

"Hands across the border"



Duncan Walker

PO Box 874

Bungalow Qld 4870

Trinity Mark Lodge QLD

Darwin Mark Lodge SA/NT

Dear Bro Secretary

"Hands Across the Border" - SA NT and QLD Mark Lodges Unite

You and members of your Lodge are invited to join the North Queensland and Far North Queensland Mark Master Masons together with the Mark Master Masons of SA NT in a unique and inaugural event to be held in Mt Isa on the last weekend in September 2017.

The occasion is the joint holding of a double meeting of Mark Master Masons from the Queensland and South Australian Northern Territory Constitutions on the 29 September to 1st October.

Yes, the Darwin Mark Lodge and the Trinity Mark Lodge of Cairns are going to hold a joint gathering at which each Lodge will undertake a separate Advancement Ceremony as well as the installation ceremony for Trinity Mark Lodge.

Your early commitment is essential. This is a unique occasion and hopefully the beginning of many "Hands Across the Border" events between the two Constitutions. We already share annual visits to each other's Installations and a strong bond has developed between the two individual Lodges.

The event has the full backing of the Grand Masters of both the South Australia Northern Territory and Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Queensland, Constitutions.

An overview of the programme is:

Friday 29 September

- Arrival, registration and welcome with finger food. Dinner will be the guests' responsibility

Saturday 30 September

- Commencing no later than 1000Hrs SA & NT Mark meeting

- A light lunch with toasts
- Commencing no later than 1400Hrs Trinity Mark Lodge will meet
- Followed by the installation of Trinity Mark Lodge performed by the MW Grand Master and the officers of GLMMMQ
- Pre-dinner drinks at, say, 1830Hrs followed by a buffet dinner at 900Hrs. Note, casual dress and no toasts (done at lunch). We expect to have a well-known Guest Speaker and an address from the GM GLMMMQ. Naturally a toast to the Ladies.

Sunday 01 October

Farewell breakfast

Depart for Home

This historic event has been in the making for some 5 years and is the manifestation of moves made by the Darwin Mark Lodge in both visits to and communications with a Queensland Mark Lodge. Initial enquiries were made regarding Mt. Isa but the Darwin Mark Lodge was put in touch with Trinity Mark Lodge in Cairns.

Contact was made with Trinity Mark Lodge and following a meeting formal agreement was reached that each Lodge would visit each other's Installation on a rotating basis. This has now been done twice by Trinity and once by Darwin with Darwin returning the visit in September 2017.

At the last visit by Darwin Mark Lodge to Trinity Mark Lodge in 2015, a germ of an idea was formed for each Lodge to perform an Advancement Ceremony in order that each could view each other's Ceremony as they are somewhat different. And so, after some refreshments at the Festive Board, the Grand Master of the GLMMMQ, and R.W. Bro. Ian Pontifex and V.W. Bro. Kevan McRae SA NT agreed that it should be considered as the idea certainly had some merit.

IT IS NOW TIME TO RETURN TO WORK IN THE QUARRIES!!

NOW is the time to advise all Mark Master Masons in Queensland including Mark Master Masons under GLMMMQ and SGRACQ of the meetings and give ample notice to arrange a possible extended holiday.

A registration form will issue shortly and we would appreciate prompt registrations so that we can finalise arrangements

As an initial approach please circulate this letter by email to your Lodge members. I will also provide hard copies of this letter by post for members to keep the detail as well as providing my details if there are any queries.

Yours Fraternally
R.W. Bro. Duncan Walker PSGW

Attachment – Proposed Ladies Bus tour on Saturday 30th September

A Ladies Day is planned on the 30th September.

This would consist of:

- 9:30 pick-up from Ibis Styles (coaster bus)
- Drop off at Underground Hospital

– Beth Anderson Museum

– Heritage Listed Tent House

- 11:00 pick up from Underground Hospital
- Drop off at Outback at Isa

– Cafe available to purchase Morning Tea/Lunch

– Riversleigh Fossil Centre - Laboratory guide on hand

– Isa Experience – Mining History Museum

– Isa Regional Art Gallery

– Outback Park

– Mount Isa Fish Stocking Group Aquarium and display

- 3:30 pick up and return to Ibis Styles

Costing: \$35 per person, that would include bus transfers and entry to everything listed on the day. (lunch is at own cost)

Tour must be pre-booked and paid for before arrival – (you mentioned that that could be done during the registration process.)

As we have planned this exclusive tour just for your event, we would require a minimum of 12 passengers for the tour to operate.