

PROVINCE OF WEST KENT  
**SIDCUP LODGE No. 6552**

Consecrated 29<sup>th</sup> April 1948

**HISTORY**

Sidcup Lodge was formed in 1948, soon after World War II, the strong links of Freemasonry forged by the adversity of war.

Our sponsoring Lodge, SYDNEY LODGE, NO 829, was founded in 1860 and held its meetings for over one hundred years at the Black Horse public house in Sidcup High Street. It was their great zeal to expand Freemasonry that prompted them to form another lodge to meet in the winter months on Thursdays, the half-day their shops were closed. This desire was realised in the consecration of SIDCUP LODGE.

The Consecration Ceremony at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London on 29th April 1948, was solemnised by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Worshipful Brother Wing Commander Bertram Wilfred Noble, OBE PGD.

**THE LODGE CREST**



In the background of our crest is the Black Horse Inn at Sidcup, in its original livery as a coaching inn, where horses were replaced on the journey to Dover.



In 1860 the Black Horse was on the main road from Maidstone to London. As not all passengers on the stage coach wished to alight during the short halt to change horses after the ascent from Shooters Hill, mine host of the Black Horse supplied the occupants, from the roadside, with a warming beverage.

This drinking vessel was known as a 'side cup' which later gave its name to the Hamlet, now the expanded town of SIDCUP.

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**FOUNDERS**

The nineteen founders of Sidcup Lodge were:

- |                            |                          |                       |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. W. Bro Alfred Mills     | 8. Bro Edwin Tucker      | 14. Bro Edward Glover |
| 2. W. Bro Herbert Terry    | 9. Bro Richard Parker    | 15. Bro Cecil Maiden  |
| 3. W. Bro Frederick Miles  | 10. Bro Frederick Miller | 16. Bro George Marks  |
| 4. W. Bro Lionel Allen     | 11. Bro Arthur Wilks     | 17. Bro Henry Crouch  |
| 5. W. Bro Frederick Andrew | 12. Bro Daniel Morgan    | 18. Bro John Davies   |
| 6. W. Bro Asa Tetley       | 13. Bro Ewart Crosskey   | 19. Bro Cyril Hearn   |
| 7. W. Bro Frank Oldfield   |                          |                       |

Without exception these brothers stated that:

*"The desire to form this new craft Lodge arose during an informal conversation amongst several Brethren of the Sidney Lodge during April 1947. It was at once apparent that the desire to form a new Lodge had existed in the minds of these Brethren for a long time and all were actuated by a feeling that the continued vigour and growth of Sidney Lodge was such that any further large increase in membership must inevitably result in the Lodge room becoming uncomfortably overcrowded.*

*We therefore agreed to endeavour to form a new Lodge having direct association with Sidney Lodge, and so we believe, best serve the interests of Freemasonry in this important corner of the Province of Kent. We are happy in the knowledge that the Sidney Lodge with its wonderful traditions and record of achievement, has been pleased to sponsor, and will support our effort, so enabling us to go forward in confidence that our progress is assured."*

