



NUGGET

Naysayers

Summary: Naysayers

We don't do it like that

Our ceremonies have a rich and complex history. It is fascinating to visit a lodge and see a variation on the ritual you are not familiar with. These differences are often due to history, survivals of older workings, and they need to be treasured.

Following the union of the two rival Grand Lodges in 1813, a new standardised ritual was approved. This was not written down, but relayed by word of mouth, so not surprisingly, it sometimes became corrupted. What is more, in some lodges and some areas of the country, they just continued as before, in aspects that were 'time-honoured'. Whilst other Lodges, picked out elements that they particularly liked, and adapted them to their needs.

In Solomon, we are pleased to say, you will find pieces written by Brothers from many traditions. So, if you see or read of something you don't recognise, treasure the differences, and think about them; we're never too old to learn.

That's not what it means

There are a number of interpretations of our rituals and lectures, so if you are receptive and accept that others may have a valid perspective, you will be able to develop your own ideas. There is no fixed way of understanding the symbols and allegories, they are there to provoke you into thinking, developing your understanding and enriching your experience. It's all part of the enjoyment to be found in travelling along your Masonic journey, sit back and enjoy!

Naysayers have little power over us, unless we give it to them - Arianna Huffington¹

1. Arianna Stassinopoulos Huffington: author, syndicated columnist, businesswoman and the co-founder and editor-in-chief of the *Huffington Post*.



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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