

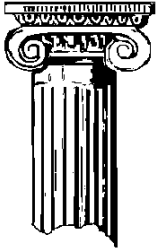
# The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union & Crown No.307



Issue No. 384

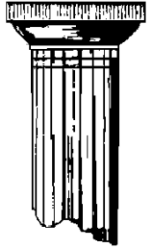
May 2015



Issue No. 384

# The Mallet

*Editorial* 



May 2015

The Temple doors are now closed, the sun is in the sky (??? Ed.) and the brethren of Lodge Union and Crown now turn their thoughts to the summer recess... Will it be spent in the garden, on the golf course, on the bowling green or just relaxing on holidays. More than likely a little bit of each.

Spare a thought then for those brethren who still maintain our premises at Cochrane Street and pay the bills, Bro. David McArthur PM secretary, Bro James Kerr PM treasurer and those loyal band of helpers who just always appear when needed.

You can certainly help the finances by just popping in and using the bar facilities any Friday evening, even just a half an hour and one drink helps.

You may also wish to spare a thought for Bro. Alan Bernard our RWM as he starts to think he's on the slippery slope and soon going to be 'yesterday's man'. Sorry Alan, you still have lots to do.

Bro. Ian Blair, our Substitute Master who will by now have a 2015-16 calendar and lots of bits of paper in his pockets whilst he tries to plan a syllabus for next year as well as confirming his office bearers for the same period.

Finally, let's not forget our busy Almoner, Bro. Alex White, who puts many of us to shame with the amount of energy he displays on visiting the sick and elderly of the Lodge on our behalf.

Can I take this opportunity to thank those brethren for their good wishes during my recent illness including, of course, our Almoner, Bro. Alex White for his kind visits.

Finally, as this will be the last Mallet for a few months, can I wish everyone an enjoyable and peaceful recess and that our RWM and his office bearers come back rested and refreshed to take us forward towards our 2010 Installation.

*Hugh Cattigan P.M. Editor.*

The Annual Divine Service will, this year take place  
at Lodge Thistle and Crown no 1167 on

**Sunday 14th June.**

2.30pm for 3.00pm.

We will meet in 1167's premises in Neilston before  
parading to Neilston Parish Church and again we  
hope for a good attendance.





## Regular Meetings

A regular meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and following the business of the evening a well filled Temple, including many visitors witnessed Lodge Union and Crown's latest dramatiation:



The Prisoner Of War Dramatisation was performed by the Lodge Instruction Class.

This was warmly received by all in attendance and following the meeting a harmony took place with many of the visitors commenting on how much they had enjoyed the entertainment.

**Lodge Opened - 07:30pm    Lodge Closed - 09:02 pm    Attendance - 86**



# Rockmount R.A.C. No. 367



At the regular meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 the Companions of Rockmount RAC No. 357 conferred a Royal Arch Degree.

This was also our final meeting prior to the summer recess. MEZ Graham Manson wished the Companions a pleasant summer for all. The Companions then retired downstairs for Chapter Harmony.

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter is scheduled for:

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm**

When the Chapter will be holding its Annual General Meeting ~ MEZ Graham Manson and his Office-bearers extend a cordial invitation to all Companions to attend on that evening.



We have now reached agreement with The Bourock Church to have the use of their car park for our meeting nights in order to help alleviate the problems caused when the Cochrane St. carpark is full.

We do have to undertake certain work in order to make this arrangement possible including installing a gate in the fence separating both premises but most of this will have been completed by the time this issue goes to press.



It is with profound sadness that I intimate the passing of Bro. Duncan Mundall Birse, aged 84. Bro Duncan passed away at University Hospital, Cross House, Kilmarnock on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015, very soon after his admission.

The last few weeks of his life were very difficult for Bro. Duncan. Almost immediately after losing his beloved wife, Vera, who passed away suddenly only three months before, Bro. Duncan was diagnosed with lung cancer. The shock of losing Vera so unexpectedly, combined with the news regarding his own health would, I am sure, have exhausted most people, however, throughout these ordeals Bro. Duncan displayed both courage and resolve.

Bro. Duncan's sister, Rosemary and her husband Malcolm invited Duncan to live with them at their home in Irvine for a time, which he did whilst he attended the various doctors and hospitals dealing with his illness. This move proved pivotal for Duncan as he was able to live, and relax, in a family environment and spend his last days in a loving and caring home.

The funeral service took place at Woodside Crematorium, Paisley followed by a funeral tea at the Masonic Hall, Cochrane Street, Barrhead. I was present at both and circulated amongst family and friends. Condolences on behalf of the Lodge were expressed to all, they reciprocated warmly.

During my time as Almoner of the Lodge I visited Bro. Duncan and Vera Birse on many occasions, I was always impressed and encouraged by their kindness and cheerfulness, more so while both were experiencing health upsets.

Bro. Duncan affiliated to Lodge Union & Crown from his Mother Lodge, Lodge Eaglesham No. 1265 many years ago. As a member of '307' he gave loyal and faithful service, not only to the Lodge but to many Master's over a long period. As a consequence thereof he acquired the love and respect of the brethren, all of whom were deeply saddened by his very sudden death.

It would also be remiss of me to fail to mention that Bro. Duncan also served Rockmount Royal Arch Chapter No. 367 as well as Rockmount Cryptic Council No. 367 for many years for many years with dignity and sincere commitment. All brethren and Companions alike will, I am certain, miss the presence and friendship of Duncan Birse at respective meetings for some time to come.

During the past month the accustomed calls were undertaken by myself with visits made to the following brethren and ladies of the Lodge:-

Bro. Davie Provan (at Millview Care Home)	Bro. Jim Laird (home)
Bro. Willie Reid (home)	Bro. Raeburn (home)
Bro. Eric Gray (home)	Bro. Bert Smith
Bro. John W. Smith	

I visited the above gentlemen, all of whom have recently endured a medical upset, at their places of residence. On the occasion of my visits I was made most welcome in a warm and kindly manner.

By telephone, I have kept in contact with our dear Brother, John Peter Osborne whilst he has been in residence at the Accord Hospice in Paisley and at his home in Barrhead, His health condition is causing much concern.

I am happy to report that Bro. Jim Kerr PM and Lodge treasurer continues to make good progress with regards to his earlier health upset.

Bro. Ronnie Maclsaac our Worth Senior Chap. Has been admitted to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley and at time of submitting this report I have no details to report but we wish him a speedy recovery.

With the prospect of a Lodge 'Ladies Tea Event' due to take place on the afternoon of Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July I had the opportunity to pay visits to some of "*Ladies of the Lodge*" with regards to official invitations

Mrs Dora Pattison

Mrs Jean Ryan

Mrs Jean Lane

Mrs Betty Campbell

Mrs Betty McCreadie

Mrs Mary Martin

Mrs Margaret Smith

Mrs Jessie Bateson

Mrs Janette Shaw

Mrs Betty McCarthy

Mrs Alice Francis

Mrs Jean Sudding

Mrs Irene Hamilton

Mrs Margaret Maxwell

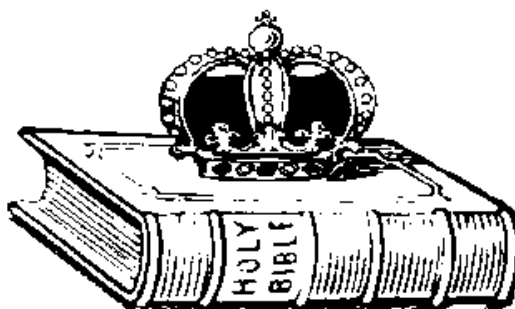
In all, in the matter of this coming event, I have made contact with some 51 ladies, if not with a visit then by telephone or Royal mail. I believe this event should be a most pleasant happening.

I had a very pleasant phone call with Mrs Aileen Richardson, now a resident of Perthshire. Aileen's dear husband was the late Bro. Jack Richardson PM, and indeed Lodge Almoner for several years. Unfortunately Aileen will not be able to attend the *Ladies Tea* in July due to a family holiday commitment. "Aileen, enjoy your holiday".

Brethren and ladies, as we enter into the Lodge's summer recess, I conclude this report by taking a moment to wish you all the very best, in health, in joy and loving family communion during the coming most welcomed summer months ~ Enjoying a holiday away, if you can.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time during this summer period if you find your circumstances requires my help. I am only a phone call away.

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





## WORLD AT WAR 1914 – 1918

(May 1915)



1<sup>st</sup> When the John Brown, Clyde built RMS *Lusitania* left New York for Liverpool on what would be her final voyage submarine warfare was intensifying in the Atlantic.

Germany had declared the seas around the United Kingdom a war zone, and the German embassy in the United States had placed a newspaper advertisement warning people of the dangers of sailing on the *Lusitania*.

5<sup>th</sup> German U-20 sinks Earl of Lathom

6<sup>th</sup> German U-20 sinks Centurion SE of Ireland

7<sup>th</sup> On the afternoon of 7 May, *Lusitania* was torpedoed by a German U-Boat, 11 miles off the southern coast of Ireland and inside the declared "zone of war". A second internal explosion sent her to the bottom in 18 minutes.

In firing on a non-military ship without warning, the Germans had broken international laws known as the *Cruiser rules*. Although the Germans had reasons for treating *Lusitania* as a naval vessel, including the facts that the ship was carrying war munitions and the British had themselves been breaching the Cruiser Rules, the sinking caused a storm of protest in the United States, as 128 Americans were among the dead.

The ship's sinking provided Britain with a propaganda opportunity, which helped shift public opinion in the United States against Germany and influenced America's eventual declaration of war.

10<sup>th</sup> Zeppelin drops hundreds of bombs on Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

12<sup>th</sup> Croatians plunder Armenia, killing 250

17<sup>th</sup> Last liberal British government of Asquith falls

22<sup>nd</sup> The **Quintinshill rail disaster** occurred on 22 May 1915 near Gretna Green, at Quintinshill, an intermediate signal box with passing loops on each side of the Caledonian Main Line linking Glasgow and Carlisle (now part of the West Coast Main Line).

The accident involved five trains, and killed a probable 226 and injured 246 and remains the worst rail crash in the United Kingdom in terms of loss of life. Those killed were mainly Territorial soldiers from the Leith Battalion, the Royal Scots, heading for Gallipoli. The precise death toll was never established with confidence as the roll list of the regiment was destroyed by the fire.

25<sup>th</sup> 2nd Battle of Ypres ends with 105,000 casualties

26<sup>th</sup> H. H. Asquith forms a coalition government in the United Kingdom

31<sup>st</sup> An LZ-38 Zeppelin makes an air raid on London



Issue No. 75

# FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from the Mallet of 31 Years Ago



May 1984

*RWM Bro. Douglas Junner*

At our regular meeting, on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May our RWM Bro. Douglas Junner welcomed all to the meeting where Bro's. Kenneth Houston, Richard Miller and William Dempsey were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of our order by a deputation of Office-bearers and Brethren from Lodge McLaren, No.1688 who were our special guests for the evening. The Lodge Opened at 7:30pm, Closed at 10:35pm and the attendance was 182.

The draw for the 'McMenemy' golf cup was made and pitted 307 against 307 early on with Bros. Davy Law and Alan Mooney drawn against Bros. Alistair Gibb and Robert Carrey Jr. The winner of this tie would then play Bros. Colin MacLean and Gordon Percy.

This edition of the Mallet contained an article about boredom at Lodge Meetings, not for the office bearers or degree worker but the ordinary member and citing the example "however much you enjoy the Sound of Music, would you go and see it 20+ times a year". (*Was this an early indicator leading to our future dramatised degrees? Ed.*)

To get to his meeting on time a reigning Master from within the province was driving a tad faster than he should have been. Eventually he was stopped by a policeman, who also happened to be in the craft, recognising the driver he admonished him thus "Fast Masters may not live to be Past masters".

Barrhead bowling club, the oldest bowling club in the town, recently found a set of bowls which belonged to the late Zechariah Henry Heys PM. They have been refurbished and are now used to start off the bowling season.

Lodge Paisley St Mirren No. 129 have moved into the premises of Lodge Georgetown No. 1170.

The holiday caravan is now fully booked and thanks are due to Bro Bob McCulloch for carrying out the necessary repairs.

The Mallet has received letters from no fewer than 5 different countries congratulating us on our journal. Among our most avid readers are some of the *Beefeaters* at the Tower of London.

Our Secretary, Bro. 'Bud' Gauld PM has been asked to propose the toast to Lodge St. Conval No. 1359 at their Installation this December while Bro. Brian Morton PM is on the toast list of Lodge Randolph No. 1434.

Congratulations to Bro. Roy Dinning's son, Gordon, who has been chosen as top "all round boy" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Barrhead Boys Brigade Company.

Best wishes to Bro. Willie Renfrew whose wife recently gave birth to a baby boy.

# Humour



The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by:

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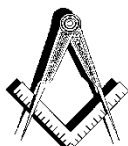
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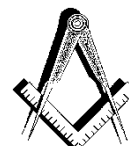
Lodge Website: [www.unionandcrown307.com](http://www.unionandcrown307.com)

*"With grateful thanks to all those who have freely given their assistance"*



# Syllabus 2014-2015

\* - Denotes an Official visit



## LODGE PRESENTLY IN RECESS

### September 2015

Tuesday	01 <sup>st</sup>	07:30pm	FC Degree	By Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426
Tuesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Lodge Instruction Class

### October 2015

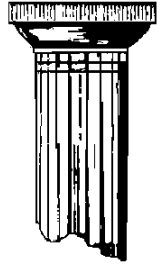
<i>*Saturday</i>	<i>3<sup>rd</sup></i>		<i>Dramatisation (FC Degree)</i>	<i>At Lodge Loretto Centenary No. 1373</i>
<i>*Monday</i>	<i>5<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>07:30pm</i>	<i>FC Degree</i>	<i>At Lodge Paisley St Mirren No. 129</i>
<b>Friday</b>	9 <sup>th</sup>	07:30pm	Open night dramatisation,	The Table of Scottish Freemasons
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	07:30pm	Annual General Meeting	

### November 2015

Tuesday	03 <sup>rd</sup>	07:30pm	MM Degree	Dramatisation
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	07:30pm	MMM Degree	By Bro. David McArthur IPM
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	04:00pm	Installation	2015-2016



## OFFICE BEARERS 2014 - 2015



RWM	Alan Bernard
WSW	George McGrandles
WJW	Christopher Baillie
IPM / Secretary	David McArthur
Depute Master	Steven Allen PM
Substitute Master	Ian Blair
Treasurer	James Kerr PM
Almoner	Alexander White
Senior Deacon	Kenneth Beatts
Junior Deacon	Nicol Hynd
Inner Guard	Robert Clark
Senior Chaplain	Ronald McIsaac
Junior Chaplain	Alan Ross
Director of Ceremonies	Paul Stewart PM
Architect	David Graham
Jeweler	Tommy Wilson
Bible bearer	Steven Ross
Director of Music	Lawrence Webb
Organist	Iain Nicol
Marshall	Adam Watson
Standard bearer	John Miller
President of Stewards	Evans Reid PM
Steward	Gordon Neil
Tyler	Jimmy Laing

