

Letters to the Editor:

Dear Editor, For your letters to the editor column. Harvey Lovewell

Some thoughts on Ritual.

In the far distant past in far off India there was a holy man, a Guru. This Guru owned a cat of which he was most fond. However during prayers the cat wandered among the faithful and rubbed itself on the people, like cats do. This caused some consternation among the faithful who complained that the cat disturbed their meditation. The Guru thought about this and decided that during prayers the cat should be tied up, and so it was that whenever there were prayers the cat would be tied up.

Years down the track the Guru died. His followers discussed what they should do with the cat. It was decided that to keep faith with their Guru they would continue to tie up the cat.

Many more years later the cat died. The followers again had a meeting and wondered how could they tie up the cat now? They decided that they would acquire another cat so that they could keep up the tradition of tying up the cat during prayers. By this time of course the reason for tying up the cat had been lost.

When we think of some of our ritual, are we not tying up the cat?

(Ed. This letter is undated and I suspect is some years old. We have had it for a long time. Now that the writer is Master of his Lodge, he may have some further thoughts on the cat. We sympathise with him - as ritual, landmarks and lodge habits have become so intermingled, they are often regarded as Landmarks by the old members.)

O.K. Members - What do you think??