even more so that you have allowed us to celebrate your special evening with you.

Eric such is the importance of your own diamond jubilee that our Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master Brother Mark Francis Matthews has caused a certificate to be struck to mark this wonderful achievement which I shall now ask the Group Vice Chairman Worshipful Brother John Gibbon to read....