





Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM

May 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 4

Freemasonry and Cinco de Mayo

In Freemasonry, the Brothers of the Fraternity have a well deserved reputation for tolerance and acceptance of all religions, beliefs, ethnicities, race and orientations. In the Grand Lodge of Colorado, we are blessed with Brothers of all walks of life and being not very far from the country of Mexico, we have quite a few Brothers in the jurisdiction of Mexican descent. MWB David Reynolds just last year created a pilot program for our first Spanish speaking Lodge within the Jurisdiction, which is Harmony #61 in Denver. As such, Colorado Masonry is greatly enriched by the many cultures that reside within our borders. Of those cultures, Mexico in particular celebrates May 5th, 1862 with great exuberance as this date commemorates the battle of Puebla against the invasion of the French forces sent by Napoleon III

But first, a little bit about the history of Freemasonry in Mexico¹. Freemasonry in Mexico can be traced back to at least 1806 when the first Masonic Lodges were formally



Darren Klinefelter, Junior Grand Warden

established in the nation. Several presidents of Mexico were Freemasons, some of whom we'll discuss. Holders of conservative ideas gathered in Lodges of the Scottish Rite, while reformists chose the York Rite. Hence, the Scottish Rite became synonymous with conservatives and the York Rite with the Liberals. Santa Anna, a name that you will likely recognize from his conflicts with the United States was a Scottish Rite Mason. He was later ousted by Benito Juarez, another Freemason who challenges the forces of Napoleon III during the French Invasion.

A few interesting points of note are the many Freemasons who fought for Mexico during the Battle of Puebla to help secure this unlikely victory against a significantly superior force in the



















Beyond symbols...(cont.)

French. In the run up to the battle, the forces of the republic of Mexico were in dire straits indeed as the French had allied with the Mexican conservatives in 1861 and followed that with a full invasion of Mexico. The Monroe Doctrine was in place at the time in the United States preventing any European power from meddling in our hemisphere, but in 1862 the United States had it's own problem with our Civil War. It is needless to say, the United States government did not interfere at any great level to assist our southern neighbor during their time of need.

The commanding general of the Battle of Puebla was Ignacio Zaragoza, who was a member of Minerva Lodge #44 of the National Mexican Rite (the NMR consists of 9 degrees based on the Scottish Rite system). His command of his forces against a superior army involved quite a few Masons under his command which helped lead them to victory. Sadly, Zaragoza would celebrate his victory only briefly as he died later that same year from typhoid fever at the age of 33 (quite Masonic, if I do say so...). One of Zaragoza's generals was Felipe Berriozabal who served valiantly in the battle but was later taken prisoner. He later served as Secretary of War under president Benito Juarez, mentioned above. Yet another Freemason serving during the battle was Porfirio Diaz as calvary commander. He later became the presiding Grand Officer of the unified Mexican Rites (combining the factions of the Scottish Rite and York Rite alluded to earlier) and subsequently served as President of Mexico after challenging Benito Juarez.

In conclusion Brothers, Cinco de Mayo is a festive day celebrated by many a margarita and our Brothers of Mexican heritage can celebrate not only in their national pride in this victorious battle but the importance of Freemasonry in much of the military command during the battle. So I encourage all of the Brothers of the Grand Lodge of Colorado to raise a margarita or a Modelo on May 5 and celebrate the history of Freemasonry and it's part in the victory of the Battle of Puebla on May 5th, 1862. Viva la Mexico!

¹ Home Lodge 721, Winding Stairs Freemasonry Group/Robert William Marshall, Andrew Crockett.



David L. Reynolds Grand Master - 2024 1130 Panorama Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80904

0: 719-623-5345

grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org

Creation of Spanish Speaking Pilot Lodge for Colorado

Whereas, On February 15th, 1881, the Grand Lodge of Colorado saw that it was good for the Craft and particularly its members to create a German speaking lodge named Schiller Lodge No. 41. This charter was granted upon the condition that the work to be used should be a literal translation, as far as possible, of the ritual adopted by this Grand Lodge. Schiller Lodge was organized by brethren who speak the German language, with authority to work in the German tongue. Shiller Lodge merged over the years and has survived under the current name of Marquis de Lafayette #41 and still performs degree work in the German language ...143 years later.

Whereas, from 2018 to 2022 the Spanish speaking population of Colorado has increased from 11% to 19% with a statistical probability to increase even further. On investigation the Grand Lodge of Colorado has found the neighboring jurisdictions of Arizona, Nevada, and California have found value and success is creating and supporting Spanish speaking lodges.

Therefore, be it resolved that, as of this day, October 9, 2024, the Grand Lodge of Colorado, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (AF&AM), does hereby create a Pilot Lodge of Harmony Lodge #61 and grants them dispensation to perform Ritual work and Masonic Ceremonies in the Spanish Language. This dispensation is granted upon the condition that the work to be used should be a literal translation, as far as possible, of the ritual adopted by this Grand Lodge.

Be it further resolved, that this dispensation requires that all communication between Harmony Lodge 61 and the Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM and all other masonic organizations recognized by the Grand Lodge of Colorado AF&AM will continue to be in the English language and all filings will continue to be in the English language.

In witness whereof, I, Most Worshipful Brother David J. Reynolds, Grand Master of Masons in Colorado, have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Grand Lodge of Colorado to be affixed.

Done at the Grand Lodge of Colorado, this 9th day of October 2024.

Fraternally,

Eail & Runolle

M∴W∴ Brother David L. Reynolds Grand Master of Masons

in Colorado

Attest

R∴W∴ Brother Scot M. Autry

Grand Secretary,

Grand Lodge of Colorado

Calendar of Grand Lodge Events

To help your lodge plan your Official Visits please note that activities may change due to various issues that may arise.

Saturday May 3, 2025

The Great Estes Park Rubber Duck Race Charity event

Description: Long's Peak Lodge is sponsoring an event to raise money for local organization. Over three decades this effort has helped to raise over \$3 Million for local non-profit organizations. Register here to help this cause. See flyer in following pages.

Sunday May 18, 2025

Alvarado Cemetery Clean-up.

Description: Come help maintain this historic Colorado Masonic Cemetery honoring our lost brethren. Meet at Marion's Café in Idaho Springs at 7am for breakfast. Contact WB Danny Tomlinson for additional information and directions. Please plan to bring whatever you can to assist e.g. limb cutters, mowers, weed whackers, etc.

Friday May 23, 2025

Clays for a Cause Shooting Event

Description: Come out for a fun filled day of competitive clay shooting to support Judi's House. Event held at Colorado Clays, 13600 Lanewood St., Brighton, CO 80603 and <u>register here!</u> See flyer in following pages.

Sunday May 25, 2025

Flags for Fallen Vets

Description: Masons across the state will be gathering in Section "S" at Fort Logan National Cemetery at 9am to place flags at each grave site. Please <u>register here</u> prior to attending. Contact WB Danny Tomlinson for additional information. See flyer in following pages.

Monday June 16, 2025

Lecture by Mason and author Chris Hodapp 33rd Degree

Description: Acclaimed masonic author Christopher Hodapp is coming to the Denver Consistory to lecture and sign books. Scottish Rite Masonic Center 1370 Grant Street, Denver, CO. See flyer in this issue.

Update on the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus

The Board of Trustees would like to give a short update on the ESMRC situation.

We first want to Thank everyone for the support and donations given to help the residents immediately after the explosion. We also Thank you for your donations to help the campus as we move forward. The golf tournament will still be held and all funds raised will be used for immediate needs of the campus.

The Board has made the decision to not reopen the Robert Russell Building and not to lease any of the Star Vista units, until a complete evaluation of the future can be determined.

The investigation into the explosion is ongoing and is expected to be 2 to 3 weeks before it is completed.

We have been advised that it could be 2 to 3 months before any cost estimates are available.

The residents personal items are being cleaned, packed and delivered locally, and it is estimated to be completed by May 1, 2025.

There are many more questions than answers currently, that is why we give more "I don't know" responses. This is a long-term project.



May 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 4







Masonic Brothers, each year, Scottish Rite assembles in the spirit of Fraternity to renew acquaintances, remember our friends, and pledge ourselves to aiding Humanity.

It becomes our duty, therefore, to honor our Brethren past as we

renew our fraternal ties to our Brethren present.

This is one of the most important and moving Masonic ceremonies of each year, not only to Brothers of Scottish Rite, but to all Masons as a whole.

This Ceremony is open to all Masons, Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Masons, and guests

Join with us this April 2nd at 7PM and be a part of this a wonderful opportunity to experience another part of Masonry and share brotherhood while learning more about the wonders that Masonry has to offer each one of us.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Ceremony begins at 7PM and we welcome you.

The Southern Colorado Consistory is located at: 1150 Panorama Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado. 80904

Contact Wise Master Chapter Rose Croix Brother Blake Simmons if you are in need of more information. Blakester1008@gmail.com

Funeral Proficiency Challenge

MEMORIAL LODGE #2 PRESENTS

ANNUAL MASONIC FUNERAL SERVICE WORKSHOP TO MARCH 2025

The 3rd annual Masonic funeral services workshop was a resounding SUCCESS. The workshop was attend by members of Pueblo #17, Colorado Springs #76, Centurion #195, Union #7, El Paso #13, Manitou #68, Constitution #184, and Fountain Valley #191. Thanks to all who attended and shared their experiences. Huge thanks to WB Dick Stewart and WB Bill Twyman who provided invaluable support.

The seminar covered history, where can we give a Masonic funeral and who can receive it, working with the family, preparing for the Funeral, appendant organizations and much more. We are looking forward to conducting another workshop next year.

CHALLENGE TO ALL COLORADO LODGES

Memorial Lodge #2 is presenting a challenge to ALL Lodges in Colorado. The Lodge that has the most "NEW" funeral service certifications by Dec 31st, will be presented a funeral kit (similar to the one below) during the next Grand Lodge annual

communication. Contact you District Lecturer or a Custodian of the Work on what is required get certified.







Scan the QR Code or click the link to adopt your duck today!





SUPPORT NON-PROFITS!

A portion of your purchase goes to Longs Peak Masonic Lodge #197

CLICK HERE TO ADOPT YOUR DUCK!



BUY A QUACK PACK FOR A FREE BONUS DUCK!

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025 11AM-5PM

Join us in person in Estes Park, CO or watch live at www.epduckrace.org

GET THE RESULTS!

Results are posted on the same day as the race!



SCOTTISH RITE SPRING REUNION

Denver Consistory May 8, 9, 10, 2025

AN OPPORTUNITY TO REUNITE WITH YOUR BROTHERS REVISIT THE TEACHINGS









Preparation

Organization

Having Fun

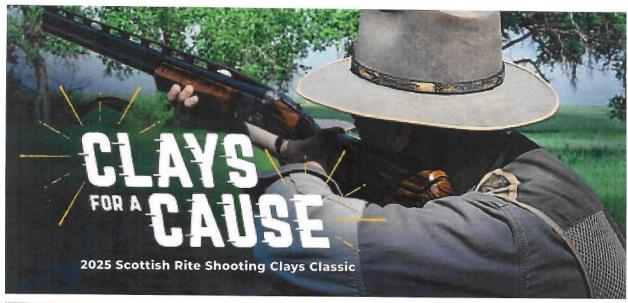
<u>First Line Signer Incentive Program:</u> THREE petitions in a calendar year will pay your membership for a year. If you are a life member it entitles you to receive stated meeting dinners for a year.



Denver Consistory 1370 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203 denverconsistory@denverconsistory.org 303-861-4261

May 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 4









Registration is now open for the 4th annual Scottish Rite Sporting Clays Classic on

May 23rd, 2025

Join us for a fun time and a great cause in support of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center and benefiting



at Colorado Clays

13600 Lanewood St, Brighton, CO 80603

Door Prizes, Meal, Awards and More!!



Scan the QR code or Register online at:

www.scottishriteclays.com

Single Shooter - \$150 Team of 4 - \$600

Sponsorship opportunies include:

Ammunition Sponsor - \$4,000 Dinner Sponsor - \$1,500 Station Sponsors - \$250 Golf Cart Sponsor - \$160

Premium Sponsorship Packages

Platinum - \$10,000 includes 12 shooters

Gold - \$5,000 includes 8 shooters

Silver - \$2,500 includes 4 shooters

Trophies for

1st Place- 2nd Place - 3rd Place Best Woman - Best Team - Worst Shot

FLAGS FOR FALLEN VETS

SUNDAY – 25MAY2025 – 0900 HOURS (9AM) VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!



Flags for Fallen Vets is a national program that annually takes place at a number of national, or military cemeteries across the country. The Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix of the Scottish Rite and Masons throughout Colorado have proudly supported and participated in the event for the past several years. The mission is to ensure that an American flag is placed at the grave of every veteran resting in these cemeteries.

This year's family-oriented event will take place on Sunday, May 25 at 9am at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver. We need volunteers to assist with placing the flags on May 25 and then with the retrieval of the flags on Saturday, May 31. Volunteering is very easy - just follow these steps:

Go to https://flagsforfallenvets.com/ and click on 2025 Volunteer Form

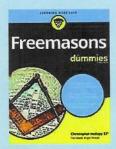
- Select Fort Logan National Cemetery Denver in the drop-down menu and then ter your email address
- In the "Group" menu, select "Mason" or "Masonic" and Section "S"
- Add the number of volunteers you will be bringing with you that day

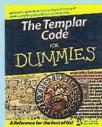
June 16, 2025, 7PM @ Denver Consistory

Save the Date...and Spread the Word!

The Consistory Education & Entertainment Group Presents:

Christopher Hodapp, 33°

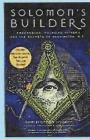














Acclaimed Masonic author, editor, blogger and commentator will speak (topic TBD) and sign books!

All Masons and Their Guests Are Welcome!

Scottish Rite Masonic Center
1370 Grant St, Denver
Dinner Reservations (6PM) @ https://centennial-lodge-ofperfection.square.site/

May 1, 2025

Volume 7 Issue 4



ORREL

Band Camp





This five-day band camp is held June 30 to July 4, 2025 on the University of Northern Colorado campus in Greeley, Colorado. The camp is a rewarding and exciting opportunity for promising band students to attend a first-rate marching band clinic and meet students from around Colorado.

Music activities are directed by the UNC band faculty and staff. Camp culminates with the performance of an evening concert on campus July 3rd, and marching in the Greeley Rocky Mountain Stampede Parade on July 4th.

Camp is FREE. Costs (excluding travel to and from Greeley) are paid in full by Colorado Masons and affiliates. Student housing, social and recreational activities are sponsored by Colorado Masonic Lodges and affiliated organizations.

The camp accepts talented 9th, 10th and 11th grade students enrolled in a Colorado high school band program during the 2024-25 school year; capable of performing in the parade, and who play at least one marching band instrument.

Colorado high school band instructors are encouraged to recommend at least three promising band students.

Direct questions to:

Bill Feldman at bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org or 303-910-9266

Registration must be received by April 19, 2025





COLORADO MASONIC HIGH SCHOOL BAND CAMP

Grand Lodge of Colorado 1130 Panorama Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80904 Phone 719-623-5342 email: bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org

DON'T LET THE MASONIC BAND CAMP MARCH WITHOUT YOUR STUDENT

TO: Masonic Family Members

FROM: Colorado Masonic Band Camp

The Grand Lodge of Colorado is sponsoring the 22nd Annual Colorado Masonic Band Camp at the University of Northern Colorado Campus (UNC) in Greeley, Colorado, from June 30th to July 4th, 2025.

This program is entirely supported by your donations as Masonic bodies. The Grand Lodge and the Band Camp Trustees have raised the suggested donation level to \$400 per student.

Last year 1 of 3 Masonic bodies supported the camp. This year we want to increase support to at least half our lodges and bodies. We encourage your organization to provide a donation supporting the Camp.

Contact: Bro. Dillon Brickhouse (720) 416-8144 <u>dillonbrickhouse@gmail.com</u> with questions about donating to the Band Camp.

Should your organization wish to sponsor a specific student, contact the student's High School Band Director as soon as possible, informing them that you are offering a sponsorship. You may also contact the Band Director of your local High School and ask them to select a student for consideration. If you are unable to find a student(s) to sponsor, the Band Camp will be happy to nominate a student(s) for you as we always have applicants from many areas where there are no sponsors.

Students must be enrolled as 9th grade, 10th grade, or 11th grade during the 2024-2025 school year. They must be experienced *with at least one marching band instrument*.

We encourage you to bring the student and their parents to your meeting to meet them and present them their scholarship certificate. This is a wonderful meeting night program and great way to promote Masonic awareness.

Application forms or donations should be submitted by April 19, 2025. Recipients will be notified by the first week in May. Enrollment is limited to 120 students, so don't delay in contacting your High School Band Director.

The Colorado Masonic Band Camp is a 501c(3) tax exempt charitable corporation organized under the laws of Colorado. All donations are tax deductible.

Sponsor/Donation form is on the back of this letter



COLORADO MASONIC HIGH SCHOOL BAND CAMP JUNE 30 – JULY 4, 2025



Mail to:

Colorado Masonic High School Band Camp c/o Jerry Fenimore, Grand Treasurer 82 Brookhaven Drive, Littleton, CO 80123 email: bandcamp@coloradofreemasons.org

We would like to sponsor ____ student(s) for the 2025 Colorado Masonic Band Camp.

Our organization will participate and we are submitting the following:

*Make checks payable to: Colorado Masonic Band Camp NAME & NUMBER OF SPONSORING LODGE OR MASONIC AFFILIATED BODY:						
						NAME & N
Organization Name		PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE No				
			, CO, (Zip)			
(Officer submitting this form)		111	ie	10	
email						
		35		2 2 2 2		
					nt information here:	
Name of Student_ (Please print clearly)			_ Student' em	ail address		
Address:						
City:			, CO, (ZIP)			
Student's Phone: ()				The second secon	
					<u> </u>	
Guardian/Parent's l	Home Phone: ()				
Guardian/Parent's 1	Mobile Phone: ()	10 16 111			
Guardian/Parent's	email:					
			Phone No			
Please Print Band I	Directors Name _					
	trument					
CIRCLE:	Male	Female				
CIRCLE: Class in t	he 2024-2025 Sch	ool Year	9 th grade	10 th grade	11 th grade	

Within the Vault

"Faith-7" NASA Mission Flag





This flag from Carbondale Lodge No. 82 was carried by NASA Astronaut and Colorado Mason Col. Leroy Gordon Cooper Jr. aboard the "Faith-7" Mission May 15th and 16th 1963 as the final phase of the Mercury Program. Col. Cooper is a national hero and made 22 orbits on that mission for over a half-million statute miles. In his NASA career Bro. Cooper logged more than 222 hours in space and was instrumental in developing key elements for the Apollo program. Bro. Cooper was also the command pilot for the Gemini 5 mission. He was a member of Glenwood Lodge No. 65 and raised in 1956. Bro. Cooper laid down his working tools October 4, 2004. He will be remembered for his heroic and patriotic sacrifices in space travel that set the stage for future Masonic astronauts and others to reach the moon!

This is the ninth in a series of articles highlighting the fascinating artifacts contained within the Grand Lodge Museum that you can see on your next visit. The museum is not supported by the Grand Lodge budget and needs your help to preserve and protect our treasured history. Please contact the Grand Secretary to see how you can help!

Membership Awareness and Retention

Greetings Worshipful Masters, Officers, and Brothers:

As 2024 begins and we look to Freemasonry through the lens of membership, awareness, and retention, I wonder how many of our lodges are actively engaged in membership, awareness, and retention in their lodges and in the local communities?

I would like to hear from the lodge representatives on what they are doing to promote the craft from membership to awareness in their lodges and community at large. What are the various ways that you maintain the members' awareness and interest of the craft? What local programs do you have in place to expand your membership locally?

One program for consideration for 2024 is the creation of a Craft Warden position or appointee and I bet that some of the lodges already have a similar position in place, but I would also like to know if that is the case for those that do and those that do not.

The concept of the Craft Warden would be to address the above membership and awareness activities inside the individual lodges and build an interface between the lodges and membership & awareness and the GL district lecturer. The Craft Warden would be responsible for local membership & awareness activities for your lodge and allowing for a larger base of ideas and exchange of information between the GL committee and the lodges. The position could encompass things like holding and scheduling local training and presentations for your lodge as educational, awareness, retention type material, candidate open houses or even scheduling digital meetings based on approved content and format as an open meeting.

A coordinator for any and all membership and awareness, and retention for the members and prospects for your lodge and local area but focusing on membership and awareness. By nature, the responsibilities of the Craft Warden and membership/awareness committee and GL District Lecturer will cross over into the education committee arena where the Craft Warden would find online content for various presentations, educational materials and more from the members login from the education portal.

Membership Awareness and Retention

It is time that we engage and invest in the lodges into their future and build on our wider experiences that a lot of us are doing today. I would like to get a feeling from the lodges if such a program would be embraced and if they would consider creating such a position.

Please respond to the few questions above to membership@coloradofreemasons.org and please use a subject line of **2024 Membership Review** so I can easily identify responses.

Fraternally,

Pete Finnie; Membership / Awareness Committee

Tax & Non-Profit Assistance

To assist those lodges that have lost their Nonprofit status I have assembled a team to assist lodges in answering questions and directing them in the process to get their status back. The following individuals have agreed to answer questions that come up and advise those lodges working to get their status back. Please be courteous and patient when working with these Worshipful Brothers and remember they are Volunteers. They have agreed to assist the Craft and need our upmost respect for their efforts.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE:

WB John Groves: <u>johngroves@mac.com</u> Grand Junction
WB Blake Terry: <u>sblaketerry@gmail.com</u> Denver

ACCOUNTING:

WB Brandon Doellingen: accounts@coloradofreemasons.org Colorado Springs

Traveling Gavels

In an effort to promote visitations among lodges in the state of Colorado we are going to attempt to provide information in each newsletter about where the travelling gavels are located

There are two gavels that travel around the state. One we are going to call the **Regular Gavel** and one the **Western Slope Gavel**. Check the requirements for claiming the gavel including the number of brethren required to attend the visit.

Front Range Gavel

Location: Rio Blanco Lodge No. 80 . 364m7th Street, Meeker, CO

Meeting Dates: 2nd & 4th Thursdays;7:00 p.m.

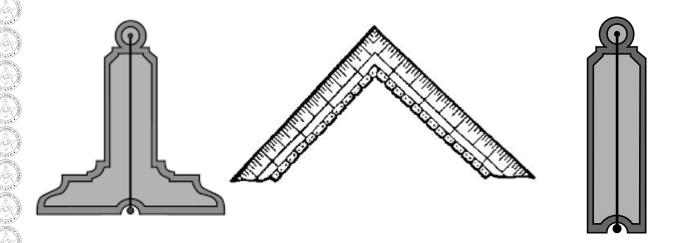
Master: Steven Coley

Western Slope Gavel

Location: Palisade Lodge No. 125, 2400 Consistory Court, Grand Junction, CO

Meeting Dates: Meets 1st Saturday at 10am.

Master: Thomas Verdieck



If your lodge is having special events or activities please send the information to the Grand Master

(grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org) and the Grand Secretary

(grandsecretary@coloradofreemasons.org) so that it can be included in the next edition of the newsletter.

Contacts

Grand Lodge of Colorado

1130 Panorama Drive Colorado Springs, Colorado. 80904 (719) 471-9587 Fax Number: (719) 484-8993 gloffice@coloradofreemasons.org

Grand Master M.W. Bro. William E. Marshall, G.M. grandmaster@coloradofreemasons.org (719) 623-5345

Grand Secretary R.W.Bro. Scot M. Autry, P.M. grandsecretary@coloradofreemasons.org (719) 623-5342

Submission Deadline

Articles and events that you want included in the newsletter are due to the Grand Master, or Grand Secretary, by the 25th of the month prior to the publication month.



COLORADO MASONS - SPREAD THE WORD ON YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA, AND WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES ABOUT A NEW WEBSITE ABOUT MASONRY: BEAFREEMASON.ORG

The Grand Lodge Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm. All are welcome as long as you are not feeling ill. For the front door please ring the door bell for access.

