

The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



November 2017

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No. 408



November 2017

During recent visits to several Lodges within the City of Glasgow it has been disturbing to say the very least at the low attendances. In fact, in some it has only been the small number of visiting Brethren who have enabled the Lodge to constitute and open the meeting. We fully appreciate that this has been a long-standing problem within many of the urban areas, where the demolition of large areas, and the redevelopment which followed had a telling impact upon the populations who migrated to the new towns and leafier suburbs on the periphery of the city. Sadly, the lodges who had served traditional communities for many years remained in the districts they had served for decades, as their membership dwindled and drifted away. Gone were the large attendances which followed both World Wars, as men returned to normal domestic life, and the social and fraternal opportunities the Lodges provided.

Unfortunately, the promises that Brethren would continue to attend their Lodge, where perhaps their fathers and grandfathers had been members, came in many cases to nothing as the difficulties experienced with public transport in the 1950s and 1960s meant that it was easier for the Brethren to seek their Freemasonry somewhere more local, as quite a number of new Lodges sprang up in the new towns such as East Kilbride, Cumbernauld and Irvine where many of those rehouse under the 'Overspill Projects' found themselves.

It is a credit to the Lodges who carried on, as the attendances dropped, followed in later years by a further drop in the numbers of those coming forward as new initiates. In many cases they 'cut their cloth to suit' and simply adapted to the changes which had been forced upon them. Brethren were determined that their Lodge would survive, regardless of the circumstances, and found away to keep going, even though in many cases the finances which kept the Lodges going were shrinking too.

It is not uncommon within many of the Lodges who remain in the older suburbs of Glasgow, for Brethren to occupy the Chair on several occasions and you can even find some where a small handful of dedicated Brethren take turns to be RWM, simply to survive. Whilst we commend such Brethren for their dedication, it can only be a matter of time until such Lodges find it increasingly difficult to be able to function.

Some say that smaller Lodges who are struggling should adapt to the modern world and perhaps amalgamate with another Lodge in a similar predicament in order to survive. That is easy to say, but extremely difficult to put in to practice, as different practices, traditions and outlooks may be a hurdle too much to clear.

A Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year To all our Readers



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 5th December 2017

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

Entered Apprentice Degree

conferred by

Worshipful Wardens

Harmony



Tuesday 19th December 2017

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

Fellowcraft Degree

conferred by

Worthy Deacons

Harmony



Yours faithfully & fraternally

David McArthur P.M., Secretary

Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 7th November, the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class conferred the Dramatised MM Degree.

This popular degree was enjoyed by a healthy audience, with a high number of visitors in attendance, for what is ever a popular and enjoyable dramatization.

Opened : 7.30pm Lodge Closed : 8.51pm Attendance : 87

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 21st November, a fine Mark Ceremonial was conferred upon the following Brethren :

PAUL SMITH GREGOR McPHERSON

ROSS FLOCKHART CHRISTOPHER GILBERT ROSS BARNARD

STEVEN BLAIR JASON DINNING

Presented with just the correct balance of solemnity and humour, it went down well with all those in attendance, and Bro Ian Blair is to be congratulated on a fine degree, and in his choice of those who took part.

Opened : 7-30 pm Lodge Closed : 9.12pm Attendance : 66

At the Installation Meeting of the Lodge held on Saturday 25th November, Brother Thomas Nicol Hynd was installed in to the Chair of King Solomon by the Installing Masters for the day – Bro William H Gauld PM, Bro Johnny Gauld PM and Bro Evans Reid PM. The entire ceremony, from start to finish, was carried out in a dignified and sincere by the Brethren, who were a mixture of experience and youth.

Opened : 4.02pm Lodge Closed : 6.23pm Attendance : 82



100 CLUB

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

Tuesday 7th November £10 : Bro Les Reilly

£5 : Bro Ronnie MacIsaac

Tuesday 21st November £10 : Bro Johnny Gauld PM

£5 : Bro Colin Hamilton PM

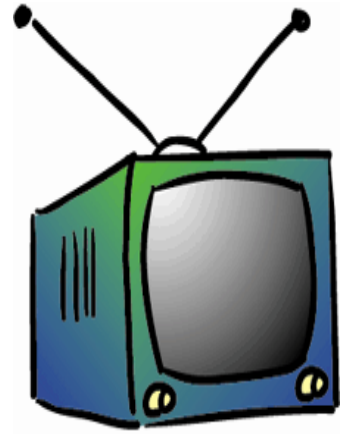
Saturday 25th November £100 : Bro Nicol Hynd RWM

£50 : Bro Wilson Davidson PM

Names are still being taken for the current year. The annual fee is still very good value at £10, & anyone interested should see Bro Jim Kerr PM, our Treasurer.

Did you know that

- Freemasons Hall in London's Covent Garden stood in for MI5 headquarters in the BBC spy drama Spooks
- An episode of The Simpsons charted Homer's attempts to join a fictional secret society called the Stonecutters, and the comic disasters that ensued
- Fred Flintstone of the popular 1960s cartoon belonged to a club with Masonic echoes - the Loyal Order of Water Buffaloes Lodge, for men only



Music written by Brother John Stafford Smith (1750-1836) of Inverness Lodge #4 in London was, at one time, used by an Irish Masonic Orphans' Home as their song. Later it became a popular drinking song for many years known as *To Anacreon in Heaven*. Then, some years later, the music was adopted by Francis Scott Key to which he wrote the words to our National Anthem, *The Star Spangled Banner*.



‘The Bud Gauld Plate’

As has become the custom at the Installation harmony, the winner of the Bud Gauld Plate was announced and the handsome piece of silverware presented by Bro Bud Gauld P.M.

The prestigious award is given annually to the Brother of the Lodge, who it is thought has contributed above and beyond the call of duty within Lodge Union & Crown and previous holders have shown that it is not given lightly and without great thought.

As the introductory speech was being made by Bro Bud, it was not surprising that a certain hush descended over the assembly as all present waited in anticipation for this year's choice to be named and a tremendous cheer, greeted the announcement that the popular recipient of the award was



Bro George McGrandles IPM

We wish him well and would remark that it is extremely doubtful that the special bottle of Malt whisky which always accompanies the award left the hall intact on that evening.



Dates for you Diary

Tuesday 5th December Regular Meeting of the Lodge where an Entered Apprentice Degree will be conferred by the Worshipful Wardens.

Saturday 16th December Christmas Dance in the Function Suite at 7-30pm.

Monday 18th December Management Committee Meeting at 7-30pm.

Tuesday 19th December Regular Meeting where a Fellowcraft Degree will be conferred by the Worthy Deacons

(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.



As many of our readers will appreciate, the bond between Scotland and Canada is very strong. Many of the earliest settlers in Canada were Scots, and this has continued right up until the present day, with many thousands of Scots families emigrating to a new life in North America.

Many of the Scots who moved to Canada took their customs and traditions with them, to ensure that the Lifestyles they had enjoyed in the 'Old Country' would be continued through the generations who followed them in the new world.

One of these was Freemasonry, and there are thousands of Freemasons in Canada, who trace the Craft back to Scotland. Many of the early pioneers and leaders who set the country and government were Freemasons, who's roots were in Scotland.

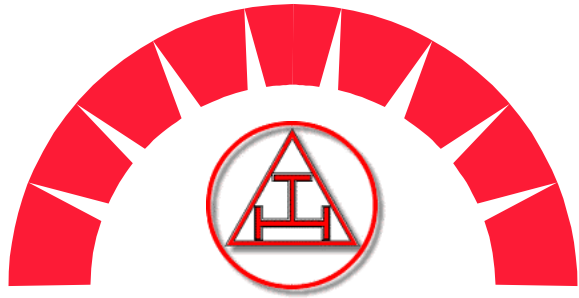
A total of six of Canada's Prime Ministers were Freemasons (*John Macdonald; John Abbott; MacKenzie Bowell; Robert Borden; Richard Bennett and John Diefenbaker*) and almost all had some link to Scotland.

Indeed, this cascaded down to the next level of Government, with a total of 37 Provincial Premiers also Freemasons. The largest numbers were in Ontario and British Columbia, were many Scots settled, with 13 each.

(Alberta 3; Manitoba 1; Newfoundland 1; British Columbia 13; Ontario 13; Nova Scotia 1 and Saskatchewan 5)

BITS & PIECES

- It was with a certain amount of sadness that it was noted recently that Bro David Begg PM, Grand Secretary is due to retire in August 2018. Bro David has undoubtedly been a revelation in his key role within Grand Lodge. Fair, but firm, he has certainly raised the bar in the proceedings of GL and will be a huge hole to fill. All at 307 wish him a long and happy retirement when it comes.
- Didn't Bro Wilson Davidson our worthy Steward work incredibly hard behind the Bar at our recent Installation, ably assisted by Bro Paul Smith and Bro Paul Devlin. Bro Wilson is 78 !!
- Our Worthy Treasurer is still looking for outstanding Test Fees to be paid as soon as possible. If required, a 'Standing Order' can be set-up for anyone to pay their annual fees in an easy and convenient way.
- We welcome all those Brethren who have taken office this month for the very first time. It is simply the first step in a wonderful journey.
- It's good to see that Bro Alex White, our hard-working Almoner, is finally getting back towards better health after a recent stay in hospital. He was overwhelmed by the number of Brethren who took the opportunity of visiting him, or giving him a call.
- It was most heartening to see that a recent regular meeting was closed just before 9pm. It just goes to show what good control over the business end of a meeting, plus a tight schedule during the ceremonial, can bring an early finish.
- We gather that Bro Stewart Gray, our Substitute Master, has found another position within Scotrail. His previous job was disappearing under some restructuring and he got the first internal vacancy he applied for.
- Great to see Bro Tom Mulholland (Garage) travelling up from his home on the Isle of Bute for the recent Installation Meeting. Bro Tom retired from his successful garage business in Cogan Street a couple of years ago, and moved to Port Bannatyne, where his family have had a holiday home for many years.
- There were a total of 17 Union & Crown Brethren who attended the recent Grand Lodge Installation and Festival of Saint Andrew, which saw Bro Charles Iain Robert Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont the MW Grand Master Mason installed for the 10th time.
- Bro Jim Renfrew PM was attending a recent Boys' Brigade competition in Paisley, and was astonished by the sheer number of Freemasons in attendance. Many years ago there was a very strong bond between Lodges and their BB Companies. Perhaps is it still there to this day ??
- It was really pleasing to see Bro Colin McLardy PM attending a recent meeting. Now resident in Greenock, and with a very demanding job which means a fair bit of travel, he tries to attend whenever he can.



Rockmount R.A.C. No.367

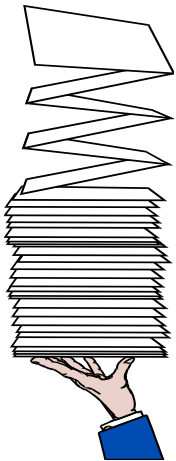
At the Regular Meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 14th October, the Chapter held a short business meeting, which was followed by a short lecture and discussion on 'Words used within the RA Degrees'.

Given by MEC John S Miller PZ during the relaxed harmony it was well received and sparked a healthy discussion afterwards.

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter will be on : **Tuesday 12th December** at 7.30pm and the Companions of Rockmount, extend a warm invitation to all to attend on that evening, where a Royal Arch degree will be conferred by the Companions of Rockmount RAC.



Paper Appeal



Due to a rapid, and unexpected, decline in our stock, we are in grave 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/m² 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.



Masonic Snippets

in 1860 in Limerick, Ireland, there was found in a small chapel a stone dated 1517 with the following inscription :

"I will serve to live with love & care Upon the level, by the square."

The Republic of Texas had four Presidents :

David G. Burnett, 1836; Sam Houston, 1836-1838; Mirabeau B. Lamar, 1838-1841; Sam Houston, 1841-1844; Anson Jones, 1844-1846.

All were Freemasons.



"Freemasonry Around the World" Germany

Perhaps it is no surprise, given 20th Century history, that there are a total of 35 Lodges in Germany who are classed as 'English Speaking'. All are Chartered by the United Grand Lodge of Germany, but all are under the Jurisdiction of the following Masonic bodies :

- Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons Germany (2 Lodges)
- Grand Lodge of British Freemasons Germany (14 Lodges)
- American Canadian Grand Lodge (19 Lodges)



Many were obviously founded as a result of British, Canadian and American Freemasons who served in Germany after the Second World War, and discovered that Freemasonry had almost disappeared under the Third Reich. It is impressive that so many still survive, many years after most of the troops returned home.



As you can see below, many have particularly colourful names, although quite a few have typical German names.

- Light of the Three Stars 963
- Berlin 46 Outpost 895
- Phoenix 847
- Thistle & Saltire 1040
- Bond of Friendship 890
- North Sea Armed Forces 829
- Saxony 842
- Forget Me Not e.V. 1035
- Niederrhein 892
- United American e.V. 819
- Pyramid 869
- Bridge of Fellowship 929
- Alt Heidelberg and Fidelitas 821
- The Rose of Minden 918
- Galilei George Washington 810
- Eifel 855
- Solomon 822
- Square and Compasses 1043
- New Absalom 841
- Star of Saxon 853
- Bavaria 935
- Southern Star 1025
- Keys of Muenster 881
- Truth and Friendship 828
- Doric 886
- Neuhaus 946
- Mount Moriah Two Bridges 823
- Mystic Tie 1032
- Past Masters Research 950
- Beaver 885
- Muenster 831
- Friends on the Lahn 860
- Luftbruecke 838
- Peter M. Rasmussen 916



WORLD AT WAR

1914 – 1918

(November 1917)



On November 8th the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic was established, with the All-Russian Congress of Soviets forming the first Council of People's Commissars with Vladimir Lenin as leader. The council's first action was to release the Decree on Land, which abolished all private property so estates could be redistributed among the peasantry. The following day Vladimir Lenin published his Decree on Peace in the newspaper *Izvestia*, which proposed Russia withdraw from World War One.

During the second Battle of Passchendaele – British and Canadian forces made further territorial gains around to strengthen their hold on the defensive ridge between the villages of Westrozebeke and Passchendaele in Belgium, ending the three-month long campaign. British casualties were heavy, with British Fifth Army sustaining 14,219, and Second Army suffering 29,454. The Canadian Corps suffered major casualties, totaling 15,654 men killed or wounded since October 26 to November 10. German casualties were reported to be 20,500 in late October and 9,500 casualties for the first half of November.

With the use of aircraft in war now firmly established, the Royal Flying Corp (which would become the Royal Air Force (RAF)) was now creating many squadrons and their importance would grow in the next year and beyond.

The ANZAC Mounted Division of the Desert Mounted Corps successfully fought off Ottoman rearguards in the aftermath of the Battle of Mughar Ridge. Ottoman forces suffered 170 killed, 300 wounded. The New Zealand force suffered 44 dead and 141 wounded.¹

U.S. Navy destroyers USS *Fanning* and USS *Nicholson* captured and scuttled an Imperial German Navy U-boat SM *U-58* off the southwest coast of Ireland, the first combat action in which U.S. ships took a submarine.

The **Vickers Vimy** had its maiden flight on 30th November and was a British heavy bomber aircraft developed and manufactured by Vickers Limited during the latter stages of the First World War to equip the Royal Flying Corp. After the war the Vimy became the core of the heavy bomber force throughout the 1920s. The Vimy set several notable records for long-distance flights; perhaps the most celebrated and significant of these was the first non-stop crossing of the Atlantic Ocean, which was performed by John Alcock and Arthur Brown in June 1919.

Trivia (or life goes on!)

Queen Liliuokalani, last monarch of the Kingdom of Hawaii dies.

The People's Dispensary for Sick Animals was founded in the United Kingdom

Almoner's Report

With regret I intimate the peaceful passing away of Mrs Ann Grier (91) at Hillside View Care Home in Paisley on Friday 3rd November where she'd been a resident for some years. Ann was the widow of Bro Harry Grier of 307, a former Provost of the town. During my early years as Lodge Almoner, I visited Bro Harry and Ann on a number of occasions, and got to know them rather well. A warm-hearted welcome was given to me on every occasion.



When Bro Harry passed away, Ann initially moved from their home at Cross Stobs to a care home in Linwood, before eventually settling in Hillside in Paisley where I have continued to keep in touch. This was greatly appreciated by Ann herself, and her daughter Edna.

The funeral service took place at Woodside Crematorium on Monday 13th November, and condolences were expressed to Edna and family by phone, as I was unable to attend due to my own health circumstances at that time.

Birthday Celebrations :

Congratulations to Mrs Janet (Netta) Miller, resident in Westlea Care Home, who turned 95 on Sunday 5th November

Home Visit : Bro Robert Nixon PM

Outgoing Phone Calls :

Mrs Marion Reid

Mrs Edna Carr

Mrs Anna Roberts

Bro Bobby Nixon PM

Mrs Ray Grier

I was delighted to receive a couple of phone calls myself, whilst laid-up following my own stay in the QEUH (Southern General). Bro Willie Reid took the trouble to phone me from his bed in the RAH to enquire after my well-being, and to cap it all, Bro Jimmy Heron phoned me from the Accord Hospice to see how I was doing. I was deeply moved by both calls

In conclusion, I sadly intimate the passing of Bro Robert Laing of Lodge Cadder Freestone, No.1584 on Sunday 12th November at hospital in Ayr. Robert was the brother of our own Bro Jimmy Laing, our Tyler.

I expressed sincere condolences to Bro Jimmy, who had cared for Bro Robert for many years, as soon as I discovered his loss.

Brother Alexander G. White

Lodge Almoner, ☎ 0141-571 6411

FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 35 Years Ago

No. 59

November 1982

REGULAR MEETINGS : At the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd November, the following five Candidates : Robert McCulloch, Donald Cook, James Easdon, James Kerr and Gordon McDonald were raised to the Master Mason degree by a team from the Lodge Instruction Class. Once again the degree work was of a high standard and all credit must be given to the sterling work of Bro Tom Young who, through his efforts, has brought the class to the peak of efficiency. Bro Campbell Thomson, a regular visitor to the Lodge, was affiliated into the Lodge.

Lodge opened 7.30pm Lodge closed 10.20pm Attendance 168

A fortnight later on Tuesday 16th November a total of twenty-five candidates received the rank of Mark Master Mason. One hesitates to labour the point, but yet another flawless performance was enacted by the younger members of the Instruction Class. All the more credit to them because this, far from easy, degree is only performed once a year.

Lodge opened 7.30pm Lodge closed 10.05pm Attendance 145

On Saturday 27th November a large deputation from Provincial Grand Lodge, headed by Bro Alexander G Murray Provincial Grand Substitute Master attended the Installation Meeting in the Temple. An exceptionally large audience of visitors and Brethren of the Lodge saw Bro Robert Easdon installed as Right Worshipful Master and all his Office-bearers into their respective offices by Installing Masters Bro William H Gauld and David G Noble.

The solemn and serious ritual was occasionally enlivened by a few flashes of humour which did not detract from, but rather enhanced, the dignified ceremony. Altogether a most praiseworthy and satisfying performance.

Lodge opened 4.00pm Lodge closed 6.25pm Attendance 225

OUR OFFICE-BEARERS : We decided to take a wee look at the occupations of our Office-bearers for the next session and we consider that we have a truly excellent mixture.

Their ages range from 22 years to 73 years and there is at least one of the following :

Blacksmith, Storeman, Manager, Airport Personnel, Accountant, Buyer, Electrical Contractor, Engineer, Welder, Plater, Draughtsman, Retired Senior Citizen, Security Officer and a Teacher. A good cross-section of representatives of the general public.

LODGE GOSSIP :

- Congratulations to Bro Douglas Campbell on his recent retirement and to Bro Robert Young who recently became the father of a baby girl.
- It was pleasant to see wee Willie Shaw handing over 10 dollars from Bro David Blair who emigrated to America many years ago, but still retains an interest in his Mother Lodge.
- We hear that Bro Andy Fleming, ex-commissionaire Shanks, has now got a house in Barnes Street.
- We are pleased that Bro Bobby Shaw's son Ian has found a job at long last.

MARK N' ARCHIE



The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by :

Brother Jim Renfrew P.M.

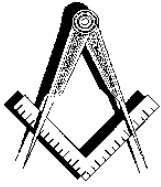
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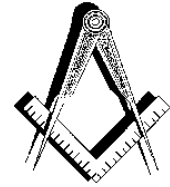
Assistant Editor : Bro Graham Manson PM

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

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



Syllabus 2017 - 2018



(* Denotes an Official Visitation)

December 2017

Tuesday 5 th December	EA	by the Worshipful Wardens
Tuesday 19 th December	FC	by the Worthy Deacons

January 2018

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

February 2017

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

March 2018

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

April 2017

Tuesday 3 rd April	MM	Lodge Instruction Class
Tuesday 17 th April	'Burns vs Kipling' Dramatisation	

May 2018

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