



WBro. Peter B Gudsell

The Prince Of Wales Lodge No.1338 EC



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Peter Gudsell, was born in Hamilton, on the 14th November 1937, the elder of two brothers. He was educated at Hillcrest Primary School followed by Hamilton High School 1951-55, accredited University Entrance. Keen on sports, he played in the Rugby first XV, rowing in the first IV and the VIII, and in the shooting team. A desire to 'go to sea' led him to move to Auckland where he joined the Union Steamship Co in 1956. Three years later he was asked to join the sea staff at Wellington, first as assistant, and then Purser on the Inter-Island ferries, then 'Monowai' on the Trans-Tasman run, 'Tofua' on the Pacific Islands service, and the Far-Eastern route to India and Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). He met Sylvia on 'Tofua' and they were married in Sydney before returning to Auckland. Peter and Sylvia have four children, Paul, Lisa, Richard and Emma.

He joined the Dept of Trade and Industry, first in import licensing, then the Overseas Promotion Division. He left government service and became a factory manager including furniture and aluminium joinery. Finally he joined an American oil company, advising industry on specialist lubrication applications. He studied Tribology (frictional relationship of two metal surfaces) both in Auckland and Wichita Kansas. His sporting keenness continued with yachting, participating in the Suva, Noumea, and two White Island Races as a navigator. Other interests saw him as a founding director of Kiwanis International at Takapuna, two terms on the board of Governors of Kaipara College and family activities in pony clubs, scouts and competitive swimming. He moved to 'the country' in 1973 having bought a ten-acre vineyard in Huapai. Three vintages later he bought ten acres in Waimauku and ran a flock of Perendale sheep for some of the next twenty-three years. Once his adult children left home he and Sylvia moved to the Hibiscus Coast and now resides at Tindalls Beach, Whangaparaoa.

Masonic life for him began with the Prince of Wales Lodge, having been proposed by his grandfather, Bro F. G.P. (Fred) Strutt and a long-time family friend W.Bro W.B. (Bill) Chopping. He was made a Mason in that Lodge on the 11th February 1965 and became Master in 1973. He subsequently was Preceptor and later Treasurer of the lodge. He was appointed District Grand Tyler and served in several other roles but principally as President of the Board of Benevolence for nearly four years. He recalled with satisfaction his involvement along with W.Bro Roger Weeks, a RNZN Reserve Surgeon Commander, in the setting up of the 'Bubble Induced Brain Injury' Research Project in conjunction with the Royal NZ Navy Dive Medical Unit. As a result of funding by the District charity, the Navy was able to treat and monitor their own and recreational divers who had developed the 'bends' after surfacing too quickly. Two simple procedures eliminated the, often fatal, bubbles in the blood. A major spin-off has been that, by applying these procedures during open heart surgery at Green Lane Hospital, the surgeons have been able to reduce post-operative 'stroke-like' after-effects by as much as 95% - a world first in its application. He was appointed Assistant District Grand Master in 1997, and Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in 1999.

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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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