



WBro. Joe Hamilton

The Prince Of Wales Lodge No.1338



Joe was born at Bethany in 1941 and adopted by the Hamilton family who lived and farmed at Hamilton's Gap on the Manukau Peninsula.

He attended the local district school at Awhitu where there were only 17 in the secondary school and was made a prefect.

Growing up on the farm, he received no pocket money but was given a calf each year which could chose to milk or sell. By the time he was 16 he had a small herd of his own, the income from which provided his pocket money. He was fascinated with flying and would frequently cadge rides with the local top-dressing aircraft.

On 10 June 1958, he joined RNZAF as a trainee aircraft fitter. His basic training was at Taeri which, in the middle of winter, he found very cold after Auckland, especially when roused in the early morning for a run in the frost. He was posted to Hobsonville for basic engineering training and then to Woodbourne for further training.

Joe served eight years with RNZAF as an engine fitter, mainly in New Zealand.

While with RNZAF, Joe married Judith and they had three children, two girls and a boy. He also obtained his private pilot's license.

After leaving the airforce in 1966, he joined started his own general engineering business in Domain Road, Henderson. He held a franchise to make and install Tilt garage doors. After some years, he received a good offer so he sold the business and joined NAC as an aircraft fitter on 10 June 1974 (the same day as he started with RNZAF).

Joe stayed with NAC, which became Air New Zealand, for 33 years until he retired in 2007. He always worked on line maintenance (that is, on the aircraft as they came through the airport, not in the hangers).

In his spare time, Joe had a lot of pleasure flying small planes everywhere and also in gliding – he particularly enjoyed gliding in a 2 seat Janus owned by a friend.

Joe has also played a lot of racquet sports – tennis, badminton and squash and, in recent years enjoyed boating and fishing from his 6.4 metre launch which he keeps at the Te Atatu Boat Club.

Joe joined the Prince of Wales' Lodge in 1983 and rose to be the 120th master in 1990



WBRO JOE HAMILTON



He was appointed PDGStdBr in 1993

The Prince of Wales Lodge

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.





In the 1970's, he married Lin who was very active supporting him in the lodge. She was one of the team who produced marmalade every year for the residents of the Masonic Home in Pah Road and she served as the lodge representative there for a number of years. Lin unfortunately died of cancer in 1996 after four years ill health.

Joe subsequently met Pru whom he helps with her organic nursery business.

Joe keeps bees, some of which are at the Duke of Albany lodge rooms and the proceeds of which go to support the lodge. The proceeds from his other bees go to the hospice which supported Lin while she was suffering with cancer. In addition he has an orbit donut machine which he takes to events such as school fairs also to raise funds for hospice.

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In District he was appointed PDGStdBr in 1993.

In 2005, he moved to Helensville and joined the Duke of Albany Lodge No. 2073.

Joe was exalted into Auckland Royal Arch Chapter in 1984 but was unable to continue as he was working shifts for Air New Zealand.



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