

## Three Generations of the Harvey Family



The announcement of a potential new Candidate is always most welcome to a Secretary, but when our Secretary, W. Bro. Alan Harvey OBE PProvJGD announced to us that *he* had someone interested in joining our Lodge we were, of course, delighted. When he gave us the Candidate's name we were at first a little puzzled, but then the coincidence became apparent – Alan was proposing his own Grandson, a new Lewis into the Lodge -

aptly named Lewis Dean Harvey.

At the November meeting of St Margaret's Lodge No. 5168 at the Rochford Masonic Hall we were privileged to witness a very special degree, which was performed by W. Bro. Richard Inglis PPAGDC in an excellent and most sincere manner. W Bro Alan, who has remained behind his Secretary's desk for many years steering our Lodge with a firm, but gentle hand, had declined the opportunity of taking the Master's chair for the degree, instead he chose the Junior Deacon's wand and, just as he had helped Lewis to take his first few tentative steps as a child, he guided his Grandson through his first Masonic meeting with the same safe hands and there was scarcely a dry eye in the house.

We only hope that when he comes to write up the minutes of the meeting he is not too modest to insert an appropriate superlative to describe his own faultless performance.

At the Festive Board W Bro Alan gave an emotional speech to his Grandson welcoming him into our Lodge and into our International Brotherhood, to which Bro Lewis gave an excellent and confident response, which gives every indication that his future Masonic career promises to be a most interesting one to follow.

It would be remiss not to mention the other two stars of the night - W. Bro. Peter Smith PPJGW and Bro. Kurt Deed, our latest Initiate - who respectively gave the Pre-ambles and the Charge to the Initiate, both in an exemplary manner.

It is always nice to have icing on the cake and this night was no exception, as Lewis' Father, Dean, who through work commitment has been unable to devote as much time to Masonry as he would otherwise have wished, was able to attend and witness the Initiation of his son. We sincerely hope that we might enjoy many meetings in the future with three generations of Harveys in our Lodge - with that combination, the potential for future degree line-ups is mind-blowing!

Bro Lewis had another grandfather, Ron Leighton, who was a Past Master of St Margaret's Lodge for over 40yrs. He would have loved to have been at this special meeting, but sadly Ron passed to the Grand Lodge Above in December 2014. I imagine he was looking down on the ceremony with great pride.

Article compiled by

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