

# The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



November 2022

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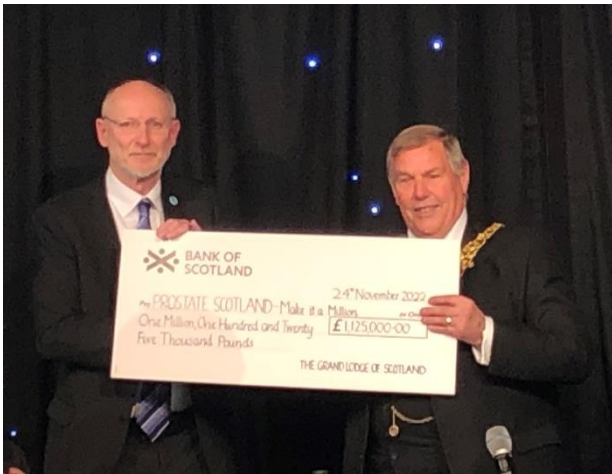
*The Monthly Journal of Lodge Union & Crown, No.307*

No. 458



November 2022

For The best part of the last ten years, the Freemasons of Scotland have been working away with a wide range of fundraising events and schemes to raise as much as they can for an extremely worthwhile cause, which is the most common cancer in men in Scotland. Started originally by the IPGMM - Brother Charles Iain Robert Wolrige Gordon, Brother William Ramsay McGhee, our current Grand Master Mason, has moved heaven and earth over the last decade to ensure that the Brethren right across the whole of the Scottish Constitution, at home and abroad, to maximise their efforts for Prostrate Scotland.



The original appeal was not only to raise funds for something that affects many households across the country, but also to help increase awareness of the prostate disease, its symptoms and the treatments available.

In front of almost 600 Brethren at the recent Festival of St Andrew in Edinburgh, the Grand Master Mason thanked all those who had contributed greatly with their creativity, ingenuity, effort and sheer

determination. He said that the 'Make it a Million' campaign had been a tremendous success, uniting Lodges, Brethren and their families in what was a supreme effort.

He presented a cheque for £1,125,000 to Prostate Scotland director Adam Gaines who said in response

*' .....that this wonderful achievement will make a phenomenal difference to Prostate Scotland's ability to provide information and support to men and their families across Scotland and our work to raise further awareness.'*

Sadly this significant presentation resulted in very few column inches in the national press, replicating the same result when the Freemasons of Scotland gave hundreds of thousands of pounds to the Children's Hospital Appeal Scotland (CHAS) more than a decade ago.



Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

*Dear Sir & Brother,*

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

***Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022***

*Business :*

*Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

***Entered Apprentice Degree***

*by the Worshipful Wardens*

*assisted by*

*the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class*

*Harmony*



***Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022***

***NO MEETING***

*Yours faithfully & fraternally*

*R Evans Reid P.M.,*

*Lodge Secretary*

# Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, the following Brethren :

**Christopher McCaig, James McShane & Calum MacIsaac**

received a fine Mark Ceremonial from Bro Stewart Gray IPM, assisted by the Brethren of the Instruction Class.

Thereafter the Brethren retired to the Function Suite, where they enjoyed a relaxed atmosphere at the Lodge Harmony.

**Opened : 7.30pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9.31pm**

**Attendance : 30**

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November, the Lodge staged another 'Open Meeting' where friends of our Brethren were invited to witness our dramatisation of 'The Table of Scottish Freemasonry'. This tells the story of Freemasonry from it's early beginnings right up until the present day.

Those taking part were dressed in period costume to represent numerous characters from the past and present in what was thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance.

**Opened : 7.30pm**

**Lodge Closed : 8.03pm**

**Attendance : 52**

At the Installation Meeting of the Lodge held within the Temple on Saturday 26th November, Brother Robert Clark was installed in to the Chair of King Solomon by the Installing Masters for the day – Bro Paul Stewart PM, Bro George McGrandles PM and Bro Thomas Mulholland PM.

The entire ceremony was carried out in a most dignified and sincere manner by the Brethren involved, with the entire ceremony enjoyed by all, in what was a fine attendance, considering the weather conditions in what was a miserable wet day.

**Opened : 4.00pm**

**Lodge Closed : 6.41pm**

**Attendance : 89**



## Freemasons and The Mayo Clinic

Dr. Charles H. Mayo, one of the founders of the famous Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, was a Mason. His son Charles W., who also was a Mason, became governor of the Clinic, which began in the Masonic Temple building in Rochester.

The Grand Lodge on Minnesota for years has maintained a representative at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester to assist Masons planning to come there and to make their stay pleasant.

# 100 CLUB

The fortunate winners of our cash prizes this month were :

**1st November** £20 : **Bro Robert Easdon PM**      £10 : **Bro Lawrence Webb**

**18<sup>th</sup> November** £20 : **Bro Ronnie Maclsaac PM**      £10 : **Bro James Laing**

At the Special Installation Draw on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November :

£100 : **Bro Adam G Watson**

£50 : **Bro Bobby Clark RWM**

Bro George McGrandles P.M., our Treasurer, has started taking names for next year, which will commence immediately after our Annual Installation.

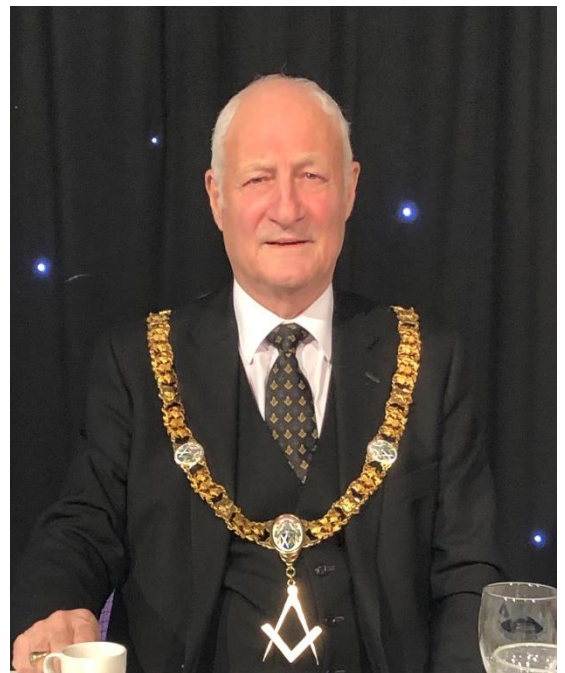
The annual fee is still very good value at £10, & anyone interested should see Bro George as soon as possible.

## Brother William Hyndman Gauld, Depute Grand Master

It was excellent to see 15 Brethren of Lodge Union & Crown, No.307 attending the Grand Lodge of Scotland Installation, and Festival of St Andrew in Edinburgh on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November. It was made even more special for all who took the trouble, and the considerable expense to attend, when Bro William Ramsay McGhee, the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason stood and named his depute as our own Bro Bud Gauld PM.

Having spent almost 10 years as Grand Director of Ceremonies, and been heavily involved in all the workings of Grand Lodge, it was most fitting and deserved that Bro Bud should be recognised and elevated as such. For the remainder of the Installation, and long in to the later dinner, you would have had to have taken a wire brush to the faces of the 307 Brethren to remove the broad smiles they all wore, delighted that one of their own had received such an accolade.

Indeed, during the toasts, when the new Depute Grand Master stood to make his toast to the Provincial and District Grand Lodges, every one of the Brethren from Union & Crown stood and applauded him with gusto.



# BITS & PIECES

- Good to See Bro Craig Allison down from Aberdeen at a recent Regular Meeting.
- Bro Lawrence Webb, our Social Convener, still has some tickets for the Christmas Dance which is on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Priced at a reasonable £7.00, all interested should contact Bro Lawrence (☎ 07736 780 132)
- Bro Robert Scott WSW tells us that it is still not too late to take part in the '£200 for 200' ahead of our Bi-centenary in February 2024.
- We gather that the next 'Games Night' being organised by Bro Lawrence Webb is to be at the end of January. We hope that a good number of Brethren and their friends and family will support this fun night in our Social Club.
- We gather that Bro Ross Bernard (son of Bro Alan Bernard PM) is enroute to Australia with his girlfriend, where he plans to spend a year. He was in Singapore sampling the delights when last we heard
- Bro Iain Nicol, who seem to disappear on foreign holidays at the drop of a hat has just returned from Paris with his granddaughter Mirrin.
- Bro David Reid PPGMRE and an honorary member of Union & Crown, is a great supporter of 307 and regularly takes part in many of our dramatisations.
- We would like to correct a mistake we made in an earlier edition of The Mallet, where we said that Bro Jim Wade had 'affiliated' to Lodge Craigielea, No.1218. In actual fact, Bro Jim, who has lived all his life in Paisley, was actually made an Honorary Member of 1218.
- Congratulations to Bro Donald Cook PM who recently celebrated 40 years a member of Union & Crown.
- Didn't Bro David Law do well as the 'Head Waiter' and general dogsbody at the recent 'Big Breakfast' where he didn't stop all morning. He managed to resist all the excellent food on offer, as he is trying extremely hard to slim down and is looking really great.
- Congratulations to Bro Graham Manson PM who was recently installed as Most Excellent First Principle of Rockmount Royal Arch, No.367 for the second time. His Installing Principles were MEC Jim Miller PZ and MEC Jim Renfrew PZ
- Bro Ross Aitken, our new Senior Deacon, is off on his travels again, this time to Slovakia and Japan. A retired Police Superintendent, Bro Ross now utilizes all his years of experience working for HM Government.
- Great to see Bro Donald Murdoch at a recent meeting, the first for a wee while.
- We gather that Bro Brian Nicol and his fiancée Joanne are to be married in March.
- The date for our annual Lodge Burns Supper has now been agreed. It will be on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February. Bro Robert Scott SM is taking names for tickets.

# Famous Freemasons

*(This month - a Brother who was known as "The Man of Thousand Voices")*

## Bro Mel Blanc (1908 – 1989)

Although the name of Mel Blanc may not be too widely known, for over 80 years untold millions, especially children, have heard his voice in one of its many forms. Anyone who has watched a Warner Brothers cartoon has heard his voice as that of Bugs Bunny, Foghorn Leghorn, Porky Pig, and numerous other characters. Blanc did many voices and sounds during the "Golden Age of Radio" and other cartoon voices as well.

Melvin Jerome Blank (spelling of last name later legally changed) was born to a Jewish family in San Francisco, California on May 30, 1908. The Blank family moved to Portland, Oregon where Melvin grew to adulthood. For the most part, the youth proved to be an indifferent student, interested only in music and entertaining his friends with voice imitations.



Intrigued by show business, Melvin watched vaudeville performances whenever he could and also saw opportunities in the new medium of radio. Station KGW went on the air in 1922, and Blanc who dropped out of school prior to graduation, sang there with friends on a program called The Hoot Owls. Since local radio paid only a pittance, he supported himself primarily as a tuba player. Initially interested in the violin, he switched to the big horn because there were few tuba players and he could get more work. After a couple of years he returned to Portland as pit conductor at the Orpheum Theatre.

Blanc was initiated in Mid-Day Lodge No. 188 in Portland, in November 1930, and was passed and raised in early 1931, but no one recalls whether he took his oral examination with different voices! Although he remained a faithful member of Mid Day Lodge for fifty-eight years, Blanc had virtually no opportunity to serve as an officer because he left Portland that same summer for California where he lived most of his life thereafter.

Mel figured that if he was going to make it in show business, then he would have to go to Hollywood. On his way southward he stopped for several months in ethnically-diverse San Francisco which enabled him to develop and assimilate a wide variety of dialects. Hollywood remained his ultimate goal where opportunities awaited in sound motion pictures, fledgling network radio, and perhaps musical work.

Small speaking parts and sounds on network radio programs became Blanc's principal forte, but he seldom cleared more than twenty-five dollars a week in those early days. He did meet his future wife, Estelle Rosenbaum, whom he married in 1933. Some years later the couple had a son, Noel. Soon Brother Mel landed regular voice parts on such network radio shows as Jack Benny, George Burns & Gracie Allen. However, voices in animation art (or cartoons) really led to major success. In 1936, he became the voice of Warner Brothers cartoon star, the stuttering "Porky Pig". Later he added "Daffy Duck" and most notably "Bugs Bunny" who ultimately became the biggest cartoon "star" in the studio's animation department in the old wooden building known as "Termite Terrace."

During the 1940s Mel Blanc created additional voices to match new characters created by Warner artists. Often the creations were antagonistic to each other: "Tweety" and "Sylvester," "Henery Hawk" and "Foghorn Leghorn". Bugs Bunny, and Daffy Duck had

two "human" rivals in "Yosemite Sam" and the hapless "Elmer Fudd" New creations voiced by Blanc that came along in the fifties included the French skunk "Pepe LePew," the Mexican mouse "Speedy Gonzales", "Marvin the Martian," and the "Tasmanian Devil". In the 1946 he had a CBS network radio program, The Mel Blanc Show, a sit-com in which he was the hapless owner of a fix-it shop. He had a pair of hit records "The Woody Woodpecker Song" and "I Taut I Saw a Puddy Tat" based on Tweety and Sylvester.

After his exclusive contract with Warner Brothers expired in 1960, he continued to do voice work for them but did other cartoon voices as well including "Barney Rubble" on The Flintstones, "Cosmo Spacely" on The Jetsons, and the cat Heathcliff, the first two characters being products of the Hanna-Barbera company.

Brother Blanc continued Masonic related activity becoming a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Los Angeles, taking his degrees in June 1951, giving his occupation as a "motion picture voice artist," and Al Malaikah Arabia Shrine Temple later that year.

Blanc was drawn to Shrine Hospital work. In his autobiography he wrote, "when I was teenager, I used to pass by the Portland Shrine Hospital located not far from my home. Hearing about the work they did with crippled children was what initially piqued my interest in the fellowship and prompted me to seek admission."

In January 1961, the person Rich Little called "the greatest voice man of all time" had a near brush with death, when his car was in a head-on collision on Sunset Boulevard. He sustained numerous broken bones including thirty-nine fractures in his right leg and a severe concussion and lost nine pints of blood. For three weeks he was in a coma. Blanc finally responded only when his physician, seeing a Warner Brothers cartoon on the TV asked, "How are you feeling today, Bugs Bunny?" Mel replied in his best known voice, that of the brash rabbit. "Eh, just fine Doc, how're you." After two more months in the hospital during which time he did some Barney Rubble sound tracks propped up in bed, he went home.

Although he walked with a cane for some time, Mel Blanc's voice was as strong as ever. While Warner Brothers turned out fewer cartoons from 1960, Mel continued to voice them (until 1969), and Hanna-Barbera TV programs provided plenty of work. With son Noel, he founded Mel Blanc, Associates and turned out numerous advertisements some of which proved quite lucrative. In the 1980s Warner's produced some new animated films and Mel's familiar "what's up Doc" was as strong as ever.

In 1988 he published his memoirs entitled "That's Not All Folks" and wrote that his voice totals were more like 850 rather than the thousand which public relations releases often claimed for him.

In early July 1989, Blanc was hospitalized and fell out of bed, breaking his femur. Complications soon set in causing a stroke and he died on July 10, 1989. A Warner animation artist, Darrell Van Citters, drew a memorable art work that featured a spotlight on a microphone with Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, and seven other Warner cartoon characters with their heads bowed in silence. It was entitled "Speechless" and was widely reprinted.



His tombstone in the Hollywood Forever Cemetery contains the famous sign-off on Warner Brothers cartoons - "That's All Folks."

*(We continue our series of articles which trace the history of local Lodges. This month we visit one of the most Northerly of the daughter lodges, on the shores of the River Clyde)*

## Lodge Inchinnan, No.1405

The History of the lodge can be traced back to 1931 when, due to the growth in the community, several brethren of various lodges formed a Masonic Social Club under the chairmanship of Bro. Dugald McCallum PM, Lodge 1242, with Bro. Maxwell Brown MM of Lodge 153 as Secretary and Bro. William Watt MM of Lodge 1263 as Treasurer.

The idea of the social club being to keep the brethren together as it was hoped in time to form a lodge in Inchinnan. The social club met regularly until the outbreak of the Second World War. Nothing then was done until 1943-44 when they met again more determined to seek the privilege of having their own Lodge and Charter.

In October 1944 the signature of 74 brethren as founder members together with a list of proposed office bearers of the Lodge to be known as Lodge Inchinnan was drawn up and a petition was submitted to Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East. The sponsor Lodges being Lodge Craigends 1042 and Lodge Georgetown 1170.

Due to patriotic feeling at the time a suggestion was made to name the Lodge as Lodge Victory but wise council foresaw that this may cause embarrassment in the years to come, and the name Lodge Inchinnan was chosen. The petition was considered by Provincial Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication in April 1945, the charter being granted in May 1945.

On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 1945 a deputation from Provincial Grand Lodge headed by the Provincial Grand Master Bro. Thomas Hart D.L. Conducted the Erection and Consecration of Lodge Inchinnan No. 1405 at a ceremony in Renfrew Town Hall and later in the meeting Provincial Grand Lodge

opened Lodge Inchinnan and Installed Bro. James S. McKay as the first Master of the Lodge. In December 1945 Bro. McKay was again installed as Right Worshipful



Master along with the other Office Bearers of the Lodge. In the early years the Lodge met in the school hall and the gymnasium, with the office Bearers jewels made and presented by Bro. Fred Boswell who became the third Master of the Lodge.

As no carpets could be procured at the time, the first carpet made of rope was painted in the form of a chequered carpet by Bro. Duncan McCallum and was in use for many years. A building fund was started by Bro. George Thomson the second Master of the Lodge and this proved to be a success as work was soon underway to build premises, and in June 1958 the new Temple at Luckinsford Road, Inchinnan was consecrated by the Provincial Grand Master Bro. Robert MacMenemy.

The Lodge continued to flourish in Masonic and Social functions and in 1977 a large extension was built incorporating a new Temple, which was again consecrated by Provincial Grand Lodge.

The Lodge celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1970, and the 50<sup>th</sup> in 1995, both occasions being marked by Provincial Ceremonial.

## The Lodge Jewel

The shape of the jewel is circular, the Circle being the emblem of eternity, having no beginning and no end. The jewel is divided into four segments by the Saltire, denoting a Scottish Lodge. The emblems chosen were to represent the area. The sheaf of corn to represent agriculture. The running stream to represent the streams that border Inchinnan, The Black Cart Water, The White Cart Water and the River Clyde. The perfect Ashlar represents the now extinct quarries that supplied the stone used in local building, the most notable being the bridge over the River Cart.



The sheaf of corn to represent agriculture. The running stream to represent the streams that border Inchinnan, The Black Cart Water, The White Cart Water and the River Clyde. The perfect Ashlar represents the now extinct quarries that supplied the stone used in local building, the most notable being the bridge over the River Cart.

Inchinnan has a history of being associated with the Knights Templar and the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. St. Conval founded the church at Inchinnan in 606 AD. Eventually it became the church of the Knights Templar and the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem.

Many of the Knights were interred in the churchyard. When the church was demolished in 1965 to make way for the Glasgow Airport extension, some of the grave stones were removed and can now be seen in the grounds of the new church in Old Greenock Road. The stones on the emblem represent the stones that marked the graves and are meant to signify the first three steps on the winding staircase, stepping stones to higher things.

The sword on the stones reminds us all to set a guard over our thoughts, a watch over our lips and to post a sentinel over our hearts.

At the heart of it all is the square and compasses.

# Dates for your Diary



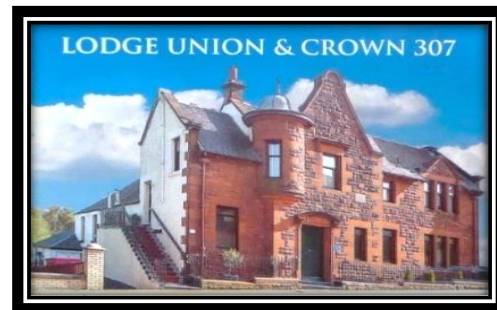
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December** Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where an Entered Apprentice Degree will be conferred by the Worshipful Wardens.
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Dance in the Function Suite. Tickets priced £7 are available from Bro Lawrence Webb.
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December** Management Committee Meeting at 7.30pm
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** **NO MEETING**

(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 Ronnie MacIsaac RWM or via the Lodge Website at <http://unionandcrown307.com>) or any senior Office-bearer, who will be only too pleased to take you along with them as they represent the Lodge throughout the Province)

## Lodge Postcards

Unique colour postcards of our Temple are still available for sale at the bargain price of £1-00 each from Bro Jim Miller PM (☎ 0141 881 4006) [jimmiller307@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jimmiller307@hotmail.co.uk)

All proceeds will go to The Lodge Charity Fund, with an annual donation being made to a local charity each year at our Anniversary Dinner in February.



## Masonic Home at Bridge of Weir

We know that there are still a few weeks to go, but we would appeal to all our Brethren to remember the Brethren who are in the Marcus Humphrey House in Bridge of Weir.

It would be a nice touch if as many as possible could send a Christmas card again this year, simply to remind the residents that they are still very much in our thoughts during the Festive Season. The address is:

**Marcus Humphrey House, Quarriers Village Bridge of Weir PA11 3SX**

# FLASHBACK

## Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 12 Years Ago

No. 338

November 2010

### Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge, held on Tuesday 2nd November, the following Brother:

#### GEORGE McGRANDLES

received a fine Mark Ceremonial, conferred by Bro Colin Hamilton IPM, and his hand-picked team of degree workers, in what is always a good mix of the serious and the light-hearted. Bro Colin can be rightly proud of the degree under his control, where all involved are to be congratulated.

**Opened: 7-30pm    Lodge Closed: 9-35pm    Attendance: 70**

At the Regular meeting held on Saturday 20th November, the Temple celebrated the centenary of the laying of its foundation stone and a report of this day is given elsewhere in this issue of the Mallet.

**Opened: 11:30am    Lodge Closed: 3-23pm    Attendance: 175**

At the Installation Meeting held on Saturday 27th November, Bro Stephen Allan was installed into the chair of King Solomon, in what was an impressive ceremony conducted by the Installing Masters for the occasion - Bro Douglas Junner PM, No.307 and Bro James Renfrew PM, No.307 and RWM No.1434.

All in attendance cannot fail to have been impressed by the high standard of work presented by these experienced Brethren.

**Opened: 3-00pm    Lodge Closed: 5-25pm    Attendance: 116**



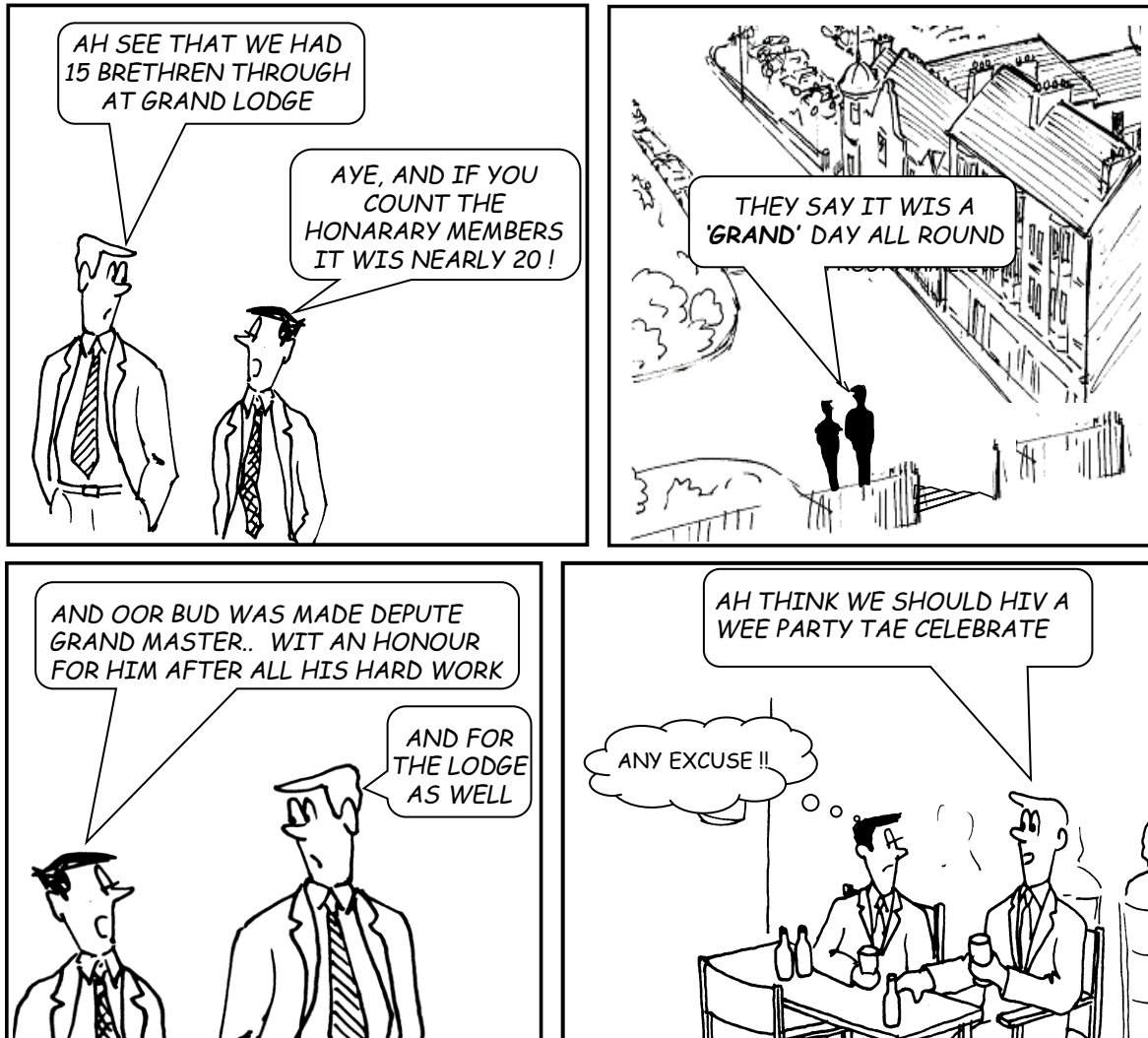
### Congratulations

We are told that PM Evans Reid and his wife June are going to be Grandparents once again.

Congratulations also to PM Jim Kerr and his wife Lorna. Their daughter-in-law, Sarah, gave birth to a bouncing baby girl who has been named Isabella Sarah.

To Past Master Bro. William H. Gauld on attaining the rank of Grand Marshall. While this of course must be a great honour to Bro. Bud and his family, we at Lodge Union & Crown No. 307 can also bask in a little reflected pride from the work that this busy man, and Mason, continues to do for Freemasonry and our Lodge in particular.

# MARK N' ARCHIE



J RENFREW NOVEMBER 2022

**A Merry Christmas to all our readers**

*The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by :*

**Brother Jim Renfrew P.M.**

'Rapallo' 5 Stobs Drive, Barrhead, G78 1NY

☎ 0141-571-5979 e-mail : [jim.renfrew@ntlworld.com](mailto:jim.renfrew@ntlworld.com)

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

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