

# PROVINCE OF EAST LANCASHIRE

City Sykes District

Assistant Provincial Grand Master,  
WBro J Christopher Welton PJGD



Cornucopia Lodge No. 4553

## *Celebration Dinner*

*To mark*

*60 years in Freemasonry*

*Of*

*WBro Brian Bint PProvJGD*

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2016**

**The Manchester Hall,  
Bridge Street  
Manchester M3 3BT**

# **Cornucopia Lodge No 4553**

**Province of East Lancashire**



**Saturday 24th October 1981**  
**The Installation of Bro. Brian Frederick Lionel as Worshipful Master**



## **MENU**

***Chef's Soup of the Day.***

***\* \* \* \****

***Roast Rib of Beef***

***Roast and Boiled Potatoes,***

***Fresh Vegetables***

***In Season***

***\* \* \* \****

***Black Cherries***

***Served with Vanilla Ice Cream.***

***\* \* \* \****

***Cheese and Biscuits***

***\* \* \* \****

***Freshly Brewed Coffee or Tea***

***\* \* \* \****

## A TRIBUTE TO W.BRO. BRIAN FREDERICK LIONEL BINT, PPROVJGD , MARKING HIS 60 YEARS IN FREEMASONRY.

At the meeting of Cornucopia Lodge on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 1955, Bro Alec Carpenter, Manager of the Odeon Cinema, Sale, gave notice that he would propose as a Candidate for Initiation, Mr. Brian Frederick Lionel Bint, who worked at the Gaumont Cinema, Chorlton. At the following meeting the on 27<sup>th</sup> January 1956, the Bro. Alec. Carpenter proposed and W. Bro Clifford Hulbert, P.Prov. Grd.Stwd, on behalf of Bo, Roy Potts. The subsequent ballot proved successful. Bro. Roy Potts, was the Manager of the Gaumont Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

What was happening when W.Bro. Brian Frederick Lionel Bint was Initiated into Cornucopia Lodge on 24<sup>TH</sup> February 1956?

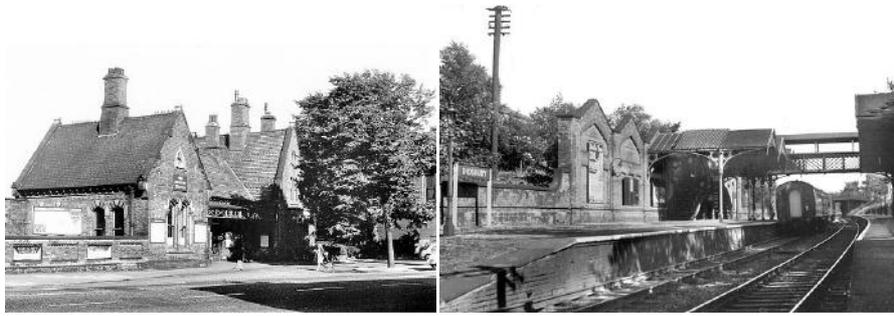
Firstly, this was the decade when wartime restrictions and austerities finally disappeared. Ration books had become a thing of the past in 1954, to the relief of both shopkeepers and shoppers, and the choice of goods in the shops became much wider. The results of that were more apparent in the shops by 1956. For many, the most important purchase was their first television set as BBC transmission reached the north, the catalyst being the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in June 1953. The 1950's were a time when children could play outside, competed at conkers and when boys dreamt of becoming train drivers and wanted train sets as Birthday or Christmas presents.



Prior to Brian's Initiation, Roy Potts was promoted to Exeter, and so Brian became Manager of the Gaumont Chorlton. In the month in which Brian was Initiated, on the 11<sup>th</sup>, the British spies Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean re-emerged in the Soviet Union after their whereabouts were unknown for 5 years. More light-heartedly, in the same week of the Initiation, Elvis Presley's "Heartbreak Hotel" makes its first appearance on the United States music charts, whilst Norma Jean Mortenson legally changed her name to the much more memorable 'Marilyn Monroe'.

Thus on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 1956, Brian Frederick Lionel Bint, residing at 24, Willow Way, Didsbury, Manchester, aged 25, was Initiated into Cornucopia Lodge. The Worshipful Master was Bro. William James Allinson, who was joined by 47 other Brethren of the Lodge, and joined by no less than 20 visitors.

Bro. Bint's progress followed in March, a month that saw – rather appropriately for a Cinema Manager, The first movie to premiere in theatres and television the same day is Richard III based on Shakespeare's play, with the legendary Laurence Olivier in the starring role. Less dramatically (and certainly without bloodshed) Brian was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, in front of 50 Brethren of the Lodge, and 25 visitors.

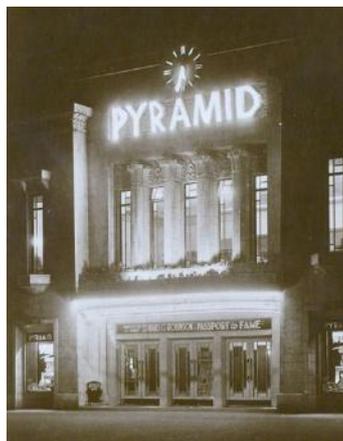


*ABOVE: Didsbury Station in 1954*

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The Circle of his Masonic duties was rendered complete when Brian was raised on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April 1956. April seemed to be a quiet month for news!

During the summer recess Alec Carpenter was promoted to Sutton Coldfield and so Brian Bint was promoted to manage Sale Odeon. Designed by the famous British cinema architectural firm, Drury & Gomersall, the Pyramid Theatre is a classic example of an Egyptian-style cinema in Britain and had a 1,940 seating capacity. The Egyptian theme was included in the specially designed Christie Organ, which is currently installed in the Blue Coat School in Oldham. When it was taken over by Oscar Deutsch's Odeon Theatres Ltd. chain. It was re-named Odeon on 18th June 1945. In 2013 it became a Sports Direct Fitness Club, and is now a listed building.



Thus Brian's proposer and seconder had both moved and, so he returned to the Lodge in September (the month when the Lodge Installed a new Worshipful Master). not knowing anyone there. However, such was the warmth and friendliness of his new Brothers that he quickly felt the love and friendship which is so special at Cornucopia.

In 1962, Brian Bint was promoted to General Manager of the Odeon, Oxford Street, Manchester. The Odeon Cinema, Manchester (originally known as the Paramount Theatre or the Paramount Cinema) opened in 1930. It was capable of seating 2,920 people on two levels (the Stalls and the Balcony), and the building also contained a fully equipped stage, a fly tower, dressing rooms, an orchestra pit, an organ and cafe. Sadly, it is planned for demolition, to be replaced by Landmark, a 14-storey office building, as part of a major transformation of the area. Fortunately, the Wurlitzer Organ has been saved and is now in Stockport Town Hall.

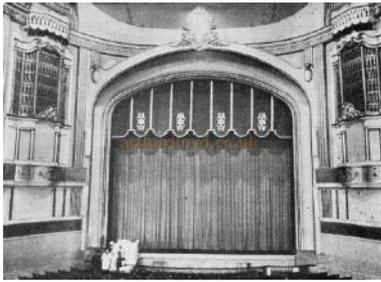
Brian was the youngest Key Theatre Manager in the Country. In 1967 he also took over the Management of the Gaumont Theatre and The New Oxford Theatre which were only a stone's throw away on Oxford Street. Therefore, Brian had three Theatres with a total of 5720 seats to manage.

The Odeon held stage shows in addition to film and had some very famous artists on stage such as The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Beach Boys, Nat King Cole, Tom Jones, Engelbert Humperdinck, Shirley Bassey and many others.

Brian also played host to many film stars including Sir Richard Attenborough, Tom Hanks, Clint Eastwood, John Mills, Dustin Hoffman and many more.

The Gaumont Manchester had opened on 21st October 1935 with Robert Donat in "The Thirty-Nine Steps". Designed by William T. Benslyn and James Morrison with interior design by the famed Theodore Komisarjevsky, the Gaumont was a lavish example of his work with a stunning double height entrance foyer lined with mirrors and a grand staircase leading to the circle. In the basement was a buffet restaurant and 60 foot long licensed bar. There were 1,300 seats in the stalls and 1,000 in the circle, all with good sightlines. There was a Wurlitzer organ with grand piano installed.. The exterior on Oxford Road was in the Italian Renaissance style and clad in faience tiles. The entrance portion was dominated by one of the largest neon displays in the city, the Gaumont name alone was four foot high, and below this there was a triple bordered panel which could take up to 12 rows of 18 inch letters in red neon announcing the attractions. This was a highly successful theatre from the start and this continued through into the 1960's when the Gaumont was used as the roadshow house, screening long seasons of the top films like "The Sound of Music" (two years and six months from April 1965. Sadly, the Gaumont closed in 1974, and was what was deemed the finest cinema in Manchester was completely demolished in 1990. The site is now occupied by an ugly multi-storey car park..

The Oxford Picture House on 15th December 1911 with film of "Captain Scott's Expedition to the South Pole". The building is located on the corner of Oxford Road and Chepstow Street, and was located next to the (now demolished Gaumont) and across the road from the (now closed Odeon). It has an attractive red brick and red terra cotta facade, with the name 'The Picture House' located in the stonework above the entrance. It was re-named New Oxford Theatre in 1927. The New Oxford Theatre closed in 1980, and in that decade was converted into a MacDonalds Restaurant, which remains to this



*The Stage – the Odeon*



*The Organ from the 'Odeon' is moved*



*The Gaumont and the New Oxford*



Brian faced personal problems in 1967. Just after his promotion to manage the three theatres, Brian contracted TB. After eight weeks of treatment, he was allowed back to work for two hours a day. Gradually, he returned to a normal schedule until his condition deteriorated and he had the upper left lobe of my lung removed. That was the end of the problem.

Taking charity to heart, during his days in Manchester, Brian organized collections for RAFA, The Institute for the Blind, and National Association of Youth Clubs. In 1981 he ran the Piccadilly Marathon in 4 hours and 44 minutes, followed by a Rotary half Marathon in 1 hour 43 minutes. In total Brian raised over £5,000 (worth some £19,500 today) for The British Heart Foundation.

Less energetic, on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October, 1981, Bro. Brian Bint was Installed as Worshipful Master of Cornucopia Lodge by W. Bro B. Lewis, in front of twenty five Brethren and 19 visitors..

In 1983, Brian was chosen as The Rank Theatres Manager of the Year and had an all expenses paid trip to Key Biscayne and Disneyland. However, not only sunshine was in the air, but romance was to emerge. Remember Brian's energetic fund raising activities? When Brian was jogging on the beach in Key Biscayne, he met Susan. Romance blossomed and two years later, in January 1985, Brian moved to the Unites States. Brian and Susan were married in 1986.

Back in 1942, Susan's Mother had started a business publishing Greeting Cards. Susan had started working in the business at 2 years of age picking up elastic bands! Her Mother made Susan a partner after she graduated from College. They invited Brian to learn the business and eventually appointed him as their Managing Director. The business grew very satisfactorily, and had representatives in every State and Agents in Canada, Australia, New Zealand.

In 1995 Brian became a Lay Eucharistic Minister at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Falmouth. Episcopal is the Anglican Church in the USA. My duties are to assist the Minister during services and sometimes to read the Lessons and Prayers. Brian is also a member of the Pastoral Care Group at the Church. The Group visit sick and infirm parishioners and share Holy Communion with them.

In 1996 Brian and Susan's company won 'Best Card of the Year' beating out all the Major Companies in the U.S. The following year we won 6 awards for best card in category. In 2002 the business was sold and so Brian and Susan entered a well earned and deserved retirement

In 2006, Brian visited Cornucopia to celebrated his 50 years in Freemasonry. Again, reflecting his charity, he donated £500 to Masonic Charities.

Located so many miles away, Brian can only visit the UK and Cornucopia very occasionally, but he is an occasional visitor at Marine Lodge in Falmouth as the guest of his 96 year old friend W. Bro. Irish.

**W. BRO BRIAN FREDERICK LIONEL BINT – PERSONAL 60<sup>TH</sup>**

**EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTE BOOKS.**

**Friday 24th February 1956, The Initiation.**

*“The Secretary and Treasurer reported that the Candidate had signed the usual declaration and had paid the necessary fees.*

*Mr. B. F. L. Bint was admitted and was Initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Antient Freemasonry by the W.M. Bro. W. J. Allison.*

*He was invested with the distinguishing badge of an E. A. Freemason by the S.W. Bro. N. Thompson.*

*Bro. Bint was addressed in the N.E. by the W.M.*

*The working tools of the Degree were presented and explained by the J.W. Bro. G. H. Rigby, who also delivered the Antient Charge in the North.*

*Copies of the Book of Constitutions and By-Laws were presented to Bro. Bint, who then retired.”*

**Friday 27th April 1956, The Raising.**

*"All below the rank of a Master Mason were requested to retire with the exception of Bo. Brian Frederick Lionel Binty.*

*Bro Bint, having satisfactorily answered the questions leading to the 3rd Degree was entrusted with the T & W and retired.*

*The Lodge was opened in the 3rd Degree by the WM.*

*Bro Bint was re-admitted and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by the WM, Bro. William James Alison.*

*He was invested with the distinguishing badge of a Master Mason by the SW, BRo. Norman Thompson, who also presented and explained the Working Tools of the Degree".*

**Saturday 24th October 1981, the Installation of Bro. Brian Frederick Lionel as Worshipful Master.**

*“The next business was the Installation of Bro. Brian Frederick Lionel SW and Master Elect.*

*The WM invited the following P.M.s to assist him as Installing Officers, W. Bro J. W. Mills as I.S.W, W. Bro G. V. Thomas as I.J.W. and W. Bro. J. G. Wrigley as I.I.G.*

*All below the rank of a FC were asked to retire for a time and the Lodge was opened in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. W Bro A. Y. Barber presented the Master Elect for Installation into the Chair of K.S.*

*The Antient Charges were delivered to the M.E. by the Installing Master Bro. B. A. Lewis.*

*W. Bro T. Rosser read the fifteen charges which received the unqualified assent of Bro. Bint, who then took his Obligation as M.E. of the Lodge.*

*All below the rank of a MM were asked to retire from the Lodge, and it was opened in the Third Degree. All below the rank of an Installed Master, with the exception of the M. E., were requested to retire.*

*A Board of Installed Masters was formed. The Installing Master duly installed Bro Bint into the chair of K S according to ancient custom. The newly Installed Master then invested W Bro Lewis with the collar and jewel of the Immediate Past Master.*

*The board of Installed Masters was closed and business was continued in the Third Degree. All MM's were re-admitted, and the WM was proclaimed in the East by W. Bro Lee and saluted with MM honours.*

*The Working Tools of a Master Mason were presented to the W.M. by W. Bro. Bennett.*

*The Lodge was closed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree by virtue, and resumed in the Second Degree.*

*All FC's were re-admitted, and the WM was proclaimed in the West by W. Bro Lee and was saluted with FC honours.*

*The Working Tools of a Fellow Craft were presented by W. Bro. Bennett.*

*The Lodge was closed by virtue, and it was resumed in the First Degree. The EA's were re-admitted and the WM was proclaimed in the South by W. Bro. Lee. The WM was saluted with EA honours.*

*The Working Tools of an Entered Apprentice were presented by W. Bro. Bennett.*

*The Warrant of the Lodge, Book of Constitutions, Bye-Laws and Pillars were presented by W. Bro Lewis.*

*The W M appointed his officers .....,.*

## W. BRO BRIAN FREDERICK LIONEL BINT – PERSONAL 60<sup>TH</sup>

### WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD?

What was happening when W.Bro. Brian Frederick Lionel Bint was Initiated into Cornucopia Lodge on 24<sup>TH</sup> February, passed on 23<sup>rd</sup> March and Raised on 27<sup>th</sup> April 1956?

This was the decade when wartime restrictions and austerities finally disappeared. Ration books had become a thing of the past in 1954, to the relief of both shopkeepers and shoppers, and the choice of goods in the shops became much wider. The results of that were more apparent in the shops by 1956. For many, the most important purchase was their first television set as BBC transmission reached the north, the catalyst being the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in June 1953.

The average House Price £2,280

#### ***Thus some key dates and events;***

##### ***February 11, 1956***

The British spies Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean reemerge in the Soviet Union after their whereabouts were unknown for 5 years.

##### ***February 22, 1956***

Elvis Presley's "Heartbreak Hotel" makes its first appearance on the United States music charts.

##### ***February 23, 1956***

Marilyn Monroe's name is legally changed from Norma Jean Mortenson

##### ***March 1, 1956***

The completion of the Radiotelephony spelling alphabet for the International Civil Aviation Organization draft is made by the International Air Transport Association.

##### ***March 11, 1956***

The first movie to premiere in theatres and television the same day is Richard III based on Shakespeare's play by Laurence Olivier.

#### ***April seemed to be a quiet month for news!***

##### ***May 24, 1956***

Lugano, Switzerland hosts and broadcasts the first Eurovision Song Contest.

##### ***June 13, 1956***

The formation of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) occurs.

##### ***September 13, 1956***

Something that is now a vital part of our lives and working with computers appears. Reynold B. Johnson and an IBM team invent the first hard disk drive.

### **October 17, 1956**

England is home to the opening of the first commercialized nuclear power plant. A crowd of several thousand people gathered to watch the opening ceremony, which was also attended by scientists and statesmen from almost 40 different countries. The Queen opened the world's first full-scale nuclear power station, at Calder Hall in Cumberland (now called Sellafield). At 1216 GMT, she pulled the lever which would direct electricity from the power station into the National Grid for the first time. Her Majesty the Queen gave her speech in the shadow of the massive chimneys of the Windscale plant, where explosives were made for Britain's first atomic bomb, and she gave a timely reminder of the more sinister origins of the technology.

"This new power, which has proved itself to be such a terrifying weapon of destruction," she said, "is harnessed for the first time for the common good of our community."

A large clock on the wall of the power station registered the first kilowatts of energy to be produced. The town of Workington, 15 miles (24 km) up the Cumberland coast from Calder Hall, became the first town in the world to receive light, heat and power from nuclear energy.

### **October 23, 1956**

The death of Stalin brought people in many Eastern European countries the hope of freedom and change, but this was not to be the case. Hungary had been controlled by Russia since 1945. On October 23<sup>rd</sup> a demonstration in Budapest results in the beginning of the Hungarian Revolution against the Soviet government. On 24 October 1956 Imre Nagy - a moderate and a Westerniser - took over as Prime Minister. On 28 October 1956, the Russian army pulled out of Budapest. For five days, there was freedom in Hungary, with democracy, freedom of speech, and freedom of religion. Political prisoners were released. However, at dawn on 4 November 1956, 1,000 Russian tanks rolled into Budapest. They destroyed the Hungarian army and captured Hungarian Radio. Hungarian people - even children - fought the Russian troops with machine guns. Some 4,000 Hungarians were killed.

### **30 October**

On the morning of 30 October Britain and France sent ultimatums to Egypt and Israel. President Nasser of Egypt had nationalised the Suez Canal in July. The following day Operation Musketeer was initiated, with a bombing campaign. Nasser responded by sinking all 40 ships present in the canal closing it to all shipping — shipping would not move again until early 1957. The British and French Forces invaded on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Strangely, they were halted, and were finally withdrawn by 22 December 1956, to be replaced by Danish and Colombian units of the UN.

### **November 3, 1956**

The first uncut major Hollywood film to be televised is 'The Wizard of Oz' on CBS.

### **December 2, 1956**

Fidel Castro and his gang arrive in Cuba for the first time.

### ***December 5, 1956***

Britain elects its first female judge, Rose Heilbron.

### **Brian Bint became WM of Cornucopia Lodge in 1981**

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 1981, Bro. Brian Bint was Installed as Worshipful Master of Cornucopia Lodge .

Worth comparing some figures for that year.

- Average House Price £24,188;
- Gallon of Petrol cost £1.32;
- Yearly Inflation Rate **UK** 11.9%;
- Interest Rates Year End Bank of England 14.38%

### ***October 3, 1981***

The hunger strike at the Maze prison, Belfast, was called off after seven months by Sinn Fein, , the political arm of the IRA.. Ten IRA prisoners had died, while another seven had given up fasting. The decision, made by prisoner Brendan MacFarlane, ended the fasting for the remaining six IRA strikers.

### ***October 5, 1981***

The last model of the Triumph Motor Company's legendary sports cars, a 1982 Triumph TR7, rolled off of the assembly line at Solihull, West Midlands.

### ***October 6, 1981, (Tuesday)***

Egypt's President Anwar Sadat was assassinated at Nasr City while watching the annual Armed Forces Day parade.

### ***October 12, 1981 (Monday)***

The first venture into cable television, by the CBS Television Network, went on the air in available markets with a series of programs dedicated to the classical arts, with telecasts of symphonies, dance, theatre, and operas.<sup>[34]</sup> The venture was unsuccessful, and CBS Cable was shut down at 4:00 am on December 17, 1982.<sup>1</sup>

### ***October 24, 1981 (Saturday)***

A weekend of anti-nuclear protests began in cities throughout Europe, as 200,000 marched in Rome and another 150,000 in London to protest the deployment of American Pershing II missiles at bases in five European nations. On Sunday, a crowd of 200,000 turned out in Brussels, for the largest demonstration since World War II, and smaller crowds marched in Paris, Berlin and Oslo.