

# The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



Summer 2023

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*The Monthly Journal of Lodge Union & Crown, No.307*

No. 465



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The old saying “*how time flies when your enjoying yourself*” is definitely true when applied to our increasingly short Summer Recess. It seems only yesterday that we were packing up for the break and looking forward to the long, hot summer evenings. At least the weather didn’t disappoint us – with rain, rain and more rain.

There was a fair amount of success on the social and sporting front, and no doubt we’ll be bring you further details in the weeks ahead. The bar continued to function well during the break, and the thanks of all must go to Bro Evans Reid PM, our Bar Convener and his trusty bar teams for all their sterling work during the Summer break.

Thanks also to our administrative office-bearers – Bro David McArthur PM our hard-working and conscientious Secretary, and his partner in crime, Bro George McGrandles PM our worthy Treasurer. Well-versed in the workings of the Lodge, they are a fine double act, and we are extremely lucky to have them.

No sooner are we back in harness, than we are actively involved in planning ahead for what will be an extremely busy session ahead as our Lodge Bi-centenary looms large in our calendar. Recent changes to the syllabus have opened up exciting prospects within the Lodge. A greater variety of things for our Brethren to enjoy, less reliant upon repetitive degrees, has long been our aim, and we are almost there. It is difficult to maintain the correct balance between tradition and progress, but we believe we have cracked it. There may be some fine tuning, but hopefully we are almost there. Only time will tell on that.

Anyway, that’s the recess over now, and everything we enjoyed over the last few months is now a fading memory. We are sure that you are all rested and raring to go as we approach a unique period in the Lodge’s long history.

*Exactly how long did someone say it was until the next Summer break !!*



# Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

*Dear Sir & Brother,*

*The Right Worshipful Master, Bro Robert Clark cordially requests your attendance at the forthcoming Meetings of the Lodge to be held within the Masonic Temple, Cochrane Street, Barrhead on :*

*Tuesday 5th September 2023*

*Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

*Entered Apprentice Degree*

*by the Brethren of Lodge Thistle & Crown, No 1167*

*Harmony*



*Tuesday 19th September 2023*

*Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

*Fellowcraft Degree*

*by the Brethren of Lodge Nitsbill, No 1478*

*Harmony*

*Yours faithfully & fraternally*

*R Evans Reid P.M., Lodge Secretary*

## **200 for 200 : Update**

On the 5th of December 2017 the Bi Centenary Sub Committee of Lodge Union and Crown held its first meeting to consider the steps required to prepare for the 200th anniversary of this fine old Lodge. It is hard to believe that was almost 6 years ago and the anniversary is now approaching fast.

One of the very first things the committee established was that if we wanted to celebrate this milestone event in style, we would require to raise a significant amount of cash. The idea of raising funds by setting up the '200 for 200' initiative was first discussed in February 2018 and an appeal was made to the brethren of the Lodge shortly afterwards.

The generosity of the brethren of 307 was never in any doubt, nevertheless, I have been absolutely blown away with the success of this scheme. To date a total of 61 members of the Lodge have signed up, and 51 have paid their £200 in full. Quite outstanding.

Despite fire regulations causing us to restrict numbers on the day, those who supported the 200 for 200 initiatives will be assured of a seat at our re-dedication ceremony on 3rd February next year. Supporters will have their meal paid for and will receive 5 tokens for use at the bar. They will also have their name displayed on a new tile board downstairs and will also have their names printed in a newly published book outlining the history of the lodge. In addition, supporters will have their names printed in the programme for the day and will be presented with an enamelled token and a commemorative jewel (or a wooden pen in an engraved wooden box). Most importantly they will have supported their Mother Lodge and ensured we were able to celebrate this incredible event in true 307 style.

In order that we can include names in the book and programme, it is necessary to set a deadline for payment in the 200 for 200 scheme. It is therefore our intention to close this initiative on 25 November. If you have given a commitment to pay, or have made some initial contributions, I would ask you to speak to the Brother Treasurer or myself before that date and ensure you are fully paid up, and as such entitled to the benefits listed above.

Thank you once again to each and every brother who has signed up to this initiative, your support is truly appreciated.

**Bro. Robert Scott, Substitute Master**

## **Bro Paul Revere**

Bro Paul Revere, famed for his exploits during the American War of Independence, delivered the following charge to the Brethren of his Mother Lodge in 1795 :

*"Let your chief care be the advancement of the society of which you have the honour to be members. Let there be a modest and friendly emulation among you in doing good to each other. Let complacency and benevolence flourish among you. Let your actions be square by the rules of Freemasonry. Let your friendship be cherished, and all the advantages of that title by which we distinguish each other, that we may be Brothers not only in name but in full import, extent and latitude of so glorious an appellation. May your love be reciprocal and harmonious.*



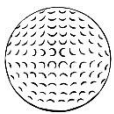
The next Meeting of the Chapter is scheduled for **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7:30pm** and this will be the Chapters Annual General Meeting.

MEC Graham Manson MEZ and his Office-bearers extend a cordial invitation to all Companions to attend on that evening.

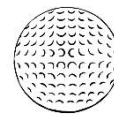
At the close of the meeting, the Office-bearers and Companions of Rockmount Royal Arch Chapter along with their visitors hope to enjoy a fine harmony.

## ROCKMOUNT CRYPTIC COUNCIL

The next Meeting of the Council is scheduled for **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2013** at the slightly earlier time of **7:00pm** and this will be the Council's Annual General Meeting and Installation of Office Bearers. All are welcome.



## Lodge Union & Crown Annual Golf Outing



This year's annual outing was at the nearby Fereneze Golf Club in Barrhead on Friday 9th June 2023. Due to the excessive cost of transportation, we thought we would try a home outing and hope that costs will come down in the future.

The day consisted of one round of golf, lunch, dinner followed by the prize giving.

11 members took part and the cup was eventually won by Bro Paul Stewart PM (*who just happens to be the current Club Captain at Fereneze!!*)

It was a terrific afternoon, and I would like to thank all who took part and of course Fereneze golf club for having us.

I would like to say that I will not be taking up the office as golf convener next year (don't know about Bro Lawrence Webb) so I would like to thank everyone for their support over the years, and wish the new convener whoever that may be all the success going forward.



Many thanks from Bro Lawrence and myself

**Bro Ronnie Maclsaac PM**

# The World's Smallest Presidential Library

As many of our readers may know, each US President, once he has demitted office normally gifts a 'Presidential Library' to the nation in memory of his time as US President. Normally filled by presidential memorabilia. They are often filled with a whole host of interesting artifacts. Indeed, Bro Jim Miller PM and myself had the honour of a guided tour around the George H Bush Library in College Station in Texas back in 2004. A fascinating place, it even had a full side model of part of Air Force One, with the president's personal quarters in it.

Here we read of another presidential library you may not be familiar with. It is the world's smallest presidential library.

As you, the reader, skim through your mental database of American presidents and come up empty, let me suggest you may have overlooked the presidential term and accomplishments of Brother David Rice Atchison. That's right. President David Rice Atchison; the man for whom Atchison, Kansas and the Atchison-Topeka-Santa Fe railroad are named.

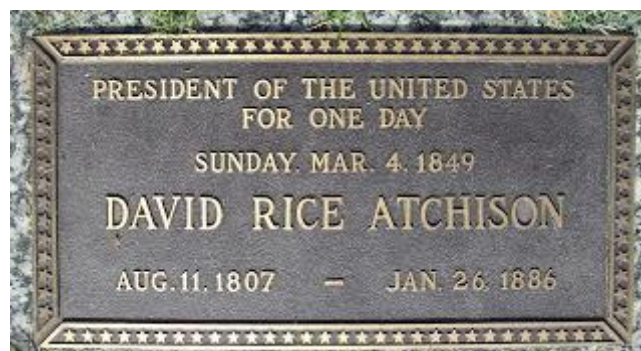


The account of his presidency goes like this: In 1849, inauguration day, March 4, fell on a Sunday. President-elect Zachary Taylor refused to be inaugurated on the Lord's day of rest and Vice-President-elect Millard Fillmore followed suit, both delaying their inauguration until Monday, March 5. Constitutionally, this left the presidency vacant on March 4. Back then, second in line of succession fell to the Senate President Pro-Temporary, the position Atchison held. Realizing there was technically no president, North Carolina Senator Willie Magum and a group of Atchison's friends descended on his house and woke him up in the early hours of March 4. Magum administered the oath of office and asked Atchison to name him Secretary of State. With

that the crowd left and "President" Atchison went back to bed. Later, Atchison reported he spent the bulk of his presidency napping and reading.

To commemorate this auspicious event, Atchison, Kansas, his namesake, has established the "world's smallest presidential library" in his honour. Located in a former AT&SF terminal, the Atchison Library shares space with another Atchison historical figure, Amelia Earhart. Also featured in the museum are Brothers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, who set up a base camp in the area.

David Rice Atchison was a member of Platte Lodge 56, now defunct, and his grave marker in Plattsburg proclaims his status as president. Most historians agree Atchison was not President of the United States. Perhaps agreeing he was the ex-officio president can serve as a compromise as to his status.



# BITS & PIECES

- Congratulations to all the children (and grandchildren) of our Brethren, who did well in their recent examination results, with especial mention to the following who graduated with flying colours from university :
  - ★ Carla Smith (Daughter of Bro Paul Smith)
  - ★ Morven Sudding (Granddaughter of the late Bro Elias Sudding PM)
  - ★ Emma Watson (Daughter of Bro David Watson PM)
- .On the subject of the Sudding family, hearty congratulations to Morven's dad – David Sudding who was voted 'Teacher of the Year at Williamwood High School.
- We hear that Bro Colin McLardy PM move from Houston to Las Vegas has been postponed until October at the earliest. It appears that his employers in the Lone Star State don't want to lose him.
- Congratulations to Bro Stewart Gray PM who recently turned 60.
- Best wishes to our Most Worshipful Master Mason – Bro William Ramsay McGhee (an honorary member of Union & Crown) on his appointment as a 'Commander of the Order of St John' he was invested by the Prior, Her Grace the Duchess of Argyll, at a ceremony in Stirling Castle during the summer.
- It appears that there are a total of **FIVE !!** invitations in the pipeline for 307 to confer dramatized degrees over the next 12 months.
- Congratulations to our Right Worshipful Master's elder son Dale and his lovely new bride Hannah on their recent marriage. It was only a couple of months after his younger brother Ryan also got married. It's been a very busy period for Bro Bobby and his wife Sharon.
- Hearty Best wishes to Bro Fraser Beatts on the birth of a Daughter – Dahlia. This is another grandchild for Bro Kenny Beatts and his wife Jacqueline, and another Great Grandchild for Bro David Noble PM.
- We are reliably informed that Bro Bud Gauld's eldest grandson – Daniel has been accepted as a graduate entry to the Royal Navy, and starts his induction and basic training later this month. We wish him well.
- Best wishes to Bro Ross Aitken and his wife Maria on becoming Grandparents for the first time. Their Daughter Lauren gave birth to a healthy baby girl to be named Aurélie.
- Tickets for our Christmas Dance on Saturday 16th December are now available from our Social Convenor – Bro Lawrence Webb 📞 07736 780 132
- Great to see that Bro Johnny Gauld PM is back on his feet again after recent surgery on his back.
- Our Worthy Treasurer has informed us that Test Fees are now due, and should be paid as soon as possible.

# The Six Mistakes of Man

The Roman philosopher and statesman, Cicero, said it 2000 years ago, and much of it is still very relevant in the modern world :

- The delusion that individual advancement is made by crushing others.
- The tendency to worry about things that cannot be changed or corrected.
- Insisting that a thing is impossible because we cannot accomplish it.
- Refusing to set aside trivial preferences.
- Neglecting development and refinement of the mind, not acquiring the habit of reading and study.
- Attempting to compel others to believe and live as we do.

## “ON THE SQUARE “

My Brother, in the Courtyard  
Each one of us has stood  
Outside the tyled Temple door  
Awaiting as we should  
Take heed, thou young Apprentices  
The Word emblazoned there :

***To meet upon the Level  
and part upon the Square.***

My Brother at the Altar  
Each one of us has knelt  
With solemn oath & brotherhood  
The Mystic Tie we've felt  
Take heed, my Brother Fellowcraft  
The Word emblazoned there :

***To act upon the plumb-line  
And part upon the Square.***

My Brother, in the Temple  
Each one of us were raised  
And on receiving further light  
Into that light we gazed  
Take heed, my Brothers,  
Masters all.  
The Word emblazoned there :

***To live within the Compass  
And part upon the Square.***

## Masonic Trivia

The first evidence of Freemasonry in North America appeared in Nova Scotia. A stone engraved on the top with a square and compasses was found on the shore of Goat Island in the Annapolis Basin in Nova Scotia.

In the centre of the flat slab was the date 1606. Dr Charles Jackson of Boston wrote about it in 1829, calling it the "Annapolis Stone." The stone is said to have become a part of a wall for a building; it was covered with cement and never found again



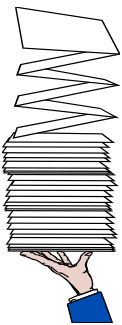
# Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday 5th Sept** Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where an EA Degree will be conferred by Lodge Thistle & Crown, No.1167
- Monday 18th Sept** Management Committee Meeting at 7.30pm
- Tuesday 19th Sept** Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where a FC Degree will be conferred by Lodge Nitshill, No.1478
- Tuesday 3rd Oct** Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where an MM Degree will be conferred by the Lodge Instruction Class.

(In addition to the above, the R.W.M. and his Wardens are constantly involved in unofficial visits to sister Lodges. Details of which can be easily obtained by contacting Bobby Clark RWM or via the Lodge Website at <http://unionandcrown307.com>) or any senior Office-bearer,

They will be only too pleased to take you along with them as they represent the Lodge throughout the Province)

## Paper Appeal



As ever, we are always on the lookout for that most essential of commodities – PAPER, for our journal.

As many of our readers will know we make regular appeals for A4 size, 80g/m<sup>2</sup> paper, preferably white but any colour will do. Without sufficient stocks, we simply cannot print enough copies of our journal to satisfy our wide-ranging readership. So if you have the odd ream lying about just let us know and we'll even arrange to have it picked-up if necessary.

In addition, we also need 160g/m<sup>2</sup> card for various tasks within the Lodge.



## Did you Know ?

- That by Ancient custom, the King was always covered while his subjects were never covered in his presence. The American custom of the Master of the Lodge wearing a hat as a symbol of his authority is apparently a result of that ancient custom.
- That Masonic "Firing Glasses" of 18th Century England are priceless collectors' items. Used for toasts, their thick bases were a protection when rapped upon the table in unison to accentuate applause, causing a sound similar to firing.

# *Bi-Centenary Celebrations*

## *1824 - 2024*

Now that the final arrangements are now in place, we thought we would republish the updated list of Bi-Centenary events to keep everyone in the know. Further details will be released nearer to each event. Watch this space.

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>	<b>Venue</b>
<b>Annual Installation of Office Bearers</b>	25 Nov 23	Annual Installation of Office Bearers All welcome	307
<b>Xmas Dance</b>	16 Dec 23	An evening of music and dance to welcome in the festive season.	307
<b>Burns Evening</b>	19 Jan 24	An evening of Burns related entertainment in the capable hands of Bro. Johnny Gauld PM. Coupled with a good plate of grub and a few drams.	307
<b>Bi Centenary Re-dedication</b>	3 Feb 24	A formal church service and re-dedication ceremony led by the Grand Grand Lodge of Scotland to commemorate the 200 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lodge Union and Crown	307
<b>Civic Dinner for Local Organisations</b>	8 Mar 24	The RWM and a selection of Brethren will host a dinner for leaders of the various organisations across the town.	307
<b>Sportsman's Dinner</b>	5 Apr 24	Top class entertainment featuring some well-known sports celebrities. Guaranteed to be a great night.	307
<b>Ladies Night</b>	17 May 24	A chance for the ladies to have a night out with a top-class tribute act and a few wee drinks.	307
<b>Widows Lunch</b>	20 Jun 24	Our usual lunch for the widows of the Lodge organised by Bro Jimmy Miller PM and his band of helpers.	307
<b>Bus Run</b>	4 Jul 24	Fancy a trip to Rosslyn Chapel to hear about the Masonic influences and have a bite to eat and a small refreshment in the local Lodge.	Rosslyn Chapel
<b>Pensioners Lunch</b>	15 Aug 24	A nice day out and a bite to eat for the pensioners of the Lodge.	307
<b>Karaoke Night</b>	20 Sep 24	Time to exercise your vocal chords and blast out your favourite tunes to entertain your pals.	307
<b>Celebratory Lunch</b>	19 Oct 24	A chance for the brethren of the Lodge to reflect on the year gone by and enjoy a day of harmony and fellowship.	307

# FLASHBACK

## Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 16 Years Ago

No. 305

Summer 2007

### Summer Fayre

The annual Summer Fayre was held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May and the usual stalls and attractions kept everyone occupied, and a good laugh was had by all.

Brother David Watson WJW is to be congratulated for all his efforts and it was a tremendous achievement that they managed to raise almost £700 for Lodge funds.

Bro David has asked that we publicly thank all who contributed to what was another successful event for Union & Crown. Without their donations etc. it simply would not have happened.

#### Bits & Pieces

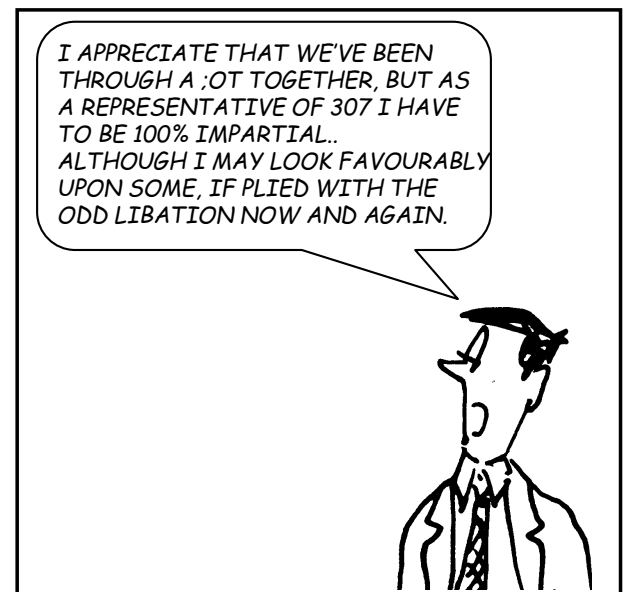
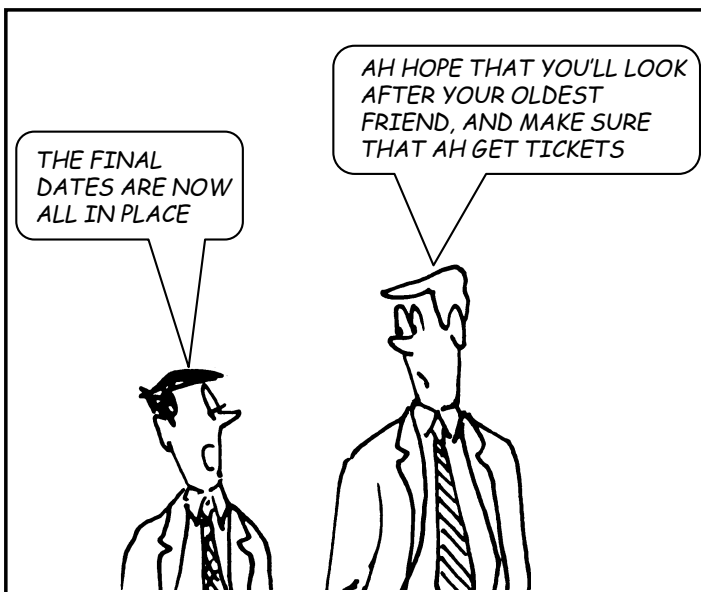
- Bro Stephen Allan, a keen Naval Reservist, returned safe and sound after his three week spell in the Gulf. He tells us that it was nerve-wracking at times, but very rewarding.
- Best wishes and congratulations to Bro Jim Kerr PM, following his installation as Right Worshipful Master of Lodge Randolph.
- Bro Jim Renfrew's car suffered an unfortunate accident over the so called "Summer" recess. He turned a corner on his way over the Gleniffer Braes during a day of torrential rain to suddenly discover himself in 18" of water, when he ploughed into a flooded part of the road.
- On the subject of cars, Bro Jim Miller PM is now the proud owner of a shiny new VW Jetta which looks splendid.
- Sorry to hear that Bro George Munn RWM of Lodge Nitshill, and a well-known and popular figure in 307 has suffered a very slight stroke. He is well on the road to recovery, but unfortunately lost out on his holiday in Turkey, when forbidden to fly.
- Congratulations to Bro Graham Allan's wife – Kim, who recently celebrated her 30th Birthday with a party for family and friends at the local golf club.
- Congratulations to Bro Martin Muir and Bro Tom Mulholland PM who won the prestigious PGL pairs bowling competition for the Samuel Love Trophy.

#### Soroptimists

The lodge hosted a rather unusual function over the summer when a gathering of over 100 "Soroptimists" came along for social evening in the Lodge. Soroptimists are members of an international volunteer organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.

Drawn from all four corners of the globe, they were in Glasgow for an international conference, and were. It may be coincidence, but quite a high proportion, were wives of Freemasons, and many a photograph of the Temple found itself travelling back to North America, India, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia etc.

# MARK N' ARCHIE



J RENFREW SUMMER 2023

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" With grateful thanks to all those who gladly gave their assistance "

Lodge Website address : <http://unionandcrown307.com>