



## NUGGET

### A Past Master's Lament

*How am I doing? I'm doing just fine.*

**Summary:** A humorous poem written by 'An Aging Past-Master'.

*I may have arthritis in both of my knees  
and, when chatting to cronies, have a bit of a wheeze.  
My pulse may be weak and the blood's a bit thin  
but I'm awfully well given the shape I am in...*

*Sleep's a bit fitful... (and there's a groove to the loo);  
My eyes close at lunchtime, for a minute or two;  
My wife writes me lists of things to be done  
But, with just one completed, the afternoon's gone!*

*The Lodge is my life-line, that's always been true;  
though those evenings seem longer and the words sound quite new.  
This belt gets far tighter, can that apron be mine?  
And kind hands now 'dress me', which is surely a sign?*

*The memory is failing; sorry, what was your name?  
So I missed last month's meeting; they all seem the same.  
New chaps are joining, thus our 'lectures' are few,  
but where, my good friend, are the faces I knew?*

*Once proud of the Ritual I knew every word,  
but alas, my loud promptings are sometimes still heard;  
though the DC and Master I often enrage,  
when the words I recall are not from their page.*



*My hearing's first-class, although others will mumble,  
and I only wear specs to save a fresh tumble.  
The teeth are worn flat by the mints that I chew  
So, our 'roasts' are a test; I now prefer stew.*

*But I'm still a good 'runner', given the miles on the clock,  
mere light wear and tea, just ask my doc?  
True, the voice may be frail and the hair's a bit thin,  
but I'm awfully well; given the shape I am in...*

*You may ask me again, even time after time... How am I doing?*

*I'm doing just fine!*



### **Recommended use of Nuggets**

Nuggets offer a short, simple and readily absorbed means of progressing Masonic knowledge and an easy way to introduce learning to Lodges and Chapters. It is hoped that they will become a regular feature of Lodge and Chapter meetings as well as a source for private-study.

Nuggets can be included as an item in the summons and read at most Lodge/Chapter meetings.

They can be:

- Read by either a new or an experienced Mason with the minimum of preparation and practice; though ideally, they need to be read a few times beforehand.
- Themed with the meeting or activity.
- Used to initiate a discussion within a Lodge/Chapter, LOI/COI, or group.
- Read at home and shared as a topic for a future discussion.
- Used as a focus for an unplanned, informal discussion.

\*Note: All biblical passages are taken from the Authorized King James version unless otherwise specified.

For further papers and other learning materials visit *Solomon* at <http://solomon.ugle.org.uk>

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