COVID-19 Situation Update:

My very dear Brethren,

Regrettably, the COVID-19 Coronavirus is affecting every aspect of our lives in real time, and this puts Freemasons and our communities in an unfamiliar place.

I thank you all for your patience and understanding at this time whilst we have been closely monitoring the quickly evolving situation over the past weeks.

In view of the age demographic of our Order, and others who would also be participating in planned events. Meetings, which would place a large number of our Brethren in the "high risk" category. Consequently, I have reached what is deemed to be the most prudent decision at this time.

First and foremost, and of utmost importance to us all is the health and safety of Brethren and families, and in this regard, I make no apology for the:

Cancellation of all Monitor meetings until the end of June 2020

This includes the Conclave of Remembrance which will be rescheduled to later in the year.

Brethren, we all have an obligation, along with our Visiting Deacons....to maintain lines of communication, to check and learn about the health and well-being of a Brother and family, or to 'just to catch up'. Two-way communication is essential, Please email, text or phone your Visiting Deacon regularly. Being Caring, Proactive and Diligent in this regard is vital.

Freemasons especially are social beings and we must retain our sense of Monitor Masonry and Brotherhood in these difficult times even though we are disappointed to miss the personal contact, fellowship, and networking that are hallmarks of Freemasonry. The Order of the Secret Monitor is endlessly admired for caring, and the close relationships we are able to maintain, and we can do that via phone or social media for a while.

I ask for your consideration as the Grand Recorder and our Team work diligently to address questions and provide additional information to all who are impacted by this decision.

Reducing the spread of infection: You should always practice good hand and respiratory hygiene. Hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene are a series of actions to take which are designed to reduce the spread of disease, including COVID-19, to yourself and others. These actions include regular hand washing and covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or the bend of your elbow when you cough or sneeze.

Further sources of information: <u>www.health.gov.au</u>

Yours in Monitor Masonry

Lynden

M.Wthy. Bro Lynden Norgate G.S.R. 20/03/2020

Friendship and Caring