

The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



October 2020

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No. 437



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We should be well in to the Installation season, known by many as 'The Steak Pie Marathon', with at least a dozen or so Lodges having already celebrated one of the highlights of their masonic year. Sadly that will not be the case this year, as the pandemic tightens its grip on the nation, and further restrictions being introduced to attempt to halt its spread.

We ourselves would have held a dramatised Master Mason's degree, followed a couple of weeks later by our annual business meeting, and election of Office-bearers for the coming year. We would be looking forward to the first meeting in November, where we traditionally presented the 'Table of Scottish Freemasonry', a popular evening in our calendar, with a healthy attendance adjoining downstairs for a nice meal, with some guests attending from out with our fraternity.

Unfortunately, this will not be happening, and the manner in which the infections are multiplying, it could indeed be many months before things return to normal.

Thankfully, our Worthy Secretary and Worthy Treasurer are continuing to look after the affairs of the Lodges, in the manner in which they would traditionally do so during a summer recess. Both Bro David McArthur PM and Bro George McGrandles (known affectionately as 'The Merry Macs') are doing a fine job and the business of the Lodge is in good hands. We appreciate that their workload has increased significantly, whilst ours is probably decreasing, and we wish them every success in the months ahead. Brethren, please do all to make their job, just a little bit easier.

With the virus spreading, we see it impacting upon some of our own Brethren and their families, and we must all do what we can to safely assist any in need during these difficult, and indeed dangerous times.



Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

Dear Sir & Brother,

The Right Worshipful Master, Bro Ronald Angus MacIsaac intimates that, until further notice, there will be no Regular Meetings held within the Masonic Temple, Cochrane Street, Barrhead.

When formal clearance is received from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, it is hoped there will be a resumption of meetings.

Yours faithfully & fraternally

Brother David McArthur P.M. Lodge Secretary



100 Club

As promised during Lockdown, Bro George McGrandles, our worthy Treasurer, has continued to make the 100 Club draw, even though there are no Regular Meetings being held. Below is a list of all winners thus far.

Meeting Date	£20.00 Winner	£10.00 Winner
17 th March 2020	Bro Ross Aitken	Bro Craig Haugh
7 th April 2020	Bro Stef Lawniczak	Bro R Evans Reid PM
24 th April 2020	Bro Robert Clark WSW	Bro Brian Morton PM
5 th May 2020	Bro Les Reilly	Bro William Petrie
1 st September 2020	Bro Iain Nicol	Bro Alan Davidson
15 th September 2020	Bro Paul J Smith	Bro Tom Mulholland PM
6 th October 2020	Bro Alan McIntyre	Bro Alan Bernard PM
20 th October 2020	Bro Eddie Mullan	Bro Donald Cook PM

BITS & PIECES

- Best wishes to Bro Jim Renfrew PM's daughter, Leanne and her Fiancé Davy following their recent engagement.
- Our Worthy Treasurer has informed us that Lodge Test Fees are now overdue, and should be paid as soon as possible.
- Sorry to hear that Bro Adam Watson and his wife Sylvia have been struck by coronavirus. Thankfully, they are now recovering at home.
- We gather that our RWM Ronnie MacIsaac and his wife Sadie have also fallen victim to the dreaded virus. We wish them well.
- We gather that Bro Evans Reid PM has taken up golf again, and joined the local Fereneze Golf Club.
- Further good news for Bro Jim Renfrew PM's daughter Leanne, who just been successful with a bid for a house on Kelburn Street in the town. The only downside is that she will have to move back in with her parents for a month or two, before taking possession.
- Good to see that the recent refurbishment of the Lodgeroom is looking good. Hopefully we'll be able to enjoy it at meetings in the not too distant future ??

Telephone Tree

As the clocks go back and the dark nights draw in it is evident that winter is upon us and 2020 is almost over. Thank goodness I hear you say, and I can't help agree, what a year it has been. One of the things that I have missed the most this year, and I am sure many of you will feel the same, has been the chance to meet up with friends and brothers and enjoy our masonic meetings and the harmony that follows. It has certainly underlined for me how important a part of my life freemasonry is and I look forward to a return to normality, hopefully in the near future.



In the meantime however, it is important that we make every effort to stay in touch with each other and to make sure that all of our brethren are supported and have the chance to catch up with good friends on a regular basis, even if it is just for a bit of a natter.

To ensure that this takes place our WJW Bro Robert Scott, supported by a number of his fellow office bearers, has developed a telephone call rota that will ensure that some of our more senior brethren are contacted on a weekly basis by a friendly brother who will hopefully provide some support and a "virtual" hand of friendship. Bro Robert tells me that he currently has 8 helpers who will each call two brethren of the lodge. The callers and recipients will rotate on a fortnightly basis to add a bit of variety to the process.

I am sure you will agree that this is a welcome initiative and if you would like to have your name added to the list of callers, or call recipients, I am sure that Bro Robert would be happy to hear from you.

Famous Freemasons

(Continuing our series about Famous Brethren, this month we turn to one of the greatest stars of the golden age of Hollywood)

Bro Clark Gable (1901 - 1960)

Born William Clark Gable in Cadiz, Ohio, he was an American film actor who is often referred to as "The King of Hollywood". He began his career as an extra in Hollywood silent films between 1924 and 1926, and progressed to supporting roles with a few films for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in 1930. He landed his first leading role in 1931, and was a leading man in more than 60 motion pictures over the following three decades.

Gable was nominated for his starring role in *Gone with the Wind* (1939), as Rhett Butler opposite Vivien Leigh as Scarlett O'Hara. He won the Academy Award for Best Actor for Frank Capra's *It Happened One Night* (1934), and was nominated for his role in *Mutiny on Bounty*.

Brother Clark Gable was the actor who played opposite nearly every major female star during the 1930s.

During the Second World War his wife, actress Carole Lombard, was assisting with the U.S. war effort and, while performing that duty in 1942, was killed in an air crash. Gable was devastated and pledged to do his duty also. To that end, Gable joined the USAF and flew as an air gunner in Boeing B-17 "Flying Fortresses" from RAF Polebrook in England.



Gable was awarded military honours for service: the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and World War II Victory Medal.

He was linked with the U.S. 1st Motion Picture Unit, together they made wartime recruitment films. He narrated and appeared in a World War II propaganda film entitled "Combat America", produced by the United States Army Air Force

Gable was initiated in Beverly Hills Lodge No. 528, in October 1933 and was also a Shriner, raising large sums for children's hospitals.

He had roles in more than 60 motion pictures in multiple genres during a career that lasted 37 years, three decades of which was as a leading man. Gable was one of the most consistent box-office performers in history, appearing on Quigley Publishing's annual Top Ten Money Making Stars Poll 16 times. He was named the seventh-greatest male star of classic American cinema by the American Film Institute

Gable died of a heart attack; his final on screen appearance was of an aging cowboy in *The Misfits*, released posthumously in 1961.



Bi-Centenary Fund : 200 for 200

As we move into November, I am sure, like me, many of you will be feeling a little bit down. 2020 has certainly been a challenging year for everyone, the restrictions on our normal activities, whilst necessary and understandable, have had an impact on our ability to meet with our friends, family and brethren.

Normally at this time of year we are getting ready for the installation of Office Bearers and the evening of merriment that follows our afternoon ceremony. Sadly, however this year we have had no choice but to cancel this event with existing office bearers kindly agreeing to remain in office for a further 12 months.

Whilst it sometimes feels that things will never return to normal, I can assure you they will, "this too shall pass", and "brotherly love will prevail".

One event, in the not too distant future, that we can all look forward to sharing together is the bi-centenary of Lodge Union and Crown No. 307.

The Bi-Centenary Sub-Committee has been working hard on preparing for this very special occasion and we are absolutely certain that we will mark this event in the manner that we all expect from 307.

Of course, this type of celebration does not come free of charge and as such the committee made a plea to brethren to support our fundraising efforts by committing to donating £200 each between now and February 2024.

Brother Robert Scott, our WJW, told me that he has been blown away by the generosity of the Brethren of Union and Crown and to date we have 46 Brethren committed to making this donation and 21 who are fully paid up. Others have been making regular payments, either in cash or by a standing order scheme and we are grateful to each and every one of them.

Every Brother who supports the 200 for 200 scheme will receive a ticket for the bi-centenary ceremony and the meal and entertainment that will follow. They will also be provided with 5 free drinks, a commemorative medal and coin, a copy of a newly updated lodge history book and their name will be displayed on a new tile board on display in the downstairs function suite.

Anyone who has not yet committed to supporting this initiative, or anyone wishing to make a payment, please contact Bro Robert, or our Treasurer Bro George McGrandles, for further information.

Did you Know ?

That George Washington joined Freemasonry in the Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia. He was 20 years old when he received the first degree of Entered Apprentice on November 4, 1752. He paid the lodge two pounds and three shillings to join.

Ten days after turning 21, on March 3, 1753, he was passed to the second degree of Fellowcraft, and on August 4, 1753, he was raised to the third degree of Master Mason.

The lodge's surviving minute book records Washington attending only two more meetings: September 1, 1753, and January 4, 1755

We continue our series of articles which trace the history of some of the local Lodges. This month we trace the history of another of the earliest Lodges in the Province.)

Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning, No.370

Renfrew County Kilwinning, Numbering 370 on the role of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, is really the resurrected body of an earlier lapsed lodge, Renfrew County Kilwinning, which was itself a continuation of Lodge Paisley Kilwinning. The minute books, the Bible and some of the Jewels of those earlier lodges are still in our possession, therefore the history of Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning covers a period of: Paisley Kilwinning, 1749 to 1755, continued as Renfrew County Kilwinning 1755 to 1805: and Renfrew County Kilwinning 1800 to the present time.



During May 2005, Renfrew County Kilwinning celebrated its 250/150 anniversary of its existence with a rededication ceremony of the lodge held in the Temple of Lodge Union and Crown No.307 followed by a dinner.

The Lodge over the years has had many meeting places, but Paisley Town Hall is where most brethren associate our lodge with, unfortunately we had to vacate the Town Hall due to an increase of rent, which the Lodge felt we could not sustain. It was with regret we therefore vacated the Town Hall a place where we had held our meetings for ninety-six years.

The Lodge has now settled into the temple at Maxwellton Street with the other sister Lodges of the town and is growing in strength, as we are now more able to use our funds in a more appropriate manner such as raising £2,000 for the Beatson Oncology clinic.

The Lodge meets on the Second and Fourth Thursday of each month from September to April. The installation is held on the First Thursday in December and the Mark Ceremonial on the First Thursday in May.

One of the ceremonies held by the Lodge is an "In Memoriam Service" which is held on the First Thursday in March, where we remember the Brethren who have passed to the Grand Lodge above. This service is well worth attending as we are one of the few Lodges in the Province who mark the passing of Brethren in such a manner.

Visitation, the lifeblood of Freemasonry: our Lodge actively carries out degree work in sister Lodges and they in return reciprocate. We have an annual visit to The Lodge of Arundel No. 5822 in the English Constitution and have done so for over twenty-five years.

The highlight of their social calendar and the mainstay of their fundraising is their annual Sportsman's Dinner, which is held in the Paisley Town Hall and is usually sold out for the following year soon after the dinner.

The Lodge has a varied and very historic past associated with the Town of Paisley and throughout Renfrewshire, with many notable names listed as past and present members of the Lodge. If anyone is interested in its history, two books can be read in the reference section of Paisley Library which will give the historian a better insight of our Lodge. The books are; "An Eighteenth Century Lodge in Paisley", by Norman M. McKean, P.M. 370 and "The History of Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No. 370", by J. Watt, P.M.



The Lodge continues to make Masonic History and is proud of the fact that we gave the province of Renfrewshire East a provincial Grand Master in the person of Bro. Alexander G. Hutton P.M. 370.

Like all other Lodges we take great pride in being members of this great Fraternity, and are equally proud of being members of a Lodge with such a wealth of History and tradition behind it.

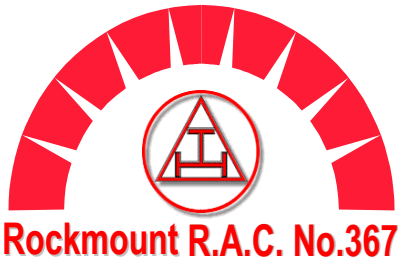
Masonic Snippet

As we reach the concluding chapter of the 2020 US Presidential contest, it is perhaps topical that we look back almost 200 years to an earlier election.

Brother Paul Boynton, during the 1832 political campaign, lived in the Green Mountains of Vermont. Those were dark days for the Craft. Andrew Jackson, a past Grand Master of Tennessee, was the candidate for the Presidency against William Wirt, a Mason running on, of all things, the Anti-Masonic ticket.

Brother Boynton was a devoted Freemason and did not recant or hide his association with the Craft while the storm was brewing and many members deserted. He made an election vow that if Vermont went for Wirt he would move "out west". In those days "out west" meant St. Lawrence Country, New York.

When Wirt won in Vermont (the only state he won), Brother Boynton kept his word and moved. At the end of an eighty day journey on horseback, Brother Boynton settled down in Canton New York. He swapped his horse for a pocket watch and a gun shop. He became the best gunsmith in the area and his gun stocks are highly prized collector's items today. He invented many things, such as the eight day clock, and a pedometer. In 1835 he built what is now known as The Royal Arch House, located on Pine Street, as a constant reminder to friend and foe alike, that he was a Mason.



Just like the National and Regional news, there is little I can do to indicate when these unfortunate circumstances and situation will come to an end. All I can recommend is that we as Masons do not lose touch and for our own mental wellbeing, in particular, stay in touch with your own family and with friends. A telephone call can mean so much to someone.

In this bulletin there is a post from our own First Principal, MEC Harry Lloyd as well as a letter (reprinted in full) from the First Grand Principal of Scotland, ME Companion Joseph J Morrow, CBE, QC, LLD. Once I read this the depressing feeling came to me that it may be 2021-2022 before we get back to regular meetings, I hope I'm wrong.

If anyone has any news, good or bad, that they wish to share with those Companions for whom I have an e-mail address please get in touch and I can add it to the next issue of this bulletin.

Hugh Cattigan PZ, Scribe E.

Message from the ME First Principal

Hi Companions,

I hope this bulletin finds you and your families well and in good spirits during in this trying time, it's hard to believe that almost seven months have now passed since those historic 'Lockdown' announcements were made by both Edinburgh and London.

I don't think any of us thought that heading into another Masonic year we would be where we find ourselves today. In normal circumstances at this time of year our preparations would be for the installations etc, but with the added complication that rising prevalence of Covid19 cases, it has become apparent that it will be at least 2021 before any Masonic gatherings will be able to take place, at present I have not received any update from PGRAC of Renfrewshire with regards to this.

I took part in a PGRAC of Renfrewshire Zoom meeting on Tuesday 17th Sept which was chaired by Grand Superintendent Gordon Renfrew, although it was great to see many well known faces, I did feel there was not a lot of information to be had at the time, one point raised, how do we commence the restart of our chapters, as it was all just speculation at the moment this was put on hold.

The meeting was inform that Companion James Kavanagh has resigned from the post of PGRAC Scribe N and that nominations for the post would be welcomed, also with the passing of James Gregory PGS who was acting treasurer for the PGRAC this post is also vacant, having communicated with PGS Gordon previously with regards to this, I informed him that I would be willing to assist him in the financial matters when we resume.

With regards to communication can I congratulated our host lodge Union and Crown 307 for the excellent publication of the Mallet, I find it very informative and a great way of letting us know about the current wellbeing of some of our companions, also a great source is the Randolph magazine, to all concern keep up the good work.

May I once again finish by thanking both Hugh and Jim for the hard work they are doing for the chapter. Companions please keep safe

MEC Harry Lloyd MEZ

Autumn Message from the First Grand Principal.



M.E. Companion Joseph J Morrow, CBE, QC, LLD, M.E.

First Grand Principal

Dear Companions,

I hope that my communication finds you and your family well and safe as we continue to struggle with the Covid-19 pandemic. As Scottish Royal Arch Masons we belong to a global organisation governed by different regulations that deal with the spread of this virus. Here in Scotland we are entering to what looks like further restrictions for a six-month period. We are now not able to visit each other's homes and it is becoming progressively more obvious that our meetings will not be restarting for a considerable period and at the least well into 2021. As Masons and good citizens, we are under a duty to comply with the laws and regulations of our own country. This is nothing less than our duty.

The Scottish Royal Arch Masons have been exemplary in keeping up communication with the Companions and promoting good models of companionship where possible within the regulations. Please keep this up and thank you for all that is done to promote the principles of our order. This work is essential to keeping Royal Arch Masonry alive at this time. It is in many ways a simple task of sending an email, making a telephone call or even so rarely today writing a letter. We are all able to do this in relation to Companions we know, and I can tell you from the feedback I get how much it is welcomed.

In the rituals and narratives of the Royal Arch Degrees we are told of the completion of the Third Degree and how the Royal Arch leads us to greater knowledge and understanding of the nature and glory of the Almighty. Based on that knowledge and that greater understanding we are to promote the practices of Companionship.

What you do in this field is not only valued by the individuals who receive the companionship but also by the Order and every act or endeavour to keep in touch builds our understanding and promotes the reputation of the Royal Arch itself.

Thank you for all that you do for our order and I wish you well.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

MEC Joe Morrow

Almoner's Report

Early in the month I called on Mrs Rae Hughes to check on Bro Jimmy, as he had been taken in to the RAH, after bringing up clots of blood from his nose and mouth. According to Rae the nurse put a lot pressure up his nose to try and stop it, since then he has been having episodes which sound like he was taking TIA's (mini strokes) after this he was admitted to the QEUH they couldn't find anything.

The hospital are hoping to discharge him tomorrow, and Rae is worried sick in case he takes another episode when he is home, she is hoping a nurse will be coming in when he's home. And all with no visiting allowed.

Brother Jim Waterston formerly of Levern Cres, has passed away whilst resident in the Firs Care Home, some of you will have seen him around Barrhead walking with the aid of 2 walking sticks, he was a pattern maker to trade and I have it on good authority he was a an excellent floor worker, word perfect, He was so polite and mannerly and lost his wife quite some time ago and went downhill rapidly. Bro Alex visited him regularly but Jim protected his privacy and always kept him at the door.

Brother Billy Leckie of Cowan Crescent passed away last night, I was made aware he was unwell last week. He had been inactive in the lodge for quite some time. I put a card through his door and pass on the condolences of the RWM and the brethern.

I also spoke to Mrs Mary Gauld regarding her brother PM Bobby Nixon, who is doing well. He is quite happy and contented with his daughter Lesley taking him out in a wheelchair for regular walks, in spite of the cold.

Bro Alan Bernard P.M.

Lodge Almoner, ☎ 0141 583 4047

UGLE – Freemasons' Hall

Originally built as a peace memorial to honour the thousands of Freemasons who fought during the First World War, Freemasons' Hall in London is the home of the United Grand Lodge of England. One of the finest Art Deco buildings in London still used for its original purpose, Freemasons' Hall welcomes more than 200,000 people from across the world through its doors every year, including members visiting for meetings and guests attending special events.

Freemasons' Hall is open to the public from Monday to Saturday, with guided tours showcasing the architecture and history of the building, which comprises 22 Lodge Rooms, the Museum of Freemasonry, Letchworth's Shop, Board and Committee rooms and administrative offices.

An in-demand venue, Freemasons' Hall has featured in numerous Hollywood blockbusters and television programmes in recent years, including Spectre, Sherlock Holmes, Assassin's Creed and Spooks.

FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 35 Years Ago

No. 88

October 1985

REGULAR MEETINGS

At the Regular Meeting on 1st October the following 3 Candidates :

WILLIAM LAMB WILLIAM DICKIE GRAEME WRIGHT

Had the E.A. Degree conferred upon them by Lodge Georgetown 1170.

An excellent degree was ably carried out by competent degree workers, the attention given by the assembled Brethren proving the quality of the work.

It was a pleasure to note that three generations of two well-known families were present – the Buist Family and the Shaw Family.

Lodge Opened : 7-30pm Lodge Closed : 9-45pm Attendance 137

The A.G.M. of the Lodge was held on 15th October, when the balance sheet was presented by the Treasurer of the Lodge, Bro Brian Morton PM. It was satisfactory to learn that all funds had increased, and that financially, the outlook was promising.

The Secretary reported that, although attendances had dropped from 158 to 156 per meeting, it was heartening to note that the attendances of 307 members had risen from 119 per meeting to 122.

The Secretary and Treasurer were both thanked for their work by the R.W.M. After the A.G.M. was completed, the three Candidates above had the F.C. conferred upon them by the Lodge Instruction Class. This degree was conferred by the fishermen of the Lodge, and as it was about to commence, one was heard to say "Man the Rods!". The Candidates were suitably impressed.

Lodge Opened : 7-30pm Lodge Closed : 9-45pm Attendance 130

Footnote: At the meeting on 15th October, the Secretary handed over a cheque for £2000 for the upkeep of the Lodge, which had, through the auspices of PM David Noble, been given to us by Tennents Breweries. This is the second occasion on which Bro Davy's persuasive tongue has reaped rewards for the Lodge. The last time was in 1980 at the building of the new lounge.

100 CLUB

£10 : Wm Dougray £3 : Bud Gauld £1 : Billy McGinley
Wm Renfrew Ken Hill Wm Cunningham

AROUND the TOWN

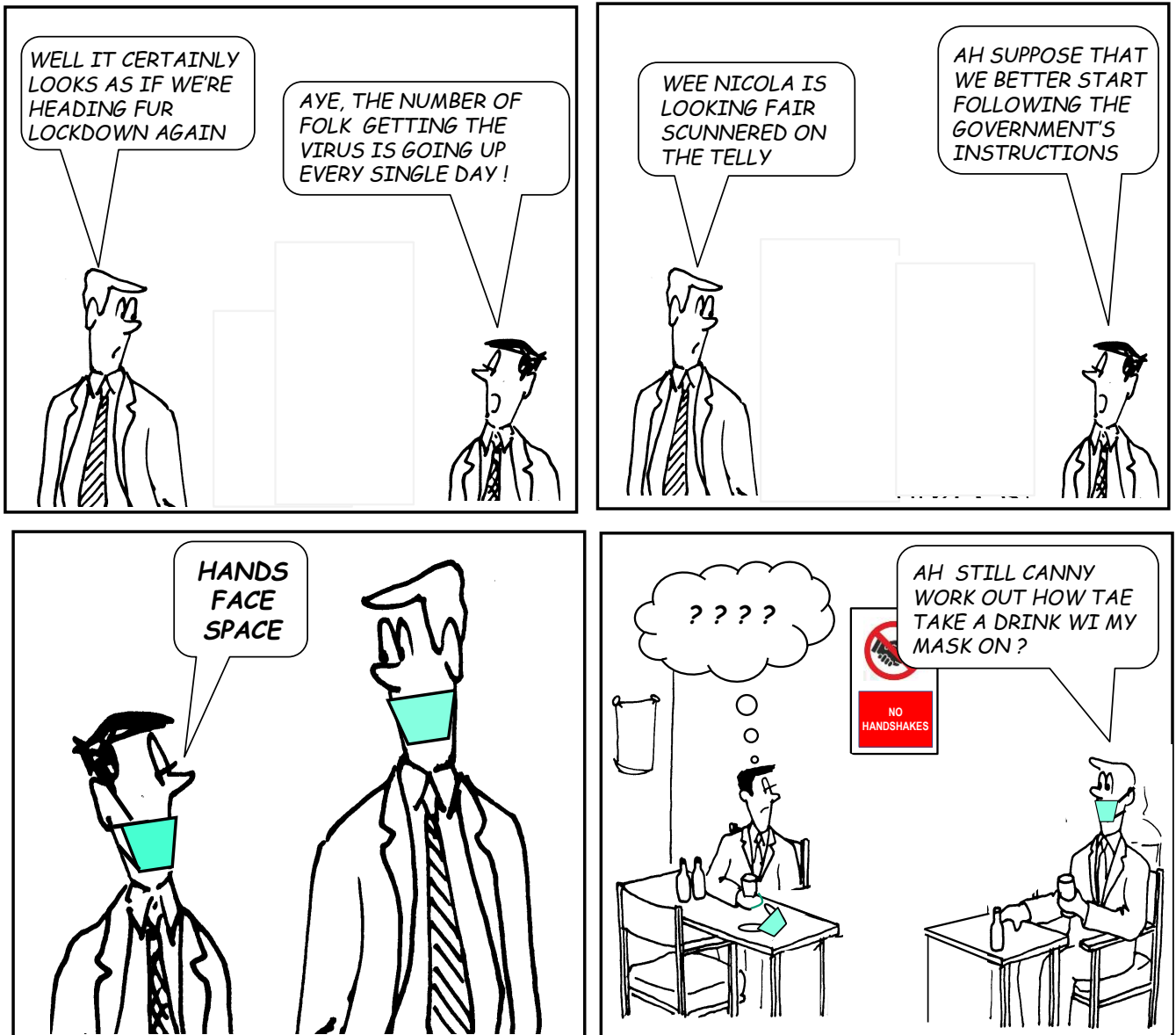
In last month's issue we passed on some wrong information regarding Br Boyle's old surgery in Cross Arthurlie Street. It has in fact been taken over by Noble, the Coal man, from Paisley.

We hear the Fish and Chip Shop in Main Street is up for sale.

It is good to hear that Shank's Pottery is back on a five day week.

We are told that Bro George King PM of Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning is now the manager of the new Salvation Army Community Centre in Main Street.

MARK N' ARCHIE



J RENFREW OCTOBER '20

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

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