

Copyright of this publication is vested in The Hawke's Bay Research Lodge and the author, and anyone wishing to reproduce it in full or in part should first obtain permission from the Lodge Secretary.

THE TESSELLATED PAVEMENT

By VW Bro. V. G. C. Jones, GLec, PM

VW Bro. Jones spoke without notes, so the following is a summary of his address as compiled by the lodge secretary.

In the centre of each lodge is an area known as the tessellated pavement. Tessellated means having a mosaic or chequered surface. The masonic tessellated pavement consists of a series of black and white squares surrounded by a border of equilateral triangles alternately black and white. At each corner is a replica of a tassel and in the centre is a five pointed star set in the rays of the sun.

The black and white squares represent the forces of evil and of good or, alternatively, ugliness and beauty. The blazing star represents enlightenment. The tassels in the corners represent the boundary of the lodge.

In ancient times the builders of a large building such as a cathedral, had a lean-to structure alongside a wall of the cathedral, which was known as the "loge" or "lodge". This area was where the apprentices and fellowcrafts received their instructions from the Master Mason. With the development of speculative masonry, the "lodge" was replicated by the use of the tessellated pavement around which instructions are given.

An example of a first degree emulation working was given to explain how the instructions were given.