



Ted was initiated into the Prince of Wales Lodge in 1951, rising to become Master in 1960.

WBro. E A (Ted) Miller

The Prince Of Wales Lodge No.1338 EC



Ted was born in 1913 on Whangaruru Island, off Helena Bay, Northland where his parents ran a shop which provided for visiting sailors and the local community. He was part of a large family of six children and went to school at the local Maori School. The school was on the mainland so he and his brothers and sisters travelled to school by boat each day.

When Ted was about 12, a visiting sailor saw Ted whittling and asked him what he wanted to do, to which Ted replied "Anything, so long as it was working with wood". The owner of the boat got Ted a joiner's apprenticeship with a Mr Philips in Mt Albert so Ted moved to Auckland to take up the apprenticeship. The rest of the family then moved to Auckland and they lived in Mt Albert.

After completing his apprenticeship, Ted joined another company in Symonds Street. Although he wasn't particularly happy there, he persevered and was promoted to foreman. Shortly thereafter he purchased the company, changed the name to Higrade Furniture, and they specialised in making furniture, especially dining room furniture. The company was very successful and employed 17 staff.

During World War Two, Ted was in the army and served in the Pacific. He was due to travel with the rest of his unit to join in the invasion of Italy but, due to his expertise with wood, was kept in New Zealand to help with building the Fairmile torpedo boats then being built in New Zealand for the US Armed Forces.

Ted stayed with the company until the factory burnt down at which point, although he was keen to rebuild, he decided to retire. In his retirement, he began carving and carved many elaborate pieces, mainly for family and not for sale. His carving skills are still with us in the lodge as he carved the bases of the two pillars in the lodge room.

Ted met Pearl at an RSA dance and they married in 1945. There were three sons and they had 6 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. They moved to Buckland's Beach in 1953 so Ted could be closer to the sea and stayed there until Ted died.

Ted enjoyed playing golf and played tournaments as a foursome with Pearl and another couple. Ted was also a very keen fisherman and a member of the Coastguard for many years, during which he helped in a number of rescues.

Ted was initiated into the Prince of Wales Lodge in 1951, rising to become Master in 1960. Among the many activities he undertook for the lodge was the refurbishment of the lodge rooms in 1965, on which he worked with W. Bro. V Avery. Also, Ted was instrumental in the making of the splendid brass candlesticks used at every lodge meeting and served as Preceptor for many years.

Ted was first appointed to District Grand Lodge as DAsstGDC in 1964, rising to DGDC in 1965, and DSGW in 1967. He serves as PresDBGP from 1968 to 1971. Ted was appointed to Grand Rank as PAGDC in 1974 and was promoted to PJGD in 1986.

Ted joined the St Andrew Kilwinning Chapter (Scottish Constitution) of the Royal Arch in 1956 and joined Auckland Chapter in 1960, rising to serve as First Principal in 1970. With Fred Crossan, Ted helped establish the Zealandia Chapter.

He was appointed DGDC in 1971 and served as PresDCGP from 1972 to 1974.

Ted was given Grand Chapter Rank as PGStdBr in 1973 and was promoted to PAG-Soj in 1984.



First appointed to District Grand Lodge as DAsstGDC in 1964, rising to DGDC in 1965, and DSGW in 1967.

He was appointed to Grand Rank as PAGDC in 1974 and was promoted to PJGD in 1986

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.

