

Eulogy for W. Bro. Leonard Charles Bartley PPrJGW

(22nd July 1925 - 13th August 2014)

Len was initiated in Surbiton Lodge No 2146 in Surrey in March 1964. He became Master in 1975, and again for 2 years in 1993/94, later becoming Director of Ceremonies. He also Joined 2 other Surrey Lodges, and became Master of Weybridge Lodge No. 6787 in 1990.

He acted as Tyler for many years for 10 of the Lodges meeting at the Surbiton Masonic Centre, where he met up with his friend of 36 years, W Bro Derek Harrington, who later became a Joining Member of this Lodge.

He was Promoted by the Province of Surrey in June 1995 to Past Provincial Grand Registrar.

Len had been a Director of a Tyre Fitting Company in Stockwell, London and after retiring worked for approximately 10 years in Surbiton Post Office, under the then Sub Post Master, W. Bro. Ken Nutting, who was at that time Secretary of Surbiton Lodge. After retiring from the Post Office he moved to Bishopsteignton with his daughter and son-in-law.

He joined Benevolent Lodge in December 1989, having been Proposed by (myself) W.Bro. Gerald Rooke, and Seconded by Bro. Dr John Hadfield.

He served in the office of Tyler for some time, and also ran the Bar for several years for all the degrees that met in this building. He thus became a well known, friendly and lovable character to a large number of Masons.

In July 2000 Len decided to sell his Bishopsteignton house and move to a Flat in Teignmouth.

He was Promoted by our Province to the rank of Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden in April 1997.

Len was also active in Benevolent Holy Royal Arch Chapter, Mark and Ark Mariners. He was perfected in Devon Chapter Rose Croix No 275 in Newton Abbot when I was in the Chair in 1991, and became a founder member of Pleiades Chapter Rose Croix No 1113 in Totnes in 1998.

Len was issued with a Long Service Certificate having completed 50 years in Freemasonry shortly before he passed away, and very sadly was not presented with this.

Throughout his 50 years in Freemasonry, Len lived respected and died regretted. He will be remembered not only as a worthy Freemason, but as a gentleman and a true friend.

Gerald P Rooke
Benevolent No 303
12 September 2014