

# The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



December 2017

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

No. 409



December 2017

Following our Annual Installation at the end of November, it has been good to see all our Office-bearers settling in well to their new positions. Indeed, the two degrees in December by our 'Worship Wardens' and 'Worthy Deacons' respectively, were well received by all in attendance.

Many of the Brethren don't realise just how difficult and stressful the first couple of degrees can be, especially for our Senior Office-bearers who not only have to fulfil their new duties, but also confer the early degrees, all within the short spell of a couple of weeks.

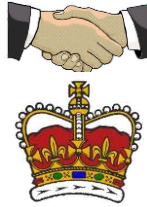
We are indeed fortunate within Lodge Union & Crown to be able to fill each of our twenty-four offices each year, without having to resort to using Past Masters. This takes careful planning, and the preparation and mentoring of young Brethren when they enter the Lodge. To push them too hard, too early can be counter-productive and potentially successful individuals can soon be lost to the Lodge. Good preparation in advance, followed by careful advice is to the advantage of both Lodge and brother.

It can take on average almost 10 years to reach 'The Chair' in Union & Crown, and on top of the ceremonial side of things, there is great deal of added responsibility for each individual as they work through the offices. Whilst demanding, it can be one of the most rewarding experiences for any Brother. You make friends and forge relationships that will remain with you for many years ahead. These are the Brethren with whom you'll confer degrees with, travel on a weekly basis to other daughter Lodges, either officially, or unofficially, or socialise with at a whole host of events and functions.

You form small groups of office-bearers as you progress through the ranks, assisting and supporting each other when required. You'll get to know them extremely well and know that you can rely on them for almost anything over the years.

This year we have more than a few Firefighters within our Office-bearers, who have probably already formed good strong bonds during their everyday lives, which will be tested, tempered and strengthened in the years ahead. We already see the signs within the Lodge and elsewhere of the successful teamwork required, and we wish them, and every other office-bearer well, not only for this particular year ahead, but for the years still to come.

There will of course be highs and lows, trials and tribulations for all. However, the sense of achievement which will be experienced by all will make it all worthwhile, and will stay with all of them for the rest of their lives.



# Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

*Dear Sir & Brother,*

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

*Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018*

**Meeting Postponed**



*Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018*

*Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

*Master Mason Degree*

*conferred by*

*Installing Masters*

*(Assisted by the Past Masters of the Lodge)*

*Harmony*



*Yours faithfully & fraternally*

*David McArthur P.M., Secretary*

# Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, the Worshipful Wardens of the Lodge conferred an excellent Entered Apprentice Degree upon the following Candidate :

**PAUL GEORGE HIGGINS**

**Opened : 7.30pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9.16pm**

**Attendance : 53**



At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, a fine Fellowcraft Degree was conferred by the Worthy Deacons upon the following Candidates :

**PAUL GEORGE HIGGINS**

**ALAN IZATT**

On the same evening, Bro Alex Morrison and Bro Bryce McCaig were also affiliated in to the Lodge.

**Opened : 7-30 pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9.18pm**

**Attendance : 63**



## 100 CLUB

The fortunate winners of our cash prizes for the month of October were :

**Tuesday 5<sup>TH</sup> December**    £20 : **Bro Les Reilly**

   £10 : **Bro Robert Miller PM**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**    £20 : **Bro Gordon Lawson**

   £10 : **Bro Tom Mulholland PM**

Names are still being taken for the current year. The annual fee is still very good



## *Meet the Initiate*

Our most recent Initiate is 43 year old **Paul George Higgins**. Whilst originally a native of the town, he now lives in nearby Nitshill with his wife Anne-Marie and their 21 year old daughter.

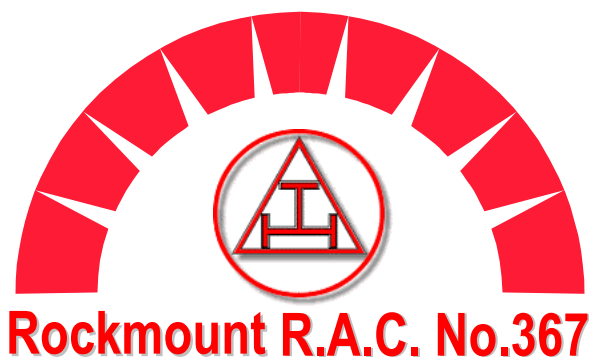
A busy Fire Protection Engineer by profession, he does his Disc Jockey at regular events and functions in his spare time



# Dates for you Diary

- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January**      **MEETING POSTPONED**  
The normal Regular Meeting of the Lodge scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month is postponed, with an extra meeting added in May
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January**      Management Committee Meeting at 7-30pm.
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January**      Regular Meeting where a Master Mason Degree will be conferred by the Installing Masters
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**      Business Meeting, followed by the 194<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**      Annual Burns Supper (6.30 for 7pm)

*(In addition to the above, the R.W.M. is constantly involved in unofficial visits to Sister Lodges, details of which can be obtained by contacting any senior Office-bearer who will be only too pleased to take you along with them as they represent the Lodge throughout the Province.*



**Rockmount R.A.C. No.367**

At the Regular Meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, the Chapter conferred a Royal Arch Degree upon a 'substitute candidate'

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter will be on : **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.30pm and the Companions of Rockmount, extend a warm invitation to all

to attend on that evening, where a Mark Affiliate and Excellent Master's degree will be conferred by the Companions of Port Glasgow RAC.

As you may be aware, the Chapter is experiencing a shortage in Candidates at the moment, and would welcome any Brother (who's been through his MMM degree) and would like to join the RA to contact MEC Hugh Cattigan ☎ 07981 566 901

# Famous Scottish Freemasons

## Brother Sir William Burrell (1861-1958)

Born in Glasgow in 1861, he was the youngest of 3 sons of Shipping owner William and Isabella Burrell who operated a shipping agency on the Forth and Clyde Canal at Port Dundas in the city. At the age of 10 his family moved to Bowling on the Clyde.



Young William and his elder brothers were educated at a boarding School in St Andrew's before joining the family firm – Burrell & Co in 1876 where his father ensured that he became acquainted with the business. The company grew and prospered and following the death of his father in 1885 he and his brother George took over the reins.

In the 15 years before the dawning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the company expanded rapidly as their shipping fleet grew. In a single year (1894) they purchased a total of 17 ships. At this time William Burrell had a couple of significant events in his life. He became a Councillor in his home city of Glasgow, and he became a Freemason at the age of 31 in 1892 when he was Initiated, Passed and Raised in Lodge 'The Prince's' No.607.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> September 1901 he married his wife Constance, before setting up home in a large home at Great Western Terrace in the West End. A year later his only daughter Marion was born.

Burrell & Co expanded greatly between 1905 and 1911, eventually having controlling interests in over 30 ships with a network of shipping interests which covered the world. It lost 6 ships during WW1, and over the next few years disposed of most of its merchant fleet at a vastly increased profit, keeping only a single vessel – 'Strathlorne' perhaps for sentimental reasons. This left the 60 year-old Burrell free to his favourite pastime of collecting art on an epic scale.

In 1916 Burrell had bought Hutton Castle in Berwickshire, and spent the next 10 years refurbishing it, before it became the new family home in 1927. That same year he was knighted by HM King George V for services to art. A collector since his youth, where he would often spend his pocket money on items which interested him. By the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century his collection was large and impressive. In fact he lent his native city over 200 items for display at the Great Exhibition of 1901, many of which marked the opening of the impressive Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum. From 1911 until his death in 1958, Burrell fastidiously kept detailed records of every item in his collection in 28 school exercise books, which form part of the collection to this day. His collection which numbered over 9000 items, included tapestries, alabasters, English oak furniture and stained glass, paintings by Cézanne and Degas, and modern sculpture by Epstein and Rodin and an extensive collection of works from ancient Egypt, China Rome and Greece.

He was made a Freeman of his home city of Glasgow in 1944, the same year he announced that he was leaving his collection to the City, to be housed in a suitable gallery. However, it was almost 40 years later in 1983 before the prestigious world-renowned Burrell gallery was opened in Pollok Park, some 25 years after Sir William had died in 1958, aged 96

# BITS & PIECES

- It was enlightening to see the BBC filming parts of the recent Grand Lodge Installation in Edinburgh for a forthcoming documentary.
- The Lodge is again holding a Lunch for the 'Widows of the Lodge' in June and all Brethren are invited to sponsor a place at this popular event.
- It was good to see out hard-working Almoner, Bro Alex White, back in harness at the recent Regular Meeting after a spell of ill health himself.
- Congratulations to Bro Willie Renfrew PM's elder son Alan and his partner Debbie following the birth of a son – Calum. After 3 granddaughters, it is the first grandson for Bro Willie and his wife Margaret Anne.
- We congratulate Bro David Bannerman PM 1478, on his installation as RWM of Lodge of Glasgow St John No.3 Bis
- It was good to hear that Bro Jim Heron was allowed home from hospital recently. Whilst still in poor health, he is being well cared for by his family.
- Congratulations to Bro Jim Bradshaw who turned 80 just before Christmas.
- It was good to see the recent Christmas Dance well attended, with a fine evening's entertainment provided by the band Bronx, who's blend of modern and vintage classic songs went down well with all in attendance. Afterwards, the magnificent sum of £402 was donated to Lodge funds.
- A Sportsman's Dinner is being held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April with John Gahagan and Alan Rough as the main speakers. Tickets costing £25.00 are available from Bro Lawrence Webb.
- We are led to believe that there are still a few places left for the Lodge's annual Golf Outing on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June. If your interested see our Golf Convener Bro Paul Stewart PM.
- Tickets for our popular Burns Supper on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February are selling fast. Anyone interested should see our worthy Deacons – Bro Robert Scott or Bro Ian Bell before it's too late.
- It is good to see both Bro Alex Morrison and Bro Bryce McCaig affiliated in to the Lodge recently. The latest in a long line of affiliates, both are well-known in Union & Crown.
- Bro Michael Hughes tell us that his daughter is the manager of the 260 bed Premier Inn Hotel in Glasgow, just across from the Glasgow Concert Hall.
- Bro Ian Brenchley RWM of our near neighbours Lodge Thistle & Crown tells us that his son Graeme is the current President of Neilston Bowling Club. Does that make them the two most powerful men in Neilston ???

# The 'Washington Bible'

Bound in London in 1767, the Bible was brought to the colonies and given by Jonathan Hampton to the St. John's Lodge in lower Manhattan three years later when he became its grand master.

Just before Washington was to take his oath of office on the steps of Federal Hall in New York City on April 30, 1789, it was discovered that there was no Bible on hand. The then-New York Governor, Bro Robert Livingston, borrowed the lodge's bible from St. John's Lodge, which had meeting rooms just a short distance away.



Other presidents who have placed their left hand on the same Masonic Bible were Warren G. Harding in 1921, Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953, and Jimmy Carter in 1977. Only Washington and Harding were Masons.

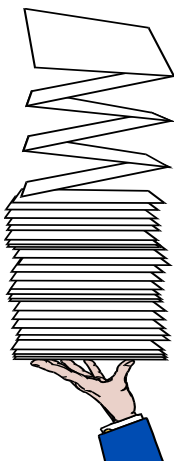
In addition to its role in presidential oath-taking, the Bible was used at :

- Washington's funeral in December 1799
- The dedication of the Washington Monument in Washington, DC in 1885
- The re-laying of the U.S. Capitol's cornerstone in 1959, and
- The christening of the aircraft carrier USS George Washington in 1992.

Between travels, it is maintained by the National Parks Service in a protective display case at Federal Hall, open to Genesis Chapter 49 & 50, the pages on which Washington rested his hand to be sworn in.



## Paper Appeal



Due to continuing decline in our stock, we are in danger of running out of that most essential of commodities – PAPER.

As many of our readers will know we make regular appeals for A4 size, 80g/m<sup>2</sup> copier or duplicator 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.

# **Facts on Lodge Union & Crown**

- Almost half of our membership are over the age of 65
- Our Temple is a 'Grade C' listed building
- Union & Crown has over had three numbers – 378, 311 and now 307
- The present Grand Master Mason, Bro Charles Iain Robert Wolrige-Gordon of Esslemont is an Honorary Member of 307
- Union & Crown is one of only a handful of Masonic Temples which has a proper 'Facility' for the Royal Arch ceremonies.
- Union & Crown has not had a Past Master on the 'Chair' in over 100 years. Likewise, they have not been without a Candidate in all that time
- The highest ever attendance at an Installation in 307 was 256 in 1979
- The highest ever at a Lodge Meeting, was over 300 when the Lodge celebrated its 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1999
- The highest ever attendance at a regular Lodge Meeting was 246 in 1984
- The Temple Title Deeds are held by Crawford Mason (Solicitors) in Blantyre
- Union & Crown is one of the founding members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East
- The Lodge is famous for its 'Dramatised Degrees' and have taken them to Essex, Blackpool, Belfast, Texas and all over Scotland.
- The Sponsor Lodges for Union & Crown were Lodge Paisley St Mirren, No.129 and the original Lodge in Neilston, now long gone.
- In 1986, Union & Crown gave Lodge Douglas No.1557 an interest free loan to help them purchase their Temple.
- Union & Crown has had a full complement of Office-bearers every year for over 100 years
- When the Lodge Temple was being built in 1910, no fewer than 36 Lodges from all around Scotland sent a donation towards the building costs.
- Every Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire East since its formation in 1826 has been made an honorary member of the Lodge. Albeit the present PGM is only new in the position.
- In 1973, the Treasurer of the Lodge was also Provost of the Town.
- The custom of all Office-bearers and Past Masters wearing Dinner Suits began in 1974
- Union & Crown's Lodge Magazine has been continuously in print since 1976
- Although the Temple is 107 years old, it has only had 9 hallkeepers in residence.



## **WORLD AT WAR**

### **1914 – 1918**

**(December 1917)**



Gone are the optimistic hopes of those early volunteers, almost 500,000 men, that they would be home by Christmas 1914 as they and those later conscripted soldiers continued to fight upon multiple battlefields across Europe and beyond. Going home was far from the thoughts of the ordinary soldier particularly with the news that Russia was opening separate peace negotiations with Germany on 22nd December.

For a century, British governmental policy and public opinion was against conscription for foreign wars. At the start of the war, the British Army consisted of only six infantry divisions, fourteen Territorial divisions and 300,000 soldiers in the Reserve Army. Lord Kitchener, the Secretary of State for War, considered the Territorial Force untrained and useless. He also strongly believed that the regular army must not be wasted in immediate battle, but instead used to train a new army with 70 divisions that he foresaw would be needed to fight a war lasting many years.

One of the biggest problems by 1917 was recruitment, there was not only problems with men's suitability for active service but the healthy manpower was simply not there anymore. Political plans, though not popular, were being taken to introduce young men under the age of 19 to the front line and active service.

A French ship carrying a full cargo of munitions explodes when it collides with a Belgian relief ship in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Over 2,000 people are killed and 9,000 injured.

As Turkey surrenders Jerusalem to the British, church bells ring in London for the first time since the start of the war to celebrate the victory. Prime Minister Lloyd George had tasked General Allenby with capturing Jerusalem by Christmas. Allenby achieved his objective weeks ahead of schedule, dealing a devastating blow to Turkish forces.

- Lord Rhondda's scheme for rationing by localities comes into force.
- H.M.S. "Stephen Furness" sunk by submarine in Irish channel; six officers and 95 men were lost.
- Mannheim (Rhine) heavily bombed by British airmen.
- Telegraph between Petrograd and south-west interrupted by Ukraine authorities.
- Italians regain much of lost ground near the Brenta Pass in the Dolomites. Snow severe on Italian front.
- British seaplanes bomb Bruges Docks and other aerodromes.
- Anglo-Turkish agreement for exchange of prisoners signed at Berne.
- Finally, for those of you with a sweet tooth, sugar rationing was introduced.

**Hugh Cattigan PM**

# Almoner's Report

## Obituary :

I have been informed that the Father-in-Law of Bro Thomas Smillie – Bro Allan Brown (87) of Lodge St Michael, No.989 in Kilmacolm has passed away.

I have expressed my condolences on behalf of the Lodges to Bro Tom by way of a 'Condolence/Sympathy Card' and a telephone call, and through him to his dear wife Christine and family.



The funeral service took place at the Masonic Lodge in Kilmacolm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December, and thereafter at Kilmacolm cemetery.

At the time of writing this report Bro James Laird (91) is a patient in the RAH and I have been informed by his family that his condition is causing great concern. I managed to pay a visit to Bro James.

Earlier this month I had the delight of meeting with Mrs Anna Roberts and her daughter Anne, whilst they were back up in Renfrewshire on holiday. As I have intimated many times in past Almoner's Reports, Anna is the widow of the late Bro Joe Bell Roberts PM 307 (RWM 1958/59) and now lives near her daughter Anne in Warwickshire. During this meeting, Bro Joe's Past Master Jewel was returned to the Lodge for safe and treasured keeping, and I responded to this gracious and thoughtful gesture most fittingly.

I was sorry to hear of Bro Robert McCulloch having another spell in Hospital. I spoke with Bro Bob on the phone after his discharge, wishing him a speedy recovery. He thanked me most kindly.

## Home Visits :

Bro Robert Nixon PM  
Bro Robert Kennedy  
Bro Jim Heron

Bro Donald Ferguson  
Bro Phillip Reilly  
Bro Jim Waterston

## Other Visits :

Mrs Norah Hutton  
Mrs May Meiklejohn  
Mrs Anna Brooks  
Mrs Patricia Renfrew

Mrs Jean Cook  
Mrs Karen Laird  
Mrs Jean Ryan  
Mrs Margaret McLellan

I would like to take a moment to thank Bro Ronnie MacIsaac WSW for the help he gave me, your Almoner during this month.

A Happy New Year to all Brethren, Ladies & readers of our Lodge Magazine  
May God Bless you all.

**Brother Alexander G. White**  
Lodge Almoner, ☎ 0141-571 6411

# FLASHBACK

## Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 33 Years Ago

No. 80

December 1984

### REGULAR MEETINGS :

At the Regular Meeting on 4th December the following three Candidates had the E.A. Degree conferred upon them by the Wardens of the Lodge, Bros Iain McFarlane and Willie Love :

Iain G Nicol

David S Cameron

John Gray

This was an excellent performance by two very efficient degree workers, ably assisted by the I.G. Bro Roy Dinning.

Lodge Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 9.28pm

Attendance : 136

At the Regular meeting on 18th December, the same three Candidates were passed to the Fellowcraft Degree by the Deacons Bros Raymond Smith and Robert Nixon.

Again the standard of the performance was excellent, and Bro Tom Young P.M., Instruction Master, is to be congratulated on the high standards he maintains in the Instruction Class.

Lodge Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 9.12pm

Attendance : 118

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### AROUND the TOWN :

Our readers may recall that, recently, we hinted of plans for factories on the site of the old Cross Arthurlie School. Approval has now been granted for 3 small factories.

Many of the small traders in the town are seriously concerned about their livelihoods, with the threat of a new supermarket at the old skinnery, and another at Cross Arthurlie St, on the site of the former Ideal Homes offices, now owned by Trafalgar House. We sympathise with the traders, but can also see that competition is in the interests of all.

Apparently some of the residents of "Traub`s Close" have had an offer made for their properties. This would appear to indicate that a start to the widening of Main Street is fairly imminent.

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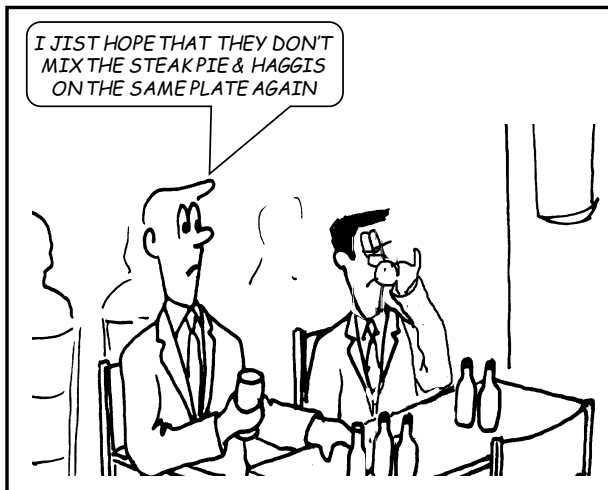
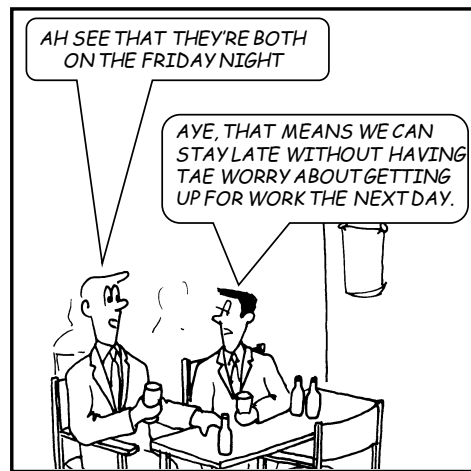
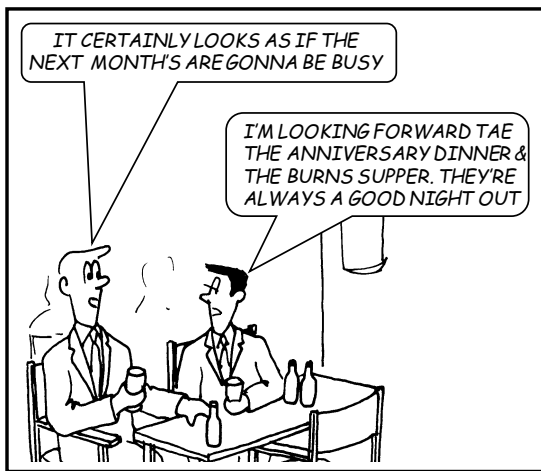
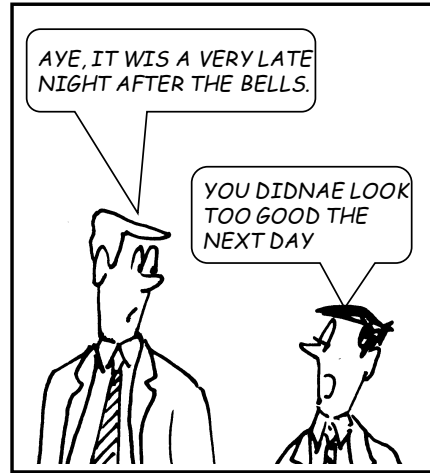
### WITHIN the LODGE :

We notice that Mrs Muriel McDonald has taken over the let of the kitchen, for the sale of hot food. So far this has been a great success with the punters.

Bro Jim Renfrew tells us that the quiz he has organised for the 12th January is sold out !

Our "Sales & Wants" on the noticeboard is a huge success with the members.

# MARK N' ARCHIE



*The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by :*  
**Brother Jim Renfrew P.M.**

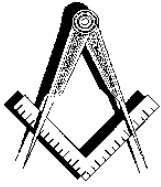
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☎ 0141-571-5979 e-mail : [jim.renfrew@ntlworld.com](mailto:jim.renfrew@ntlworld.com)

**Assistant Editor : Bro Graham Manson PM**

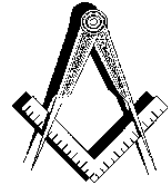
" With grateful thanks to all those who gladly gave their assistance "

Lodge Website address : <http://unionandcrown.org>



# Syllabus 2018

(\* Denotes an Official Visitation)



## January 2018

<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	Meeting Postponed (Public Holiday)
* <i>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January</i>	<b>MM</b> <i>At Lodge Thistle &amp; Crown, No.1167</i>
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>MM</b> by the Installing Masters
* <i>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January</i>	<b>EA</b> <i>At Lodge Nitshill, No.1478</i>

## February 2017

<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	Anniversary Dinner
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>EA</b> Lodge Nitshill, No.1478
* <i>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February</i>	<b>TSF</b> <i>At PGL of Perthshire East</i>

## March 2018

<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Visitation by PGL of Renfrewshire East
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>FC</b> Lodge Thistle & Crown, No.1167

## April 2017

<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>MM</b> Lodge Instruction Class
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	'Burns vs Kipling' Dramatisation

## May 2018

<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>EA</b> 'Visiting Master's Degree'
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Prisoner of War Dramatisation
* <i>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</i>	<b>TSF</b> <i>At Lodge St John Fisherrow, No.112</i>

## September 2018

<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>FC</b> Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>MM</b> Lodge Instruction Class