



He was initiated in 1918 and rose to become master in 1926, two years before Robert Insull, his colleague from Dilworth.

WBro. N M P Gibson

The Prince Of Wales Lodge No.1338 EC



Noel Mackenzie Phillips Gibson was born in Dunedin in 1885 and grew up in Christchurch where his father was the minister of several churches.

He was educated at Christ's College and Canterbury College. From 1909 to 1913, he was an assistant master at Christ's College. At the same time he was an exhibitioner at Canterbury College in 1910 and took his MA there in 1912.

In 1914 he was appointed Headmaster of the Dilworth Institute, a position he would retain until his retirement due to ill health in 1944.

He made a significant contribution to the school in many ways, to the extent that one of the school houses is named after him and the cup he presented on his retirement for presentation each year to the Head Prefect, is still in use.

He was instrumental in the formation of the Old Boys Association in 1919 and was its patron for many years from 1941 to his death. He played cricket for the old boys team (which competed, at that time, in the Auckland senior competition) and took a particular interest in the welfare of the old boys. He instituted a scheme whereby old boys could take up a position as an agricultural cadet and spent the school holidays visiting those boys making sure the terms of their employment were being met and, especially, that their wages and other benefits were as agreed.

In 1918 he was the subject of an appeal to the then Military Review Board. His father was serving overseas as an army chaplain, his brother had been killed at Passchendaele and he was due to serve overseas. He was a volunteer and already a Major (later Colonel) in the 16th Waikato Regiment. The school had appealed as they did not wish to lose him. The appeal was successful.

He was a member of the University Entrance Board, President of the Auckland District Court of Convocation (part of the governance of the university), President of the Association of Heads of Registered Secondary Schools for three years, served on the Council of the Auckland Institute of Educational Research, and a promoter of school music festivals.

He married Lucy Cecila Wroughton in 1913 and they had several children including a daughter Frances who married the son of the then Dean of Auckland Cathedral and a son who also worked with the Dilworth Trust. He died in 1973.

He was initiated into Freemasonry in the Prince of Wales Lodge in December 1918 rose to become master in 1926, two years before Robert Insull with whom he worked at Dilworth.

In District he was appointed DGStew in 1926.

Sources:

Contemporary newspapers

History of the Dilworth Old Boys Association



He was appointed District Grand Steward in 1926.

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.



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