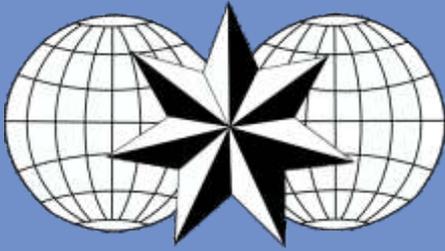


December 2017



Newsletter

- brings Druids together



Dear IGLD Brothers and Sisters

It is time for Christmas preparations and celebrations, but also a time to look back at the year 2017 that is soon coming to an end. I think that IGLD during this period has justified itself and is growing more and more, especially in Sweden, Norway and Germany. At the meetings in Frankfurt in April, in Copenhagen in September and Sundsvall in October more than one hundred new brothers were initiated. In January 2018 there will be a Norwegian national IGLD meeting where already 50 brothers want to be new members.

At the IGLD Executive Meeting in Copenhagen the proposal for the new Constitution was discussed. This was based on the suggestions from the working group formed in Nelson, and with small additions and corrections it was then unanimously approved and will be presented at our

next Congress. The preparations have now started to produce the manual for practical use by the officers.

In the beginning of December, I had the opportunity to visit Loge Holstentreue in Kiel, Germany when they received the 41st Christmas tree from the lodge Nordstjernen, Norway. The German Presidency and the Grand Lodge were also represented, and old friendships were renewed in good German traditions.

The Scandinavian IGLD meeting in 2018 is planned for the weekend September 28th-30th in Stavanger. Old and new IGLD members from everywhere will be invited to participate at this meeting.

Unfortunately, also sad things have occurred during 2017. In October, our friends in California were severely hit by



Kay Hagby , Grand President



the catastrophic fires, and some of them lost their homes and possessions. A Fire Relief Fund was established and IGLD donated € 500,- to their support. I know also that a considerable amount was collected among the German brothers.



I take this opportunity to wish you all a quiet and peaceful Christmas, and hope that we will meet again somewhere and sometime during 2018.

In Unity, Peace and Concord,

Kay Hagby
Grand President



IGLD meeting Copenhagen

Last weekend in September all IGLD Brother was invited to join a meeting outside lovely Copenhagen, Denmark. More than 80 IGLD members had signed in for the meeting from 7 countries, included Brothers outside Europe. Our Danish Druid Brothers with Kurt Lycke as host committee leader did welcome all to a well prepared meeting with solid, international spirit and focus. Of course one of the highlights during the gathering was to welcome 30? new IGLD Brothers. This weekend in Denmark left a including, international footprint for all participants.

The nice building “Druidgaarden” together with the Danish committee was a perfect host for this international meeting. IGLD members from Australia, England, Germany, Switzerland besides all the three Scandinavian countries Sweden, Norway and Denmark was joining in during this nice Saturday morning. Also this time, as always, there was scheduled meeting within the Executive Committee of IGLD as one of course had some innovative expectations to discuss for the future. After all it is in the coming years we will find the future of our IGLD Brotherhood.

Our Danish hosts had everything prepared for us. In any Druid location you always find a nice welcoming atmosphere and “Druidgaarden” was no exception. A nice cup of coffee or something else to drink together with a brotherly chat is always a nice start for old friends as well for our newcomers. It is always interesting to hear from brothers across borders how the brotherhood in different countries are developing. The basis of Merlin as we know is the same but of course there are inequalities from one country to another. It is always interesting to discuss such theme and to pick up good inputs.

After some time we was called by the Guardian and we where all most worthy guided into the ritual meeting. As often before something happens just before you step over that doorstep. Your mind, your thoughts – our whole mindset is changing and at an international meeting like this one absolutely starts thinking about how we as Druids can contribute to growth for our brotherhood not only in our own country but even more across borders. Well, attending an

Copenhagen



Kurt Lykke

international meeting is a good start but one also has to invite unknown Brothers to talk about these thoughts. We know that Druids in history entered battle fields and challenging arenas to speak for peace and reconciliation. Maybe not too many of us ever will have the privilege to become peace makers but opportunities for reconciliation is a part of our daily life. At work, within families, with friends – Merlins message is just as actual today as ever.

After a worthy and respectful ceremony our 30 new seeking Brothers was included as members of IGLD. To them, we heard after the ceremony, this was another special step on their personal development and walk into Druidism. Not to forget, to all the rest of us it brings up afterthought and question about “ have I done what`s possible for me with my Druid tooling ? “

This was part of what was still “in the air” during a perfect Danish/IGLD brotherly common meal. Our Danish friends absolutely know how to treat and definitely how to please 80 hungry Druids in a perfect way. Again, discussions around the table, across “borders” and among friends was completely filling the dining room. Our host Brother ?? Lykke really had to



*Dieter Hennecke,
GVP Wolfgang Gürtler,
GVP Rolf Gasser*

use the gong gong to get attention. It was quite impressive how small talk easily converted into more deep discussions around tables, among Brothers. An international dimension was established.

Saturday evening, we all could split up and start on our way home, either by car for some or continue for one more day. Common to all of us was another perfect meeting with a refreshed international dimension to be shared when we get back home to

the best of both local as international Druidism. Again, our deepest greetings to our perfect Danish host team guided by Brother Kurt Lykke.

-T.Olsen



*David Langston
GVP Frank Evans,
GC David Smisson*



Dear Brethren



Officers, Members and Guests at the 125th Jubilee of Maitai Lodge No. 15 UAOD



The 125th Jubilee Cake

On Saturday 14th October, Maitai Lodge No. 15 UAOD celebrated 125 years of continuous operation. Formed in Nelson NZ on the 11th October 1892, Maitai Lodge has continued to serve its Members and the Community over that whole period. Although Druidism is now in the decline in New Zealand, with only 10 Lodges left, Maitai Lodge is still one of the strongest Lodges in New Zealand, and meets regularly every two weeks with a Ritual Meeting, and Social events monthly. 48 Members and Guests, including Members of IGLD shared a very good meal, drinks, and much camaraderie on the Saturday Night, including a short Quiz contest. The Quizmaster was obviously dishonest, as the winners were not the team

with the most correct answers. A good time was had by all.

On the Saturday afternoon, 14 Members, including the President of IGLD Australia Bro. Tom Rowe met for the New Zealand IGLD Meeting, before joining Maitai Lodge's celebrations.

Sunday saw IGLD and Maitai Lodge Members joining together again for a day out. Starting from the Lodge Rooms, the Bus load of Druids headed to Wakefield, and the Industrial/ Agricultural Museum for a 'trip down memory lane' Most enjoyable, and this took Members

back many, many, years .

After lunch, on to the Upper Moutere Inn, one of the oldest wooden Hotels in New Zealand, with most of the original structure still intact and in use. A 'convivial' hour followed, with another 'History' lesson. Arriving back at the Lodge Rooms at 4.30.pm, drinks were served, the BBQ's were fired up, and 5 most enjoyable Social hours began.



The youngest and oldest serving Members of Maitai Lodge cutting the Jubilee cake.

L to R Sis Adele Hooper, (2 yrs) PGP Bro. Cyril Martin (68 yrs) Sis. Lynn Jeffrey (2yrs)
Bro. Martin was also a member of IGLD, but had to resign recently due to poor health. (a sign of the times.)

Is age catching up with us?

It seems less and less members are attending Lodge in Australia, but the Northern Hemisphere is attracting more members to IGLD.

We lost a very dedicated member in Victoria, Past Grand President Br Bill Collins in August this year . Bill joined druids in 1952, and held very high positions in UAOD Victoria for a number of years. He was elected IGLD Australian Vice President in 2000 and accompanied the World Grand Secretary of the time Brother John Butler on a number of visits around Australia and travelled to both Europe and the United Kingdom visiting several lodges and meeting world delegates. He was admitted to the Knights Degree in Hamar, Norway in 2004 as the Knight of the Golden Wattle. He will be sadly missed. All who knew him, had been touched by his honesty and loyalty, and made laugh by his wicked sense of humour . RIP Bro Bill.

The UAOD South Australia may be closing it's doors shortly and it is hoped that the remaining members will transfer to another interstate lodge to be able to continue their membership.

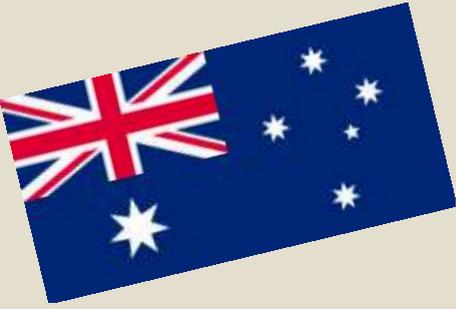
On a brighter note - at the last IGLD Meeting in Bunbury Western Australia Past Grand President Bro Gordon Wood was elected and installed as President with Bro Tom Rowe taking his new chair as Immediate Past President after 3 years as President.

Having just returned from the IGLD Officers and Vice Presidents meeting in Copenhagen, I feel that the IGLD World is heading in the right direction with the working group assisting the World President and Secretary in producing a Simple Constitution and Manual to assist the Officers in performing their duties.

Might I take the opportunity to acknowledge the hospitality shown to Pam and myself from Brother Flemming Pedersen and his wife Linda during our visit to Copenhagen. Nothing being any trouble to them to ensure our stay was a memorable experience. We tasted a few of the Danish traditional foods. – some we liked, some not so.(Go the Brøndbys (Flemming's soccer team) for a Premiership Win this year.

We are looking forward to going to the 2020 Congress in Malmo, Sweden along with 7 other WA, 3 Eastern state members and partners.

*Graeme Foulds
Grand Vice President Australia*



GG Pam Foulds,
GVP Graeme Foulds



New officers in the Riksstorlogen

RSÄÄ Anders Eriksson, RSOÄ Dag Wikman, RSMÄ Mikael Stenman, RSSkr Dan Bergeld, RSSkm Ulf Högberg, RSBibl René Lindelöf, RSM Ulf Tengbrand, RSV Lars Grefmar.

On the weekend of 28-30 July 2017, Linköping invited a brilliant summer holiday. The sun glorified the beautiful city and the lukewarm wind broke our cheeks when we, druids from the whole kingdom, arrived to the city. We felt welcome to Linköping. Many of us had arrived on Thursday due to the Druidgolf or other engagements.

After Friday's breakfast, we gathered outside the local area that would form Lund during the Riksdag meeting. And it certainly became crowded. There you could see the representatives from all the Great Logs, but also a lot of order brothers from Kiruna to Trelleborg, from Gothenburg to Stockholm. Not only Sweden was represented. We also had visiting brothers from Norway but more about this later. It was not just Riks Old Archar and Old Arch. Also, lower-grade brothers were among those present. Gladly you could see any eubat. Exactly at 13, RSM Dan Bergeld called the brothers in to the opening meeting, which was conducted routinely and dignently under the direction of RSÄÄ Dag Wikman. The meeting ended ritually after which we gathered coffee at Hotell Ekoxen's dining room to strengthen us for the afternoon's rally talks.



The end of the Riksdag session on Sunday morning occurred as usual in very formal forms, first of all, the installations of the new officers in the Riksstorlogen, afterwards the award of six brothers to Honorary Druids with the distinction and diploma. After that, the Word of Worship was awarded to Brother Kay Hagby from Norway for his dedication and work, including in the IGLD. Finally, Druidic Fire was handed over to representatives from all major logdes to be transferred to all basic logs in Sweden. Norway's RSEE, Geir Tofsrud, thanked for all the positive cooperation and the contact we have between the countries.

-Svensk Druid-Tidning

Druid Teddy Bears for police cars.



In Norrköping 170km south of the Swedish capital Stockholm we find lodge Triton. This is an lodge with active and caretaking brothers. And they have a special interest for Teddy Bears.

During the last meeting in 2016 it came to the knowledge of some Druid Brothers in lodge Triton that the local police force often was

involved in cases where one also had to take care of children. Not only dramatic situations but also minor cases where the police officers were missing something bridgebuilding, a "working tool" in situations where children was involved. Of course, all police officers are well trained to handle this kind of situations but one can imagine the situation where the police officer is looking for some "tool" in a situation with children.

This got to the knowledge of our Druid Brothers in lodge Triton and they figured out how to help. One raised some money for a smart idea and after checking out with the local Police authority the Druid Brothers bought a large number of Teddy Bears and gave to the local police force.

During 2017 all police cars in Norrköping has handled out a number of brown comforting Teddy Bears to children in many different

situations. One can imagine how much better the world is if you receive proper comfort from both a nice police officer and a Winnie The Pooh. The idea is that one can keep the new Bear friend if you want.

How many bears that has been handled out or has been delivered to the police force or how many police officers that had a much safer working situation after the arrival of the Teddy Bears is not mentioned in the notice of the Swedish Druid Magazine. But any Brother can easy understand that in these police cars one has a tool that brings both some extra joy and comfort. A very clever idea. What similar can we find somewhere else ?

-T.O



Druid-Logenmuseum opened in Peine.



President of the Order Br. Frank Graffenberger (li.) And Grand Vice President of the IGLD, Br. Wolfgang Gürtler are proud of the Druiden-Logenmuseum, which was created in the Lodge of the Lessing Lodge in Peine.

On October 29, 2016, our long-planned lodge museum in Peine was a powerful celebration of the 90-year-old architect, who highlighted the special features solemnly opened by the presidium, as part of a dignified ceremony, in the presence of many guests.



This has been in recent months in the lodge of our Lessing Lodge in Peine under the aegis of patron Br. Wolfgang Gürtler several committed brothers lovingly and with great personal effort (financial donations and manual work) an appealing room prepared.

-from Druidenstern

Guests and brothers from near and far visited the opening ceremony and admired the exhibits.



A spruce tree, from Drammen, Norway, symbol of peace, lit for the 55th time on the square in Wolfenbüttel, Germany.

Thomas Pink Lord Mayor of Wolfenbüttel, Old Arch Hans Øyen Bardstjernen Lodge, Noble Archdruid Günter Selle Loge zur Bünde streue and

Noble Archdruid of Avalon Lodge Kjell Einar Olsen.



Fortyone brothers and sisters from Lodges Bardstjerne and Avalon in Drammen Norway, the German Lodge Zur Bünde streues, and Brothers from six other Norwegian Lodges travelled by coach to deliver the annual gift from the Norwegian forests. The guests were met by Brothers from «Zur Bünde streue» and invited to a cold buffet consisting of different types of fish and meat.



The following day a gala banquet was arranged where representatives from Wolfenbüttel Council and no less than 107 Brothers and ladies participated, amongst who were guests fra Switzerland and other German Lodges. Udo Wittek, Vice Archdruid of «Zur Bünde streue» made a very emotional speech in which he said that not only the Brothers, but the people of Wolfenbüttel really appreciate the fact that Bardstjerne and

Avalon send a Spruce Peace Tree year after year.

The lights on the tree were lit by His Worship the Lord Mayor, Mr Pink, on the town square at Wolfenbüttel, amongst the traditional stalls at the Christmas market. The Lord Mayor invited the Norwegian guests to the city hall, and held another emotional speech in which he emphasized the importance of this very much appreciated tradition. Vice Arch Druid Rob Mulder from Bardstjerne Lodge, spoke on behalf of all the Norwegian guests, thanking Wolfenbüttel, for their hospitality

-R.A..Eriksen



New Supreme Archdruid



Danmark has a new Supreme Archdruid as their earlier leader of the Order left his post for personal reasons. A ballot showed that Supreme Old Archdruid Mogens Pedersen of Avalon Lodge (aged 74) will be Supreme Arch Druid in Denmark.

Brother Mogens is very experienced in that he has been a member of the Order for more than forty years, Noble Archdruid in Avalon Lodge, member of the Leadership of the Danish Order for more than ten years. He has been Grand Treasurer and World President of IGLD (2008-2012) In 2010 Brother Mogens was awarded The Danish Order of Druids highest award when he was appointed Honourable Druid.

Brother Mogens will hold this position as Supreme Archdruid until the next National Assembly in 2019



A new Hall in Reykjavik



September 29th 1996, the first Lodge, Losje Janus, was founded in Iceland. On the same date 21 years after, the Icelandic brothers Losje Janus, Losje Fjöltnir, Losje Geysir could invite to the opening of their new Hall. Almost 100 brothers and guests had found their way.



RSEE Geir Tofsrud congratulations on a great lodging room, which will certainly help to give Icelanders a significant boost. He also praised the brothers for all the work that was taken to make such a great place.

Druids of California



A group of druids came together for the greater cause of the order to bring in new membership. This group has worked for months to put this all together and will continue to be united to assist.

In honor of our founder Frederick Sieg, with direction of NGA John Rainwater, we have reopened California Grove 1 (Placerville).



Here are the officers of California Grove 1.

Congratulations to this Grove and every one that came together to make this happen.



Brothers visiting the Novato Grove's Official of NGA John Rainwater Sr.



Lodge nr 60 in Norway was established in Gjøvik On the 14th October 2017

Storlosjen Dovre was responsible for the ceremony, where 80 Brothers from Ordensledelse twelve grunnlosjer from Norway and other countries were represented. The Motherlodge is Lodge Cygnus, and both Lodges meet at the Lodge house in Gjøvik, which is on the banks of Norways largest lake Mjøsa

Preperations started three years ago, with the question put to Brothers in the Motherlodge (Moderlosjen) if anyone was interested in starting a new Lodge. Sixteen Brothers were very motivated, and these are now the founders of Phoenix Lodge.

There aren't many brothers in Gjøvik. However, they are prepared to do what they can to invite men to seek membership in the towns' two lodges





Grand President Kay Hagby was promoted to Honourable Druid on October 13th 2017.



Honourable Druid is the highest form of recognition and honour any Norwegian Brother can achieve. There are never more than seven Honourable Druids, if one of them should demise a new worthy Brother will be chosen. An Honourable Druid is exempt from all financial obligations to the Order. His framed portrait will hang on a wall in the Lodge premises where he is a member where it can be seen by everyone.

Brother Kay has really deserved this honour. He has held different offices at his home lodge, Bardstjernen, which is part of Eker Grand Lodge, the Norwegian National Grand Lodge and IGLD, continuously since 1978. He is at present National Grand Archdruid of the Norwegian Order of Druids and Grand President of IGLD

R.A.Eriksen-

Brotherly contact between Norway and England.

Brother Lawrence Ellefsen was born in Waunarlwydd, a village about five miles from Swansea. Although he has lived her in Norway most of his 78 year old life, he is still a very proud Welshman. He is a member of FGDO, which is the Norwegian equivalent of AOD, and lives in Tønsberg which is about two miles from his Lodge house.

With three older brothers, two of which have now passed away, he arranged a visit to Providence Lodge nr 441 in

Margate, Kent. His contact was our now deceased Brother Barry Wood. Our Lodge members have visited Margate three times, and Our Brothers from Margate have visited us here once. Altogether fourteen of our Brothers have been to Margate, our first visit in 2013, and experienced friendship and rituals we will never forget.

Our Norwegian Brothers took part in several meetings at several Lodges, and were very surprised when we were initiated as Brothers by the Officers of Providence Lodge. Naturally we all felt this was a great honour which was bestowed on us.

Unfortunately Brother Lawrence has lost contact with Providence Lodge after Brother Barry's death, and would be grateful for any possible help to re-establish contact with the Brothers there. He hopes that if we re-establish contact, AOD and FGDO could work closely with each other.

The photograph, taken at our Lodge house Gimle in Tønsberg shows Brothers Bjørn Kongsli and Lawrence Ellefsen wearing their AD reglias.



R.A.Eriksen-

I G L D - Meeting in Copenhagen 30 September 2017 - some reflection from a new IGLD Brother.



Three Druid brothers from Sandefjord, Norway registered for the IGLD meeting in Copenhagen. One already IGLD member and two recipients seeking the IGLD Brotherhood. Departure was Friday morning from Sandefjord by car through Sweden to reach the hotel close to Druidegaarden outside Copenhagen. Saturday we joined in well before the start of the meeting to get to know other IGLD Brothers and recipients for reception, the meeting and common meal. For the new IGLD Brothers from Sandefjord the journey and the IGLD meeting turned out to be something different,- something beyond expected.

One is trying to prepare for joining the international part Druidism, seeking the International Grand Lodge of Druidism. In my mind, it brings a new dimension to have a journey both physically and mentally to reach this meeting. It is an international meeting, you should have to cross borders!

We three brothers entered the car in Sandefjord and started the actual journey that takes 8-10 hours. What such a journey gives you extra is the opportunity for the good conversation where you sit, either with yourself or with the fellow Brothers, - philosophize over daily life, - and your Druid life. You also have plenty of time to think about and to enjoy what is going to happen at the reception, in the meeting and in the presence of like-

minded brothers.

The journey itself.

In the same way as the silence during our meetings this kind of travel gives you peace and opportunity to explore yourself, your own mind. You get an opportunity for a journey in your own mind that takes some time, - time to think for yourself and about yourself, - let your mind fly, - get a little philosophically. It is not certain that you solve your own or the world's problems, but we modern people have far too little time for silence and reflection.

Think about it

We need the silence, it's partly "stolen away" from our daily lives. How many minutes, or say moments, have you had the last days for your own rest and relaxation? In your daily life, I think it's often after you lie in bed and the light is off, giving you a few moments of personal 'reflection time' before sleep grab your eyes. Research shows that sleep is crucial important as the brain is recovering in some way cleaned for physical slag and leakage.

In the same way we need some recovering moments while awake to stay healthy. Allow ourselves to get a 'time-out' for your brain and your mind. Travelling like we did can also be used as a mental journey.....

The meeting

Reception into the IGLD Brotherhood is not

just a regular meeting. It is a preparation for, and approval for, the international breakthrough in the homelands. We are reminded in our rituals of contact beyond borders: Each Brother should strive with firmness and stamina for the Druid



Brotherhood throughout the world. We will remember what ties us together, Brother to Brother in our worldwide network. This is call to all of us to enlarge our horizon and to make contact with Brothers in other countries. The Druid wisdom and Brotherhood will make the world a better place and by visiting Druid



Brothers in other countries we help to acknowledge and support their work for Brotherhood and kindness. For us as visitors, the IGLD meeting is also positive and rewarding. Even though we base ourselves on the same basic wisdom, it is always possible to understand new aspects and to learn something new. However, the most important part of the international meeting is to meet all the

different Brothers from other countries and parts of our world. At this my first IGLD meeting, I greeted and talked to IGLD members from New Zealand, England and a few more European countries. The common feeling and belonging are established as soon as you enter the Druid

building. Eventually, the sense of community becomes more apparent when we as recipients, approx. 30, waiting to be called to the solemn action. It's exciting, it's new, and again a new experience like at every other stage in our system. It's strange how a solemn ceremony, a blue bow with the

starring star attached to the chest and then smiling greetings make you happy and warm all the way to the core of your hart. Each Druidic meeting gives you the opportunity to think about life.- this meeting allows you to think beyond the limits.

A little afterword

During the IGLD meeting one of the older Danish Brothers stops me. He says that his grandfather was born in Norway. Where his family came from, he had not managed to figure out, even with the help of genealogical investigators, both in Copenhagen and Oslo. He gave me his grandfather's name and date of birth and hoped I could make an effort to look into this.

Back at home I took on a little detective struggle and after searching for census, I found that his family had to come from Spydeberg in Østfold. By the name of grandfather's brother we could find that this might be correct. My Danish brother in law is very happy about what he has learned! Another nice memory from my first IGLD meeting,- beyond borders.

-A.Wahl

Working with the new Constitution



The proposal for the new Constitution was discussed at the IGLD Executive Meeting in Copenhagen. This was based on the suggestions from the working group formed in Nelson, and with small additions and corrections it was then unanimously approved and will be presented at our next Congress. The preparations have now started to produce the manual for practical use by the officers.



IGLD Calendar

IGLD reception
20th January 2018,
Sandefjord Norway.

IGLD Meeting
9th Feb 2018
New Zealand

IGLD reception
May/June 2018,
Basel, Switzerland.

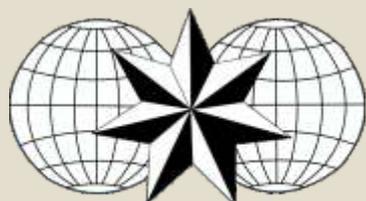
IGLD reception
29th September 2018,
Stavanger, Norway.

IGLD Newsletter editors would like druid news from all over the world.



From an editors meeting in December 2017 Trond Olsen Abaris Lodge, Geir Kaare Jordheim IGLD Grand Secretary and Rolf Anker Eriksen Eken Lodge

The editors meet in the IGLD Grand secretaries' private office several times a week prior to the next edition. Coffee and cakes, and a nice chat is part of the meetings, and of course concentration on the work of gathering thoughts and news of a positive nature from the whole of the Druid world. Of course, news and information of Lodges and Brothers who meet each other now and then. A brotherhood which represents a big social movement of international goodwill, peace and understanding.



IGLD

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**It's important that you inform us
about what's happening in your
Lodge and your country.**