



The November meeting of Lodge of Benevolence No.6457 in Stockton Masonic Hall on Friday 9th November, had great significance in a week that marked the centenary of the end of the First World War.

The poignant meeting afforded the lodge the opportunity to dedicate a New Memorial Board of Stockton Freemasons who died in the Great War 1914-1918

This special evening started with a presentation by Bernard Hope, the Provincial Orator. Bernard began by giving some background into the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC). This is an Intergovernmental organisation of six independent member states whose principal function is to mark, record and maintain the graves and places of commemoration of the Commonwealth of Nations military service members who died in the two World Wars.

The Commission is also responsible for commemorating Commonwealth civilians who died as a result of enemy action during World War II.

The evening then moved to the brethren, to witness the dedication of the memorial board by the Canon Ron Black. Ron, firstly thanked the brethren for the great privilege of dedicating this beautiful memorial at such a significant time in history – 100 years since the end of the First World War.

Ron ended the dedication with a prayer to the memorial – ever keeping in mind of all those men and women who have served and died in times of conflict and those who serve now and will serve in the future.