

The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



December 2024

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No. 479

Editorial



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You cannot fail to be impressed by the resilience and sheer hard work of the Past Masters of Lodge Union & Crown. A bold statement you may say when many believe that once a Brother has reached the chair of his Mother Lodge, it is difficult to continue the high level of commitment.

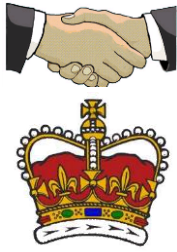
Whilst we can sympathise with the sentiments, and to a certain extent almost agree that after 10 years or more of dedicated service, culminating in what can only be the pinnacle of Masonic achievement. You could be forgiven for assuming that many would wish a slightly quieter and less stressful life.

Let us stress that we are in no way decrying the efforts of many good and loyal Brethren in other Lodges, although it is obvious to all that we have more than our fair share of dedicated and hard-working Past Masters. These Brethren, some of which are on the wrong side of 70, contribute greatly to the continued success of their Mother Lodge through the good times and bad, and have been supporting 307 for over 40 years.

If the truth be told, at times these Brethren would put many of their younger and less experienced Brethren to shame by the amount of time and effort they put in unselfishly. It only right that we should utilise the knowledge they have gathered over the years in the key positions within Union & Crown and ensure that they impart their years of experience to the Brethren who are making their way towards the Chair. Their thirst for excellence is unquenching and a casual glance at the attendance at the Monday evening instruction classes will normally reveal at least 6 PMs in attendance, still eager to take part in ceremonial work of the Lodge.

Some are, of course, retired and have the time available to continue to work for 307. Many are, however, employed in key positions with demanding jobs, which place an added burden upon their lives, but they do so willingly, happy to be engaged upon labours for their beloved Lodge, never once forgetting their obligation to their Mother Lodge.

Our Past Masters – We thank you for your dedication to 307



Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

Dear Sir & Brother,

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

Tuesday 7th January 2025

No Meeting



Tuesday 21st January 2025

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

Dramatised Degree

'Burns versus Kipling'

Harmony

Yours faithfully & fraternally

R Evans Reid P.M.,

Lodge Secretary

Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 3rd December, the following Candidate :

ANDREW MURRAY

was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of our order, in what was a fine Entered Apprentice Degree conferred by the Worshipful Wardens. All who took part are to be congratulated upon the high standard of ceremonial considering most were in their new offices for the very first time.

Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 9.26pm

Attendance : 52

100 CLUB

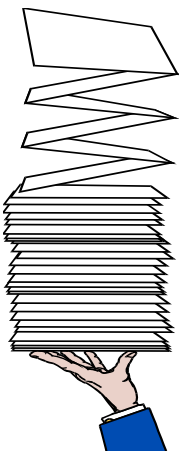
The fortunate winners of our cash prizes this month were :

3rd December £20 : Bro Ian Blair PM

£10 : Bro Jimmy Laing

Bro George McGrandles PM, our worthy Treasurer, is now taking names for this year, with the annual fee is still very good value at £10,

Paper Appeal



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

As many of our readers will know we make regular appeals for A4 size, 80g/m² paper, preferably white but any colour will do. Without sufficient stocks, we simply cannot print enough copies of our journal to satisfy our wide-ranging readership. So if you have the odd ream lying about just let us know and we'll even arrange to have it picked-up if necessary.

In addition, we also need 160g/m² card for various tasks within the Lodge.

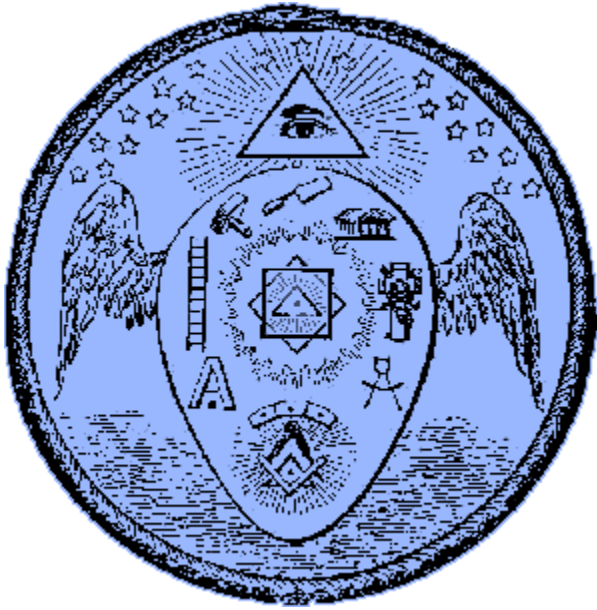
'Masonic' Placenames in the United States

Anchor, IL
Beehive, MT
Boaz, AL
Charity, MS
Circle, MT
Cowan, TN
Emblem, WY
Eureka, WV
Faith, SD

Fidelity, IL
Five Points, AL
Freeborn, MN
Hiram, MA
Hope, AK
Jachin, AL
Justice, IL
Lodge, SC
Mason, KY

Masonic Home, KY
Masontown, WV
Mason City, IA
Square, MT
Steward, IL
Symbol, KY
Temperance, MI
Tyler, TX

Lodge Les Philadelphes



Lodge Les Philadelphes is a French lodge tied with revolutions around Europe and beyond.

Lodge Les Philadelphes was formed in France in the 1750's. In the beginning of the lodge it was populated mostly with emigrants to France. It was part of the Rite of Memphis structure and not part of the recognized masonic organizations. Although they did share members with traditional lodges.

Later it spun off two organizations. They were not necessarily masonic. It included La Commune Révolutionnaire and

International Association. Its principal tasks were to spread the doctrine of solidarity and prepare to implement "the ideal of our hearts, the Universal Democratic and Social Republic." Although Louis Blanqui was not a member of the order many of his followers were. Blanqui developed the theory of Blanquism which was very compatible with the ideas of the lodge. Blanquism holds socialist revolutions should be carried out by a relatively small group of highly organized and secretive conspirators. Having seized power, the revolutionaries then used the power of the state to introduce socialism.

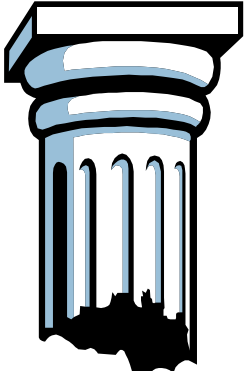
With this philosophy the lodge gained strength around Europe with the exception of Italy. The group was very critical of Giuseppe Mazzini, a politician and activist for the unification of Italy, so many Italians stayed away from the group. Giuseppe Garibaldi was an Italian General and member of the group and became a big influence on the organization as it moved forward.

The Philadelphians, as they are called, at times promoted terrorist type activities especially in France. Two assassination attempts on Napoleon are tied to the organization. One was performed by a member of the lodge and the other was celebrated by a feast put on by the lodge when the assassin was released from prison.



Eventually the organization started to spread around the world and new lodges were created in the United States, England and other places around Europe and Egypt.

In 1881, under the leadership of Garibaldi the Rite of Memphis merged with the Rite of Misraim. After the merger they became known as the Rite of Memphis-Misraim and the organization spread around the world.



From the East

As I sit here, putting pen to paper, I can hardly believe that I write this article as your newly installed Right Worshipful Master. I am actually struggling to find the words to express how I feel to be given such an honour, suffice to say I am more than a wee bit chuffed, but even more than a wee bit daunted by the task ahead of me.

Prior to my installation I took some time to gaze upon all the old pictures that hang in the East of the lodge, pictures dating back to Past Provincial Grand Master, Bro Zachariah Henry Heys, pictures of men, who like me, aspired to better themselves, to become smoother ashlar by serving their Mother Lodge and by helping their fellow man. I'm not sure if I was inspired by these pictures or somewhat in awe of them. I do know however that my goal as your Right Worshipful Master is the same as theirs, to serve my Mother Lodge to the best of my ability, to help and be helped by the outstanding brethren of Lodge Union & Crown and to help my fellow man.

You have heard myself and our I.P.M. Bro Robert Dickson Scott AKA my wee brother say on many an occasion that we are only two wee boys from Castlemilk. We say that not in a boastful way to show what we have achieved in our lives despite a humble background, rather the opposite is true, we say that as two wee boys proud of our heritage and acutely aware of how difficult it was for us to achieve what we have achieved. For both Robert and myself, right at the pinnacle of all these achievement is the honour of being installed as the Right Worshipful Master of Lodge Union & Crown.

Brethren, although a few months have now passed it would be remiss of me not to mention my two installing masters, P.M. Jim Renfrew and P.M. Paul Stewart both of whom I admire greatly. Having been installed in previous years as an office bearer by P.M. Jim I had no hesitation in asking him to be one of my installing masters. P.M. Paul Stewart and I have been friends for over 20 years and in asking P.M. Paul install me as R.W.M. I knew I would be in a safe pair of hands. My heartfelt thanks goes to both of these outstanding Freemasons and P.M.s for a job well done.

We are blessed in 307 with a large number of Past Masters and I would also like to thank each and every one of them for their kind words of encouragement and their well-received advice for my incoming year. My thanks also extends to all the brethren of the lodge for their kindness and the assistance which I have received in my journey to the chair.

As always Lodge Union and Crown has a busy year ahead, not only with our usual syllabus and visitations to other Lodges within and outwith the province, but also with our ever popular dramatised degrees. Requests to perform these degrees in other provinces throughout Scotland are being received by Bro Secretary on a regular basis. Our reputation for excellence and the very highest of standards proceeds us brethren and you may rest assured that this will continue under my leadership.

In closing let me ask you this simple question "What makes Lodge Union & Crown different from any other lodge in Scotland, what makes us revered and admired, what makes us a lodge that stands out from the rest?" I'll give you my answer, YOU DO!

The Lodge isn't the building that we find at 30 Cochrane St, Barrhead, it's not even the Temple within that building, it's you! You are the lodge brethren and without your commitment and dedication to our Mother Lodge, 307 simply wouldn't exist.

Let me leave you with an inspirational quote from Bro. Winston Churchill "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

I hope you have all had a great Christmas and I wish each and every one of you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Brother Stephen Scott R.W.M.

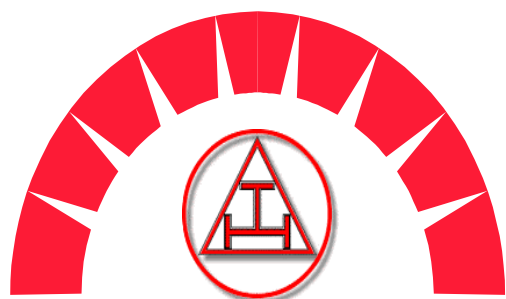
Dates for your Diary



- Tuesday 7th January** **NO MEETING**
- Thursday 16th January** Visitation to Lodge Thistle & Crown, No.1167 where we have been invited to confer a MM Degree
- Monday 20th January** Management Committee Meeting at 7.30pm
- Tuesday 21st January** Dramatised Degree – ‘**Burns versus Kipling**’
- Friday 31st January** Annual Burns Supper at 7pm. Tickets are available from Bro Ross Aitken WSW.
- Friday 7th February** Following a short Business Meeting, the Lodge is holding its 201st Anniversary Dinner. Tickets are available from Bro Campbell Ritchie WjW.

(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 Robert Scott RWM or any senior Office-bearer,

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



Rockmount R.A.C. No.367

At the Regular Meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 10th December 2024, due to the lack of a candidate, the Companions carried out an emulation of the Royal Arch Degree Degree.

Those taking part are to be congratulated upon their efforts in what was the very first time for many.

At the close of the meeting, the Office-bearers and Companions, along with their visitors retired downstairs where a quiet, yet enjoyable, harmony was enjoyed by all.

MEC James Renfrew MEZ cordially invites all to the next Regular meeting of the Chapter to be held on Tuesday 14th January at 7.30pm, where a Mark Affiliate and Excellent Master's Degree will be conferred upon a 'live' Candidate

If you are a Brother who would perhaps like to join the Royal Arch, please speak with Bro Jim Renfrew MEZ at any time.

BITS & PIECES

- Due to the extended winter holiday of our worthy Almoner, Bro Jim Miller PM Bro Lawrence Webb will be stepping in to fulfil the role in his absence. If you hear of any Brother or Widow of the Lodge who is in need of a visit, don't hesitate to contact Bro Lawrence (☎ 07736 780 132)
- Bro Graham Manson PM, our hard-working Instruction Master would be delighted to see some new blood at the Lodge Instruction Class on Monday evenings, but if your too shy and would rather learn something quietly at home, he'll be only too happy to help you out and let you go forward when you're confident enough.
- We gather that Bro Graham Allan's son – John who recently joined his father's Mother Lodge – Lodge Gleniffer, No.1219, has now taken an office. His paternal Grandfather -Bro Archie Allan PM has taken the chair again in 1219. Bro John's other late Grandfather was our own Bro John Livingstone PM
- We hear that Brother Craig Allison has taken the Chair for the third consecutive year in The Lodge of Old Aberdeen, No.164 where he now lives and works.
- We are told that Bro Ian Blair PM and his lovely wife Mary are about to set off on a cruise in the Far East with stays in both Hong Kong and Singapore.
- On the subject of Exotic holidays, Bro Iain Nicol has just returned from a 10 trip to Marrakesh in Morocco
- We are reliably informed by an excellent source that there are plans afoot for yet another 'Dramatised Degree' with a bit of a twist (Watch this space.
- Cufflinks with the Lodge's new 'Coat of Arms' are still available for sale. All interested should contact Bro Ross Aitken WJW (☎ 07590 207 365) In addition, a lovely new Lodge Tie is also for sale at a bargain £15 !!
- The Lodge visit to Bro William Ramsay McGhee's Lodge in the Black Isle is having to be pushed back until Saturday 1st November due to other GL duties which unfortunately clashed with the planned September date.
- We hear that Bro Graham Manson PM, a Central Heating Engineer, is about to take early retirement in April after almost 40 years
- It's good to see that Bro Alex Morrison who's 92 is back on his feet again and getting out and about after several weeks of ill health.
- We gather that Bro David Noble PM has given up his beloved golf due to his health. Twice a past Captain of Fereneze GC, at 83 he feels that it is becoming too much of a chore.
- We are told that Bro David Watson PM and his charming wife Lynn have settled well in to their new home in Prestwick and are starting to make lots of new friends.

Famous Freemasons

(This month we look at another of the stars of Hollywood's silver screen)

Brother Glenn Ford (1916 – 2006)

Born Gwyllyn Samuel Newton Ford in May 1916, in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. He was most prominent during Hollywood's Golden Age as one of the biggest box-office draws of the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s, with a career that lasted more than 50 years.

However, it was for comedies or westerns that he received acting laurels, including three Golden Globe Nominations for Best Actor – Motion Picture Musical or Comedy,

At the age of eight his family moved to Santa Monica, California. He graduated from Santa Monica High School. While in high school he worked odd jobs which included working for Will Rogers who taught the young Ford horsemanship. Before going into acting, Ford's father told him he should "learn something else first." Essentially a skill to fall back on. Ford followed his father's advice and at the height of his popularity in Hollywood you could find him working on plumbing and wiring around his house.



In 1939, Ford became a naturalized citizen and signed a contract with Columbia Pictures. He also received his first major part in the film *Heaven with a Barbed Wire Fence*. His first ground breaking role was in an independent film released two years later called *So End Our Night*. The director of the film, impressed with Ford's role in *Heaven with a Barbed Wire Fence* asked Columbia Pictures to loan him for the picture. The film, which was released prior to America's entry into World War II, was about a young German exile on the run in Europe. The movie was a big hit and was even screened in the White House with Ford in attendance. President Roosevelt was so taken with Ford he invited him to attend his annual birthday party.

When Ford returned to California in 1941 he did two things, became a registered Democrat because he was so taken with the Roosevelt's. He went on to campaign for other Democrats in the 1950's and early 1960's. The second thing he did was join the Coast Guard Axillary.

In 1942, Ford joined the United States Marine Reserve while he was working on a film for Columbia pictures, the studio had to beg the Marine Corps to let him finish the picture before going to boot camp. He served in the Marine Corps until 1944 hoping to see combat. Instead he was stationed in San Diego working for the Public Relations office. He was given a medical discharge from the Marines when it was discovered he had duodenal ulcers.

Ford was able to pick his career up essentially where it left off. One of his biggest films was *Blackboard Jungle*. The film also starred a young Sidney Poitier. Unlike other films of the time like *Rebel without a Cause* and *The Wild One*, *Blackboard Jungle* took on racial issues head on. The film was about an idealistic teacher who was harassed by his students in an urban high school. The theme for the movie was the song "Rock Around the Clock" the first time a rock and roll song was used in a Hollywood film

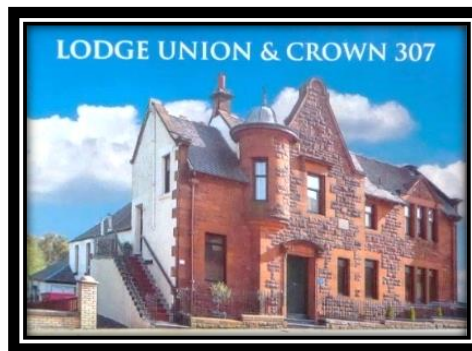
He was initiated, passed and raised in Palisades Lodge No. 637 in 1954, and later affiliated with Riviera Lodge No. 780. He received his 50 year award in January 2005. His Mother Lodge merged with Santa Monica Lodge No. 307 in 1987 and became Santa Monica-Palisades Lodge No. 307. *(Note the number !!)*

In 1978, Ford had a brief role in first Superman movie as Clark Kent's father, Jonathan Kent. In his final years, Ford suffered a series of minor strokes which weakened his health. He passed away on August 30th, 2006.

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

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 stand, a magnificent total of almost £750 has been raised so far.

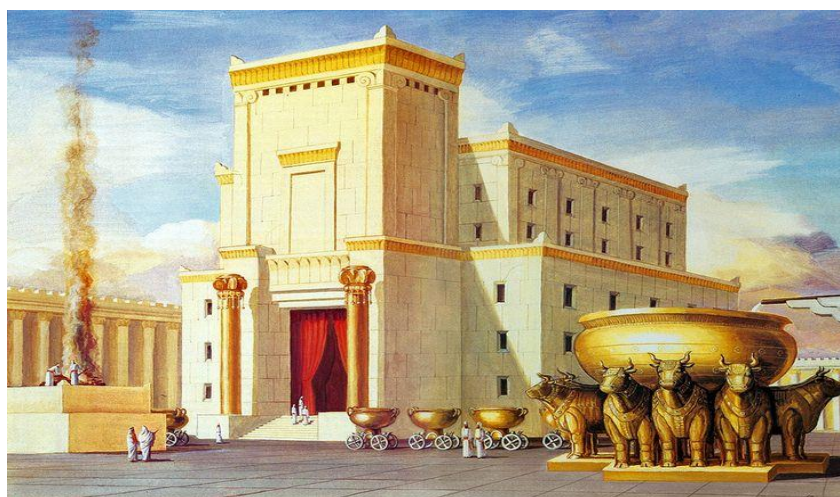


King Solomon's Temple

The final and most sacred portion of the Temple was the Holy of Holies, the inner most room of the Temple. The room is described as being a perfect cube, 20 cubits in width height and length. The discrepancy of the missing 10 cubits from the height has been explained by the belief the Holy of Holies was actually elevated and there was a space underneath. The Holy of Holies is believed to have contained all of the sacred relics of the time. This included the seven branched candlestick and more importantly the Ark of the Covenant.

There is no archaeological evidence the Temple ever existed. Most scholars agree it did exist and when, roughly, it was built. There has been no real excavation of the Temple Mount since the late 1800's. This is due to the religious conflicts existing in the region.

For Freemasonry Solomon's Temple has become a metaphor for the building up of the individual into a better person and member of society. The stones used in the building of the Temple become metaphors for the good deeds and knowledge one gains in life and through positive life experiences



The Three Salutes

By Bro Rob Morris

I hail you, Brother, in the place
Where none but those should meet
Whose types are bended knee and brow,
And the uncovered feet;
I take you by the grip, expressing
All that heart can feel,
And I pledge myself to be to you,
A Brother True as STEEL!

I've watched with real joy your quest.
So ardent and so rare-
Your bold; unflinching gaze upon
The things we most revere;
I've seen that nothing daunts you
In the paths our Lights reveal;
And I pledge myself again to you,
A Brother True as STEEL!

I think there's that within you
Only needs for time to show-
Will kindle up a flame where
Often only feel a glow;
I think the grave will claim you
As a Mason ripe and leal;
And so once more I pledge myself
A Brother True as STEEL!

FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 40 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

...ooo000ooo...

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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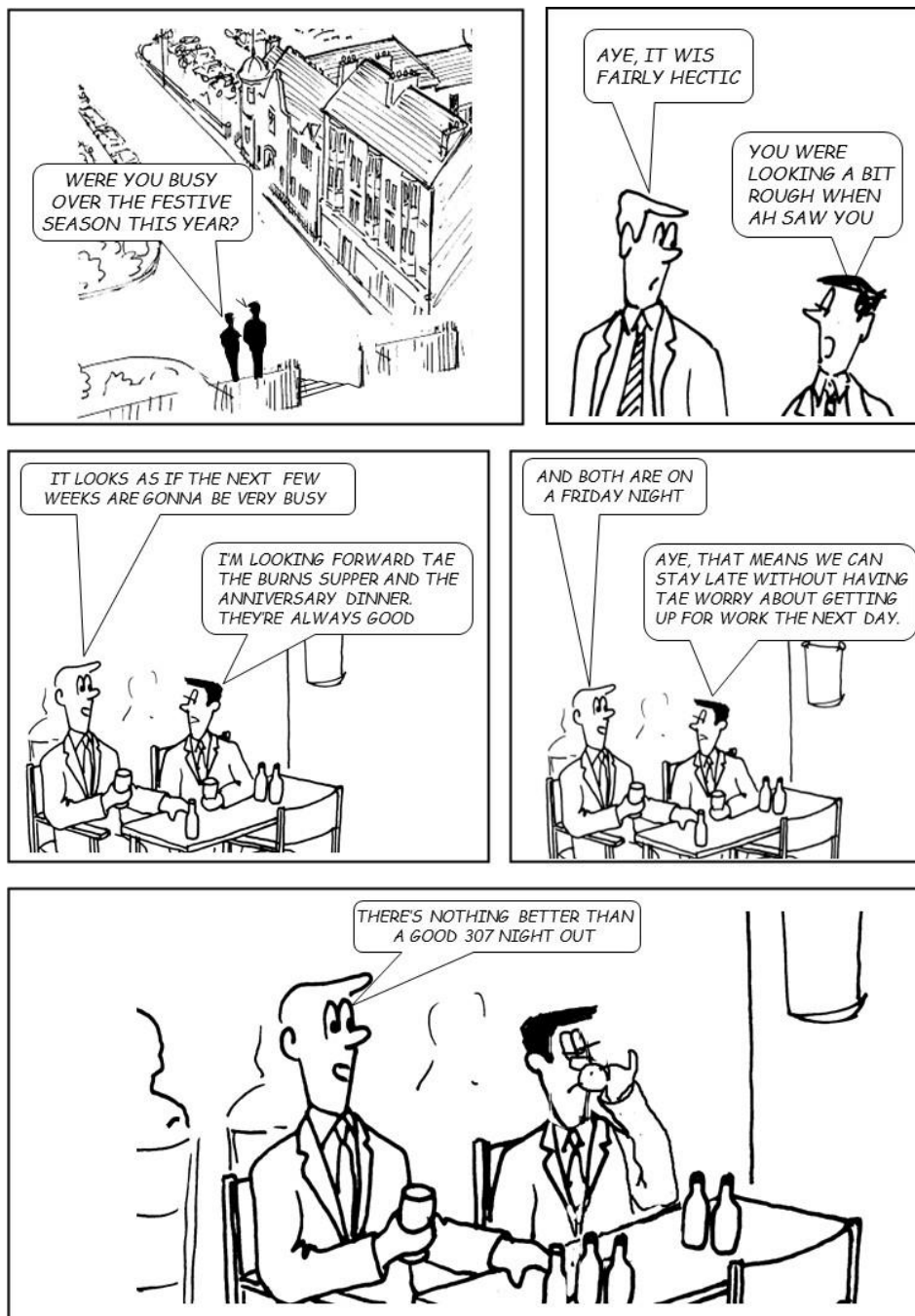
WITHIN the LODGE :

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



J RENFREW DEC 2024

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

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