



Southern Star

Acrux Shriners Newsletter



151st Imperial Session

Atlanta, Georgia - June 29th - July 3rd, 2025

On Thursday, 26th June, Nobles Nick Clifton, Doug Groom, and Lady Andrea Groom, along with Terry Webster, arrived in Atlanta to attend the 2025 Imperial Session. They were later joined by Noble George Huth, who travelled from Missouri to be part of the delegation.

The six-day event featured a full program of meetings, ceremonial proceedings, and fraternal activities. A pivotal moment occurred on Saturday afternoon during a session with the Dispensation & Charters and Jurisdictional Lines Committees. Nobles Terry Webster (Provisional Potentate) and Nick Clifton (Oriental Guide) represented Acrux Shriners, addressing questions from the 12-member panel. Their thoughtful and comprehensive responses were well received, significantly advancing our petition for a full Charter.

Sunday brought the ever-popular Street Parade, with floats, patrols, and vehicles of all varieties taking to the streets of downtown Atlanta. Thanks to Noble George Huth and members of his Mother Temple, Abou Ben Adhem, Nobles Nick and Terry enjoyed VIP access and a "feztastic" experience being transported through the streets lined with thousands of onlookers and well-wishers. Thank you to Lady Andrea Groom for capturing the moment with the below picture of our Potentate in the 1948 Willy's Jeep.

On Monday morning, 30th June, during the general session, it was officially announced that Acrux Shriners had been granted a full Charter. The presentation ceremony followed soon after—a proud and historic moment for our Temple. A standing ovation from the 1,500 to 2,000 Nobles in attendance celebrated this milestone and reflected the unity and fellowship that define Shriners International.



Nobles Doug Groom, Nicholas Clifton, George Huth, with Illustrious Sir Terry Webster, and Illustrious Sir Mike Cornell (Aahmes) took to the stage to receive the Charter on behalf of Acrux Shriners.

Wednesday mornings session concluded with the election of Imperial Sir Brad Koehn as Imperial Potentate of Shriners International for 2025–2026. We look forward to working with him and the broader organisation in the year ahead.

To every Noble of Acrux Shriners, I extend my deepest gratitude for your support and encouragement. This achievement was truly a collective effort. All Nobles on the register at the time of approval are now officially recognised as Charter Members of the newest Shrine Temple in the world—Temple No. 202 on the register of Shriners International.

Congratulations to you all. Now, the real work begins!



Imperial Sir
Brad Koehn
Imperial Potentate of
Shriners International
for 2025-2026



Acrux Shriners

"The newest Shrine
Temple in the World!"
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Potentate's Podium

Illustrious Sir Terry Webster JP
Foundation Potentate Acrux Shriners



Imperial Visit 2025

In February, Acrux Shriners was honoured by an official visit from Shriners International in the persons of Imperial Sir Richard Burke, the Imperial potentate and his lovely wife, First Lady Judy Burke.

They arrived in Sydney on February 21st and departed on the 26th for the Philippines. During their time in New South Wales, they were extremely well looked after, with me staying at their hotel to attend to their personal needs, and the company of other members of the Divan and their partners.

On Saturday, 22nd February, the Acrux Stated meeting was held in the SMC, Grand Lodge Room No. 2, with fifteen Novices being fezzed during the ceremony which was beautifully carried out by the Sydney Shrine Club Ceremonial Team and Noble Khris Albano as the Ceremonial Team Potentate.

Following the ceremonial a wonderful banquet was held during which both Lady Judy and MWBro. Khris Albano were presented with "Ozzie" the Koala, Acrux Shriners mascot, as a token of appreciation.



I would like to thank Noble John McCorkle and Lady Roni McCorkle for the great work in manufacturing the gifts and supplying through the Bee-Leaf Academy.
www.beeleaf.com.au

Thank you also to Noble Renan Legaspi for his wonderful photographs!

A trip to Morpeth, in the Hunter Valley for lunch at a truly Aussie pub with members of the Hunter Valley Shrine Club and their wives/partners, took place on the Sunday. A great day was had by all and both Imperial Sir Richard and Lady Judy thoroughly enjoyed their lunch and the company of such wonderful people in the Hunter Valley. During their time in Sydney, they visited the Northern Beaches Children's Hospital, Westmead Hospital Children's Ward, a wildlife sanctuary, Manly Beach for lunch, a Sydney Harbour cruise and tour of Sydney and a multitude of other activities. On the night of their arrival, we were privileged to be invited to dinner at Noble Raul Amor's lovely home, overlooking Sydney Harbour at Huntley's Point and a few days later, dinner with the Grand Master MWBro. Khris Albano in the Grand Master's suite at the SMC.

I cannot do the entire Sydney trip justice in such a short article, but my sincere thanks go to all who attended to support our Temple and to ensure that our guests were made to feel welcome.

Special thanks must go to MWBro. Khris Albano for his tremendous generosity and support in ensuring our visitors had a wonderful, and informative stay, and to Noble Raul Amor for taking time away from his Clinic to drive us to Morpeth and back, organise the trip to Westmead Hospital, take us on the Harbour cruise and then an extremely informative and enjoyable tour of the historic and architectural highlights in Sydney.

Illustrious Sir Terry Webster
Illustrious Potentate
Acrux Shriners

"Thanks to all those that attended to support our Temple and to ensure that our guests were made to feel welcome."

Our Foundation Potentate marks the occasion

The Shriners Potentate's Lapel Pin: A Symbol of Leadership and Fellowship.

The Shriners Potentate's lapel pin is a distinctive emblem crafted annually by each Potentate—the elected leader of a local Shrine temple (chapter). These pins are given as tokens of appreciation to fellow Nobles (members), visitors, and dignitaries during the Potentate's year in office. Typically customised with the Potentate's name, year, and unique design elements, the pin serves as both a keepsake and a symbol of the shared values and camaraderie within the Shriners fraternity.

The tradition of creating and exchanging lapel pins dates back to the early 20th century, evolving from simple recognition badges into collectible pieces of memorabilia. As the Shriners organisation grew, so did the popularity of these pins, eventually becoming a hallmark of each Potentate's term. Over time, designs have become more elaborate and meaningful, often incorporating local landmarks, personal mottos, or themes reflecting the Potentate's vision.

More than just decorative items, Potentate pins foster a sense of unity, pride, and historical continuity among members. They commemorate leadership, celebrate service, and promote fellowship, all central tenets of the Shriners' mission to support each other and the communities they serve—especially through their renowned philanthropic work helping children in need.

This year, Illustrious Potentate, Illustrious Sir Terry Webster, has produced the first ever pin for the Acrux Temple, with the message "Helping Kids Thrive in 25". Noble Jonathan (Jonno) Evans designed the pin, which has Popeye the Sailor Man depicted wearing a fez. Noble Terry was a ships Master, having served 47 years at sea. Jonno's design reflects the Potentate's background and his message.



Noble Ross Jackson
2nd Ceremonial Master
Acrux Divan



"Give it a go"

History of the Foundation of Shriners in Australia

Back in 2009, a small group of Masons, who, knowing of "Shriners" and having been to the USA to witness what they did, decided to do the Australian thing and "give it a go".

So began our Shriner journey. First, we needed to get the word out about Shriners and educate the Masons here as many had no idea what a Shriner was. The two Masons who got this started were Ross Jackson & Adam Murphy from Sydney.

After finding out what was required by Shriners International, we began the process of establishing a club in Sydney. The main requirement was to obtain written permission from the Craft Grand Master to allow us to form a Club in his jurisdiction. We approached the then Grand Master, MWBro. Greg Levenston MD, who gladly supplied the letter. Once received, the next step was to get the candidate numbers required for the then Potentate from AAHMES (the authorised sponsoring Shrine Temple in Livermore USA), Ill. Sir. Terry Moody, to come to Sydney, dedicate the club and perform the first Fezzing in Australia. The requirement for 45 masons was met and the ceremony was held at the Belgium Beer Café in the Rocks district of Sydney with Noble Ross Jackson being appointed the first President of the Sydney Shrine Club.

About 12 to 18 months later Noble Ross Jackson, who was also a member of the Masonic Motorcycle Association of Australia (MMAA), attended an AGM meeting in Narrandera NSW. While chatting with a number of members from interstate clubs, the Victorian Chapter President of the MMAA, WBro. Terry Webster, asked me about the various Masonic tattoos I had, and one in particular that stood out. It was the Shrine tattoo which Terry had not seen before and did not know of its origin. After explaining who the Shriners were and what they did for the care and welfare of children, he took on the idea of doing the same in Melbourne, and so the Melbourne Shrine club had its origin.

So, to look back on what was an idea about helping kids we now have our own Temple. The task was made easier when Shriners International realised that building membership to 300 in one club would be rather difficult, so the decision to have a total of 300 spread across the country was adopted.

A brief history of Shriners in Australia by Noble Ross Jackson 1st President and Divan member ACRUX Temple

Why not start your own Taproom Club?



The Shrine world is full of unique ways to gather, connect, and support our mission—none more spirited (or spiritedly spirited!) than the growing Taproom movement. Born from the thirst for fellowship and craft brew, Shriners Taprooms offer a relaxed and creative way for Nobles to enjoy each other's company while sharing an interest in brewing, tasting, and learning about craft beverages. Australia has jumped aboard with two standout Taprooms already raising their mugs high: Brisbane's Taproom #59 and Melbourne's Taproom #48.

Shriners Taprooms are officially recognised clubs within Shriners International, formed under the banner of the International Association of Shrine Taprooms (IAST). These clubs promote fellowship through the appreciation and sometimes crafting of beer, wine, cider, mead, and even non-alcoholic creations like sodas or kombucha. Whether you're a homebrewer, a collector of craft bottles, or just enjoy the occasional pour in good company, a Taproom is for you.

While the vibe is casual, the purpose is meaningful: Taprooms build community, support Shrine events, and—true to our mission—often raise funds for children's causes. They operate under Shrine governance and are expected to uphold the values of our fraternity, even when the toasts get loud.

To begin, submit a proposal to the Shrine Temple, detailing the name, theme, and activities of your Taproom. Upon approval, you'll receive a charter from the International Association of Shrine Taprooms (IAST), joining a global network. Each Taproom can develop its unique identity, focusing on inclusivity rather than just drinking. The IAST provides resources and connections, fostering inspiration and community among Taprooms worldwide.



Taproom #59 – Brisbane Shrine Club

Established in 2022, Taproom #59 was the first of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere and proudly waves its banner under the Brisbane Shrine Club. Known for its laid-back hospitality and pirate theme, Taproom #59 brings a hearty dose of humour and tradition to its gatherings. Members don Hawaiian shirts, pirate garb, and raise money by fining each other a gold doubloon for any number of high hearted infractions. Come and join the crew or ye be a scurvy bilge rat.



Taproom #48 – Melbourne Shrine Club

Hot on Brisbane's heels, Taproom #48 was launched under the Melbourne Shrine Club in 2024. While still early in its development, this Taproom is already carving out its own character. Melbourne's club offers a more refined but equally enthusiastic approach, with local craft brews and regional tastings on the menu. They recently held their 3rd meeting this year with two other planned. Meetings have been held in Clifton Hill and Cheltenham and the next one will be at Sunshine and a special Axe Throwing event at Abbotsford before the end of the year. They have raised nearly \$1000 for Easter Eggs for the Temple's donation and will participate in the toys for children later in the year.

Come join us if you like a beer, want a good meal or just want the company of fellow Nobles and Freemasons.



Continued from the front page...



Above - Nobles Nick Clifton and Doug Groom with Lady Andrea Groom enjoying a warm welcome at the Hyatt Regency.



Above - The Australian delegation, including our Associate member Noble George Huth from Lebanon, Missouri.



Above - Noble Nick Clifton is presenting Noble George with his Melbourne Taproom membership card.



Left - Monday morning was a momentous occasion - Acrux Shriners application for Chartered Temple status was officially recognised. This marks a significant step for our Temple, affirming our commitment and dedication to the mission of Shrinedom in Australia. Illustrious Sir Terry Webster (Potentate) and Noble Nick Clifton (Oriental Guide) celebrating this historic achievement.

The Imperial Session was an amazing event to be a part of. We made many new friends, attended membership seminars and increased our knowledge and understanding of Shrinedom and the successful operation and management of the Temple. We return home with not just memories, but with renewed purpose, insight and pride.



Above - Among the many Shriners we met during our stay at the 2025 Imperial Session, we were fortunate to meet with members of Azan Shriners who are in Melbourne, Florida. We discussed the possibility of twinning our two Shrine Temples and this created excitement and discussion on how we could make this happen. The next Imperial Session will be held in Tampa, so we will work on the project.



Above - Shriners know how to mix learning with laughter. A group dinner at a local pub led to an unAXExpected hit - axe throwing. Nobles Nick and Doug demonstrated their skills, hitting bullseyes with overhead throws.

Club Corner



Brisbane

Brisbane Shrine Club The journey never ends

The Brisbane Shrine Club (BSC) has been forging ahead with energy and purpose over the first half of 2025, combining community outreach, social events, and fundraising efforts in true Shriner spirit.

The festive season kicked off with a heartwarming gesture at the Mater Children's Hospital, where the BSC delivered donated Christmas presents to young patients. Led by Noble Andrew Shepard, and supported by the Club President and several members, the visit left a lasting impression on both the children and the Nobles involved.

In February, members and their partners gathered for a relaxed coffee catch-up at Stones Corner. This casual morning event provided a great opportunity for spouses and friends to reconnect and share stories over a cuppa.

April brought ANZAC Day—a day of profound national importance. With many veterans among the ranks of the BSC, members participated in ceremonies across the country, proudly honoring their service and the legacy of those who came before.

One of the standout events so far this year was the second Taproom gathering, hosted at Sea Legs Microbrewery under the iconic Story Bridge. Now adopted as the official headquarters for future social events, this gathering introduced a creative twist: the Gold Doubloon system. Devised by the Club President, this fundraising game involves Nobles purchasing "doubloons" at the start of the night, which are then used to pay fines for humorous infractions. The result? Plenty of laughs and \$156 raised for the charity fund—with only four members in attendance! The message is clear: the more the merrier, and the greater the impact.

The most recent event was a Ladies High Tea hosted by Lady Maria Targett (further on page 9), while outside the Nobles gathered with friends for another Taproom event, this time having adopted a Pirate Theme.

In August, a Casino Night is on the cards. This event will be open to the public, with proceeds going toward the Acrux Charity "Super Tee"—a cause dedicated to bringing comfort to seriously ill children.

The next will be a "Red Shirt" meeting and then the Club's AGM in October, aimed at refreshing leadership roles and setting the course for the year ahead.

November brings a major milestone: a formal Acrux Stated Meeting, a Fezzing Ceremony, and a GALA Dinner hosted at the MMC and Amora Hotel. Nobles from across Australia are expected to attend what promises to be a memorable evening of celebration and camaraderie.

Finally, December will see the culmination of the Club's fundraising efforts with the purchase of Christmas presents for children in need, continuing a cherished tradition of giving.

As 2025 unfolds, the Brisbane Shrine Club continues to show what it means to be Nobles in action—united in service, fellowship, and fun.



Above - Annual Christmas Gift Drop at the local Children's Hospital.



Above - Taproom #59 proudly displaying their charter.



Right - Shriners weren't the only ones visiting the hospital today.

Introducing our Chief Rabban

Noble Les Dikes



Allow me to introduce myself to those who may not yet know me.

I was born in England in 1943 and relocated to Kenya shortly after WWII, following my father's Army regiment's deployment to East Africa.

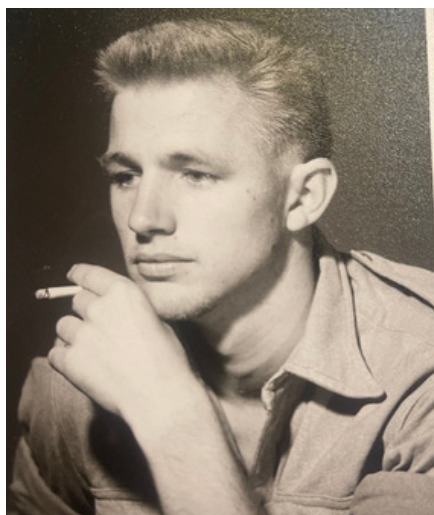
Upon completing formal schooling, I served my national service with the Kenya Regiment, dedicating twelve months to military duties. Throughout my high school years and military service, I developed a passion for boxing, enjoying considerable success and fortunately winning more bouts than I lost.

Following my military service, my eldest brother Sid and I spent three extraordinary years working with the Kenya Game Department, capturing various animals across Uganda and Kenya. This was undoubtedly the happiest period of my life in East Africa. Living under the open sky in tents for months at a time, surrounded by wildlife, and collaborating closely with local communities was thrilling, deeply rewarding, and occasionally perilous—an adventure that left me with a lifetime of cherished memories.

Among the many animals we captured were elephants, giraffes, zebras, numerous species of antelope, various monkeys, and occasionally, snakes. Our primary aim was animal relocation and zoo provisioning.

Equally important was our work protecting elephants and rhinos from poachers who massacred them for their tusks and horns.

My first Australian employment was in 1966 with Trans Australia Airlines (TAA) as a Ground Staff Supervisor, a role I held for 23 years before deciding to seek a change from shift work. In 1990, I joined Howden Australia, serving as a Storeman and Forklift Driver for 24 years until my retirement in 2014.



Shortly after arriving in Australia, I met and married Gwen, with whom I have two wonderful sons, Chris and Brad, who have given me the joy of five beautiful granddaughters. Later in life, following the dissolution of my marriage, I was blessed to find love again with Lorraine. We spent 30 delightful years together until her passing in 2021, and through her, I was joyfully welcomed into another extended family.

My Masonic journey commenced in 1988 when my brother Roger and I joined Traveller's Washington Lodge #9 in Victoria. I progressed through all offices and proudly served as Worshipful Master in 1995/96. Currently, I hold the position of Senior Warden of Elrona Lodge #384, First Principal of Centenary Chapter #52, and Conductor of Essendon Sovereign Chapter #86.

I joined the Shriners as a foundation member in 2010, serving as President of the Melbourne Shriners Club on three occasions. Today, I am honoured to serve as Chief Rabban of Acrux—a position that fills me with pride and gratitude.

My journey with the Shriners has been immensely fulfilling, enabling me to meet and forge friendships with nobles across all states—an experience I deeply treasure.

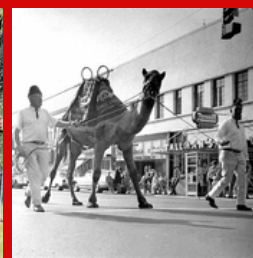
I have full trust in my fellow nobles to continue driving our temple and clubs toward ongoing growth and greater charitable achievements.

With warmest regards,

Les Dikes
Chief Rabban



Camel Tales



Sir Gus: Orlando's Kissing Camel

In the 1970s, the Bahia Shriners in Orlando, Florida, sought a unique way to embody their Middle Eastern theme and connect with the community. Their solution? Acquiring a real camel. Born in 1977 at the Knoxville Zoo in Tennessee, the young camel was adopted by the Shriners and named Sir Gus, in honor of Shriners Gus Patterson.

Sir Gus quickly became more than just a mascot; he was a beloved ambassador for the Shriners. Known for his affectionate nature, Sir Gus had a particular fondness for root beer and was famous for giving "kisses" in exchange for carrots. His charming demeanor made him a favorite at parades, fundraisers, and especially at events supporting Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Even after his passing, Sir Gus's legacy endures. A successor, Sir Gus Jr., continues to uphold the tradition, delighting children and adults alike while promoting the Shriners' philanthropic mission. This heartwarming tale of Sir Gus exemplifies the Shriners' commitment to community engagement and their creative approach to philanthropy.

A Shriner and a camel walk into a bar..



A Shriner and a camel walk into a bar...

Finish this joke to be in the running to win a prize.

For the next edition of the Newsletter why not submit your completed camel joke to have a chance to win Acrux merch! Send your entry to the Recorder.



Lady Maria Targett holds the highest of High Teas



The Spark That Lit the Flame – How a Question Became a Tradition

Back in 2022, two Masons—James and Greg—were chatting casually about Lodge life, charity, and the usual things that come up when Masons get together. Maria, James's wife, happened to overhear them when talking about the charitable side of Masonry and asked a simple question: "Where does the money go?"

They tried to answer. They knew that Lodges supported local charities. Some used Hand Heart Pocket's dollar-matching program. But when it came to naming a specific organisation their Lodges had recently helped, neither of them could say for sure. It wasn't a criticism—just one of those moments where you realise you've never really asked the next question. That small exchange planted a seed.

Greg decided to look around for options—a cause they could get behind, something clear and meaningful. That's when he came across Shriners, and more specifically, the Melbourne Shrine Club. Ten weeks later, the Brisbane Shrine Club was born. And Maria? She didn't stop at asking that question.

In July 2025, she hosted the first **Parras Sip, Sparkle & Support High Tea** at her and James's home. What started as an idea quickly became something extraordinary.

Guests began with a jewellery-making workshop, each creating three pieces to take home. Every attendee received a lucky dip prize, and tables were set with fine china, fresh flowers, sparkling beads, and more charm than you could fit in a photo. There was champagne, cocktails, pots of tea, coffee, and enough high tea treats—cakes, scones, croissants, and finger foods—to make sure no one left hungry. Background tunes from Dean Martin, Sinatra and Doris Day gave the afternoon a relaxed, timeless feel.

The raffle prizes? Every single one was donated by Maria and James, and they were, in a word, unbelievable. Meanwhile, out on the deck, James and the Taproom #59 crew fired up the BBQ, threw on their pirate gear, and ran their own fundraiser—adding over \$600 to the total. Together, the day raised more than \$4,000 for charity.

The feedback was immediate: "When's the next one?" And just like that, the Parras Sip, Sparkle & Support High Tea became a Brisbane Shrine Club annual tradition. All because someone asked a simple question—and someone else went looking for an answer.

Bring on 2026 for the 2nd annual Parras High Tea. Thanks so much Lady Maria and James.

It's all for the kids!



Temple Trading Post



In future editions of our Newsletter, we plan on listing in this section any Lodge and Shriner items, whether they be regalia, clothing, jewellery, etc., that our members wish to sell or trade. I'm sure our partners would relish the idea of us all clearing out some of the items we have all been collecting, or hoarding, over the years. It is our aim to provide a platform for like-minded individuals to pass on items to others, knowing they go to a person who would appreciate them as much as you once did. Until then, though, we introduce a new company where you can grab some new items to add to your collection.

Introducing Craftee Creations

Custom Merchandise Made for Masons by a Mason.

When Noble John McCorkle officially retired earlier this year, he turned his attention to something that could be of practical benefit to the Craft and the Shrine — a custom merchandise service aimed at supplying Freemasons and associated organisations with useful, affordable, and tailored items. The result was Craftee Creations — a small business now producing custom-printed and engraved merchandise to suit a wide range of Masonic needs.

Using Direct to Film and Sublimation printing, along with laser engraving, Craftee Creations currently offers:

- Custom frames for membership certificates
- Speciality gifts for newly installed Worshipful Masters
- Engraved whisky glasses and coaster sets
- Stubby holders, caps, and key rings, and luggage tags
- Tokens, lapel pins, and presentation items
- Masonic teddy bears in miniature regalia
- Noble Ozzy — our favourite Shrine mascot in soft plush form



Each piece can be personalised with Lodge names, Shrine emblems, dates, roles, or other meaningful details — ideal for installations, anniversaries, fundraisers, or tokens of appreciation.

The service is local, reliable, and built to serve the real needs of Masons and like organisations — from one-off gifts to bulk orders for events.

Importantly, a portion of all Craftee Creations sales goes back to Acrux Shriners, directly supporting our philanthropic work and helping the Temple continue its charitable mission.

An online store will be operational in the near future, making it even easier to browse, customise, and order items for your Lodge, Club, or event. In the meantime, enquiries and orders are welcome directly through John.

If you've got something unique in mind, Craftee Creations is happy to collaborate — whether it's a new design, a ceremonial item, or something special for your next big occasion. While the business began with Freemasonry in mind, it's also available to schools, service clubs, sporting teams, and other community groups.

If you're planning an event, preparing a gift, or simply want something that reflects the identity of your Lodge, Temple or Club — Craftee Creations is here to help.



Recorder's Desk



Acrux Shriners Temple Jewel Award System is here!

A simple way to say: we see you, and we appreciate you

Let's be honest — a lot of the work that keeps our Shrine Clubs going isn't flashy. It's the Nobles who show up early, stay late, help carry the tables, bring a mate into the Shrine, or just quietly keep things running in the background. These are the guys who rarely ask for thanks but absolutely deserve it.

That's what the Acrux Temple Jewel Point System is all about. It's a way of recognising effort — real, practical, boots-on-the-ground involvement. You don't need a title. You don't need a spotlight. You just need to be someone who pitches in and sticks around.

Here's how it works: every time you take part in something Shrine-related — a parade, a ceremony, a fundraiser, helping out a new Noble — you earn points. Over time, those points add up. When you hit 1500, you'll receive the Jewel of Acrux. It's not a giveaway. It's not a participation trophy. It's something you earn, over time, by being there when it counts.

Keep going and the same Jewel can be upgraded. At 3000 points, it gets a silver star. At 5000, a gold one. That's it — one Jewel, three levels, all built on steady involvement and quiet commitment.

A quick note on bringing in new Nobles — you don't get points just for writing your name on a petition. It's about actually helping a Master Mason make the journey into the Shrine. Guiding them. Checking in. Getting them to events. You can earn points for that up to four times a year, but only if you've genuinely been involved. And no, being President or Secretary doesn't mean you get the points automatically. Everyone's held to the same standard.

One other important thing: you have to be financial. If you haven't paid your Temple dues for the current year, you're not eligible to earn points. That's not a punishment — it's just part of showing you're on board.

Each Club can also hand out its own smaller awards as you go — patches, pins, coins, and the occasional funny one like the "Ancient Order of Camel Herders" medal. Those little milestone awards aren't about ego — they're about momentum. A pat on the back now and then keeps people motivated.

Everything gets tracked in WebFez. Club Secretaries are in charge of setting up events and scanning people in, so we've got a fair record of what's been done and who was there. And while the system starts from now, Secretaries can submit points for past events, so no one misses out on credit where it's due.

Not sure where you stand? Ask your Secretary. You might be closer than you think.



Share your thoughts in the next issue of the Southern Star

Nobles, the next edition is underway. If you would like to submit an article, please email it to Recorder@acruxshriners.org. Include photos if possible and feel free to write about anything related to Shrinedom or Freemasonry.

Each Shrine Club is also asked to submit an article for each issue, showcasing what their club has been up to, upcoming ceremonials, social events, and/or charitable works in progress or scheduled.

This is an opportunity for each Club under the Acrux Temple to shine and let other Shriners worldwide see what is happening Down Under.



Meet the Divan



Trixen Ben Agravante

Trixen Agravante, known as Trix to his friends, began his Masonic journey in the Philippines as a member of DeMolay, a youth leadership organisation. His time in DeMolay sparked a deep interest in Freemasonry, leading him to join Nueva Vizcaya Masonic Lodge No. 144 under the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. Initiated in 2017, Trix was raised to the sublime degree in 2019 after Masonic activities resumed.

A few years later, Trix and his wife, Precious Joy, moved to Western Australia to pursue further education and professional development—Precious trained as a chef. Trix affiliated with Wanneroo Lodge No. 349 under the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, where he now serves as Secretary.

Trix's dedication to service extended to the Shriners when he became a founding member of the Perth Shrine Club. He has served as its Secretary since the club's inaugural meeting in January 2024. In July 2024, he was appointed Outer Guard in the Acrux Shriners UD Divan, a role he continues to fulfil with diligence.

At the Perth Shrine Club's first Annual Meeting on May 24th, Trix was elected and invested as President. He also continues to serve as Secretary until a successor is appointed.

Noble Trix exemplifies commitment and leadership in both his Lodge and the Shrine. We salute him as a steadfast Noble whose tireless efforts benefit Shrinedom, his Club, and our Temple.

Are you interested in helping out?

Who's running the ship — and how do they keep us sailing smoothly?

The Divan is the leadership team behind everything we do as Acrux Shriners — from ceremonial work and membership growth to budgets, meetings, and making sure the lights stay on and the fez stays proud.

At the helm is our Potentate, supported by a line of elected officers who move up through the ranks each year — from the Oriental Guide through to High Priest & Prophet, Assistant Rabban, and Chief Rabban. Each of these roles carries increasing responsibility, with the Potentate serving as the Temple's executive leader.

The Treasurer and Recorder hold key administrative positions — managing our finances and records, and keeping communication flowing across the Temple and with Shriners International.

A host of appointed officers ensure our ceremonial work runs smoothly. The Ceremonial Masters, Director, Marshalls, and Guards are the engine room of our rituals and public events. They're joined by our Chaplain, who adds spiritual guidance, and our Captain of the Guard and Outer Guard, who help keep everything running to order.

We also have roles specific to our modern needs — a Webmaster to maintain our online presence, a Social Media Officer to keep the world updated on what we're doing, and a Grand Lodge Liaison to maintain strong ties with the Masonic craft.

Every Noble in these roles contributes their time and skills to help Acrux Temple grow, connect, and thrive. If you'd like to know more about how to get involved — or who to talk to for anything Temple-related — your Divan is always ready to help.

Becoming involved is a rewarding experience, fostering friendships and personal growth while making a positive impact. Engaging in fundraising events, social activities, and community service projects not only strengthens bonds among fellow Nobles but also enhances the club's reputation and reach. Whether you have a knack for organising events, a passion for mentoring new members, or simply a desire to lend a helping hand, there are countless opportunities to contribute.

Remember, the strength of our community lies in the dedication and enthusiasm of its members, and every effort, big or small, helps pave the way for a brighter future.



Shriners - Crossword Puzzle 001

Email a copy of this completed puzzle, and if correct you will receive 25 points toward your Temple Jewel



CUSTOM GIFTS & MERCHANDISE FOR FREEMASONS AND FRIENDS

From engraved glassware and keyrings to pins, apparel, and Lodge keepsakes – Crafee Creations designs unique, meaningful pieces for Masonic groups and affiliated orders

🏠 Ideal for:

- Installations
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Across

- Carries banner in ceremonial processions.
- Appellation of the highest elected officer in a Temple.
- Arabic word used to greet fellow Nobles.
- Temple 2IC
- Shriner subgroup known for precision horseback riding.
- Acrux Newsletter
- Annual Shriners gathering in the USA.
- Shriners' philanthropic governing body.
- Egyptian symbol representing eternal life.
- Represents unrefined initiate in Lodge.

Down

- Recorder
- International Database
- Name before Shriners International.
- First ever Imperial Potentate.
- Fez embroidered emblem.
- Unit associated with clowning and children's outreach.
- Temple's geographic jurisdiction.
- Order appended to the title of a Shriner Temple under dispensation.
- Nickname of PSC Secretary
- Potentate's ceremonial staff.
- Ceremonial walk
- Between Candidate and Noble.
- Current Imperial Potentate
- Co-founder
- City where it all started.
- Number of stated meetings per year.
- Specialised Club focused on libations.

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EVOLUTION, GARIBALDI AND
VICTORIAN NAVAL AND
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SATURDAY,
23 AUGUST 2025

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ITS FOUR PATRONS WITH
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Enquiries:

John Molnar 0412 578 242

Peter McWilliam 0418 437 237

Dom Gullace 0400 071 215

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Northern Health
Foundation





None can argue that we wouldn't be here without the tremendous support and guidance from the Nobles in Livermore California. Aahmes Shriners was our sponsoring Temple for about 14 years and they continue to be a source of support and shared memories.

While we all are sure they are as proud as a parent when a child grows and starts their own life, the mass exodus of some 150 members demitting from their Temple to start our own, would be impactful to say the least. That is why many of us have decided to rejoin our Mother Temple as Associate members. The cost is \$100 AUD /year, which currently is about \$65.20 USD.

Interested in joining or re-joining Aahmes Temple? Go to <https://aahmesshriners.org>

Click 'Dues Payment' at the top right of the screen to bring up ONLINE DUES Payment. Click the bottom button (Alternate Dues) and then pay via PayPal or with a Card. The cost is \$100 AUD but the system only takes USD, so check the exchange rate. It should be approximately \$65 USD. Once you have your receipt then send the recorder a copy so your name can be added to the list going to the Aahmes Recorders. This will make you an Associate member of their Temple, requiring that this amount is paid yearly.



Important Information/Links

- Shriners International
 - 2900 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, Florida, USA 33607-1435
 - Phone: 0011 1 813-281-0300, Fax: 813-281-8460 (Operator) or 813-518-7800 (Help Desk)
 - <https://www.ShrinersInternational.org/en>
 - <https://www.ShrinersHospitalsForChildren.org>
 - <https://www.BeAShrinerNow.com>
 - Fraternal Information Services - Jody Meguiar, Applications & Tech Support Manager, JMeguiar@shrinenet.org
- Western and Pacific Shrine Association
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/121394988046364/>
- Shrine Recorders Association International
 - <https://shrinerecorderassociation.org>
 - issshinerecorder@gmail.com

Our Temple

- Acrux Shriners
 - <https://acruxshriners.org>
 - potentate@acruxshriners.org
 - recorder@acruxshriners.org
 - treasurer@acruxshriners.org
 - info@acruxshriners.org
 - webmaster@acruxshriners.org
 - <https://www.facebook.com/AcruxShriners>

Elected Divan

Potentate.....Terry Webster
 Chief Rabban.....Les Dikes
 Assist. Rabban.....James Targett
 High Priest & Prophet.....Raul Amor
 Oriental Guide.....Nicholas Clifton
 Treasurer.....Jonathan Evans
 Recorder.....John T. McCorkle

Appointed Divan

1st Ceremonial Master.....Terry Clifton
 2nd Ceremonial Master.....Ross Jackson
 Marshall.....Doug Groom
 1st Assist. Marshall.....Jessen Goodsir
 2nd Assist. Marshall.....Daniel Lapeña
 Director.....Ron Evans
 Deputy Director.....Rob Peattie
 Captain of the Guard.....Diosdado Aguinaldo
 Outer Guard.....Trixen Agravante
 Chaplain.....Ed Lewellin
 Grand Lodge Liaison.....Wayne Millard
 Webmaster.....James Boyce

Acrux Clubs

- Melbourne Shrine Club - jonnoevans@hotmail.com
- Brisbane Shrine Club - thebrisbaneshrineclub@gmail.com
- Sydney Shrine Club - johnlegisllb@icloud.com
- Perth Shrine Club - trixenbenagravante@gmail.com
- Hunter Valley Shrine Club - milwain@hotmail.com
- Toowoomba Shrine Club - karl.mnlpz24@gmail.com
- Western Melbourne Shrine Club - markdominador2003@yahoo.com
- Brisbane Taproom #59 - thebrisbaneshrineclub@gmail.com
- Melbourne Taproom #48 - ntclifton2001@yahoo.com

Other Temples

- Aahmes Shriners
 - <https://aahmesshriners.org>
 - 0011 1 925-373-4880
 - 170 Lindbergh Ave, Livermore, CA USA 94551
- Azan Shriners
 - <https://www.azanshrine.org>
 - 0011 1 321-259-5302
 - azanshriners@gmail.com
 - 1591 W. Eau Gallie Blvd, Melbourne, FL 32935
- Abou Ben Adhem Shriners
 - <https://www.abashrine.com>
 - 0011 1 417-869-9164
 - 601 E. St. Louis Springfield, MO 65806 USA



Black Camel Notice

Honouring Those Who Have Gone Before Us



Noble Ernesto Pascual Rivera
11 January 1958 - 25 June 2025

We need your
photos of
Club events

for our
website
and
newsletters.

Please send
your photos,
along with a
description to
[recorder@
acruxshriners.org](mailto:recorder@acruxshriners.org)



BE A SHRINER NOW

www.BeAShrinerNow.com

Joining is simple. Just visit www.BeAShrinerNow.com and complete a short form to express your interest. From there you will be contacted and any questions you may have answered. While there is a requirement to be a Master Mason to join the Shrine, we also have an associate group, 'Friends of the Fez' for those waiting to become a Master Mason and/or those that share our mission of helping kids, but have no desire and/or are unable to become a Mason. (Please note that in NSW you must be a Master Mason for 3 years. No other States hold this restriction.)



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Contact us if you have something important you wish to say to the Nobility.

Acrux Shriners Newsletter Media Kit & Advertising Rate Card (2025–2026)

The Southern Star, the new Acrux Shriners Newsletter is a quarterly publication designed to keep our members, clubs, supporters, and the broader Masonic community informed and connected. It highlights upcoming events, Shrine activities across Australia, and stories from our Nobles and philanthropic partners.

Delivered via email to all registered Nobles and shared through our national network, this newsletter provides a valuable platform to promote products, services, and causes that align with our fraternal and community values.

Frequency: Quarterly

Distribution: Acrux Clubs WhatsApp Group

Website Access: Available for download on the official Acrux Shriners Website

Audience Reach

- Shriners from multiple jurisdictions across Australia
- Masonic-affiliated organisations and clubs
- Event supporters and Shrine families
- Engaged community of civic-minded readers
- Shriners International HQ

Our readership includes professionals, tradespeople, small business owners, retirees, and charitable volunteers — all committed to making a difference in their local communities.

Advertising Options & Rates

Ad Size Dimensions (Approx)

Full Page

A4 (210mm x 297mm)

\$400

Most prominent placement available

Half Page

210mm x 148mm

\$250

Horizontal layout

Quarter Page

105mm x 148mm

\$150

Great for clubs or small businesses

Eighth Page

105mm x 74mm

\$75



Questions? Just ask the Editor.

Bonus Exposure:

All paid advertisements may also be featured on the Acrux Shriners National Website, where each newsletter issue is available for public download. This offers ongoing visibility beyond initial email distribution.

Deadlines & Booking 2025–2026 Publication Schedule

- 1st Edition - Q3 2025 Issue – Released: July | Booking Deadline: 15 May 2025
- 2nd Edition - Q4 2025 Issue – Released: October | Booking Deadline: 15 August 2025
- 3rd Edition - Q1 2026 Issue – Released: January | Booking Deadline: 15 November 2025
- 4th Edition - Q2 2026 Issue – Released: April | Booking Deadline: 15 February 2026

Artwork & File Requirements

- File format: PNG, JPG, or PDF
- Resolution: Minimum 300 DPI
- Colour: RGB (digital publication only)
- No bleed or crop marks required

If you need help designing your ad, we're happy to assist through our creative partners.

Payment & Contact

- Invoices will be issued upon booking confirmation.
- Payment is due prior to publication.

To book your ad or request assistance:

John T. McCorkle – Recorder

recorder@acruxshriners.org | 0427 070 422

Acrux Shriners Newsletter - A publication devoted to promoting the interests of Acrux Shriners, Cubs and Units in particular, and Shrinedom in general. Send all information, pictures and contributions to be considered for publication to recorders@acruxshriners.org. All content is subject to Potentate approval as well as space availability. Thank you for your