

Old Kimboltonians' Lodge Meeting and Dinner – 28th March 2025

In the extraordinary setting of Kimbolton Castle, the Old Kimboltonians' Lodge gathered along with many visitors and guests for a very special 'White Table' evening.

The Lodge meeting was opened and after some items of business, called off in order to invite in guests and friends into the Chapel.

Guests from Kimbolton School included Will Chuter, Headmaster, Sam Venn, Development Director, Andrew Bamford, School Curator and his wife Lisa, George Yeandle, School Governor and Chair of the School Finance Committee together with his wife Ann and Melanie Kapinos, School Alumni Officer.

In addition there were many other guests who were interested in learning more about Freemasonry and its connections to the School.



Also in attendance were members from Lodges in Denmark who had previously attended a meeting at the School and enjoyed it so much they returned especially for this meeting.

John Hitchin and Ed Williams from the Lodge gave a talk on what Freemasonry was all about and its connections to the School including distinguished members of the Manchester Family who had held high office in Freemasonry. John Hitchin also explained how the Lodge was formed by a number of School masters in 1952 and in particular William Ingram.

Thomas Campbell, one of the younger Lodge members gave a short talk on why he joined the Lodge and the how it helps him develop in life.

Peter Lyne gave an update on Freemasonry Charitable giving noting that Freemasons give around £50m a year to Charity all of which is raised through its members. The Old Kimboltonians' Lodge gives donations to the School and other local charities including Hospitals, support of the homeless and to local Kimbolton Scouts and Brownies.

There followed a question and answer discussion ranging from the origin of the black and white squared carpet, the regalia worn by Freemasons, women's Freemasonry and programs about Freemasonry on TV.



Following the meeting there was a dinner held in the Saloon. Toasts were given to the King and to the School, amongst others.



John Hitchin gave a toast to the Visitors and Mr George Yeandle replied thanking the Lodge for a splendid evening and saying he was now very much better informed about Freemasonry and the School Lodge.

John Hitchin presented a cheque for £250 to George Yeandle to go to the School Charity Club for the members to decide on which charities would benefit.

Ed Williams gave a toast to the School and the Headmaster Will Chuter replied.

Ed Williams presented a cheque for £250 for Mrs Chuter to give to her favourite charities.

The evening finished on a very light-hearted note with Ed Williams and Will Chuter having some amusing anecdotes about common misconceptions about Freemasonry!!

