

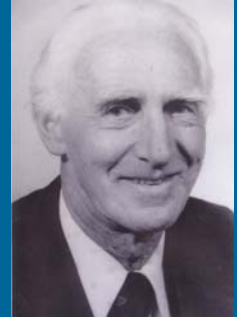


# WBro. Colin Stichbury

*The Prince Of Wales Lodge No. 1338*



Colin was initiated into the Prince of Wales Lodge in 1963 and rose to serve as Master in 1972



WBro COLIN STICHBURY



In District, he was appointed DGPurs in 1975 and PDGDC in 1977.

## The Prince of Wales Lodge

[www.englishmasons1338.org.nz](http://www.englishmasons1338.org.nz)

The Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1338, under the United Grand Lodge of England, was founded on the 18th day of December, 1869, and consecrated on Thursday, the 28th day of September, 1871, at the Masonic Hotel, Princes Street, Auckland, by Bro. J.J. Fitzgibbon, Past Master of the Waitemata Lodge, No. 689, E.C.



Colin Fann Warren Stichbury was born in Auckland in 1912, the eldest of six children, three boys and three girls. His parents were Colin Joseph and Alma Estelle Stichbury.

Colin's father, after whom he was presumably named, was born in Walcha, New South Wales, Australia and moved to New Zealand as a young man. He worked for a short period as a conductor on horse drawn trams in Auckland and later as a traveler for Henry Berry Ltd.

The family moved to Palmerston North for a period before returning to Auckland where they lived at 102 Balmoral Road in Mt. Eden. Colin attended Maungawhai Primary School and then Auckland Boys Grammar School.

Colin left school at 16 and began work with Ross and Glendining in Elliott Street, Auckland, as a warehouseman specialising in knitting wools and yarns.

He joined the New Zealand Army Territorials and was promoted to Major before the start of World War Two in 1939.

Whilst at a dance at St.Seps in Khyber Pass, Colin met Phyllis Massey and began dating her. After a 6 month romance, they became engaged in October 1941 and married on Saturday, 6 December 1941. After a single day's honeymoon at the Mon Desire Hotel at Takapuna, Colin had to report for duty in the army.

Colin was transferred to Hamilton as Signal Officer and allowed to live at home, so Phyllis went to Hamilton with Colin and they rented a flat in an old villa which had been converted into a hospital. Their bedroom had been the old operating theatre. They lived there for three months until Colin was transferred to the Bay of Islands. He was next stationed at Alexandra Park and then in August 1943 was posted overseas as a Signalman in the Signals Division.

Colin served with NZ Signals during World War Two (as did his younger brother Peter, whose C.O. he was for a period) rising to the rank of Captain. He saw active service in Egypt and in Italy where he was based in Bari, training soldiers in signals.

While Colin was overseas, Phyllis purchased a cottage in Aberdeen Road, Castor Bay and moved from the Stichbury family home in Mt Eden. She then purchased another home at 72 Beach Road, Castor Bay looking forward to Colin's return. Upon his return to civilian life in early 1946, he resumed employment with Ross and Glendining in their haberdashery department.

Colin remained with Ross and Glendining for many years and as in his early days, continued specialising in wools and often travelled to the Roslyn Mills in Green Island, Dunedin. Eventually the woollen mill in Dunedin was closed so Colin became a traveller visiting various businesses dealing in knitting wools. Ross and Glendining was sold several times and Colin remained employed by the new businesses until he retired in 1977.



In 1952 they sold the property at 72 Beach Road Castor Bay and purchased a section and built a new home at 16 Lisburn Avenue, Glendowie where their four daughters grew up.

Colin was a skilled handyman. Shortly after the family moved to Glendowie he built his garage out of concrete blocks that he made himself. He excavated under the house and built himself a sizeable workshop. Colin joined both a metalwork class and woodwork class at Tamaki College and attended both these classes for many years. Being a keen fisherman, he and a friend built two dinghies under the house in his workshop and spent many pleasant hours fishing. Upon retirement he became interested in woodturning and purchased a lathe and chisels with which he made many gifts for family members.

Colin was a member of the St Heliers RSA and the family attended the Christmas functions that were held in the RSA hall during the 1950s.

The Glendowie Tennis Club was formed in mid 1950's and both Colin and Phyllis were active members.

Colin was a foundation member of the Glendowie Bowling Club in 1964. He was President in 1980 and 1981 and Secretary in 1968, 1979, 1985 and 1986. He was made a Life Member in 1984. He was also a member of the team that won the triples championship 1985. He made and presented to the Club a reading stand which is frequently used to this day.

Colin and his wife Phyllis were members of a Probus Club and also the Athenian Dance Club.

Colin was initiated into the Prince of Wales Lodge in 1963 and rose to serve as Master in 1972. His father (Colin Joseph Stichbury) was also a Mason although not a member of the same Lodge. In 1964 he was appointed to the Committee which organised the Centennial celebrations in 1971. He presented the lodge with a cased set of wooden working tools which are still in use today.

In District, he was appointed DGPurs in 1975 and PDGDC in 1977.

Colin's brother Peter Stichbury was a very well known potter in Auckland who had numerous pottery exhibitions throughout the country and in 2002 received an NZ Order of Merit in recognition.

Colin and Phyllis sold their property at 16 Lisburn Ave, Glendowie to their grandson David Powley and purchased a unit in St Andrews Retirement Village at Glendowie. Colin passed away in 1999 aged 86 years.

#### *Acknowledgments:*

*Peter Stichbury (brother)*

*Gillian Steele (daughter)*



*The Stichbury brothers*



*The Prince Of Wales Lodge No. 1338 EC*

#### **The Prince of Wales Lodge**

[www.englishmasons1338.org.nz](http://www.englishmasons1338.org.nz)

The Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1338, under the United Grand Lodge of England, was founded on the 18th day of December, 1869, and consecrated on Thursday, the 28th day of September, 1871, at the Masonic Hotel, Princes Street, Auckland, by Bro. J.J. Fitzgibbon, Past Master of the Waitemata Lodge, No. 689, E.C.

