

Rusty Nail Ceremonial

Explanation

The Rusty Nail Ceremony refreshes the memory regarding the passwords and sign of the three regular degrees in Freemasonry. It touches on Lodge customs and reviews the mysteries and principles of Freemasonry as taught in the ritual.

It is not a recognised Masonic degree, and as the purpose is to bring back lapsed members it cannot be held in Open Lodge. A special meeting should be held, as would be done for the Cork degree or other unofficial side degree. See law regarding re-admittance of lapsed members into the Lodge and payment of outstanding dues. Lapsed members of the Lodge should be known to the officers performing the ceremony before admittance. Regalia must not be worn, however the meeting *should be Tyled*.

RWM *Welcomes all present and explains the objective of the Rusty Nail Ceremonial, then offers snuff from the Rams Head – (Coupar Custom).*

Now Brethren, Early in your Masonic career you were taught never to engage in any great or important undertaking without first invoking the aid and blessing of deity. I shall therefore call upon Bro. chaplain to lead us in prayer.

Chaplain *Great Architect of the universe we beseech thee to look down upon and bless the Brethren here assembled. May the connections reformed here be linked together with ever increasing ties of brotherly love and fellowship until time shall be no more.*

W.S.W. (Very Brief history of the Lodge)

RWM SD Please conduct the brethren to WJW

SD WJW It gives me great pleasure to present these brethren who desire the order of the Rusty Nail.

W.J.W. Welcome to Lodge 19 and the Order of the Rusty Nail. On your first admission into a Lodge of Freemasons you were admitted on *the point of a sharp instrument..... and as it was.....*
(at this point a resumé of the ritual used at the candidates entrance into the Lodge is given.)

Then the

1. steps,
2. due guard and sign,
3. grip and word –
4. working tools,
5. knocks
6. how to enter and retire from the Lodge.

W.J.W. (continues) You will now be conducted to the S.W. for instructions on the 2nd degree

SD WSW It gives me great pleasure to present these brethren who desire the order of the Rusty Nail

W.S.W. Welcome to Lodge 19 and the Order of the Rusty Nail. On your first admission into a Lodge of Fellowcrafts you were admitted *on the angle of a square..... which was to remind you....*

Resumé of the Second degree. Demonstrations of the step, signs, due guard, working tools, and knocks.

W.S.W. (continues) You will now be conducted to RWM for instructions on the 3rd degree

SD It gives me great pleasure to present these brethren who desire the order of the Rusty Nail

RWM Welcome to Lodge 19 and the Order of the Rusty Nail. On your first admission into a Lodge of Master Masons you were admitted on *both points of the compasses which was to*

Resume of the Third degree. Demonstrations of the signs, due guard, working tools, and knocks. Reminder of the Grand Hailing Sign.

Rusty Nailers then taken to West facing East

RWM. (Reminder of Obligations taken when they joined, and the importance of the Lodge within the community. Highlight support given local charities by Lodge Coupar o' Fife. Support to charities by Provincial Grand Lodge (£10,000 + at charity ball 2010), and support from Lodge 19 to Grand Lodge Benevolence, and to Masonic Homes.)

And now a word from Bro Treasurer

Pete S (Treasurer to outline means of paying outstanding dues, and being brought into good standing. Worst case scenario is this years subs plus 2 previous years ie £90)

R.W.M..- Brethren, I congratulate you upon your successful completion of the Order of the Rusty Nail. I hope that the redefining of these principles will stimulate your renewed interest in Freemasonry and that you will once again attend lodge meetings and activities. We have prepared a **packet of information** for you which contains a future programme and other pamphlets which you may read at your leisure. (packet has future programme, Leaflet on 'Who Are The Masons' – on our website for interested parties, 275th Badge etc etc)

CHAPLAIN *And may the blessing of the G. A. Of the U. Rest upon us, and upon all true and faithful Brethren throughout the World; may Brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us.*

RWM Meeting closed.

Retire for Harmony. (Buffet, music, singing, recitals etc).

Special offer on “Rusty Nail” eg; Whisky & Drambuie £2.50 ??

WJW K.Thompson & PM P.Speirs - March 2011