

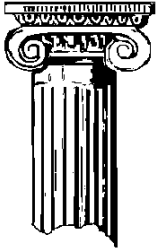
The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union & Crown No.307



Issue No. 379

December 2014



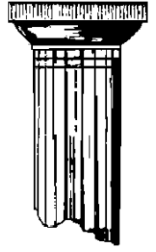
Issue No. 379

The Mallet

Editorial



December 2014



Well here we are again, the last Mallet of 2014. No sooner have we tentatively embarked on a new Masonic year and, hopefully fully recovered from the self-inflicted exertions of the Installation when we find ourselves falling head first into the carefully laid trap of the festive season and another painful round of hangovers.

I don't want to alarm you but before we can gather our breath back again, the 191st Anniversary Dinner on the 3rd February 2015 and the annual Burns Supper on the 20th February 2015 already loom on the horizon. It's enough to make you reach gingerly for the aspirin!

Bro Alan Bernard has now had the heavy responsibility of being our Right Worshipful Master for some weeks now, and has thus far acquitted himself admirably and, been a credit to the Lodge, getting himself about and flying the flag for Union & Crown throughout the Province.

A thoughtful person by nature, Bro Alan has a more serious side to his nature which may not always be seen. He is acutely aware of what is expected of him during what we hope will be a busy and eventful year in office and we hold no fears for him. He has always over the years exhibited an unfailing tendency to do what is right for the Lodge and the effect of his firm touch on the tiller during 2015 will have a calming effect on all of us during the coming month as he grows into the role. We wish him every success during what will be undoubtedly the quickest twelve months of his entire life and feel sure that he will receive the utmost respect and support of his Office-bearers and Brethren throughout.

We in turn can also show our support for the Lodge and the RWM by accompanying him on visits, certainly the 'official visits' but also the more relaxed and informal ones which can often be arranged at very short notice... Just let the RWM or one of his wardens know of your interest.



Happy New Year to all our readers



Hugh Cattigan PM Ed.

Regular Meetings

At the regular meeting of the Lodge, held on Tuesday 2nd December 2014 and after the business the following candidates:-

STEVEN BLAIR and LEE RENFREW

were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of our order by a relatively inexperienced degree team drawn from the ranks of the Lodge's Instruction Class, and led by the Worshipful Wardens. Although it was a first time with everyone in their new offices and nerves showing a wee bit it was nevertheless a very good EA Degree, ably conferred in the manner we have come to expect from the Brethren of Lodge Union & Crown.

A harmony followed with the majority of the brethren and visitors remaining to enjoy an evening of fellowship.

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed – 09:19pm Attendance – 50

At the regular meeting of the Lodge, held on Tuesday 16th December 2014 and after the business of the Lodge the same two candidates Steven Blair and Lee Renfrew were passed to the Second Square or FC degree by a degree team drawn from the ranks of the Lodge's Instruction Class, and led by the Worthy Deacons. A very good FC Degree conferred by the Brethren of Lodge Union & Crown and appreciated by all in attendance.

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed – 09:17pm Attendance – 61

Christmas Dance 2014

This year's dance took place on Saturday 6th December and a very successful evening ensued with a fantastic turnout of Brethren with their wives and partners and friends.



A very good duo entertained the assembled company with a fine selection of songs old and new and a fine raffle helped to complete the evening's merriment.

Bro. Lawrence Webb, our social convenor is to be congratulated on organising this fine event and a big thanks to all who contributed raffle prizes on the night. It was good to see many of our "new" brethren attending and enjoying themselves and we hope to see them at many events in the future.

Bro. Lawrence was delighted to be able to hand in the sum of £400.00 to our Bro. Treasurer and would like to thank all who came and made it such an enjoyable night.



Q. What do you call a woman with a screwdriver in one hand, a knife in the other, a pair of scissors between the toes of her left foot and a corkscrew between the toes of her right foot?

A. A Swiss army wife...

Rockmount R.A.C. No. 367



At the regular meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday the 12th November 2014 the Companions witnessed a fine exemplification of a Royal Arch Degree from the Companions of Rockmount RAC. The Companions taking part in the degree are to be congratulated on work well done.

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter is scheduled for:

Tuesday 13th January 2015 at 7:30pm

When a MMM and EM Degree will be conferred by the Office-bearers and Companions of Rockmount RAC. MEC Graham Manson, MEZ, extends a cordial invitation to all Companions to attend.

Rockmount Cryptic Council

A similar invitation is also extended by the T.I.M. David Bannerman and his Office Bearers to attend the next regular meeting of Rockmount Cryptic Council No. 367 on.

Tuesday 27th January 2015



It's been good to see the new office bearers settling into their roles and supporting our RWM in his year in the "Hot seat!"

We have a very good team of enthusiastic brethren and a strong bond can be seen developing among them. This is always an encouraging sign for the future and we hope they all continue to enjoy themselves in their various offices.

(I never knew the RWM's chair was heated... it wisnae like that in my year! Ed.)

Buy a Brick

Commemorative bricks which adorn the wall in the downstairs hallway are still available at £20.00 each.

Anyone interested should see Bro. Adam G Watson (Big Adam) to secure their personalised brick either for themselves or a loved one.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East's final installation of the Masonic year is that of our good friends at Lodge Saint Conval Giffnock No 1359.

The ceremony will be on Saturday 10th January 2015 in their new premises at The Duff Memorial Hall, Main Street, Busby. The start time is 13:59pm - in line with the Lodge number.

Prince Hall Masonry

On March 6 1775, fifteen men of colour, who were “freeborn” (one of the basic requirements of Freemasonry) were initiated into Freemasonry in Boston, Massachusetts. The ceremony was conducted by Sergeant John Batt of the Irish Military Lodge No. 441, attached to the 38th Regiment of Foot, and the Initiates are reported to have paid fifteen guineas to receive the three degrees. Among them was a man who has become immortal among Black Freemasons, Prince Hall.

The other candidates were Cyrus Johnson, Bueston Slinger, Prince Rees, John Canton, Peter Freeman, Benjamin Tiler, Duff Ruform, Thomas Santerson, Prince Rayden, Cato Speain, Boston Smith, Peter Best, Forten Howard and Richard Titley.

For nine years these brethren, with other free black men who had received their degrees in Europe, assembled together and enjoyed their limited privileges as Masons

On 29 September 1784 a warrant was granted by the premier Grand Lodge of England to 15 men in Boston, Massachusetts (including Bro Prince Hall, who became its first Worshipful Master) forming them into African Lodge, No. 459. At the Union of the two Grand Lodges in England in 1813, African Lodge (and many others at home and abroad) was omitted from the register, there having been no contact for many years.

The African Lodge of Boston then began to establish other lodges, making itself a Mother Lodge, its Master Prince Hall having the authority to issue warrants on the same basis as Masters of Lodges in Europe. Prince Hall died December 4, 1807. And possibly as a mark of respect, the descendent Grand Lodges of African Grand Lodge changed their names to "Prince Hall Grand Lodge" All Prince Hall Grand Lodges being descended from what is now the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts

The “Prince Hall Lodges” in America were expanding rapidly and eventually, Prince Hall Masons grew to the point that in 1848 they made history. They voted to develop a national Grand Lodge - a great event for American Masonry, and something that the "White" Grand Lodges have been unable to do. Sadly it didn't last and about 1872 they were back under the old system of State Grand Lodges

The original charter of African Lodge of Boston is in the possession of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and is the only know original 18th Century Charter in existence issued to any American Lodge by the Grand Lodge of England.

Famous Prince Hall Masons

Bro Louis Armstrong	Jazz trumpeter / Singer
Bro Count Basie	Orchestra Leader / Composer
Bro Nat King Cole	Pianist / Singer
Bro Duke Ellington	Orchestra Leader / Composer
Bro Alex Haley	Author
Bro Jesse Jackson	Civil Rights Leader
Bro Thurgood Marshall	U.S. Supreme Court Justice
Bro Rev. Al Sharpton	Presidential Candidate

Band of Brothers visit Rosslyn Chapel

by Brother Ronnie Maclsaac (Sen. Chaplain)

Brothers Ewan Martin, Ronnie Maclsaac, Billy McGinlay, Duncan Birse, Jimmy Laing and my good friend Brother Ian Thompson of Lodge Garrowhill 1413 (pictured above) set out from lodge Union and Crown 307. All the boys had been to Roslyn chapel before except me so they proceeded to tell me all about it. Took about 1 ½ hours to get there so the boys had a good old natter.

Roslyn Chapel was very easy to find just along the M8. There is a charge to get in 9 pounds for adults and 7 pounds for concession. We had among us Billy the brickie, who told us about the building techniques used to build the chapel. Billy had been a first class bricklayer in a former life (sometime around 1400's when the chapel was built).

Some information about Rosslyn Chapel

Founded in 1446, Built by Sir William St Clair, 3rd Prince of Orkney, as the Collegiate Church of St Matthew, Rosslyn Chapel today attracts visitors from far and wide (even Barrhead), and drawn by its unique and mysterious carvings and the beauty of its setting.



The chapel took some 40 years to complete and its ornate stonework and mysterious symbolism have inspired - and intrigued – artists and visitors ever since. Today, there are countless theories, myths and legends associated with the Chapel, many of which are impossible to prove or disprove conclusively. Tour guides will be able to tell you more about these, and about the history of the Chapel,

during your visit. Rosslyn has survived turbulent times and has recently been undergoing an extensive programme of conservation to ensure its long-term future.

A new state-of-the-art visitor centre tells the Chapel's story – from its 15th century origins, through the Reformation, to the Da Vinci Code – and has an attractive coffee shop and gift shop.

The Stone Masons that worked on the chapel may have come from all over Europe and been paid handsomely for their craft. A fellow of the craft would be paid the hefty sum of £10 a year and the Master Mason got £40. Not much today but back then £10 was equal to £40,000 in today's monies.



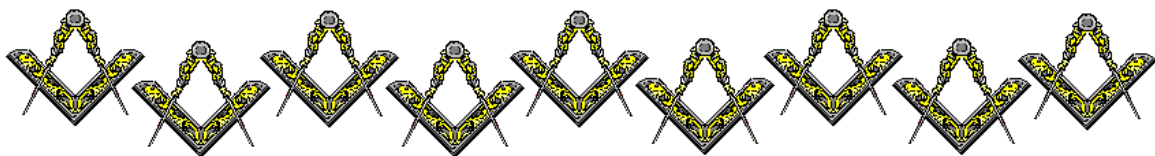
Think I've seen this guy before?

The chapel has been the source of intrigue and mystery to people outside the craft as well as those that are in it. One of the stories says that a Master mason and his apprentice carved two pillars one each. The masters being beautifully carved so to show the apprentice his skill. The apprentice then started to carve the other pillar to show the Master that he had equal if not superior skill he carved the most magnificent ornate spiral pillar to which the master became angry and jealous he murdered him. If you look round the chapel you can find their faces carved into the walls.

I would recommend a visit to Rosslyn Chapel to every member of the Craft if not just to see a fantastic piece of Scottish history but one that is full of Masonic intrigue.

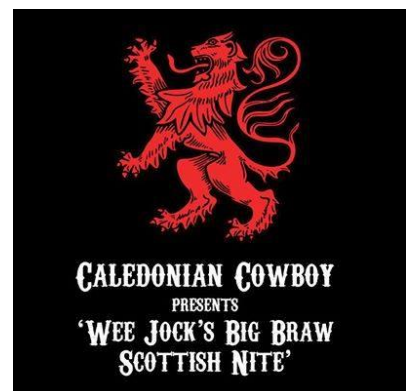
One tip I would give is to get a guide to show you round as it is very difficult to find all the carvings that relate to Freemasonry.

I had a fantastic day with my young brothers which was rounded off with a spot of lunch in one of the village pubs.



Bro. Johnny Gauld P.M. recently ran another of his "Wee Jock's Big Braw Scottish Nights" in the downstairs lounge where the intimate setting helped to create a warm, friendly atmosphere. Bro. Johnny was delighted with the response from all in attendance and will continue to run these popular functions in the future.

If you've never been to one we can strongly recommend it and remember to take your singing voice!



A social evening will take place in the lounge on Friday 9th January 2015. This will be a chance for everyone to catch up after the New Year and relax and enjoy a game of dominoes or have a go on the Wii and test your skills at ten pin bowling or tennis! The previous nights of this kind have been most enjoyable and hopefully we'll have a good turnout.



Jimmy gets a quick lesson on how flying buttresses hold up the arched roof



Sadly, I intimate the passing away of Mrs Sandra Grant, beloved wife of Bro. Robert Grant. Sandra, due to a health condition, had, for a number of months been a resident of Millview care home, Barrhead. As Lodge Almoner I took time to visit Bro. Robert at his home in Barrhead and there I expressed condolences to him and his family on behalf of our Lodge. I was welcomed in a most warm hearted manner and truly thanked by Bro. Robert for the concern expressed by Lodge Union and Crown. The funeral service took place at the family home and thereafter at Neilston cemetery. I attended both parts of the service and also the funeral tea where I met a number of family and friends. Mrs Sandra Grant, a dear wife and mother will be profoundly missed. Brethren, Bro. Robert is also the son of our late Past Master, Bro. Archibald Grant, who served the Lodge as RWM between 1973 and 1974.

On Wednesday 10th December 2014 Bro. James (Jim) Easdon passed away in the Royal Alexandra Hospital (RAH), Paisley where he had been admitted only a few days earlier. Bro. Jim, sadly, had endured serious health issues for some time past and during that period, I as Lodge Almoner had visited Bro. Jim both whilst in hospital and at his home in Barrhead. I found him always to be a most agreeable gentleman. Bro Jim was of course brother to Past Master Robert Easdon and I have visited Bro. Robert PM and his wife Anne where I was thanked with much kindness. The funeral service took place at Woodside crematorium, Paisley. I attended that service and the gathering thereafter of family and friends. Bro. Jim Easdon will be truly missed by all who knew him.

It is with further regret that I intimate on the 15th December the passing, at her home in Barrhead, of Mrs Margaret Leckie, dear mother of Bro. David Leckie. I paid a visit to Bro. David at his home and expressed our sadness and deep regret on his loss. Bro. David expressed his thanks to myself and the Lodge for our concerns. The funeral service will be on Monday 23rd December at Bourock church, Barrhead and thereafter at Woodside Crematorium, Paisley. At time of writing, it is my intention to represent the Lodge and offer whatever support I or the Lodge can give.

During the past month I have visited the following individuals at the RAH:-

Bro. Jim Easdon

Bro. Jim Liggat

Mrs Mary Gray

Mrs Catherine Fennel

Mrs Mary Martin

I also visited, at their homes:-

Bro. Bert Smith

Bro. Jim Heron & Isabel

Bro. John W. Smith

Bro. Donald Ferguson & Mary

Bro. Jim Waterston

Bro John Osborne

Bro. Robert Kennedy

Bro Raemond Forrest

Mrs Anne Houston
Mrs Grace Smith
Mrs Isa Leckie
Mrs Jessie Bateson
Mrs Betty Campbell

Mrs Mary Martin *(On discharge from hospital)*
Mrs Dora Pattison
Mrs Margaret Smith
Mrs Brenda Shields
Mrs Mary Meiklejohn

I also visited, on the first anniversary of the “Clutha” helicopter disaster, Bro. Eddie Glasper and Anne who lost their son, Colin, on that tragic night.

I am very much pleased to report that our RWM, Bro. Alan Bernard and Bro. Donald Murdoch are both recovering well after their recent, short, hospital stays. Good news!!!

I also received phone calls from Mrs Anna Roberts, Mrs Nora Hutton, Mrs Isobel Paton and Mrs Margaret Smith, seasons greetings were exchanged.

Finally, I would, once again, offer congratulations to the Office Bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East for the professional manner in which they conducted themselves in the administration and preparation of the Christmas parcels for delivery around the Province. A job well done and in record time.

Also, I could not mention the above without thanking my own team of helpers. Namely RWM Bro Alan Bernard, Depute Master Bro Stevie Allan, Substitute Master Bro. Ian Blair, Bro. Robin Murray PM, Sen Chaplain Bro. Ronnie McIsaac, Bro Allan McIntyre and Bro Gordon Neil.

“I send Festive Greetings to all and best wishes for 2015”

Bro. Alex White, Lodge Almoner, ☎ 0141-571 6411



Lodge Union & Crown No. 307

BURNS SUPPER

FRIDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2015

6:30 for 7:00pm

Ticket £15.00

Tickets are available from:
W.S.W. Bro. George McGrandles
Mob: 07766247489



If any of the brethren, particularly non-office bearers, would like to give their assistance in the kitchen on meeting nights, Bros Graham Manson PM and Paul Stewart PM would be pleased to hear from you as their working commitments occasionally prevent them from both attending on the same night. An extra pair of hands makes all the difference in ensuring the cordon bleu cooking is ready for the close of each meeting.



WORLD AT WAR
1914 – 1918
(December 1914)



- 1st First units of Australian and New Zealand Expeditionary Forces arrive at Suez
- 3rd British Government agree to Japanese request that Australia should not occupy German islands north of the Equator
- 4th General Wapshare succeeds General Aitken in command of the British forces in East Africa
- 8th Battle of the Falklands. Admiral von Spee's squadron destroyed. "Scharnhorst", "Gneisenau", "Leipzig" and "Nürnberg" sunk. Admiral von Spee killed. "Dresden" escapes.
- 13th Turkish battleship "Messoudieh" sunk by British submarine "B 11" in the Dardanelles
- 15th **German airship sighted off East Coast of England** (first appearance of hostile aircraft in vicinity of British Isles.
- 16th Scarborough and Hartlepool (East coast of England) bombarded by German battle cruiser squadron.
Japanese Foreign Minister declares Japan will not give up German islands occupied north of the Equator
- 18th British Protectorate over Egypt proclaimed.
- 19th British Government declare Khedive Abbas Hilmi deposed, and proclaim Prince Hussein Kamel Pasha as Sultan of Egypt.
Great Britain declares adherence to Franco-Moorish Treaty of 1912.
- 21st First German air raid on England. Aeroplane drops bombs in sea near Dover
- 26th Italian force lands at Valona; Italy notifies Austria of provisional occupation.
Garibaldi's Italian Foreign Legion in action for first time on French front.
- 29th British Government send memorandum to United States Government in defence of British blockade policy.
- 30th Russian Commander-in-Chief (Grand Duke Nicholas) suggests a British expedition against the Turks to ease Russian situation in the Caucasus (see January 13th, 1915).

I have not mentioned above the so called "Christmas Truce" of 2014 as the event itself would be done a disservice by ascribing it a single date and line. The full story would also take a lot more pages than the humble ~~file~~ ^{bullet} can provide but is a remarkable story and well worth even a little research.



FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from the Mallet of 11 Years Ago



Issue No. 269

December 2003

RWM Gordon Miller

At the Regular Meeting on Tuesday 2nd December the following Candidates:

Gordon Fleming and Craig Long

were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of our order by a degree team led by the Worshipful Wardens.

Lodge Opened at 7:30pm Closed at 9:13pm Attendance of 101.

At the Regular Meeting on Tuesday 16th December, the same two Candidate was passed to the Second. Square or F.C. Degree by the Worthy Deacons.

Lodge Opened at 7:30pm Closed at 9:11pm Attendance of 112.

The 'Hundred Club' winners for December were: £10 Bro's Jim Paton and Jim Cherry; £5 Bro's Eric Gray and Bud Gauld PM.

Our busy bowling convenor Bro. Martin Muir was quick out of the blocks to publish details of the forthcoming years Bowling Competitions.

The Lodge expressed its gratitude to Bro. Jim Miller PM and his wonderful Concert Party for their hard work at the TWO Ladies Nights on Fridays the 12th and 19th of December. Apart from a sizeable donation to the Lodge funds a combined crowd of about 140. All in attendance were well entertained and festive spirit was well in evidence. Special praise went to 'Mario Lanza', 'The Blues Brothers' and the Luuurve God himself... 'Barry White'.

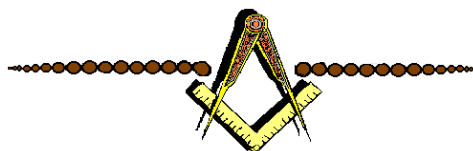
At the regular meeting of Rockmount R.A.C. on the 9th December 2003 Companions Edward Chamberlain and Thomas Logue were exalted as Royal Arch Masons.

It was a great gesture by Rockmount R.A.C. to donate the sum of £100 to four local lodges (129, 307, 1167 and 1478) to assist with their benevolent Christmas parcels.

Arrangements for next years annual golf (2004) outing are now in place and those wishing to go to Braehead, near Alloa were encouraged to get their names down early.

The Grand Master Mason, at the festival of St Andrews, announced that for the first time in 10 years, candidates are up.

Lodge Secretary hears about a Lodge within the Province who own their own premises but fear that one more major bill could see them forced to move to rented accommodation.



Humour



“Nope, no New Year’s resolutions for me this year...
I’m still working on a backlog dating from 2008”



My mother always believed that labelling children was wrong...
which caused chaos in the maternity ward.

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“With grateful thanks to all those who have freely given their assistance”



Syllabus 2014-2015

* - Denotes an Official visit



January 2015

Tuesday	06 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	Installing Masters
<i>*Thursday</i>	<i>15th</i>	<i>07:30pm</i>	<i>EA Degree</i>	<i>At Lodge Thistle & Crown, 1167</i>
Tuesday	20 th	07:30pm	EA Degree	By Lodge Nitshill, No.1478

February 2015

Tuesday	03 rd	07:30pm	Business Meeting	Followed by 191 st Anniversary Dinner
<i>*Monday</i>	<i>09th</i>	<i>07:30pm</i>	<i>FC Degree</i>	<i>At Lodge Nitshill, No.1478</i>
Tuesday	17 th	07:30pm	Dramatisation	

March 2015

Tuesday	03 rd	07:30pm	Business Meeting	P.G.L.R.E. Visitation
Tuesday	17 th	07:30pm	FC Degree	By Lodge Thistle & Crown, 1167

April 2015

Tuesday	07 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Lodge Instruction Class
Tuesday	21 st	07:30pm	EA Degree	By Lodge Paisley St Mirren No. 129
<i>*Tuesday</i>	<i>28th</i>	<i>07:30pm</i>	<i>EA</i>	<i>At Lodge Prince of Wales No. 426</i>

May 2015

Tuesday	05 th	07:30pm	Dramatisation	
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September 2015

Tuesday	01 st	07:30pm	FC Degree	By Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426
Tuesday	15 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Lodge Instruction Class

October 2015

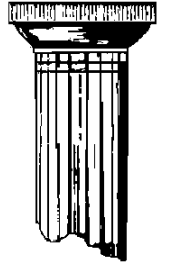
<i>*Monday</i>	<i>05th</i>	<i>07:30pm</i>	<i>FC Degree</i>	<i>At Lodge Paisley St Mirren No. 129</i>
Friday	09 th	07:30pm	Open night dramatisation,	The Table of Scottish Freemasons
Tuesday	20 th	07:30pm	Annual General Meeting	

November 2015

Tuesday	03 rd	07:30pm	MM Degree	Dramatisation
Tuesday	17 th	07:30pm	MMM Degree	By Bro. David McArthur IPM
Saturday	28 th	04:00pm	Installation	2015-2016



OFFICE BEARERS 2014 - 2015



RWM	Alan Bernard
WSW	George McGrandles
WJW	Christopher Baillie
IPM / Secretary	David McArthur
Depute Master	Steven Allen PM
Substitute Master	Ian Blair
Treasurer	James Kerr PM
Almoner	Alexander White
Senior Deacon	Kenneth Beatts
Junior Deacon	Nicol Hynd
Inner Guard	Robert Clark
Senior Chaplain	Ronald McIsaac
Junior Chaplain	Alan Ross
Director of Ceremonies	Paul Stewart PM
Architect	David Graham
Jeweler	Tommy Wilson
Bible bearer	Steven Ross
Director of Music	Lawrence Webb
Organist	Iain Nicol
Marshall	Adam Watson
Standard bearer	John Miller
President of Stewards	Evans Reid PM
Steward	Gordon Neil
Tyler	Jimmy Laing

