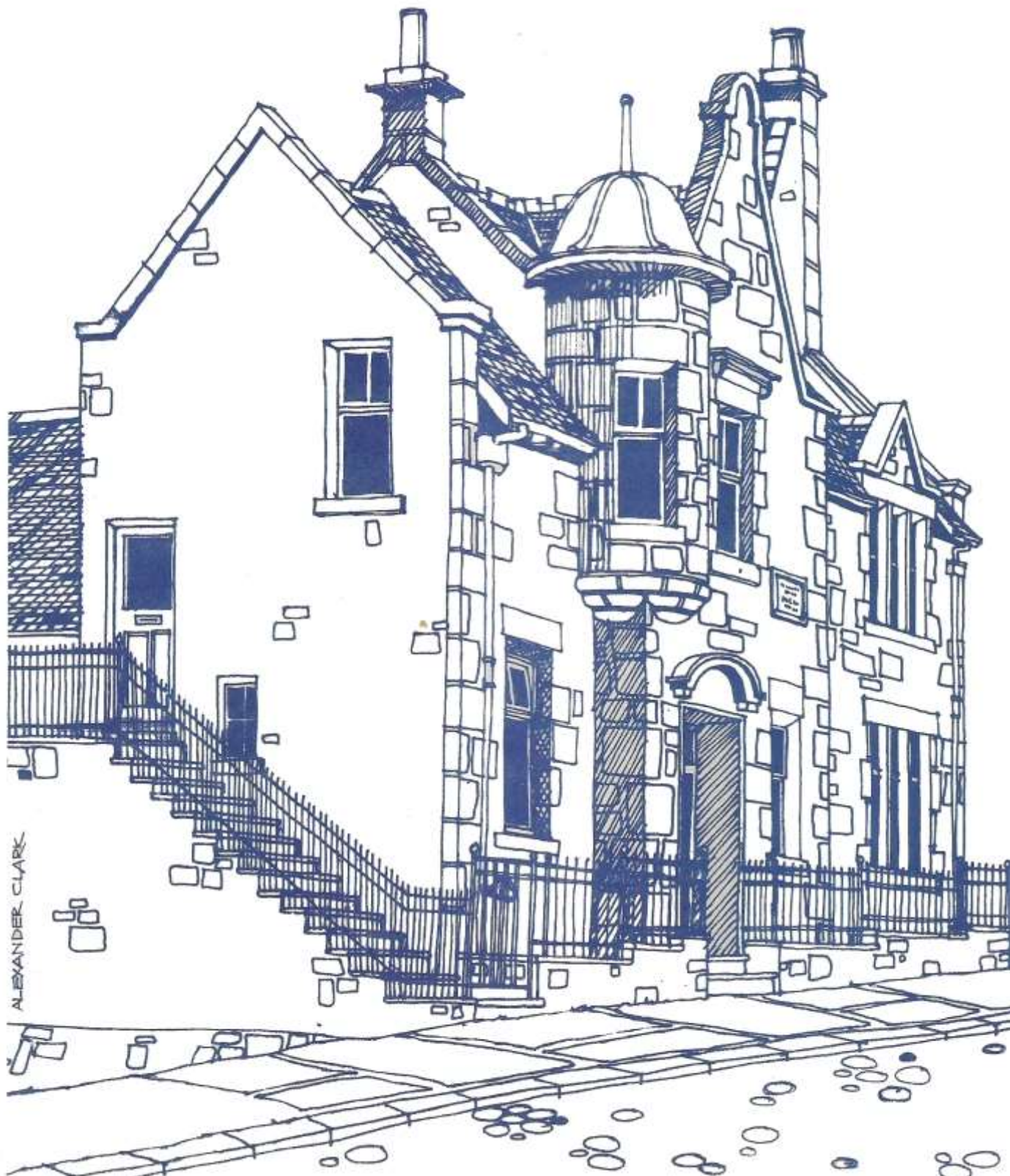


The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union & Crown No.307



Issue No. 399

December 2016



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The Mallet



Editorial



December 2016

Can I wish all readers of the Mallet a Merry Christmas and, looking forward to 2017, a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

While, it goes without saying Christmas is a Christian holiday, it strikes me that the commercialism of the last forty to fifty years has expanded the 'holiday' into the lifestyle of many other creeds and colours and this is perhaps no bad thing. Christmas can mean many things to different people and its meaning to individuals can change from year to year...

It is often held up by many to be a time for 'family'. One of the few times in the year where everyone makes an attempt to be together with loved ones and relatives, exchange gifts and stories and catch up on the year about to end.

It can also mean 'loneliness'. Perhaps someone is estranged from their family and feels that all the bridges have been burned. Perhaps someone has just lived so long and they are the last of their family and friends living in the area forgotten by society as a whole.

The time of year can also bring sadness as we look back over the year, and years, to family and friends who are no longer with us.

Perhaps what the Christmas and new year period bring to us most, even if we don't realise it, are the three theological virtues, namely Faith, Hope, and Charity which allow mankind to share in God's nature. These virtues also strongly enforce the moral virtues of a freemason and perhaps, especially at this time of year we can use these virtues to put away our petty differences and view the world and each other without hate and distrust but with love and as God's children deserving of the life and world he has given us as our home.

The new seating in the Temple at Cochrane Street, in conjunction with the recent mural in the West really sets Lodge Union & Crown No 307 up for many years as far as our meetings are concerned and I would recommend any brother to take a sneak up to the East (NB not during a meeting Ed.) and check out the view that the current and future Masters of the Lodge have got.

Anyhow, it is a new year and we will be faced with new and unforeseen obstacles but at least we do so in the sure knowledge, that we as a Lodge are well equipped and ready to face any challenges in store.



Happy New Year to all our readers



Hugh Cattigan PM Ed.

Regular Meetings

At the regular meeting of the Lodge, held on Tuesday 6th December 2016 and after the business of the Lodge was concluded the following candidates:-

GREGOR McPHERSON and JASON WILLIAM DINNING

were initiated in to the mysteries and privileges of our order by an experienced degree team drawn from the ranks of the Lodge's Instruction Class, and led by the Worshipful Wardens.

Although it was a nervy evening, with everyone in their new offices for the first time, it was nevertheless a good EA Degree, ably conferred in the manner we have come to expect from the Brethren of Union & Crown

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

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed – 09:27pm Attendance – 48

At the regular meeting of the Lodge, held on Tuesday 20th December 2016 and after the business of the Lodge the same two candidates,

GREGOR MCPHERSON and JASON WILLIAM DINNING

were passed to the Second Square or FC degree by a degree team drawn from the ranks of the Lodge's Instruction Class, and led by the Worthy Deacons. This was a very good FC Degree conferred by the Brethren of Lodge Union & Crown and appreciated by all in attendance.

A deputation from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East, headed by the PGM. Bro. John S. Miller, was also in attendance. After being presented with the Mallet the Provincial Grand Master proceeded, with the assistance of the PG Chaplain, Bro. Rev. Robert Craig to consecrate the new Lodge Banner.

The impressive and colourful new Banner was carried into the crowded temple by Standard Bearer Bro. Billy Petrie accompanied by a stirring tune from Piper, Bro Johnny Gauld.

After the consecration of the banner, the PGM then presented Lodge Secretary, Bro. Jim Miller with his certificate of Grand Rank, specifically Honorary Grand Architect and the RWM, Bro George McGrandles presented him with a jewel commemorating the same.

Bro Jim was not finished however as the PGM, Bro. John S. Miller then presented him with a certificate marking 50 years in the craft. It is not often that Bro Jim is lost for words but such was the emotion of the evening this was one of those rare occasions.

Our Worthy Tyler, Bro. James Laing was then called into the Temple where the Provincial Grand Master then presented him with a certificate marking his 50 years as a Mason.

The labours of the evening being ended the brethren retired downstairs to enjoy a spot of Lodge Harmony

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed – 09:43pm Attendance – 67



Bro. Jim Miller, PGM John S. Miller, Bro. Jimmy Laing and Bro. William Petrie

Christmas Dance 2016

This year's dance took place on Saturday 17th December and a very successful evening ensued with a fantastic turnout of Brethren with their wives, partners and friends.

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

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



Bro. Lawrence was delighted to be able to hand in the sum of £515.00 to our Bro. Treasurer and would like to thank all who came and made it such an enjoyable night.



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

The ceremony will be on Saturday 14th January 2017 in their premises at The Duff Memorial Hall, Main Street, Busby.

The start time is 01:59pm... This is not a typing error, using the '24 hour clock' this reads as 13:59 the Lodge number, get it!

Buy a Brick

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

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

Rockmount R.A.C. No. 367



At the regular meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday the 13th December 2016 the Companions witnessed a fine a Royal Arch Degree from the Companions being conferred upon a Past Master of Lodge Union & Crown No. 307.

Bro David McArthur

Who was exalted as a Royal Arch Mason, by the Office-bearers and Companions of Rockmount R.A.C. in what was a very good degree, by a ceremonial team who are bedding themselves down in their offices. The Companions of Rockmount RAC taking part in the degree are to be congratulated on work well done.

The Companions then retired downstairs for a spot of Chapter hospitality where Companion David expressed his thanks to the degree team.

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter is scheduled for:

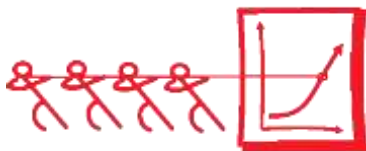
Tuesday 10th January 2017 at 7:30pm

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

Rockmount Cryptic Council

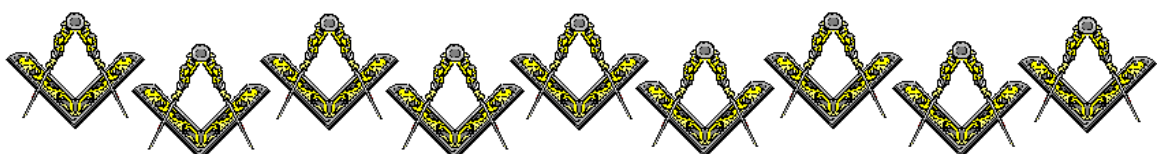
A similar invitation is also extended by the T.I.M. Robert McCulloch and his Office Bearers to attend the next regular meeting of Rockmount Cryptic Council No. 367 on.

Tuesday 23rd January 2017



It's good to see the new office bearers settling into their roles and enjoying themselves at the meetings. A really good team who work well together and will help to make Instruction Master, Bro. Jim Renfrew PM's job that wee bit easier. Well done to all.

On a similar note, it was great to see our Junior Deacon, Bro. Grant Maybury making his debut on the floor at our recent meeting. Bro. Grant gave a very good performance and we very much look forward to seeing more from him over the years ahead!



On Thursday 24th November, nine brethren accompanied our outgoing RWM. Bro. Ian Blair on a trip to Grand Lodge in Edinburgh for the Annual Installation of Grand Office Bearers. The brethren arrived in good time, took our seats and witnessed a very fine installation ceremony where we saw our very own Bro. Bud Gauld PM being re-installed into the office of Grand Director of Ceremonies. We were then thrilled to hear our Past Master; Bro Jim Miller Sec. receive the Honorary Grand Rank of Architect. This came as a great but very pleasant surprise to Bro Jim who was warmly congratulated by all his mates!!!

We then travelled by coach to The Corn Exchange, Edinburgh for The Festival of St. Andrew where we enjoyed a fine meal, excellent speeches and entertainment and fantastic company. It was so good to meet up with so many friends from the other lodges and share stories and memories together.

The Grand Master Mason was more than happy to circulate among all the brethren present, stopping to chat in his convivial manner and this was very much appreciated by all. Bro. Graham Manson PM met The Grand Master of Italy and had a photo taken with him whilst conversing in his limited Italian which was well received. The evening ended with the brethren travelling back into Edinburgh and getting the train home having enjoyed a fantastic day out.

Bro Ian was delighted to round off his year with such an enjoyable event and was grateful to all in attendance.

A Mixed Bag

A New Sign ?

A young Entered Apprentice was being examined as to his proficiency in the Entered Apprentice Degree. After he had finished, he looked at his instructor and said, "I noticed several of the older members sticking their fingers in their ears and whistling. Is that a sign that I missed something? What does that sign mean?"

"That's not a sign," his instructor said, "those are old Past Masters adjusting their hearing aids."

Food for Thought

Find a Lodge whose Master and other officers are leaders in the true sense of the word, and you will find a Lodge in which the Brethren value their membership, participate in the activities of the Lodge, keep their membership active, and through their actions, in and out of the Lodge, attract other good men to petition for the Degrees.

Origins

No man discovered law or can locate its beginnings. No man invented education, or can name its birthplace. Nor is it possible to state when religion took its place in the moral sphere of men.

These great forces spring from the needs of the human soul, and are the result of growth and development. The same is true for Freemasonry. It was not created, but grew out of the past." *(Bro Delmar David Darrah)*

A Fine Story

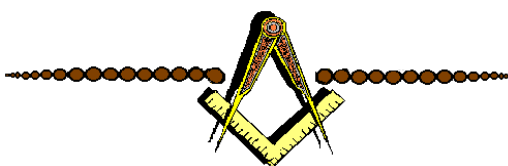
A Sales Rep breaks down in a remote country lane, a farmer in the adjacent field comes over and they discover that they are "Brothers". The Rep is concerned as he has an important appointment in the local town

"Don't worry says the farmer you can use my car, I will call a friend and get the car repaired while you go to the appointment. Off goes the sales rep and a couple of hours later he returns but unfortunately the car is awaiting a part which won't arrive until the next morning.

"It's not a problem," says the Farmer, "use my telephone and re-schedule your first appointment tomorrow, stay with us tonight and I'll see that the car is done first thing!" The farmers' wife prepares a wonderful meal and they share a glass of fine single malt during an excellent evening, the sales rep sleeps soundly and when he awakes, his car is repaired and ready to go.

After a full breakfast the salesman thanks them both for the hospitality. As he and the farmer walk to his car he turns and asks "my brother, thank you so much, but I have to ask, did you help me because I am a Mason?"

"No" was the reply, "I helped you because I'm a Mason"



Many Happy Returns

Happy 70th Birthday to Bro. Kenneth Hill



Overheard in a pub in Greenock

"It's no ma ideal jo, but a job's a job nooadays. Better than a slap on the kisser wi a wet haddie is whit a say".

Overheard in a pub in Glasgow

"How's yer father"?

"Still deid"!

Overheard in an Edinburgh pub

"I can't be bothered with fancy foods any more. I just like the simple stuff. A pie and a pint is meat and drink tae me".

Overheard in club bar in Bathgate

"This generation is brain washed into believing a pint will kill them. Absolute nonsense, ma father had a couple of pints most nights and a few more at the weekend and it didnae kill him,"

"So how old was he when he died"?

"52, but that was because he was run over by the works bus".



With a sincere feeling of sorrow and sadness it is my solemn duty to intimate that on Saturday 26th November 2016, after enduring a long illness with immense dignity, Bro. David Provan, aged 75, passed away at Millview Care Home, Barrhead. Bro. David had been in residence at Millview for over 3 years and during that time, as Lodge Almoner, paid many visits to him there and prior to that at his home in Barrhead. Bro David, formerly of Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire eventually came to reside in Barrhead after many years in the occupation of a full-time professional footballer with Glasgow Rangers FC (1958-1970).

Bro. David's Mother Lodge was Lodge Dolphin, Bonnybridge No. 911. After moving to Barrhead he accepted an invitation to attend an anniversary dinner of Lodge Union & Crown No. 307 and to give a talk centred on his truly immense footballing experience. What an address he gave and what a reception he received from "all" assembled on that joyous occasion. He soon affiliated to Lodge Union & Crown No. 307 where he was most warmly welcomed.

Prior to funeral services I visited the respective residences of son, Graham, and daughter, Yvonne, and expressed condolences on behalf of the Lodge to all the family. I received a heartfelt thank you. The funeral service took place at St Andrews Parish Church, Barrhead and Neilston Cemetery. I attended both services along with a goodly number of Brethren from "307". The support for the grieving family was very large in consequence of a significant turnout at both services from the townsfolk of Barrhead and beyond. In conclusion I extend sincere sympathy to Bro David Provan PM of Lodge New Monkland Montrose No.88, Airdrie plus PM of Lodge Montrose Kilwinning No. 15 a relative of the Provan family.

I must congratulate Bro. Johnny Gauld, PM of Lodge Union and Crown No. 307 for his most reverential 'piping' at the comital service in Neilston cemetery. Well done!

Bro. David Provan, a good Man and Mason will be profoundly missed by many folk, near and far for many years to come and fondly remembered.

I sadly intimate that Mr Robin Glendinning, aged 76, the dear farther of Amanda, partner of our Right Worshipful Master Bro George McGrandles passed away at Lincoln Country Hospital on Thursday 15th December 2016 after a short illness. Condolences on behalf of the Lodge were expressed by me to Amanda and Bro. George and the family by means of a sympathy card and phone call. The Right Worshipful Master, Bro. George, thanked me most sincerely for the compassion shown.

I visited Bro. Robert 'Bobby' Kennedy in the Royal Alexandria Hospital in Paisley. Bro. Bobby is now back home in Barrhead and is feeling a lot better.

During the past month I have visited the following Brothers and Ladies of the Lodge at their homes:-

Bro. Robert Nixon PM

Bro. Jim Waterston

Mrs Elaine Provan

Miss Yvonne Provan

Mrs Josie Flockhart

Bro. Bobby Kennedy

Mrs Jean Oliver

Mrs Jean Cook

Mrs Catherine Fennel

Mrs Jean Ryan

I have also been keeping in contact with the following by telephone:-

Mr Graham Provan

Mrs Catherine Fennel

Mrs Aileen Richardson

Mrs Helen Dempsey

Bro. Jim Hughes

Bro Jim Heron

Bro. Bobby Kennedy

Mrs Karen Laird

Mrs Brenda Shields

Brethren, I wish to tender a warm and wholehearted acknowledgement and indeed , a "BIG THANK YOU", to our dear Worshipful Junior Warden, Bro. Ronnie McIsaac for the support and immense assistance he afforded our Lodge, and myself as Almoner, by a selfless dedication and unswerving commitment to complete all assignments he carries out in such a cheerful manner.

Brethren it would be remiss of me if I did not mention the editor of our Lodge magazine, Bro. Hugh Cattigan PM having experienced a health upset at the time of preparing and printing November's issue of the Mallet. Enduring a measure of discomfort, he did manage to complete the task. Bro Hugh, I do hope your recovery is swift. (Thank you Bro. Alex, I'm a lot better now and more especially mobile again Ed.).

Brethren, at time of writing and going to print, I have to report that Bro. Jim Flockhart has been admitted to Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow where his condition is serious. Stay strong Bro Jim.

"I send Festive Greetings to all and best wishes for 2017"

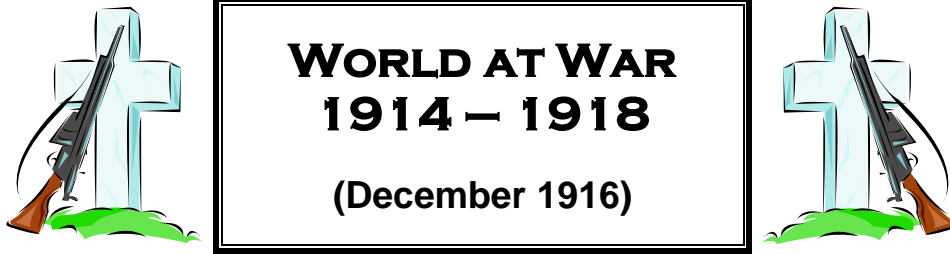
Bro. Alex White, Lodge Almoner, ☎ 0141-571 6411



Brethren are reminded that our first regular meeting of February 2017 has been moved to Friday the 3rd at 07:30pm. This will be a short business meeting followed by a 'dinner' to commemorate our:

193rd Anniversary

Tickets for the dinner are £12.50 and are available from the Worshipful Junior Warden Bro. Ronnie McIsaac



One of the 20th century's key political figures as far as Britain was concerned was the Liberal MP David Lloyd George.

With the outbreak of the First World War, Lloyd George served in Asquith's coalition war cabinet, as minister for munitions and as secretary for war. Unhappy with Asquith's conduct of the war, and ambitious, he connived with the Conservatives to oust Asquith, succeeding him as Prime Minister on 7 December 1916. This episode caused a split in the party from which it never entirely recovered; along with Asquith several other prominent Liberals resigned from the government.

A capable wartime leader, bold and aggressive, Lloyd George often found himself coming into conflict with Sir Douglas Haig, whom he did not trust. In particular, Lloyd George found the cost in human terms of Haig's battles to be reprehensible. Lloyd George also often found himself in disagreement with the Chief of the Imperial Staff, General Robertson.

One of Lloyd George's greatest achievements during the war was in combating the growing German submarine menace, which in early 1917 threatened to starve Britain into submission.

- 7th David Lloyd George replaces resigning H. H. Asquith as British Prime Minister
- 9th First meeting of new British War Cabinet
- 11th British coalition cabinet meets for the first time; Lord Derby succeeds Lloyd George as Minister for War; Balfour succeeds Grey in Foreign Affairs
- 12th German, Austro-Hungarian, Bulgarian and Turkish governments all hands notes to United States embassies stating they are ready to negotiate a peace; on 18 December President Wilson issues circular note suggesting negotiations
- 19th British government decides to institute National Service
- 22nd British government forms new Ministries of Food, Pensions and Shipping
- 26th Central Powers agree to President Wilson's suggestion of negotiations
Lord Davenport appointed as first Food Controller in Britain
- 30th Allied governments reject German peace proposal
- 31st Rasputin, the Mad Monk, is killed.



FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from the Mallet of 18 Years Ago



Issue No. 219

December 1998

RWM Bro. Robin Murray

At the Installation meeting held on Saturday 28th November 1998, Bro Robert Christie Murray was installed into the chair of his Mother Lodge, in what was a fine installation ceremony, by the Installing Masters – Bro David Noble PM and his colleague Bro William Renfrew PM

Lodge opened : 3-00pm

Lodge closed : 5-44pm

Attendance : 137

On Tuesday 1st December, the following Candidate : JOHN WATSON SMITH was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of our order, by the Worshipful Wardens, in what was a slightly nervy rendition of the E.A. Degree.

Lodge Opened : 7-30pm

Lodge Closed : 9-19pm

Attendance : 79

At the Regular Meeting on Tuesday 15th December the same Candidate was passed to the Fellowcraft Degree by the Worthy Deacons of the Lodge, in what was a well worked 2nd Degree, which was greatly appreciated by all those in attendance.

Lodge Opened : 7-30pm

Lodge Closed : 9-11pm

Attendance : 74

As most of our readers will already be aware, a special meeting is being held on Saturday 6th February to mark the 175th Anniversary of the Lodge. A short Re-dedication & Consecration ceremony, conducted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East, will take place in the Temple and thereafter the Brethren will parade to Carlibar School in Main Street where the Celebratory Dinner is being staged within the Main Hall of the building, which staged our Centenary Dinner in 1924.

We offer belated congratulations to Bro Douglas Junner Jun. And his new wife, Lesley Anne. following their recent wedding.

We notice that Bro Archie Tannock is back living in Neilston, after a spell of working in the north-east of Scotland.

Our Worthy Treasurer, Bro John Livingstone PM, has asked us to remind all members of the Social Club, that the annual membership is now due.

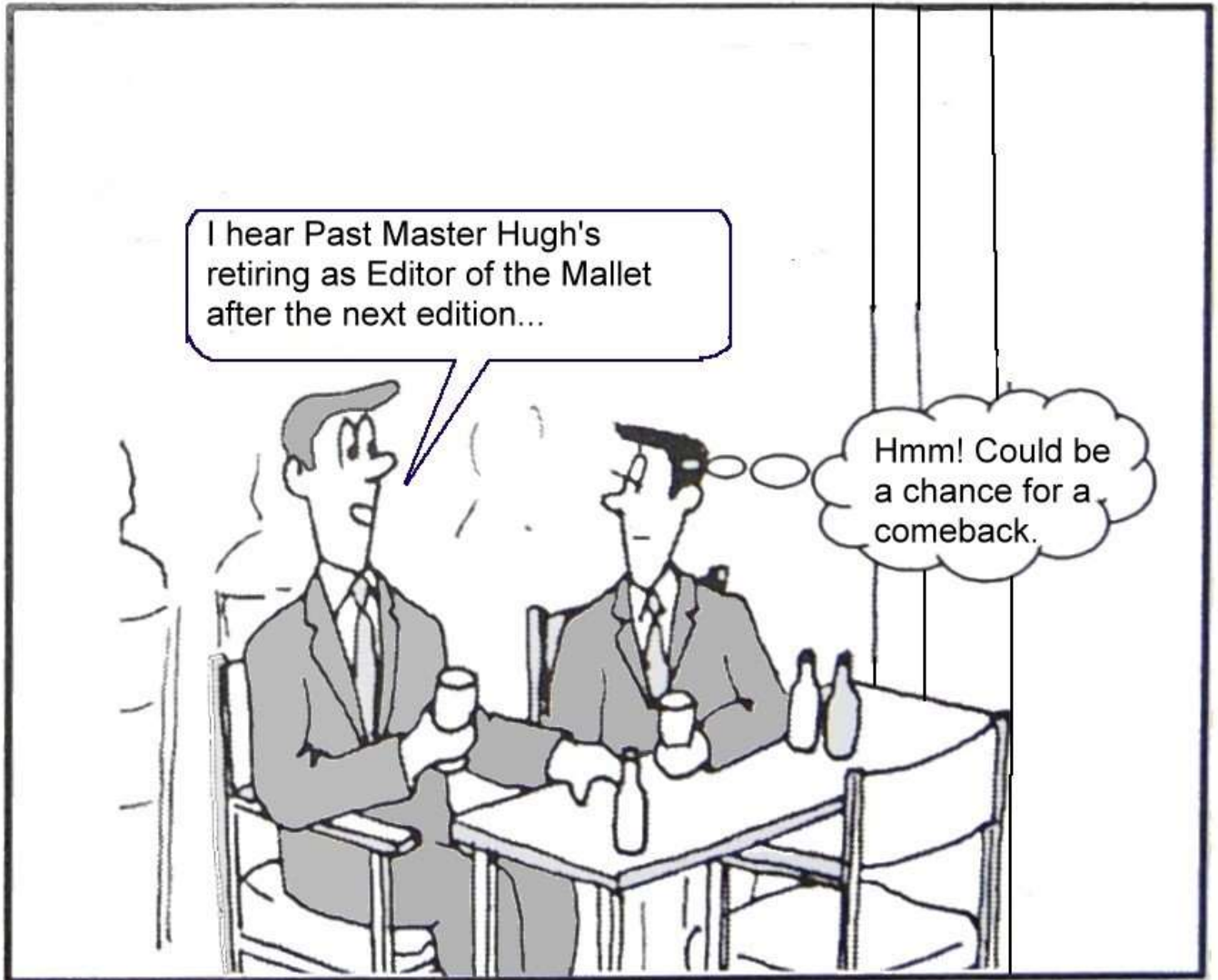
Congratulations to Bro Davie law, who recently celebrated 25years with Weirs of Cathcart, where he has worked as man and boy.

Another Brother on the move – Bro Colin McLardy has bought one of the splendid Bellway homes on the old Shanks site at the foot of Victoria Road.

We offer our heartiest best wishes to Bro Jim Laing's Daughter, Heather, and her husband Alan following their wedding on Hogmanay.

We are indebted to Bro Archie Chalmers PM of Lodge Thistle in Stewarton for his generous donation to our funds. Bro Archie has long been a reader of our journal. We also wish him well in his new position as Provincial Grand Secretary of Ayrshire and gather that he has been appointed as a Steward within the Grand Lodge of Scotland – Congratulations.

Mark 'n' Archie



The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by:

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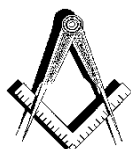
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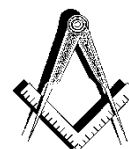
Lodge Website: www.unionandcrown307.com

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



Syllabus 2016-2017

* - Denotes an Official visit



January 2017

*Thursday	05 th	07:30pm	EA Degree	At Lodge Thistle & Crown, 1167
Tuesday	17 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	Installing Masters
*Thursday	26 th	07:30pm	t.b.c.	At Lodge Houston St Johnstone 242

February 2017

Friday	03 rd	07:30pm	Business meeting followed by 193 rd Anniversary Dinner	
*Monday	13 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	At Lodge Nitshill, No.1478
Tuesday	21 st	07:30pm	EA Degree	By Lodge Nitshill, No.1478

March 2017

Tuesday	07 th	07:30pm	Business meeting and PGLRE Visitation	
Tuesday	21 st	07:30pm	FC Degree	By: t.b.c.
*Monday	27 th	07:30pm	FC Degree	At Lodge Saltcoats Ardrossan St John 320

April 2017

Tuesday	04 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Grand Lodge of Scotland
Tuesday	18 th	07:30pm	Dramatisation	'Burns v Kipling'

May 2017

Tuesday	02 nd	07:30pm	EA Degree	By Lodge Nitshill, No.1478
*Saturday	06 th	t.b.c.	Dramatisation	t.b.c. (Overnight probably required)
Tuesday	16 th	07:30pm	Dramatisation	Prisoners of War

September 2017

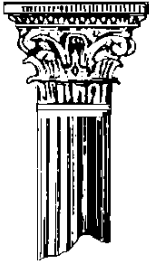
Tuesday	05 th	07:30pm	FC Degree	By Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426
Tuesday	19 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Lodge Instruction Class

October 2017

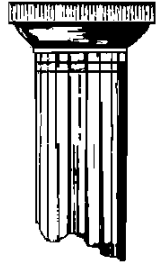
Friday	07 th	07:30pm	Open night /Dramatisation "The Table of Scottish Freemasons"	
Tuesday	17 th	07:30pm	-----	Annual General Meeting
*Friday	20 th	07:30pm	FC Degree	At Lodge St Conval 1359
*Tuesday	31 st	07:30pm	EA Degree	At Lodge Pollokshaws RA 153

November 2017

Tuesday	07 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	Dramatisation
Tuesday	21 st	07:30pm	MMM Degree	By Bro. Ian Blair IPM
Saturday	25 th	04:00pm	Installation	2017-2018



OFFICE BEARERS 2016 - 2017



RWM	George McGrandles
WSW	Nicol Hynd
WJW	Ronald Mclsaac
IPM	Ian Blair IPM
Depute Master	
Substitute Master	Christopher Baillie
Secretary	James Miller PM
Treasurer	James Kerr PM
Almoner	Alexander White
Senior Deacon	Robert Clark
Junior Deacon	Grant Mayberry
Inner Guard	
Senior Chaplain	Lawrence Webb
Junior Chaplain	Thomas Mulholland PM
Director of Ceremonies	Alan Bernard PM
Architect	Roy Farquhar
Jeweler	Thomas Wilson
Bible bearer	James Cherry
Director of Music	Ian Nicol
Organist	John Miller
Marshall	Adam Watson
Standard bearer	William Petrie
President of Stewards	Evans Reid PM
Steward	Wilson Davis
Tyler	Jimmy Laing

