

## **Workshop Topic Responses**

### **1. How, with other local lodges, we will raise our profile to become a more active part of the community?**

- Use Masonic centres for community use to raise profile
- Have more open days
- Use social media, Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat to advertise and to make own members proud to be a member. Concern was expressed by some members about use of social media
- Use the Provincial Information Officer to engage with local press and media.
- Encourage co-ordinated attendance at local events e.g. local shows, Remembrance Day parades
- Play an active role in local charities rather than simply make donations
- Branding – wearing of collars when making public appearances and in photo opportunities so that the general public immediately recognise the “brand”, consider important by some

### **2. How could we recruit an average of 2 good candidates a year?**

- Encourage more and joint social events with family members present
- Be more female friendly
- Have more open days
- Hold structured white table events
- Set up a local pool to recycle regalia and to help reduce first year joining cost
- Use social media, Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat to advertise and to make own members proud to be a member
- Encourage members (particularly younger members) to be more pro active in seeking new members
- Engage with local organisations e.g. Young Farmers Clubs, Round Table

### **3. How can we reduce the number of leavers by at least half?**

- Make meetings more interesting. Hold meetings about other interesting non-Masonic topics
- Time management-Consider/review start and finishing times. No need for early start times.  
Do not exert undue pressure about ritual and involve new members. Split up and use more to present the longer ritual
- Involve new members and those who do not want to progress in other lodge responsibilities/tasks
- Vary the style of festive board. Have themed evenings

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- Ensure progression for those who want it and consider two-year succession plans especially for less experienced brethren
- Identify patterns of attendance and have a follow up plan of action for non-attendance
- Use past officer to mentor new officer
- Use personal contact to keep in touch
- Mentors and Lodge membership Officers to be proactive
- Ensure brethren are enjoying their Freemasonry

### **4. How can we improve attendance rate of members?**

- Consider frequency, date and time of meetings
- Make meetings more interesting. Consider lectures and demonstration ceremonies to explain the ritual
- Time management. Consider/review start and finishing times. No need for early start times
- Give more members jobs to do such as Assistant Office holders
- Use of Social media to keep in touch
- Review mentoring programme
- Record attendance and use Proposer, Almoner and Mentors to follow up non attendance

### **5. How can we improve attendance rate of visitors?**

- Members to invite guests
- Organise group visits – use Group apps
- Reciprocate visits
- Lodge Mentors to organise visits for new members
- Integrate visitors and members at Festive Boards
- Worshipful Masters and Wardens to accept invitations to visit Installations
- Circulate Lodge summons to other lodges

### **6. How can we ensure that we recognise early and offer support when a member is not enjoying his membership or has personal issues that we may need to support?**

- Review mentoring programme
- Recognise erratic or regular non attendance
- Proposer, Almoner, Mentor to follow up non – attendance and ascertain reason

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### **7. How do we encourage members to take office and progress to the Chair?**

- Identify an individual's objectives
- Encourage attendance at LOI or rehearsals
- Have unofficial or informal rehearsals (i.e. LOI) possible between several local lodges so newer brethren can experience filling the various offices.
- Make rehearsals a social event – have a drink or meal (curry) afterwards
- Offer support
- Share the ritual
- Past Masters to sit next to Lodge officers

### **8. How do we retain interest of Past Masters and stop them fading away?**

- Continue to involve them in the ceremonies
- Involve them in Lodge affairs
- Progression after vacating the Chair, e.g. IPM, ADC, Tyler, Mentor.
- Use PM's to shadow and mentor Light Blues as they progress in office

### **9. How do we encourage members to take up offices such as Lodge Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies? What are the incentives?**

- Give them the opportunity to experience the office in an assisting role
- Set time limit for certain offices
- Have a long term succession plan
- Incentives are continued involvement in lodge affairs, job satisfaction

### **10. Lodge suggestion for Provincial assistance and consideration**

- Support Lodge Open days with advice and material
- Social media links
- Support Light Blues by organising seminars if they so wish to discuss subjects of their choice – liaise with the Mackworth Club
- Support lodges with social media and website advice
- Support Lodges with advice with publicity and public affairs
- Organise meetings such as this periodically so that members can express their opinions and provide feedback