

Script for re-enactment 6 Sept 1855.

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*(Waitemata takes over ARA348 Lodge Room.
Lodge opened as usual, 689 officers in places. Other participants together in
The South.)*

WM *(Open the Lodge)*

WM. announces that work of the evening is to receive distinguished guests and a re-enactment of 1st meeting.

(Bro Secretary reads the Dispensation.)

WM *Reception of visitors
Receive visiting Lodges.
NZC first (Highest No. to Lowest)
SC next
IC next
EC last (Highest No. to Lowest)*

(Receive EC District Grand Lodge.)

WM. Brethren you will rise to assist me to receive W. Bro. N.W. McLeod, DJGW accompanied by Officers of District Grand Lodge.

WM. Brethren you will greet W. Bro. N.W. McLeod, with the honours due to his exalted rank taking the time from Bro Director of Ceremonies.

DC. EA sign Brethren, 3 Times. To Order

*(Receive Scottish Grand Lodge representatives Bro. R.M. Russell,
Honorary Junior Grand Warden, R. Wor. District Grand Master for District
Grand Lodge of New Zealand North, Grand Lodge of Scotland)*

WM. Brethren you will rise to assist me to receive Bro. R.M. Russell, Honorary Junior Grand Warden, R. Wor. District Grand Master for District Grand Lodge of New Zealand North, Grand Lodge of Scotland accompanied by his Grand Lodge officers.

WM. Brethren you will greet Bro. R.M. Russell with the honours due to his exalted rank taking the time from Bro Director of Ceremonies.

DC. EA sign Brethren, 7 Times. To Order

(Receive Irish Grand Lodge representatives R. Wor. Bro. R.J. Whyte, Provincial Grand Master for Provincial Grand Lodge of New Zealand, Grand Lodge of Ireland.)

WM. Brethren you will rise to assist me to receive R. Wor. Bro. R.J. Whyte, Provincial Grand Master for Provincial Grand Lodge of New Zealand, Grand Lodge of Ireland accompanied by his Grand Lodge officers.

WM. Brethren you will greet R. Wor. Bro. R.J. Whyte with the honours due to his exalted rank taking the time from Bro Director of Ceremonies.

DC. EA sign Brethren, 7 Times. To Order

(Receive NZGL: Most W .Bro D.W. Mace, Grand Master the Grand Lodge of New Zealand.)

WM. Brethren you will rise to assist me to receive Most W .Bro D.W. Mace, Grand Master the Grand Lodge of New Zealand accompanied by his Grand Lodge officers.

WM. Brethren you will greet Most W .Bro D.W. Mace with the honours due to his exalted rank taking the time from Bro Director of Ceremonies.

DC. EA sign Brethren, 11 Times. To Order

(Receive Rt W Bro D.K. Williamson, Assistant Grand Master accompanied by Officers of the United Grand Lodge of England.)

WM. Brethren you will rise to assist me to receive Rt W Bro D.K. Williamson, Assistant Grand Master accompanied by Officers of the United Grand Lodge of England.

WM. Brethren you will greet Rt W Bro D.K. Williamson with the honours due to his exalted rank taking the time from Bro Director of Ceremonies.

DC. EA sign Brethren, 9 Times. To Order

(Order of seating in East: [1] Rt W Bro Williamson immediate to left of WM.

[2] Rt W Bro PB Gudsell first seat in front

[3] Most W Bro Mace next

[4] Rt W Bro R Whyte next

[5] Rt W Bro B Russell next

[6] Rt W Bro I Whale

[7] Rt W bro R Polkinghorne

[8] Rt W Bro N Ingram

[9] W Bro N. McLeod DJGW should be seated to the left of the Chaplain (SE))

WM “Brethren, the work of the evening is a re-enactment of the meeting when the Waitemata Lodge was formed on the 6th Sept 1855 and for that purpose we will be forming a simulated Lodge within this Lodge.”

“We remind you that what you are about to see is a re-enactment only, a piece of theatre, and respectfully ask you to remain seated during the performance.”

“In crafting the ceremony we have relied on the original minutes and attendance register. In addition a number of distinguished brethren have assisted and we have relied heavily on the research they have done. We acknowledge their work and are indebted to them for their help.”

WM SW JW gavel once.

Narrator:

“This notice appeared in the “New Zealander” newspaper on the 5th September 1855.

Waitemata Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons
The members of the above Lodge will meet at the Masonic Hotel on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock precisely for the purpose of constituting the Lodge according to the usages of the grand Lodge of England

Members of lodge ARA 348 and visiting Brethren are invited to attend

By order of the WM

James Buchanan, Acting Sec.

Comment must now be made about the beginnings of Ara Lodge 348 I.C. and their contribution to early Freemasonry in this District and Waitemata lodge in particular. Without ARA, it is likely that we would not be here today and it is for that reason the Irish Constitution deserves special mention.

In 1841 the Brethren of Auckland applied for a dispensation to Social Lodge 260 IC in Australia, to constitute a Lodge operating under the Irish Constitution.

The Ara dispensation was signed on 5th September 1842 and was presented to the brethren at the meeting of the Lodge on 9th February 1843.

The Lodge continued to function by virtue of the Dispensation from Social Lodge until its meeting of January 1849 held under its Warrant or Charter from the Grand Lodge of Ireland dated 12th June 1844. It is in the minutes of this meeting that the number 348 first appears.

The formation of many Lodges under both the Irish and other Constitutions occurred under the auspices of Ara Lodge.

The first Irish Lodge spawned from Ara was Lodge Egmont in New Plymouth. Brethren in Taranaki made application for dispensation on 1st August 1853. This was issued on 10th August 1853. This allegiance to the Irish Constitution was short lived as this Lodge became Mt Egmont Lodge No 670 under the English Constitution in 1856.

The first lodge to be constituted directly under a Sister Constitution was Waitemata 990 EC later to be renumbered 689.

Waitemata occupies the unique position of having been founded almost entirely by members of the Ara Lodge.

WM 689 SW JW gavel once

DC 689 & DC 348 (Adjust inner lodge furniture)

WM689

“Brethren we are about to form a simulated Lodge within the Lodge. For that purpose

“Bro D.C. you will place -
 W.Bro Devlin in the chair of SW,
 W.Bro Cox in the chair of JW,
 W.Bro Gosling in the chair of IG.”

(DC does perambulations)

689WM SW JW *(gavel once)*

WM 689

“Bro DC you will place the following officers of the Ara Lodge in their respective places in the inner Lodge.

W.Bro D. Waller	into the Master’s chair,
W.Bro J. Willis	into the chair of IPM
Bro Liddell	into the chair of SW
Bro Newton	into the chair of JW
W.Bro T. Bertram	into the chair of DC
Bro A. Waller	into the chair of SD
Bro S. Southwick	into the chair of JD and
Bro Barnett	into the chair of IG

(DC689 collects Ara officers and perambulates, seating them in respective chairs)

WM689 SW JW *(gavel once).*

WM 689

“W Bro. E. Jensen will assume the chair of this Lodge and I with other Waitemata participating officers will take my place in the inner Lodge.

WM689 SW JW *(gavel once).*

(689 WM, SW, JW, SD, JD, IG plus one with EA apron, and one with FC apron sit in chairs in N & S just off pavement. All are picked up by DC as he perambulates.)

Narrator

“The current officers of Ara 3481C now represent those original officers who opened the meeting from whence Waitemata Lodge was born. Portraying those illustrious Brethren, they will now open a representative meeting.”

(Inner Lodge opened by ARA per their 1st degree ritual.)

WM348

“The object of the meeting is to constitute the Waitemata Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons according to the ancient usages of the United Grand Lodge of England, and as no Provincial Grand Lodge has yet been established in NZ, it is my duty as the master of the only Lodge in Auckland to act as Deputy Provincial Grand Master pro tempore, and install the WM elect in due form”.

WM348

“I now call upon Acting Sec Bro Bayliss to read the petition for the new Lodge.”

WM348 SW JW gavel once.

Narrator,;

“To The Most Worshipful Grand Master of the United Fraternity of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

We, the undersigned, being regular registered Masons of the Lodges mentioned against our respective names, having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavours to promote and diffuse the genuine secrets and principles of the art: and for the convenience of our respective dwellings and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new Lodge to be named the “Waitemata “ Lodge. In consequent of this desire, we pray for a Warrant of Constitution, empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at Auckland on the third Monday of every month, and there to discharge the duties of masonry in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the order, and the laws of the Grand Lodge: and we have nominated and do recommend Brother Sir Samuel Osborne Gibbes, Baronet to be our first Master, Brother Frederick Ward Merriman to be our first Senior Warden, and Brother James Buchanan to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge, the prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Signed

S Osborne Gibbes PM 199 and 843 PDGSW Dorset

James Buchanan MM Auckland Lodge ARA348

Frederick Merriman Mark Master PM ARA348

Francis E Campbell SW ARA 348, St Paul's Lodge Canada

William Mason British Union Lodge Ipswich

James Bayliss Prince Mason Dublin No 4

William Young ARA 348

Narrator

'The secretary then read the dispensation from the Provincial Grand Lodge of NSW, empowering the above mentioned Brethren to meet as a Regular lodge under the title of the Waitemata Lodge”.

Narrator

“EA were requested to withdraw and the Lodge was opened in the second degree.

For the purposes of this evening and to ensure that no visiting Brethren miss any of the ceremony this will all be performed symbolically”
Brethren are again reminded that what you are about to see is a re-enactment only, a piece of theatre, and respectfully ask you to remain seated during and do not participate in, the performance. There will be no signs apart from the EA sign and all knocks will be a representative single knock.

WM348 SW JW gavel once

DC348

“All EA will acknowledge the Master and retire from the Lodge without saluting.”

(The EA stands, bows to the WM, moves off the pavement and sits behind SW348 on chairs provided.)

WM348

“I now symbolically open the Lodge in the second degree”

WM348 SW JW gavel once.

Narrator

“ FC were then requested to withdraw and the Lodge was opened in the 3rd degree.”

DC348

“All FC will acknowledge the Master and retire from the Lodge without saluting.”

(The FC stands, bows to WM, moves off pavement and sits with EA.)

WM348 SW JW gavel once.

WM348

“I now symbolically open the Lodge in the 3rd degree”

WM348 SW JW gavel once.

Narrator

“MM were then requested to withdraw so that a Board of Installed Masters could be constituted.”

DC348

“All MM will acknowledge the Master and retire from the Lodge without saluting”

(The MMs stand, bow to the WM, move the pavement and sit with EA and FC.)

WM 348 SW JW gavel once

“I now declare this Board of Installed Masters constituted in Antient Form”

(All re-enactors ON PAVEMENT ONLY, stand and face E.)

(WM 348 nods)

Narrator

“A Board of Installed Masters was duly formed, the obligation taken and signs tokens and words given and received.”

(All sit.)

WM348 SW JW gavel once.

WM348

“Bro D.C you will now place W Bro Sir Samuel Osborne-Gibbes before me for investiture as Master of Waitemata lodge.”

(348 DC gets WM 689 and places him before pedestal.)

(WM348 places Master's collar on WM 689.)

WM 348

‘I now invest you with the collar and jewel of your office.

(WM348 takes WM 689 by both hands, leads him to chair and places him in it.)

WM348

"I now symbolically place you in the chair of KS in accordance with antient form and present to you the VSL, Warrant of Dispensation and the gavel."

Narrator

"Sir Samuel Osborne Gibbes was duly invested with the collar and jewel of the office of the first Master of the Lodge and received the traditional salutations and greetings."

WM348 SW JW gavel once.

"I now declare this Board of Installed Masters closed."

WM348

"Bro DC, admit all MMs"

(They resume their original chairs in inner lodge)

WM348 SW JW gavel once

WM348

"Brethren, you will rise"

WM348

"Brethren during your temporary absence, Sir Samuel Osborne Gibbes has been regularly installed in the chair of KS according to antient custom, and I now proclaim him WM of the Waitemata Lodge No. 990 in the register of the Grand Lodge of England, until the next regular period of election within this Lodge. Be seated Brethren"

WM 348

"WM you will now resume the Lodge in the second degree."

WM 689 gavels once, SW JW 348 copy.

"By the power in me vested I resume the Lodge in the second degree."

WM689 gavels once, SW JW348 copy.

WM 348

"Bro DC admit all FC."

WM348

"Brethren, you will rise"

(As above with WM 348 proclaiming the WM.)

WM 348

“WM you will now resume the Lodge in the first degree.”

WM 689 *gavels once, SW JW 348 copy*

WM348

“Bro DC admit all EAs.”

WM348

“Brethren, you will rise”

(As above with WM348 proclaiming the WM.)

(DC348 then hands control over to DC689 who takes over as DC for rest of proceedings.)

WM 348

“WM whom do you appoint your SW?”

WM 689 “Bro Merriman.”

(689 DC picks up Bro Cannon who is invested by WM with abbreviated 689 ritual, is escorted to SW chair, shakes hands with 348 SW, who is escorted back to Bob’s chair.)

WM 348

“WM whom do you appoint your JW?”

WM 689 “Bro Buchanan.”

(As above for Robbie Stobie.)

WM 348 “WM whom do you appoint SD, JD and IG?”

WM689 “Bro Mason, Bro Young and Bro Campbell.”

WM 348

“WM this now concludes the ceremony of your installation as the first WM of Waitemata Lodge, and I entertain no doubt that your worthy Lodge will light the Beacon for English Freemasonry in this fair land. I am sure that in 150 years time this meeting will be celebrated in grand style. I now hand to you the gavel, and with it control of your Lodge.”

WM 689 “Brethren, is there any further business?”

689 SW stands, 1st degree salute

“WM I propose that the present officers of the Lodge form a committee to frame a code of By-laws and submit the same for approval at the next meeting of the Lodge”

689 JW stands, 1st degree salute

“WM I have much pleasure in seconding that motion”

WM

“Brethren it has been proposed and seconded that a code of By-laws be framed and submitted to the Lodge at the next meeting. All those in favour will signify in the usual manner observed amongst Masons.”

(Participating Inner Lodge brethren indicate.)

WM689 risings.

On 3rd rising, greetings from::

Dave Waller on behalf of Ara348IC

Bob Connon St Paul’s Lodge Canada

Andy Gofton (representing Bro Mason)

on behalf of British Union Lodge Ipswich

(Inner Lodge closed 689 ritual.)

WM 689: “Brethren be seated”.

Narrator

“Brethren this concludes the re-enactment of the formation of Waitemata Lodge”.

WM 689 rises, returns to the Masters chair.

IPM 689 (Ed Jensen)

“WM I return to you the gavel and with it full control of the Lodge.”

WM 348 reoccupies WM chair of inner lodge.

WM 689 SW JW gavel once.

WM689

“Our special guests, the participating Brethren of Ara Lodge, will now return to their original seats in the Lodge under the direction of Bro DC of the Waitemata Lodge.”

DC 689 picks up ARA officers and returns them to original seats.

WM 689 SW JW gavel once

DC689

“The brethren of Waitemata Lodge within the INNER only Lodge will rise. You will form a line in the south on me and perambulate around the Lodge”

(DC 689 thus picks up 689 officers and returns them to original seats.)

WM 689 SW JW gavel once

Narrator

“Since its founding on that historic evening on the 6th September 1855, 150 years ago to the day, Waitemata Lodge has played an important part in Freemasonry in New Zealand.

From her, 18 Lodges, that still survive today, were formed either directly and indirectly.

Those Lodges are:

In conjunction with ARA 348: Alexandra 1188

As Daughter Lodges:

Prince of Wales 1338

Turanganui 1480

Eden 1530

Star of the North 1647

St George 1801

Northern Light 1878

Duke of Albany 2073

Franklin 2138

Harmony 2180

As Grand Daughter Lodges:

Corinthian 1655

Remuera 1710

Rodney 1711

Opotiki 1930

Albion 2003

Alpha 2014

Zelandia 2072

Te Awamutu 2221

These Lodges hold a special place in the history of this the Waitemata Lodge 689 on the Register of the United Grand Lodge of England..

Truly it can be said that Waitemata Lodge is the matriarch of English Freemasonry in the North Island of NZ”

WM689 SW JW *gavel once.*

Risings

First Rising – greetings from Rt W Bro Williamson, Most W Bro Mace, Rt W. Bro R Whyte and Rt W Bro Russell

WM Replies

(Retirements:)

WM: Rt W Bro Williamson will now retire accompanied by our distinguished guests.

DGDC: *(Announces that EC Grand Lodge officers will fall into line in order Junior Officers to the W and then sets out that order)*

(Retirement of Rt W Bro Williamson, Most W Bro Mace together with ALL Grand Lodge officers of all constitutions)

Second Rising

(District Officers retire)

WM: W. Bro. N.W. McLeod, DJGW accompanied by Officers of District Grand Lodge. will now retire.

DGDC: *(Announces that EC District Grand Lodge officers will fall into line in order Junior Officers to the W and then sets out that order)*

(Retirement of W Bro N.W. McLeod together with ALL District Grand Lodge officers of all constitutions)

(Apologies)

Third Rising

(Greetings from visiting Lodges)

(WM replies)

WM: Bro Secretary is there any further business?

Closing

Lodge closed 689 ritual.