

The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



March 2023

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No. 462



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It's hard to believe, but it was almost 10 years ago that the Management Committee of the Lodge first seriously discussed the 200th Anniversary of the award of our Charter by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and what exactly we intend to do to mark our Bi-Centenary. Well, here we are in 2023 and the very first event of our 'Year of Celebrations' to mark this important event in the history of Union & Crown is now less than eight months away!

It is incredible that time has passed so quickly, and before we know it it will be over, hopefully with more than a few good memories. Many of our Brethren will remember with fondness the 175th Anniversary celebrations in 1999, and just how much pleasure and satisfaction it brought to the Lodge, its Members and their families.

The forethought and detail that has gone into our forthcoming celebrations has been long in the planning with a small sub-committee spending many long and hard months over the last few years

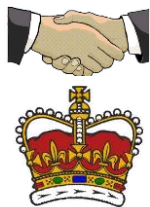
scoping out exactly what would be appropriate for a Lodge, where high standards are a bye-word, and the gratitude of the entire Lodge must go to those involved, as most of their efforts and the fine detail required won't be seen until it is all over.

Bro Robert Scott SM deserves especial praise for his efforts in organising the '200 for 200' initiative which has attracted many Brethren to commit £200 towards the cost of the celebrations, and thus ensuring that it was undoubtedly affordable to their Mother Lodge.

The schedule of events is on page 4 of this month's Mallet, and this provides details of What, When and Who to all interested. Invitations will be sent out to all our Brethren in good standing very soon, with the resultant tickets being issued to those who wish

to attend. However, there is a word of warning to all, if you don't respond promptly, you may well miss out as our numbers will be strictly controlled due to safety restrictions at the main events.





Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

Dear Sir & Brother,

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

Tuesday 4th April 2023

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

Dramatised Fellowcraft Degree

by the 'Guid Brethren o' the Lodge'

Harmony



Tuesday 18th April 2023

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

Master Mason Degree

By the 'Installing Masters',

(assisted by the Past Masters of the Lodge)

Harmony

Yours faithfully & fraternally

R Evans Reid P.M., Lodge Secretary

Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 7th February the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East paid it customary annual visitation to the Lodge. A fine deputation of 14 Brethren, headed by Bro Scott Bogle, Substitute Provincial Grand Master, carried out the necessary business with decorum and dignity. Needless to say, the Lodge received a 'clear minute' for all the work of the lodge during the term as R.W.M. of Bro Ronnie Maclsaac.

Thereafter the Brethren adjourned to the Function Suite, where all enjoyed a fine Lodge Harmony, in each other's company.

Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 8.24pm

Attendance : 59

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 21st March, the following Candidate :

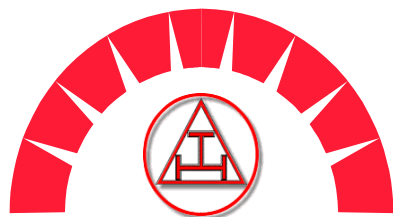
Ross McLardy

received a fine Fellowcraft Degree from the Worthy Deacons, assisted by the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class.

Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 9.15pm

Attendance : 50



Rockmount R.A.C. No.367

At the Regular Meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 14th March, the Companions of Rockmount RAC conferred an Mark Affiliate and Excellent Master's Degree on :

Edward Mullin

Those taking part are to be congratulated, as this was the first 'live' degree in quite some time and despite a few last minute hitches and changes, all went well.

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter, is scheduled for **Tuesday 11th April** at 7-30pm when the Companions of Rockmount will be conferring an Royal Arch Degree upon the same Candidate.

MEC Graham Manson MEZ and his Office-bearers extend a cordial invitation to all Companions, especially any visitors, to attend on that evening.

Did you Know ?

- That the town of Joppa was a seaport town that supplied Jerusalem during the construction of King Solomon's Temple. By 1870 it was called Joffa, and today it is a suburb of the modern Israeli town of Tel Aviv.
- That the third degree was first reported in 1725, and came into being against the wishes, and without sanction of the Grand Lodge of England.

LODGE BI-CENTENARY

As touched upon in this month's Editorial, there isn't too long now until our year of celebration gets underway. The small, but experienced sub-committee which have been overseeing all the planning ahead of a whole series of special events

It is believed that there is something in there for almost everyone, and below we give you as much information as possible about what's happening, and when. If you are interested in some of the 'open events' please get in touch with the person responsible as soon as possible, because there is limited numbers available.

Event	Date	Organisers	Venue	Details
Installation	25 Nov 2023	Installing Masters	307	Installing Masters will be Bro George McGrandles PM, Bro Paul Stewart PM, and Bro Jim Renfrew PM
Xmas Dance	16 Dec 2023	L Webb & R Clark	307	The band had been booked and tickets would be available at £7 each on a first come first served basis.
Burns Supper	Jan 2024 (TBC)	J Gauld & S Scott	307	a change in format to a 'Burns Themed' event rather than the standard format of recent years. The tickets costing £20 (inc raffle entry) will be sold by Bro Stephen Scott
Bi Centenary	3 Feb 24	E Reid, B Gauld J Renfrew	307	All Brethren in good standing will be invoted. Numbers limited by fire regulations to 120
Civic Dinner	8 Mar 2024 7pm	J Renfrew B Gauld E Reid		15 clubs/organisations in the town would each be invited to send 3 representatives each. The Minister from the Bourock Church and 10 members of 307 would make up the final number of invited guests.
Sportsman's Dinner	14 Apr 2024	L Webb R Scott	307	Frank McAvennie and Derek Ferguson had been booked for this event. Tickets will be available soon.
Ladies Night	May 24 (TBC)	L Webb A Izaat	307	Details will be available soon
Widows Lunch	Jun 24 (TBC)	J Miller B Gauld N Hynd	307	The Widows of the Lodge will all receive an invitation, and will be allowed to bring a friend
Bus Run	Jul 24 (TBC)	R MacIsaac R Clark	Rosslyn Chapel	Transport, Lunch and entry will be provided, although numbers will be limited
Sen. Members Lunch	15 Aug 2024 2pm	B Gauld J Renfrew N Hynd	307	All Senior Members will be allowed to bring a friend. Wine and 3 free drinks provided.
Karaoke Night	16 Sep 2024	L Webb P Stewart S Scott	307	All arrangements are in place, with tickets available in due course.
Celebratory Lunch	19 Oct 2024	B Gauld J Renfrew E Reid	307	Open to all members of 307 with meals, entertainment and hospitality included

BITS & PIECES

- Congratulations to Bro Willie Renfrew P.M., currently R.W.M. of his adopted Lodge – Prince of Wales, No.426, on being made an Honorary Member of Lodge St Barchan, No.156. Bro Willie recently headed a deputation of 426 into St Barchan to confer a degree, and was totally surprised when the host Lodge conferred his new honour upon him. Bro Willie (a man of few words) was almost speechless.
- Delighted to see an excellent attendance of 59 Brethren at our recent PGL Visit. Traditionally a low attendance, the Brethren rallied round to support 307
- Many thanks to Bro Jim Cherry who long been a integral part of our small band of workers who give up their own time to ensure that all the odd jobs are seen to. He especially looks after the Lodge Gardens. And attending his Lodge again would also like to congratulate him on celebrating 60 years of being a Lodge Member this month.
- It good to see that Bro David Noble P.M. is back to full fitness and attending the Lodge again. His quirky sense of humour was missed by many.
- Bro Alan Izatt W.J.W. is organizing another fishing day up at Harelaw Fishery, just beyond Neilston on Saturday 20th May. If you're interested, you should speak with Bro Alan before it is too late (☎ 07742 423890)
- Bro Jim Miller P.M. has just returned from his annual 3 month winter holiday in Portugal, and I must say is looking the better for it.
- Bro Robert Miller P.M. and his lovely wife Christine recently enjoyed a few days away in the Belgian capital of Brussels. Unfortunately, on their first evening, they were almost 'mugged' but the unfortunate assailants didn't reckon with the tenacity of Christine who sent them packing !
- Bro Graham Manson P.M., our Instruction Master, is keen to have new Brethren coming forward to perhaps learn a small piece of ritual. Anyone interested should have a word with Bro Graham, or even pop along to the Instruction Class some Monday evening in the Temple.
- It may seem as if we have almost a full year until the bi-centenary celebrations commence. However, it is only eight months, as it all kicks off with this years annual Installation at the end of November.
- It was good to see Bro Tom Nixon P.M., No.370 at one of our recent meetings. Although originally a Paisley Buddie, he has been resident in the town for 30 years and has been a frequent visit to 307 over the years.
- Bro Vic Chapman's grandson Scott, who works with one of the top Glasgow auction houses, was conducting a rather intense auction when HRH, The Princess Royal, entered the building on an official visit. Raising her hand to acknowledge the greeting from those in attendance, young Scott quick as a flash asked "I take it that was a bid your Royal Highness !!" This brought a smile to her lips, and and a good laugh from all in attendance.

Famous Freemasons

(This month we tell of a freemason who was in his time the world's fastest man on land and water)

Bro Sir Malcolm Campbell MBE (1885 – 1948)

Malcolm Campbell was born on 11 March 1885 in Chislehurst, Kent, the only son of a successful Hatton Garden diamond merchant. His ancestry can be traced back many generations to a Scottish Highland family of long-standing military traditions in Argyll, which may well have influenced his exceptional personality and resolute character.

From a young age Malcolm became fascinated by engines and the railway and more especially the underlying forces that drove the machinery. His schooling was not of particular note except for sport. In 1898, at 13, he was sent to the distinguished ancient Uppingham School in Rutland.

He first became involved with racing whilst in Europe studying the diamond business as his father had done before him. Germany would be the place which would see him begin his quest for speed. At the turn of the century, he advanced from being a bicycle enthusiast to a motorcyclist enthusiast. Malcolm, now with a thirst for racing went on to win three successive gold medals in the London to Lakes End Trials between 1906 and 1908.

In 1910 he began car racing at Brooklands, initially christening his cars "The Flapper". In 1912 he adopted the name 'Blue Bird' after seeing the stage play 'The Blue Bird' by Maurice Maeterlinck. When World War I started he was drafted into the Royal Flying Corps, having had some previous flying experience. He remarried after the war to Dorothy Evelyn Whittall, and their son, Donald was born in 1921, followed by a daughter, Jean, two years later.

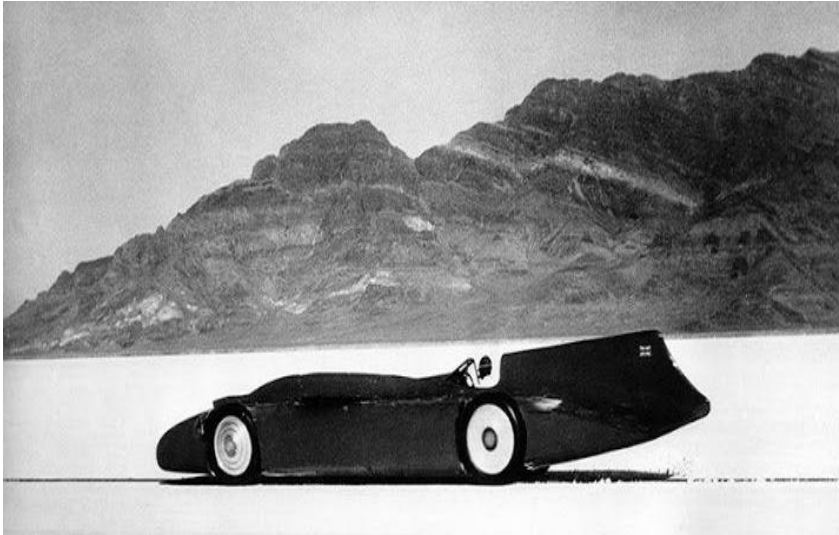


In 1923 after driving many different racing cars including an Austro Daimler, Star, Talbots, Italas and Chryslers, he purchased the former Land Speed Record holding V12 Sunbeam from Kennelm Lee Guinness, (of the famous brewing family) which would see him clock 146.16mph on Pendine Sands and officially take the Land Speed Record for the first time in 1924. Realising the Sunbeam's limitations, he employed the talents of Amherst Villiers to design what would become the Campbell-Napier Blue Bird which would, in 1927, allow him to take the record for a second time, clocking a speed of 174.88mph.

In the middle of his extraordinary career as a racing driver, on 15 October 1924 he became a Freemason, when he joined Old Uppinghamian Lodge No. 4227, linked to his old school, and was Passed and Raised within a few months. The school Lodge still today draws its membership solely from Old Boys and their children and Masters at the School.

He was, for a while, very active as a Freemason. His wife Dorothy, Lady Campbell remembered that he was keen and eager when he was initiated into his old school Lodge. For several years he attended the meetings and felt that there was no institution to rival Freemasonry. He told Dorothy 'Freemasonry is all the religion I need – if I can only live to the ideals of the Craft, I would want nothing more.

Malcolm was not the only man in quest of records, however. Among his challengers was England's Henry Segrave, who set a new record of 203.79 mph on the hard packed sands of Daytona Beach, Florida, in 1927. The following year, Campbell fought back and recaptured the record with 206.95 mph at the beach.



Malcolm returned home a record holder again, but less than two months later, the Americans reclaimed the record for the first time since 1906. Malcolm, now with the news that the British challenge would be taken up by Segrave with Golden Arrow, set about rethinking Bluebird in an attempt to regain the Land Speed Record.

He had set many motorcycle and car speed records as well as in motorboats, and he received his knighthood in 1931 for his distinguished achievements. Malcolm Campbell was undoubtedly the most successful racing driver of his time, dubbed 'the Speed King'.

By 1935, Malcolm had raised the mark to 276.82 at Daytona Beach, but now concerned with the soft sand and lack of traction at the beach, wanted to find another site to reach the ultimate mark of 300 mph. He found this at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah, and on 3rd September 1935, he became the first man to exceed 300 mph. Malcolm was also a shareholder and director in several businesses, including Brooklands racing circuit, where he was active in the running of the track and designed the Campbell road racing circuit within the confines of the site. This circuit was used from its opening on 1st May 1937 to the outbreak of WW II.

In 1937 having achieved his goal on land, he aspired for the same result on water, setting the Water Speed Record in the all new Blue Bird K3 Hydroplane on 1st September at 126.33 mph. The following day, dissatisfied with his first record, he raised it again to 129.56 mph. The following year, 1938, saw him go to Lake Hallwyl in Switzerland, where he raised the record to 130.93 mph.

On 19 August 1939, he set another record with a speed of 141.74 mph at Coniston Waters in the all new Blue Bird K4 Hydroplane, a record that was still his when he died on New Years Eve, 1948 in Reigate, Surrey.

Sir Malcolm was buried in Chiselhurst, in the same grave as his mother and father. His son, Donald (also an active Freemason) was to follow in his footsteps, together they were to become the 'Speed Kings' of the 20th century.

(We continue our series of articles which trace the history of local Lodges. This month we visit another Lodge on the southside of Glasgow who are near neighbours of last month's Lodge

Lodge Nitshill, No.1478

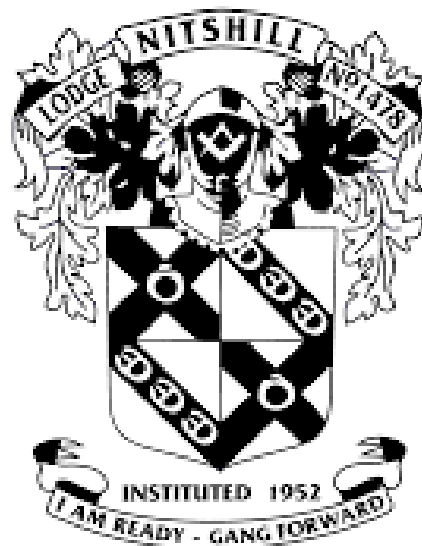
In the years following the end of World War II, the village of Nitshill saw a huge influx of families to the newly-built "Garden Housing Estates" around the area. Among these families were Freemasons, who found it difficult to travel to their Lodges in Glasgow, and who came together with the view of starting up a new Lodge in the area. They held meetings to discuss the proposal in one of the rooms of The Railway Inn, and soon the idea became reality.

These Brethren had a great deal of experience and foresight among them, and they set about the task in a craftsman-like manner. Their new Lodge would have modern ideas, active benefits for its members, both masonically and socially – it was to have a social club - a somewhat controversial idea at the time. Though at the start, as now, the Lodge was to be placed first and foremost.

The Lodge was to be called Nitshill, and the Brethren sought and obtained the permission of Sir John Stirling Maxwell for the use of his family Crest, Motto and Tartan (Hunting Stirling Maxwell). The Brethren opted to come under the auspices of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East, rather than Glasgow. They then requested the support of the oldest and newest Lodges nearest to Nitshill, and this was freely given by Union & Crown, No.307 in Barrhead and Saint Christopher, No.1453 in Pollok, who became their Sponsor Lodges.

On the 7th August 1952, the Lodge was consecrated within Priesthill Congregational Church, the founding Brethren numbering 156.

The Lodge has had a number of homes since then, including spells at 307 in Barrhead, before settling into our present Temple in Dove Street, Nitshill, but only after our own Brethren completed the building themselves. This Temple is built



on the orchard of the old house that the Lodge had used for a number of years, before selling the building (now The Cavendish Bar). The consecration of this Temple took place in 1963, and some of the event was captured on cine film. They have moved on since then and this original footage is part of a compilation video recording events up to, and including, their Golden

Jubilee. They also published a small booklet history of the Lodge, and have a Lodge Website.

The Lodge enjoyed many successes, and regularly initiated five or seven Candidates at one meeting. On one memorable occasion, five brothers from the same family were initiated into the Lodge on the same evening. Changed days indeed. They have always been a family Lodge and today are receiving the second and third generations of families long associated with the Lodge. In 2004 their roll stood at a healthy 1110 members .

The Lodge has officially travelled to Kentucky and Ohio in the United States of America, where Brethren carried out degree work in several Lodges. Two of our Brethren were even made Honorary Colonels of Kentucky.



Over the years our Brethren serving in Provincial Grand Lodge have brought honour and prestige to the Lodge by their commitment and endeavours, and we share these honours with them.

2002 marked not only Queen Elizabeth's Golden Jubilee, but also the Lodge's, and they sent Her Majesty a letter of congratulations and received a reply wishing the Lodge well in the future. We celebrated in grand style with a number of events and functions, as they had done in their 25th Year. Some Brethren cannot wait until their 75th Year in 2027.

Today, alas they face similar problems in common with most Lodges, but are determined to overcome them, and are striving to improve facilities and activities for the Brethren and maintain a Lodge fit to move into the future, just as our motto states :-

“ I am Ready – Gang Forward “



100 CLUB

The fortunate winners of our cash prizes over the last month or so, were :

3rd February	£20 : Mrs Elaine Webb	£10 : Bro Stephen Scott WSW
24th February	£20 : Bro Lee Renfrew	£10 : Bro Hugh Cattigan PM
7th March	£20 : Bro Stephen Scott WSW	£10 : Bro Bryce McCaig
21st March	£20 : Bro James Laing	£10 : Mrs Christine Miller

Bro George McGrandles P.M., our Treasurer, is still taking names for this year, with the annual fee still very good value at £10. Anyone interested should see Bro George as soon as possible.

Lodge Coffee Morning

Some advanced notice that our Worthy Deacons – Bros Ross Aitken and Eddie Mullin are organizing the Lodge Coffee Morning to be held on

Saturday 22nd April

in the Function Suite between 10am and 12 Noon.

They are looking for as much support as possible from the Brethren and their families and donations of home baking and raffle prizes will be gratefully accepted, and faithfully applied. If you can help. Contact Bro Ross on ☎ 07590 207 365

Tickets costing £2.00 are now available.



Dates for your Diary



- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Tuesday 4th April | Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where a Dramatised FC Degree will be conferred. |
| Monday 17th April | Management Committee Meeting at 7.30pm |
| Tuesday 18th April | Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where the Installing Masters will be conferring a MM Degree |
| Tuesday 2nd May | Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where a Dramatised MM Degree will be conferred. |

(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 Bobby Clark RWM or via the Lodge Website at <http://unionandcrown307.com>) 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)

FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 20 Years Ago

No. 262

March 2003

REGULAR MEETINGS

After a short business meeting on Tuesday 4th March, the Lodge welcomed a large and distinguished deputation of Office-bearers and Brethren from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East, in what was our annual statutory visitation. The Brethren of PGL were headed on this occasion by Bro David Reid, Depute Provincial Grand Master. It was pleasing to note that he was well supported by 16 members of PGL, including 2 of the 3 SPGMs.

Opened : 7-32pm

Lodge Closed : 8-31pm

Attendance : 90

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge on Tuesday 18th March, the following Candidates :

WILLIAM BLAIR

STEVEN BAIN

were raised to the high and sublime degree of a Master Mason, in a fine 3rd Degree ably conferred by a degree team drawn from the Lodge Instruction Class and led by Bro Alan Lane, Inner Guard. All in attendance cannot fail to have been impressed by the standard of the ceremonial, with the degree finished at a very reasonable time.

Lodge Opened : 7-30pm

Lodge Closed : 9-29pm

Attendance : 90

100 CLUB

The fortunate winners of our cash prizes for the month of March, were as follows :

Tuesday 4th March

£10 : **Bro Jim Boulton**

£5 : **Mrs Cathy Livingstone**

Tuesday 18th March

£10 : **Bro Ian Masson**

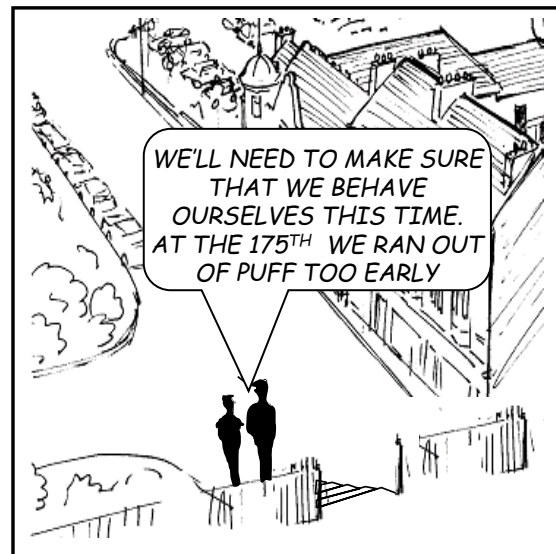
£5 : **Bro Evans Reid PM**



BITS & PIECES

- ◆ It is good to see that Bro Johnny Gauld R.W.M. has been so well supported throughout his year thus far. Particularly during a very busy February.
- ◆ Another Lodge in Renfrewshire East on the move – Lodge Burnside No.1361 are moving to the premises of Lodge Rutherglen RA in Queen Street Rutherglen.
- ◆ We send our best wishes to our good friends in Lodge Frituna, No.2949 (EC) in Essex. The Lodge celebrates its centenary during May. We gather that Bro Johnny Gauld R.W.M. and Bro Evans Reid PM are travelling down to attend the celebrations.
- ◆ Congratulations to Bro Willie Renfrew PM and his wife Margaret Anne, who this month celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary with a large party at Fereneze Golf Club.

MARK N' ARCHIE



J RENFREW - MARCH 2023

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

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