

# The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



September 2022

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No. 456



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Without trying to sound ostentatious, pompous or even arrogant, it would undoubtedly be true to say that Lodge Union & Crown, No.307 has been successful for much of its near two hundred year existence, certainly so over the last forty years. We have been well-organised, efficient and innovative, bringing a great deal that was new and good to the Scottish Craft, much of which has been taken up and utilised by many of our Sister Lodges.

This hasn't just happened by accident, and a great deal of forethought and planning has gone in to making 307 the best that it could possible be. Some would say that we have at times been bold and daring, perhaps taking risks that were in some eyes a step too far. We have been most fortunate that we have nurtured and developed more than a few Brethren who collectively took decisions to be courageous when it may have been better in difficult times to keep your head down and ride out the storm.

We have had some peaks and troughs over the years, especially financially, but a steady nerve and the foresight to look at how the world, especially the Masonic domain, was likely to develop, have paid off. If we hadn't taken the big decision to extend our premises in the early 1990s when Social Clubs were starting to shrink, at a cost in excess of £160,000, I don't believe that we would exist as we are today.

Perhaps more importantly, if we hadn't taken the radical decision to alter our way of working, and profoundly change the look of our syllabus, would we have survived with the impact of the financial crash of 2008, and the global pandemic of 2020? Granted we have also suffered with reduced attendances since Covid began to ebb, and undeniably some Brethren simply got out of the habit of attending their Lodge meetings. But we are no different from almost every other Lodge, although we are managing to retain reasonable attendances, there's still scope for improvement. We are looking at further initiatives, that if they are successful, will perhaps be the solution that's required. Who knows?



# Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

*Dear Sir & Brother,*

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

*Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022*

*Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

*Master Mason Degree*

*By the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class*

*Harmony*



*Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022*

*Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

*Annual General Meeting of the Lodge*

*Nomination & Election of Office-bearers and Committees*

*Harmony*

*Yours faithfully & fraternally*

*David McArthur P.M.*

*Lodge Secretary*

# Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October, the following Candidate :

## **Calum MacIsaac**

was initiated in to the mysteries and privileges of our order, by the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class in what was a good EA degree

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

**Opened : 7.30pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9.07pm**

**Attendance : 47**

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, the same Candidate was passed to the Second., Square or Fellowcraft degree, by the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class in what was a fine FC degree. Especial mention must be made of the part played by our own RWM, who happened to be the father of our Candidate.



## **100 CLUB**

The fortunate winners of our cash prizes this month were :

**6<sup>th</sup> October**    £20 : **Bro Vic Chapman**

£10 : **Bro Tom Mulholland PM**

**20<sup>th</sup> October**    £20 : **Bro Kenny Beatts**

£10 : **Mrs Christine Miller**



## **MEET THE INITIATE**

Calum John MacIsaac is 27 years of age and lives at home with his parents in the St Mary's development within the town. The only son of our own Right Worshipful Master, he is employed as an Electrical Engineer with Aggreko in Dumbarton, although he spent a few years in the Merchant Navy aboard cruise ships before the global pandemic caused havoc within that sector.

A quiet and fairly reserved character (*he must get that from his Mum Sadie !*) he likes nothing more than watching football and cooking, often with his girlfriend Jodie, who's from nearby Hillington.

# BITS & PIECES

- Bro Lawrence Webb, our Social Convener, now has the 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.
- Well done to Bro David Law and Bro Willie Renfrew PM who have both done well and managed to shed quite a few pounds over the Summer, and as such are looking so much better for it.
- Sorry to hear that Bro Adam Watson and Bro Eddie Mullin came down with Covid in recent weeks. Thankfully both are back in good health.
- Good to see Bro Willie Stewart of 1167 has recovered from a bout of ill health and is now back in harness again. Bro Willie is, of course, the father of Bro Paul Stewart PM, and a frequent visitor to 307.
- Congratulations to Bro Bobby Clark SM and Bro Eddie Mullin SC on their recent 4 & 3 victory in the final of the McMenemy Trophy, the Provincial Grand Lodge Pairs competition. 307's first success in this for a number of years. Well Done !
- Many thanks, yet again, to the Brethren of the 'Sausage Club' for their continued generosity to the Lodge. They raised the funds and paid for the new covered walkway at the Social Club entrance.
- It was please to see Bro Robert Scott WSW in attendance at HM Queen Elizabeth's state funeral in Westminster Abbey. A huge honour.
- We gather that Bro Jamie Shorthouse, a marine engineer by profession and the grandson of the late Bro Jimmy Herron, devotes a lot of his spare time to working on the PS Waverley ensuring it is ship-shape and up to scratch.
- Did you know that next month 'The Mallet' celebrates 46 years since it started as a single page newsletter.
- We hear that Bro Paul Stewart PM recently put all this spare time he finds himself with to good use since he retired by walking the West Highland Way.
- We recently spoke on the phone with Mrs Aileen Richardson, the widow of the late Bro Jack Richardson, who has lived up in Luncarty in Perthshire for almost 20 years. She tells us that although largely confined to the house, she still manages to get about thanks to her daughter who lives nearby. She sounded great on the phone, and asked to be remembered to all who knew her.
- We gather that Bro George McGrandles PM has just taken up a new position with NHS Lothian as a Fire Safety Manager

# Dates for your Diary



- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October** Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where a Master Mason Degree will be conferred by the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October** Management Committee Meeting at 7.30pm
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October** The Annual Business Meeting of the Lodge, where all Office-bearers and Committees will be nominated, and elected by the Brethren.

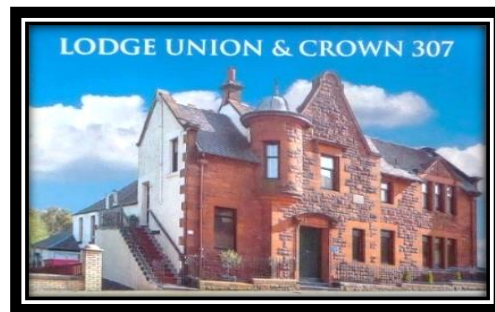
(In addition to the above, the R.W.M. and his Wardens are constantly involved in unofficial visits to sister Lodges. Details of which can be easily obtained by contacting Ronnie Maclsaac RWM or via the Lodge Website at <http://unionandcrown307.com>) or any senior Office-bearer, who will be only too pleased 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. As it stands, the magnificent total of over £800 has been raised so far.



## Famous Quote



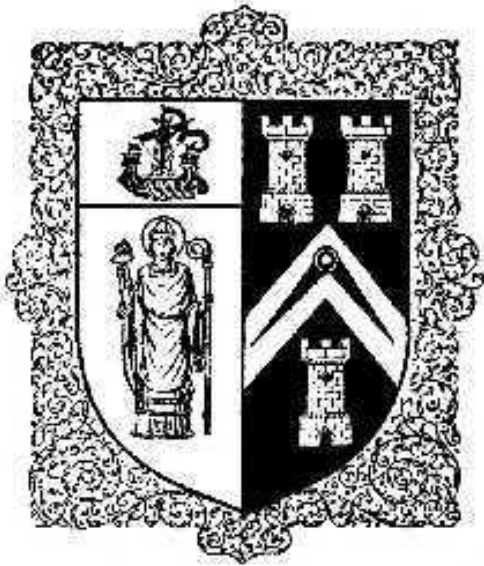
*“ Being persuaded that a just application of the principles, on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded, must be promote of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the Society, and to be considered by them as a deserving brother ...”*

**Bro GEORGE WASHINGTON, October 1790**

*(We continue our series of articles which trace the history of local Lodges. This month we move across to the Eastern side of our province in Rutherglen)*

## Lodge Burnside, No.1361

On the 6<sup>th</sup> December 1927, Bro Dr Alexander Jamieson, a member of Lodge Union & Crown,, No 103 Glasgow, entered into communication with the Grand Secretary, stating that the time was appropriate for the forming of a lodge in the Burnside area requesting that the Grand Secretary forward to him the necessary petition forms.



Dr Jamieson along with Bro Christall of Lodge 1341 and Bro Noel of Lodge 114 to assist him began to deal with applications. A meeting was arranged in the Carlton restaurant, Glasgow on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 1928 where Dr Jamieson was asked to be Chairman. He explained how he thought it was desirable to form a new Lodge and it was unanimously resolved that the Lodge be named Burnside and the office bearers were duly elected.

It is at this meeting of the founder members that the motion "That no spirits or liquors be used at any communication or function held under the auspices of the lodge or at any meeting whether for labour or refreshment". This was incorporated into the Lodge Bye-laws and was enforced until recently.



Between 17<sup>th</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> May 1928 there were numerous meetings and the list of founder members was closed at 273. due to the large number of founder members it was decided to secure a suitable site for a permanent home. And a halls committee was set up and a building fund inaugurated. It stated that the Lodge purchased "The Tower" Burnside but there appears to be some dubiety that the Lodge ever met there. Several committee meetings were held there but no regular meetings.

Among the founder members were brethren from 13 Provinces, Metropolitan District and the English Constitution. There were brethren from 37 Glasgow Lodges, 10 Renfrewshire East Lodges. There were 46 founder members from Rutherglen Royal Arch Lodge and 27 From St Georges Operative Lodge. There was one Lord Provost, Sir David Mason of Lodge Pollock, four provosts, William

Crawford of Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning, James Kirkwood of Rutherglen Royal Arch Lodge, Samuel McConnell of Lodge Houstoun St Johnston and John McGregor of Lodge Prince of Wales. There were also 3 past provosts, 4 ministers of religion 5 doctors and 2 Knights of the Realm.

The date of the consecration was set for 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1928 and was held in the Town Hall, Rutherglen where the Grand Master Mason, The Right Honourable The Lord Blythswood, who was also the Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire East opened the provincial Grand Lodge, and after welcoming a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, proceeded with the Consecration and Dedication Ceremony after which he installed Dr Jamieson as the first Right Worshipful Master of the Lodge. Thereafter a dinner was held in the Central Station Hotel.

It is interesting to note that in the first few months of the Lodges existence over 50 candidates were initiated in the premises of Rutherglen Royal Arch Lodge, where the new lodge held its meetings.

Since then the Lodge has moved about Rutherglen quite a bit, including the Unionist Rooms, East Main Street, the Temple of St John's Operative in Melrose Avenue and finally back to Rutherglen Royal Arch Lodge where the Lodge held its meetings all those years ago.

During the past 75 years the Lodge has had one Provincial Grand Senior Warden - Bro J.W.Stewart, who was RWM in 1938. Bro John Yuille, the RWM in 1971 was Commissioned as Provincial Grand Secretary by Bro Andrew L. Tannahill, and subsequently Commissioned as a Substitute Provincial Grand Master by Bro Alexander G. Hutton. Unfortunately Bro Jack had to resign his Commission as he moved to be Headteacher of a school in Fife.



Bro John Grant who was RWM in 1974, reached the office of Provincial Junior Grand Warden, but due to ill health Bro John resigned from office and had the rank of Honorary Provincial Senior Grand Warden conferred on him by the then Provincial Grand Master Bro Alexander G. Murray.

The Lodge has over the years had several members of Provincial Grand Committee. Bro Archibald McAllister McGown, to give him his full title, succeeded Bro Bob Coats in 1969, and has held this position either as an elected member or in an ex-officio capacity since that time. Bro A.G.

Hutton conferred the rank of Honorary Provincial Grand Treasurer on him and he was commissioned as Provincial Substitute Grand Master by Bro. A. Bruce Watson PGM.

Bro McGown, an extremely popular and well-liked Freemason, was later to be further honoured when he was appointed as Depute Grand Master in 2008 by the then Grand Master Mason - Charles Iain R. Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont

# Famous Freemasons

*(This month - a Brother who did much for independence in 19<sup>th</sup> Century South America)*

## Bro Simón Bolívar (1783 – 1830)

The son of a Venezuelan aristocrat of Spanish descent, Bolívar was born to wealth and position. His father died when the boy was three years old, and his mother died six years later, after which his uncle administered his inheritance and provided him with tutors.

One of those tutors, Simón Rodríguez, was to have a deep and lasting effect on him. Rodríguez, a disciple of Jean-Jacques

Rousseau, introduced Bolívar to the world of 18th-century liberal thought.



At the age of 16, Bolívar was sent to Europe to complete his education. For three years he lived in Spain, and in 1801 he married the daughter of a Spanish nobleman, with whom he returned to Caracas. The young bride died of yellow fever less than a year after their marriage. Bolívar believed that her tragic death was the reason that he took up a political career while still a young man.

He was Initiated in 1803 in a Spanish - Lodge "Lautaro" in Cadiz, Spain. In April 1824, Bolívar received the 33rd degree of Inspector General Honorary, the highest position in Freemasonry.

While his revolutionary ideals seem at odds with the peace-keeping mission of the Masons, many scholars believe Bolívar's decision to free Venezuela sprouted in Masonic meetings. There, he met his peers, José de San Martín and Mariano Moreno, among other South American pro-independence notables.

After his young wife's death, Bolívar returned to Europe and kept company with Napoleon. Bolívar returned to Venezuela in 1807. When Napoleon named Joseph Bonaparte King of Spain and its colonies, which included Venezuela, Bolívar joined the resistance movement. The resistance group based in Caracas gained independence in 1810, and Bolívar travelled to Britain on a diplomatic mission. The fight for control of Caracas, Venezuela and most of South America continued on back home.

Finally, Bolívar returned to Venezuela and began a campaign to wrest control of that country from the Spanish. He and his followers invaded Venezuela on May 14, 1813; this marked the beginning of his "Campaña Admirable" (Admirable

Campaign), which resulted in the formation of the Venezuelan Second Republic later that year. Bolívar was hailed as El Libertador (The Liberator), though civil war soon erupted in the republic, forcing him to flee to Jamaica and seek foreign aid. There he wrote his famous "Letter From Jamaica," detailing his vision of a South American republic with a parliamentary setup modelled after England and a life-long president. His idea of being a nation's chief who could not be removed from power would be heavily critiqued by other leaders and intellectuals

Gaining support from Haiti, Bolívar returned to his home continent and became involved in a number of military battles, eventually able to claim several territories. 1821 saw the creation of the Gran Colombia, under Bolívar's leadership. This federation included much of what is now Venezuela, Colombia, Panama and Ecuador. Further manoeuvres saw him named Dictator of Peru in 1824, followed by the creation of Bolivia in 1825.

Bolívar had succeeded in uniting much of South America in a federation free from Spanish control, but the government was fragile. Despite his desire to create a union of states similar to that which created the United States of America, Bolívar faced opposition from internal factions throughout the huge Gran Colombia, with there being a push to form single nations.

As a temporary measure, Bolívar declared himself dictator in 1828, though in September of the same year he escaped an assassination attempt with aid from his mistress and fellow revolutionary Manuela Sáenz. He resigned this post in 1830 and made plans to sail for exile in Europe.

On December 17, 1830, however, Simón Bolívar died in Santa Marta, Colombia, after a battle with what may have been tuberculosis.

Today, Bolívar's legacy can be seen in the multitude of statues and plaza squares bearing his likeness throughout South and North America. Several cities and towns throughout the United States are named in his honour and statues and roads bearing his name can be found in a variety of international locales, including Egypt, Australia and Turkey



**Lodge Union & Crown, No.307**



# **Xmas Dance**

**Saturday  
17<sup>th</sup> December**

**Tickets : £7.00**

**Available from :**

**Lawrence Webb (☎ 07736 780 132)**



**Dress : Smart Casual**



# FLASHBACK

## Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 20 Years Ago

No. 256

September 2002

### Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, the following Candidate :

#### COLIN REYNOLDS

was raised to the high and sublime degree of a M.M. by the some of the more experienced members of the Lodge Instruction Class, in what was a fine rendition of the Third Degree.

**Lodge Opened : 7-29pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9-53pm**

**Attendance : 87**



At the Regular Meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September, the following Candidates :

#### IAN CAMERON

#### MARTIN CARR

were initiated in to the mysteries and privileges of our order by a deputation of Office-bearers and Brethren from our Sister Lodge, and near neighbours – Lodge Nitshill, No.1478 led by their own Right Worshipful Master, Bro Reg Hannen, in what was a very good degree, greatly appreciated by those in attendance.

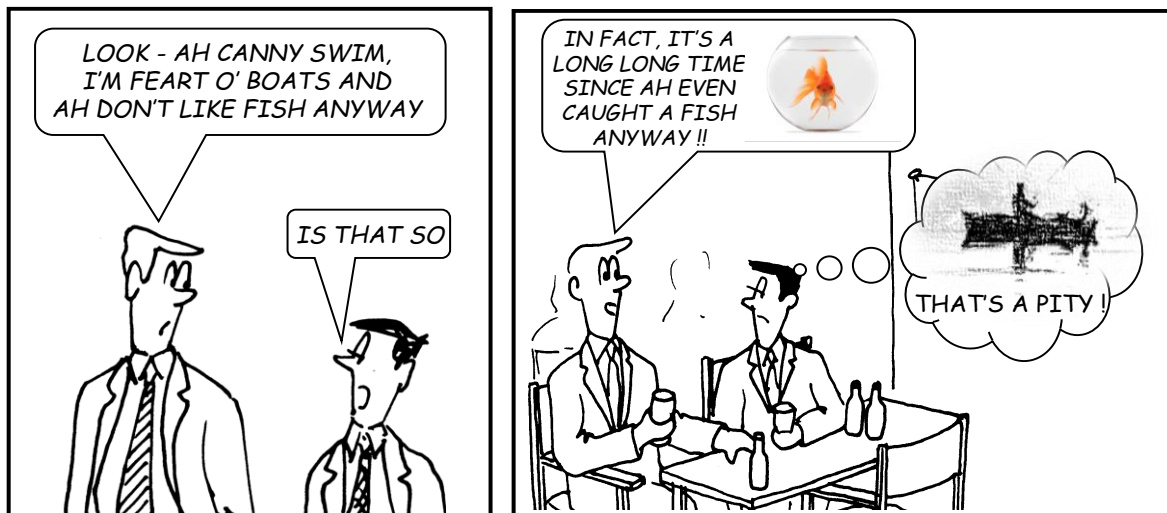
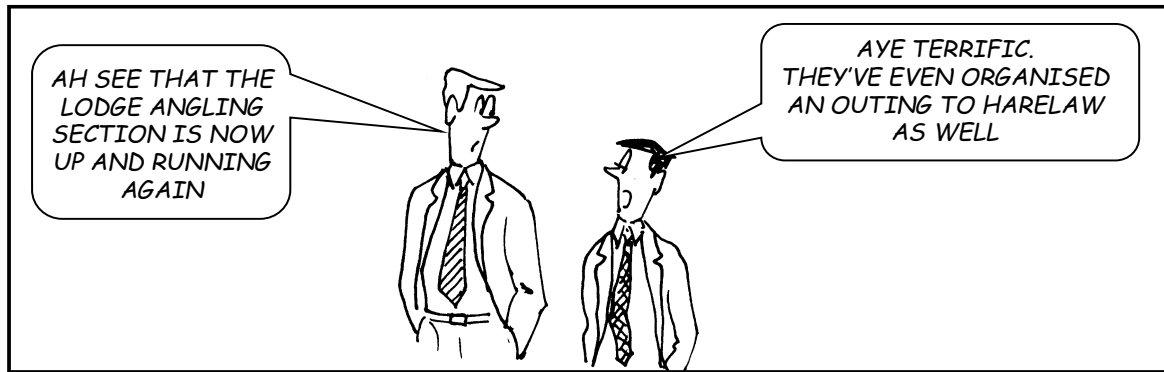
**Lodge Opened : 7-30pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9-40pm**

**Attendance : 70**

- It was good to see Bro Jim Brennan, the R.W.M. of Lodge Mother Kilwinning, No.0 – the oldest Lodge in the world, at our regular Meeting.
- The grateful thanks of the Lodge go to Bro Ian Masson for his sterling work in repainting the Lodgeroom over the Summer Recess. We gather he was ably assisted by Bro David Watson and we are indebted to both Brethren for their efforts. Thanks also to Bro Michael Hughes PM and Bro Eric Gray who took down and replaced the Past Master's photographs which are displayed around the walls, even making a substantial repair on Bro Ian McFarlane's portrait which had been damaged.
- Congratulations to Bro Tom Mulholland our popular W.J.W. whose daughter Laura, who has gained a place at Glasgow Caledonian University to study Accountancy
- The thanks of the entire Lodge go to the "Wee Arras" for they generous £100 donation to Lodge Funds and their continued support over the years.
- We are delighted to announce that a FC Degree has been arranged at Lodge St Meddans, No.1335 in November. 1335 is, of course, the Mother Lodge of our late Treasurer, Bro John Livingstone and it will be an ideal opportunity for some of the Brethren to mark the association between the Lodges with this visit. For details see Bro Robert Miller RWM.
- Congratulations to Bro Jim Miller PM's daughter – Karen, who recently gave birth to a son who we believe is to be named Ryan.
- Congratulations to our I.P.M. Bro Evans Reid who has been appointed to the position of Assistant Provincial Grand Secretary, where he will provide much-need support to Bro Andrew Hosie PM, Prov. GS.

# MARK N' ARCHIE



J RENFREW SEPTEMBER 2022

The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by :

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

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